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Guide Correspondent Scans The Personalities Of 332nd Fighters

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—People are what make an army unit tick. Ranks of the ground headquarters and three fighter squadrons comprising the 332nd fighter group in training here are studded with interesting personalities. Below are a few glimpses at the men who provide the outfit with some of its leadership and character.

OCT 30 1943

CAPT. GEORGE L. KNOX of Indianapolis, Ind., group operations officer. He was among the first Negroes seeking Army wings, and graduated in the third class to finish Tuskegee Army Flying School. After finishing Fisk University where he played football, he got in a few months work at a defense plant before his call to the Air Corps came.

CAPTAIN KNOX

In charge of plans and training over this side, his job is not so difficult now because the training program is handled by a regular staff of instructors. But in combat his job will be plans and operations, and he'll be an extremely busy man then with three squadrons to keep in the game. He is married and is a father.

FIRST LT. CHARLES DeBOW of Indianapolis, Ind., commanding officer of the 301st fighter squadron. Author of the much read magazine article "I Wanted Wings" which was reprinted in the Journal and Guide several years ago, Lt. DeBow was one of the first five Negroes to win Army wings, graduating in the class with Col. Davis.

DeBow is cocky and sure of his ability when it is put to the test. His isn't the cockiness you usually encounter. It is refreshing and pleasant and inspiring. Talking with him you feel that here's a pilot who's confident. And make no mistake about it, confidence is something you can't do without when you're up there shooting it out with a Jerry. That observation is imported direct from the shooting zone in Sicily by this correspondent.

GLEED WAS A PHOTOGRAPHER, TOO

A very recent groom, DeBow isn't so sure he was eager to go overseas when the 99th left, but now he's keen about it. I think he will be glad when the order come directing his squadron to move.

FIRST LIEUT. EDWARD G. GLEED of Lawrence, Kan., commands the 302nd squadron. My first knowledge of him came while I was overseas with the 99th. [illegible] of the boys had just heard from home with news of Lt. Gleed's appointment.

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Among them there was some surprise, but a fairly unanimous opinion that a good man had been chosen. Gleed was one of those cocky pilots, too—the kind you need more of in the Air Corps.

Jim Freeman (Lt. James O. Freeman of Jamaica, L. I., commanding the ordnance detachment with the 99th) told me then of the incident that marked Gleed for future reference. They were demonstrating a P-39 at Tuskegee where all the fighter planes were P-40s. None of the Tuskegee-trained fliers ever had flown the Aircobra before, perhaps never had even sat in the cockpit of one.

But with the permission of the commanding officer and the consent of the manufacturer's representative, Gleed climbed in, the P-39 down the runway and climbed right up in the skies with it. That was his first time at the controls of this type of plane.

Several years ago he was in the photographic business with Alex Rivera and Charles R. Stanback in Durham.

MAN WITHOUT A HOME TOWN

FIRST LIEUT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE commands the 100th squadron, and doesn't claim any place as his home town. Like Col. Davis, he was born into the Army so to speak, and he's been moving about the world on military orders ever since he first gnawed on a teething ring.

LT. TRESVILLE

Like Davis, he is the son of an old army man, and he too went to West Point, stuck it out and graduated with a commendable record. He chose the Air Corps and his future should be just fruitful during the next few years.

Tresville is a man to keep your eyes on, too. Stately, gentlemanly, soldierly, personable, he thoroughly justifies the Army's claim that its leaders are officers and gentlemen.

An interesting sidelight was his Spitz puppy, "Brownie," running around behind Tresville and refusing steadfastly to be photographed. We got his picture only when the amiable squadron commander collared him and held him still for a few seconds.

"Brownie" already is deep in army tradition, although only a few weeks old. Probably a bit awed and displeased by the sight of "mufti," he grabbed the cuff of my civilian trousers and tried to rip them off me.

CAPT. MULZAC'S NEPHEW IS RADIO MECHANIC

T/SGT. JAMES JONES, of Montgomery, Tex., line chief of the 100th squadron. He has studied aircraft engines at the Air Corps technical schools and he's Lt. Tresville's chief dependence for "keeping 'em flying."

2ND. LIEUT. SPURGEON N. ELLINGTON, 24, of Winston-Salem, N. C., one of the pilots, recently crashed the news when he brought his P-39 down on a Michigan highway when it ran out o gas. He taxied up to a gas station to wait for help, but he did not ask for a fill-up as was reported. He knew well that ordinary automobile fuel wouldn't run his plane. He is a 1939 graduate of Winston-Salem Teachers College and lives at [illegible] N. Highland street.

ELLINGTON

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LIEUT. ORMAND G. McDANIEL, 27, of Martinsville, Va., a pilot who taught school for several years after finishing Virginia State in 1937, before getting his call to the Army. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McDaniel, 804 East Church street, Martinsville. He is single.

McDANIEL

CPL. JOHN MULZAC of New York City, is a nephew of the famed Liberty ship commander, Captain Hugh Mulzac, who now sails the seven seas with the S. S. Booker T. Washington. Young Mulzac is a radio operator and mechanic.

CPL. WILLIAM A. GRAVELY of Martinsville, Va., is another product of the Old Dominion with the fighter group at Selfridge. He spent one and a half years at Virginia State prior to entering the Army.

CORPORAL MULZAC

Some of the other pilots seen here and there are Lieuts. Wendell O. Pruitt, of St. Louis, Mo.; John F. Briggs, also of St. Louis; Joseph D. Ellsberry, of Langston, Oklahoma; Frank D. Walker, Richmond, Ky.; and Willie S. Hunter, of Albany Ga.

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MAPLES

LIEUT. CLEMENCEAU M. GIVINGS, of Richmond, Va., He is former Journal and Guide representative for Richmond, and ace photographer and news-gatherer, Givings is a pilot who makes no effort to hide the fact from anybody and his "plane talk" is as invigorating as it is genuine.

Clem Givings got into the Army on the advice and with the consent of his draft board and wound up as a very buck private at Tuskegee. The sight of planes flying overhead was too much for him and soon he was applying desperately to become a flying cadet himself.

He got his wish and he's right up front with the boys who have flying for a career, at least for the duration.

FORMER JOURNAL AND GUIDE AGENT

LIEUT. ANDREW MAPLES JR., Orange, Va., was for years before entering Hampton Institute a Journal and Guide agent in his community. In fact, he still holds the franchise because papers are shipped out every week addressed to him, although distributed now by his successor. He is a pilot in the 301st Squadron.

LT. GIVENS

GETTING A LANE SERIOUS BUSINESS

If I needed any additional evidence of the fact that the size of the world is shrinking rapidly, the ubiquitous Clem was on hand that Sunday night to furnish it. When I walked up to the P. C. A. ticket counter to claim my reservation Lieut. Givings was there hoping that some passenger who had a seat would not show up and he could get on.

OCT 30 1943

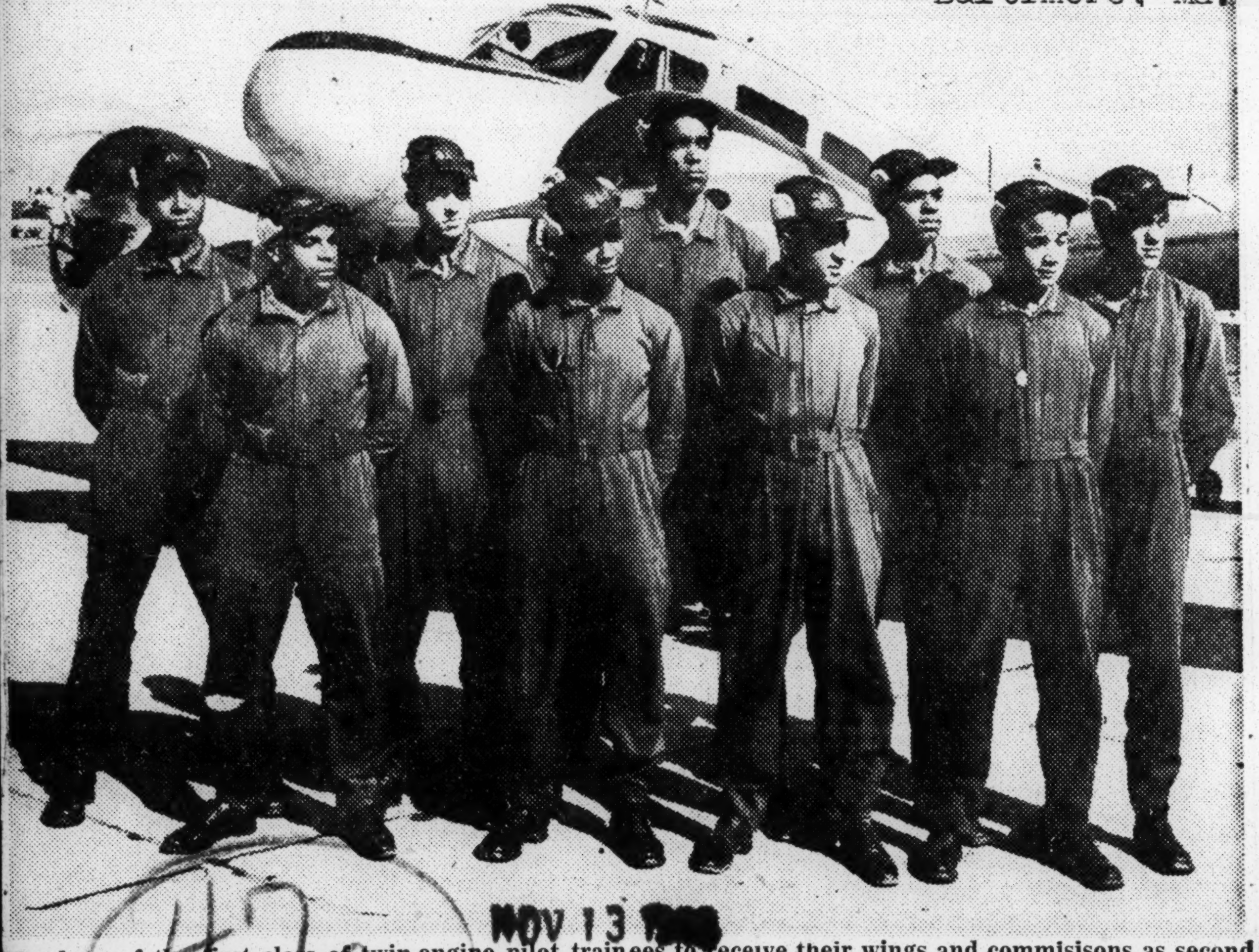
Having a day off, Givings had hopped aboard an airliner and flown to Washington on Saturday night. Of course he had to be back at Selfridge Field Monday morning, so getting a plane out of Washington Sunday night was serious business with him. Well, he got his seat and for most of the three hours which the trip required, Clem kept me deeply intrigued with all the latest news about flying men, machines, and methods.

When we got to Detroit at 12:30 that night I was certain my offer to give him a ride to the bus station would be readily accepted. It seemed reasonable that he would want to go directly to Selfridge Field for a night's rest.

But not Clem Givings. While there was still time before reveille Givings wanted to do some patrol duty in "the Valley," which is Detroit's bright light region. Next day when I saw Clem he had already put in four hours of flying and wanted to get one more in before calling it a day. He was obviously none the worse for his operational missions in "the Valley."

First Bomber Pilots Receive Wings at Tuskegee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



NOV 13 1943

Members of the first class of twin-engine pilot trainees to receive their wings and commisisons as second lieutenants, who were graduated at the Tuskegee Army Air Field Wednesday and, after a short leave of absence, will undergo transitional training in B-25 (Mitchell) Medium Bombers at Mather F i e l d, Calif. They are, left to right: 2nd Lieutenants Herman R. Campbell, N.Y.C.; Hemry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Perry Hudson, Jr., Atlanta; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N.J.; [illegible]me King, Jamaica, N.Y.; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore; William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass., and Leslie A. Williams of San Mateo. Calif. Lieutenant Williams stood first in the class and Lieut. Pinkney, third,

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U. S. Gambled Millions; 99th Made Good--Rouzeau

DEC 11 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

DEC 11 1943

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By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU, Courier Correspondent

The use of Negroes as fighter pilots will go down in history as one of the big gambles of World War Two. The stake runs into millions of dollars. Its success or failure will decide the status of American Negro youth in the surging progress of aeronautics.

Official circles may not admit this, but when the 99th Pursuit Squadron was organized at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., the Army was helping to decide whether or not our commercial airlines will some day have to fret over the problem of employing Negro pilots, co-pilots, flight engineers and ship radio operators, or continue to use them only as red caps and janitors.

PAYROLL AVERAGES $30,000 MONTHLY

Perhaps the Army was only pondering the stake, in cash, which it was gambling on the 99th. The stake included at least 24 planes which were then costing the Army around one hundred thousand dollars each. About 30 pilots had to be trained at an approximate cost of six thousand dollars per man. The Army had to lay out a fortune for genuine camel hair and other fleece lined flying suits, and had to put up a payroll which now averages thirty thousand dollars per month for the 99th Squadron alone.

DEC 11 1943

When the [illegible] arrived early this year in North Africa, our boys had to make good, with a capital "G." They knew it. Either make good or forfeit the right of other Negro youth to apply for service as military aviators. Make good or seal the fate of Negroes with our commercial airlines.

WENT OVERSEAS AS "ORPHAN"

DEC 11 1943

You, the reader of this article, can judge whether or not the squadron was an experiment. Here are some facts to guide you. White fighter squadrons, when ready to go abroad, are permanently linked up with other squadrons which are then permanently linked up with a group. The group is then attached to a wing, and the wing to a given air force, or at least to a theatre. The 99th went overseas as an orphan outfit. It was not linked up with any other squadron or with any particular group.

It was pretty much as if the Army, having staked a million dollars on a Negro squadron, was waiting to see how the gamble would pan out before sinking more cash to organize a Negro group. Today there is a Negro fighter group, the 332d. Does that imply anything?

With their P-40 Warhawks, our boys have made good at various types of operations. At dive-bombing, they are about as good as any other fighter outfit. When they were assigned to provide close cover for medium bombers traveling from Africa before Sicily was invaded, they stuck so tenaciously to the bombers, even through the heaviest anti-aircraft fire, that bomber crews everywhere were soon requesting that the colored squadron be assigned to escort them over.

WITH BRITISH ARMY

DEC 11 1943

They have made good on shore patrols. They had the job of flying "umbrella" over the left wing of Gen. Patton's Seventh Army during the invasion of Sicily, and they flew "umbrella" over our shipping during the invasion of Italy by Gen. Clark's Fifth Army. Today they are being used as aerial artillery, dive-bombing and strafing in front of Gen. Montgomery's Eighth Army so as to blast a path for the ground forces.

Our boys are credited with only one enemy plane destroyed, but this is not their fault. To shoot down enemy planes, you must have some enemy planes around to shoot at. When our boys first went into action, the German air force had been weakened considerably. Nowadays the Nazis are taking good care of the few fighter planes they have. They no longer send them up to pick fights just for the fun of it.

The Nazis will send up fighter planes after our big bombers, like the Fortresses and Liberators. That's because the big jobs have the range to travel to Germany proper, where they cause a lot of destruction.

DEC 11 1943

Our P-40 Warhawks, when carrying bombs, can cause a lot of destruction, too, but they lack the range to travel to the big German industrial cities. They work near the front lines and the Germans seldom bother to go up after them. The Germans appreciate the fact that our Warhawks can drop their bombs at a second's notice and become deadly fighters, too.

P-40's ARE SLOW

Then, again, as long as our boys are piloting P-40 Warhawks, it is up to the German fighter pilots to decide when there is to be a fight. Their Fockewulfs and Messerschmitts are much faster than our Warhawks. When outnumbered, they keep their distance and there is nothing our boys can do about it.

DEC 11 1943

The 99th is not the only fighter squadron which finds itself in this predicament. Some of the pilots in the most active squadrons have not seen a German fighter plane in months. There are some squadrons with imposing records against enemy fighters. But the pilots admit that the records were achieved in the days when the Germans had a real air force and German pilots were wearing a chip on their shoulders. Back in those days our boys were [illegible] in training for the big show.

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There is no question in the mind of this reporter that the War department considers that its gamble with Negro fighter pilots has panned out well.

The stakes have been increased. Because of the record of the 99th, the Army has organized a full-fledged Negro fighter group, composed of three additional fighter squadrons.

DEC 11 1943

Because of the capability our boys have shown as dive bombers, the Army is increasing the stakes again. This time the Army is investing millions of dollars in a Negro medium bomber group.

And if you still have your doubts about it, let me assure you that there is nobody in the world who could palm off a second rate outfit on Gen. Montgomery. The Commander of the British Eighth Army demands top performance in every one of its units. To be attached to the Eighth Army, our boys had to rate as good as anything the R.A.F. can boast of.

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Amsterdam Star-News

New York, N. Y.

Negro Flyers Bombard Axis Troops in Sicily

AUG 21 1943

WASHINGTON—The 99th Fighter Squadron, all-Negro flying squad, is actively participating in the relentless drive of Axis forces from the island of Scily, according to a report from the War Department this week. This force of Tuskegee-trained pilots and ground crew is under the command of Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis.

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The squadron since its arrival in North Africa, a few months ago has been ceaselessly bombing Axis communications and supply columns in Sicily.

The report also stated that "Ordnance and Supply Units in North Africa are pursuing the construction and repair work on invasion ports that were blasted when the African campaign was carried out a few months ago."

AUG 21 1943

Anti-Aircraft units are also reported "to be carrying out their regular missions."

New York. N. Y. Age

LT. MITCHELL KILLED IN ACTION

SEP 23 1943

Hampton Institute, Va., Sept. 17—First Lieutenant P. Graham Mitchell of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, who was recently killed in action in Sicily, is a former student of Hampton Institute and not of another college as stated in recent news dispatches, Major Walter R. Brown, dean of men, said today.

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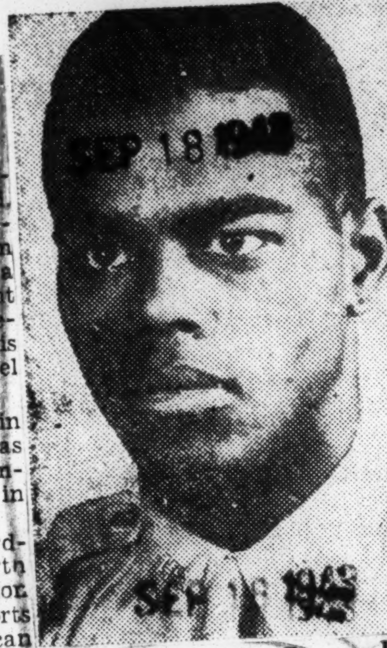
SEP 23 1943

Mitchell, who received his early flight training in the Civilian Pilot Training program at Hampton Institute, graduated from the college in 1941 after completing four years of study in Building Construction. He was one of six Hampton flight officers with the 99th Squadron.

A gold star in Mitchell's honor has been added to the Hampton Institute service flag, which now honors 837 Hamptonians known to be serving with the armed forces and six Hampton Institute casualties of World War II.

KILLED IN ACTION



SEP 18 1943

SEP 18 1943

LT. PAUL GRAHAM MITCHELL, member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron has been killed in action in the North African area.

Lt. Mitchell was born in Washington, D. C., on June 26, 1919. He graduated from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1941. He received his appointment as aviation cadet on February 25, 1942 and was assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying School, Tuskegee, Ala., from which he was graduated a pilot and received a commission as second lieutenant (temporary) in the Army United States) on July 3, 1942, and was assigned to the 99th Fighter Squadron.—U. S. Air Forces Official Picture.

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Tuskegee Army Air Field Commended For Its Safety

Age

New York, N. Y.

NOV 13 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — For its past [illegible]e air safety record [illegible] the Army Air Forces for the f[illegible] year of 1943, the Tuskegee Army Air Field was recently presented with a facsimile of the National Safety Council's Distinguished Service to Safety Award, bestowed on the Army Air Forces.

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In a letter sent to the Commanding Officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Col. Noel F. Parrish, from Robert A. Lovett, Ass't Secretary of War for Air, it was stated, "Please convey my congratulations to the o[illegible] and men of your field. You have helped effect a reduction in the rate of Army aircraft training accidents during 1943 as compared with the previous year".

NOV 13 1943

First Class Of Bomber Pilots Becomes Expert

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily W.

Learn To Fly

B-25 Medium

Billy Mitchells

MATHER FIELD, California — (SNS) — The first contingent of Negro flying officers which recently arrived at the Army Air Forces Training Command's [illegible]-engine transition school at Mather Field, is well on its way to becomng expert in the operation of B-25 medium bombers.

DEC 17 1943

The officers, nearly all of wnom are graduates of Tuskegee Army Flying School in Tuskegee, Alabama are qualified Army Air Forces pilots.

They earned their wings flying single-engine pursuit ships [illegible] now are learning the intricacies of piloting medum bombers.

DEC 17 1943

Ther training will be given them on the same type of ship — the Billy Mitchell — which Major General Jimmy Doolittle and his men used in the raid on Tokyo, and which has been employed so effectively since then in the South Pacific and the European theaters of war.

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In addition to actually learning how to fly B-25's, the Negro officers will attend ground school, where they will be given a complete technical and mechanical knowledge of the Billy Mitchell's operations, which the Army Air Forces demands of its medium bomber pilots.

They also will learn in ground school how to repair and maintain their planes, as do all other pilots. By the time their training at Mather Field is completed, they will be able to give their ships the rigorous "50-hour check" which all Army planes must undergo after they have been flown approximately 50 hours.

DEC 17 1943

Instruction in making the 50-hour check will be given to them by especially trained enlisted men who have attended Army Air Forces technical schools.

Coming from all parts of the United States, the pilots have varied backgrounds, ranging from one flier who was a nationally known athlete at Long Island University to another who holds M. A. and L. L. B. degree from Boston University.

New Jersey Pilot Defies Death To Rescue Two Mates

OCT 30 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

ALGIERS, N. Africa—(Via Wireless)—First Lieutenant Spann Watson of Hackensack, N. J., has been nicknamed "Life Saver" by his mates of the 99th Pursuit Squadron following his recent rescue feats.

Watson, on a recent patrol, saw a Messerschmitt pursuing another P-40 Warhawk. The German had scored several direct hits with his cannon when Watson caught up with the chase and poured a stream of bullets on the German plane's tail causing the Messerschmitt to break off and flee. At the controls of the damaged P-40 was a white pilot from another squadron. Watson escorted him home, the damaged plane holding together by a miracle until the landing wheels touched the ground. Then the plane fell apart from the jolt. An examination revealed it was full of holes. One or two more hits by the German would have finished it off.

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TRUE DEMOCRACY BORN

The white pilot, unhurt, knew he had been rescued by a desert colored plane, recognized as belonging to the Negro squadron. He looked up the squadron and asked for the pilot to whom he owed his life. Watson modestly stayed in the background, feigning [illegible] until fellow pilots, who had witnessed the episode and followed the chase from afar, pushed him forward. The white pilot gripped Watson's hand and said, "I'm your brother for life."

On another occasion, Watson saved Lt. Lee Rayford of Washington, D. C., a member of his own squadron. A Focke-Wulf dived out from the sun and clamped on the tail of Rayford's P-40. The Focke-Wulf had hit Rayford's plane twice when Watson bobbed up from nowhere and [illegible] the German [illegible]. On still another occasion, [illegible] James B. Knighten of Tulsa, Okla., found himself battling two Messerschmitts and praying for help. His prayer was answered—and who came along to stage the rescue? That's right—Lt. Spann Watson!

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"99TH" CHIEF HAS HAD MOMENTS TOO

Capt. George Spencer Roberts, new squadron commander of the 99t, has had several narrow escapes. Here's his account of one of them:

"During the invasion of Sicily our squadron, operating from Africa, was assigned to protect the extreme left flank of American ground forces. On these patrols we flew Sicilyward, just above sea level to avoid detection by the enemy, but not near the water, because of the curvature of the earth's surface. The Germans prepare a warm welcome when expecting visitors. We don't use radios on such missions unless emergencies arise. On one patrol, I was commanding 12 planes when my motor sputtered and died out 60 miles over the ocean. Realizing the plane would plunge seaward in a few seconds once she started falling and, not being high enough for parachuting, I experienced a frightful ten seconds while doing everything I could think of to get the motor started. I turned the plane homeward and the others followed suit—since it is the usual practice of pilots to follow the leader everywhere. I waved them frantically to continue the mission, which motions they finally understood. Although the gasoline tank I was using was nearly full, I switched to another tank and the motor roared again. It all happened in less than ten seconds, but it seemed like a lifetime."

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MIRACLES SAVE BOYS

Continuing, Captain Roberts narrated:

"I had two interesting experiences with Flak. On one occasion, the squadron was sent to bomb gun positions over the Pantelleria island. Shells from ground battery burst under my plane. The ship zoomed upward as if flung by a giant hand. After dropping my bombs I hurried home and found Flak had knocked several holes in my fuselage elevators, rudders and wings, but had found no vital spots. On another occasion, we were on a figter sweep over Randazzo, Sicily. We knew where enemy Flak guns were supposedly located, but ran into new Flak positions. Several planes were hit, but none seriously. Returning to the base, I discovered that shrapnell had entered by right wing, penetrating the ammunition case and setting all my bullets afire. I can't understand yet why the bullets didn't explode and blow of my wing. Our rugged P-40's take considerable punishment, but we also owe our lives to miracles which defy explanation."

OCT 30 1943

HARROWING EXPERIENCE

Lt. William Fuller of Tarboro, N. C., relating his greatest thrill as a 99th pilot overseas, recounted:

"During a bomber escort mission to Milo airdrome in the northwest corner of Sicily, we encountered a solid carpet of Flak. Orders came over the radio to [illegible] the belly of our gasoline tanks. Suddenly, I saw a bright glare of fire to the right and thought my pal, Lt. Alleng Lane of Demopolis, Ala., had been hit and set afire. I dropped the belly of my gasoline tank. Shrapnell pierced it and it blazed. I was very uncomfortable until we emerged from the Flak area."

PILOT'S MATE SAVES LIFE

"My biggest moment as a combat pilot," recalled Lt. Herbert Van Allen Clark of Pine Bluff, Ark., "was while escorting two dozen A-20 bombers to Sciaca, Sicily, in early June. My motor started sputtering en route and the target threatened to go out completely when we spotted eight Focke-Wulfs overhauling our formation. Two Focke-Wulfs dived from 2,000 feet. I tried the usual turn with the object of meeting them head-on, but my motor sputtered in the middle of the turn, leaving the plane suspended in the air momentarily and a perfect target for the leading Focke-Wulf. I was terrified when, glancing around, I saw smoke belching from a Focke-Wulf canon. I was puzzled how the German could have missed me, but he did. My motor caught again, enabling me to complete a turn. Another Fock-Wulf dived from the left. I turned into him. He leveled out in front of me and flipped over. His was a crazy stunt. I shot him and I was planning to follow downward to claim a "kill" when a fellow polit, Lt. Walter Lawson of Newton, Va., yelled over his radio, "Turn!" I did not know his reason for the command, but I obeyed and then I saw another Focke-Wulf was on my tail and would have got me the next instant but for Lawson's timely warning. He saved

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my life. I realized then that the Focke-Wulf I shot was a decoy to hold my attention while a mate of the German was afforded the chance to shoot me from the rear. My victim misjudged his distance in front of me, however, and my motor also stopped cutting up. We all returned safely, losing no bombers. I was officially credited with a probable "kill."

SAVES 2 PILOTS

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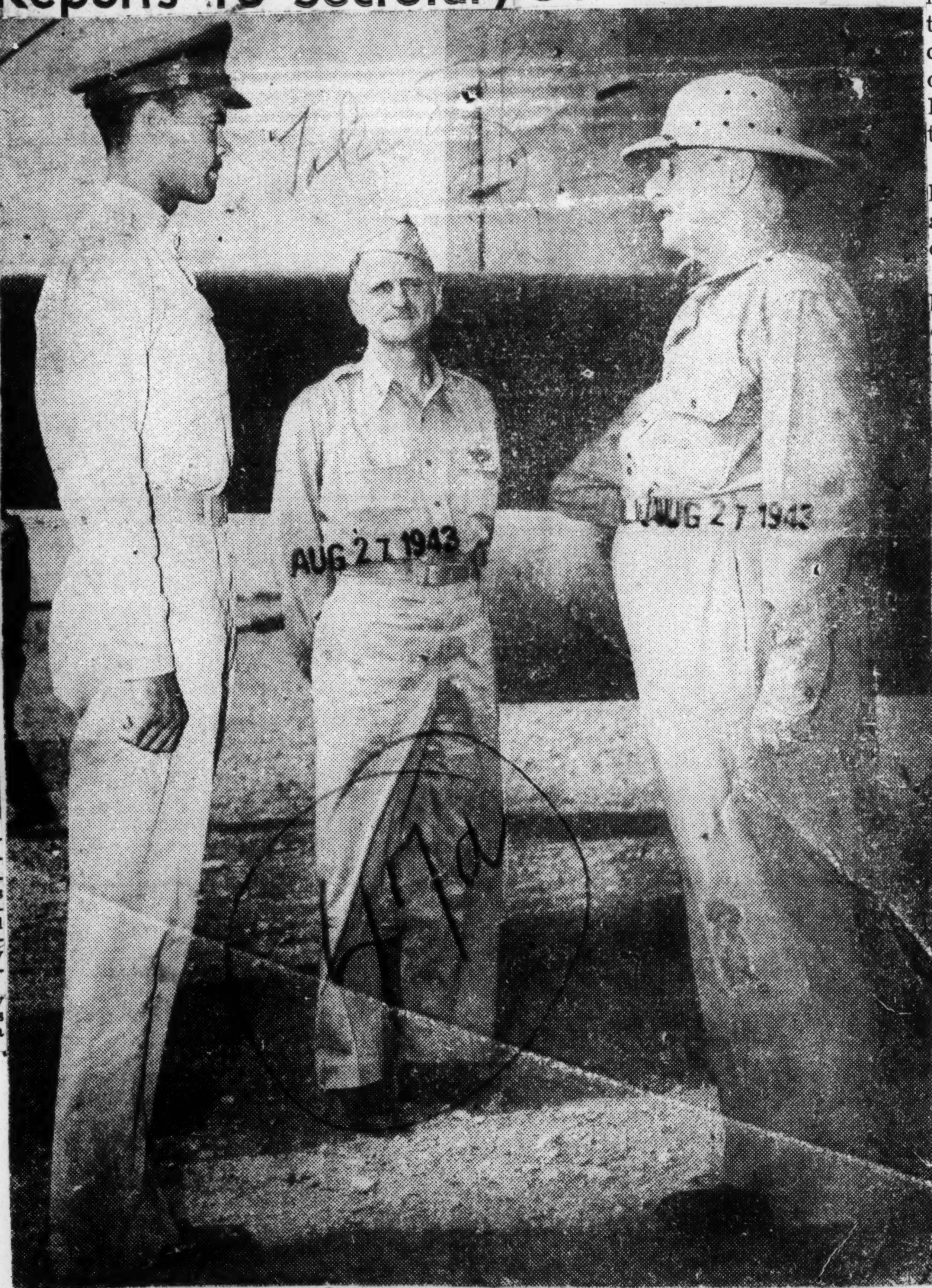
First Lieutenant Spann Watson of Hackensack, N. J., veteran member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron overseas, has earned the nickname "Life Saver," because of his sensational feat in twice rescuing fellow pilots when they were trapped by Germans flying faster Messerschmitt and Focke-Wulf planes.

Lieutenant Watson not only saved the life of one of his mates of the "99th", but that of a white Allied flier as well.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

A General's Son Reports To Secretary Of War Stimson



AUG 27 1943

AUG 27 1943

SECRETARY OF WAR VISITS THE 99TH FIGHTER SQUADRON—Mr. Stimson is pictured here talking with Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Commanding Officer of the unit. Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, Commander of the Northwest African Air Forces, is seen in the background. (Northwest African Air Forces Photo.)

We Are Gaining

Kansas City Call

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who commanded the 99th pursuit squadron in the battles of North Africa, Pantelleria and Sicily, is back in this country. He returns a war hero—decorated along with 25 of his flyers for heroic exploits in the North African theater of war.

SEP 17 1943

His return is significant. He is not home on a leave or to be acclaimed by an admiring public. He was not favored with a trip home because he is a general's son. Col. Davis was sent back to America to take over the job of training other young pilots who in months to come also will be in action in the war zone.

He proved to be such a capable commander of a small fighter squadron that he has been given the tougher assignment of commanding a larger unit of Negro flyers. His experience in actual combat will be of immeasurable benefit to the new pilo[illegible]o are to be trained under [illegible]. He can tell them what did happen and what will happen; not what might happen.

SEP 17 1943

In leaving the war zone, Col. Davis turned over his command to another young Negro pilot, Captain George Roberts. Our pilots are making good. Uncle Sam, who was reluctant to give our boys a chance to fly, must feel gratified that he did not continue to hold back because of custom.

Flyers Make Fighters

Amsterdam-News
New York, N. Y

Many Cadets Train At Tuskegee to Earn Commissions, Wings

AUG 14 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—For the first time in history Negroes are sharing in the aerial fight for freedom. The fighter pilots who are now serving overseas are setting high standards for their successors to follow and every cadet stationed at the Tuskegee Army Air Field looks forward to the day when he can share in the responsibility of driving the Axis from the lands of once free people.

These cadets stationed here are studying hard so that they can pass missions and wings. Among the

the test that will earn them com-

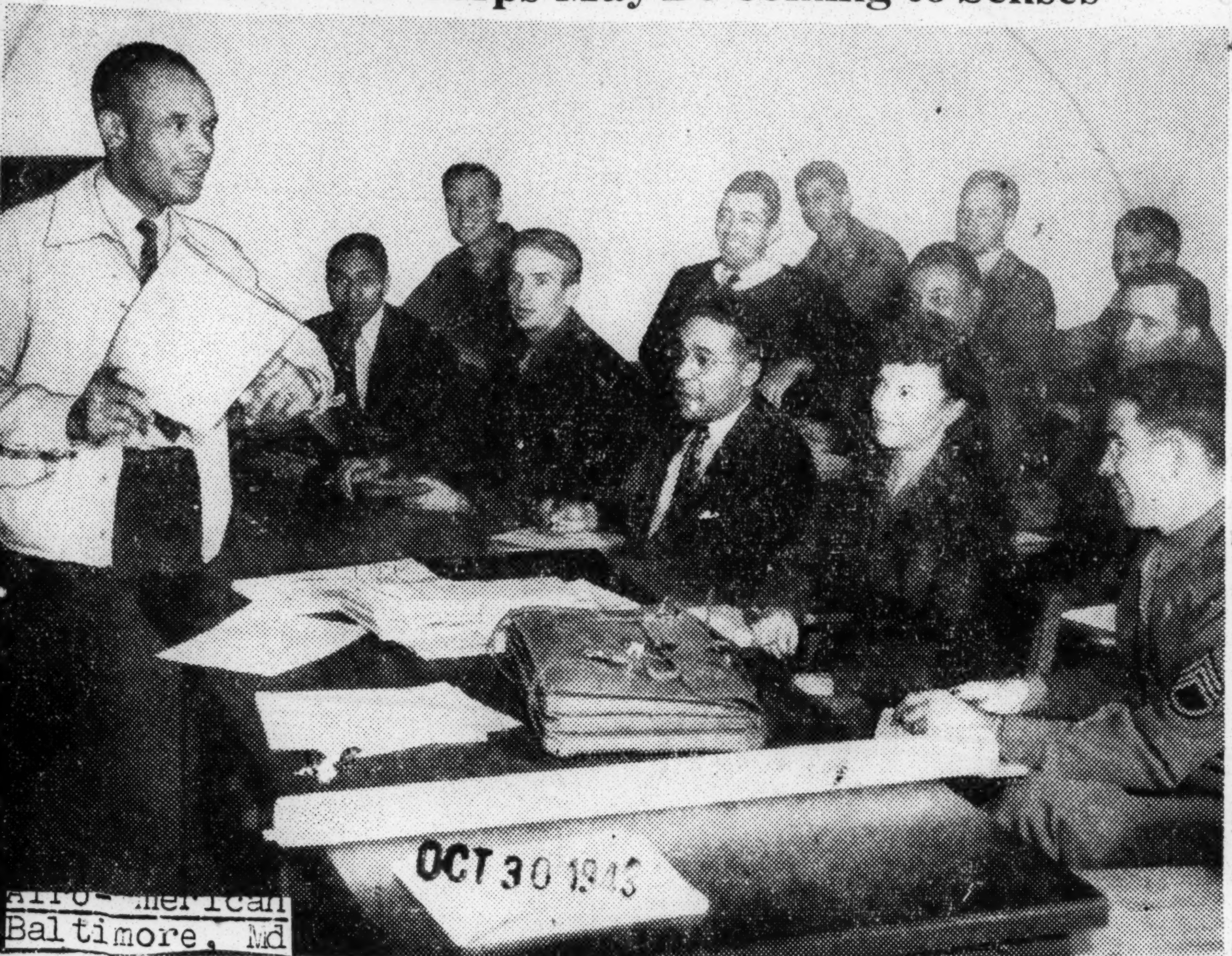
cadets training at this station are many New York youths. The men from New York who recently completed their basic flight training at this field and have been assigned to the advanced flight class are: Aviation Cadets George J. Haley, of Bath, N. Y.; Edgar L. Jones, of New York City; Sidney T. Reed, of New York City; Fenton B. Kends, of New York City; George H. Rho[illegible] of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Gen[illegible]sme, of New York City.

AUG 14 1943

Cadet Haley i[illegible]n of Mr. and Mrs. Harold P. Haley, of 19 Gene St., Bath, N. Y. Cadet Jones is f merly of 3671 Paulding Ave., York City. Cadet Reed is a so Mr. and Mrs. George Reed, of Bradhurst Ave., New York City.

47a-1943

Hint That Air Corps May Be Coming to Senses



OCT 30 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Grover C. Nash, senior instructor in the airplane mechanics' school at Lincoln Air Base, Neb., explains principles of navigation to a group of instructors who will form the nucleus for the Army's bombardier-navigator training program for training future crews of B-25 bombers. Classes for trainees, like this instructor's class, will be mixed. Nash, only civilian flight instructor at Lincoln Air Base, is a graduate of several flying schools. In 1938, he was the first and only colored pilot to fly the United States mail. He spent 16 months as instructor for the U.S. Army Air Forces Training Command, and has almost 3,000 flying hours to his credit in thirty different types of planes. His home is in Chicago, where he operated his own flying school for six years.

Pilot Returns To 99th After Chuting Down Near Messina

SEP 11 1943

Informer
Houston, Texas

By OLLIE STEWART
War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Sicily

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SOMEWHERE IN SICILY. — On August 17, Second Lieut. John Morgan of Cartersville, Georgia, and Tuskegee institute came back to the outfit after an absence of a week. Everybody was glad to see him because the last news was that he had been seen jumping out of his plane near Messina and parachuting down to earth. No one knew whether he had been killed or captured by the Ge[illegible]

But when he walked into camp with a few scratches, laughing and kidding as usual, a sigh of relief went up from officers and enlisted men alike. You at home can never know how a man is missed out of a small group like this, where every one knows everybody else. Morgan is the third one of the gang to jump and live. The other two are Sam Bruce of Seattle and Dick Bolling of Phoebus, Virginia. All came back uninjured.

This is significant because three other men from among us did not have time to jump. We never talk about them. Their names are never mentioned. One day they were eating and playing games and talking about post-war plans back home—then they went on a mission—and never came back. Funny thing, too, they were very quiet chaps, and I liked them a hell of a lot. Everybody did. But that's war for you—here today and gone tomorrow—it may be trite and bluntly truthful.

By his time, the War Department should have notified their next of kin, so I shall give you their names. Missing in action are Second Lieut. James L. McCullin, St. Louis, Missouri, graduate of Kentucky State; 1st Lieut. Sherman W. White, Montgomery, Alabama, and Chicago university; and 1st Lieut. Paul G. Mitchell, Washington and Howard university. May they rest in peace!

1st Lieut. Henry [illegible] Letcher and his special service group are a source of constant pleasure to the outfit. Lieut. Letcher, who taught at Howard and in the D. C. public schools, has surrounded himself with a bunch of entertainers who were professionals in civilian life and they are appreciated by us all. Buck Newsome, of Detroit; Shorty Boo, formerly of the team of Pepper and Pepper; Donald Quander, quaint master of ceremonies; Jimmy Anderson, of the Golden tenor; Peter Cobb, of Brooklyn, whose latest song, written overseas, "Why Make a Fool Out of Me?" you will probably hear after the war.

Incidentally, Cobb plays the piano and trumpet and was an arranger in civilian life; Roland Roulette sings scat songs, and the quintet of Shag Crawford, Jimmy Anderson, Bill Warner, Richard Dunlap and Joseph Taylor is as good as any I've ever heard anywhere.

Lieut. Letcher really produces, even in Sicily. The Mayor of Licata was persuaded to lend him a piano for all shows while in the neighborhood. Doughnuts and coffee were served regularly. A truck was backed up against a tree with a sheet on its side and we had two movies regularly. This is the real treat out here in an olive grove. Jerry is so understanding he never comes over to disturb the men.

Maybe you wonder how we get our hair cut? Well, some units have a barber who does nothing but clip all day. That's not true in this squadron. Our barber does a full day's work, then after chow sets up a box and goes to work. It takes him almost a week to get around to all the officers, then he and an assistant fix up enlisted men. Yes, we get haircuts, shaves now and then, and then shoe shines—though it does no good as far as girls are concerned. It merely keeps up morale, they say.

Our barber is S-Sgt. Walter E. Turner of Los Angeles. He and his tent mates call themselves the Secret Seven—for what reason I don't know. The others are S-Sgt. Hugh Holmes, Atlanta; Sgt. Arda Norman, Waco, Texas, who is a propeller specialist; Sgt. Leslie H. Devell, Port Arthur, Texas, dope and fabric department, which has to do with rudder and camouflage (is that right?); Sgt. Harold O'Neal, Vaux Hall, New Jersey; S-Sgt. Dave Wormley, Philadelphia; and S-Sgt. Eddie Hartgrove, Brooklyn.

Effective August 13, the following promotions were made:

To master sergeant—T-Sgt. Fred T. Archer, N.Y.C.

To be technical sergeants—Staff Sergeants Ralph A. Burnley, Philadelphia, and Thomas W. Downs, Seguin, Texas.

To be staff sergeants—Sgts. Elijah Coleman, Cranford, New Jersey; Geoge D. Johnson, Atlantic City, N. J.; William H. Young, Jr., Richmond, Virginia, and Edward M. Hartgrove, Brooklyn.

To be sergeants—Corporals Robert H. Ables, Brooklyn; Hubert E. Bigelow, Jr., Orange, New Jersey; Arber L. Grier, Jr., New York City; Edward R. Pryor, Lawrenceville, Virginia; Irvin L. Sharple, Philadelphia; Wardell P. Alexander, Atlantic City; Edward A. Boone, Brooklyn; James Hileyar, Raymond Scruggs, New York City; Joseph H. Spooner, New York City, and Arthur T. Williams, Pasadena, California.

To be corporals—Pfcs. Lucius Anderson, Atlantic City; Fred Munger, Brooklyn; Thomas Morris, Brooklyn; Albert Porche, Houma, Louisiana; and Roy Teague, Selma, Alabama.

To privates first class—Pvts. Russell J. Bacon, Washington, D. C.; Ernest Brown, New York City; George Grooms, Brooklyn; Joseph F. Mayers, New York City; Robert Newsome, Detroit; Napoleon B. Watkins, Memphis; Leonard R. Brewer, New York City; Harver Cain, Jr., New York City; Leo S. Holmes, Chester, Pennsylvania; Charles E. McDonald, Philadelphia, and John W. Young, Memphis, Tennessee.

I met a group of ordnance officers a few days ago. Included Second Lieuts. Charles Palmer, Atlantic City; Nolan R. Best, Johnson C. Smith college; William O. Dickerson, Cheyney; Edward D. Hudson, Wilberforce, and Clarence E. Webb, Wayne university, Detroit.

Houston, Texas
Informer
Houston, Texas

SEP 11 1943

Last Sleepin Africa

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Rolling up his bed roll for the last time, Lt. Lee Rayford of the 99th Fighter is shown in North Africa just before coming home.

unclean people. But the people were nice and came out to talk with us, many French, but more Arabs—'Rabs' we call them.

"Finally we reached our station, a small open space in the desert between mountains. 'Do they expect us to fly nere?'

Yes, they did fly there! There were times when it seemed as if each time they crossed the road they got lost. Bitter days! Finally they got on to things, then off to meet the enemy.

In the midst of the desert, with no audience except the skies and sand, Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, commander of the outfit, made the boys soldier—shine shoes, shave up, everything just right. But the payoff came when the battle was at hand. They thanked him for it all.

'Mother, I Am Home,' Says Lieut. Rayford of 99th

One of Five Flyers Detailed from Italy to Instruct Cadets Reaches Washington

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Mrs. Narka Rayford greets her son, First Lieut. Lee Rayford, upon his return to Washington from Sicily, where he has been on combat duty with the 99th Fighter Squadron.

WASHINGTON

With bits of German planes as souvenirs and the memory of many hectic encounters with enemy Focke-Wulfs and Messerschmitts, First Lt. Lee Rayford, a member of the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron, returned home this week.

"Mother, I am home!" he told his mother, Mrs. Narka Rayford, over telephone from Union Station. "Have plenty of hot water because I want to take a real bath in a tub."

In a few minutes this youngster, who got the tail of his plane shot off during a raid over Pantelleria, stepped in the door and greeted his mother with a kiss.

Closest Call with Germans

"That encounter with the Germans over Pantelleria was the closest call that I had with the enemy," Lt. Rayford explained "It all happened before you could hardly bat an eye. I was getting my guns aimed at a plane just ahead of me when a Focke-Wulf pumped three bullets and then a bomb into the tail of my plane.

"I looked back and a part of a wing and the tail had gone. That was one of my first flights and I had a terrible feeling, but I brought the ship safely home."

"I left our camp with a number of souvenirs, clothes and other things," he stated, "but my baggage was overweight and I had to leave it in North Africa."

"Tough Days in N. Africa"

After a hot bath, then a steak and a cold bottle of beer, Lt. Rayford told of "our tough days in North Africa."

"When we first landed there," he stated, "we expected some trucks to meet us, or some other conveyance. Loaded with packs, tired to death, we were informed that we had to walk to camp—about ten miles. We fell down on the ground when we arrived and went right to sleep.

Hanker for Planes

"We traveled on the old French railroads, as slow as all out of doors, looked forward to the day when we would get a plane, fly above the poor houses and the

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COLORED AND WHITE TRAINEES SCHOOLED TOGETHER

OCT 30 1943

Grover C. Nash, senior instructor in the Airplane Mechanics' School at Lincoln air base, Nebraska, is shown explaining principles of navigation to a group of instructors who will form the nucleus of teachers for the Army's bombardier-navigator training program with the objective command of B-25 bombers.

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Training Instructors For Race Bombardier Program

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

OCT 30 1943

LINCOLN AIR BASE, Neb.—With the ground crews already in training for assignment to B-25 airplanes, instructors for the navigator and bombardier training program are being taken trough an orientation course here at the Airplane Mechanic's school by civilian and Army technicians and flight instructors. The Secretary of War, in his comments to newspaper representatives October 14, pointed out that there had been a slight delay in the training of Negro pilots because of the change of character of the plane designed for their equipment. The B-26 Marauder was the bomber originally planned for the all-Negro Bombardment Group.

3,000 FLYING HOURS

Grover C. Nash, of Chicago, has been assigned to orient instructors for navigation training. Nash is senior instructor in the Airplane Mechanics' School. He is the only civilian flight instructor at Lincoln Air Base. In 1938 he was the first and only Negro to fly the United States mail. He spent [illegible] months as instructor for the U. S. Army Air Forces Training Command, and has nearly 3,000 flying hours to his credit in 30 different types of planes.

Included in Nash's class in navigation are Courtland Bishop, Terre Haute, Ind. Frank O. Brown, Wilmington, N. C.; S. Sgt. William Moses, Northfork, W. Va.; T. B. Foster, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Mildred Strough, Unionville, Mo.; S. Sgt. Melvin Ensign, Visalia, Calif.; Cpl. Joseph A. Hovlandw, Fergus Falls, Minn.; Gale M. Breithhaupt, Edgerton, Kansas; Lloyd Williams, Kansas City, Mo., and S. Sgt. Charles Richards, Saginaw, Mich.

ENLISTED MEN TRAINING

Many enlisted men are already in training at various special schools and installations to supply the personnel for this group. Public announcements recently made note of the wo[illegible] being done along these lines at Selfridge Field, Mich., and Keesler Field, Miss.

The first airplane mechanics' class at Sheppard Field, T[illegible] was started October 9, with an enrollment of 300, it was revealed this week by Colonel Davis W. Goodrich, assistant director of training in charge of the technical school. Members of the class were selected from the 19th Aviation Squadron and other Air Forces installations. All are attached to the [illegible] Squadron at Sheppard Field.

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47a-1943

Lt. Colonel Davis, Fliers' Commander, Enroute To U.S.; Heads Fighter Group

Next Stop Is European Mainland For Airmen; Guide's War Correspondent, Enroute to England On Special Assignment, Flies With Davis To Allied Headquarters in Algiers.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

SEP 11 1943

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
(By Wireless and Cable. Copyright. Reproduction Prohibited)

ALLIED AIR BASE, SICILY—The proof of a battlefront assignment gloriously and bravely done by the pioneering 99th Fighter Squadron of the Army Air Forces is at hand! Twenty six of the intrepid sky warriors, first in American history, have been decorated with the Air Medal, coveted badge of meritorious achievement against the enemy . . . and in the name of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the United States military genius who commands all United Nations forces in the North African-Mediterranean theater of war . . and by whom the might of the democracies was directed in crushing the Axis in North Africa, Pantelleria, and Sicily . . . and under whom the Allies even now are smashing up the Italian boot in the first successful invasion of Hitler's European fortress.

Meanwhile Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the squadron's West Point Military Academy and Tuskegee Army Flying School-trained commanding officer, has been ordered to return to the United States and the First Army Air Force, to take command of the Negro fighter group training at Selfridge Field, Michigan, composed of three fighter squadrons, plus headquarters and service squadrons, and give them the benefit of his fine military background and combat experience.

His transfer to this larger command is an indication of the confidence in his ability held by the Army high command. Lt. Colonel Davis immediately flew to Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers, North Africa, where he arrived on September 3 by Army Transport Command plane, enroute to the United States.

The youthful high ranking officer was accompanied in the plane to Allied Force Headquarters by this correspondent, who is enroute to Great Britain, on leave of absence from Sicily authorized by Allied headquarters to permit him to visit American Negro units particularly in the British Isles, for two or more weeks and report on their activities. It was officially announced a few days ago that another sizeable colored combat force had safely arrived in England.

(The Journal and Guide's correspondent, Thomas W. Young, the first of his race ever accredited to the U. S. Army Air Forces, was attached to the 99th Squadron before it left the United States last spring, made the trans-Atlantic trip to North Africa with them, and has been with the squadron every day during its fighting in North Africa, over Pantelleria, in Sicily, and other Mediterranean objectives, except for a 2,000 mile tour of the front lines while the fliers were getting final combat training and as the Allies were mopping up the Germans and Italians in Africa in May.)

The medals themselves have not yet been received at the 99th Squadron's Sicilian base, but will be proudly worn as soon as delivered.

SUCCEEDED BY CAPT. GEORGE ROBERTS

Lt. Colonel Davis' transfer to command of the fighter group, an aerial unit at least three times as large as his overseas command, comes as a result of his leadership of the first Negro aviation squadron ever in combat for the United States.

It was under his skillful guidance, favorably commented upon by the highest ranking American and Allied officers, that the Ninety-ninth helped to subjugate Pantelleria and Sicily, and is now poised to join the first Air Forces units to be based on the European mainland, now that Italy proper has been invaded.

He was succeeded in the leadership of the squadron by Captain George S. Roberts, operations officer, who became the commanding officer on September 2.

AWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

The awards of the medal to these twenty-six Negro eagles was for "meritorious achievement while participating in ten (or more) sorties against the enemy." The formal announcement of the honoring of the fliers came from the Twelfth Air Support Command by Major General Edwin House, commanding general, and the awards were made in the name of Supreme Commander Eisenhower. The roll of honor is as follows:

First Lt. JAMES T. WILEY, 705 Woods Run avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
First Lt. GRAHAM SMITH, Ahoskie, North Carolina.
First Lt. LOUIS R. PURNELL, West Weaver street, Germantown, Pennsylvania.
First Lt. LEE RAYFORD, Ardwick, Maryland (and Washington, District of Columbia).
Captain CHARLES B. HALL, 1034 East Hendrick street, Brazil, Indiana.
First Lt. WILLIAM A. CAMPBELL, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
First Lt. HERBERT V. CLARK, 810 East Sixty-seventh street, Cleveland, Ohio.
First Lt. CLARENCE C. JAMISON, 2252 East Eighty-fifth street, Cleveland, Ohio.
First Lt. CHARLES W. DRYDEN, 800 Home street, the Bronx, New York City.
First Lt. WALTER I. LAWSON, Newtown, Virginia.
First Lt. JAMES B. KNIGHTEN, 1130 Mount Greenwood street, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
First Lt. SIDNEY P. BROOKS, 3709 East 142nd street, Cleveland, Ohio.
First Lt. WILLIE H. FULLER, Tarboro, North Carolina.
First Lt. ALLEN G. LANE, 205 Cherry street, Demopolis, Alabama.
Second Lt. SPANN WATSON, 122 J street, Hackensack, New Jersey.
First Lt. SAMUEL R. BRUCE, 319 Twelfth street, Seattle, Washington.
Captain LEMUEL R. CUSTIS, 67 Pliney street, Hartford, Connecticut.
Lt. Colonel BENJAMIN O. DAVIS JR., Washington, District of Columbia.
Second Lt. JOHN W. ROGERS, 1552 Linn street, Cincinnati, Ohio.
First Lt. WILLIE ASHLEY JR., 212 West Bartlett street, Sumter, South Carolina.
First Lt. GEORGE R. BOLLING, 24 Cummings avenue, Phoebus, Virginia.

Captain **GEORGE S. ROBERTS**, **317 Quarry avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia.**

First Lt. **ERWIN B. LAWRENCE**, **2068 East Ninetieth street, Cleveland, Ohio.**

First Lt. **HERBERT E. CARTER**, **Amory, Mississippi.**

First Lt. **PAUL G. MITCHELL**, **908 Howard road, S. E., Washington, D. C. (killed in action since August 13).**

Second Lt. LEON C. ROBERTS, Murphy and McGee streets, Pritchard, Ala., recommended for Air Medal award but believed omitted from list announced here through a stenographic error.

CUSTIS NEW OPERATIONS OFFICER

Captain Lemuel R. Custis has been named the new operations officer, the post previously filled by Captain Roberts. The other posts in the squadron remain unchanged, with First Lt. Henry M. Letcher of Washington, D. C., as squadron executive officer; Lt. Bernard Proctor, of Philadelphia, as squadron adjutant; and First Lt. James L. Johnson Jr., of Washington, one-time Naval Academy student, as assistant intelligence officer.

Appointments of Lts. Letcher, Proctor, and Johnson were made on August 22, as previously reported in the Guide. Lt. Letcher is the first in the squadron to be executive officer, a position created by a new table of organization effective on July 1 throughout the Air Forces.

He continues his duties as transportation and special services officer for the time being, and as executive officer is second in command and directs and coordinates the work of all ground units, commanding the ground echelon in the absence of the commander.

ORDERS COME, MOVES FAST

Knowledge of the new assignment for Lt. Colonel Davis came suddenly and dramatically to members of the squadron.

Complying with instructions phoned Wednesday night, September 1, Lt. Col. Davis flew his own Warhawk plane to North African Air Force headquarters in Sicily early Thursday morning, returning before noon to his unit's base with his orders.

He was packed and ready to leave at one p. m. at the same time this correspondent was to leave on an assignment to England, and who by pure coincidence had planned his own departure on that day more than a week previously.

SAYS MODEST FAREWELL TO SQUADRON

Lt. Colonel Davis told the assembled squadron and its large complement of ground force officers and men of his new assignment, modestly disclaiming credit for its success during a review of its colorful history.

He said: "Over here we have come through a great transition. We are now seasoned veterans. No question about it. I like to feel that I've been part of that transition, but I do not claim the credit for it. It has been a matter of teamwork, and if credit is due anywhere it is to us all collectively.

"We all should feel proud to have participated in this adventure. I do. It has been a great honor to have commanded such a unit."

The officers and men heartily applauded their departing "Old Man," as he is affectionately known.

THANKS HIS ABLE CREW CHIEF

Lt. Colonel Davis then called forward his crew chief, Sergeant Vernon A. Watson, shaking his hand and thanking him for keeping his fighter-bomber plane in condition throughout its combat.

The tall, soldierly West Pointer and this correspondent were then driven to the airfield, where the transport plane awaited them, by Lt. Benote H. Wimp of Chicago, squadron supply officer, who was the last to bid farewell and godspeed to the pair.

ITALY IS FLIERS NEXT STOP

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Algiers — That the Negro fighter pilots of the 99th Squadron will be among the first units of the Allied air arm to be based on the European mainland is one of the mathematical certainties deducted from the Invasion of Italy.

That is the view expressed here Saturday by an observer who has watched carefully every development in the use of colored American fliers in combat since the history-making squadron left the United States five months ago, through its roles in the successful Sicilian campaign.

Flying P-40 Warhawks, the most used fighter-plane by the American Air Forces in the African campaign, these now veteran pilots will add protective security and dynamic striking force to Allied operations.

PERFORMANCES EARN CHANCE

That assumption is based on the part they played in the great campaign in the island of Sicily, off the "toe" of the Fascist "boot" in the Mediterranean.

In this operation they helped provide air cover for Allied troop movements and shipping, as well as bombing enemy vessels and gun positions, strafing truck convoys and troop concentrations.

47a-1943

JUN 19 1943

Tuskegee Unit Now Operates from Some N. African Airfields

Afro-American   Baltimore, Marylan

Colored Fighters Separated Like No Other Unit; Nazis Bomb Fields; Lt.-Col. Davis Puts His Men First

BY OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—The colored fighter squadron now on the battlefield in North Africa is unique—different from all others.

Admittedly an experiment, this unit has operated from several fields as an autonomous body with separate but sufficient equipment and supplies. In character and organization there is no other like it in the history of aviation.

Each man does many jobs, because the main weakness is the fact that the key men have to double in brass to make up for the lack of replacements.

Davis Takes Care of Men First

Everybody works hard, sleeps little, and eats much from Commander B. O. Davis, Jr., down to the two mascots—Tony and Junior—which the outfit picked up on its trek across the Dark Continent.

Lieut. Col. Davis was the last man to erect his tent and set his cot. He slept on the ground—with no time for comfort. The men are growing beards, but the officers shave daily, even though flying suits are soiled. Discipline is good, but nobody throws rank around.

The spirit of unity is so fine that officers get results without compulsion. Every [illegible] the chow line together—privates rubbing greasy elbows against greasy captains and lieutenants.

The crew chiefs tell the pilots what to do and there is no talking back. There is so much good material here and so many interesting young men with well known backgrounds back home, it breaks my heart not to be able to tell all the things they do.

Planes Roar All Day Long

All day long, outgoing and incoming planes roar, with dust lining the long runway and pilots grinning through sweat and fatigue as they relate what they saw, heard and did in the last flight. Lieut. Bill Campbell of Tuskegee has made the most flights. A flying fool, he is always upstairs. The pilots all love their P40 Warhawks and keep yelling for a shot at enemy planes. They are not cocky, but extremely confident.

Mascot Toney is very popular because he speaks four languages. He has the honorary rank of corporal. Junior, who lost his parents in the German bombing and was wounded in the arm and head, has the grade of staff sergeant.

The boys are souvenir rich. From German and Italian prisoners they obtained medals, insignia of generals and swastikas. Others found wrecked cars and motorcycles and repaired them. There is no end of helmets, watches and cameras.

Before I joined the outfit I had a few weeks of hotel beds and French food, but now back to chow and foxholes. There is plenty to eat but no regulations can keep the lads from bartering with Arabs for chickens, eggs and occasional young beef.

Enemy Bombers Visit

Since airports are always enemy targets, we employ much ingenuity in arranging trenches and camouflage, sometimes digging into a hill and other times draping the sides of a pup tent over a ditch. If rains came we would be washed away.

Dawn patrols take off at 4 or 5 in the morning and the roar of planes awakens everybody. Pilots and crews get coffee before the takeoff, and lazy correspondents (Tom Young and I) eat breakfast with them upon their return, perhaps around 7.

Enemy planes still come back to this field like homing pigeons, because a few weeks ago Nazis lived where we now roar of planes awakens everybody. Pilots and crews get coflive. They are not all rounded up yet.

Some Arabs Hostile

Pro-Nazi Arabs keep everybody armed to the teeth except correspondents. I feel positively naked and my feet are my only protection.

Capt. Maurice Johnson, of Washington, medical officer, has little to do, we are thankful to say, as the men are in fine, physical shape. We are given regular doses of atabrine for malaria, but pilots get quinine, which is better for the nerves.

WAR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

WASHINGTON.

The War Department, here, officially announced today that colored flyers participated in the battle of Pantelleria, marking their first appearance in overseas aerial combat.

FLY WARHAWKS INTO BATTLE AGAINST AXIS

Chicago, Illinois

Lts. Campbell And Hall Lead N. Africa Squad On First Mission

Chicago Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Negro flyers played an active part in the incessant bombing which brought the Italian stronghold of Pantelleria to its knees!

War Department sanction to the release of a detailed account of this action was given here last week, thus confirming reports that the first colored aviation unit in the history of the United States had received its baptism of fire.

Pantelleria, Axis bastion lying little less than halfway across the Mediterranean from North Africa to Italy, fell late last week. And it is a known fact now, that fighter-pilots of the Negro unit contributed to its surrender. Not less than 16 sorties were carried out by Negro flyers in the 19-day air and sea attack on the island, which culminated in its fall.

Chicago Lad In Action

A Tuskegeean, Lt. William A. Campbell, won the distinction of being the first colored man ever to drop a bomb on territory of an enemy of the United States. He and Lt. Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind., completed an echelon led by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., in the initial Negro-conducted bomb-run on Pantelleria. Lt. Col. Davis, a Washingtonian, is in command of the air unit.

Following this trio into action were Lts. Clarence Jamieson of Cleveland, Ohio; Lemuel R. Custis of Hartford, Conn., and James Wiley of Pittsburgh, Pa. Later, ten others added their names to the list of flyers who engaged in combat during the Pantelleria campaign. They were:

Lt. John W. Rogers of Chicago Ill.; Lt. Graham Smith of Ahoskie N. C.; Lt. George Bolling, Phoebus Va.; Lt. Herbert Clark, Little Rock Ark.; Lt. Willie Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.; Lt. Paul Mitchell, Washington, D. C.; Lt. Sidney Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio; Lt. Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J.; Lt. Walter Lawson, Newton, Va.; and Lt. Louis Purnell, Germantown, Pa.

Sees Negroes In Major Role

Returning to the base from the bomb run in which he became the first Negro to lay an "egg" on the Axis. Lieut. Campbell declared he was "scared but I was determined to stay on the wing of the leader even if he carried me into the front door of enemy headquarters."

His return from the initial mission was without serious incident, though he taxied his plane into a bomb crater which had been left by American bombers during an attack on the field before it fell to Allied hands. Despite the fact that he has more hours' flying time than any of the members of his unit, this was the first accident Lieut. Campbell has had. Incidentally, the crater is now marked by a sign and officers consoled him with the assertion that it could have happened to any one of the seasoned veterans in the air corps.

Lieutenant Campbell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Campbell of Tuskegee institute, Ala. Four sisters and brothers are now in the armed services. One of these, a sister, is Miss Abbie Noel Campbell, of the WAAC. A fifth child is a volunteer war worker.

Born in Tuskegee, Lieutenant Campbell is the product of the institute. He received his degree there as well as his wings and U. S. Air Corps commission.

Military observers were high in their praise of the conduct of the pilots in their first action. The results obtained were declared "highly satisfactory" and reconnaissance reports indicated that the missions were consistently successful.

Questioned on their return from the "hot" air over the island, the flyers were at first unanimous in the admission that they were "scared to hell." However, after the second and third sorties confidence was completely restored.

This action combined with reports from England, give rise to the belief that American Negroes will play an important role in the long-threatened invasion of Hitler's European fortress, when that time arrives.

The Defender's London correspondent, in a weekend filing, declared that high military officials have attached great significance to the arrival there of Brig. Gen. Daniel Noce, America's greatest expert on amphibious operations.

In these operations, the correspondent reports, Afro-Americans are destined to play an important part since they constitute Engineer and Quartermaster units, upon whom combat troops will have to depend for supplies.

Tough Job Ahead

"Wherever we invade Europe, we'll need not only landing troops and fighting troops, but we'll need a great artery of supply so we can build railroads, highways and airfields," declared Gen. Noce.

"In short," he added, "we've got not only to prevent the enemy from using his highway or seashore as protection, but we must also convert that seashore into a highway of attack.

"Then we've got to convert a hostile beach into a port of entry and secure docks, report facilities and rail connections. When you remember we must do this instantly, whereas it usually takes years to build a port, you get a glimpse of what we're doing."

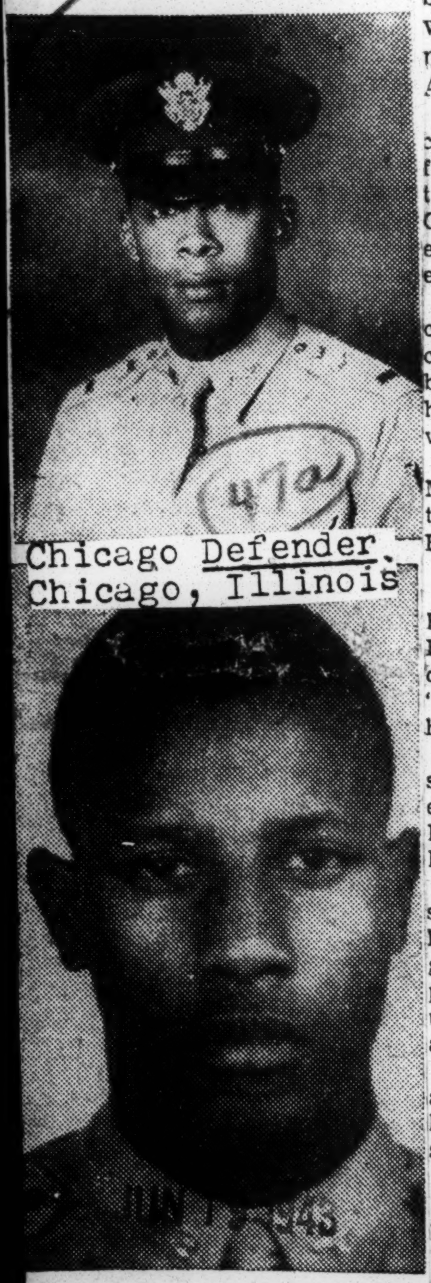
The consensus of opinion here is that the groundwork for such action is adequately laid and when the order to "go over" is given, American troops now stationed throughout the British Isles stand ready.

"I believe they are as well prepared for actual combat as any man we've ever sent into action," declared Major-Gen. Leonard T. Gerow, one of the high-ranking U. S. military observers now touring Britain.

General Gerow expressed this confident opinion after thousands of British and American troops had completed a strenuous three days' exercise "somewhere" in England this week. The mock battles represented the biggest attempt yet made to turn the two armies — British and American — into a smooth-working combined force.

JUN 1 9 1943

Lead Attack



Chicago Defender.
Chicago, Illinois

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JUN 1 9 1943

Honor of being the first Negro flyers to go into combat against the Axis foe went to Lieuts. William A. Campbell (above) of Tuskegee, Ala., and Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind. Campbell, Tuskegee-born son of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Campbell, comes from a patriotic family serving the nation. Four Campbells are in the armed service and a [illegible] is a war worker.

Defender
Chicago, Ill. 8 1943

SEP 18 1943

Nova Scotia Athlete First Race Pilot In Canada RAF

MAYOR CONGRATULATES FLYER

By MIKE RYAN
(Special to the Defender)

DARTMOUTH, N. S.—Big broad-shouldered Allan Selwyn Bundy is the first colored pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Home here on leave after he received his wings and commission a few days ago at the Aylmer, Ontario, R.C.A.F. training school, Pilot Officer Bundy is looking forward eagerly to getting a crack at the enemy.

All Dartmouth is proud of the curly-haired Bundy who they recalled first as a promising school boy who sold newspapers to buy his books, then as a scholarship winner and champion athlete.

And proudest of all are Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bundy, the parents of the first colored pilot in the R.C.A.F.

Wants to Stay

After the war Pilot Officer Bundy wants to stay in the air force. His application is in and will be dealt with the same as many others. "I should have a good chance," he speculates.

He said this with a certain cocksureness that is typical of almost everything Bundy does. The reason? Bundy tells it himself. "I've been lucky all my life."

That recalled the time he was still on elementary flying. Two hundred and fifty feet off the ground he got into trouble. Bundy pulled the stick back...and woke up in hospital with a fractured skull and other injuries.

"It wasn't plane failure—not the aircraft—it was me," Bundy relates honestly. "I should have shoved the stick ahead."

Two Months in Hospital

Bundy had two months in hospital to think over his mistake which sent the plane crashing to the ground and caused him to be catapulted head first through the fabric covering of the cockpit.

"At first they thought I was going to die but I'm lucky and got completely better."

Luck has been with him since he can remember. At least Bundy calls it luck.

SEP 18 1943

Mayor L. J. Isnor of Dartmouth, N. S., is shown congratulating Pilot Officer Allan S. Bundy, Royal Canadian Air Force, who has just recently received his wings and commission, the first colored man to do so. He was a scholarship student and a champion athlete in his university days.

It was with him when it looked like he might have to leave school because he lacked money. An Imperial Daughters of the Empire scholarship he won for his work in chemistry fixed that up and he went to Dalhousie University in Halifax.

47a

He had one year to go for his science degree when he volunteered to serve in the air. His departure left a hole in the ranks of the university athletes that will not soon be filled. Bundy holds Maritime Provinces records for the mile run and pole vaulting. He also played on university basketball and football teams.

Now he's going into the biggest conflict the world has ever seen and he'll be on the greatest team ever assembled—the Allied air forces.

"I chose reconnaisance and I expect to be posted to a reconnaisance patrol soon," Pilot Officer Bundy says. He had the option of this or the fighter or bomber branches.

Reconnaisance appealed to him particularly because he was interested also in navigation. Special courses enabled him to qualify as navigator in addition to becoming a pilot.

Pilot Officer Bundy comes from a family who have their roots deep in Nova Scotia. The first Bundys were brought to Canada from the West Indies by the Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, at the close of the eighteenth century to help build Halifax's fortifications.

Proud of Bundy

Among those who have paid tribute to Canada's first colored air force pilot is B. A. Husbands, president of the Halifax Colored Citizens' Improvement League. Husbands says

"Colored citizens all over Canada might well be proud of the fact that one of our own, Allan S. Bundy of Dartmouth (across the harbor from Halifax) has won for himself not only his wings but a commission in the growing ranks of the Dominion's sky fighters who are destined to play a leading role in crushing Axis barbarism.

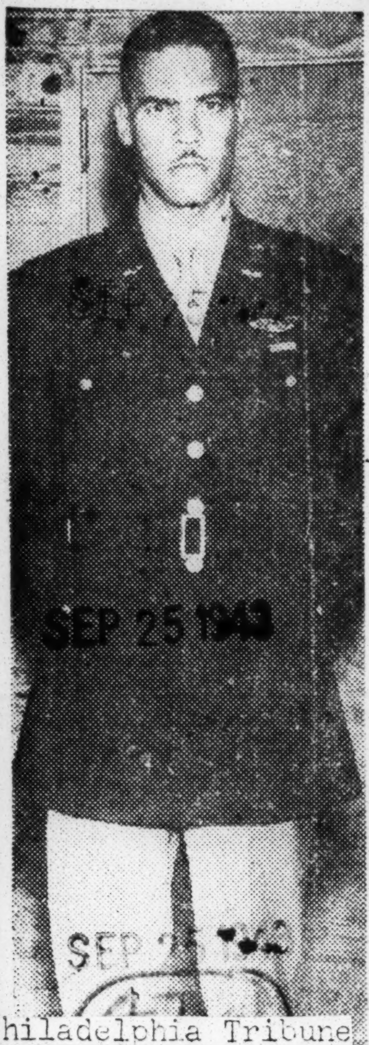
"Pilot Officer Bundy is typical of the spirit of all colored people of Canada. Each and every one who has come to know the joys of freedom is desirous of doing all in his power to see this struggle for the survival of democracy ended with unconditional surrender of the Axis as soon as possible. That same spirit, I feel, will carry our people through the post-war difficulties with greater effort than ever before displayed."

But Bundy is modest when his own achievements are talked about. The reason he'll tell you every time:

I'm lucky I tell you—I've been lucky all my life."

47a-1943

Gets Youth City Award



SEP 25 1943

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

~~LT. COL. DAVIS~~

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who will be presented the third annual Youth City award next Tuesday, at the Arena, 46th and Market streets, in conjunction with a benefit amateur boxing show which is being staged to "help save Youth City."

99th Brings Down 59 Enemy Planes

NOV 6 - 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Fliers Have Had 700 Missions; Now With British 8th Army

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
Accredited U.S. War Correspondent

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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY (Via Wireless)—After eight months' service with the British Eighth Army in the Western desert of Egypt and in Tunisia and Sicily, the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron has just finished one of the most dangerous but most successful weeks of its amazing "career" overseas. To date, the crack Tuskegee trained fighter pilots have completed nearly 700 air missions and have shot down and destroyed 59 Axis planes.

The 99th is now providing air support for the British Eighth Army here in Italy too. Composed of pilots chiefly from Hartford, Conn.; Providence, R. I.; Boston, and other parts of New England, the group has received splendid co-operation from white flying officers of the "Eighth."

HISTORY-MAKING WEEK

Our famous fighter squadron ran wild the past week in dive bombing operations which carried far to the enemy's rear. Among targets were important road junctions, bridges, supply depots and gun positions. The 99th pilots are back in action—bombing and strafing these moving and stationary targets—after a period of inactivity due to unfavorable flying weather at their previous base in Sicily.

Some of the dive attacks by the 99th have prepared the way for invaluable Eighth Army advances, particularly in the area of Castelmauro and Montefalcone and Torella, all of which were captured by our ground forces.

ENEMY SHIPS BOMBED

The crack foray of P-40 Warhawk planes of the 99th also scored direct hits on enemy ships in Guilanova Harbor and Roadstead along the Adriatic coast, 45 miles northwest of Pescara.

In one of several communiques, continually flowing to squadron bases from military chieftains at the front, our fliers were singled out for special praise after dropping three tons of bombs on a road junction which the enemy was using as an avenue of retreat.

GIVEN PERSONAL FREEDOM

This mission was led by Capt. George Spencer Roberts of Fairmont, W. Va., and, on this particular fighter sweep, Capt. Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Ind., and the rest of the boys, had permission to pick their targets of opportunity and to use their own judgement. That was all they wanted to hear. Starting out at the break of dawn, the colored boys flew nearly 50 miles behind enemy lines and "did their dirt." Except for occasional flak hits, all 99th planes returned from these operations safely. Those whose planes were hit were, Captain Hall himself, and Lieuts. William Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala., and James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh, Pa. Hall's plane had flak holes directly under the cockpit.

IN "BIG LEAGUE" COMPANY

Since arriving in this theatre, the 99th has joined fast company and has been stepped up to the highest type of combat flying to which a squadron may aspire. Our pilots are bombing and strafing enemy targets in close proximity to our own forces—and they also bomb and strafe enemy gun positions shortly before our infantry moves into the same area for the "kill."

Many of the 99th Pursuit Squadron't missions have been on short notice. The boys are frequently dive bombing on targets within a short time after they have been assigned a mission.

Lieut. John F. Martin, of Culpeper, Va., accompanied the 99th fliers on their first mission in order to orientate them, and Lieut. Col. Charles E. Grogan of Indianapolis, Ind., acted as a squadron leaders for the second Italian mission.

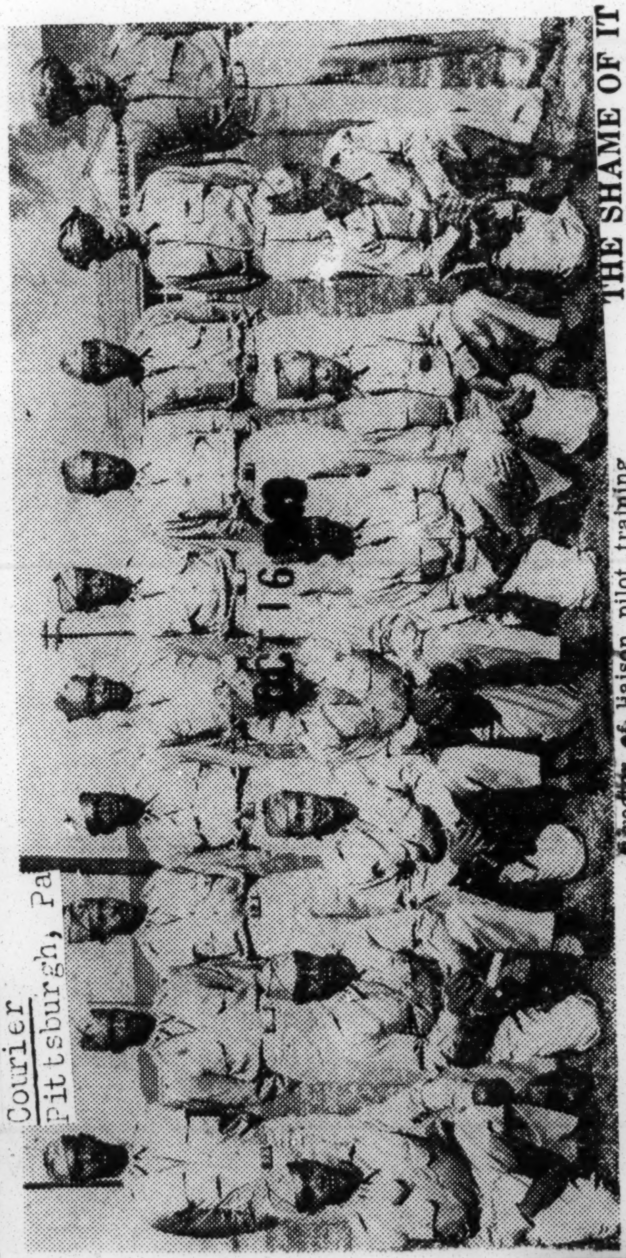
DANGEROUS ASSIGNMENTS

The type of work Captain Roberts and his pilots are now doing is as interesting as it is dangerous and his pilots are usually assigned to squadrons with a reputation for split-second timing and pin-point accuracy in bombing operations. They are operating between the Adriatic sea and Central Appenines in a terrain characterized by wooded areas, high peaks and numerous small rivers.

In recent operations four of our pilots, boasting a mere three months' service or less overseas, have put in their maiden sorties. These first mission lieutenants are Ellwood Driver, Trenton, N. J.; Henry B. Perry, Thomasville, Ga.; Price D. Rice, Montclair, N. J., and Clinton B. Mills, Durham, N. C., all of whom have been assigned to bomb enemy gun positions in this mountainous country.

CAISSONS GET WINGS AT TUSKEGEE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa



OCT 16 1943

In keeping with expanded training facilities recently instituted at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, liaison pilot wings were presented to fledgling flyers of the Field Artillery this past week, marking the first graduation of its kind in the history of the field. Among the group of officers to receive their wings after nine weeks of intensive training are, standing, from left to right: First Lieut. James I. Minor of Washington, D. C.; Second Lieuts. James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kans.; Arnold D. Grant, Coffeyville, Kans.; First Lieut. William Y. Rose, Chicago, Ill.; Second Lieuts. Leander A. Hall, Jr., Mobile, Ala.; Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; Alvin J. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; Capt. William H. Shannon, Chicago, Ill.; First Lieut. Charles T. Hood, assistant director of liaison pilot training and Capt. Errol W. Becthold, director of liaison training of the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Kneeling, from left to right: Second Lieuts. Aldrick H. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.; Benjamin F. Moore, Ocilla, Ga.; Darryl C. Bishop, Houston, Texas; Harry W. Dungil, Chicago, Ill.; Leonard E. Wilburn, Columbus, Ohio; Charles G. Dunn, Cincinnati, Ohio and First Lieut. Chauncey Eskridge of Washington, D. C. The graduating officers will receive their advance and tactical training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.—Photo by TAAF.

OCT 6 1943

THE SHAME OF IT

OCT 23 1943

Infantry

Time Magazine, which is usually careful about its facts, had the following to say recently about the 99th Fighter Squadron in particular and Negroes in the armed forces in general:

"The question of the 99th is only a single phase of one of the Army's biggest headaches: How to train and use Negro troops. No theater commander wants them in considerable numbers; the high command has trouble finding combat jobs for them. There is no lack of work to be done by Negroes as labor and engineering troops—the Army's dirty work."

There it is—the stark, brutal truth. Shame upon our protestations that we are fighting for fair play and equal opportunity for all peoples throughout the world. Doubtless here lies the explanation for the amazingly high percentage of Negro inducted men who are rejected for alleged physical defects: the Army high command really does not want many Negro soldiers.

Houston, Texas

ORGANIZE RACE PARATROOPERS

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEC 25 1943

CHICAGO (ANP)—Negro soldiers are being formed into paratroop units. Those in position to know but who preferred not to be quoted, said they expected the unit to be activated about January 1. It is further reported that the unit will be the 501st Parachute Battalion and that it will be stationed at Camp Mackall, N. C., with all Negro personnel.

Paratroopers are air-borne troops and regarded among the cream of the Army.

DETROIT MAN LEADS RAID TO CAPTURE NAZIS

Anti-Aircraft Battalion Wins Plaudits For Sharpshooting

Defender Chicago. Ill

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The first Negro combat battalion to go into action on European soil has brought down two more enemy planes, and captured four German prisoners, the War Department reported this week.

Now somewhere along the front lines in Italy, the 450th Antiaircraft Artillery (Automatic Weapons) Battalion, which received commendation recently from Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the Fifth Army, for gallantry under fire, has further distinguished itself.

Sergeant Herbert C. Tyler, of 1031 Dubois street, Detroit, Michigan, is section chief of the gun crew officially credited with destruction of the two planes this week, bringing its total to four Nazi aircrafts destroyed.

47

This gun section was at its post one afternoon when an excited Italian farmer came running up to Sergeant Tyler, waving his arms wildly and pointing to a culvert about 800 yards from the position occupied by the section's guns. Sergeant Tyler quickly came around to the realization that something was in the culvert.

Snatching up his tommy-gun, and ordering three of his men to follow him with their rifles, Sergeant Tyler led the group to the culvert. In a short time they returned with four German prisoners, who surrendered without a struggle, and reported the existence in the culvert of a vast stock of lethal equipment, including mines, grenades, carbines, and TNT. It was brought out later that their mission was sabotage of army materiel.

The three men assisting in the raid on the culvert were Private Cleotha Robinson, Calvert, Texas; Private Willie Wiley, Pine Bluff, Ark., and Corporal James Austin, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Other members of the section include: Private James Robinson, Eastover, S. C.; Private William Staley, New York city; Corporal Clay Connely, Marion, N. C.; Private Fred Davis, Deberry, Tex.; Private First Class, H. D. Gober, Gainesville, Tex.; Private Booker T. Pollard, Fort Worth, Tex., and Private Simon Nixon, Palestine, Tex.

47

The 450th Antiaircraft Battalion received its basic training at Camp Davis, N. C., where the outfit was originally activated in June, 1942.

A direct descendant of the 100th Coast Artillery Regiment, the 450th was the first 40-mm unit to be created at Camp Davis, and also was one of the first to be organized in the United States Army.

The battalion received its entire preliminary training at Camp Davis, and was alerted to the port of embarkation in August, 1942—finally leaving the country about Christmas Eve, 1942.

In describing the high morale of the outfit, Major Arnold R. Johnson, assistant inspector of training for the Antiaircraft Artillery Training Center at Camp Davis and formerly commanding officer of Battery C of the 450th, recalled that one sergeant, when told he would not be sent overseas because of high blood pressure, cried and begged until he was included in the shipment order.

DEC 25 1943

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2 Pilots Killed As Airacobras Collide In Air

Defender Chicago. Ill

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —(ANP)—Two Negro pilots were killed last Thursday [illegible] the mid-air crash of two single seat P-39 Airacobras.

OCT 23 1943

Their bodies were burned beyond recognition in the accident two miles northwest of Selfridge field and three miles northeast of Mt. Clemens, Mich.

The pilots were Second Lit. William H. Walker of Suffolk, Va., and Second Lt. LeRoi Shelton Williams, 221 East Harrison avenue, Roanoke, Va., both of the 199th Fighter squadron of the 332nd Fighter group, now in training here. They were on a routine training flight.

Lieutenant Walker's mother is Mrs. Braddy Walker. Suffolk, Va. Lieutenant Williams' mother is Mrs. Cordelia Shelton Williams, Roanoke, Va. Their fathers are deceased. Both were unmarried.

Lieutenant Walker was born on Jan. 20, 1919, in Keysville, Ga. He was educated in East Suffolk public schools, at Nansemond (county) institute and St. Paul college. Entering the army as an aviation cadet April 9, 1942, he took [illegible] training at Tuskegee Army Flying school. He reported to Selfridge with the 332nd on March 29.

OCT 23 1943

Lieutenant Williams was born on July 30, 1919, at Roanoke, and was educated in schools there and at Hampton institute Prior to reporting to Selfridge on August 30, he had taken nine months of flying training at Tuskegee Army Flying field.

Air Corps Segregation Hit By Time Magazine

Defender Chicago. Ill

The War Department's policy of providing segregated training for Negro airmen was criticized by the editors of Time Magazine this week who blamed the army command responsible for the segregated training and operation of the 99th Pursuit Squadron for the operational results obtained by the squadron now on active duty overseas.

OCT 23 1943

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This criticism was made by Time editors in a note appended to a published letter written by Mrs. Agatha Scott Davis, wife of Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who until recently commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron.

Mrs. Davis took the editors to task for an article which appeared in the September 20 [illegible] of the magazine in which they based their criticisms of the squadron on "unofficial reports," which the editors explained came from responsible sources which could not be quoted.

Her letter stated in part: "Are you justified in saying that the record of the 99th Fighter Squadron is only fair? My husband tells me that his judgment, based on comparison with the work done by six veteran P-40 squadrons in same area on the same types of missions over the same period of time, is that the record of the 99th Fighter Squadron is at least worthy of favorable comment.

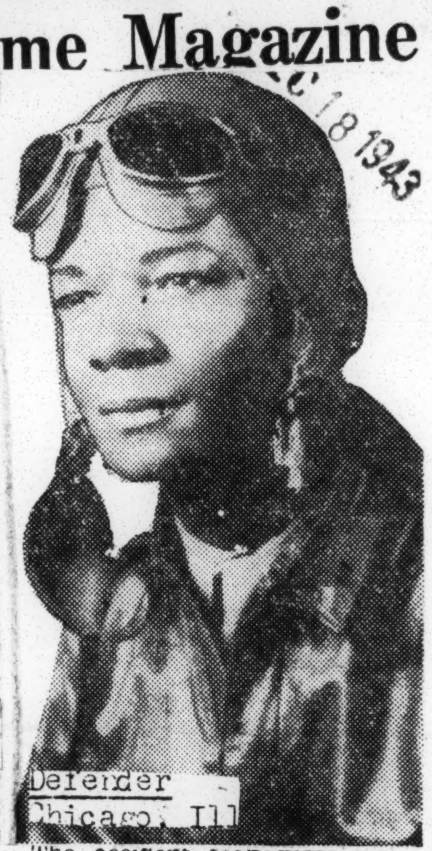
1a

"My indictment is that by publishing an article based on 'unofficial reports' you have created unfavorable public opinion about an organization to which [illegible] Negroes point with pride. You should realize that these few printed words in Time, words which may be creating a false impression, have struck at one of the strongest pillars upholding Negroes' morale in their effort to contribute to the winning of the war."

Pilot Killed as Combat Plane Dives into Lake

DEC 18 1943

DEC 25 1943



Defender Chicago. Ill

LT. NATHANIEL P. RAYBURG,

PEARL BEACH, Mich.—Second Lt. Nathaniel P. Rayburg, 26, of Washington, was killed when his plane crashed into a small lake near here Saturday.

The accident took place while Lt. Rayburg was on a combat training mission, according to an official statement from Selfridge Field, base headquarters. His plane fell into 27 feet of water and he was trapped inside, his body, however, was recovered.

Attended Howard U.

The pilot, who won his wings November 3, spent the Thanksgiving holidays visiting his mother, Mrs. Phillis Oliver, of the 3400 block of Twenty-third Street, South Arlington, Va.

Born in Washington, Rayburg finished Armstrong High School, attended Howard University for two years and was studying engineering at the University of Illinois when he left to become a flying cadet at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

He was a nephew of Mrs. Mildred Warner of Washington.

DEC 25 1943

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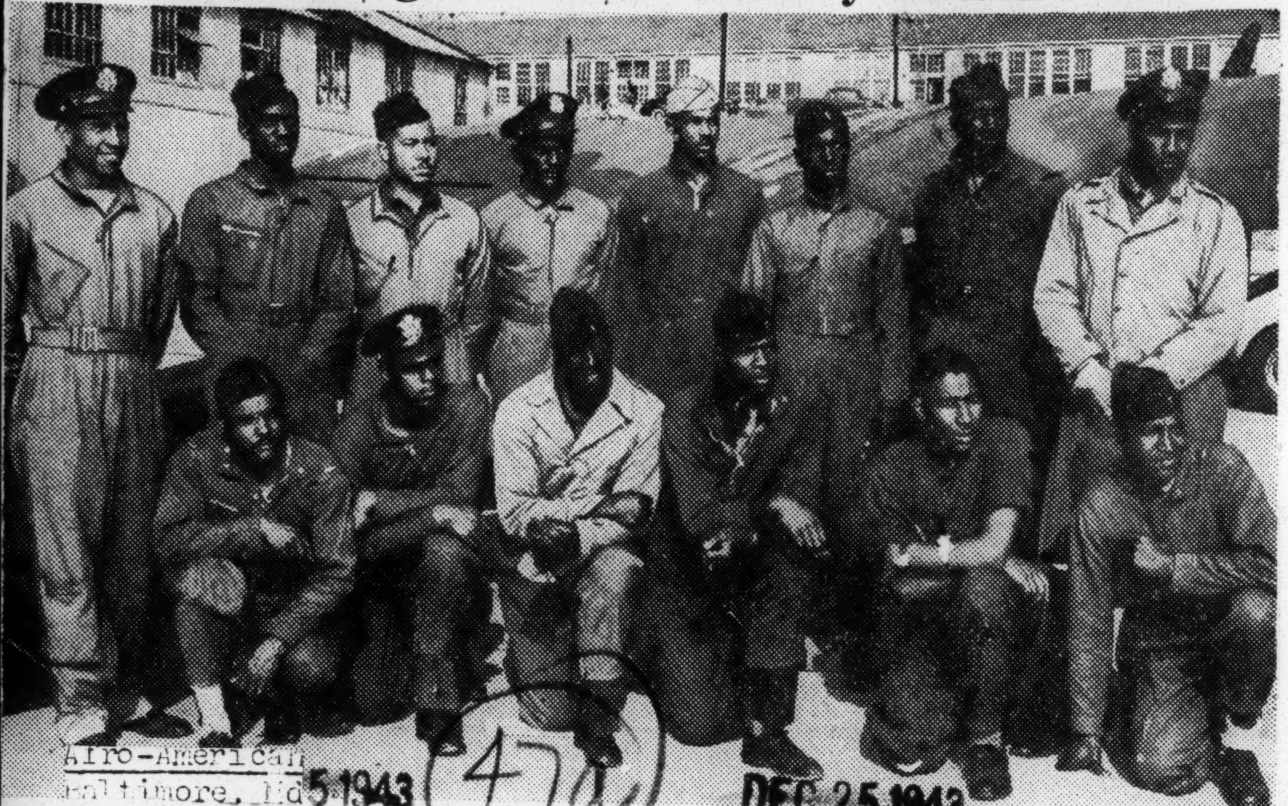
Last Tuskegee-Trained Artillery Liaison Pilots



Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

DEC 25 1943

The final class of field artillery liaison pilots to be trained at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. They are, left to right, kneeling: 2nd Lt. Charles B. Elan, Troy, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Sterling K. Jackson, Chicago; 1st. Lt. Leo A. Baker, Fort Worth, Texas; 2nd Lt. Sherman W. White, San Antonio, Texas; 2nd Lt. George D. Conquest, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Wendell W. Long, Champaign, Ill; standing, 2nd Lt. Johnny Y. Brooks, Mineola, Texas; 2nd Lt. Maxwell Honemond, Tuskegee, Ala.; 1st Lt. Scott K. Cleage, Hamden, Conn.; 2nd Lt. George Woods, Cleveland; 2nd Lt. William H. Johnson, Tulsa, Okla.; 2nd Lt. Lemuel L. Tucker, Philadelphia; 2nd Lt. Edward W. Brice, Rock Hill, S.C.; 2nd Lt. Elwood A. Smith, New Orleans.

Nazis Bitter Over Use Of 'Non-Aryan' 99th

Defender
Chicago, Ill

NOV 13 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Infuriated and indignant, the Nazi oberleutnant complained bitterly to the American soldier as they lay in their beds in a German hospital.

The Messerschmitt pilot was angry indeed. Not only had he been shot down by an American—but by a Negro.

He haughtily asked how a nation like the United States could allow an inferior race like the Negroes to become pilots—and then to turn them against Aryans.

The American soldier, who had been captured in Sicily after his leg was seriously wounded, replied:

"Negroes are just as good as you are, and when they have education and training they make good pilots. The color of the skin doesn't make any difference."

But the German superman, downed by a member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in Sicily, didn't understand Cpl. Rodney M. Graham of Atoka, Okla.

Corporal Graham, now back in the United States in an exchange of wounded prisoners of war, told the story this week on his return to this country. The bitterness of the Nazi airman was a tribute to the skill of the 99th pilots, who have been the butt of criticism from some sources in the air corps.

Corporal Graham, his round face very earnest, sat up on a stretcher as he told his story. Graham, who is one quarter Indian, was with a company of Paddlefoots, a company of Oklahoma Indians who landed in Sicily on July 10. He was shot in the leg by a Nazi sniper.

He was picked up 24 hours later and taken to a hospital where his leg was put in a splint. Eventually he was taken to Naples and later to hospitals in Germany and Austria.

Union
Cincinnati, Ohi

DEC 2 1943

COLORED FLYERS, FULL OF PRIDE AND GLEE, YET THEY WONDER WHAT, THEIR FUTURE WILL BE

By JOHN LARDNER

North American Newspaper Alliance

With American Fifth Army, Italy—The Negro flyers of the —— Pursuit Squadron were having a [illegible] of days off from their steady work of strafing and dive-bombing the Germans and covering Allied troops around the Sangro [illegible]. They were full of pride and glee in their work and serious and anxious about their future as flyers.

"If we can get regular Army commissions and the squadron stays a part of the Army," said Capt. Charles B. Hall, who comes from Brazil, Ind. "I think 85 per cent of us will go on as Army pilots after the war. We're all young and most of us come out of school and college to learn flying. If they give us a chance to show what we can do in this new work—all kinds of flying, combat and maybe commercial flying, too—I think it will help our people all over the United States."

This is a thought which occupies the pilots of the —— Squadron much more intimately than thoughts of death and danger. Their danger so far has come from the ground rather than the air. In the places where Capt. Hall and his fellows have flown their P-40s—at Cape Bon in Tunisia, over Pantelleria in Sicily, and now on the British Eighth Army's Italian front—German fighter-plane strength has been thin. But there is plenty of hullabaloo on the ground.

GERMANS PUZZLED

Germans [illegible] anti-aircraft guns are serious business. Other Germans on the ground are very strange and very funny.

"They fought so long," said Capt. Hall, "and here they still don't know what to do when our planes come over. They don't even know which way to go. They run or drive away from you and stay right in your gun sights."

There was the German in Italy who dashed out of doors in red pajamas and climbed a tree. First Lt. Price D. Rice of Montclair, N. J., picked him off just as he reached the topmost limb.

"What did he climb a tree for?" wondered Rice's comrade, 1 Lt. Herbert E. Carter. "That's the funniest thing I ever did hear of to get away from a plane."

Carter also had heard from a flying tutor, the celebrated Col. Philip G. Cochran, that an enemy motorcyclist was a weird phenomenon under strafing. He soon found a German motorcyclist for himself and discovered the colonel was right.

"The driver went straight up in the air for 20 feet and the motorcycle went on down the road," said Carter cheerfully.

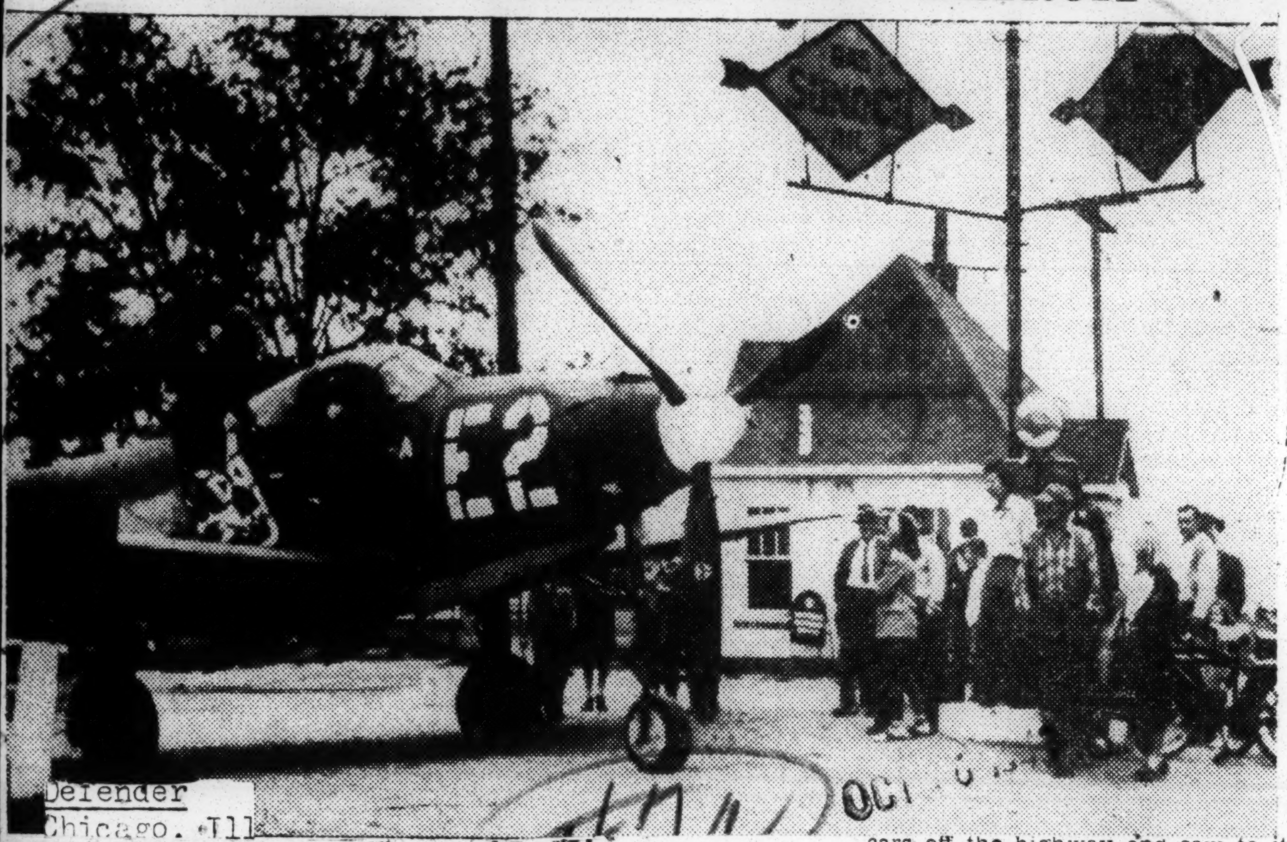
Carter, 25, comes from a little town called Amory in Mississippi. He went to Tuskegee to learn veterinary medicine and qualify for the cavalry. Suddenly aviation in the form of civilian pilot training came to the Tuskegee campus in 1940 and Carter leaped at the chance to learn it. So did his wife and fellow student, Mildred, 21. They became licensed pilots together. Mrs. Carter now heads an Army telephone switchboard at Tuskegee. She has 150 hours in the air and wants to join the Women's Auxiliary Flying Corps.

FRIENDS OF ATHLETES

First Lt. James T. Wiley, one of the best and most successful pilots in the squadron, went through Pitts-

burgh University as a friend and frasort of all," says Wiley. "Flying waswill be potentially commercial which the white flyers who know
ternity brother of the great Negron my mind and a career in that direc-flyers as well as killed combat fly-these men feel for them.
Olympic runner, John Woodruff. Mosttion. ers and instructors in the surviving
of his closest college companions So he learned flying, became an ranks of the —— Squadron when
were athletes. instructor at Tuskegee and in 1941 the war is over. There is no mistak-
"But I didn't try anything of that joined the Army Air Forces. Thereing the respect and friendliness

LANDS ON HIGHWAY NEAR DETROIT



Defender
Chicago. Ill

After first waiting until traffic was clear, this P-39 Aircobra fighter plane from Selfridge Field, Mich., made a forced landing on the four-lane Northwestern highway near Detroit and then taxied up to his gas station to refuel. The station was unable to supply the fuel needed so a gas truck was sent from the air base. The plane was piloted by 2nd Lt. S. N. Ellington, who was on a routine flight when his fuel gave out.

OCT 16 1943

Selfridge Flyer Lands His Plane On Detroit Highway

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — (ANP)—That prospective post-war day when airplanes will be landed on automobile highways and taxied up to gasoline stations came Monday for Lieut. Spurgeon N. Ellington of the 100th Fighter Squadron. 332nd Fighter group, Selfridge field.

Lieutenant Ellington's P-39 Airacobra became isolated during a training flight during which his formation flew through a heavy overcast affording little or no visibility. Separated from his flight leader, he had no way of knowing where he was, so he descended through the overcast to get his bearings.

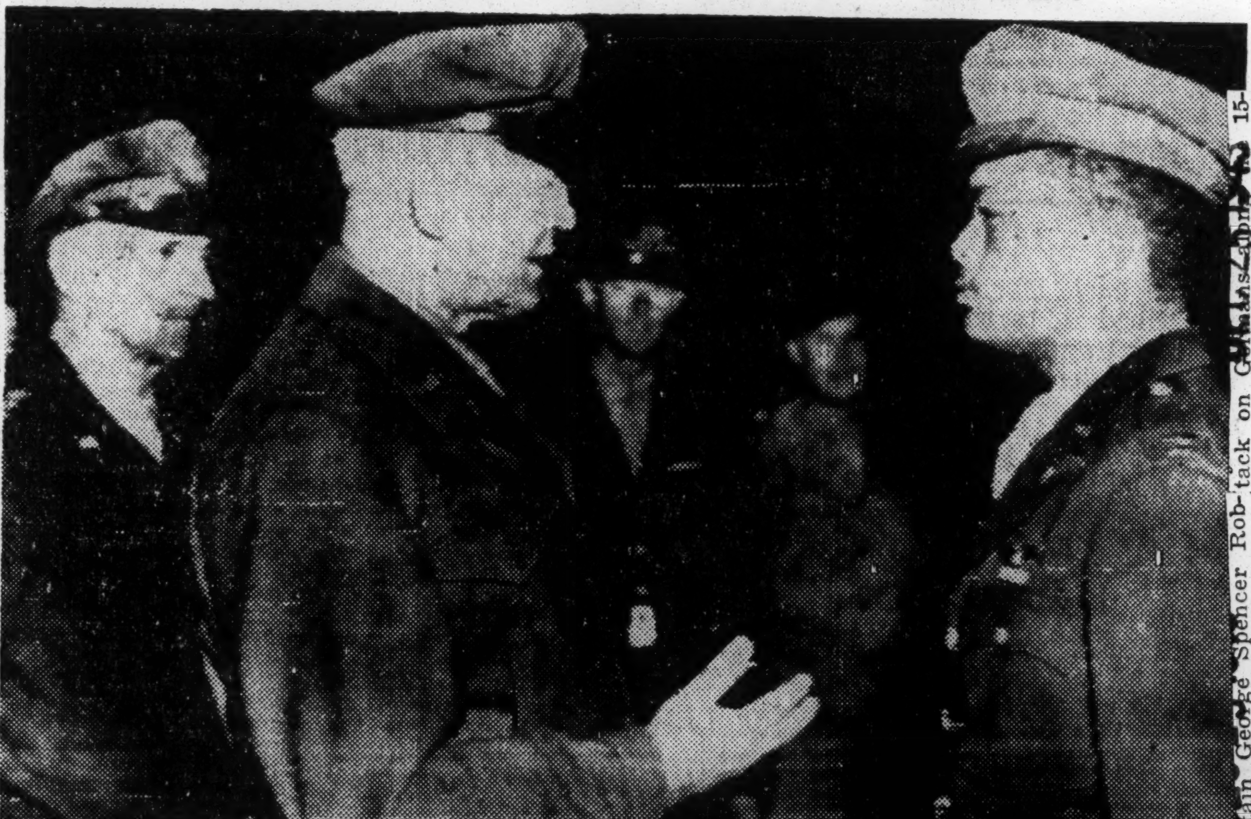
The pilot was unable to identify the terrain and his gasoline supply was running low. But he did spot a long stretch of four-lane divided highway which later turned out to be Northwestern highway in the vicinity of Nine Mile Road, Detroit. He circled the stretch enough times to catch a break in traffic then landed on the right-hand side, without injury to himself or the plane, and rolled into a corner gasoline station to get the Airacobra out of the road. All this caused some excitement among local householders and passersby, it was reported.

Borrowing a convenient telephone in the service station, Lieutenant Ellington called Selfridge Field to report and ask for orders. He was told by his group headquarters to stand by. The group dispatched a reconnaissance car bearing gasoline and Lieut. Floyd E. Lambert, an experienced supervisory pilot.

Lieutenant Lambert reported that the added fuel was unnecessary and that he was able to take off from the highway without difficulty. "There was no trouble at all," Lt. Lambert explained. "He had plenty of gasoline for the return trip. All the automobile drivers were stopping anyway, and they were very cooperative. They pulled their own cars off the highway and saw to it that traffic was stopped for a mile or so while I made the take-off."

Lieutenant Ellington's home address is 1302 North Highland avenue, Winston-Salem, N. C. Lieut. Lambert's home address is 1228 North 15th street, Birmingham.

GENERAL ARNOLD TALKS SHOP WITH 99TH LEADER



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Captain George Spencer Roberts, Fairmont, W. Va., commander of the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron, talks shop with General Henry H. (Hap) Arnold, chief of the U.S. Air Forces, at an Allied airport in Italy. The general visited the unit during his tour of the new Allied air fields after returning from the Middle-East conferences. Directly behind General Arnold is Lt. General Carl Spaatz, chief of the A.A.F. Mediterranean sector. Captain Roberts last week was credited with leading his 99th flyers through a successful attack on Germans 15-mile long Adriatic line.—Signal Corps Telephoto from INS.

47a-1943

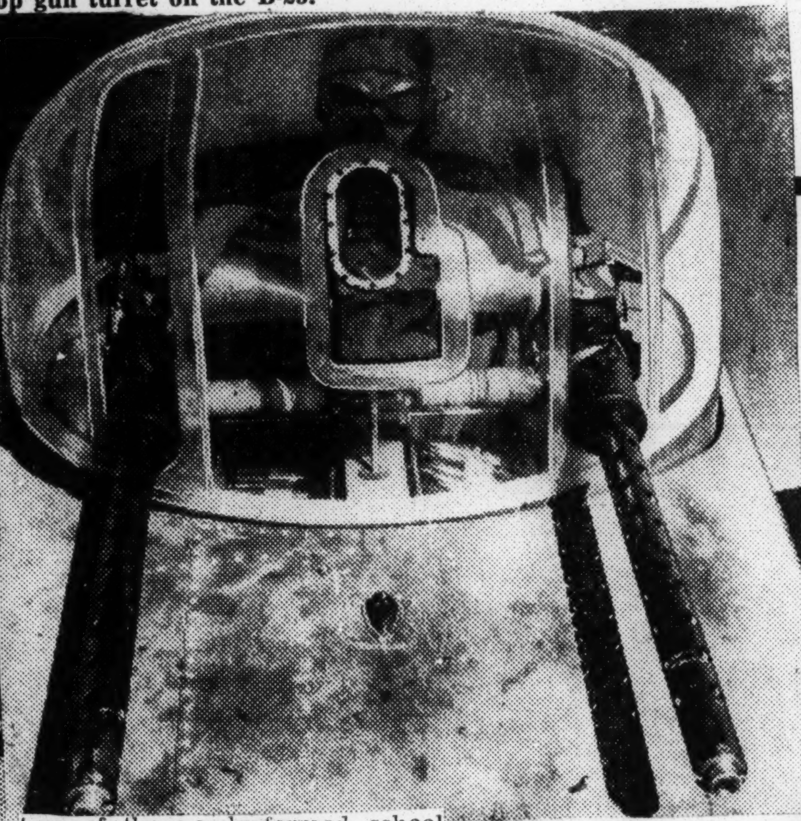
Here's the B-25 North American Bomber Our Boys Are to Flv

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

4'1a

North American B-25 Bomber in flight.   Side view of top gun turret on the B-25.

47a



Heretofore colored Army flyers have flown only fighter planes, with the pilot doing the navigating, bombing and shooting. B-25's carry a crew of five, have a range of 2,000 miles and speed of some 300 miles per hour. Armaments and calibre for the most part are military secrets. The B-25's power-operated gun turret atop a fuselage houses two .50-calibre machine guns. Some models have a tail gunner (All later models now show a tail guner). Airplane mounts special fixed forward-firing guns in addition to the swivel mounted guns on the nose. The 5-man crew consists of: pilot, co-pilot, bombadier, radio operator-gunner. armorer-gunner. Air ceiling of the plane 26,500 feet.

Twin-Engine Training Begins At Tuskegee

Bee (Magazine Section

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., Oct. 14.—The second dream of air-minded Negro youth of today materialized into a reality, as twin-engine training officially started last week at the Tuskegee Army Air field.

OCT 17 1943

With the advent of the first all-Negro Fighter squadron to combat, in single-engine P-40 Warhawks, the question immediately arose as to the possibility of an all-Negro bomber squadron.

47a

The question was answered when the War department sanctioned the training of Negro cadets in the arduous task of becoming multi-engine pilots, here at the home of the first all-Negro Fighter Pilot squadron now engaged in deadly combat over the war-torn skies of Europe.

Selected to head this new school, the first of its kind anywhere in the world, is Major Clay Albright, the man who has taught every Negro fighter pilot in the Army Air forces today, how to fly fighter aircraft. Lieutenant Milton B. Hall of Owensboro, Ky., is assisting him in an administrative capacity. Instructors of the newly-formed school are 1st Lieutenant Leonard B. Crozier and 2nd Lieutenant Robert B. Meagher.

Pilot trainees for twin-engine training here will be selected from the upper basic class of cadets. They are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training here and then be transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

Chicago, Ill.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin-engine course here, is the AT-10 BH (Beechcraft). This plane is referred to as an "assimilated loaded bomber," as its altitude in flight is comparable to that of a medium bomber with a full load of bombs. All the ingenuity and skill required of a bomber pilot is necessary in flying the AT-10 trainer.

For the highly technical job of maintenance, instructors from Turner field, Georgia, have been attached here to familiarize our mechanics in the fundamental knowledge of keeping these ships aloft.

Mascot Of 99th Fighter Squadron Is A Good Soldier With Quick Wit

Journal and Guide

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

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IN SICILY—(Via Air Mail, Delayed) — "Junior" turned out to be more than just a good mascot for the 99th Fighter Squadron. He became an excellent soldier.

Perhaps that is why, more than any other reason, the members of this first Negro Air Corps tactical unit have come to like him so well, and why they are so careful not to lose him. Their one serious concern now is how they can get Junior back to the United States after the war.

Norfolk, Virginia

Junior was adopted by the enlisted men in a ground echelon traveling across North Africa to Cape Bon early in June. He said both his parents had been killed by the Germans at Algiers. Outfitted with second hand clothes "requisitioned" from the squadron's smallest members, Junior has learned to be a real soldier.

HELPED INVADE SICILY

He wears a water canteen and first aid kit, and is self-appointed provist marshall (junior grade) for the dozens of native children which "infest" the squadron's camps.

Junior made the invasion of Sicily with less than a casual concern for the hazards involved, and wouldn't listen to any talk about turning back with a trip to Italy in prospect.

(Since this article was written the 99th has moved over to Italy with Air Forces supporting the Fifth Army. Presumably, "Junior" made the trip with the squadron.—EDITOR)

Quick to pick up American ways and slang, Junior has a squelcher for the boys when they tease him by calling him "Ma-look," (meaning Moroccan). He snaps back, "I got your Marook."

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

He doesn't know what his name is so everybody calls him simply "Junior." He says he is 13 years old, but he doesn't look a day over nine.

Junior hasn't always had a monopoly on the paternal instincts of the men in the 99th. There was once another mascot whom they adopted about a week earlier and who by all Army protocol, in view of his seniority, should have been top-kick mascot.

His name was Tony, a soldier of fortune who attached himself to the unit and for a while served (when he could be found) as tent boy or orderly for Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the 99th at that time.

At first everybody tried to pin the name of "Rochester" on him, but it didn't stick. His chief asset [illegible] command, in varying degr[illegible] of four languages—Arabic, Spanish, French and English.

WAS "DISCHARGED"

He claimed to know some German and Italian, too, but he didn't stay with the squadron long enough to put those languages to use. Tony was "disinherited" or "dishonorably discharged" before the group went over to Sicily.

Tony said he was 15 years old. Everybody d[illegible]ted it but nobody mad[illegible] issue of the claim. When he was five, he said, his mother and father, w[illegible]lived at Tangier, went t[illegible]ew York and left him with friends.

In a few days he had wandered into a soldier's camp and his career as a professional mascot was started. Once in the 99th, he was outfitted with sawed off and shrunken clothes by the smaller men in the squadron. His military background enabled him to become quickly acclimated to his new surroundings.

His father's name, he insisted, is Antonio Garcia, that his is Tony. It was presumed that if he had any such thing as a legal name, it was the same as his father's.

CREATED PROBLEMS

Whatever his past, nobody asked a lot of questions about it. It was obvious that he was hundreds of miles from the place he last called home.

So Tony became a "member"—honorary, ex-officio or non-participating— of this squadron.

The team of Tony and Junior created its joint and separate problems. First the boys had to stop Junior from drinking wine. Then they had to take away from both of them the Italian rifles they had found in North Africa. Next was the job of eliminating the professional jealousy between them.

The cast-off shirt that Junior got had sergeant's stripes on it while Tony's had only those of a corporal. The trouble is that Tony had seniority over Junior. So when Junior "threw his rank" on Tony and ordered him to get a glass of water only the intervention of some of the soldiers prevented a fist fight.

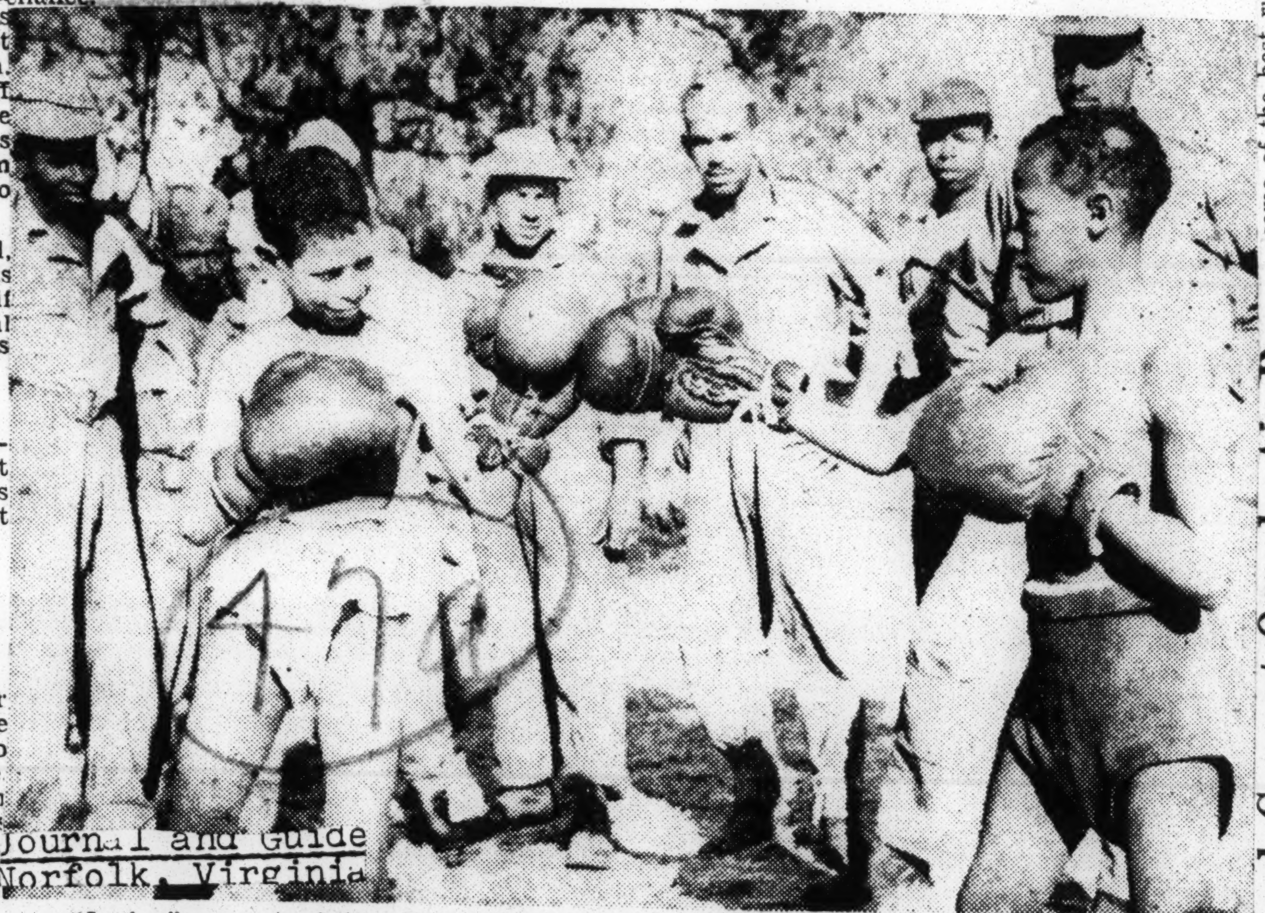
SENT HOME

Tony has the cunning, though. One Sunday afternoon Junior went to the Colonel ([illegible]hat's Col. Davis) and said [illegible]anted to go back to Algiers. Pressed for a reason, he admitted that Tony had pers[illegible]ed him to ask for his release, and had backed up that persuasion with a 100 pound note (that's two dollars).

Incidentally, on pay day everybody, almost, gave Tony and Junior money. There were few places to spend money around the camp, so it had little value. Generosity, under the circumstances, was an easy virtue. But when it was discovered that the sum collected by these kids was actually staggering, ways and means of borrowing back some of the money were found.

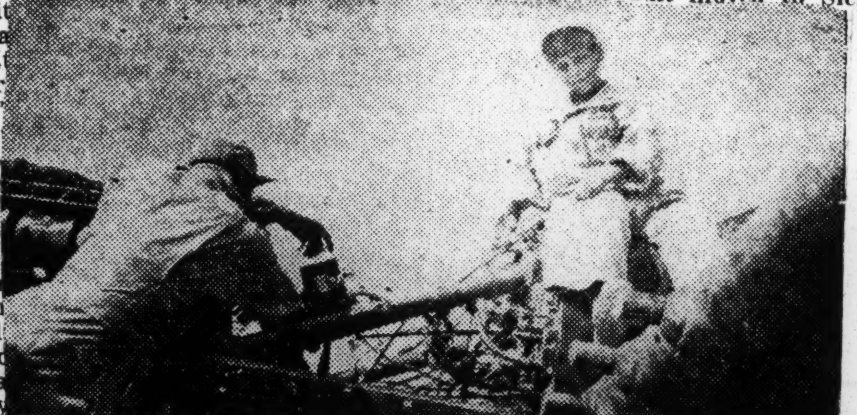
There was ample room for both mascots, but when Tony was caught with some "reefers" in his possession, Col. Davis deemed that conduct unbecoming to a soldier and sent him back to Morocco. That left the field wide open for Junior to work himself deep into the hearts of all the men in the 99th.

And Junior didn't muff that chance.



Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

"Junior," mascot of the 99th Fighter Squadron (left), boxes with Tony, another mascot who was "dishonorably discharged" before the unit moved to Sicily from North Africa.



"Junior" was in, and into, everything. Here he is perched on the cowling of a P-40 Warhawk as it is being repaired by a member of the famous squadron. (Photos by Guide war correspondent)

Planes of 332nd Get Good Care at Oscoda Air Base

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 30 1943

Members of the Ninety-sixth Service Group checkup on planes at Oscoda Field.

By DOUGLASS HALL
Staff Correspondent

OSCODA FIELD, Mich. — This is Selfridge Field's battlefront training ground. There are new planes and other equipment, most of the 96th Service Group that is attached to the 332nd Fighter group, and an ideal set-up for what they are doing.

Much of this can't be told because there are too many Axis ears open, but the group is getting instruction in gunnery, night flying, radio, camera, formation flying, etc.

Dog Fights Real

Pilots climb high into the air and put on realistic "dog-fights." They don't actually fire on each other, but when a plane gets in a position from which an "opponent" could [illegible] shot, the "enemy" is theoreti[illegible] out.

Guns Complicated

Those .50-calibre machine guns on the nose of the P-40's are blasting-away each day. The gun has about 200 parts and the pilot must learn each one of them. He must learn how to adjust and use various sights.

On the ground are models of various types of enemy aircraft and tanks, which the flyers must be able to distinguish from apparently identical American equipment.

Before coming here the boys had a little target practice with .30-calibre guns at Tuskegee. Now they learn how to be bombardiers.

Battlefront Simulated

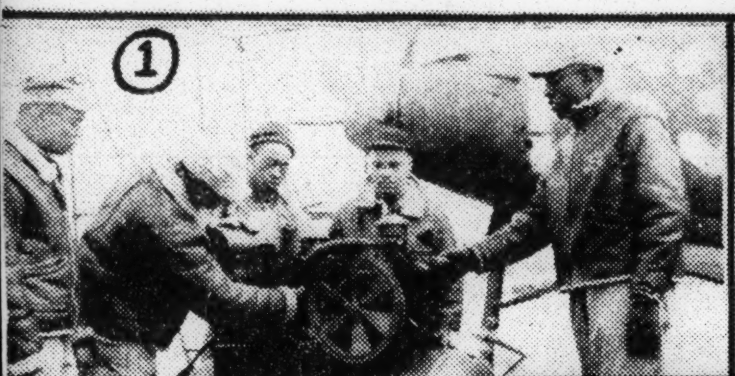
Everything has been done here to make this as realistic a "battlefront" as possible. There is an out-door chapel, undergrowth

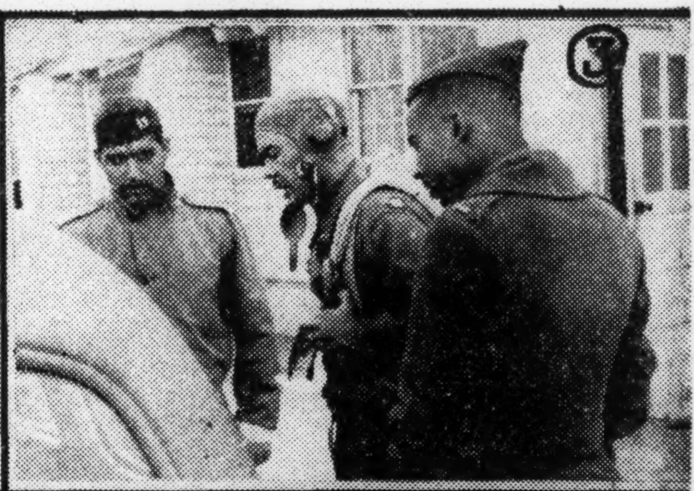
some of the best run-ways in the States, Lake Huron, and ample space and conditions for maneuvers.

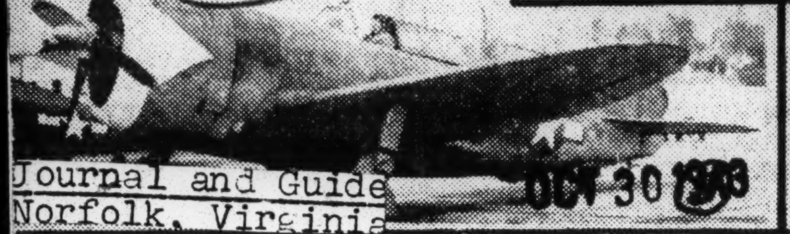
It is about 200 mile[illegible]m the main base—30 or 45 minutes by plane, depending on the wind.

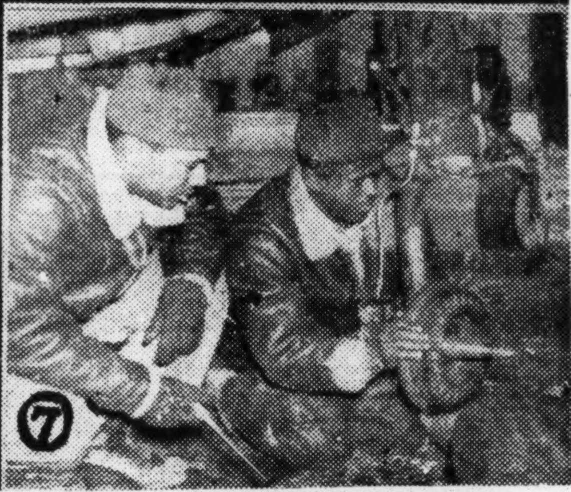
The 96th Service Group is also getting a bit of combat training in the most rustic manner. They are learning to protect the planes as well as to repair them; to defend the field as well as rebuild it.

A Day's Activities With The 332nd Fighter Group Pilots









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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 30 1943

LT. RAY B. WARE, Atlanta, Ga., group intelligence officer; **LT. HENRY BOWMAN**, Minneapolis, Minn., squadron armament officer, and **LT. P. A. TOWNSEND**, Kansas City, Mo., ordinance officer.

No. 1. Members of one of the ground crews repair portable air compressor. Sgt. Charley Haynes, St. Louis, Mo., is working on the engine while T/Sgt. James Jones, Montgomery, Texas line chief of the 100th fighter squadron, directs work (right). Others shown are, left to right, Cpl. John Merriwether, Sequin, Tex.; Pfc. Thomas Worsham, Detroit, Mich., and Sgt. Quentin Pettiferde, Xenia, O.

No. 2. Cpl. Elmer F. Godwin, Smithfield, Va., a radio mechanic, tests one of the sets from a P-39 Aircobra flown by the pilots.

No. 3. Top flight officers of the 332nd fig[illegible] confer with a base officer. Left to right, are Capt. George L. Knox, Indianapolis, operations officer; Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, wearing flying suit, and about to take off on a practice flight in one of the P-39's which his group now flies and 1st. Lt. Robert B. Tresville commanding officer of the 100th fighter squadron.

No. 4. Cpl. Willie C. Sykes, Jr., Suffolk, Va., group technical inspector, and Staff Sgt. Otis Owens, Dallas, Tex., a squadron technical inspector, examine charts on the status of aircraft repairs.

No. 5. This is one of the famed P.-47 Thunderbolts which are making such a remarkable record over Europe with the 8th Air Force. Pilots of the [illegible] received training in this type of plane also. At Selfridge and Oscoda, it is used chiefly for towing targets during gunnery practice. In the cockpit about to take off is Lt. James Y. Carter, Winston-Salem, N. C., [illegible]er student of Hampton Institute, and Bates College.

OCT 30 1943

No. 6. A close up of Lt. Carter about to climb into the P.47.

No. 7. T/Sgt. Tracy Woods, Danville, Ill., line chief of the 301st squadron looks on, at left, while Sgt. Ronnie Gray, Alliance, Ohio, repairs a landing gear wheel. (Exclusive Photos by Journal and Guide War Correspondent.)

Finished Mission; Lauded By Mates

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lands at Field as Aviators App[illegible]handling of Ship—Gets Orders to Return to U. S.

NOV 20 1943

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
Accredited U.S. War Correspondent)

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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—(Via Wireless)—Although the courageous bronze combat fliers of the now internationally famous 99th Pursuit Squadron have astonished the world for the past eight months with their death-defying feats on bombing missions in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, it remained for Lt. Herbert Van Allen Clark of Pine Bluff, Ark., to perform one of the most daring and miraculous feats of all recently, when he risked his life to prevent extensive damage to the expensive American P-40 Warhawk airplane he was flying.

The daring pilot—now on his way back to the United States to accept a new army assignment—negotiated a landing on a wheel and a prayer . . . a spectacular one wheel landing, one of the most difficult exploits in the science of aeronautics . . . instead of the conventional belly crash landing.

WHEEL OF PLANE RIPPED OFF

It all happened during a 99th bombing mission November 5. Clark was taking off when a plane from another squadron taxied out of the parking strip directly into his path. With mere seconds in which to act to avoid a collision, he expertly pulled the stick back and prayed that his plane had gathered sufficient speed to rise. The plane rose all right—but not high enough . . . The left landing wheel of Clark's machine became entangled with the propeller of the other plane and both the wheel and propeller were ripped off.

With his plane thus damaged, Clark, despite the episode, continued on the target mission. He dropped his bomb load and, when his work was done, turned his plane homeward to the 99th base.

With his entire array of squadron mates, all of whom had reviewed the accident, looking on in stark amazement and with an emergency ambulance, first aid and stretcher-bearing group on the scene—fearing a fatal landing was inevitable—Clark adroitly descended, his swift plane making a perfect one wheel contact and balancing it miraculously.

CHEATED DEATH

While the entire gathering stood there spellbound and unbelieving Clark stepped out of the fuselage pit of his damaged P-40, grease-stained and grim—but unhurt.

There was nothing but admiration and wonderment in the eyes and expressions of every man present, because there was not a single person present who did not realize that had the other plane's propeller hit the 500-pound bomb load attached under the belly of the fuselage of Clark's machine a disastrous explosion would have resulted.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Due to an error in the transmission of a recent cable, The Pittsburgh Courier carried [illegible] to the effect [illegible] Pursuit Squadron had accounted for 59 enemy planes. The story should have read that the fighter group to which the 99th is now attached had accounted for that number. The 99th has one "kill" (in the parlance of aviation) and seven probables to its credit.

NOV 20 1943

DRAMA INSERTED

Adding drama to the spectacular happening was the fact that, five minutes after Clark had landed and regained his normal composure, the mail clerk handed the copper-colored lieutenant his travel orders — a summons back to the United States from what had proved to be his last Italian flying mission and what, in fact, turned out to be his last flying mission of any kind.

Leaving this theatre of war with Clark were fellow Lieutenants William Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., and Spann (Life Saver) Watson of Hackensack, N. J., the demon rescurer, of whom all were with the original fighter group of Negro pilots who went into action in North Africa. The [illegible] will be assigned with the [illegible] colored fighter group now in training at Selfridge Field, Mich. It will be remembered that Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., former commander of the 99th, was also recalled to the states recently and, at the present time, is serving as commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field.

RAF Flyer Joins TAAF Faculty

DEC 4 - 1943

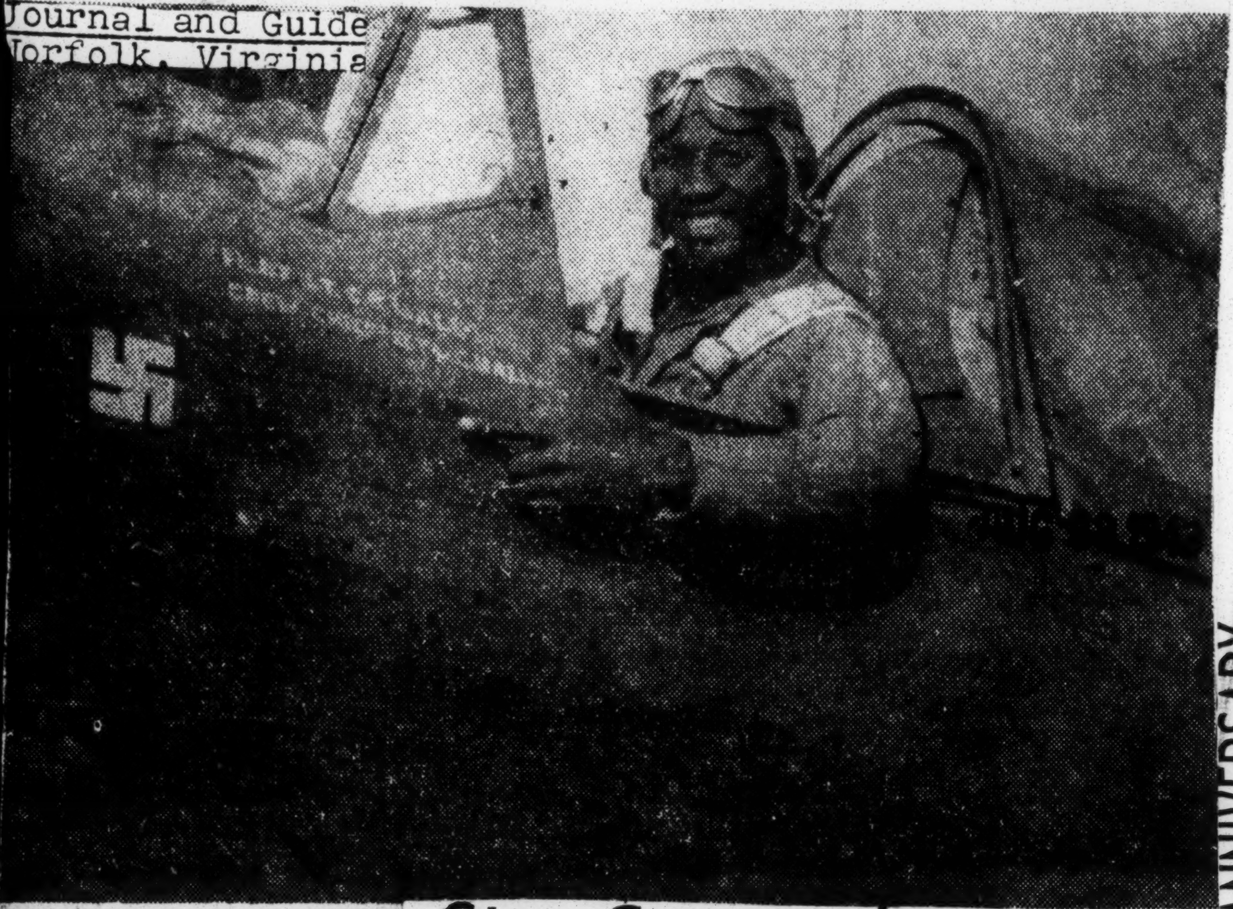
TUSKEGEE. — (ANP) — Capt. Fred Hutcherson, Jr., ace flyer and ferry pilot formerly of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force, will soon assume his new duties as instructor at the Tuskegee Army Air Field according to an announcement last week. The noted aviator will pursue a refresher course at Moton Field before teaching primary flying classes.

When Great Britain entered the war in 1939, Capt. Hutcherson, who because of his color had been denied admittance in the S. Air Corps, went to Canada and entered the RCAF. He made many trips to England transporting materials of war to the mother country. Recognizing his ability the Canadians elevated him to the rank of captain and increased his salary to $1,000 per month. Later he was transferred to the RAF with the same rank.

Capt. Hutcherson is married to the former Regina Laurent of New Orleans. They have an 8-year-old son, Ford, III. The Hutchersons live in Asbury avenue Evanston, Ill.

Emblem Of 99th's First Aerial Victory

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



The first German swastika painted on a P-40 Warhawk plane flown by the 99th Fighter Squadron, indicating an officially credited victory over an enemy aircraft, was put on the plane of Captain Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Indiana. The 22-year-old former football, basketball, and track star at Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, destroyed a German Focke-Wulf 190 on July 2. On the same day, General Dwight Eisenhower, Lt. General Carl Spatz, and Maj. General James his crew chief, S/Sgt. William Cyrus Hall, 24, of 8425 Vance avenue, Philadelphia, who is known to his buddies by that name. They are not related. The first "Knobby" was worn out in advanced training during the squadron's first month in North Africa, from where it helped batter Pantelleria into submission and then moved into Sicily for the invasion and [illegible]p there. Other pictures on pages 11 and 20. (Photo by Thomas W. Young, Journal and Guide War Correspondent)

Star Congratulates Pilots

DEC 25 1943

4.7a

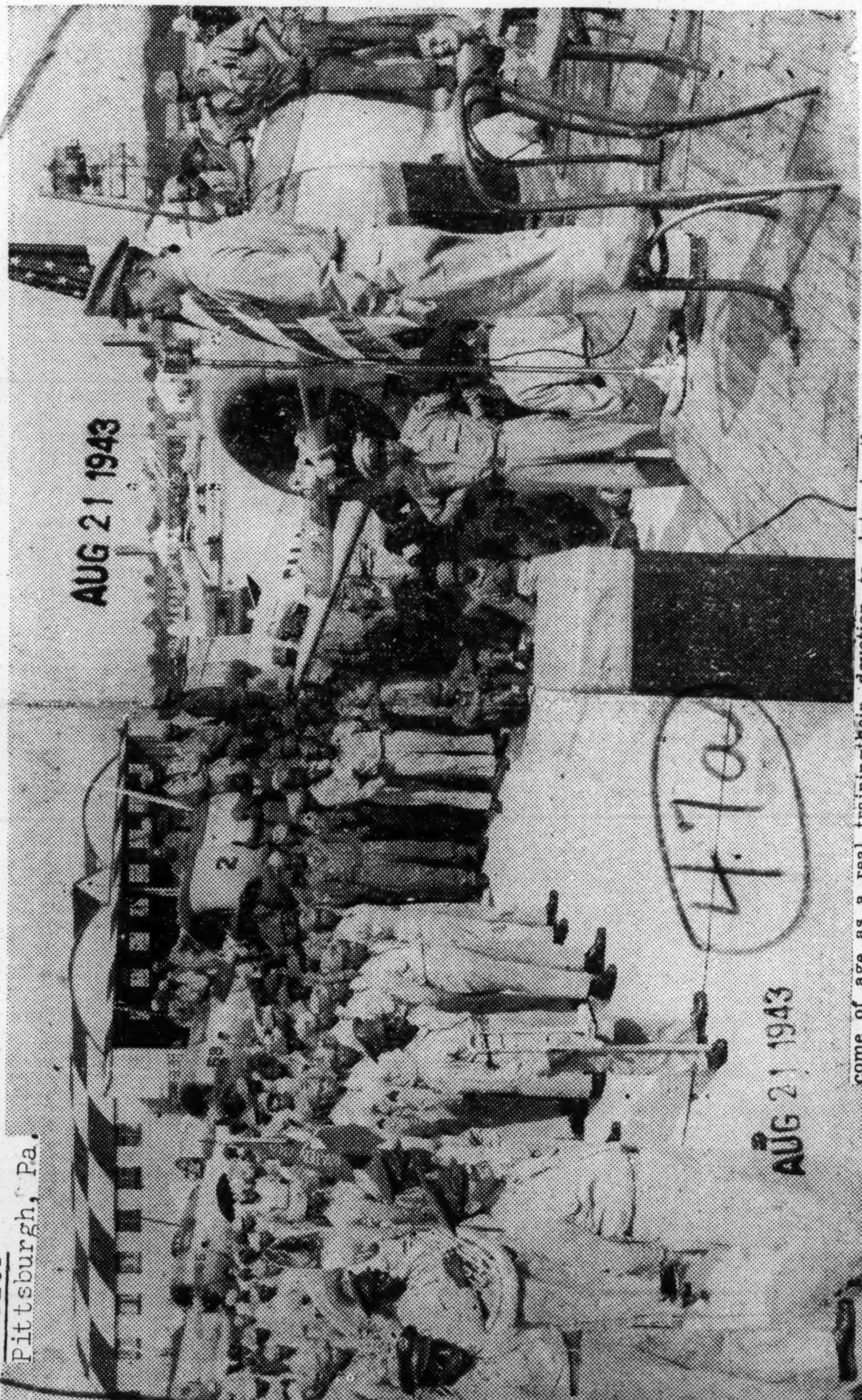
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

PHILLIP DORN CONGRATULATES COMBAT PILOTS—The celebrated Dutch actor and MGM [illegible] Phillip Dorn, made a brief visit to the Tuskegee Army Air Field recently, just in time to congratulate two fighter pilots fresh from combat action in the Italian and Sicilian theatre of operations. The officers are left to right: 1st Lt. Herbert V. Clark of Pine Bluff, Ark., and 2nd Lt. Spann Watson of Hackensack, N. J. (Photo by AAF Training Command).

DEC 25 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD OBSERVES SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



AUG 21 1943

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AUG 21 1943

After two years of training Negro pilots, many of whom are at this moment blasting Axis planes from the skies over Sicily, the Tuskegee Army Air Field has come of age as a real training base.

Addressing the entire military and civilian personnel of the field on its second anniversary, Lieut. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer, commended them on their devotion to duty in the past, and implored them not to let down in the future until final and complete victory has been achieved.—Tuskegee Army Air Field photo.

47a-1943

Here s The Air Corps' Best 'Guzzler , or 'Sock-up' Artist

47a

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

THEY MASTER TIME AND MACHINES—The engineering crew required but a little time to remove the tail section and install a new one. Shown in the process of starting to dismantle the section are Staff Sergeant Robert E. Barrow of 1348 South 46th street, Philadelphia, Pa., left, and T/Sgt Thomas J. Bills of 2601 Washington boulevard, Chicago, Ill right.

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
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NOV 1943

IN SICILY—(Delayed)—Aviation mechanics often don't have time to go through the red tape of requisitioning parts and supplies they need to keep their planes in the air and fighting the enemy.

Often they have the "guzzle" or "sack up" or "moonlight requisition" the things they need. When this work has to be done for the 99th Fighter Squadron now in Sicily, no member is more resourceful and efficient—or half as happy—at it as is T/Sgt. Thomas J. Bills, 2601 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

Give him a tool box and a cracked up plane, and he can salvage more usable parts than you can imagine the aircraft had before it was wrecked. What's more, in that role, Bills is happier than a kid in a pre-war pantry.

MAD RACE BY MECHANICS

A well known practice, when a plane cracks up near the base, and seems destined for the junk heap or for a trip back to a depot for rebuilding, is for the various mechanics to strip it of all its good parts and replace them with others on hand that are hopelessly in disrepair.

It usually results in a mad race by mechanics and radio technicians and armorers of the various squadrons stationed at the airfield. They snatch up all the no-good parts on hand and dash to the scene. First there, of course, takes what he wants and installs in its place the unusable parts he had on hand.

When all the scavengers have finished the wrecked plane has all of its parts, all right, but what parts!! It's a wise pilot who knows his own ship when these boys finish with it.

WENT TO CHANUTE FIELD

"Well, if the plane is going to be turned in as junk," Bills reasoned, "I figure we might as well make it real junk."

He was with the first group of technicians to receive training at Chanute Field where he spent the months of May to November, 1941. He is maintenance chief for the 99th.

A graduate of Lockport High School where he studied mechanical engineering, he had put his inclination to useful tasks at the Illino Carnegie Steel Corp. before he entered the Army.

After the war he wants to study aviation mechanics further and try to find a place for himself in this field.

47w

AUG 20 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

KEEPS 'SKEGEE SOLDIERS HAPPY.— Mrs. Eugene V. Woods of Mound Bayou, Miss., and New York city, hostess at the new Tuskegee Service club, keeps 'on the ball' to keep TAAF's flying men in a happy frame of mind. —Photo by Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Mound Bayou Woman Directs Service Club

AUG 20 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Mrs. Eugene V. Woods, daughter of Mrs. Mary C. Booze, Republican National Committeewoman from the state of Mississippi, has been appointed director of the new Service club at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Mrs. Woods, whose grandfather, Isaiah T. Montgomery, founded the all-colored town of Mound Bayou, Miss., comes from New York City, but of recent years she has been teaching in the Mound Bayou high school and managing her 1,100-acre farm.

AUG 20 1943

The director of the new Service club is a graduate of Howard university and attended the Chicago School of Music and the Atlanta University School of Social Work. When questioned as to why she entered this particular type of work at the Tuskegee Service club, Mrs. Woods responded: "It's something I have always wanted to do."

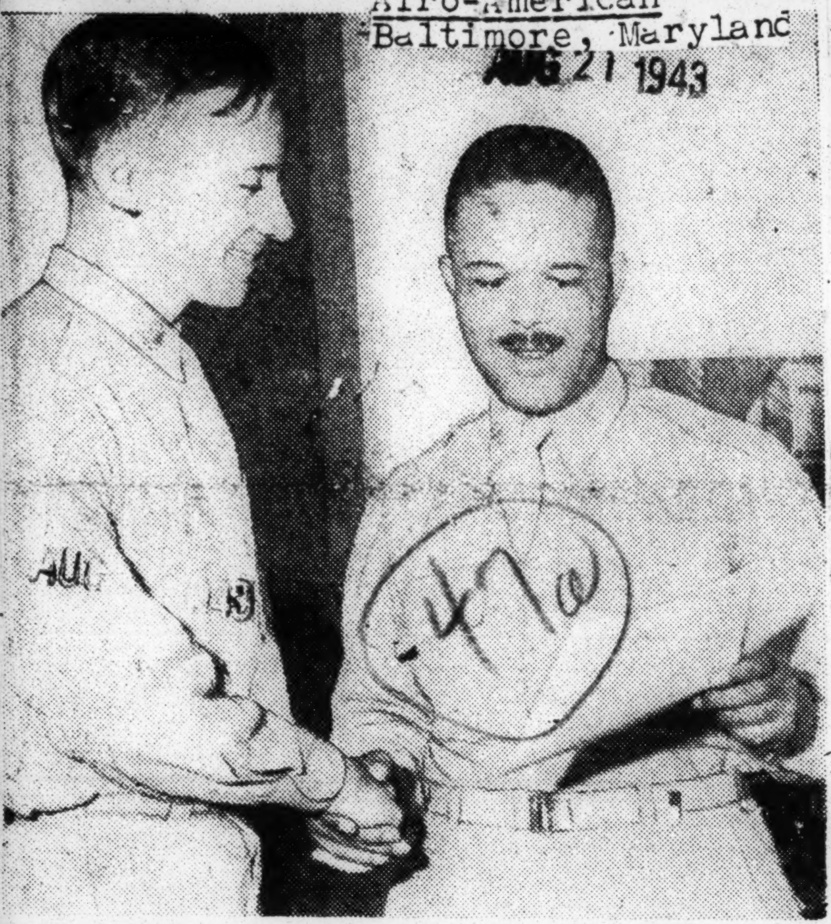
Mrs. Woods comes to the Tuskegee post with a rich and varied background of experience. Formerly a school teacher, musician, social welfare student and farm manager, she has big plans for the soldiers' social program at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Mrs. Woods is no stranger to Tuskegee, having lived there for over two years while her two daughters were attending Children's House at Tuskegee Institute.

In discussing her work, which includes planning and directing recreation to keep the Tuskegee servicemen in a happy frame of mind, the genial hostess stated: "I think this is about the finest group of soldiers I could ever work with. I am very well pleased and expect to do anything within my power to make the soldiers happy."

Tuskegee's V.D. Drive Commended

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
AUG 21 1943



Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field (left) commends Major George McDonald of Baltimore, post venereal disease control officer, on the extremely low V.D. rate for the past month after an extensive campaign waged for one year. In the background is Capt. E. Brown Singleton, assistant post V.D. control officer.

Bomber Pilots at Last!

Colored Americans received with great satisfaction the War Department announcement that training of Negro bomber pilots will begin next month and that Negro navigators and bombardier officers will begin training in December.

The first round in the fight for Negro pilots was won when the training of the 99th Pursuit Squadron began two years ago at Tuskegee.

The second round is now happily concluded with the surrender of the War Department to the continued demands of an increasing number of American taxpayers that it stop the exclusion of young men from training as bombers on the spurious and indefensible ground of "race".

Unfortunately the white people who are in control of these things do not seem to be able to rise completely above prejudice and discrimination based on color and "race".

For example, instead of merely assigning colored cadets for training as bomber pilots, navigators and bombardiers at all available air schools, they have adopted the vicious, offensive and traditional policy of segregation.

So there is to be a separate "all-Negro" bombardment group trained either at Fort Dodge, Kan., or Del Rio Texas where doubtless the cadets will be segregated and

humiliated as they have been at Tuskegee air school.

That this is entirely unnecessary is shown by the War Department's own announcement that "Ground crews for the bombing group are already in training at Air Force installations throughout the country. **The Negroes who will make up the group are all being trained with white students.**"

If the ground crews can be trained together regardless of color or "race," why cannot the pilots, navigators and bombardiers be trained in the same way?

Why is it necessary to establish segregation in the case of men presumably of more education and background while not having segregation where the men are presumably of less education and background?

If such a procedure is necessary, then it is a terrible reflection on American education!

Of course every Negro knows that when the ground crews are trained they will be sent to the segregated bombardment units where bomber crews, pilots, navigators and bombardiers will also be colored.

The reason for this is simply that the War Department is fighting two wars: one against the Axis and the other against any trend toward social equality which might in any way jeopardize America's "white supremacy" set-up.

Well, the war is by no means over and has probably just begun.

Before the Axis is finally brought to its knees, we predict that the war against the Axis will have to take precedence over the war to preserve "normalcy" in race relations; as, indeed, it is doing more and more.

Before peace is established colored and white boys will be training together, flying together and using the same quarters and messes as becomes fighting men serving their country, no matter what Negrophobes may now think.

SEP 1 1943

Eisenhower, Spaatz, Doolittle, And RAF Air Marshal Praise Hall

Norfolk, Virginia
JUL 17 1943 Journal and Guide

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

JUL 17 1943

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AN ADVANCED ALLIED BASE, NORTH AFRICA—"I would like to meet the pilot who shot down that Jerry!" exclaimed General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the Allied Forces in North Africa, after greeting Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, when the Allied chief and his party of several other generals landed in their transport carrier at the 99th field, following the attack on Castelventrano, Sicily, early on the morning of July 2, when Lt. Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Ind., became the first American Negro to shoot down an enemy plane.

Among those accompanying General Eisenhower were Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, Brig. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, famed for the American air raid on Tokyo, and Air Marshal Coningham of the Royal Air Force.

After congratulating Lt. Col. Davis on the "very fine reports" received on the performance of his squadron, the general was introduced to Flight Leaders Hall, Custis, Jamison, and Capt. George S. Roberts of Fairmont, W. Va., operations officers.

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After meeting the fliers, General Doolittle told Davis: "You have a very fine unit. I have been hearing good things about you."

Back at the field following the July 2 air action the full story was put together by the 12 fighter pilots of the 99th squadron who were part of 48 pursuit planes covering the B-25 Mitchell bombers which blasted the airfield in Sicily prior to the actual Allied invasion of the island.

The 99th was in the number one spot, up front. Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, was leading the formation of the squadron. Three other squadrons were also assigned to cover the bombers.

Observers point out that the position given the group "is indicative of the confidence, fine spirit, and cooperation manifest in joint operations of the 99th with other fighter groups." One of these squadrons had only recently arrived in the North African theatre and had gained less combat experience than the 99th.

Over Castelventrano a flock of Messerschmitt 109's and Focke Wulk 190's came up and dogfights ensued for 25 minutes, Pilots Lawson, a Newton, Va., native, and Dryden, Bronx, New York, got in [illegible]g bursts of machine gun fire. German planes were seen to smoke and dive, but were not seen to crash. The two Germans were listed as damaged and probably destroyed.

Lt. Hall went on the attack with his P-40 Warhawk fighter and with one long burst riddled a Focke Wulf which turned off and dove for the ground. The victorious pilot followed the doomed ship and saw it crash into the earth and, as Lt. Hall described the result, "he raised a big cloud of dust."

Two of our planes suffered slight damage. Two cannon shells tore through the plane of Lt. Dryden. The propeller of Lt. Sam Bruc[illegible]ship was dented. Lts. Dryden and Knighton engaged in a running fight with four Messerschmitts from Sicily to Pantelleria.

For downing the first plane Lt. Hall was honored by the squadron with a gift held in reserve for this purpose in the company safe since the arrival of the unit in North Africa. As his [illegible]rades [illegible]ered he drank the precious gift—a bottle of Coca Cola, the only one seen by members of the group since the landing.

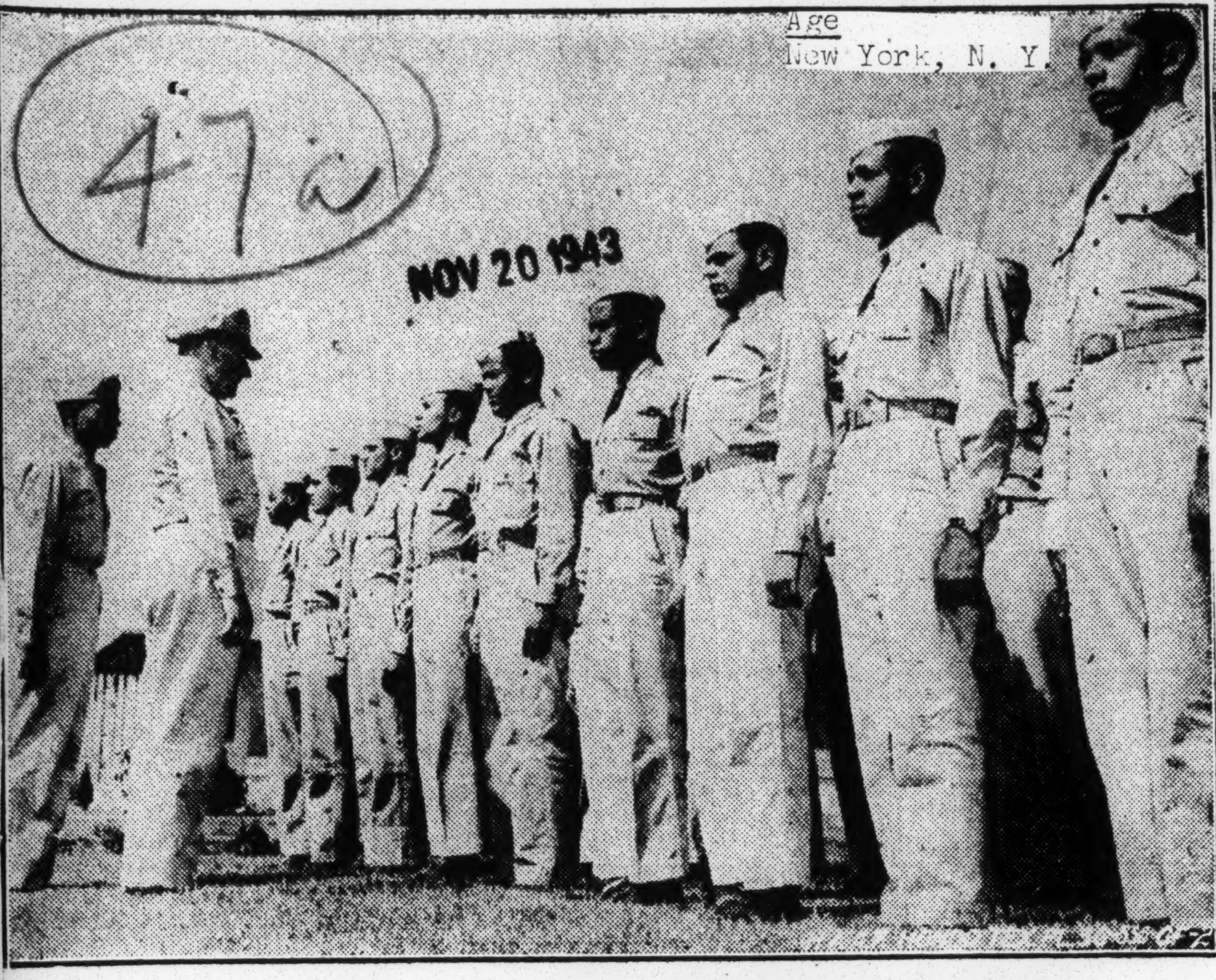
47a-1943

First Negro Unit Reports For Navigation Training In Hondo, Tex

Age
New York, N. Y.

47a

NOV 20 1943



Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Department

FIRST NEGRO NAVIGATORS arrive in Texas Airbase. The 30 smartly disciplined members of Squadron 10, first Negro unit to report for navigation training at Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Texas, are shown being inspected shortly after their arrival at the huge navigation airbase. The inspecting officer is Captain Frank H. Sheffield, senior tactical officer of the school's Group III. To Captain Sheffield's left is Navigaton Cadet Arnold W. Galimore, flight marcher for the unit. (Photo by Army Air Forces).

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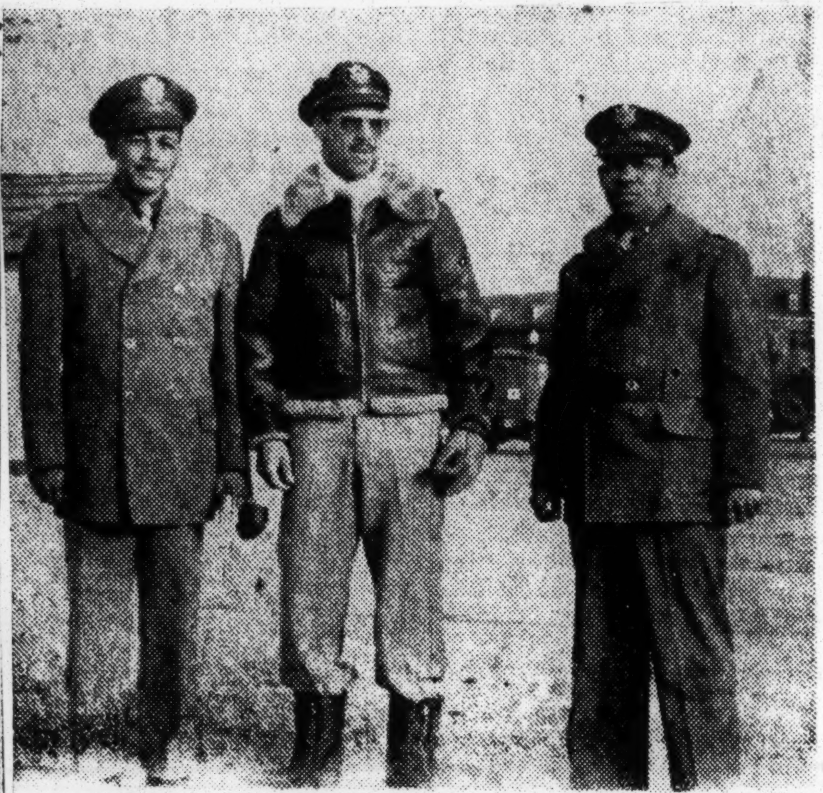
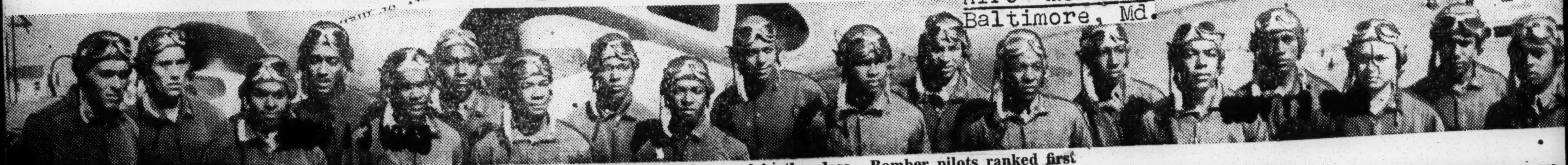


OFFICERS AT SELFRIDGE FIELD—Three ground officers of the 332nd Fighter Group are, left to right, Lts. Ray B. Ware, Atlanta, Ga., group intelligence; Henry Bowman, Minneapolis, Minn., squadron armament, and P. A. Townsend, squadron ordnance officer, photographed by the Journal and Guide war correspondent on a recent visit to Selfridge Field, Mich.

Another Class of Fighter Pilots Graduate at Tuskegee Army Air Field

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



Newest group of U.S. Army fighter pilots who were graduated with commissions as second lieutenants at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Wednesday of last week, along with nine others who are to take additional training at Mather Field, Cal., as bomber pilots. In this group, left to right, are: 2nd Lts. Edward M. Thomas, Chicago; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati; Charles W. Dickerson, New Rochelle, N.Y.; James B. Brown, Los Angeles; William H. Thomas, Los Angeles; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia; Carl E. Rayburg, Washington, D.C.; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Alfred W. Carroll, Washington, D.C.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Clarence [illegible] Dart, Elmira, N.Y.; Oscar D. Hutton, Chicago; Earl S. She[illegible] lumbus, Ohio; Roger B. Brown, Glencoe, Ill.; Turner [illegible] Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Emory L. Robbins, Chicago; Gwynne W. Pierson, Oakland, Cal.; and Hugh S. Warner, N.Y.C. 2nd Lt. Paul C. Simmons of Detroit, also member of the class is not shown. Lieutenant Thomas, ex-Chicago postal clerk, ranked second in the class. Bomber pilots ranked first and third.

"BEHIND THE BOMB LINE" WITH THEFIGHTING99TH

Journal and Guide NOV 27 1943 Norfolk, Virginia

NOV 27 1943

(EDITOR'S NOTE: In the next installment the writer describes how the fighter pilots came back from a combat mission and make their report to the intelligence officer. There is also more of the brilliant work of the aviation mechanics who keep the planes flying.)

Installment II

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

IN SICILY (By Air Mail, delayed)—Down on "the line," almost a mile from the tent area where we lived, roaring airplane motors being warmed up by crew chiefs cut deeply into the pre-dawn quiet. It was 0440 hours and most of the fourteen pilots assigned to this mission, the operations staff and this war correspondent were still dressing.

But the engineering staff, some of whom had been up since 0330, already was working in blacked-out "open air repair shops" without benefit of time cards and overtime pay to get their planes conditioned for this first morning mission.

Many of them had not left their jobs until after 9 o'clock the night before when darkness forced them to abandon the effort. These aviation mechanics, the real unsung heroes of the 99th Fighter Squadron, have never failed the pilots who fly the planes they service, nor the squadron, nor the Army Air Forces.

The deepest admiration for these loyal, hard-working "grease monkeys" swelled my chest with pride as I walked over to the officers' mess kitchen where Sgt. Matthew Roberts, New York City, was already making coffee.

Synthetic Java is G .I. Coffee

The conversation was light and pleasant. The bonnie good humor of these fliers who in a short while were to take off on the most earnest missions of death and destruction, was as refreshing and stimulating as Sgt. Roberts' synthetic "java." (That's what we called G. I. coffee—the soluble powdered kind to which you add only hot water and stir. Presto! and you've got a drink as good as any percolator or drip-o-lator coffee you ever had.)

Chief fun-maker while having our spot of "java" was a nimble-wittted flier from Philadelphia. Lt. Louis R. Purnell .Things began to move along swiftly. Below is the log from my notebook:

0505—Pilots and operations staff pile on two jeeps and head for "the line." Lt. Erwin B. Lawrence Cleveland, assistant operations officer, who had been responsible for waking us up is at the wheel of one. I hop on it. Purnell, too, is a passenger, continuing his flow of good humor to keep everybody amused.

In addition [illegible] us three [illegible] are Capt. Lemuel R. Custis, Hartford. Conn., a flight leader, and Lieutenants Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.; Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J.; Charles W. Dryden, New York City, and Paul Graham Mitchell, Washington, D. C.

Oxygen Masks, Helmets, Parachutes Claimed

0508—We are bumping merrily along the dirt road. In the east the sky begins to lighten faintly although the sun has not come up. The drone of more than a dozen airplane engines being "pre-flighted" by the mechanics almost drowns out our conversation.

0509—When we arrive at the operations tent, Sgt. George W Jackson, Pittsburgh, who slept there all night to be on hand for the early mission today, is already stirring about. The pilots claim oxygen masks, flying helmets and parachutes .By the pale glow of candlelight they study the large map of Sicily for latest advices on enemy, anti-aircraft installations which are marked on it from day to day by the intelligence officer.

0415—Second jeep-load of pilots arrives and crowd into pyramidal tent. Among them are Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer, who will lead this mission. There is also Lt. Herbert V. Clark, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Allen G Lane, Demopolis, Ala., Willie Ashley, Sumter, S. C., and Herbert F. ("Peppy Le-Moc") Carter.

0515—Col. Davis asks for attention. "One thing I forgot to mention, pilots, is that the big push in the North is beginning this morning and we are likely to see lots of Allied movement. So please be careful not to strafe anything west of Cesaro. The British are driving north; the Americans in the North are pushing east."

Last Minute Informaation Given

0550—Although takeoff time is more than a half hour away, the pilots pile again on the jeeps and are driven to their respective planes dispersed around the landing field. The crew chiefs have the Warhawks tuned to their finest flying pitch when the pilots arrive.

Last minute information on how the engines are working is passed on to the piloots by the mechanics. Windshields are wiped clean. Everything is in readiness now.

"Clear!" a pilot calls out before starting his engine. The propellor turns stubbornly, jerkily, the engine spits and coughs and then starts. The deafening roar drowns out all conversation! The "propwish" almost blows Crew Chief Staff Sgt. Julius C. Lovett, Newark, N. J., off the wing of Lt. Fuller's plane.

0600—One by one the planes, 14 of them, taxi down to the end of the runway and take their positions on opposite sides of the landing strip, facing each other.

t Hoooooo ,gtev, mt- ake

Precision Timed

0610—Most of the mechanics and crew chiefs return to the operations tent to wait for their ships to get into the air. None of them have had any breakfast, not even coffee, but they don't think about leaving until every plane is safely in the air. I notice that Col. Davis' crew chief, Sgt. Vernon Watson, Seguin, Tex., has two fingers of his right hand crossed. He is leaning against a jeep looking anxiously down the field where fourteen planes are poised for their hop over enemy territory.

0625——The pilots start their engines again, warmig them up for the take-off.

0630—"It's six-thirty on the nose," Sgt. Jackson says without looking at his watcch, as two planes tear down the runway on full throttle and rise into the sky. How could he be so positive? we wanted to know.

"That's Col. Davis leading the flight off," Jackson replied, "and he always takes off with split-second precision. You can set your watch by his take-offs"

As the first two planes bank into eastern sky, Sgt. Watson uncrosses his fingers and relaxes. The "Old Man" had gotten off again without a mishap. I later learned that Col. Davis' crew chief always crosses his fingers when the "Skipper" takes off on a mission, and keeps them crossed until he is safely in the air.

0640—All fourteen planes are in the air now, lined up in a perfect "company front" — 12 planes abreast, two "spares' 'weaving back and forth in the rear—heading north on their mission of destruction.

NOV 27 1943

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Observers Of Battery Fire

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Field Artillery Officers Get Liaison Pilot Training

AUG 28 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., August 26—Another phase of flying has been temporarily added to the training schedule of the busy Tuskegee Army Air Field. Joining the Basic Trainers, Advanced Trainers and P-40s that crowd the busy runways of this active air base, a grasshopper fleet of tiny "cubs," Army liaison planes, are landing and taking off from the field.

This addition to the Tuskegee field's curriculum is a course of instruction for qualified field artillery officers who are training as liaison pilots. The course lasts for nine weeks, during which time the trainee receives sixty hours in the tiny 65 horsepower airplane.

TRAIN TO OBSERVE BATTERY FIRE

After nine weks and 60 hours of flying instruction, the student officer receives his liaison pilot wings and goes to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for advanced training and preparation for tactical work. In combat these liaison pilots serve as obsorvers of battery fire. They fly so they can see where the salvos from their batteries are hitting. Then necessary corrections are radoed from the pilot to the battery crews until the shots are striking the targets.

Among the student officers assigned to the first class are Captain William H. Shannon, Chicago, Ill., First Lieutenants James I. Miner, Jr., Washington, D. C.; William Y. Rose, Chicago, Ill.; Terry Howard Brooks, Houston, Texas; Lawrence W. Langford, Chicago, Ill.; Chauncey Eskridge, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Second Lieutenants James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kansas; Arthur Lee Parks, Kansas City, Kansas; Benjamin F. Moore, Ocilla, Ga.; Leonard Earl Wilburn, Columbus, Ohio; Charles Gilbert Dunn, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert L. McFadden, Tallahassee, Fla.; Alvin J. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; James F. Brooks, Chicago, Ill.; Harry W. Dunghill, Chicago, Ill.; Arnold D. Grant, Cotteyville, Kans.; Aldrick H. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.; Chester A. Jones, Atlantic City, N. J.; Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; and Darryl C. Bishop, Houston, Texas.

FLIERS OF '99th' BASED IN ITALY

OCT 30 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU, Courier War Correspondent

ITALY—(Via Wireless)—While our fighter pilots of the 99th Pursuit Squadron arrived in Italy last week, forming a part of the desert air forces supporting the British Eighth Army, eight new pilots—Lts. Charles B. Bailey, Punta Gorda, Fla.; Leonard H. Jackson, Fort Worth, Tex.; Wilson V. Eagleston, Bloomington, Ind.; Lewis C. Smith, Los Angeles, Calif.; Clarence W. Allen, Chicago; Wiliam E. Griffin, Birmingham, Ala.; Alwayne Dunlap, Washington, D.C., and Heber Houston, Detroit, all trained at Tuskegee, Ala., and Selfridge Field, Michigan, joined the 99th Pursuit Squadron at its Sicilian air base.

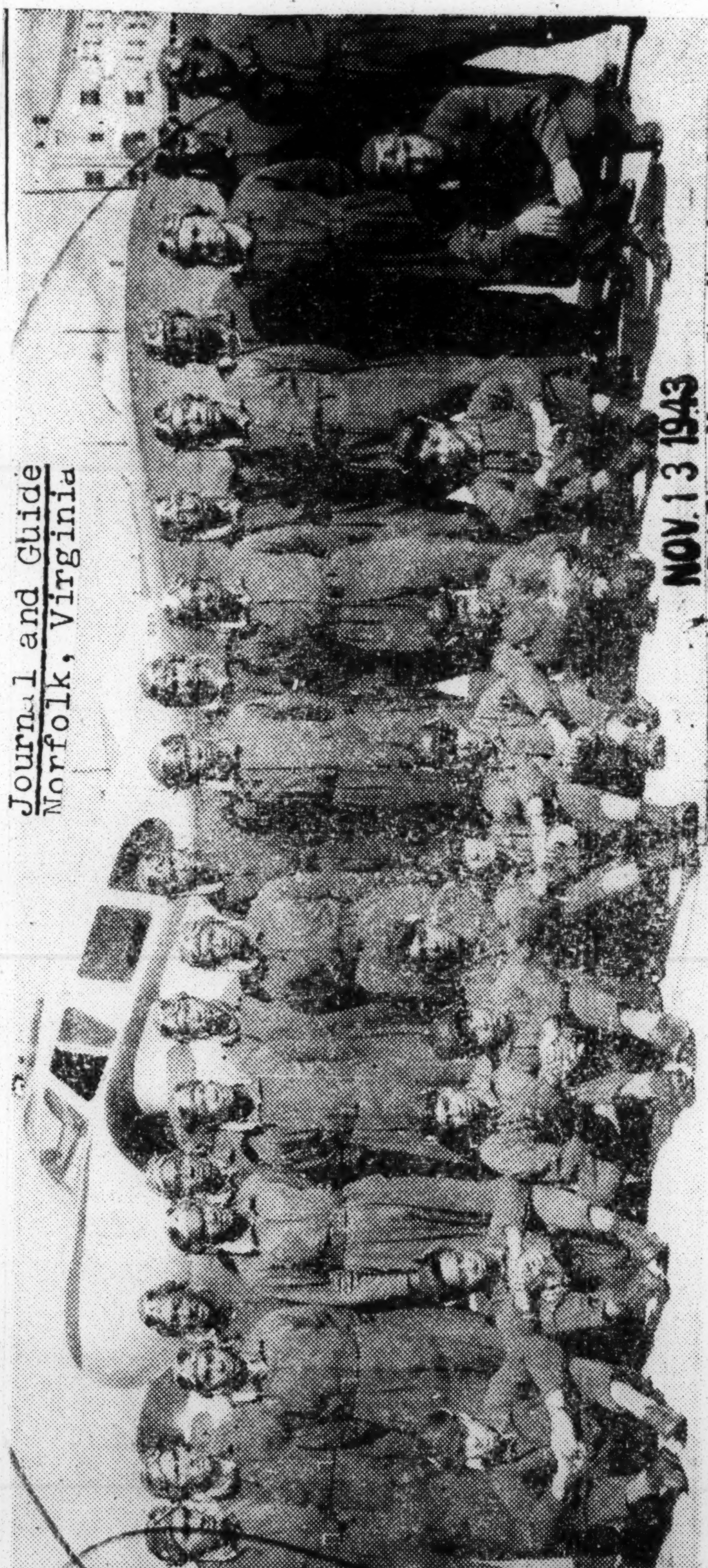
The squadron is now attached to the veteran American P-40 group, which has been overseas more than a year, and has seen much action over the Western desert of Egypt.

The 99th's new airdrome is in the corner of a huge plain littered everywhere with wrecks of Italian and German bombers and fighter planes. The airdrome was bombed, the night before the 99th's arrival, by the Germans. The first thing men of the 99th did before putting up pup tents was to dig individual foxholes. Every man is generally abed by 7 o'clock in the evening. The nights are very cold.

The squadron's ground echelon, commanded by Lt. Henry M. Letcher of Washington, D.C., has been here since early September. There was much rejoicing when pilots and echelon forces met and tales were exchanged of narrow escapes from bombs and shells. T/Sgt. Ralph Burnley, former professional boxer from Philadelphia, said his landing in Italy 24 hours before the American infantry was the geratest experience of his life. The Germans were only [illegible] yards away from the beach and the British took him and others for work on anti-tank guns, he said, and explained that the Germans have spread rumors that they are cannibals recruited from Africa by the Americans.

OCT 30 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



NOV 13 1943

FUTURE BOMBER AND FIGHTER PILOTS GET WINGS—In the first graduation of its kind at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, fighter and bomber pilot trainees completed the prescribed course at the same time. The fighter pilots will go through a transition period on the P-40 Warhawk (as in the past) whereas, the twin-engine graduates will leave for Mather Field, Calif., where they will be the initial group of Negro pilots to undergo Medium Bomber training in B-25's.

The Twin-Engine graduates, seated on the runway are: 2nd Lieutenants Perry E. Hudson, Atlanta, Ga.; Herman R. Campbell, New York, N. Y.; [illegible] N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Haldane King, Jamaica, N. Y.; Les[illegible] Williams, San Mateo, Cal.; Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago; Ill.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; and William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass. Standing from l. to r. are: Fighter Pilots 2nd Lts. Edward M. Thomas, Chicago, Ill.; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles W. Dickerson, New Rochelle, N. Y.; James B. Brown, Los Angeles, Cal.; William H. Thomas, Los Angeles, Cal.; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.; Carl E. Rayburg, Washington, D. C.; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Alfred W. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, N. Y.; Oscar D. Hutton, Chicago, Ill.; Earl S. Sherrard, Columbus, Ohio; Roger B. Brown, Glenco, Ill.; Turner [illegible] Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Emory L. Robbins, Chicago, Ill.; Gwynne W. Pierson, Oakland, Cal.; and Hugh S. Warner, New York, N. Y. At the far right in the first row is 2nd Lieutenant Paul C. Simmons, Detroit, Mich., also of the fighter pilot group.

NOV 13 1943

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

"THE EEL" TAKES HIS FRIENDS FOR A RIDE—This German car, equivalent of the American "jeep," but far less serviceable, was one of the early acquisitions of "The Eel," as 1st Lt. James B. Knighten, Tulsa, Okla., is known to his officer friends in the 99th Pursuit Squadron now based in Sicily. It raced madly about the camp and airfield of the fighter squadron for several days until it disintegrated. Last seen, it was loitering around a junk pile.

Seated beside Lt. Knighten, who is at the wheel, is S. Sgt. Samuel F. Parks, crew chief. Sitting majestically on the rear seat like conquering generals are three flying officers, 1st Lt. Sherman W. White, Montgomery, Ala.; 2nd Lt. Samuel M. Bruce, Seattle, Wash., and 2nd Lt. Louis R. Purnell, Germantown, Pa. (Photo by Thomas W. Young, U. S. War Correspondent).

Celebrated First TAAF Chapel Anniversary

OCT 9 1943

CELEBRATION OF THE first anniversary of the Post Chapel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field took place September 19 when Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer, addressed the officers, men and civilians assembled there. Posing for this group picture after the service are Mrs. Alfreda Hamil[illegible]t. Theodore Randall of the Tuskegee College Training Detachment; L. W. Kranerd, Montg[illegible], Ala. [illegible]haplain Douglas L. T. Robinson, Post Chaplain; Mrs. Fay S. Robinson, wife of Chaplain R[illegible]n; Lt. Col. Parrish, Mrs. F. A. Bolders, Tuskegee, Ala.; Mrs. B. B. Walcott, Tuskegee Inst., Ala.; Maurice Hastie, War Time Minister, Christian Science Church; Lt. Rosetta E. Cannon, WAC stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga.; Mrs. Frederick Mack, Tuskegee, Ala., and S|Sgt. George D. Thompson, chapel organist. —TAAF Photo

OCT 9 1943

47a-1943

"The Eel" Of The 99th Squadron Takes To The Air--And Likes It

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

The Incredible Story Of 23-Year-Old Lieutenant James B. Knighten

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
U. S. War Correspondent

AT AN ADVANCE BASE IN NORTH AFRICA — You have to see and heard "The Eel" to really believe in his existence. No description this reporter could compose would adequately portray the sprightly character of 1st Lt. James B. Knighten, [illegible] of the flying officers of the 99th Fighter Squadron now in active combat service on the Sicilian front.

In olden days every court had its jester to amuse the lords and nobles. This squadron has "The Eel"—which is the name his close friends know him affectionately by—who serves the same purpose when he is not flying the very paint off his trim fighter plane.

ENJOYS BEING ALIVE

The boys in this outfit tell me he has been acting rather tame since he came overseas. That might be true, in a relative sense, but without any prior acquaintance to measure his antics by I'd say he is a likeable, witty, able, adorable clown who enjoys being alive more thoroughly than most individuals I've known.

At 23 years he has a fairly full life behind him. In Tulsa, Oklahoma where he was reared, he never played football in high school because his mother thought he was too young and too small. But after he had finished high school his father, James A. Knighten of 1130 Greenwood street, who is a prosperous business man with a variety of investments, sent him to Dillard University in New Orleans.

In college he played quarterback on the football team for four years and in the spring took his exercise on the tennis court. Although he had twice won the Missouri Valley junior championship, in 1937 and 1938, he wasn't varsity tennis team material during his stay at Dillard. These were the years when Ric[illegible] Cohen and Co. [illegible] winning not only intercollegiate titles for Dillard but national championships as well.

After receiving an A. B. degree, he spent a year around Chicago getting his bearing and saving a little money of his own so that he could go to law school. By the skin of his teeth he avoided the horrible fate of becoming a newspaperman.

CUB REPORTER IN CHICAGO

For about two months he spent his spare moments in the city between runs on a dining car to Washington as a cub reporter for the Chicago Defender under Enoch Waters and David Orro, both of whom are now war correspondents with U. S. troops abroad.

Then one September day in 1941, everything happened all at once. He (1) received notice of a scholarship to study law at Howard University, (2) was given a permanent run on the B. & O. dining car between Chicago and Washington, and (3) received appointment as a cadet at the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

All of those good tidings came to Knighten the same day. He chose Tuskegee. Thus into the ranks of the squadron went this young man who [illegible] never even been [illegible] of an airplane before. Ground training completed, he went up with an instructor for the first time.

Lt. Knighten says now that if he could have quit after that ride, he most certainly would have that very day. That a fighter pilot who is now almost every day flying combat missions could ever have felt so insecure in the air is hard to believe. But, he says, when he looked down on the ground and saw how far away it was, and how helpless he would be if anything happened to his ship, he was sure that the sky was a place for birds and other people,—not for him.

THINKS FLYING IS FUN

That's the funny thing about flying — how it gets a hold of you like a habit. It got "The Eel," after a bit, too, and now he confesses he likes it.

"You can make flying fun, just like anything else," he says.

And there you may have the explanation that makes sense of the story of "The Eel."

When we moved recently to a new location in the combat zone, the pilots flew their own ships cross-country. Some of the ground crew and administrative officers had come along in transport planes with their tools, essential machinery [illegible] personal equipment.

Enr[illegible] some minor trouble developed in Lt. Knighten's ship and he had to lay over at an intermediate stop while it was being repaired. We had been at the field, and operating, for several days when "The Eel" landed his ship and taxied it over to one of the far corners to park it. A jeep was sent out to bring him into headquarters.

SALVAGED GERMAN VERSION OF JEEP

Lt. Knighten used the opportunity to have some fun. I think we enjoyed it even more than he did. As he rode down "the line" past the ground crew and others who were hanging around on the field, he was standing in the front seat, holding the windshield with his left hand and waving and saluting with a broad grin on face, like a conquering hero ing past his admiring subjects.

"The Eel" hadn't been here day before he was out in countryside looking for trophies on the erstwhile battlegrounds. He came back with an abandoned German car which would be the equivalent of our jeep. Now noboby crosses a road without looking carefully in both directions. That missing object that looks like a comet just might be "The Eel" driving by.

Next day the flight schedule had Lt. Knighten in the first mission. It was a bombing sortie but "The Eel" would be flying with pilots from his own squadron who had had one or more prior missions.

Eight planes went out from our field. Seven returned . . .

The pilots were all huddled around the intelligence officer making their report. There was awe and dismay in the crowd, although nobody became excited. It was a solemn moment.

"When's the last time you saw Knighten?" the commanding officer, Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., Washington, D. C., asked one of the pilots flying on his wing.

"Just before we dived to release our bombs, Sir."

"Did anybody else see him after that?" the C. O. asked.

LIGHT FLAK OVER TARGET

Nobody had. "The Eel" would have been the last to dive and any number of things might have happened to him. There was light flak over the target, although there were no enemy fighters; at least, the others had not seen any. Maybe "The Eel" had.

It was a sad moment. This squadron had operated many a sortie in the brief time it had been in combat but always its planes and pilots had returned sa[illegible]. It was just a little ironical . . . , Knighten's first mission was also his last. Such damned luck. Can't figure it out. . . .

Wait! There's a plane circling our field—one of our type, too. Could be "The Eel." . . . It IS "The Eel." No mistaking about that. There was a sigh of relief, and then, right in the midst of that tense moment, a good, wholesome hearty laugh.

Everyone was anxious to learn what happened. Lt. Knighten explained that his motor acted lazy from the start, knocked completely out over the target. He adjusted his mixture, nursed the ailing motor back up to flying speed.

A FRIGHTFUL MOMENT

It was a frightful moment. Below was enemy territory. Between that and friendly soil was a lot of sea, too darned much to **swim, thought Lt. Knighten, even** with his May West life preserver on. He circled the island a couple of times to see how his engine would act. He might even have to put his ailing ship down on that unfriendly island.

Just then he heard a voice over his radio.

"Any strange aircraft in your area?" he heard a voice ask.

~~**"No," the answer came back.**~~

"Well," said the first voice, "we've got one up here."

It was an instantaneous mental process by which "The Eel" reasoned that he was the subject of the conversation he had just heard and he knew that the next number on their program was fireworks.

"Hell, no, (Horse!)" he shouted back just as quickly, "this is Knighten."

PILOTS FROM DIFFERENT SQUADRON

The pilots he had heard were from an entirely different squadron which also was carrying out missions against nearby targets. They were, of course, Americans, but they probably were surprised by this entirely different kind of voice over their radios.

And yet they probably quickly concluded that this must be a member of that new squadron about which everybody up this way seems to have heard in advance, and, that the use of the name ("Horse") had nothing at all to do with equestrian matters but was, instead, one of the terms of friendship and endearment employed by members of this squadron.

In any event, "The Eel's" engine was humming again and he took a direct road home. That was enough excitement for one day.

MAY BE THROUGH WITH FLYING

Lt. Knighten says he will be through with flying when the war is over and wants either to go to law school to prepare for the practice of law, or to find a career in journalism. He even declares he is going to stop speeding in automobiles.

That might be a perfectly normal ambition here in the thick of this serious business of flying for your life, because it's you or the other fellow's. But when he gets back it's a 100-to-1 chance that "The Eel" will be looking for some place in the aviation industry's parade of progress.

If he quits flying because no opportunities to stay in it come his way, or because flying for fun is too expensive, his charming personality and nimble with ought to make him succeed in either of the preferred professions to which he aspires.

LOOK FORWARD TO REJOINING WIFE

In the meantime he can look forward to rejoining his wife, the former Lana Robinson of Wichita, Kansas., whom he married on November 5, 1942. She is now a clerk in the quartermaster division at Tuskegee Army Flying School.

Lt. Knighten has one brother who is already in the Army somewhere in India, and a sister who is studying at Oberlin College. His mother is living now in St. Louis, Mo., where he spent his last two years in high school.

Incidentally, his marriage last fall climaxed a romance that started in high school. "The Eel" recalls that it was just a short while after pay day, but he was extremely broke at the moment. So broke, in fact, that he had to borrow a half-dollar from Lt. Sherman W. White Jr., of Montgomery, Ala., another flying officer with this squadron, to buy a marriage license.

Lt. White was standing nearby at the moment. Just to prove he wasn't spoofing about borrowing fifty cents to get married, he called to Lt. White and asked him if it wasn't true.

STILL OWES HALF-BUCK

"Yes," Lt. White replied without hesitation, "you did." Then, after a moment's thought he added:

"And that reminds me, Eel, you owe me fifty cents. You never did pay me back that half-buck!"

AUG 7 1943

urnal & Guide
rfolk, Va.

AUG 14 1943

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FIGHTING COMMANDER OF A FIGHTING SQUADRON—This is how the commanding officer of a fighter squadron looks just before taking off, and just after completing a combat mission. Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron now in active combat service on the Sicilian front, is shown, bottom, as he tightens a shoulder strap on his parachute just before the takeoff. At top he reposes in the cockpit of his P-40 Warhawk fighter plane with a satisfied smile after completion of his mission. (Photo by Thomas W. Young, U. S. War Correspondent)

47a-1943

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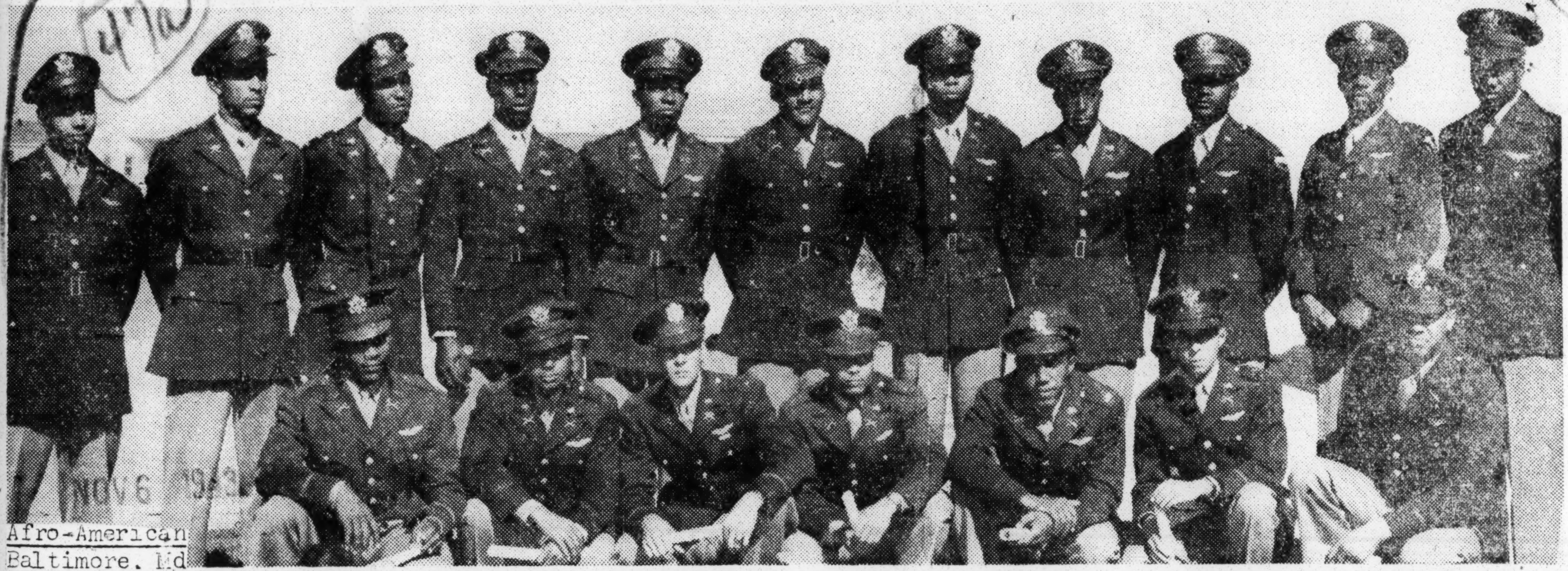
More Flying Artillery Officers Get Wings at Tuskegee



NOV 6 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Members of the most recent class of field artillery liaison pilots who completed their training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field October 22. They are, left to right: kneeling, 2nd Lt. John E. McCode, Houston, Texas; 1st Lt. John B. Dudley, Brooklyn, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. George F. Bizzell, Lancaster, Ohio; 2nd Lt. John O. Cunningham, Kokomo, Ind.; 2nd Lt. William J. Cleveland, Warren, Ohio; 1st Lt. Robert L. Wrenn, Cincinnati, Ohio, and 2nd Lt. John M. Franklin of Toledo, Ohio; standing, 2nd Lt. Louis K. Hanks, Toledo, Ohio; 1st Lt. Gaines C. Farley, Paducah, Ky., 1st Lt. Terry H. Brooks, Houston, Texas; 2nd Lt. Richard C. Chatman, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Henry Bennett, New Orleans, La.; 1st Lt. Fred E. Howard, Chicago; 1st Lt. Leroy Stephens, Jr., Chicago; 2nd Lt. Daniel C. Thomas, Akron, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Thurston Mason, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Paul Weathersby, Chicago, and William M. Jordan, Chicago.

WINS AERIAL GUNNERY AWARD

Aviation Cadet Othel Dickson of Tuskegee Army Air field led all flying cadets in the Eastern Flying Training Command and finished third in the national ranking of all cadets in the AAF Training Command at a recent [illegible] meet held at [illegible] [illegible] His accurate gunner [illegible] calibre death dealing weapon on the AT-6, which he flew in a recent competition. He hails from Coffeyville, Kans.—Photo by AAF Training Command.

Another Dream Comes True As Tuskegee Begins Bomber Training

DEC 5 1943

Courier

TUSKKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The second dream of airminded Negro youth of today materializzed into a reality, as twin-engine training officially started last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

With the advent of the first all-Negro Fighter Squadron to cambat, in single engine P-40 Warhawks, the question immediately arose as to the possibility of an all-Negro bomber squadron.

The question was answered when the War Department sanctioned the training of Negro cadets in the arduous task of becoming multi-engine pilots, here at the home of the first all-Negro Fighter Pilot Squadron now engaged in deadly combat over the war-torn skies of Europe.

MAJOR ALBRIGHT HEADS SCHOOL

DEC 18 1943

Selected to heed this new school, the first of its [illegible] anywhere in the world, is Major Clay Albright, the man who has taught every Negro fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces today, how to fly fighter's aircraft. Lieut. Milton B. Hall of Owensboro, Ky., is assisting him in an administrative capacity. Instructors of the newly formed school are 1st Lieut. Leonard B. Crozier and 2nd Lieut. Robert B. Meagher.

Pilot trainees for twin engine training here will be selected from the upper basic class of cadets. They are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training here and then be transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin engine course here is the AT-10 BH (Beechcraft). This plane is referred to as an "assimilated loaded bomber," as its altitude in flight is comparable to that of a medium bomber with a full load of bombs. All the ingenuity and skill required of a bomber pilot, is necessary in flying the AT-10 trainer.

For the highly technical job of maintenance, instructors from Turner Field, Georgia, have been attached here to familiarize our mechanics in the fundademtal knowledge of keeping these ships aloft.

"Once you get the hang of it, it's easy," says Lieut. Leonard B. Crozier, seated in co-pilot's seat, to Cadet Vincent Mason of Orange, N. J., in answer to a query concerning the myriad instruments and controls found in the cockpit of an AT-10 twin-engine trainer. The trio of cadets peering over the canopy, are, from left to right, Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.; William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass., and Henry Fletcher of San Antonio, Texas. The cadets are members of the initial group of Negro pilots in twin engine training at Tuskegee Army Air Field, in preparation for medium bomber training.—Photo by TAAF.

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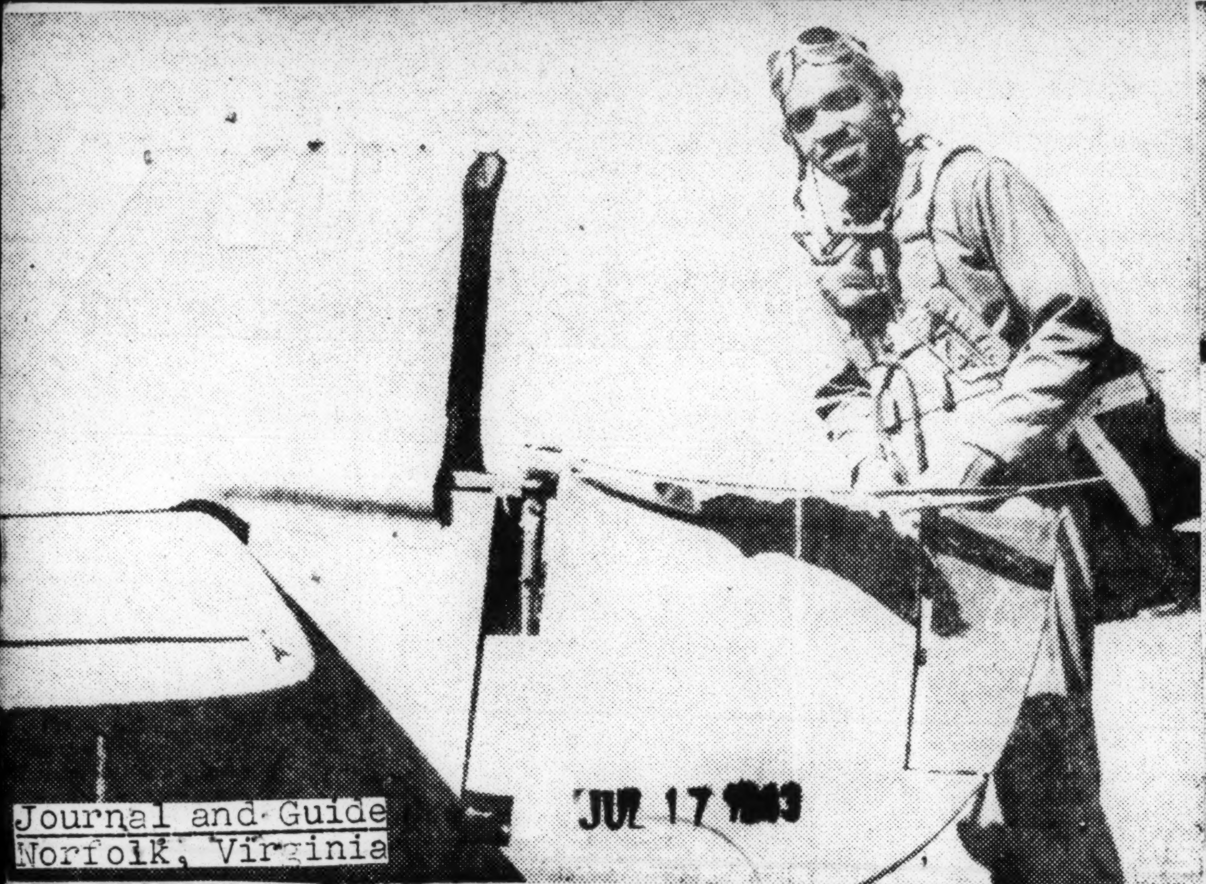

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUL 17 1943

HE BROUGHT IT DOWN SAFELY—Lt. Leon C. Roberts, Montgomery, Ala., 21-year-old pilot in the 99th Fighter Squadron, amazed everybody on the ground by bringing back his plane with this all-but-torn-off tail assembly after hitting high tension electric wires during ground-strafing practice prior to going into action against the enemy.

Experienced pilots who saw the condition of his ship before it was repaired declared that they would have "left it upstairs" and parachuted to safety. Lt. Roberts, youngest pilot in the outfit, handled his plane cooly as long as it was in the air, but after he got out and saw what a wreck he had flown to a landing, he was quite nervous. He escaped without a scratch. (Exclusive Journal and Guide Photo by Thomas W. Young.)

JUL 17 1943

JUL 17 1943

MUST BUILD HOUSE FIRST—Transforming fields in North Africa into attractive living quarters is one of the first jobs of units arriving at a base. In above photos members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron are shown chopping up weeds, leveling walkways, and laying marker stones around their pyramidal tents. Air Corps stars and victory "V's" were the most popular designs for front yards. Four officers live in each tent. Enlisted men are sheltered six to a tent. (Exclusive Journal and Guide photo by Thomas W. Young).

JUL 17 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 14 1943

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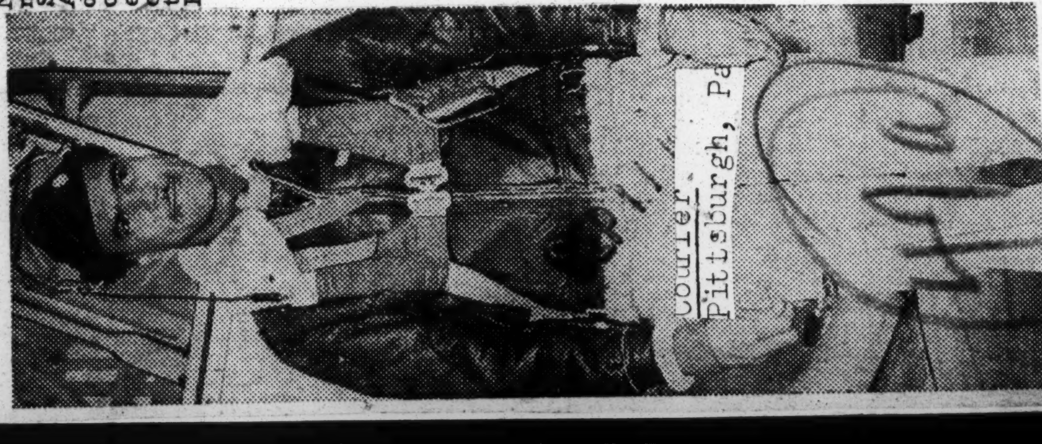
"THERE'S NOTHING TO IT"—The cameraman couldn't find out whom Capt. Lemuel R. Custis, Hartford, Conn., pilot, was writing, but it's a safe bet he was saying, "I've just returned from combat mission, and there's nothing to it—nothing at all." For this photo was made a few minutes after the Howard University graduate got back to his base after participating in combat activities with the 99th Fighter Squadron, (Photo by Thomas W. Young, U. S. War Correspondent).

COMING HOME!



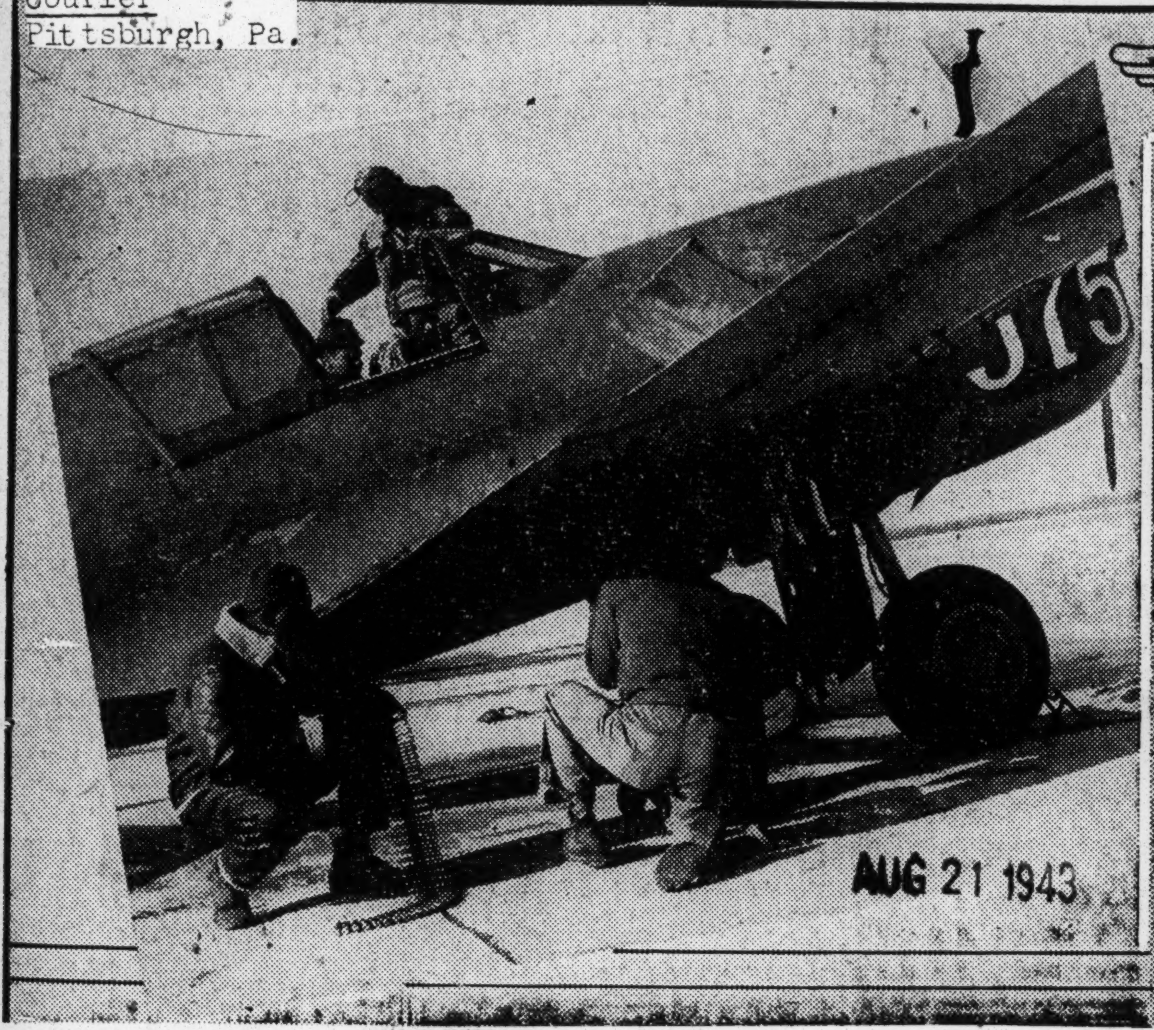
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was met by Courier War Correspondent Edgar T. Rouzeau in North Africa as the former commander of the 99th Pursuit Squadron was heading back to America. Recalled for other duties, Colonel Davis was succeeded by Capt. George S. Roberts of Fairmont, W. Va., also colored, as new commander of the famous "Tuskegee Black Eagles."

47a-1943

MEMBERS OF THE 332ND FIGHTER GROUP TRAIN DILIGENTLY FOR ACTION AGAINST THE ENEMY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



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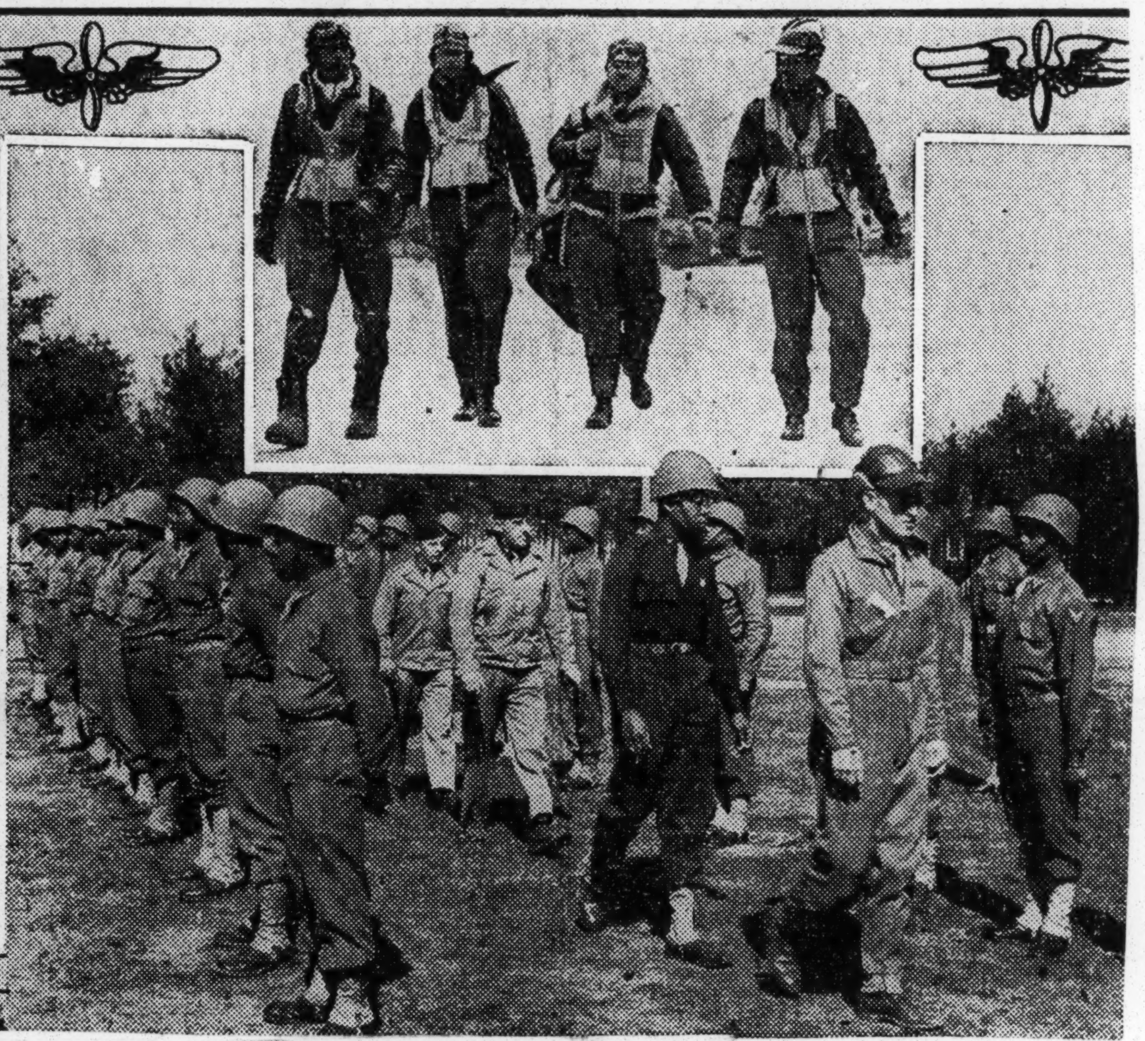

Day by day members of the 332nd Fighter Group, stationed at Oscoda, Michigan, Army Air Field, go about the task of achieving A-1 efficiency in flying, shooting, mechanics and theory, so that they will be ready to take their places beside flying comrades already in the thick of the battle on fighting fronts. Above are photos taken at the training base recently.

Left—Six soldiers at the 332nd Fighter Group work on a P-40 at the base, a sub-base of Selfridge Field. Atop the plane, l to r: Cpl. John McCray, New York, N. Y.; T. Sgt. Eugene Poindexter, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Cpl. John Cosby, Tanna, Ala.; on the ground, holding the ammunition belt prior to arming the gun is Pvt. Harry H. Haile, of Washington, D. C.

Top photo over center—Pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group ready for gunnery practice head from their Warhawk (P-40) fighter planes for a fight over the range. L. to r in the photograph are: Lts. Wendell O. Pruitt, St. Louis, Mo.; Andrew Maples, Jr., Orange, Va.; John A. Gibson, Chicago, Ill., and N. Milton Hill, Washington, D. C.

Center photo—The 100th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group [illegible] at inspection. The inspection is made by Captain James Hunter, right, and 2nd Lt. Theodore G. Lumpkin, second from right. Lieutenant Lumpkin's home town is Los Angeles, Calif.

Right photo—Four soldiers of the 332nd Fighter Group's Ordnance section are shown maintaining .50 calibre machine guns, used by pilots of the Group in P-40 Pursuit ships at the base.

The four in row, l to r: Cpl. L. A. Moy, Washington, D. C.; Cpl. Wade Fite, Dallas, Texas. Pfc. Azell Hawkins, Kansas City, Kan., and Pvt. Benjamin Mills, Cincinnati, Ohio. The armorer in the rear whose face is obscured is Cpl. Thomas Page of Indianapolis, Ind.

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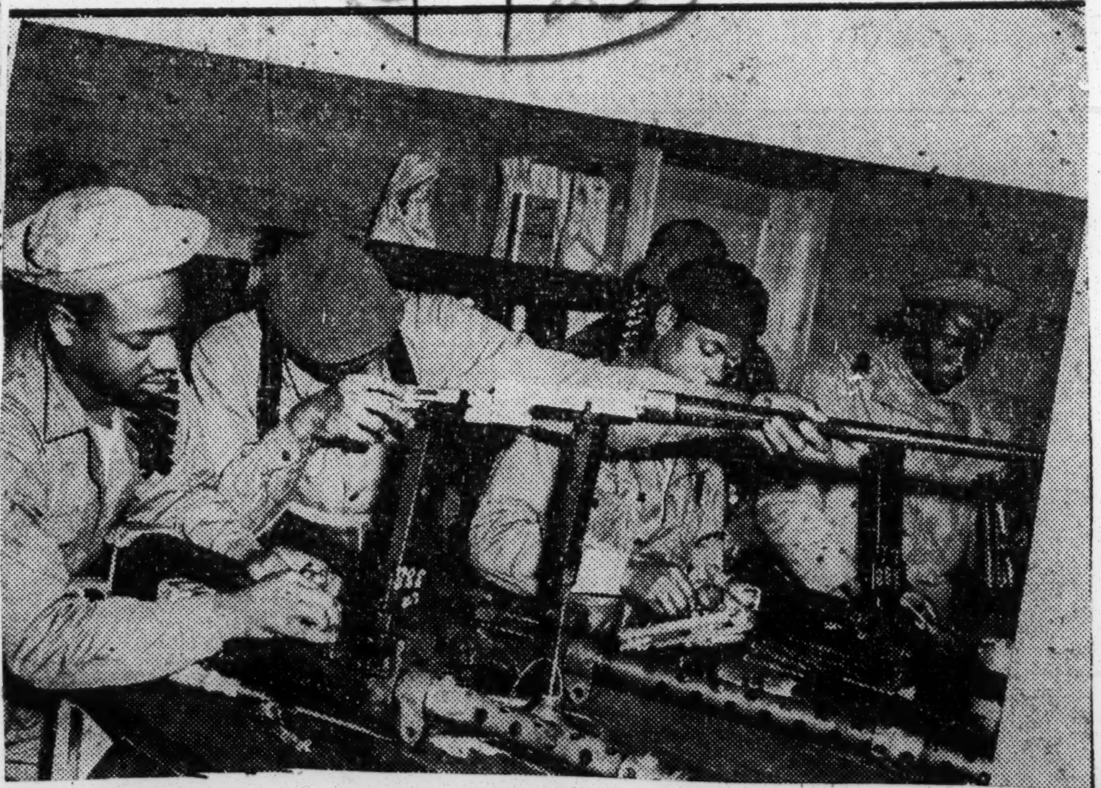

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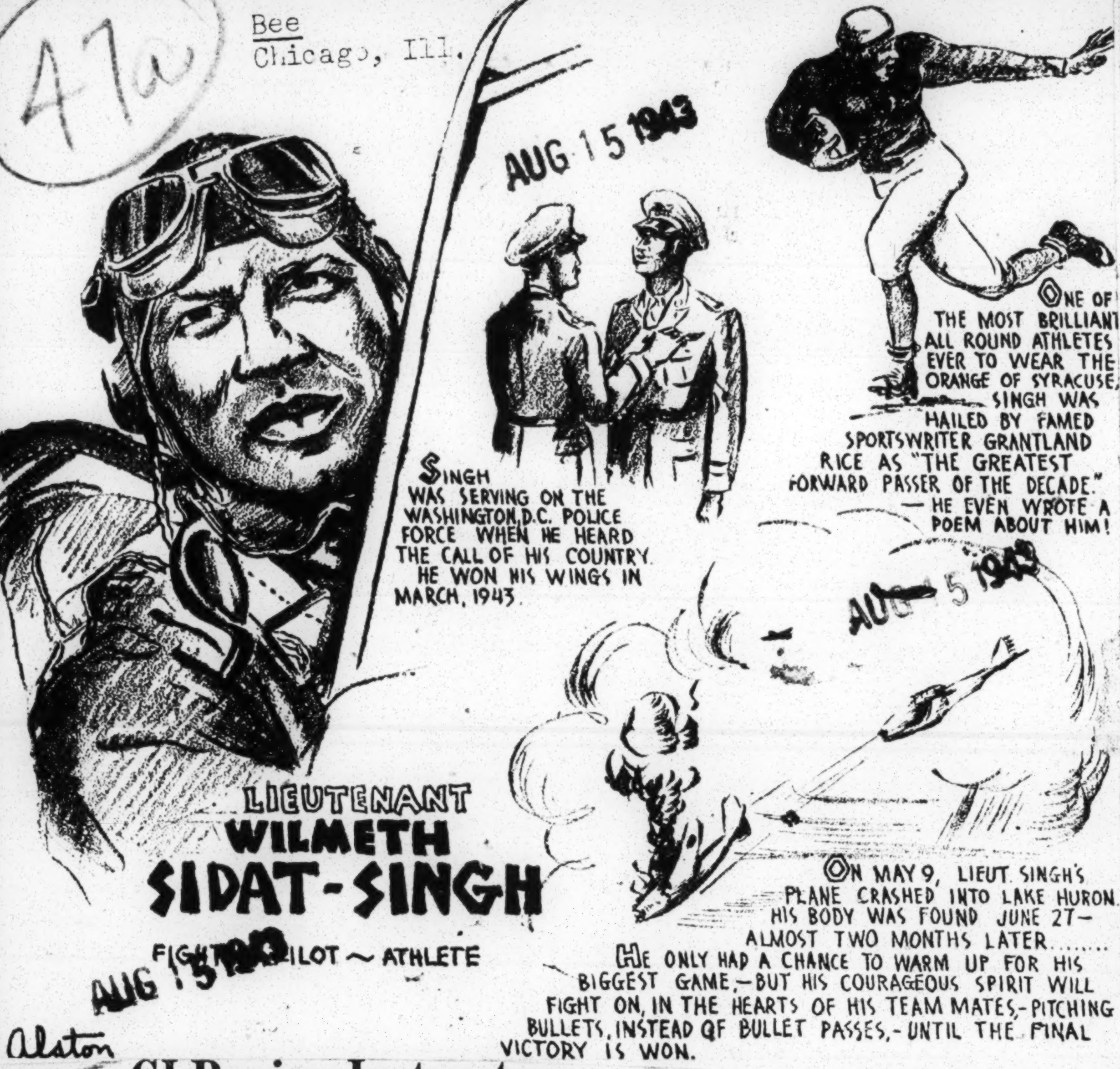
Bee
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 15 1943



LIEUTENANT
WILMETH
SIDAT-SINGH

FIGHTER PILOT ~ ATHLETE

SINGH WAS SERVING ON THE WASHINGTON, D.C. POLICE FORCE WHEN HE HEARD THE CALL OF HIS COUNTRY. HE WON HIS WINGS IN MARCH, 1943.

ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT ALL ROUND ATHLETES EVER TO WEAR THE ORANGE OF SYRACUSE, SINGH WAS HAILED BY FAMED SPORTSWRITER GRANTLAND RICE AS "THE GREATEST FORWARD PASSER OF THE DECADE." — HE EVEN WROTE A POEM ABOUT HIM!

ON MAY 9, LIEUT. SINGH'S PLANE CRASHED INTO LAKE HURON. HIS BODY WAS FOUND JUNE 27 — ALMOST TWO MONTHS LATER.......

HE ONLY HAD A CHANCE TO WARM UP FOR HIS BIGGEST GAME, — BUT HIS COURAGEOUS SPIRIT WILL FIGHT ON, IN THE HEARTS OF HIS TEAM MATES, - PITCHING BULLETS, INSTEAD OF BULLET PASSES, - UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY IS WON.

Alston

GI Boxing Instructors

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

DEC 4 - 1943

47a

DEC 4 - 1943

Pvt. Chuck Jackson, top, and Pvt. Jimmy Stenson, bottom, members of the 37th Aviation Squadron at Grenier Field, N.H., who have been named boxing instructors for soldiers stationed at that post. Jackson, only 24, has six amateur titles under his belt, while Stenson is a Golden Glove winner from Philadelphia. A third instructor is Pvt. Freddie Breedlove of Baltimore.

3 Soldiers Named Boxing Instructors

By CPL. JACOB HUTCHINSON

GRENIER FIELD, N.H.—Three members of the Aviation Squadron here have been named by Lt. Myer Fisher, base physical training officer, as boxing tutors for the GI's stationed at this local air base.

It is the plan of the athletic director to have these outstanding ring gladiators instruct all enlisted men who are anxious to learn or be trained for the post's boxing team. In commenting on the selection of the trio, Lt. Fisher stated, "I believe that the experience and knowledge these soldiers have will add much to the possibility of our having a boxing team to represent this field."

The three chosen were Pvt. Chuck Jackson, New England Golden Gloves champion; Pvt. Freddie Breedlove, of Baltimore, former sparring partner with McLarnin, Barney Ross and Tony Canzoneri, and Pvt. Jimmy (Mexico Kid) Stinson.

Jackson Golden Glover

Jackson, who is 24 years old, is a former three sports athlete at the Schenley High in Pittsburgh. He has engaged in 136 bouts in four years and collected four titles.

Breedlove has fought some of the leading fighters in the Middle Atlantic area, including engagements with Sammy Daniels and Tiger Sullivan.

Only 23, Stinson has achieved a remarkable fistic record. In 1936, he won the CCC bantamweight title at Gettysburg, Pa., and the following year won the AAU title of the same division in Baltimore. Two years later, he was crowned Golden Glove lightweight king in Philadelphia.

47a-1943

Lts. Mitchell, DC, White and McCullin Missing in Action

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Lt. John Morgan Who Bailed Out over Messina Turns Up with Squadron; 35 Promotions

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Sicily

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SOMEWHERE IN SICILY — (By Mail, Delayed)—On August 17, 2nd Lieut. John Morgan of Cartersville, Ga., and Tuskegee Institute came back to the outfit after an absence of a week. Everybody was glad to see him because the last news was that he had been seen jumping out of his plane near Messina and parachuting down to earth. No one knew whether he had been killed or captured by the Germans.

But when he walked into camp with a few scratches, laughing and kidding as usual, a sign of relief went up from officers and enlisted men alike. You at home can never know how a man is missed out of a small group like this, where everyone knows everybody else. Morgan is the third one of the gang to jump and live. The other two are Sam Bruce of Seattle and Dick Bolling of Phoebus, Va. All came back uninjured.

Three Missing in Action

This is significant because three other men from among us did not have time to jump. We never talk about them. Their names are never mentioned. One day they were eating and playing games and talking about post-war plans back home—then they went on a mission—and never came back. Funny thing, too, they were very quiet chaps, and I liked them a hell of a lot. Everybody did. But that's war for you: here today and gone tomorrow—if I may be trite and bluntly truthful.

By this time, the War Department should have notified their next of kin, so I shall give you their names. Missing in action are: 2nd Lieut. James L. McCullin, St. Louis, Mo., graduate of Kentucky State; 1st Lieut. Sherman W. White, Montgomery, Ala., and Chicago University; and 1st Lieut. Paul G. Mitchell, Washington and Howard University. May they rest in peace!

Lieut. Letcher Special Service Officer

1st Lieut. Henry M. Letcher and his special service group are a source of constant pleasure to the outfit. Lieut. Letcher, who taught at Howard and in the D.C. public schools, has surrounded himself with a bunch of entertainers who were professionals in civilian life, and they are appreciated by us all. Buck Newsome, of Detroit; Shorty Boo, formerly of the team of Pepper and Pepper; Donald Qander, quaint master of ceremonies; Jimmy Anderson, of the golden tenor; Peter Cobb of Brooklyn, whose latest song, written overseas, "Why Make a Fool Out of Me?" you will probably hear after the war.

Incidentally, Cobb plays the piano and trumpet and was an arranger in civilian life; Roland Roulette sings scat songs, and the quintet of Shag Crawford, Jimmy Anderson, Bill Warner, Richard Dunlap and Joseph Taylor is as good as any I've ever heard anywhere.

Lt. Letcher really produces, even in Sicily. The Mayor of Licata was persuaded to lend him a piano for all shows while in the neighborhood. Doughnuts and coffee were served regularly. A truck was backed up against a tree with a sheet on its side and we had two movies regularly. This is a real treat out here in an olive grove. Jerry is so understanding he never comes over to disturb the men.

Selling a Haircut

Maybe you wonder how we get our hair cut. Well, some units have a barber who does nothing but clip all day. That's not true in this squadron. Our barber does a full day's work, then after chow sets up a box and goes to work. It takes him almost a week to get around to all the officers, then he and an assistant fix up enlisted men. Yes, we get haircuts, shaves now and then and then shoe shines — though it does no good as far as girls are concerned. It merely keeps up morale, they say.

Our barber is S/Sgt. Walter E. Turner of Los Angeles. He and his tent mates call themselves the Secret Seven — for what reason, I don't know. The others are: S/Sgt. Hugh Holmes, Atlanta; Sgt. Ardra Norman, Waco, Texas, who is a propeller specialist; Sgt. Leslie H. Devall, Port Arthur, Texas, dope and fabric department, which has to do with rudder and camouflage (is that right?); Sgt. Harold O'Neal, Vaux Hall, N.J.; S/Sgt. Dave Wormley, Philly, and S/Sgt. Eddie Hartgrove, Brooklyn.

Lieut. Mitchell

Effective August 13, the following promotions were made:

To be master sergeant: T/Sgt. Fred T. Archer, NYC.

To be technical sergeants: S/Sgt. Ralph A. Burnley, Philadelphia; and S/Sgt. Thomas W. Downs, Seguin, Texas.

To be staff sergeants: Sgt. Elijah Coleman, Cranford, N.J.; George D. Johnson, Atlantic City, N.J.; Sgt. William H. Young, Jr., Richmond, Va., and Sgt. Edward M. Hartgrove, Brooklyn.

To be sergeant: Cpl. Robert H. Abies, Brooklyn; Cpl. Hubert E. Bigelow, Jr., Orange, N.J.; Cpl. Arber L. Grier, Jr., NYC; Cpl. Edward R. Pryor, Lawrenceville, Va.; Cpl. Irvin L. Sharpe, Philadelphia; Cpl. Wardell P. Alexander, Atlantic City, N.J.; Cpl. Edward A. Boone, Brooklyn; Cpl. James Hileygar, NYC; Cpl. Raymond Scruggs, NYC; Cpl. Joseph H. Spooner, NYC; and Cpl. Arthur T. Williams, Pasadena, Cal.

To be corporal: Pfc. Lucius Anderson, Atlantic City, N.J.; Pfc. Fred Munger, Brooklyn; Pfc. Thomas Morris, Brooklyn; Pfc. Albert Porche, Houma, La.; and Pfc. Roy Teague, Selma, Ala.

To be privates first class: Pvt. Russell J. Bacon, Washington, D.C.; Pvt. Ernest Brown, NYC; Pvt. George Grooms, Brooklyn; Pvt. Joseph F. Mayers, NYC; Pvt Robert Newsome, Detroit; Pvt. Napoleon B. Watkins, Memphis, Tenn.; Pvt. Leonard R. Brewer, NYC; Pvt. Harvey Cain, Jr., NYC; Pvt. Leo S. Holmes, Chester, Pa.; Pvt. Charles E. McDonald, Philadelphia; Pvt. John H Turner, NYC; and Pvt. John W. Young, Memphis, Tenn.

IN ORDANCE GROUP

Met group of ordnance officers a few days ago. Included Second Lieuts. Charles Palmer, Atlantic City; Nolan R. Best, Johnson C. Smith College; William O. Dickerson, Cheyney; Edward D. Hudson, Wilberforce; Clarence E. Webb, Wayne U. of Detroit.

SEP 11 1943

Army Flying Prepares Men for Post War

Afro-American

Aviators Will Be the Key People When Peace Comes

Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK TO CHINA TRIP TAKES 38 HRS

No Spot on Earth Over 62 Hours from Local Airport

WASHINGTON.

"Things move so fast over there that the boys hardly have time to plan 24 hours ahead," Col. B. O. Davis, former commander of the Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron in North Africa, stated recently.

Whether or not the flyers have time to realize it, it is quite clear that they will be among the key people after this war—as they are in it.

Aviation Geography

A recent World Atlas, published by Rand McNally, places emphasis on what they call "aviation" geography and how it is creating a new world—"a world of shrinking distances and changing perspectives."

Today planes cross the Atlantic in 7 hours and an air trip from New York to Moscow takes less time than a train trip from New York to Miami. By the popular air routes Detroit is nearer to Russia than New York is by sea.

Commercial Transport

By commercial tr[illegible]t (average spe[illegible] [illegible] miles per hour), no spot on earth is more than 62½ hours' flying time from your local airport.

From New York to Chungking, China, by air, is 7,500 miles or 38 hours; from New York to Chungking by train and ship is 11,300 miles or 30 days.

There are about 27 flyers and 250 service men with the Ninety-ninth in North Africa, consisting of a single squadron. [illegible] are three squadrons and [illegible] men at Selfridge Field, Mich., and a large number of flyers at Tuskegee Institute.

All these men are getting definite training that will fit them directly for the new Aviation World that is to be after the war.

OCT 2 1943

Mrs. Rivers Holds Home Line When Husband Is Campaigning

By LULA JONES GARRETT

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

MRS. FRANCIS E. RIVERS

NEW YORK CITY. — This week Mrs. Francis E. Rivers, wife of the newly-elected $17,500-per-year city co[illegible]justice, [illegible]ed a sigh of rel[illegible]d pl[illegible] brief respite from telephone and mail, which she has handled during her husband's campaign.

Strictly a "lieutenant on the home front," Mr. Rivers confines her aid to affairs which may be handled in their Convent Avenue apartment. Here, covering the telephone was her chief assignment. Mr Rivers dislikes even one call to go unanswered.

In Secretarial Role

In addition she sorts letters, making notations calling his attention to essential points, and follows his instructions in drafting answers. All of this, of course, is in a non-professional role. For, though her stenographic experience prior to their marriage enables her to fill a post as secretary, the bulk of her husband's mail went to his downtown office to be attended to by the staff in the campaign office.

Old Stuff to the "Mrs."

The last campaign was [illegible] old stuff to Mrs. Rivers. She has been "in politics" for thirteen years. Her husband was elected to the assembly in 1929, and has been manager of a division of the Republican National Committee during three presidential campaigns, those of Hoover, Landon, and Willkie. He served as assistant district attorney for six years and had held the present post by appointment since September. Prior to his entrance into politics he enjoyed a lucrative law practice.

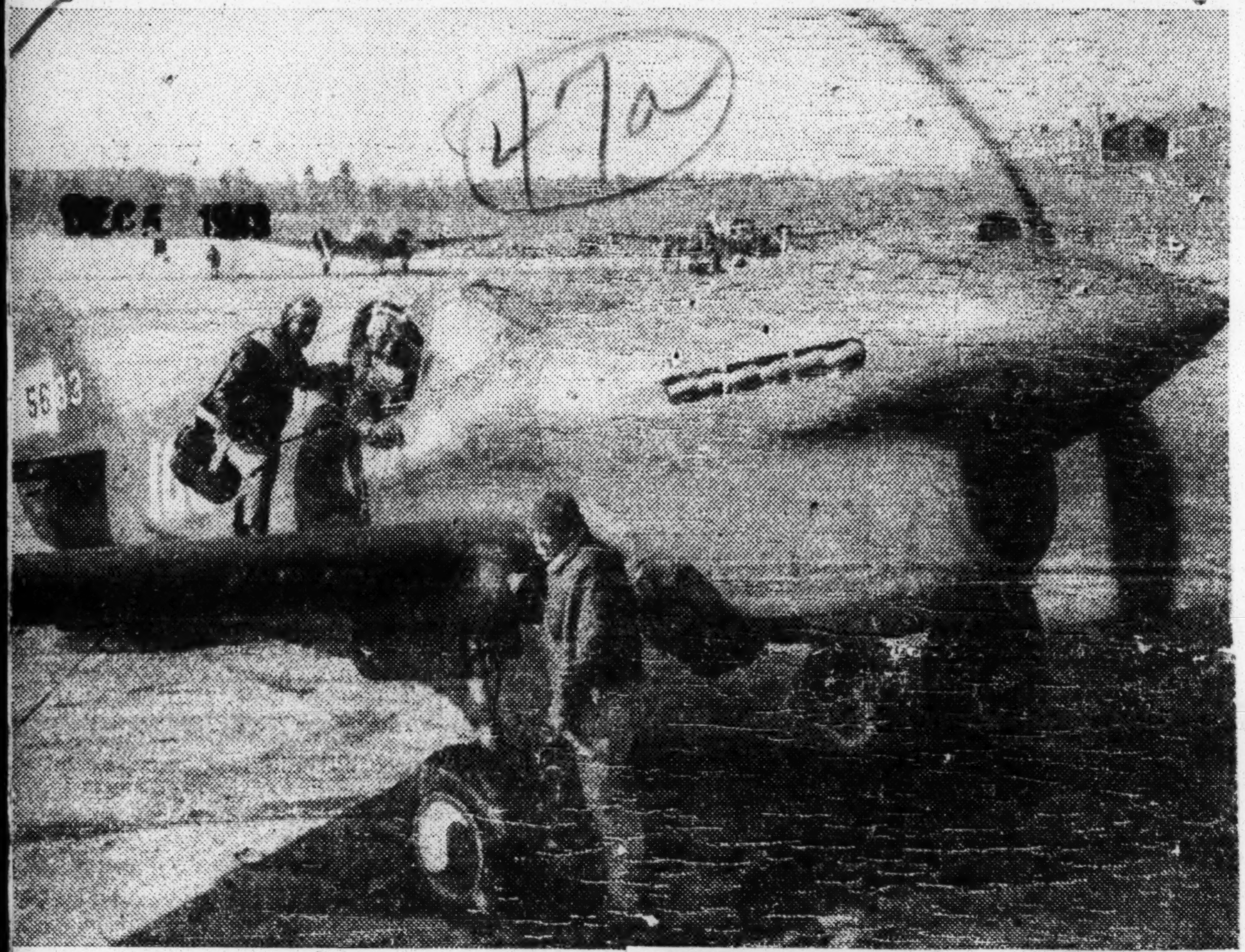
Live Simple Life

The Riverses live a very conservative life. She is justly proud of being a fine cook. Without the aid of regular servants she cares for their five-room apartment. They see an occasional serious movie, and while he reads the more se[illegible] materia[illegible] keeps up with [illegible] fiction for the family. They go to her childhood home in Saratoga for the summer, where he plays golf.

Incidentally, she was a war bride, having been married to Mr. Rivers a week before he sailed for France during World War I.

NOV 13 1943

New War Birds Sharpening Their Claws



Second Lieutenant Alfred Q. Carroll, extreme left, and Flight Officer Nathaniel P. Rayburg, seated in cockpit, talk over aeronautical points, prior to the latter's initial flight in [illegible]ter plane at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. These pilots were recently commissioned [illegible] Tuskegee Army Air Field, and are now experiencing fighter pilot training. The crew chief, Technical Sergeant Robert L. Brown of Lincoln, Nebraska, has just given the plane a final check. Lieutenant Carroll, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Q. Carroll of 325 61st Street, N. E., Washington, D. C., is a former Howard University student. Flight Officer Rayburg, son of Mrs. Phillis Oliver of [illegible]54 South 23rd Street, Arlington, Va., is a former Washington Post Office employee. — (Photo by AAF Training Command).

DEC 5 1943

DEC 5 1943

Tuskegee Fliers Begin Training As Bombardiers

NOV 24 1943

Former Pursuit Aspirants Get A New Chance

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

KESSLER FIELD, Miss.—(ANP)—More than 100 former aviation cadets from Tuskegee Army Air field arrived here last week to begin training as bombardiers. The men were scheduled to go through psychological testing this week before being assigned to regular training schedules.

NOV 24 1943

All of the men have flying experience because all of them formerly were aspirants to become pursuit pilots. Failing because of academic requirements or some little quirk which prevented their winning the coveted wings of a pursuit pilot, the boys have a new opportunity as they strive to become "air marksmen" and take their places in bombing crews. It is understood they will also receive navigation training, the jobs of navigator bombardier being combined in the future.

Practically every ex-cadet on the Tuskegee field except those were eliminated because of some physical-ly was eligible and eager to join this [illegible] group of Negro cadets to get bombardier training. In giving the men who had sought to be pilots an opportunity to become bombardiers the air corps is following the same procedure used with white flying students.

NOV 24 1943

At the same time a dozen cadets who had finished training at Tuskegee in twin engine flying, left for Mather field for further training as bomber pilots.

These movements indicate that bomber crew training is deinitely on its way. The men will get their first training at Tuskegee field and then be assigned to other bases for further training. Half of the classes at Tuskegee in the future will be twin engine trainees for bombers. The balance will specialize on the single engine jobs and [illegible] used to form replacements for the men of the 332nd group now training at Selfridge field, Mich.

NOV 24 1943

Tuskegee Air Field To Get Negro Instructors?

Birmingham, Ala
Weekly Review

SEP 25 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 23,—(ANP)—Negro pilots, members of the last class to graduate from the Tuskegee Army Air Field are to be returned there as instructors, according to rumors current her They will replace white instructors who are to be assigned elsewhere.

There have been previously no Negro instructors at the Army Air Field, although flying teachers are used in primary training and at Moton Field, Tuskegee, where secondary training is given.

SEP 25 1943

It has also been learned that the 332nd Fighter Group, in training at Selfridge Field, Michigan, has been assigned to the First Army Air Corps based in New York. This unit, composed of three squadrons, is understood to be complete w th a full complement of ground crew. All the pilots are graduates of the Tuskegee Army Air School and Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., recently recalled from Sicily, where he commanded the 99th Pursuit Squadron will command the 332nd.

SEP 25 1943

99TH BASED IN SICILY NOW, SAYS STIMSON

Defender
Chicago, Ill

AUG 14 1943

Secretary Holds Parley With Lt. Col. Davis During Visit

AUG 14 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The 99th Pursuit squadron is now based in Sicily and in the middle of the hot battle to clear the Axis armies off the Mediterranean island at the tip of the Italian boot, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson revealed this week.

Stimson also announced that Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officeer of the all-Negro squadron, flew from the Sicily base to North Africa for a conference with him during the Secretary's recent tour abroad.

What was discussed Stimson did not reveal.

The presence of the 99th in Sicily and the conference with Lt. Col. Davis were disclosed during a discussion by the Secretary of War of his trip abroad. He said he had made the trip for a double purpose — to see the troops at first hand and to confer on the ground with

leaders of the war effort. He declared he wanted the troops to know that those responsible for their welfare had not forgotten them.

In England, Stimson said, he saw ground troops, both white and Negro, in a training program that never lets up.

"The men have fitted in very well," he declared. "Everywhere, I saw evidence of allied unity."

He said he inspected one of the Negro units in England with General Lee. "I found a very interesting situation. The units are working very vigorously and were cooperating and getting along very well with all other units," he said.

When asked by a Negro press representative whether this meant he had expected that they would not be getting along well with other troops, he reddened, raised his voice, and answered: "I've been asked that question many times before by you gentlemen, and I thought I would anticipate it."

In Africa, where Stimson said he conferred with air generals in Tunisia, he said he saw an engineering unit of Negroes which had first been stationed in Liberia. They had performed a very valuable work in construction and repair jobs on airports for the Sicily invasion, he declared.

He indicated there were some Quartermaster troops with the landing forces in the Sicily invasion, and that there are now some Negro anti-air-craft units in Sicily.

47a-1943

99th's Word for Gossip in Italy Is 'Spratmore'

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American

Off Duty and at Night, U.S. Fliers Outtalk a Sewing Circle

DEC 25 1943

Baltimore, Md

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—In small towns they call it gossip. In political circles they refer to this plentiful commodity as propaganda. With the man in the street it is known as a rumor. But in a certain fighter squadron everybody calls it "spratmore."

Spratmore is something you heard from somebody, somewhere; and everybody who repeats it seems bound to add one or two embellishments. Spratmore may be founded on fact, but more often it is the product of a fertile imagination.

Wish Father to Thought

The best spratmore around camp here is that engendered by wishful thinking. Last summer, when this squadron was at Cape Bon in North Africa, the best liked and most often repeated spratmore said that the entire squadron was going back to the States after three months of combat.

Nothing anybody could say could withstand the belligerent arguments that proved beyond all doubt that after a short experimental period, the whole caboodle was to return. I shall never forget the withering looks and stern remarks directed my way when I suggested, timidly, of course, that perhaps the squadron might stay overseas for the winter.

"You're nothing but a kill-joy," a certain pilot snapped at me. "You newspaper guys don't give a damn about a man's life; all you want is to get a story for your so-and-so paper."

Home by Christmas?

The next choice bit of spratmore had the outfit back home by Christmas. That lasted several weeks—until the colonel went home and replacements began to arrive. Holiday parties were planned in New York and other cities, and a few optimistic souls wrote letters that had folks at home preparing for a Christmas homecoming.

Many [illegible] Rumors

Spratmore, however, is not confined to going home. This sotto voce information has had numerous strange rumors. Turkey has been in the war two or three times. Germany has been wiped from the face of the earth on several occasions. All rationing has disappeared from the States. The WAC will soon be over here to hold hands with the enlisted men. Soldiers will get another raise in pay. Whiskey is now permitted to come through the mails. And men are so scarce at home that women are raiding homes for aged males.

Off duty and at night, soldiers are more gossipy than any sewing circle. They argue about anything for any length of time. And they always have inside dope straight from the orderly room—or the latrine. They're not particular about the source.

Argue About Anything

Somebody said the British are better ack-ack gunners than the Americans! Somebody quotes figures to prove it could not be so. Certain fighter planes are no longer manufactured. They are so, another contends; a new shipment has just arrived. Is North African wine better than Italian? Who can drink the most: British, Americans or Canadians? Spratmore answers, and spratmore proves its point.

But correspondents are regarded as the last source for reliable spratmore. Often with the latest news from headquarters ringing in your ears, you have to keep mum. After two days with the President at Casablanca, I had to deny knowledge of his visit, to discourage the spread of the rumor. My spratmore is for home consumption.

Pilots Strafe Enemy's Front Lines in Italy

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md

DEC 25 1943

Tuskegee Products Working in Mixed Eighth Army Group

SOME MAKE THREE FLIGHTS IN A DAY

Capt. Roberts Leads Third of Missions; No Planes Lost

DEC 25 1943

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

[Copyright. Reproduction in whole or in part expressly forbidden.]

ADVANCED AIR BASE IN ITALY—(By Cable, Censored)—Nine successful missions in a single day's activity of less than ten hours was the record established by the 99th Fighter Squadron in its busiest day of strafing enemy front lines last week.

Working with a fighter group attached to the British Eighth Army, the squadron, led by Capt. George Roberts, commanding officer, made aerial history, handling without mishap one third of the group's record run of missions for the day.

The squadron is giving close support to the work to the Allied forces bombing enemy pin-point targets, helping knock out German resistance whenever called upon, and has won high praise from the group commander for the record day's achievement.

Passes 1000-Sortie Mark

In chalking up this record, the squadron passed its 1000-sortie mark. Since June, when it first went into action against an enemy squadron, it has completed 231 missions with a six-month record of 1100 sorties as of December 10.

On the day the nine missions were made, all planes returned safely, although much enemy ack-ack was encountered. The pilots stated: "Jerry was hot on our trail, but we managed to get home safely."

2 Planes Hit

Two planes were partially damaged. One had a bullet hole in a wing and its windshield shattered; another was hit by [illegible] calibre shell.

Pilots participating in three missions on the day of the record run were Capts. Roberts and Charles B. Hall; First Lts. John W. Rogers, Herbert E. Carter, Price D. Rice, Erwin B. Lawrence, James T. Wiley, Leon C. Roberts; Second Lts. Charles Bailey, William E. Griffin.

Those participating in two missions were First Lts. Edward L. Toppins, Allen G. Lane, Henry B. Perry, Howard L. Baugh; Second Lts. Clinton B. Mills, Herman A. Lawson, Elwood T. Driver, Lewis C. Smith, Leonard Jackson.

Other pilots involved in the record were First. Lt. John H. Morgan, Second Lt. John A. Gibson, George T. McCrumby, William C. Allen.

Wins Gen. Arnold's Praise

A signal honor was given the squadron several days later when Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the Allied Air Forces, visited the group and congratulated the men on their achievements. Accompanying Gen. Arnold were Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz and Maj. Gen. Cannon.

Squadron Commander Roberts of Fairmont, W.Va., First Lt. Henry M. Letcher, executive officer of Washington, and twenty-five enlisted men represented the squadron at a group review.

Gen. Arnold shook hands with Capt. Roberts and gave the squadron a message.

Enlisted men representing the squadron at the review included Sgt. Roscoe B. Smith, Washington; Sgt. Irvin L. Sharpe, S/Sgt. Irvin Weir, T/Sgt. Ralph A. Burnley, Philadelphia; Cpl. Leo Holmes, Chester, Pa.; S/Sgt. Percy C. Corbin, Pulaski, Va.; Sgt. Morris S. Beavers, Atlanta; Cpl. Robert E. Singleton, Cleveland; Sgt. Will Etheridge, Grove Hill, Ala., and Sgt. Robert T. Howard, Jr.

Tuskegee Army Band In Parade

SEP 11 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—It was a great day for a parade. The sun beamed down on the thousands of spectators who lined the sidewalks of Peachtree Street in Atlanta, Ga.

Six bands were to lead a gigantic display of the armed might of the United States Army. The occasion, graced by many high ranking officials, proposed to impress upon the countless milling spectators the new regional premiere of the much publicized motion picture, "This Is the Army" at the Fox Theatre the following night in Atlanta.

The parade was a huge success. Armored cars, small amphibian tanks, jeeps, Red Cross conveyances, and giant-sized staff cars rolled slowly and majestically at the tempo of marching men in khaki and Marine blue.

Far down the sun-baked concrete street was heard the pealing, spirited strains of "This Is the Army, Mr. Jones." The applause for the all-WAC band from Fort Oglethrope, Ga., continued down ahead at the reviewing stand. But there was something new about this other band rapidly approaching in perfect cadence and piston-like motion from the rear of the parade. The band was in full view now and the 60 pieces of band and bugle corps identified itself as the 313th Air Force Band from the famed Tuskegee Army Air Field. The applause commenced stubbornly, then grew and grew as the rising sound of bugles blared out the tune "This Is the Army, Mr. Jones." Cold chills scurried the spines of the sedulous throng of spectators who glued their eyes to marching musical excellence.

At the parade's finish, First Lt. Frank L. Drye, the director of this band, was seen shaking hands with the stubby little Marine Major who marched directly behind his band. The Major was congratulating the band leader and former member of Tuskegee Institute's music department for 20 years. He said, "I've marched down Peachtree Street with many bands during the last ten years but never before have I marched to a band that sets a good a marching cadence as yours."

Perspiration rolled down the cheeks of the TAAF bandmaster. We was proud of his boys as he looked on them, weary of the scorching heat and long march. He would like to have said, "Well, you were pretty good boys," but instead he realized that he was a soldier and that he had only carried out his orders. His mission was accomplished. He had heeded Major Morrison's invitation, as head of the Army Emergency Relief Fund of the Fourth Service Command. He and his organization who aided in selling over a million dollars in bonds this year, had stitched new honors on the scroll o great unit achievement at TAAF.

332nd Gets P-39's As Davis Takes Over

OCT 16 1943

Defender

Chicago, Ill

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—With a smart array of new equipment, the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field is fast attaining their training peak, the War Department announced this week.

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. has assumed command of the group.

Included in the new equipment are P-39's (commonly called the Airacobra), P-47's and P-40's. The P-40 will be remembered as the tough air arm that brought much recognition to Lt. Col. Davis' 99th Fighter Squadron in the African campaign. The 99th Fighter Squadron is presently serving in Italy.

New camera equipment has been provided for use in firing practice to step up accuracy with the .50 calibre machine gun. The Army has also provided improved installations on the firing range at Oscoda, sub-base of Selfridge Field.

Many pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group have been referred to as "naturals" by instructors and superiors when describing the manner in which they operate the P-39. The Airacobra, with its 1150-horsepower Allison engine mounted behind the pilot, has established an enviable reputation in combat.

There has also been a step-up in flying hours at the field. Formerly reported as between 400 and 500 hours a week, the flying time now accomplished by pilots in training totals above 2,000 hours a week.

Confusion over the status of Lt. Col. Davis was cleared up by the War Department. Lt. Col. Davis is now in command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich. He had been previously reported as second in command, as executive officer.

According to the War Department, Lt. Col. Davis was sent to Selfridge with intention of placing him in command. He was temporarily assigned as executive officer for a few days in order that he might catch on to his new duties. The order officially naming him commander became effective on October 7.

Davis is the first Negro officer ever to command an Air Force combat unit. He was honored last week in the presence of some 400 guests at a reception held in the Post Officers' club at Selfridge. Among high ranking army officers in attendance were Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., his father; Maj. Harriet West of the WACs, one of the two highest ranking Negro women in the army; and Capt. Homer Roberts, one of the two Negro officers assigned to the Bureau of Public Relations of the War Department in Washington.

Lt. Col. Davis returned early last month from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron. His new command is a fighter group, which is composed of four units such as the 99th. According to the army's table of organization, he is now in line to become one of the army's youngest colonels. The commander of a fighter group, according to the table of organization, should be a full colonel. Davis is 30 years old, and a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Lt. Col. Davis relieved Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., who was designated as officer in charge of training of all First Fighter Command units stationed at Selfridge Field and at the Oscoda, Mich., Army Air Field, a sub-base of Selfridge Field. Col. Selway remains on detached service at Selfridge Field for the purpose of performing this duty, and is attached to the 403rd Fighter Squadron.

Both Col. Davis and Col. Selway are graduates of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Col. Selway in the class of 1924 and Col. Davis in the class of 1936.

The 332nd Fighter Group was transferred from Tuskegee to Selfridge Field on March 28, 1943, at which time the group was commanded by Lt. Col. Sam W. Westbrook. Col. Selway assumed command upon his arrival here on May 17.

Component units of the 332nd Fighter Group are the 100th Fighter Squadron, 301st Fighter Squadron, 302nd Fighter Squadron and the headquarters and headquarters squadron.

Last "All Fighter" Group Graduate At Tuskegee

OCT [illegible] 1943

Houston Informer

By ALBERT ANDERSON

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD—(ANP)—Perhaps a situation surrounding fliers should always be more or less "up in the air." Certainly such a position has characterized much of life as it has surrounded the doughty airmen being trained at this post. Probably the fundamental cause is that teaching Negroes to fly and making them an integral part of the army air corps was not envisioned at the start and always has been a sort of carbuncle on the corps' n[illegible].

OCT 16 [illegible]

No So with Negroes

All of the white pilots being trained for the army are fitted in accordance to a stated plan which is related to combat needs. Not so with the Negro pilots. Despite the fact that the government has spent nearly $4,000,000 in the development of this fine field; even though colored fliers have proven beyond doubt that they could fly with the best, as Lt. Col. Ben Davis said when he returend from North Africa, "Negro pilots are no longer an experiment," still they are an extra something, on the outside so far as the air corps [illegible]oncerned.

Originally there [illegible]s no plan to use Negroes. The pressure exerted by Negro public opinion and the effective planning and cooperation b[illegible]r. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee, plus the influence of many other racial factors finally got the field located and started. It sounds fantastic to say so today but it is reported that even though they were building the field, there were many higher-ups in the air corps who never felt it would be a success.

So the 99th Pursuit Squadron was trained and after it had completed its normal work they did not know what to do with it. To make it an inegrated part of a regular fighter group would defeat the ideas of those who felt that even in the highly individualistic pursuit planes where a man flies to his glory or his death all alone, Negroes could not be made part of white units. So the 99th stayed at Tuskegee and practiced until they became the most expert fliers still on this side.

Developed Fighter Group

Meanwhile it was decided to develop an all Negro fighter group. This would call for several squadrons to make up the group. With the hundreds of men necessary for ground crews and the perhaps hundreds or two pilots which replacements would require, it was felt that despite the fact that the United States has trained 50,000 white pilots in the last two or three years the couple of hundred would suffice to satisfy Negro public opinion, so that Negro fliers are still outside the "regular" army air corps plan.

Then came the anxiety upon the part of Negroes to be included in more than just the pursuit plane groups. They wanted to be part of the highly publicized bomber-fighters too. They began to exert pressure. Directed at the office of the civilian aide, the pressure was felt. Slowly the air corps responded. All right, it will train bombers, men who will fly two engined jobs instead of the single engine pursuit planes along.

The air corps could have sent a group of colored youth on to school just as it sends whites. Instead, the emphasis is being shifted from pursuit flying. This class which graduated from TAAF last week is the last "all-fighter" group which will probably graduate at Tuskegee. This doubtlessly means there will be no more fighter units after the 332nd. A crew, perhaps half of the students at TAAF, will go into pursuit flying so as to make up replacements for those put out of action with the 332nd. The rest of the pilots will be trained in two engine bomber flying, leaving Tuskegee afer they get their preliminary phase for training in one of the bomber-pilot schools, probably Fort Worth, Texas.

Perhaps we did not carry our pressure far enough. It looks as though we are getting half a loaf and that there is danger in hashing up the fine job Tuskegee field has been doing in its specialized field when all we will get out of the bomber angle is a token representation. The army [illegible] dies hard the howls and protests which we raise are [illegible]times not intelligently directed to secure the best overall results for which we all pray.

First Bomber Pilot Class Graduates At Tuskegee

Defender
Chicago. Ill

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — The first Negro pilots in the history of the U. S. Army Air Forces to receive the coveted silver wings of twin engine pilots were commissioned second lieutenants at the graduation exercises held in the Post Chapel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field last Wednesday [illegible]ning.

Included among [illegible]nitial group of Negro bomber pilots, who represent eight states are Second Lt. Henri F. [illegible]tcher, San Antonio, Texas; Second Lt. Perry H[illegible]son Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; Second Lt. Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; Second Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; Second Lt. Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago, Ill.; Second Lt. William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.; Second Lt. Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.; Second Lt. Herman R. Campbell Jr., New York City; and Second Lt. Haldane King, of Jamaica, N. Y.

This group of flyers will report to Mather Field, Calif., where they will undergo transitional bomber training in B-25, Mitchell bombers.

Address By 99th Pilot's Father

T. M. Campbell, Field Agent, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and father of First [illegible] William Campbell, first of [illegible] all-Negro fighter squadron to bomb the Axis, delivered the main address to one of the largest audiences ever to witness a graduation at this base.

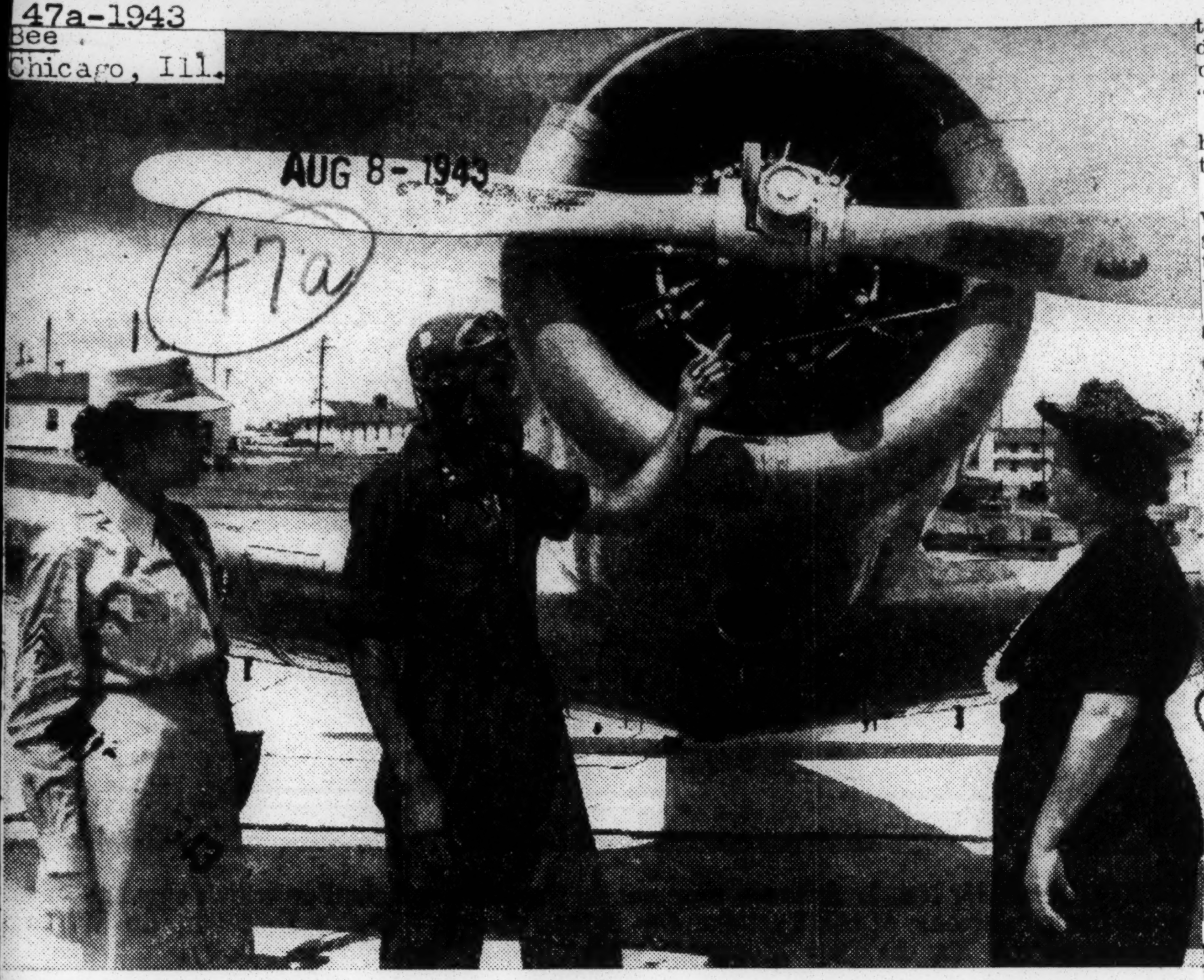
In his speech, Mr. Campbell, who has two sons in the armed forces and a daughter in the WAC, pointed out to the new flying officers that, "The courage, skill and precision, which you have exhibited during your period of training here will not only be of great inspiration to those following in your footsteps but will command the respect and admiration of both races of people in this immediate community, this state, this region, this nation and other parts of the world where you may chance to go."

The three top-ranking cadets of the class were awarded prizes emblematic of their all-around excellence as potential officers in the Air Forces. First honors were [illegible]ded to Second Lt. Leslie A. [illegible]ms, former student at the University of California. Second honors went to Second Lt. Edward M. Thomas, former Chicago postal clerk, while Second Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney, who attended Morgan college, won third prize.

Cadets completing their training and commissioned as single engine fighter pilots comprised a majority of the class and included representatives of eight states and the District of Columbia.

Listed among the single engine graduates are the following second lieutenants: Gwynn W. Pearson, Oakland, Calif.; James B. Brown and William Thomas, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roger B. Brown, Glencoe, Ill.; Oscar D. Hutton, Emory L. Robinson and Edward M. Thomas of Chicago, Ill.; Alfred Q. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, N. Y.; Charles W. Dickerson and Theodore H. Mills of New Rochelle, N. Y.; Hugh St. Clair Warner, New York City; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Earl S. Sherard, Columbus, Ohio; Lugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Paul C. Simmons Jr., Detroit, Mich.

47a-1943
Bee
Chicago, Ill.


AUG 8 - 1943

PILOT EXPLAINS HOW IT WORKS TO FAMILY — Second Lieut. Robert H. Wiggins of Brooklyn, N. Y., is shown explaining the "whys' and hows" of the trainer plane to his bride, the former Miss Lillian Williams, and her grandmother, Mrs. Nellie Holt of Baltimore, Md. Miss Williams is a corporal in the WAC. She obtained a leave in order to become the bride of the fighter pilot.—Photo by the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Twenty New Flying Officers Addressed By Dr. Patterson

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, delivered the address to the graduating class of single engine fighter pilots at the Tuskegee Army Air Field on October 1.

OCT 8 1943

TWENTY CADETS

After the address by Dr. Patterson, commissions as 2nd Lieutenants in the Air Corps were awarded to the 20 new fighter pilots by Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer.

Among the cadets receiving wings and commissions were William Noel Alsbrook, Kansas City, Kan.; Cecil L. Browder, Wilmington, N. C.; Gene Cole Brown, New York City; Purnell J. Goodenough, Birmingham, Ala.; George [illegible], Bath, N. Y.; Maceo A. Harris Jr., Boston, Mass.; Carl E. Johnson, Charlottesville, Va.; Charles B. Johnson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Edgar L. Jones, New York City; Carroll M. Langston Jr., Chicago, Ill.; Cornelius F. May, Indianapolis, Ind.; Woodrow F. Morgan, Omaha, Nebr.; Neal V. Nelson, Chicago, Ill.; George M. Rhodes, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Washington D. Ross, Ashland, Ky.; Norman W. Scales, Austin, Texas; Henry B. Scott, Jersey City, N. J.; Alphonso Simmons, Jacksonville, Fla.; Robert H. Smith, Baltimore, Md.; and Edward W. Watkins of Freeman, W. Va.

William Cross Jr., of Cleveland, Ohio, became the first Tuskegee Army Air Field graduate to be commissioned as flight officer. Flight Officer Cross is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Cross Sr., of 2201 E. 82nd street, Cleveland, Ohio.

HONOR MEN

Cadet honors for outstanding excellence as officer candidates were awarded to Carl E. Johnson of Charlottesville, Va., first; Carroll N. Langston Jr., Chicago, Ill., and Gene C. Browne of New York City. Lt. Browne, in addition to winning cadet honors 19 year old flyer, became the youngest Negro pilot in the Army Air Forces.

OCT 8 1943

Tuskegee Airmen To Be Honored On National Day

Journal and Guide

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Army air crew men in training in this country as [illegible] and ground forces will be honored August in a National Aviation Day celebration at the UO Club here it has been announced by E. L. Raiford, USO Director.

Norfolk.

Men in the air force uniform will be guests of honor at a public meeting to be held in the afternoon which will feature an address by Col. N. F. Parrish, post commander. He will speak on "Air Power and the War."

Tributes will be paid to air heroes of the United States and the United Nations.

An exhibition of model planes will be on display at the club. The general public as well as the military personnel have been invited to attend the celebration.

AUG 21 1943

Virginia

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

ARMY TO FORM IT[illegible]EGRO PARACHUTE UNIT

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30 (AP).—The first Negro parachute unit in the American army is to be activated at Fort Benning, Ga.

Serving under Brig. Gen. Leo Donovan, commanding the airborne command, the unit is designated as the 555th parachute infantry company.

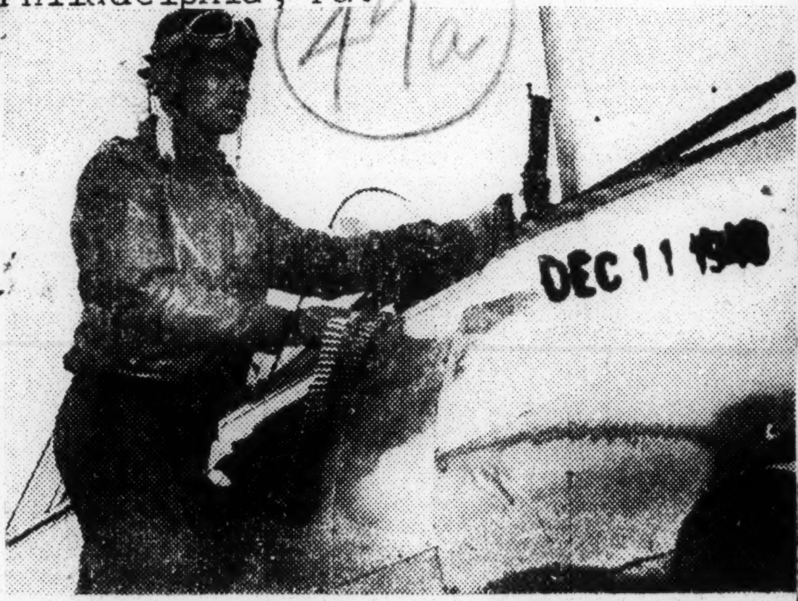
The war department has authorized Gen. Donovan to select volunteers from the 92nd infantry at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

After the first month's training those qualifying will receive $50 monthly additional

DEC 31 1943

Expert Gunner

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.


DEC 11 1943

Aviation Cadet OTHEL DICKSON, of the Tuskegee Army Air Field led all flying cadets in the Eastern Flying Training Command and finished third in the national ranking of all cadets, irrespective of race, in the AAF Training Command at the recent National Fixed Gunnery Meet held at Eglin Field, Fla. The shooting young airman is shown loading the thirty calibre cowl gun on the AT-6 which he flew in the recent competition. A/C Dickson hails from Coffeyville, Kansas.—Photo by AAF Training Command.

COUNT BASIE'S POPULARITY SOARS; DOES SIX PICTURES IN SINGLE YEAR

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 28 1943

NEW YORK, Aug. 26—Before leaving Hollywood for an Eastern tour, Count Basie and his orchestra completed "Choo Choo Swing," a Universal picture. Coincidentaly, the featurette has the Basie band choo-chooing out of Hollywood with the "One O'Clock Jump." The picture is exclusively Basie, and will soon be released. The Count and his band also completed starring roles in "Top Man," featuring the new kid star, Donald O'Connor, and "Crazy" featuring Olson and Johnson for Universal. He keynotes a big block-party scene in the latter. The studio is so sold on Basie's music that they arranged for several future productions before the "Jump King of Swing" left town.

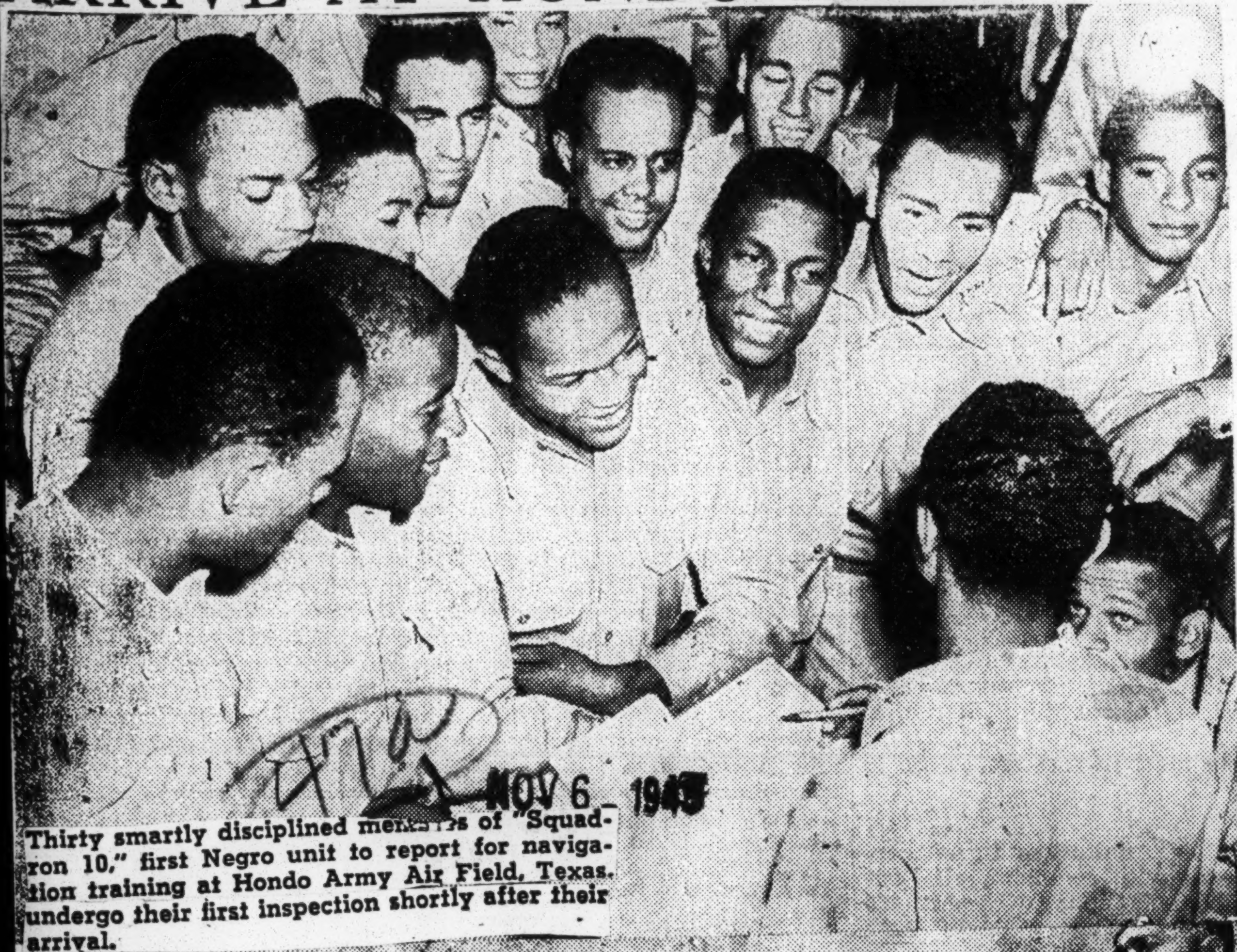
GREAT RHYTHMS

Basie's famous rhythm section, featuring one of the nation's greatest drummers, Jo Jones, Guitarist Freddy Green and Bassist Walter Page, with Basie at the piano, magnetized the camera for close-ups on all three pictures. Vocalist Jimmy Rushing also gets a lot of screen time for his stellar song delivery.

"Stage Door Canteen," the United Artists picture, features the Count as one of the top six bands in the country. Also current on the screen are Columbia's "Reveille with Beverly" and Republic's "Hit Parade of 1943"—both featuring long Basie sessions. Picture exhibitors report that the Basie band is the top drawing card for both pictures in many theatres, and in most cases they are featuring the Count's name above those of all the other stars—including Frank Sinatra.

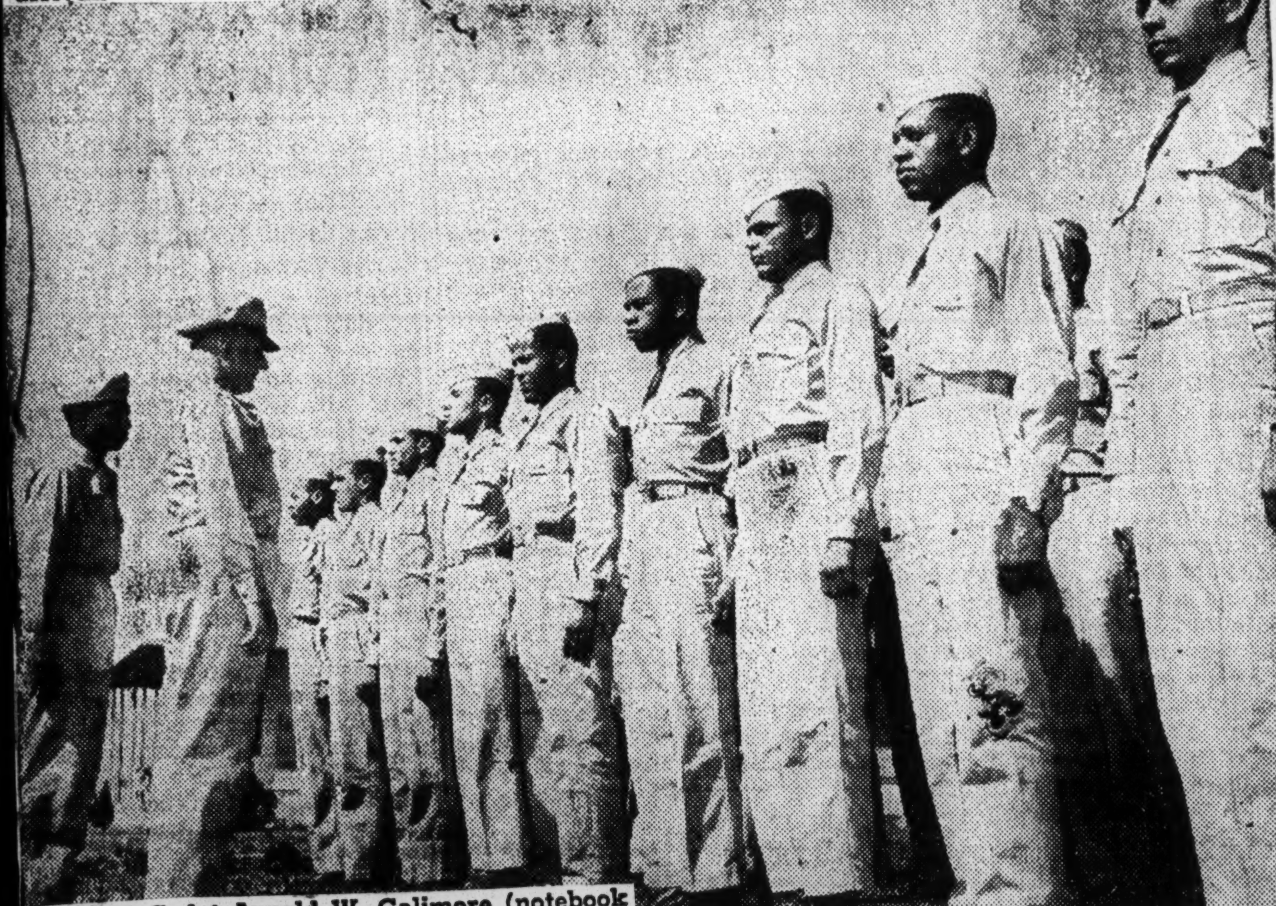
During his three-month Hollywood stay, the Count and his band appeared on three "Command Performances" and three "Jubilee U.S.A." broadcasts. These repeated short-wave appearances were results of a request bombardment from overseas.

NEW NAVIGATION CADETS ARRIVE AT HONDO FIELD



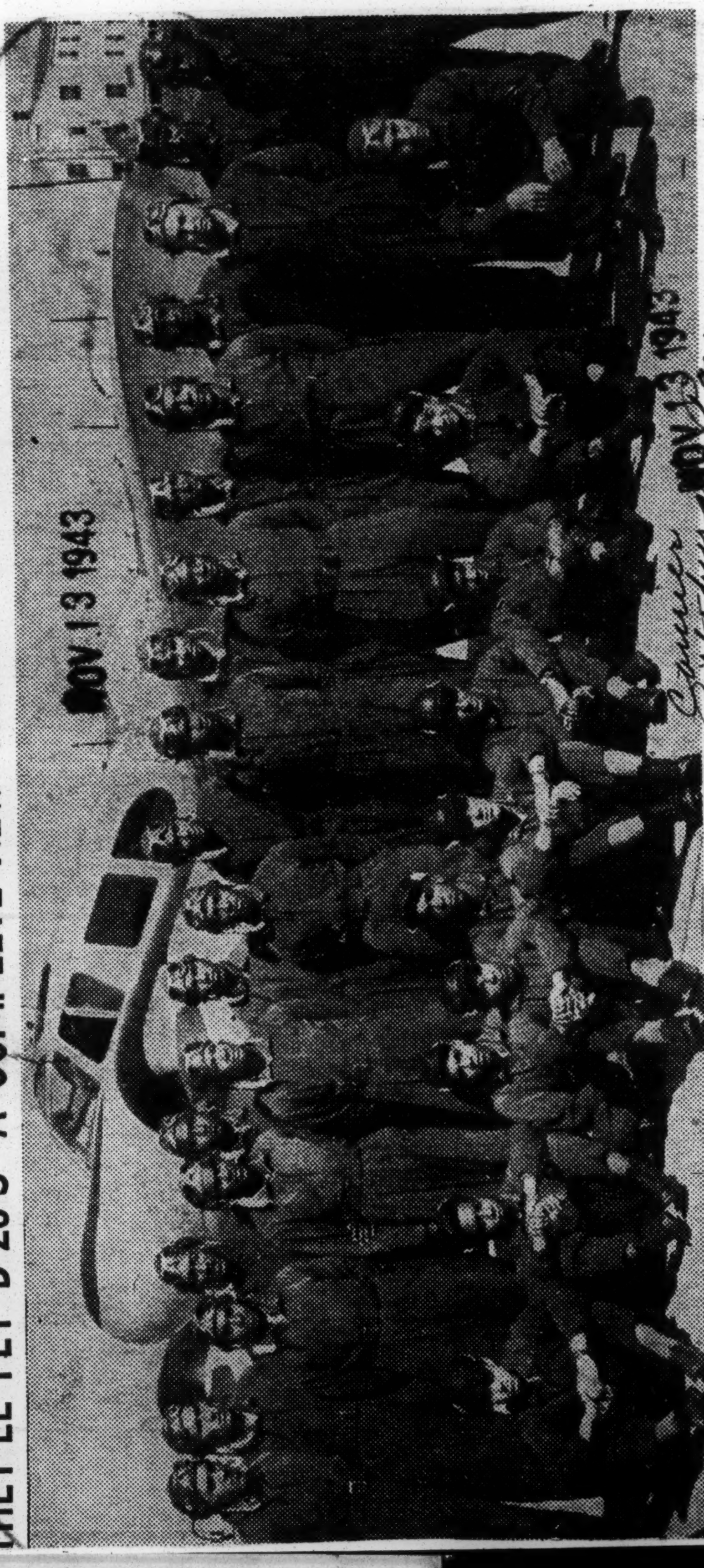
Afro NOV 6 1943

Thirty smartly disciplined members of "Squadron 10," first Negro unit to report for navigation training at Hondo Army Air Field, Texas, undergo their first inspection shortly after their arrival.



Aviation Cadet Arnold W. Galimore (notebook in hand) announces the day's schedule of training events to his buddies at the Hondo Army Air Field. Cadet Galimore is flight marcher for unit.

THEY'LL FLY B-25'S—A COMPLETE NEW THREAT TO HITLER, TOJO



NOV 13 1943

Courier Pittsburgh NOV 13 1943

In the first graduation of its kind at Tuskegee Army Air field, fighter and bomber pilot trainees completed the prescribed course at the same time. This event marks the first time in history th[illegible] pilots have received win[illegible] other than fulfilling requirements of fighter pilots. The bomber trainees will go to Mather Field, Calif., for further instruction on B-25's.

The Twin-Engine graduates, seated on the runway are second Lieutenants Perry H. Hudson, Atlanta, Ga.; Herman R. Campbell, New York, N. Y.; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Haldane King, Jamaica, N. Y.; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.; Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago, Ill.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J., and William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.

Standing from left to right are: Fighter Pilots Second Lieutenants Edward M. Thomas, Chicago, Ill.; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles W. Dickerson, New Rochelle, N. Y.; Ja[illegible] B. Brown, Los Angeles, Ca[illegible] William H. Thomas, Los Angeles, Calif.; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.; Carl E. Rayburg, Washington, D. C.; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Alfred W. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Faifield, Ala.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira N. Y.; Oscar D. Hutton, Chicago Ill.; Earl S. Sherrard, Columbus Ohio; Roger B. Brown, Glenco, Ill.; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Emory L. Robbins, Chicago, Ill.; Gwynne W. Pierson, Oakland, Calif., and Hugh S. Wa[illegible], New York, N. Y. At the far right in the first row is Second Lieutenant Paul C. Simmons, Detroit, Mich., also of the fighter pilot group.

NOV 13 1943

47a-1943

Lieutenant of 99th Is Burned to Death in Plane after Crash

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland
OCT 16 1943

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Sicily
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FROM ADVANCED AIR BASE, Sept. 19—(By Mail, Censored)—Today we are burying First Lieut. Sidney P. Brooks of Cleveland, a member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron who burned in his plane after a crash.

It was just like losing a brother to have Lieut. Brooks die.

In one of the squadron's first aerial combat tests back in June, it was Lieut. Brooks who first sighted the enemy fighters above his formation and warned the other members of his unit just as the German Focke-Wolfes dived to attack.

Family Notified Three Weeks Later

CLEVELAND—The family of Lieut. Sidney P. Brooks, flyer with the 99th Pursuit Squadron who died in action in Sicily, received word of his death on Saturday (three weeks after the funeral, Ed.), they told the AFRO.

His bride of seventeen months, the former Miss Luci[illegible] Miller, said she had a cheerful letter from him two days before the fatal crash.

He was a senior at Ohio State University when he joined the army two years ago and has been on overseas duty for the past five months.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Brooks, and a brother, William Flint Brooks, also reside here. Both father and brother are wire drawers at a local steel mill.

His wife until recently was a shipping clerk in a local war plant. There are no children.

Brilliant 99th Airman Attended Naval Academy

Journal and Guide Norfolk. Virginia
DEC 11 1943

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

AN ALLIED AIRFIELD IN SICILY—(By Air Mail, Delayed)—If any man in the whole 99th Fighter Squadron has that rare "passion for anonymity," he is 1st Lt. James L. Johnson.

That happens to be an unfortunate virtue in this case because far too few people really know him well. We had gotten all the way over in Sicily on this overseas junket before I had a good opportunity.

We happened to pitch our tents about 25 feet apart. During the ensuing month I think there emerged that side of James L. Johnson which the average acquaintance rarely sees.

It is not claimed that any considerable part of the success of this pioneer fighter squadron resulted directly from the efforts of Lt. Johnson. In fact his story can best be written without reference to the organization.

CALLED GENIUS

Thomas A. Edison probably would not have made a very good shop foreman or production boss in the Ford plant. Nor would Alexander Graham Bell likely be able to run American Telephone and Telegraph Company today. Those men were geniuses. Their greatest contributions were made in the laboratories where they worked as individuals, and according to their own plans.

In a restricted sense James L. Johnson is a genius. In the prosecution of a war across the world's battlefields, there is totally inadequate opportunity or facilities for utilizing creative genius. So it has not been difficult for this Washington, D. C. youth to satisfy his passion for anonymity.

A 1938 graduate in mechanical engineering from Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, he was among the six young Negro men selected by the Air Corps for technical training and commissioning when the ranks first opened for members of their race.

ORDNANCE ENGINEER

Two were to be experts in aviation engineering, two in communications and two in armament. One of the armorers was unable to meet physical requirements for a commission after successfully passing in all his work. One of the communications officers is now with the Fighter Group to which Col. B. O. Davis Jr., returned in September to the United States to command. The other four, including Johnson, are with the 99th.

After graduation from college he had been employed as a civil ordnance engineer, designing and loading shells for two years. Earlier he had worked as junior engineering draughtsman, drawing pipe installations.

So he and the other five cadets who were officer candidates along with nearly a hundred enlisted men, went off to Chanute Field in the spring of 1941 to blaze the trail for colored youth in the Air Corps. Six months later he had met the requirements for an aircraft maintenance engineer and received his commission as a 2nd lieutenant.

NOT QUITE PERFECT

Use of the word genius a few paragraphs back might seem reckless. Well, consider this incident. Lt. Johnson owns one of those fancy self-winding wrist watches. Inside is a tiny pendelum mechanism which operates as the arm swings back and forth in walking.

Theoretically, this should keep the watch wound up at all times so that the wearer really has to give it no attention at all other than an occasional glance when he wants to know the time of day.

But, as the reader doubtless already has supposed, Johnson's self-winder fell something short of perfect. He wanted to get this automatic gadget out of his watch and a conventional stem winder installed.

REMOVED SELF-WINDER

So Lt. Johnson sat down and, with a few tools that were crude for such delicate work, opened up the watch, removed the self-winding mechanism and installed a stem winder which he had fabricated. It has operated perfectly ever since.

Lt. Johnson is a very studious person. Every man in the squadron brought overseas some distinctive or peculiar item of personal luggage. Johnson brought along a case containing three or four dozens technical and scientific books on subjects ranging from simple mathematics to aircraft engineering.

In the leisure hours of the day when other men were playing or resting, Johnson always could be found occupied with his books or some problem he was trying to work out.

When it became known on shipboard that our destination was North Africa, Lt. Johnson got out his French text book and gave himself the most intensive review course imaginable, including both oral and written exercises.

VISITED MUSEUMS

Around Fez and Mecknes, near which the squadron spent about a month in advance combat training, the members gained some of their fondest and certainly most lasting memories. These two Moroccan cities were beautiful, vastly interesting and surprisingly hospitable to these colored pilots and their ground staffs.

The things that the men looked for when they went into town varied with the individual. But Lt. Johnson was the only one who spent most of his time in the museums, libraries and historical landmarks.

James L. Johnson has another distinction. During the time that Col. Davis was at West Point from which he graduated as the first Negro to go through the U. S. Military Academy in almost 75 years, James L. Johnson made some history himself by passing all the examinations and getting himself admitted to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

HARRASSED BY MIDDIES

It is not one whit to Johnson's discredit that he was able to stay at Annapolis only eight months. Before either Davis or Johnson entered these service schools, the odds against a Negro's graduating from the Naval Academy were definitely longer than against his finishing West Point.

One of the standard bits of lore about Johnson and his experience with the Navy is a story he neither denies nor admits. He only smiles when you ask about it. It seems that he was being harrassed by some of the Middies one day.

He was prudent enough not to tackle the whole bunch at one time, but he did invite them outside one at a time for a showdown. According to the legend, there were no acceptances of his challenge.

Single, he makes his home with his father, James L. Johnson Sr., at 1737 S street, N. W. Like so many other Washingtonians, he went through Garnett Patterson School and Dunbar High, graduating in 1933. He had participated in fencing at Dunbar, and in college he was on the track team.

TECH SUPPLY OFFICER

This 27-year-old officer tips the beam at 170 pounds and stands 5 feet 11½ in height. He is assistant supply officer in charge of technical supplies. Recently he was appointed assistant intelligence officer as well, to learn that phase of the work under 1st Lt. Cornelius Vincent, Boston, Mass.

The supply section is so efficiently run by 1st Lt. Benote H. Wimp, Chicago, that not many problems are left for Lt. Johnson's attention. He should be able to devote a considerable amount of time to intelligence work in the weeks to come.

Yet, when you know and understand Lt. Johnson you feel certain he won't be entirely happy and contented until he can lose himself in complex mechanics and engineering problems.

For him it is unfortunate, therefore, that the engineering section is already so very capably and efficiently run by 1st Lt. Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss., that nobody ever thinks of his being replaced. After all, "Gene" Carter not only can supervise the maintenance of aircraft used by the squadron, but afterwards he test-hops them himself. If they come through the "wringing out" that Lt. Carter gives them as he goes through almost all the maneuvers in the book, they'll hold together through the hottest hour of combat.

Chicago Bee

Mrs. Davis Hits Time Article On 99th Record

Chicago, Illinois
OCT 24 1943

In a letter to the editors of the internationally-known and widely-read Time magazine, Mrs. Agatha [illegible] Davis, wife of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., former commander of the 99th Pursuit squadron, sharply scored the magazine's September 20 article which criticized the 99th record as a fighter squadron.

Time defended its story based on "unofficial reports" by launching a broadside at the War department's policy of segregated air corps training. The magazine's defense was appended to the published letter written by Mrs. Davis, and blamed separate army training programs for the operational results obtained by the squadron now on active duty overseas.

Blow to Morale.

Charging that Time's article was a blow at "one of the strongest pillars upholding Negro morale," Mrs. Davis' letter asked:

"Are you justified in saying that the record of the 99th Fighter squadron is only fair? . . ." She referred to her husband's evaluation of the squadron's participation as "at least worthy of favorable comment."

"My indictment is that by publishing an article based on 'unofficial reports' you have created unfavorable public opinion about an organization to which all Negroes point with pride," Mrs. Davis' letter charged.

"You should realize that these few printed words in Time, words which may be creating a false impression, have struck at one of the strongest pillars upholding Negroes' morale in their effort to contribute to the winning of the war."

OCT 24 1943

First Negro Air Navigation Cadets Fly

Journal & Guide
Norfolk. Va.

Shaw "Marked Proficiency," Says Commander

HONDO ARMY AIR FIELD, HONDO, Texas — The pioneer class of 44-3-10, known here as "Squadron 10," first class of Negro navigation cadets in the history of the Army Air Forces, has completed four flying missions over West Texas terrain with "marked proficiency," according to their Hondo Field flight commander, First Lieutenant George F. McInerney.

Hondo Field, a navigation airbase of the Army Air Forces Training Command, received this first Negro navigation group on October 22, and immediately launched the men on an intensive 18 weeks' navigation training schedule.

After comprehensive indoctrination for two weeks, the Negro cadets made their first training hop. Each now has 18 hours in the air on pilotage, dead reckoning and air plot training missions.

They have made excellent progress in the preliminary courses — accenting straight dead reckoning, pilotage, air plot, compasses, drift-meters and swinging of the airman's compass.

Upon successful completion of their course at Hondo Field, members of this pioneer Negro navigation squadron will receive commissions as flight officers or second lieutenants in the AAF, and will wear the silver wings of rated AAF navigators. They will have qualified to guide the course of American bombers to enemy targets anywhere on earth.

BOMBARDIER COURSE NEXT

It is understood that the Negro graduates will be given a 12-weeks' bombardiering course when they leave Hondo Field, and then will be fully trained for their objective —completing America's first Negro bombardment squadron. Incidentally, but of extreme importance to the AAF, the advent of this class opens a new source for navigation cadet manpower.

WERE ELIMINATED PILOTS

All of these 30 cadets, (11 cadets and 19 aviation students) are eliminated pilots who were reclassified at various stages of single engine pilot training at Tuskegee, Alabama

After being eliminated they reverted to enlisted men's status and were assigned to various duties at Tuskegee for a while. They were subsequently given an opportunity to take examinations for navigation and bombardiering. Approximately 100 eliminated Negro pilots took the test at Tuskegee in September of this year, and the 30 members of Hondo Field's "Squadron 10" are the handpicked group resulting.

As are all new things, the Negro cadet squadron is looked upon as a sort of "guinea pig" class at the airbase, and the progress of each man is being closely watched by officers charged with their training.

The officers are optimistic. By Flight Commander Lieutenant McInerney and Lieutenant J. Onebane, two officers most directly in charge of the Negro class, the members of Class 44-3-10 have been characterized as " . . . a darned good bunch of men—extremely capable."

As for the men themselves, they appear to be determined to prove they have the same stuff that has made other units of their race justly famous in the annals of the United States Army.

Class 44-3-10 is being given the same course, and the same daily routine all other navigation cadets get at Hondo Field. They have the same classroom hours, regular calisthenics, and drill and retreat ceremonies. They are not being let out of anything and nothing is being made more rigid for them. They are good at drill, and, as might be expected, highly proficient in athletics.

DEC 18 1943

Gen. Arnold's Visit To 99th Had Precedent

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

NORFOLK—The visit by Gen H. H. Arnold, commander of the American Army Air Forces, to the airfield in Italy occupied by the 99th Fighter Squadron, as announced at Allied Force Headquarters Sunday night, is not the first call paid these pioneer Negro pilots by high ranking military officials.

Gen Arnold is inspecting Allied air bases in this theatre before returning to the U. S. after attending the Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin-Chiang conferences.

In fact, the men in the 99th had gotten quite accustomed to pop calls at their base by dignitaries of world renown even before this reporter parted company with the unit in Sicily on September 2 to return to the United States.

A parade of "rank" that might have been a sensation at some other camp aroused much less than reasonably justifiable excitement among the ground crews and fliers of the 99th.

FIRST VICTORY

Everybody was excited, however, last July 2 when all in one day so much of importance happened. First Capt, (then Lt.) Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind., went out on a morning mission and engaged a Nazi fighter plane in a fight to the finish. Hall came home triumphant with the honor of having been the first Negro pilot in history to score a victory in the air over an enemy plane.

That same day, the squadron suffered its first combat losses when Lts. James B. McCullin of St. Louis, and Sherman White of Montgomery, Ala., failed to return from the same mission.

The pilots had escorted a flight of bombers from Africa to Sicily and were attacked by 20 Focke-Wulf-190's and Messerschmitt-109's. Dog fights ensued for the next twenty minutes with twelve fliers of the 99th having chances to shoot down a Jerry.

CONGRATULATED HALL

Then, that afternoon, as per schedule announced a couple of days earlier, General Dwight D Eisenhower, commanding the Northwest African theatre of operations; Lt. General Carl Spaatz, commanding the Northwest African Air Forces; Major General James H. Doolittle, commanding the strategic air forces in the same theatre, and several other generals and colonels flew into the 99th Fighter Squadron's airbase.

These officers talked with Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the 99th, and with other leaders in the squadron, as well as congratulating Capt. Hall. This correspondent was the only photographer present for that historic meeting and the pictures recording it appeared exclusively in the Journal and Guide.

Earlier, in May, while the squadron was still engaged in advanced combat training in French Morocco, General Spaatz and a party of other high-ranking Air Force officers had visited the 99th's base on an inspection tour.

FLAT TIRE

Marshal of the Royal Air Force, the Viscount Trenchard, GCB, GCVO, DSO, a member of the British House of Lords and founder of the Royal Air Force, spent some time with Col. Davis one afternoon in June when the car he was riding in had a flat tire near the Squadron's base on Cape Bon.

Just before the invasion of Sicily, Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham spent an entire afternoon with the 99th. He commanded the Northwest African tactical air forces under General Spaatz.

He had come to tell the officers of the impending action and to acquaint them generally with the part they would be expected to play in the operation.

"OLD BLOOD AND GUTS"

After the squadron reached Sicily, Col. Davis was called back to Africa to see Secretary of War Stimson who was making an inspection tour of that theatre. Davis was accompanied by Lt. Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss., engineering officer. They flew their own P-40 Warhawk planes.

A few of the men got a look at General George S. Patton, too, one day when the famed 7th Army commander's plane landed at the field from which the 99th was operating in Sicily. "Old Blood and Guts" was on his way to inspect a division of his Army bivouaced near the squadron's airbase.

So, as welcome as General Arnold might have been when he visited the 99th recently, it was no new experience for the men in that famed unit to see officers of very high rank in their midst.

DEC 18 1943

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Negro Flyers Shown In Click Magazine

AUG 20 1943

NEW YORK. — Click magazine for September has a three-page picture story on the "Black Panthers," Negro fighter group, now finishing training at Oscoda, Mich.

The men in this group finished their first training at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. The article declares the group is "tough, smart and rarin' to go," and declares the instructors of the squadron say the members fly and fight "intelligently, bravely and skillfully."

One squadron trainer at Tuskegee—the 99th under command of Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr.,—is already in combat overseas, having taken part in the Sicilian campaign.

99th Gets A New Squadron Commander

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.—The 99th, famed Negro Pursuit squadron which earned the plaudits of the nation as the first Negro flying unit to participate in active combat in the history, has a new commander.

He is Capt. George S. Roberts of Fairmont, W. Va. Capt. Roberts was named last week to succeed Lt.-Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Lt.-Col. Davis, who led the unit through the North African and Sicilian campaigns, was recalled to this country to assume command of the 332nd Fighter Group soon to be graduated from training at Selfridge field, Mich., air base it was reported.

SEP 18 1943

Captain Roberts was formerly operations officer and second in command of the 99th. He is regarded as one of the most capable aviators in the North African theatre. Almost simultaneous with the announcement came word that Gen. Dwight Eisenhower has approved decorations for 26 pilots of the 99th, all of whom are slated to receive the air medal, coveted army award for meritorious achievement against the army.

The BEE's October pictorial will carry photos suitable for framing of the 26 flyers who distinguished themselves as the first Negro aviation combat unit in the nation's history.

47a-1943

99TH SQUADRON PILOTS WIN MEDALS FOR SICILY HEROISM

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
SEP 18 1943

LT. CHARLES B. HALL
Brazil, Ind., pilot who shot down the first Nazi plane among the pilots of the 99th. He was congratulated by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower on his return to his base.

LT. CHARLES W. DRYDEN
Born in New York, he attended the City College of New York for three years and was graduated a pilot and received a commission as second lieutenant on April 29, 1942.

LT. ALLEN GASTON LANE
Born in Demopolis, Ala., he attended Tuskegee institute for three years and was graduated a pilot and received a commission as second lieutenant on July 3, 1942.

LT. JAMES T. WILEY
Born in Evansville, Ind., he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 19

post graduate work at Carnegie Institute of Technology.

LT. SPANN WATSON
Born in Johnston, S. C., he attended Howard university in Washington, D. C., for three

duated a pilot and received a commission as second lieutenant July 3, 1942.

LT. SAMUEL M. BRUCE
Born in Crockett, Texas, he attended Agriculture and Technical college in Greensboro, N. C., and graduated a pilot and received his commission as second lieutenant on Sept. 6, 1942.

LT. HERBERT E. CARTER
Born in Armory, Miss., he attended Tuskegee institute for two years and graduated a pilot and second lieutenant on July 3, 1942.

LT. GEORGE R. BOLLING
Born in Hampton, Va., he was graduated from the Hampton institute, and graduated as a pilot and received a commission as second lieutenant on July 3, 1942.

Tuskegee Aviation Cadet Wins Nat'l Gunnery Meet

Top Marksman In East; Wins Third Place In Nation

DEC 11 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—(SNS)—Aviation Cadet Othel Dickson of the Tuskegee Army Air Field led all flying cadtes from the Eastern Flying Training Command in the National Fixed Gunnery held on he AAF gunnery ranges along the Florida Gulf Coast near Elgin Field last week end.

In addition to becoming the top ranking aerial gunner among Eastern Flying Training Command cadets, the Tuskegee sharpshooter finished third among all AAF Training Command students.

'FLYING GUN PLATFORMS'

Fixed gunnrey is the term applied to the process of teaching fighter pilots how to use their airplanse as 'flying gun platforms." The armament on all fighter planes is mounted in the wings and noses in fixed positions, and in order to bring the guns to bear on the target, the airplanes must be aimed.

DEC 11 1943

U. S. fighter pilots are taught that their planes are actually 'flying engines" with guns tied on. They are taught that they must learn to shoot their planes as well as fly them.

When Aviation Cadet Dickson rained down his shower of thirty calibre bullets in competion for the "Buzz Wagner" trophy, he was shooting against the best marksmen from the graduating classese of each of eleven Army Air Forces fighter pilot schools. The eleven schools represented in the national meet the Craig Field, Ala., Napier Field, Ala., Spence, Field, Ga. Marinna Field, Tuskegee Army Field, Ala., Foster Field, Texas, Aloe Field, Texas, Moore Field Texas, Eaglepass Field, Texas, Luke Field, Arizona and Williams Filed, Arizona.

DEC 11 1943

Each field sent the top marksman of its current graduating class, and it war against this array of sharpshooters that Cadet Dickson, a native of Coffeyville, Kan., shot it out for the trophy named after one of America's first aces of World War II, Lt. Col. Boyd D. "Buzz" Wagner, who after a colorful combat career in the Phillipine, Australian and New Guinea campaigns, died in a crash near Elgin Field, Fla., on a routine flight.

Dec. 11, 1943

AWARDS BY MRS. WAGNER

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd M. Wagner, parents of the late Lt. Col. "Buzz" Wagner, flew from Johnstown, Pa., to Elgin Field, Fla., last Thursday to be guests of honor of the First Single Engine Fixed Gunnery Training Group, hosts for the national meet. Mrs. Wagner made the initial presentation, personally handing the trophies to A-C. T. C.

Hill, Aloe Field, Texas, and Lt. V. S. Brokaw of Foster Field, Texas, who won top national gunnery honors for aviation cadtes and instructors respectively.

DAVIS TELLS 99TH EXPLOITS TO D. C. NEWSMEN

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

While his father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis listens with justifiable pride, youthful Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., tells Washington reporters on the work the 99th Pursuit Squadron did in conquest of North Africa and Sicily. He has returned to this country to take over a post with the 332nd Fighter Group.

SEP 18 1943

Extending a welcome to young Lt. Col. B. O. Davis on his arrival in Washington were Major General A. D. Surles (left), director of the War Department Bureau of Public Relation, and his father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, both of whom congratulated him on his fine work in directing the 99th Pursuit Squadron in North Africa.

Celebrate TAAF Chapel Anniversary

SEP 27 1943

The celebration of the first anniversary of the Post Chapel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field took place last Sunday, September [illegible] when Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer, addressed the officers, men and civilians assembled there. Pictured after the service are Mrs. Alfreda Hamilton, Lt. Theodore Randall of the Tuskegee College Training Detachment; Mr. L. W. Kranerd, Montgomery, Ala.; Chaplain Douglas L. T. Robinson, Post Chaplain; Mrs. Fay S. Robinson, wife of Chaplain Robinson; Lt. Col. Parrish; Mrs. F. A. Bolders, Tuskegee, Ala.; Mrs. B. B. Walcott, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Mr. Maurice Hastie, War-Time Minister, Christian Science Chaplain; Lt. Rosetta E. Cannon, WAC, stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.; Mrs. Frederick Mack, Tuskegee, Alabama, and Staff Sgt George D. Thompson, chapel organist.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgi

47a-1943
Defender
Chicago, Ill

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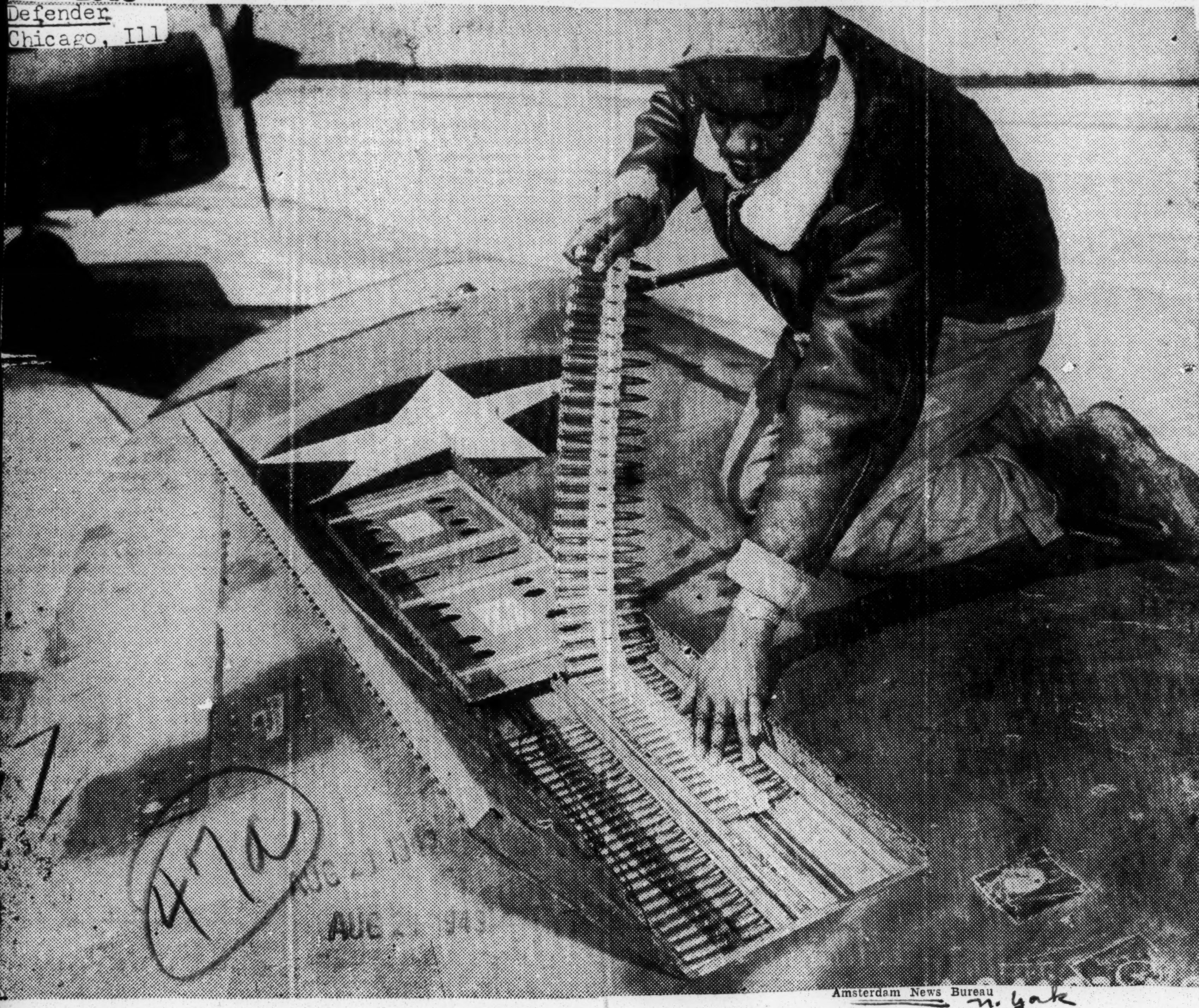

AUG 21 1943

Cpl. Gray Washington of Franklin, La., spreads a belt of .50 calibre ammunition and gets a P-40 pursuit plane's machine gun ready for action at the Oscoda, Mich., Army Air Base, a sub-base of Selfridge Field. The 332nd Fighter Group, only all-Negro fighter group in the Army Air Corps, and the 96th Service Group are in training at Oscoda's gunnery range in preparation for action overseas soon.

99th Commander Says Experiment Is Ended

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Officer Tells Dramatic Story of Exploits of Men in War Theater; Declares Men Who Fly Work Together

Amsterdam News Bureau

N. York

WASHINGTON (Special) — Back from his triumphs in North Africa where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron in its operations over Sicily and other islands in the Mediterranean, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis held his first press conference Friday at the War Department where he told the dramatic history of the 99th to a distinguished group of editors and publishers who had come here at the request of Major General A. D. Surles, director of the Bureau of Public Relations, to discuss the pooling of news of activities of Negro troops overseas.

SEP 18 1943

One of the Army's youngest lieutenant colonels, Davis may be elevated to the position of a full colonel when he takes over as head of 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich., in the near future.

May Be Full Colonel

Col. Davis, in speaking of his new assignment said the table of organization calls for a full colonel to head the group, which is a unit consisting of three squadrons. He will go to Mitchell Field, N. Y., before continuing to his new assignment.

Col. Davis' lengthy talk presented some rather interesting facts both on the lines and between the lines. Veteran reporters regarded it as a fine speech, in some places approaching the standard of a masterpiece.

One of the highlights of the talk was Col. Davis' admission that the 99th Squadron was an experiment, that it was a matter of conjecture in the minds of some of the high-ranking officers in the AAF just what a Negro pilot in a P-40 would do when anti-aircraft fire burst about his ship or when an enemy aircraft was strewing cannon spells and machine gun bullets about his cockpit, and his conclusion that the 99th squadron, in his opinion is no longer an experiment, that the men, instead of being the fledglings that went over in June are now seasoned veterans of a combat experience that all of us may well be proud.

47

Negro Fliers Were On Trial

Col. Davis said members of the 99th realized that the unit was a test to determine whether the Negro pilot was physically, mentally and emotionally suited to the rigors of combat flying. They, therefore, understood that the future of the Negro in the air corps probably would be dependent largely upon the manner in which they carried out their mission. Hence, the importance of the work done by this squadron, the responsibility of every man be he ground crewman or pilot, meant that very little pleasure was to be had by anyone until the experiment was deemed an unqualified success.

LT. COL. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS

The colonel said the outfit was hurt by the adverse publicity is received during its training period at Tuskegee. The men had the good sense, he said, to realize that the best means they had to defeat the cult of supporters and philosophers who relegated them to a subsidiary role in the life of the United States, was to do their job in such a way that the world would know that they were capable of performing a highly specialized and technical piece of work in a creditable manner.

Col. Davis and his squadron left the United States April 15, 1943. Aboard ship, he was the senior line officer with jurisdiction over some 4000 troops, less than 15 per cent of whom were Negroes. The entire eight-day voyage passed without a single circumstance or incident that could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader, he said.

The most cordial relations between members of his squadron and of other groups, the colonel said. The pilots of the 99th and those of a fighter bomber group nearby would engage in impromptu dogfights to determine the relative superiority of the P-40 and the A-36, with the result the P-40 was adjudged to be vastly superior in that phase of aerial combat. The men also participated in all types of athletic contests and other means of recreation.

The Town of Fez was described as one of the most delightful spots any of the men visited. One unusual feature of the stay there, was that members of the 99th and members of other organizations visited town every night for a period of over a month, and not one single unpleasant incident arose.

The officers and men of the squadron were visited by Josephine Baker who introduced several different groups of officers to the prominent French and Arab families in the town.

Colonel Davis said that while they were at Fez, four P-39 pilots whom they had met on the boat on the way over came to visit them. They had been ferrying some P-39's from Oran to Casablanca and enroute they, of their own accord, simply stopped over to pay a visit. The Colonel said he made the observation to indicate that a considerable bond exists among those who fly regardless of color or race.

"Our equipment was of the best," said Col. Davis. "We ferried in 27 brand new P-40's and all of us experienced for the first time the thrill of flying a brand new airplane. Lieutenant Colonel Philip Cochran —the Flip Corkin of "Terry and the Pirates"—was our most capable instructor. We all remember with a smile his opening commentary on the slowness of the P-40. The P-40 pilot never yet ran away from a fight—because he couldn't.

"Yet we all know that the P-40 has a more remarkable combat record in this war than any other fighter airplane except possibly the British Spitfire," Col. Davis coninued. "The P-40, we jokingly say has three important characteristics The first one is turn, which enables you to present a very difficult target to an enemy fighter; the second one is turn and the third one is also turn," he added significantly. "In aerial fighting this characteristic is naturally of great importance," the flier said.

"On the 31st of May we took off for the Cape Bon peninsula and the final phase of the experiment. I personally believe that no unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th Fighter Squadron. We were weak in one respect only, and that was simply that the squadron commander, myself and the flight commanders had had no actual combat experience. That is a very desirable feature because it gives a good bit of confidence to those who are led that the man who is in charge of the formation knows what he is doing and frankly I didn't know initially, nor did my flight commanders. On the other hand, this deficiency was balanced by the fact that my pilots averaged about 250 hours in a P-40, and a young pilot in these days who has 250 hours in a P-40 before he goes into combat is a hard man to find.

"All of us were a little on edge because we were going into something that we hadn't experienced before. This transition was eased by Colonel William Momyer, who commands a very famous fighter group which is now located up at the front. We were attached to his group for operations and attached for operations means just one thing and that alone, simply that every night the group operations officer telephoned to my operations officer the missions set up for next day."

Got Fourth of Missions

'Colonel Momyer, in giving us missions, treated is exactly as one of his squadron. He had three of his own and we had one, that being four squadrons. We got one-fourth of the missions given by his air support command. Colonel Momyer suggested initially that my flight commanders and myself fly as wing men on one of his missions so that we might get some experience initially before attempting to lead our own men into combat. He also advised me very completely on the details of running a squadron in a combat zone."

"At that time, shortly after the first of June, the Pantelleria show was going on and our first missions were over that island. We dive-bombed objectives on the island every day until its fall on the 11th of June. Six of our pilots had their first brush with enemy aircraft during this show but the remainder of us experienced only some of the very inaccurate brand of flank that the Italians throw up. After Pantelleria. Colonel Momyer's group moved to the island and we received our operational control from a fighter group commanded by Colonel McNorris."

"From the first of July to the 9th we escorted bombers to Sicily and these were our most active days. On every trip we were attacked by superior numbers of enemy fighters. The tactics employed by the enemy fighters were to draw off the escorts so they could get to the bombers. Actually they were not particularly interested in shooting down enemy fighters, so we had to take somc action to prevent them from shooting us down."

Speaking of the German air force, the colonel said, "Its tactics have changed quite a bit since the Tunisian campaign. Its pilots are not as eager as they used to be; they have undoubtedly lost the best of them and they no longer press their attacks, as I hear they did in the past. Whereas formerly they would stay down and lap it up, they now make one ineffective pass and head for home. On the other hand, the pilots of my squadron who were initially uncertain of themselves, had now developed a very strong fighting spirit and were eager for an opportunity to meet the German and really fight it out.

Sought Our Germans

"After the middle of July", Colonel Davis explained, "we had a squadron of pilots whose fondest dreams were no longer about the girls back home. Instead they dreamed about a German pilot who would be foolish enough to slug it out in aerial combat. At our chosen altitude we had the better airplane, but the German has learned his lesson and now makes his pass from out of the sun, coming down at 350 or more miles an hour and get on out. We get a fleeting shot as he passes by.

"The most interesting engagement took place on a bomber escort mission. The leader of the bomber formation couldn't get his bomb bay doors open on the first run over the target. This necessitated his going around two more times and it gave enemy fighters who didn't know we we're comnig, the opportunity to get off their airdrome and come up and get us. We actually saw enemy fighters scramble and climb, and they really do climb.

Praised by Eisenhower

"Our ships were close escorts for the bombers that day and we were right with them. The bottom, medium and top covers was provided by another group of fighters, so we absorbed all of the attack of this 20-plus ME-109s, Macchi 202s, and FW-190s and on that day we lost a couple of aircraft. We definitely destroyed one of the enemy, probably destroyed a couple more and damaged three. We believe that one of our pilots is a prisoner of war. Incidentally, on that day General Eisenhower visited our field and during his stay congratulated Captain Hall, one of our flight commanders, on his and our first confirmed victory.

We provided cover for the landing beaches on southeastern Sicily. We escorted C-47s which moved the air echelon of the various units to new bases on the island. On the 19th of July we moved to a base on the southern coast and we provided air support for the ground troops by dive-bombing. We strafed strong points holding up their advance, trucks that were bottled up on the very few roads on the northern part of the island

Men Train Replacements.

"After the fall of Sicily we devoted our time to training replacements that reached us from the States. We got new combat crews and the men in charge of the training got a good bit out of the new responsibilties of the responsible places in the formations which they had to fly."

The Colonel concluded with an appeal to Americans to "Back the Attack" with War Bonds. Brigadier General Davis, father of Colonel Davis, and the Colonel's wife, attended the press conference. Asked if he would like to make any comment about his son, General Davis said, "He's my son, he has always been my son. Certainly I am proud. As to the Negro flyer making good, the General said there was never any question in his mind that they wouldn't.

After posing for pictures with General Surles, General Davis and Mrs. Davis, Colonel sat in for a picture with the newspaper men.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 21 1943

Keeping the .50 calibre machine guns used by the pilots of P-40 pursuit ships in good shape is the job of these four soldiers of the 332nd Fighter Group's Ordnance section at the Oscoda air base. The four are (l. to r.) Cpl. L. A. Moy of Washington, D. C.; Cpl. Wade Fite of Dallas, Texas; Pfc. Azell Hawkins of Kansas City, Kans., and Pvt. Benjamin Mills of Cincinnati, Ohio.

47a-1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Presenting The Members Of The

CATERPILLAR CLUB

Of The 99th Fighter Squadron

(This is the last of three articles relating the experiences of pilots in the 99th Fighter Squadron who gained membership in the mythical Caterpillar Club by parachuting from their planes. In the first two installments Lt. George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va., was hit by flak while patroling the coast of Sicily on D-1 day and spent 24 hours in a rubber dinghy on the Mediterranean Sea before being rescued by an American destroyer. This article tells how two others were initiated. —Editor.)

OCT 2 - 1943

47

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
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PART III

AN ALLIED AIRFIELD, Sicily [illegible] Air Mail—Those football fans who have had the t[illegible] watching Sam Brice, erstwhile A. and T. College h[illegible] in action will more easily appreciate the quick-thinking and coordinated action that enabled him to get out of his plane which was plunging toward the earth, out of control.

First Lt. Samuel M. Bruce, as the Army knows him now, is one of the most remarkable developments of this excursion overseas for the first Negro fighter pilots to see combat action. That is belief of several competent observers who have followed the 99th Squadron's evolution carefully. This correspondent concurs in that opinion unqualifiedly.

He was in a flight of planes on a patrol mission over the northern coast of Sicily, where the American ground forces were then pushing the enemy back into the pocket around Messina.

Five minutes after take off, while the planes were maneuvering into their formation, one of the aircraft evidently began giving trouble and the pilot dropped out to return home.

He didn't clear the formation entirely and the two planes momentarily came in contact with each other. Bruce's plane got out of control and its nose pointed toward the ground 1,500 feet below.

NO TIME TO WASTE

At that height there is no time to be wasted when abandoning a heavy P-40 Warhawk. Lt. Bruce knew this and he went immediately about the business.

Like Lt. Bolling he was unable to open his cockpit canopy with the automatic emergency release. So during those precious few seconds he cranked the cockpit cover open by hand and climbed out. Because the aircraft was [illegible] control he cou[illegible] easy way by turning it over on its back and falling out.

TELLS HIS THOUGHTS

As he later described it, he was plenty busy. Somebody asked what he was thinking during those moments.

"I was working too hard trying to get out of there to think about anything," Bruce replied. "And it was pretty hot inside, too."

But he did get out, and as soon as he was clear, he yanked his ripcord. Several white soldiers in another ground unit nearby saw all this action and one of them later described it to this correspondent.

"The parachute had no sooner opened up than it collapsed again," the soldiers related. "If he had jumped three seconds later or from 100 feet lower he surely would have hit the ground before his 'chute opened up."

NEVER GAVE UP

Sam Bruce is too good a competitor to stop trying even when all the odds are against him. And its a good bet that in those few seconds he cooly and deliberately freed himself from the disabled plane with never a thought of giving up.

There were two or three minor scratches on his leg, evidently sustained when it hit the canopy as he bailed out. But other than that he was none the worse for the experience. He threw his parachute over his shoulder and started walking.

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Incidentally, he hit the ground not 25 feet from his wrecked plane. That gives you some idea of how close he was to the ground when he jumped. Fortunately, he fell on the leeward side. Otherwise he might have been dragged right into the flaming wreckage.

READY TO FLY AGAIN

Before he had walked very far a couple of officers picked him up in a jeep and carried him back to his base. There the wounds on his leg were dressed and he was given the rest of the day off.

"I want you to stay quiet and take things very easy for a few days until you are all right again," the flight surgeon, Capt. Maurice E. Johnson, Washington, D. C., told him about a couple of hours after the crash.

"Oh, I'm all right now," he shot back. "I'm ready to fly again."

There you have Sam Bruce, who started flying in the CPT course at A. and T. during the summers between college terms. In the autumns of 1938-39-40 he cavorted about the gridiron and won all-CIAA and all-American selections.

A TEAM MAN

A triple-threat halfback. Bruce has always been a man for teamwork. In his college days he was especially valuable as a blocking back—clearing the path for and helping the other fellow to gain ground, and, incidentally, the headlines.

Modest and unassuming, no one ever hears him discuss his past exploits on the football field or in the ring, where he won the CIAA (155-lb. class) championship in 1940. Over here he spends his time chiefly forgetting what a hell of a mess this war is.

His almost ravenous appetite is hard to satisfy on GI rations alone. So he has turned out to be one of the most spirited and successful hunters in the outfit. Almost every evening he tops off his supper with a dish of salad made up from the variety of native vegetables available.

FRIED CHICKEN

Particularly in North Africa one of the choicest and most frequently consumed delicacies was fried chicken. The birds were purchased from the Arabs at first for 50 francs (one dollar) and later for 100 francs.

There we tried to peg the price to prevent the natives from committing legalized larceny on the guillible Americans.

One day Sam Bruce came back to camp with a duck in his hands. The poor bird's body was still warm although he was dead as a dodo from a bullet wound. Sam was unarmed—except for his .45 calibre automatic pistol strapped in a holster under his shoulder. But I never did learn what cruel fate overtook the duck.

OVERSEAS BEFORE

Foreign lands were not a new experience for Lt. Bruce as they were with the great majority of men in this outfit. After finishing Garfield High School in his native Seattle, in 1933, he plied the Pacific as a crew member of the passenger liners. He made four trips to the Orient, touching Japan, China, the Philippines and Alaska.

Between then and 1938, when he went off to college, he played football every fall with the West Seattle (Wash.) Athletic Club team. His high school coach was also mentor for that famed amateur outfit and he made it possible for colored boys who had been under him to continue playing on the club team.

WIFE IN GREENSBORO

While a student at A. and T., Bruce married the former Miss Grace Foy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Foy of Greensboro, N. C., who was also a student at the college. While he is overseas, she is making her home with her parents in Greensboro.

Flying is more than just his work for the duration. It is great fun to Sam Bruce, as well. After the war he hopes to get into the Regular Army and continue flying in the Air Corps.

Lt. Bruce's development into one of his squadron's courageous and exemplary pilots (in the eyes of those who conceive of flying in the Air Corps as more than just a bid for notoriety and glory) is all the more remarkable when you consider how he got into the unit.

HOW HE JOINED 99TH

He had been put into a newly formed fighter group which was about to go up to Selfridge Field, Mich., for further training when he was transferred to this squadron to fill a vacancy, just about a week before it left Tuskegee Army Flying School for combat duty abroad.

OCT - 1943

At first he found it a little bitter dose to take, but soon accepted the new assignment in stride and made the most out of it. And that is no more, nor any less, than you would expect of Sam Bruce.

NEW RECRUIT JOINS

SELECT GROUP

Three days after Lt. Bruce got into the "Caterpillar Club," it gained its third member, this time one of the replacement pilots who had come overseas to the squadron just over a fortnight before.

Tall, slightly built, humorous, and noisy Lt. John H. Morgan was off with a flight of P-40 Warhawks to provide protective cover for shipping along the northern coast of Sicily. During the patrol the engine of his plane went rough. Soon it seemed to be throwing parts through its sides.

HAS DIFFICULTIES

Enemy armies were still holding out in the northeast corner of the island, but fortunately Morgan was on the fair weather side of the line, so his hasty decision to abandon the aircraft did not involve his possible capture and imprisonment.

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He was at 3,000 feet so he started climbing over the side. But the plane began pointing its nose upward. This forecast for him a stall and then a spin. To avoid that he sat back down and rolled the plane over on its back. He already had disconnected his earphones in the flying helmet he wore and unfastened his safety belt.

Simply falling out of the cockpit was relatively simple, but he, too, remembers well the severe jerk his parachute gave him when he yanked the ripcord and it fluttered out into the wind.

SPRAINS A LEG

Morgan landed with his left foot on a small mound of earth, thus throwing his full weight on that leg. He suffered a sprain and limped noticeably for the next five or six days. He came down on a hill about a mile from a large field hospital.

Soldiers down on the beach had seen him bail out and two of them started driving up the hill in a jeep. Meanwhile two Sicilians had picked him up in a mule-drawn cart and were taking him to the hospital when the jeep reached them.

Apparently he had struck his nose in getting out of the plane, because it was bleeding when he hit the ground. His appearance led hospital attendants to believe he was a serious case. But they soon found that a few days rest was all he needed and they sent him back to his squadron in a tiny plane (used by Infantry units for reconnaissance) five days later.

FORT VALLEY GRADUATE

A product of the high school at Fort Valley (Ga.) N. and I. Institute (now a state college) in 1938, Morgan entered college at Tuskegee and played in the institute band 3½ years until he became a cadet in the Air Corps on February 24, 1942.

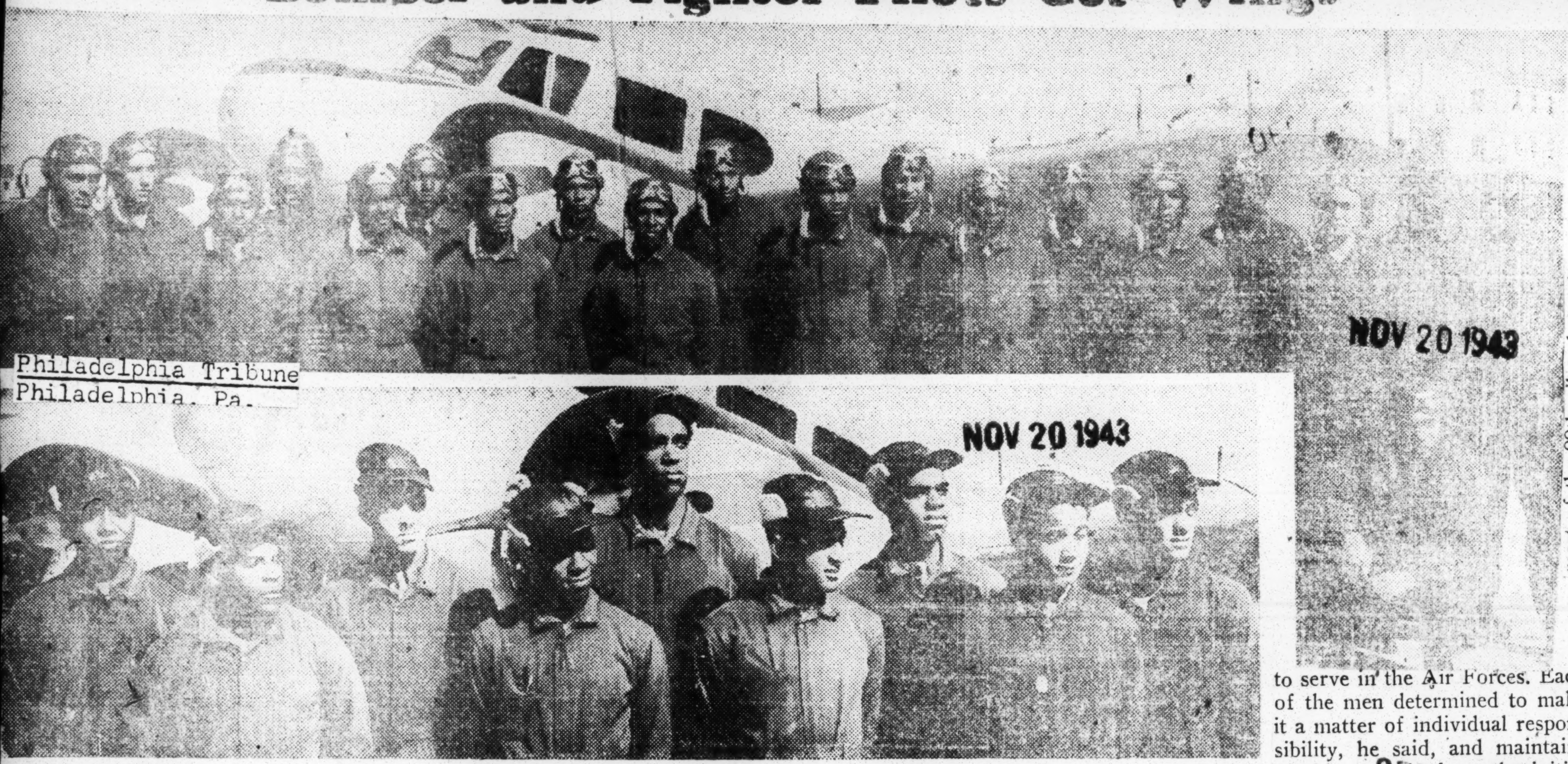
His flying also was started in the CPT course while he still was a student two [illegible] earlier. He was training with the [illegible] Fighter Group at Oscoda, Mich., when he was transferred and sent overseas to the 99th Squadron.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Morgan, 407 Jones street, Cartersville, Ga., with whom he makes his home. **His father is principal of the local high school.**

Bomber and Fighter Pilots Get Wings

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

NOV 20 1943



In the first graduation of its kind at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, fighter and bomber pilot trainees completed the prescribed course at the same time. It marks the first time in history that colored pilots have received their wings for other than fulfilling the rigid requirements of fighter pilots. The fighter pilots will g g through a transition period on the P-40 Warhawk (as in the past; whereas, the twin-engine graduates will leave for Mather Field, California, where they will be the first group of colored pilots to undergo Medium Bomber training in B-25's.

The Twin-Engine graduates, bottom picture, left to right, are: 2nd Lieutenants Herman R. Campbell, New York, N. Y., Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; P[illegible], Jr., Atlanta, Georgia; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, New Jersey; Haldane King, New York; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago, Illinois; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md., William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, California.

The Fighter Pilots, top picture, left to right are: 2nd Lieuts. Edward M. Thomas, Chicago, Illinois; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles W. Dickerson, New Rochelle, New York; James B. Brown, Los Angeles, California; William H. Thomas, Los Angeles, California; William H. Thomas, Los Angeles, California; NATHANIEL C. STEWART, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Carl E. Rayburg, Washington, D. C.; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Alfred W. Carrol, Washington, D. C.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Alabama; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, New York; Oscar D. Hutton, Chicago, Illinois; Earl S. Sherrard, Columbus, Ohio; Roger B. Brown, Glenco, Illinois; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Emory L. Robbins, Chicago, Illinois; Gwynne W. Pierson, Oakland, California; Hugh S. Warner, New York, N. Y., and, at the far right, Paul C. Simmons, Detroit, Michigan.—TAAF Photograph.

Colored Flyers Beat Germans In Combat

Philadelphia, Pa.
Philadelphia Tribune

SEP 18 1943

Commanding the nation's first all-Negro Army Air Force Unit, the 99th Fighter Squadron, now in the European theatre, Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., today called on everybody to back the Third War Loan.

His comment was made at a War Department press conference arranged in Washington for him.

Just back from the fighting fronts, Colonel Davis said that "all of us would like to feel that everyone back in this country is supporting the war effort to the utmost. One way we can do this is buying War Bonds."

"I can tell you that the men of my squadron and my other comrades at the front are just as interested in what you are doing back here, as you are in what they are doing over there. They are hit[illegible] hard—all of them, of all races, colors and creeds. To follow through, there is one big thing those at home can do. That is to "Back The Attack" with War Bonds. I earnestly hope every Negro in America will do his part in the Third War Loan to keep the faith with our fighting men over there."

Representatives of more than a score of Negro newspapers were present to greet, listen to, and question the young commanding officer of the pioneer Negro air unit.

Accompanied by his wife and his father, the Army's highest ranking Negro officer, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., Col. Davis, who has seen action in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, spent nearly an hour commenting on the experiences, morale and accomplishments of the officers and men who sailed from the United States with him on April 15.

He said that the personnel of the 99th realized the great responsibility they bore to prove that Negro fliers are physically, psychologically and morally fit to serve in the Air Forces. Each of the men determined to make it a matter of individual responsibility, he said, and maintained this attitude from the initial training stages through subsequent actual combat assignments. The Colonel expressed his belief that these pioneer combat fliers have now firmly established the Negro's ability as a competent aerial fighter.

Colonel Davis said the 99th received the best training, care, and equipment that could be given. He said criticisms from some sources regarding the segregated training school at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, where the 99th was activated, were heard. But, he pointed out, as an individual airfield and training unit, Tuskegee provided the men of the 99th with a calibre of training which enabled them to pave the way for colored fliers and prove to the world that they are capable of doing a highly technical job in a competent and satisfactory manner.

The 99th was described as an "experiment." Every man was imbued with the philosophy that he would "go through any ordeal to insure the successful conclusion of the 'experiment'."

Treatment accorded the squadron here and abroad was excellent, according to the commanding officer.

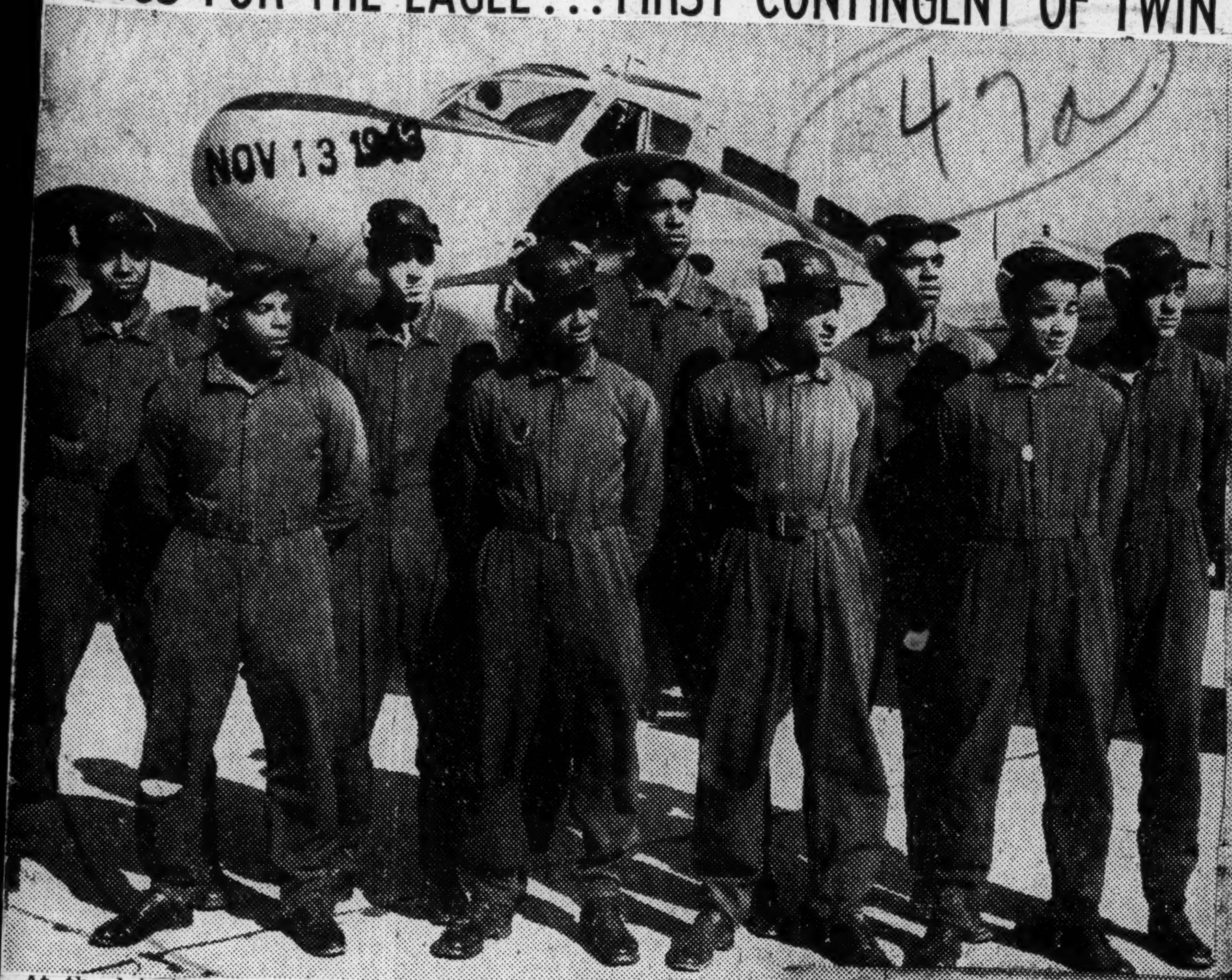
After further training in Ca
ablanca and other African st
tions, the unit was given its fir
combat assignment — a di
bombing mission over Pantel
ria. Each 99th pilot went on t
first trip with an average of 2
flying hours in a P-40 [illegible] ha
plane. This was an advan ag
Other missions followed with
minimum of losses. Col. Dav
named First Lieut. Sherm
White of Montgomery, Ala.
and Second Lieut. James L. McCullough of St. Louis, Mo., among the men missing.

His unit is credited with having destroyed 1 enemy plane, scored three probables, and damaged three others. The 99th has engaged in over 800 sorties since going abroad.

In explaining the Oak Leaf Air Medal he wears, Col. Davis pointed out that it is given to all pilots who go on a specified number of missions. He said most of the 99th pilots have the medal.

47a-1943

WINGS FOR THE EAGLE... FIRST CONTINGENT OF TWIN ENGINE PILOTS GRADUATE FROM TUSKEGEE



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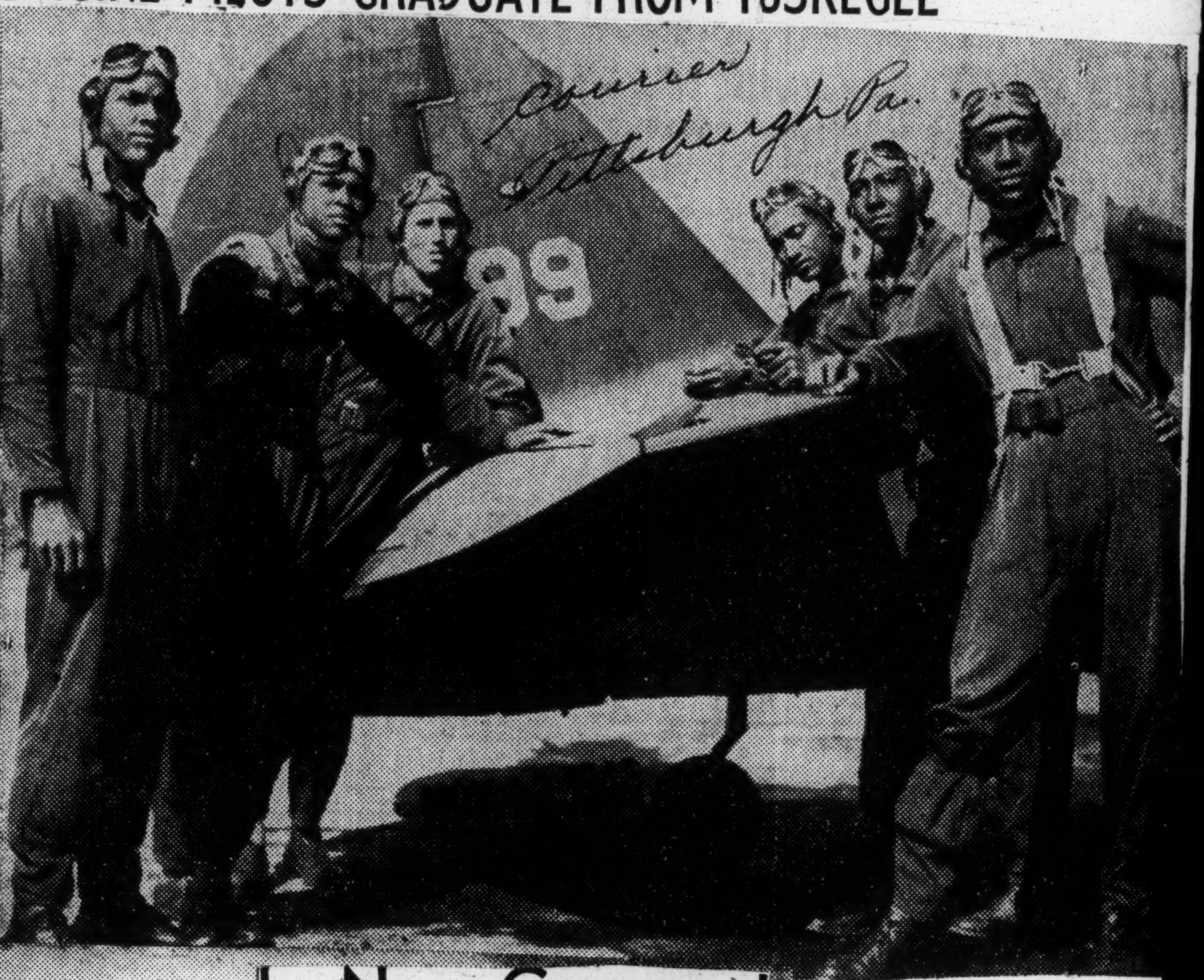


Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

At the latest graduation exercises held last Wednesday morning, November 3, at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, the first class of twin engine pilot trainees received their wings and commissions signifying completion of the first phase of their training toward becoming bomber pilots. After a short leave of [illegible] they will en[illegible] for Mather Field, Calif., to undergo transitional training in B-25 (Mitchell) medium bombers.

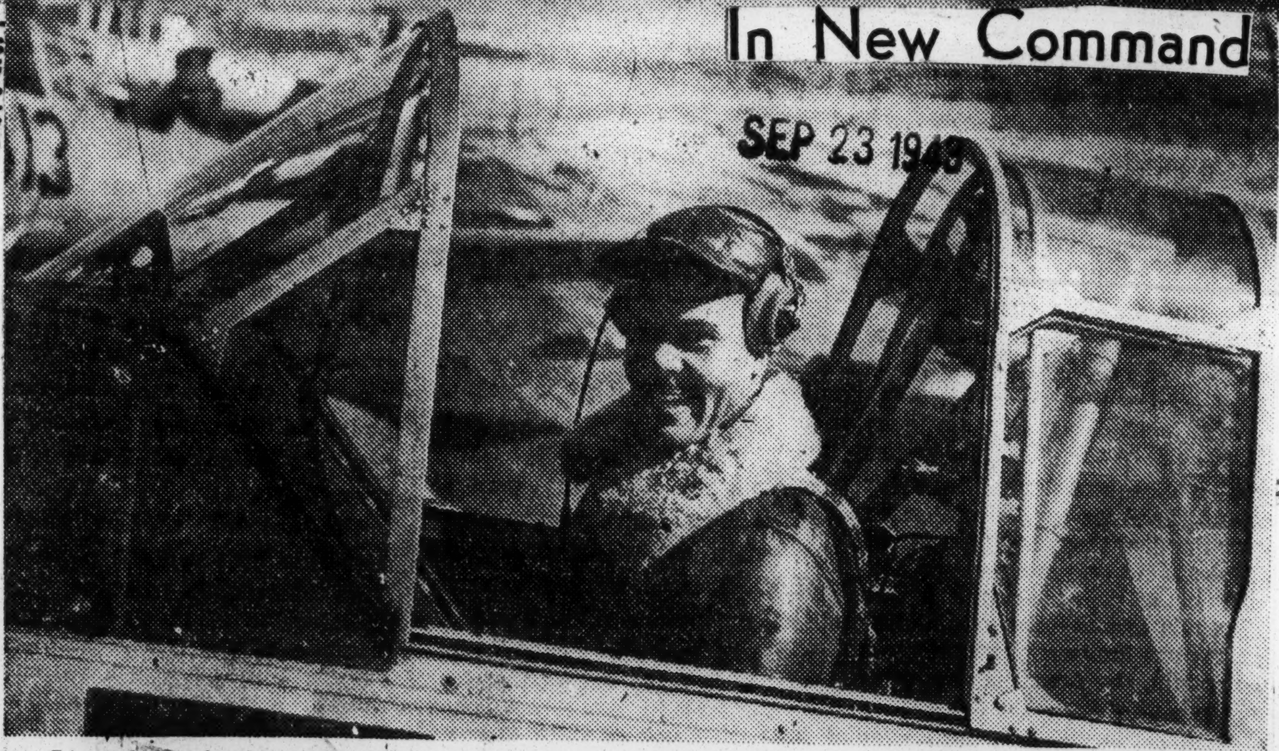
NOV 3 1943

The recently commissioned second lieutenants, reading from left to right, are: Herman R. Campbell, New York, N. Y.; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Perry Hudson, Jr., Atlanta Ga.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; Maldane King, Jamaica, N. Y.; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago, Ill.; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass., and Leslie A. Williams of San Mateo, Calif.

Grouped around the tail assemblage of a P-40 Warhawk are six recently commissioned second lieutenants, graduates of the Tuskegee Army Air Field. The youthful flying officers were snapped as they awaited their turn to solo the famous single-seater fighter.

The officers, reading from left to right, are: Second Lieuts. Edward Laird, Brighton; Ala.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Earl S. Sherrard, Columbus, Ohio, and Turner Payne, of Wichita Falls, Texas.—Photo by TAAF.

In New Command



Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who assumes command of the 332nd Fighter Command, Selfridge Field, Mich., after having trained the 99th Fighter Squadron at Tuskegee, Ala., and taken it into combat in North Africa and Sicily. This photo was made when he was a captain in training at the Alabama airfield.

Air Service Command Dispay At The "Back The Attack Show"

SEP 25 1943

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala

Press Photo Service
SEP 25 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War visits Army Show in Washington. Photo shows: left to right, Mrs. Ruth A. Corbin, of the Middleton, Pa., Air Depot demonstrating the repair of aircraft instruments, Truman Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War and Miss Doris J. Walker of the Middletown Air Depot, who is demonstrating Gyro instrument repair as a part of the Air Service Command display at the War Show. —(Press Photo Service)

SEP 25 1943

'Airplane Hospital' Is Manned By Our Boys

Courier Pittsburgh Pa NOV 13 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU, Courier War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN SICILY—Attached to our famous fighter squadron is an "airplane hospital" manned by Negroes. It is the first of its kind in American military history. Although its work is of a highly important nature, it has been all but obscured by the success and glam[illegible] of the [illegible]er flying outfit. The "hospital" is officially known as a service detachment. It uses the same numerical designation as the squadron and is atatched to it for orders. But it is a complete self-sustaining unit with a commander of its own, Capt. Elmer D. Jones, Jr., of Washington, D. C.

The service detachment acts as the squadron's clearing house for airplanes, supplies, spare parts and takes care of major repairs which the squadron's engineering department is not equipped to handle. It also does salvage work on wrecked planes.

Captain Jones is also engineering officer of the squadron's service detachment. Its technical supply officer is Ist. Lt. Thomas N. Malone, of Detroit, Mich.

HOWARD GRADUATE

Captain Jones holds a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Howard university. He was one of the two Negro engineering cadets to be graduated in October, 1941, at Chanute Field, Ill. He was then assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying School where he was commissioned in December[illegible]

NOV 13 1943

Lieut. M[illegible], te[illegible] supply officer for the detachment, was formerly a Detroit school teacher. He is a 1941 graduate from the Air Corps Administration School at Miami, Fla.

THREE SECTIONS

The detachment is organized into three sections, administrative, engineering and supply. The first section, under Staff Sgt. Edward M. Hartgrove, of New York City, prepares and maintains all records.

The detachment engineering section takes up where the flying squadron's engineering section leaves off. This section is under Tech. Sgt. William E. Surcey, of Jacksonville, Fla.

The technical section, under Tech. Sgt. Charles D. Minor, Jr., of Wheeling, W. Va., handles flying equipment. airplane parts, tools, hardware and greases. It maintains a constant stock from which the flying squadron draws.

PERSONNEL ROSTER

The personnel roster includes the following m[illegible]

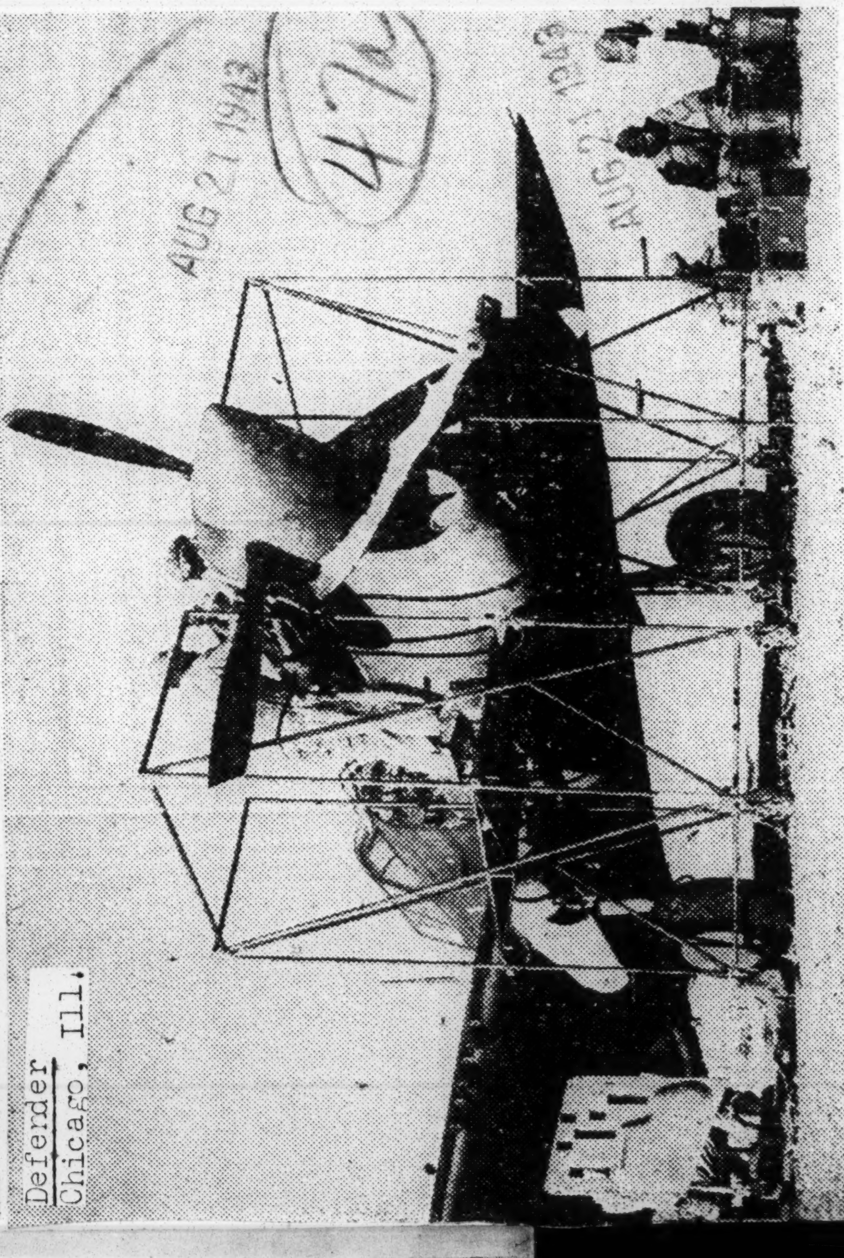
NOV 13 1943

STAFF SERGEANTS—Hugh H. Holmes, Atlanta, Ga.; Ernest Nelson, Champaign, Ill.; Walter E. Turner, Los Angeles, Calif.; James A. Webb, Champaign, Ill.; David D. Wormley, Plainfield, N. J.

LINE SERGEANTS—Edgar T. Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.; Leslie H. Devall, Port Arthur, Texas; Nathan Mumford, Cliffwood, N. J.; Ardra Norman, Waco, Texas; Harold O'Neal, Vaux Hall, N. J.; Eddie Phillips, Kern, Texas; Robert O. Scott, Newark, N. J.; Perry M. Tucker, New Rochelle, N. Y., and Walter E. Vaughn, New York, N. Y.

CORPORALS—John V. Borders, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John J. Randolph, Orange, N. J.; Roland R. Roulette, New York City; Fritz A. Squires, Brooklyn, N. Y., and John M. Laguna, New York City.

PRIVATES (all grades—Herbert H. Boston, New York City; Edward Bush, Lakewood, N. J.; Brew O. Graham, Columbus, Ohio; James E. Green, Gadsden, Ala.; Lloyd F. Thompson, Brooklyn, N.Y.; William Hill, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Aaron B. Loggins, Chicago, Ill.; Louis W. Skinner, New York City, and Richard Trollinger, Tuckahoe, N. Y.


AUG 21 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Between sorties against the enemy, the 99th's sturdy P-40 planes get a going-over by the expert ground crews. Here are mechanics tuning up a plane after a flight.

47a-1943

Lt. Lawson Came Home on Half Wing and a Prayer

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Former Tuskegee Flyer Says Germans Don't Stand and Fight Any More

NOV 6 1943

By DOUGLASS HALL

NEWTON, Va. — "Coming Home on a Wing and a Prayer" is a pretty safe business, but what happens to a flyer when he has only a prayer and half a wing left? Lt. Walter Lawson, member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, knows the answer because he had that experience in North Africa. While escorting a bomber on a mission over enemy territory, Lieutenant Lawson was attacked by a group of German planes. He dived into them! When it was all over, he had only half a wing left and a plane whose motor was not running none too well.

Lt. Lawson

His Closest Call

"I headed for home," Lieutenant Lawson stated, "flying low. The plane did not have the power to climb very high. I had my fingers crossed and I prayed — hoping that I would not meet the enemy flyers again. I did not and arrived home safe."

That was Lieutenant Lawson's closest call. Soldiering was no bed of roses for the boys in North Africa, he said, but he wouldn't take a million dollars for his experiences.

Germans Hit and Run

"Never at any time were the boys afraid," the lieutenant added, "they like to engage the enemy planes in dog fights, but that is almost something of the past. The Germans no longer stand and fight; they strike hard and run.

"But when one sails through the skies en route to a target," he stated, "there is a terrible feeling that comes over him. Behind every roll of cloud enemy planes seem to be lurking. It is the unknown that bothers us — not the known.

"Let them come out and fight—man to man, plane to plane — and the war will soon be over. But, no, they lurk in the clouds and fall down when you least expect."

332nd Air Group Said Near Peak

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 16 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—With a smart array of new equipment, elements of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field are fast attaining their training peak, the War Department announced this week.

Lieutenant Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., Air Corps, has assumed command of the group.

NEW EQUIPMENT

Included in the new equipment are P-39s (commonly called the Airacobra), P-47s and P-40s. The P-40 will be remembered as the tough air arm that brought much recognition to Lieutenant Colonel Davis' 99th Fighter Squadron in the African campaign. The 99th Fighter Squadron is presently serving in Italy.

New camera equipment has been provided for use in firing practice to step up accuracy with the .50 calibre machine gun. The Army has also provided improved installations on the firing range at Oscoda, sub-base of Selfridge Field.

Many pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group have been referred to as "naturals" by instructors and superiors when describing the manner in which they operate the P-39. The Airacobra, with its 1,150-horsepower Allison engine mounted behind the pilot, has established an enviable reputation in combat.

There has also been a step-up in flying hours at the field. Formerly reported as between 400 and 500 hours a week, the flying time now accomplished by pilots in training totals above 2,000 hours a week.

CROWNED TUSKEGEE QUEEN

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

MRS. ROSE LYNN LANE

Wife of Lieut. Allen Gaston Lane, now stationed with the Negro fighter squadron in North Africa, was recently crowned "Miss Tuskegee Army Air Field" by popular acclaim of the entire personnel of this station. Mrs. Lane is a graduate of the latest class of Tuskegee institute where she received her B.S. degree. At the prsent time she is employed in the Post Signal office. She is the daughter of Prof. and Mrs. J. T. Williamson of Tuskegee institute, Ala.

99th Flyers Make Post-War Pledge In Italy's Mud

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

DEC 29 1943

Absence Of Race Friction Between Squadrons There

ARMY FIGHTER BASE, ITALY — (ANP)— With 1,156 misions to their credit members of the 99th pursuit squadron made a group resolution recently to remain with the army air force after the war if their services were wanted, a report from the Italian front revealed.

Despite bad flying weather in Italy, 20 members of the fighting 99th, who were in readiness to make an immediate take off on an assignment of destruction, are reported to have pledged their post-war services to the army in the sticky mud of the Italian mainland.

ABSENCE OF FRICTION

An absolute absence of race friction exists between members of the 99th and other squadrons, reported Capt. Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Ind. America's first colored flyer to down a Nazi plane.

"They invite us to come over and fly with them," he said, "and we invite them to fly with us." Capt. Hall revealed that white and colored flyers get together just for bull sessions."

That the 99th is an experimental air arm of the army air force was brought out by Capt. Rodney Curtis, 25, ground operations officer of Hartford, Conn., and a graduate of Harvard University.

PART OF EXPERIMENT

"This has been a great opportunity for us," he declared. We knew it when they opened up the air forces to us back in July, 1941, before Pearl Harbor. We knew that we were an experiment, that the future of colored men who thought they should be permitted to fly for their country depended upon us.

"We think we've proved ourselves, We've fought in Africa, in Sicily and now in Italy. We've carried out every assignment given to us.

Poised within eight minutes by air from the Nazi lines, the 99th has engaged in divebombing and strafing; has served as bomber escort and patrol and has supported ground troops on 1,156 missions of battle.

College Group Rated "Very Satisfactory"

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

NOV 20 1943

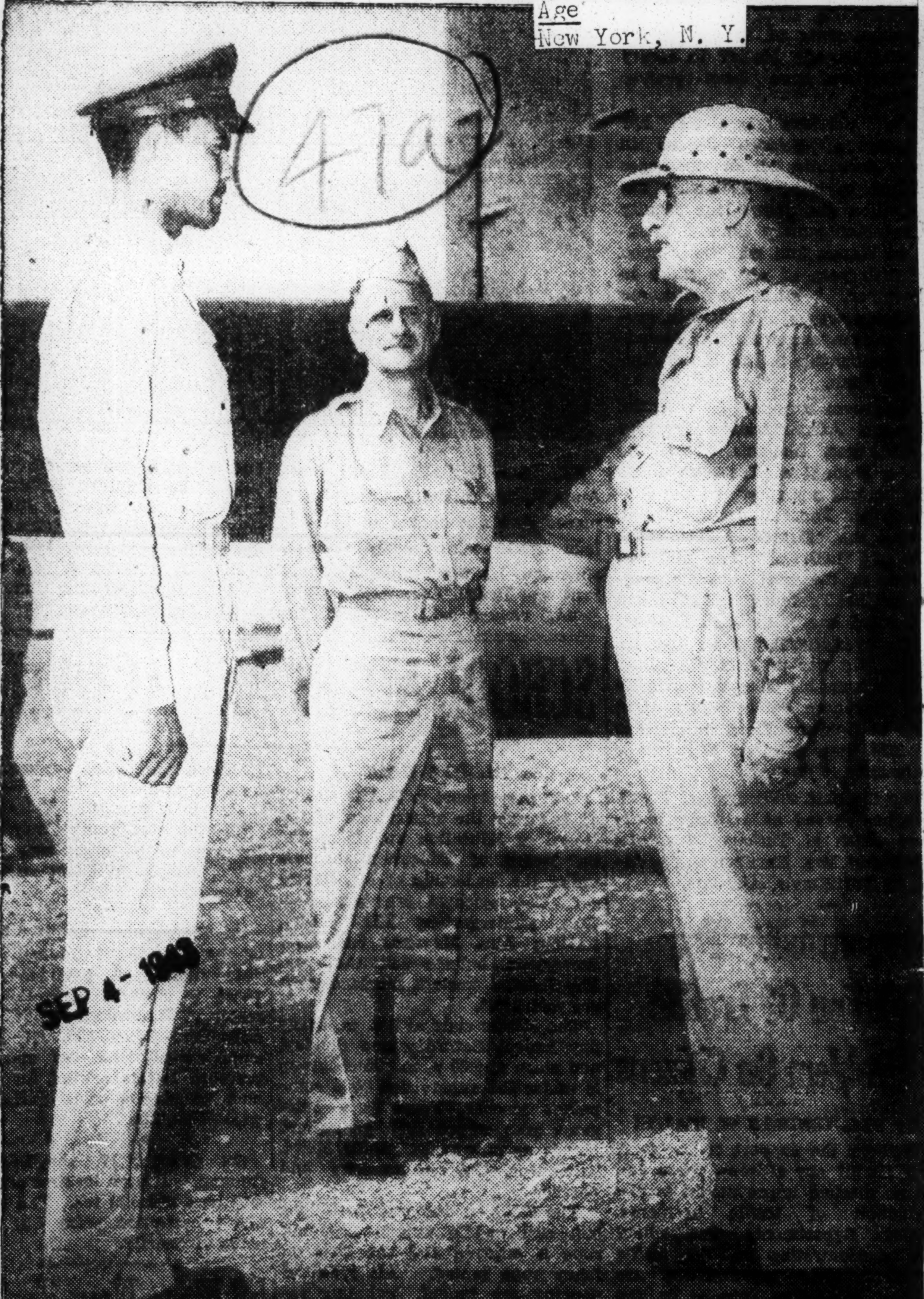
TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Following the annual inspection by the Inspector General's representatives, the 320th College Training Detachment (Aircrew), located at Tuskegee Institute Alabama, received a rating of very satisfactory.

This inspection was but the first of a series of surprises in a period of unexpected developments in the history of the organization. The next day, two of the junior officers, Lt. Walter H. English, Adjutant, Washington, D. C., and Lt. Eugene P. White, Nashville, Tenn., tactical officer, received their promotion to the rank of first lieutenant. A few days later the commanding officer, Capt. Theodore H. Randall, just as he was leaving headquarters for a short leave to his home in Indianapolis, Ind., was greeted with his promotion to captain.

Secretary Of War Visits 99th Fighter Squadron

Age
New York, N. Y.

47a



SEP 4 - 1943

Bureau of Public Relations U. S. War Department

SECRETARY OF WAR VISITS THE 99TH FIGHTER SQUADRON—Mr. Stimson is pictured here talking with Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer of the unit. Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz Commander of the Northwest African Air Forces, is seen in the background. (Northwest African Air Forces Photo.)

SEP 4 1943

SEP 4 1943

Age
New York, N. Y.

Directs Physical Training

AUG 7 1943
AUG 7 1943

FIRST LIEUT JOHN T. BRACKEN

Lt. John T. Bracken Physical Coach At Army Air Base

47b

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — First Lieut. John T. Bracken, director of Physical Training, Army Air Forces, 66th Army Primary, Moton Field, Tuskegee, Alabama.

Lieut. Bracken is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, having received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education in 1938. From 1934 to 1937 he played tacke on the Golden Tiger football team and figured conspicuously in many of the most thrilling games during that period.

AUG 7 1943

For two years after his graduation he taught General Science and Biology and served as director of athletics and physical training at the Tuskegee Institute High School.

AUG 7 1943

In July, 194[illegible] received [illegible] civil service appointment as assistant director of physical training, Southeastern Air Corps Training Center, being the first Colored appointee in the Air Forces training program and was assigned to duty at Tuskegee Institute where he has been stationed since date of appointment. In June, 1942, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Air Forces and assigned to duty as physical instructor. Lieut. Bracken was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant in April, 1943.

He is the son of Mrs. Nettey Bracken, [illegible] California Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

AUG 7 1943

Ex-Northwestern Star Gets Air Corps Wings

Philadelphia, Pa.

Philadelphia Tribune

SEP 18 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. —Far removed from the scenes of his past athletic prowess, Aviation Cadet Bernard Jefferson, former Northwestern University grid star, returned to the limelight August 30, at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Instead of cavorting before a stadium-filled mass of pigskin fans, he stood on the stage of the Post Theatre calmly awaiting the presentation of gold bars and silver wings, emblematic of a flying officer in the Army Air Forces.

SEP 10 1943

SEP 18 1943

As Lt. Jefferson walked off the stage, the thoughts of many persons in that audience must

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Earns Commission

2nd LT. LOUIS BALLARD

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, ALA.—Second Lieut. Louis C. Ballard, who was commissioned from the Air Corps Administration Officers' -Candidate School of Miami Beach, Fla., on July 24, 1943, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He was inducted into the Army on October 31, 1942.

Lt. Ballard, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ballard of
3918 north Smedley street, burg, Va., is married to the
Philadelphia, Pa., received former Miss Ruth N. Book-
his Bachelor of Science de- er of Atlantic City, N. J. He
gree from Virginia State Cal- is a member of the Omega
ege in 1939, and his Master Psi Phi fraternity.
of Science degree from the
University of Michigan in
1940.
The former physical edu-
cation instructor of Bruton
Height School, Williams-

47a-1943

Force Pilots To Fly Contrary To Rules

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

OCT 2 1943

(Editor's Note: There are those in authority in the United States Army who are doing all in their power to disrupt the morale of colored servicemen. Even colored commissioned officers have no rights which white enlisted men are bound to respect. We publish below in full a letter to the editor received from a Lieutenant at Selfridge Field, Mich., where a court martial recently demoted from Colonel to Captain an officer who had shot a colored private while a Lieutenant Colonel was ordered dismissed for being drunk.)

I want the public t know the problems that confronts me and every other fighter pilot in the 332nd Fighter Sq. now training at the Selfridge and other Air Bases n Michigan.

All of us were originally trained at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Tuskegee, Ala., and much of the South "nigger discipline" has been carried over into the groups by men (white) appointed as supervisors of the fighter training, but who in reality do nothing more than put in their required hours for flight pay and make life miserable for the Negro personnel of this "all Negro" fighter Sq. Throughout we have had an extremely trying time bringing this group out as a worthwhile fighting body, because of the many newborn and further unheard of "administrative" restrictions placed on our activities without regard for our personal feelings or morale.

For example Here, as no where else in the army, we, a group of officers, are required to be in our beds at 10 o'clock each night for a bed check and report each morning for a roll call (another enlisted men's process) in the company street to determine if everyone is present. This is done when a sheels on the flying line would suffice.

White enlisted men pass us by with smiles on their faces as we stand in these formations. We couldn't walk to the line as they do, so we must go in formation. No white officer on the field would submit to such treatment, but we dare not object.

If we wish to leave the flight line between the hours of 0730 and 2030 we must ask our white "supervisors" if we can leave. Generally we average 4 1-2 to 6 hours a day flying, but yet we are required to spend the rest of our hours in the ready rooms, on some supervised activity when we could use those hours to advantage in the conduct of little personal things. The little inconveniences in themselves don't even mean so much, but it's the ever present underlying inference that we are children, incapable of governing ourselves on our time without their fatherly guidance.

For most of us who, like myself, are aggressive individuals, capable of living competitive, free lives, this southern aggression theory is infuriating and is only serving to retard the progress of the groups and lessen our desire for any contact with the enemy.

We have flown in every type of weather, fogs and hazes so thick that you could hardly see all the ships in the formation; yet we were required to fly because our "white supervisors," who show utterly no regard for our safety, have said the weather was O. K. Lieutenant Hill and Blakenly (Editor's note: Both killed flying) are no longer with us because of just such a thing. We have been brought up under a different set of rules from that governing White Air Force Cadets.

We have been forced to take up ships when sometimes we didn't feel we could bring them back. White pilots aren't so forced. We have been forced to fly when we as pilots, feel that the ship's maintenance record (Form A) didn't guarantee a safe flight, but when a white line Sergeant has said that the ship's O. K. White pilots aren't so forced, regulations state it shouldn't be done, unless a pilot feels he cares to accept the responsibility of the plane. Regardless of how we feel, after putting in 4 1-2 to 6 hours a day, we haven't the privilege extended Army Air Force Pilots to refuse another flight. For us there is no such privilege. We can never say, as white pilots can, "I just don't feel like going up." Now we as Negroes have never advanced beyond the slave stage. We just never appreciate life unless we are being dogged to trampled on, I suppose

The thing I am writing you about today is something that arose because one of our pilots wished to make use of his rights as laid down in Army regulations, but who was made, or is rather being made, an "example" of by our good white fathers.

Every pilot in the Army Air Forces is given a PIF (Pilot's Information File) for his information and guidance.

It specifically tells him to refuse to take any ship into the air if, either because of mechanical, or physical reasons, he feels he can't bring it back. Evidently this doesn't apply to us because we have just recently had 2nd Lieutenant Leroy Bowman of the 332nd Fighting Sq. court martialed and awarded a dishonorable discharge and federal confinement for refusal to take up a P-40 back into the air on a night flight for 20 more minutes after he had flown 5 1-2 hours that same day.

Lieutenant Davis is not with us now because he went back around "just one more time," for one of our dead supervisors when he didn't feel like it

Lieutenant Bowman did not feel like going back up again, but his personal feelings weren't to be considered in a matter of this nature; he would have to fly the other twenty minutes. Lieutenant Bowman refused to fly and now he finds a verdict imposed on him that has been positively unheard of in the history of the Army Air Forces. The case is now before the First Air Force Reviewing Authority at Mitchell field, New York, with the approbation of that worthy and just body of army officials all that is needed to make the findings of this court effective.

A case of similar nature, for a white pilot, whom never have been referred to any court, but rather placed before the Flying Evaluation for decision. The thing is naturally important to each of us as fighter pilots in the Air Force. We can't sit idly by and see this man crucified, his whole life wrecked, especially when we know it's all to "keep us in line."

You as a Negro leader know what thought plague us all, you know what desires fill our breasts. You know what a thing of this type will do, in the wake of all the other indignities we-ve had to suffer. You know how devastating a factor these consistent assaults against us can be to our fighting efficiency, and in our more sober moments we know that we don't want that. We wan.t and are trying as best we can, to prevent a rupture of our fighting effectiveness. We know their aim is to make it appear that we weren't worth a damn after this thing is over. We don't want that. But if these things persist mayb their effort will be telling.

In our inabilities to act as a potent striking force we appeal to the N.A.A.C.P. through you, as our only means of combating this miscarriage of justice. We We know that the NAACP has met more prejudice Boards of Reviewers with success; and we feel confident and pray that your efforts in our behalf will be met with equal success. We find it hard to fight against Tyranny in the midst of Tyranny.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Americans and British Cheer Unhurt Pilot

Motor and Propeller Undamaged, Only Wing Tip Is Bent

3 FLYERS OF 99th ORDERED HOME

Two Others Earn Promotion to First Lieutenant

NOV 20 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ALLIED AIR BASE, Italy (By Cable) — In his last flight before departing for the United States, Lt. Herbert V. Clark, Little Rock, Ark., symbolized the spirit of the entire 99th Squadron during its seven months overseas by landing his crippled plane on one wheel without harm to himself and only minor damage to his ship.

Displaying unusual coolness and skill in the dangerous maneuver, Lt. Clark had pilots, mechanics and the ambulance crew on their toes as he returned from a dive bombing mission with one wheel dangling and the other so securely folded that it could not be lowered. The pilot had a choice of retracting the dangling wheel so that a crash landing might be made on the ship's belly. Instead, he chose the seldom-seen one-wheel landing.

Circling the field twice, he came in low at reduced speed and gently set the ship down on one wheel in the center of the runway. He held the ship upright until it had almost stopped, then let it flop on one wing and turn slowly around like a wounded bird. When Lt. Clark walked away from his plane, a shout went up from the Americans and British.

Trying to Save Motor

The motor and propeller were unhurt; only a wing tip bent.

Said Clark:

"I decided to try it on one wheel to save the motor. It's a sweet running ship, and every plane and motor counts around here. I had never tried it before but I figured it could be done."

Next morning, Lt. Clark informed me that he and two others had been ordered back to the States to join Colonel B. O. Davis. The others are Bill Campbell, Tuskegee, and Spann Watson, Hackensack.

Said Lt. Clark: "I had a feeling something wonderful was about to happen; that's why I had to be careful with my one-wheel landing. I could not go home all bandaged up."

Two in Squadron Promoted

Promoted from second to first lieutenant are P. D. Rice, 45 Elmwood ,Avenue, Montclair, N.J. and Henry B. Perry, Thomasville, Ga.

NOV 20 1943

Perry, son of the Rev. Robert Perry, has a brother overseas and was teaching at Littleton, N.C., before entering the air corps.

Rice has three brothers, Capt. Deval Rice, chaplain in the Pacific area; Robert Rice, at Me

harry; and James Rice, teacher at Salem, N.J. His wife is the former Harriet Salter of Atlantic City. His father is Converse Rice, and he has two sisters, Dura Rice, *Y secretary at Portland, Ore.*, and Mrs. Delabien Blacken, 827 Avenue A. Norfolk, Va.

Americus, Ga. Recorder
November 15, 1943

Great Rally Of Negroes To Be Held Thursday

The greatest rally of negroes ever held in Sumter county is scheduled for this Thursday when the Tuskegee Army Air Base band comes to Americus *in the interest* of the War Bond sale. County schools will close for the day Negro city schools will close at 11 o'clock in order that the students may take part in the parade and the bond rally.

The band and visiting negro leaders will be entertained at a barbecue to be held at the baseball park. The bond rally and concert is scheduled for 3 o'clock in the afternoon at the ball park.

Committees were appointed at a *meeting of negro county* teachers and negro farmers board Saturday afternoon. Final arrangements will be made at a meeting to be held Wednesday evening at 7:30.

D. R. Burleigh, chairman of the finance committee is urging the captains who worked in the community chest drive to make a house to house canvass in the bond campaign. Charles Brown is chairman of the parade committee.

Committees appointed Saturday to serve with the Central Planning committee follow:

Steering Committee—Jury Clarke, Bonnie Harris, Tom Broner, E. D. Simpson.

Entertaining Committee—Henry Harris, J. H. Corley, Eli Foster, Bouie Paschal, Lewis Limbrick, J. S. Nelson, Lonza Ware.

Parade Committee—J. T. Dowdell, Essie Perry, Emory Williams Ernest Wiggins, Lenzie Wiley.

Program Committee—Reed Hosten, Oscar Bell.

Finance Committee—Emory Williams, Oscar Bell, Eli Foster, Tom Broner, Reed Hosten, J. T. Dowdell, Henry Harris, Jury Clark J. H. Smith, Willie West.

Decorating Committee — Jury Clark, J. R. Jackson, Pearl Jackson. Angeline Smith.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

99th. Squadron In Big Sicily Battle

Washington.—The 99th Pursuit squadron is now based in Sicily and in the middle of the hot battle to clear the Axis armies off the Mediterranean island at the tip of the Italian boot, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson revealed this week.

Stimson also announced that Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the all-Negro squadron, flew from the Sicily base to North Africa for a conference with him during the Secretary's recent tour abroad.

What was discussed Stimson did not reveal.

The presence of the 99th in Sicily and the conference with Lt. Col. Davis were disclosed during a discussion by the Secretary of War of his trip abroad. He said he had made the trip for a double purpose—to see the troops at first hand and to confer on the ground with leaders of the war effort. He declared he wanted the troops to know that those responsible for their welfare had not forgotten them.

In England, Stimson said, he saw ground troops, both white and Negro, in a training program that never lets up.

"The men have fitted in very well," he declared. "Everywhere, I saw evidence of allied unity."

He said he inspected one of the Negro units in England with General Lee. "I found a very interesting situation. The units are working very vigorously and were co-operating and getting along very well with all other units," he said.

When asked by a Negro press representative whether this meant he had expected that they would not be getting along well with other troops, he reddened, raised his voice, and answered: "I've been asked that question many times before by you gentlemen, and I thought I would anticipate it."

In Africa, where Stimson said he conferred with air generals in Tunisia, he said he saw an engineering unit of Negroes which had first been stationed in Liberia. They had performed very valuable work in construction and repair jobs on airports for the Sicily invasion, he declared.

He indicated there were some Quartermaster troops with the landing forces in the Sicily invasion, and that there are now some Negro anti-air-craft units in Sicily.

49a

Dignitaries At Tuskegee V. D. Graduation

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 7 1943

One of the most far-reaching and "vital to victory" graduation exercises yet to be held at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was that of the last Venereal Disease Control Class which recently finished the prescribed course at this station.

Great significance may be attached to this graduation as it was the climax to months of hard work done by Lt. Col. George McDonald, founder of the V. D. Control program now used throughout the Army Air Forces.

In recognition of the importance of the occasion, Col. D. D. Fitzgerald, Chief of Staff, Eastern Flying Training Command, the personel representative of Maj. General T. E. Hanley, Commanding General of the EFTC, delivered the principal address to the graduates.

Discussing Lt. Col. McDonald's work are (l. to r.) Capt. E. Brown Singleton; Lt. Col. McDonald, Dir. of the V. D. Control School; Lt. Col. Richard Cumming, Post Surgeon; Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer, TAFF; and Col. D. D. Ftiz Gerald, Chief of Staff, EFTC.

Photo by AAF Training Command

DEC 7 1943

Hint Negro Instructors For Tuskegee Air Field

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Negro pilots, members of the last class to graduate from the Tuskegee army air field, are to be returned there as instructors, according to rumors current here. They will replace white instructors who are to be assigned elsewhere.

There have previously been no Negro instructors at the army airfield, although flying teachers are used in primary training and at Moton field, Tuskegee, where secondary training is given.

It has also been learned that the 332nd fighter group, in training at Selfridge field, Mich., has been assigned to the first army air corps based in New York. This unit, composed of three squadrons, is understood to be complete with a full complement of ground crew, etc. All the pilots are graduates of the Tuskegee Army air school and Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., recently recalled from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Pursuit squadron, is expected to command the 332nd.

Cadets Learn To Fly Twin Engine Craft

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Get Some Training At Tuskegee; Then To Be Transferred

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The second dream of air-minded Negro youth of today materialized into a reality, as twin engine training officially started last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

OCT 16 1943

With the advent of the first all-Negro fighter squadron to combat, in single engine P-40 Warhawks, the question immediately arose as to the possibility of an all-Negro bomber squadron.

The question was answered when the War Department sanctioned the training of Negro cadets in the arduous task of becoming multi-engine pilots, here at the home of the first all-Negro fighter pilot squadron now engaged in deadly combat over the war torn skies of Europe.

ALBRIGHT HEADS SCHOOL

Selected to head this new school, the first of its kind anywhere in the world, is Major Clay Albright, the man who has taught every Negro fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces today, how to fly fighter aircraft. Lieutenant Milton B. Hall, Owensboro, Ky., is assisting in an administrative capacity. Instructors of the newly formed school are 1st Lieutenant Leonard B. Crozier and 2nd Lieutant Robert B. Meagher.

Pilot trainees for twin engine training here will be selected from the Upper Basic class of cadets. They are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training here and then transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin engine course here, is the AT-10 BH (Beechcraft). This plane is referred to as an "assimilated loaded bomber," as its altitude in flight is comparable to that of a medium bomber with a load of bombs. All the ingenuity and skill required of a bomber pilot is necessary in flying the AT-10 trainer.

For the highly technical job of maintenance, instructors from Turner Field, Ga., have been attached here to familiarize our mechanics in the fundamental knowledge of keeping these ships aloft.

47a-1943

Text Of Lt. Col. Davis' Statement

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

I put down a few notes here simply for the reason that I would like to present some facts in as orderly a manner as I can. I am not prepared to make any set speech here this morning, but I would prefer to refer to these notes so that the story will be told in a comprehensive manner.

I have had the honor and the pleasure of commanding the 99th Fighter Squadron from August 27, 1942, until September 2, 1943. During that period I saw 27 pilots and 250-odd enlisted men develop from a relatively untrained state to a combat team of which anyone serving with the organization could justly be proud. I said that I had the pleasure to command this unit—actually that pleasure was realized only when it became apparent that the 99th Fighter Squadron had taken and could maintain its proper place in the Northwest African Theater of Operations. Very little pleasure existed prior to that time.

Just what a Negro pilot in a P-40 would do when antiaircraft fire burst about his ship or when an enemy aircraft was strewing cannon shells and machine gun bullets about his cockpit was a matter that was really conjecture in the minds of some of these high-ranking officers in the AAF. The 99th Fighter Squadron therefore was an experiment to determine whether the Negro pilot was physically, mentally and emotionally suited to the rigors of combat flying. It is a very significant fact, I believe, that all members of this organization were impressed at all times with the knowledge that the future of the Negro in the Air Corps probably would be dependent largely upon the manner in which they carried out their mission. Hence, the importance of the work done by this squadron, the responsibility carried by every man be he ground crewman or pilot meant that very little pleasure was to be had by anyone until the experiment was deemed an unqualified success.

The 99th is a unique organization in the AAF. A large percentage of the enlisted corps was specially recruited from Negro colleges all over the United States and sent in a body to Chanute Field for training. The pilots, while not specially selected, had the advantage of going through all the stages of training with the best instructors, equipment and facilities that our Air Corps could provide. Outstanding officers of the Air Corps kept close and constant touch with the programs made by pilots and ground crews. Every effort was made by all concerned to insure that this unit would leave the zone of the interior equipped with every advantage that the Air Corps could provide.

In the meantime, the squadron received the attention of the press. When was the unit going to the combat zone? Why the delay? Much attention was directed toward the segregated aspects of the Tuskegee Airfield. This publicity had a profound effect upon the individual member of the 99th. The eyes of the nation were upon this organization. It was true that he felt hurt to find that his training station at Tuskegee Army Airfield was being regarded by some persons outside the military establishment as being a discriminatory setup. However, he had the good sense to realize that the best means he had to defeat the end of supporters and philosophers who relegated him to a subsidiary role in the life of the United States was to do his job in such a way that the world would know that he was capable of performing a highly specialized and technical piece of work in a creditable manner.

The fact that his unit was an experiment became a challenge to him, a challenge which he has answered, and one which would set up tendencies to many things that were unpleasant to him and others of his race. If any single spark could be credited with the measure of success so far achieved by this squadron, it is this philosophy which exists explicitly in the minds of this organization. Every man in the 99th will go through any ordeal concocted by combat or garrison existence to assure the successful completion of the experiment. At all times every man realizes that the pleasures and relaxations that are available to men in other organizations are not available to him because his task is far greater, his responsibility is much heavier and his reward is the advancement of his people.

Now it is necessary that I invite your attention to this philosophy in order that you may better understand the reactions of the individual officer and soldier of this organization.

I shall now relate to you our experience overseas. These same experiences would be indeed commonplace if they were related about a white fighter squadron. For this squadron every step was a dramatic one. I should like to state at the outset, and I consider this very important, that from the time this squadron left the continental limits of the United States, and that was on April 15, 1943, to the present time, there has not been a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader.

The first of the drama began the day before we sailed. The passenger list showed the transport commander that I was to be the senior line officer on board the transport. I was directed to pick a staff consisting of an adjutant, mess officer, police and prison officer, a provost marshal and then report to the transport commander as executive officer. This staff of colored officers carried out the orders and policies of the transport commander despite the fact that of the 4,000 troops on board, less than 15 per cent were colored. After the first 24 hours or so of curiosity and wonder at this unusual staff of the transport commander, everything proceeded smoothly and without incident for the remainder of the 8-day voyage.

During all this time the members of the squadron basked in the awe of the attention paid them by other soldiers on board and succeeded admirably in creating the impression that the colored pilot and colored soldier are not so very different after all.

It was here also that the entertainment section, which isn't in any Table of Organization, was born. This section, under the capable direction of the Acting Special Services officer, Lieutenant Letcher, went a long way toward effecting cordial public relations for the squadron. This entertainment section provided an excellent show for units within traveling range of all of our bivouac areas from the port of debarkation in Africa clear on through Sicily. Again the impression created in the minds of the audiences was that these men who were giving these shows are just about the same as the men in "my outfit," and this was not by accident because the men who participated in that show are intelligent men and they realized that at all times instead of just giving a show they were doing a job for the 99th.

Upon landing in Casablanca we were met by the Assistant A-3 of the Northwest Training Command, Colonel Allison, Air Corps. This officer, who is now on his way back to the States for a well-deserved rest, assured me that he would be available at all times for the solution of any problem that might arise.

The following day he took me and my operations officer, Captain Roberts, in to see General Camp who informed us that we would remain in the area until we would be satisfactorily equipped for combat and that we would not move into the combat zone until I felt that everything possible had been done in the way of preparation. He sent us on a preliminary reconnaissance of our new station, located about 150 miles inland. This station was located in French Morocco. Nearby was a service command station and the Commanding Officer of this station, Colonel Phillips, now in Sicily, was most cordial in his offers to ease any supply problems that might arise. There was also at this station a fighter bomber group commanded by Colonel Stevenson, whom I had the pleasure to know at the Academy. We moved to this station by a French train and covered 150 miles in about [illegible] hours, and when we com[illegible] about the slowness [illegible] train we were informe[illegible] we were lucky to move at such a fast rate of speed.

Our stay there was probably our most pleasant stay overseas. We were there about a month. Most cordial relations existed between the members of the squadron and the members of the fighter bomber group nearby. The pilots of the two organizations engaged in impromptu dogfights to determine the relative superiority of the P-40 and the A-36, and we were very happy to verify our belief that the P-40 was vastly superior in this phase of aerial combat. Enlisted men of the two groups got together very well in all types of athletic contests and other means of recreation.

The town of Fez was found to be one of the most delightful spots that any of us had ever visited. One unusual feature of our stay there was that members of my organization and members of these other organizations visited the town of Fez every night for a period of over a month and not one single unpleasant incident arose.

The officers of the squadron were made socially secure in the town by the visit of Josephine Baker. Miss Baker insisted on presenting several different groups of our officers to the prominent French and Arab families in the town. All in all, Miss Baker was very largely responsible for our most pleasant social relations in the town of Fez.

It was during our stay here that four P-39 pilots whom we had met on the boat [illegible] way over, came to visit us. They were ferrying some P-39s from Oran to Casablanca and en route they, of their own volition, simply stopped over to pay us a visit. I mention this simply to indicate that a considerable bond exists among those who fly regardless of color or race.

Our equipment was of the best. We ferried in 27 brand new P-40s and all of us experienced for the first time the thrill of flying a brand new airplane. Lieutenant Colonel Philip Cochran—the Flip Corkin of "Terry of the Pirates"—was our most capable instructor. He imbued all of us with some of his own very remarkable fighting spirit, and in addition to that he taught us what to do and what not to do in aerial combat. We all remember with a smile his opening commentary on the slowness of the P-40. "The P-40 pilot never yet ran away from a fight—because he couldn't." Yet we all know that the P-40 has a more remarkable combat record in this **war than any other fighter air**plane except possibly the British Spitfire. The P-40, we jokingly say, has three important characteristics. The first one is turn, which enables you to present a very difficult target to an enemy fighter; the second one is turn, and the third one is also turn. In aerial fighting this characteristic is naturally of great importance.

We had two other instructors who were with us until we left for Tunisia. A Major Keyes and a Captain Fachler. Both of these officers had had extensive combat training, one in England and one in the African campaign, and both had just been returned to the training command for instructional purposes. These officers worked unceasingly to make us ready for the real test and all of us felt very grateful for their efforts.

On the 31st of May we took off for the Cape Bon peninsula and the final phase of the experiment. I personally believe that no unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th Fighter Squadron. We were weak in one respect only and that was simply that the squadron commander, myself, and the flight commanders had had no actual combat experience.

That is a very desirable feature because it gives a good bit of confidence to those who are led that the man who is in charge of the formation knows what he is doing and frankly I didn't know initially, nor did my flight commanders. On the other hand, this deficiency was balanced by the fact that my pilots averaged about 250 hours in a P-40, and a young pilot in these days who has 250 hours in a P-40 before he goes into combat is a hard man to find.

All of us were a little on edge because we were going into something that we hadn't experienced before. This transition was eased by Colonel William Momyer, who commands a very famous fighter group which is now located up at the front. We were [illegible]ed to this group for operations and attached for operations means just one thing and that alone, simply that every night the group operations officer telephoned to my operations officer the missions set up for the next day. I might explain that a little bit differently—the setup in the African theater consists of the strategical air force and the tactical air force. We were members of the tactical air force. Under the tactical air force headquarters there is an air support command and this air support command doles out the daily missions to the groups.

A squadron, although it is the basic fighting team in an air force, is actually a small unit, and consequently it would be much better for a single squadron to get its missions from a group headquarters rather than a large air support command headquarters. Colonel Momyer, in giving us the missions, treated us exactly as one of his squadrons. He had three of his own and we had one, that being four squadrons. We got one-fourth of the missions given by his air support command. Colonel Momyer suggested initially that my flight commanders and myself fly as wing men on one of his missions so that we might get some experience initially before attempting to lead our own men into combat. He also advised me very completely on the details of running a squadron in a combat zone.

At that time, shortly after the first of June, the Pantelleria show was going on and our first missions were over that island. We dive-bombed objectives on the island every day until its fall on the 11th of June. We had our first bomber escort, B-25s, B-26s, A-20s and some British Baltimores, to the island. Six of our pilots had their first brush with enemy aircraft during this show but the remainder of us experienced only some of the very inaccurate brand of flak that the Italians throw up. After Pantelleria, Colonel Momyer's group moved to the island and we received our operational control from a fighter group commanded by Colonel McNorris.

From the first of July to the 9th of July we escorted bombers to Sicily and these were our most active days. On every trip we were attacked by superior numbers of enemy fighters. The tactics employed by the enemy fighters were to draw off the escorts so they could get to the bombers. Actually they were not particularly interested in shooting down enemy fighters, so we had to take some action to prevent them from shooting us down.

I would like to say just a word about the German air force. Its tactics have changed quite a bit since the Tunisian campaign. Its pilots are not as eager as they used to be: they have undoubtedly lost the best of them and they no longer press their attacks, as I hear they did in the past. Whereas formerly they would stay down and lap it up, they now make one ineffective pass and head for home. On the other hand, the pilots of my squadron who were initially uncertain of themselves, had now developed a very strong fighting spirit and were eager for an opportunity to meet the German and really fight it out.

An interesting sidelight in this connection is perhaps the growth of religious feeling among the pilots. Toward the end of the Sicilian campaign I had very little trouble getting together an audience for the visiting chaplain, Colonel Pinnel. He always had a nucleus of pilots to speak to. Lieutenant Bowling, one of my pilots, was shot down by flak in the Mediterranean and forced to sit in his dinghy for 24 hours and he said to me: "You know, Colonel Davis, when you sit out there that long, shivering from cold at night and trying to hide from the heat of the sun by day and always hoping against hope that somebody is going to see you and pick you up, you just pray automatically."

After the middle of July we had a squadron of pilots whose fondest dreams were no longer about the girls back home. Instead they dreamed about a German pilot who would be foolish enough to slug it out in aerial combat. At our chosen altitude we had the better airplane, but the German has learned his lesson and now makes his pass from out of the sun, coming down at 350 or more miles an hour and gets on out. We get a fleeting shot as he passes by.

The most interesting engagement took place on a bomber escort mission to Sciacca, Italy. Actually, it probably shouldn't have been as interesting as it turned out to be. The controlling factor is that the leader of the bomber formation couldn't get his bomb bay doors open on the first run over the target. This necessitated his going around two more times and it gave enemy fighters who didn't know we were coming the opportunity to get off their airdrome and come up and get us. We actually saw enemy fighters scramble and climb, and they really do climb.

Our ships were close escort for the bombers that day and we were right with them. The bottom, medium and top cover was provided by another group of fighters, so we absorbed all of the attack of this 20-plus ME-109s, Macchi 202s, and FW-190s, and on that day we lost a couple of aircraft. We definitely destroyed one of the enemy, probably destroyed a couple more and damaged three. We believe that one of our pilots is a prisoner of war. Incidentally, on that day, General Eisenhower visited our field and during his [illegible]y congratulated Captain Hall, one of our flight commanders, on his and our first confirmed victory.

Our field was often visited by high-ranking officers of both the British and American army. Among the visitors were such men as Air Marshal Cunningham, in command of the Tactical Air Forces; Lord Trancher of the last war; General House, Commanding General of the 12th Air Support Command; General Doolittle, who is in command now of the Strategic Air Force; General Spaatz, Commanding General of the Northwest African Air Force, and many others which I won't name.

After ditto for the Sicilian attack the 10th of July, we provided cover for the landing beaches on southeastern Sicily. We escorted C-47s which moved the echelon of the various units to new bases on the island. On the 19th of July we moved to a base on the southern coast and we provided air support for the ground troops by dive-bombing. We strafed strong points holding up their advance, trucks that were bottled up on the very few roads on the northern part of the island.

After the fall of Sicily we devoted our time to training replacements that reached us from the States. We got new combat crews and the men in charge of the training got a good bit out of their new responsibilities of the responsible places in the formations which they had to fly.

On September 2, I received orders assigning me to the 332nd Fighter Group and left for the States. I believe that the men that I left behind instead of being the fledglings they were on the first of June are now seasoned veterans of a combat experience that all of us may well be proud.

That concludes the statement which I planned to make, except for the following remarks: I can tell you that the men of my squadron and my other comrades at the front are just as interested in what you are doing back here as what they are doing over there. They are hitting hard — all of them, of all races, colors, and creeds. To follow through, there is one big thing those at home can do. That is to "Back the Attack" with War Bonds. I earnestly hope every Negro in America will do his part in the Third War Loan to keep their faith with our fighting men over there.

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35 Enlisted Men Promoted In 99th

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By T[illegible]AS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

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AN ALLIED AIRFIELD IN SICILY, AUGUST 13—Promotion of thirty-five enlisted men in a Negro Fighter Squadron which participated in the Sicilian campaign was announced here today by 1st Lt. Bernard S. Proctor, Glen Olden, Penna., acting adjutant.

Ranks one grade higher than those previously held for the following men were authorized by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., (then) commanding officer of the squadron, Proctor said:

MASTER SERGEANT: Fred Archer.

TECHNICAL SERGEANTS: Ralph A. Burnley, Thomas W. Downs.

STAFF SERGEANTS: Elijah Coleman, George D. Johnson, William H. Young Jr., and Edward M. Hargrove.

SERGEANTS: Robert H. Ables, Hubert E. Bigelow Jr., Arber L. Crier Jr., Edward R. Pryor, Irvin L. Sharpe, Wardell P. Alexander, Edward A. Boone, James Hileygar, Raymond Scruggs, Joseph E Spooner, Arthur T. Williams.

CORPORALS: Lucius Anderson, Fred Munger, Thomas Morris, Albert Porche, Roy Teague.

PRIVATES FIRST CLASS: Russell J. Bacon, Ernest Brown,

George Grooms, Joseph F. Mayers, Robert Newsome, Napoleon B. Watkins, Leonard R. Brewer, Harvey Cain Jr., Leo S. Holmes, Charles E. McDonald, John H. Turner, John W. Young.

OFFICERS PROMOTED

These promotions of enlisted men followed by a few days the announcement by Col. Davis that nine second lieutenants had been advanced to the rank of first lieutenants. They were:

Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.; Samuel M. Bruce, Seattle, Wash.; Louis R. Purnell, Philadelphia; Paul G. Mitchell, Washington, D. C.; George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.; Willie Ashley, Sumter, S. C., and Walter I. Lawson, Newtown, Va., all pilots, and George R. Currie, Los Angeles, Calif., ordnance officer.

Ed. Note—These officer promotions were first announced in the Guide with the publication in the issue of the week ending August 28, of a cabled dispatch from our correspondent.)

3 PROMOTIONS RECOMMENDED

Three other second lieutenants were recommended for promotion at about the same time, the Journal and Guide learned, and their orders are expected momentarily, making them also first lieutenants.

With these the squadron will have the unique distinction of carrying on its roster only the four replacement pilots, who have joined the ranks since the original unit came overseas as second lieutenants.

(Ed. Note—Since this air-mailed was filed, cabled dispatches to the Guide from its correspondent revealed the arrival by plane of eight addtional replacement pilots, making a total of 12 new second lieutenants.)

Other than those replacements, every flying officer in the squadron will be a first lieutenant or higher.

Such a situation results from the long training period which the squadron had in the United States after it was activiated, dur-

which n[illegible] of the second
enants were recommenda-
m of their commanding officer
for promotions.

The other twelve won their promotions under actual combat conditions.

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mestic scene and charged the church with aiding the fight to remove the poll tax to give southern Negroes the right to vote; girding for passage of Senate Bill 637 which will provide a federal fund of $300,000,000 for elementary and seconadry schools principally in the south where the heavy Negro populations is centered; joining with the progressive forces in the ranks of labor to attain economic security; and securing membership on government post war planning boards to present the demands of Negroes for full participation in the peace.

Although Dr. Logan emphasized the home front problems he pointed out that there were Baptists in other parts of the world, and even if this were not true the churches should be concerned about the welfare of Negroes everywhere, he said. He stated that after learning something about the real conditions of Negroes outside the United States the foreign mission board of the church was obligated to work out a helpful program for its members overseas.

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Tuskegee Field Graduates Its First Artillery Liaison Pilot Officers

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

OCT 16 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The first class of field artillery officers trained as liaison pilots at this field received their wings in the Post Theatre, September 30.

Captain Errol W. Becthold, director of liaison training, in addressing the class, pointed out that, "Liaison training is nothing new. It was used in the last war. However the methods and procedures of the effectiveness of their operation have changed considerably with the expansion of mechanized warfare."

He further told the flying artillery-men that, "With the use of camouflage against artillery installations, liaison pilots have a prominent role to play in the present crisis in the firing of heavy guns."

Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Tuskegee commanding officer, presented the graduates with letters of appointment, and commended them on their ability to master the primary stage of flying in nine weeks of intensive training.

NEW OFFICERS

Lt. Charles T. Hood, assistant director of liaison training, presented the new pilots with their liaison wings. Among the group completing the course of flying training at Tuskegee included: Capt. William H. Shannon of Chicago, Ill.; 1st Lts. James I. Minor, Washington, D. C.; William Y. Rose, Chicago, Ill.; and Chauncy Eskridge, Washington, D. C.; 2nd Lts. Darryl C. Bishop, Houston, Texas; Alvin J. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; Charles G. Dunn, Cincinnati, Ohio; Benjamin F. Moore, Ocilla, Ga.; Leonard E. Wilburn, Columbus, Ohio; Harry W. Dungill, Chicago, Ill.; Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; Leander A. Hall, Mobile, Ala.; Arnold D. Grant, Coffeyville, Kans., and Aldrick H. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.

These graduating officers will report to Fort Sill, Okla., for advanced and tactical training.

Some such officers were previously trained at Fort Sill and participated in the Louisiana maneuvers several months ago.

OCT 15 1943

These liaison pilots do a variety of jobs. They spot enemy emplacements, direct artillery fire, and then correct, by radio contact, the accuracy of the fire. They also do some emergency air ambulance duty and act as observers. They fly unusually light and very maneuverable craft.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

99th Squadron Joins Ground Crew in Italy

Helped Hold Nazis for Two Days; Rogers and Roberts Now 1st Lts.

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ADVANCED SICILIAN AIRBASE (By Cable, Censored)—The 99th Fighter Squadron on Thursday began operations against the enemy from the Italian mainland.

The first group taking off for patrol duty from an air base near Salerno, included Captains George Roberts and Lemuel Custis; First Lieutenants Clarence Jamison, Herbert Clark, Herbert Carter, William Campbell and Willie Fuller; Second Lieutenants Morgan,

Meet Old Buddies

This first mission from Italy Herman and Walter Lawson. also meant the reunion of pilots with the advance ground echelon which has been two weeks with the Fifth Army and had many weird tales to tell of fierce battles before the British Eighth Army arrived.

Although a part of the air corps, our boys saw service as quartermasters, infantry and engineers when the Germans drove to within five miles of their air base and lobbed mortar shells into their foxholes.

Blasted Day and Night

For weeks the Stukas and JU-88s bombed and strafed them, morning, noon and night. Even the tanks in nearby towns joined with 88mm guns in blasting the American positions.

Members of the ground echelon were overjoyed to see pilots and service planes again.

M/Sgt. Shag Taylor and tobacco-chewing Joe Howard went into an Indian war dance. They said: "Tell the folks that we stopped the German division cold for two days but that we never want to see two such days again."

On the other hand, until the pilots landed, no news had come to the men of this echelon since their departure for Italy.

Announcement has just been made of the promotion from second to first lieutenant of John Rogers of Chicago and Leon Roberts of Pritchard, Ala.

OCT 9 1943

The Soldier's Psalm

The Sarge is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me pick up burnt matches: he leadet me through mud puddles.
He guideth me on the course of obstacles for my health's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valleys, I must run up the hills.
He anointeth my head with abuses; my cup runneth over.
Surely cadence and K.P. will follow me all the days of my army life: and I will dwell in the hair of my sergeant forever.

Camp Swift, Texas.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Meet the Drivers' Son, A 99th Flyer

Prayers Follow Pre-War Pilot in Raids over Italy

By CLAY CLAIBORNE

TRENTON, N.J. — Meet the Drivers—a son who fights in the air over Italy; a mother whose tears have changed to prayers; a father who is happy because when his son left for war he got what he wanted, the air corps.

This is the story behind one of America's fighting sons, Second Lieut. Elwood Driver, of 30 Fountain Avenue, now on active duty with the 99th Pursuit Squadron. Lt. Driver last wrote:

Last Letter Home

"Dear Mom, We were all sitting around waiting to go on a raid, when Italy gave up over the radio.

"I lie awake about 2 o'clock in the morning—it's 8 o'clock at home, imagining what you are doing listening to the radio, talking with dad on Sunday going to church. I can imagining Barbara arguing about washing dishes, Earl getting ready to step out and dad reading the papers. Smart dad, he always did follow the news.

"Home will always be where you and dad are, even though Imogene and I may have a house some place else.

"Give my regards to all. Take care of Barbara. Does she still get those bonds?—Elwood."

TAFS Graduate

The Drivers delight in telling about Elwood's record:

October 9, 1942 — graduated Tuskegee Army Flying School, (TAFS); January 3, 1943 — Test Pilot, 99th Pursuit Squadron; February 15, Flight Commander, 100th Fighter Squadron; March 6, Operations Officer, 100th Fighter Squadron; March 23, Instrument Check Pilot; May 22, 332 Group Tactical Inspector; June 26, Commanding Officer, 100th Fighter Squadron; July ?, 1943—called to oversea duty."

Lieut. Driver is 22; has a wife, Imogene, 20, a sister, Barbara, 14, and two brothers, Earl 17, and Warren, [illegible] now training in the army air corps.

Mrs. Mary Driver, mother, admits that whenever she reads or hear war news, she becomes worried—but believes that Elwood has had enough background experience to take care of himself. She remarked:

"Elwood had his pilot license before the war broke out, and I am confident that he is as good, if not better than the average flier.

Faith in Prayer

"Too, constant prayers are for the safe return of my son.

"Elwood has renown faith in prayer. His grandmother had two sons in the last war, and she always insisted that 'her prayers brought them safely home.' So when called to oversea duty, Elwood wrote to pray for a successful completion of his mission and his safe return home.

"I am sure that with the constant prayers of our family, friends and his faith, my son will surely come back to us."

Father Robert Driver is quite plain spoken. "I told Elwood, long before the war that he need not be too anxious about flying, because by the time that he was 21, his country would give him all of the flying he could do.

"Elwood wrote me after his enlistment in the air corps that my words had come true. He said he was happy that I had made him complete his college studies, which now greatly favored him."

Designed Model Planes

He added, "That boy was always interested in flying. As a kid he designed plane models. When he was last home before sailing, he couldn't sit still. He would jump and run outside whenever he heard a plane, and if he couldn't hear planes, he would spend most of his time looking at the sky.

"I know he is in a great fight, but the one thing I am sure about is that, Elwood is doing a thing that makes him happy."

The Drivers dislike hearing people make plain gossip out of war news. Her's how Mr. Driver explains it, "Don't run your mouth about war news or movements. Help the government win the victory and let Uncle Sam run the war. Our family believes only what we hear on the radio or read in newspapers."

"We know that Ollie Stewart, AFRO's war correspondent can tell us more about what Elwood is doing than any other person," he said.

OCT 9 1943

TUSKEGEE GRADUATES ANOTHER CADET CLASS

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., Aug. 5.—In perfect cadence to the stirring notes of the "Air Corps Songs," Class SE 4'-G filed into the New Theatre building Wednesday, July 28, at Tuskegee Army Air field to receive their wings and commissions as single-engine fighter-pilots in the Army Air Forces.

Address by Red Cross Director.

This contingent of airmen became Tuskegee's most recent group of flyers to complete the arduous pilot training course and become flying officers in the Air corps. They were addressed by Mr. Roger F. Gordon, field director of the American Red Cross at the Tuskegee Army Air field who advised them to "Meet the next stage of your training and the trials that are to follow with the same purposeful determination, the same optimism and the same faith that have to this point crowned your efforts with success.

Mr. Gordon, who proved to possess a keen insight into human nature, further admonished the graduating cadets that, "Yours then is a dual responsibility. Your nation expects of you a stellar performance; and because of its peculiar situation with that nation your race demands it. For as you raise the wings of your P-40 into the flame-infested sky of some foreign land, the fate, the future and the prayers of thirteen million Negro Americans ride with you."

AUG 8 1943

Wings Presented.

Immediately following the

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

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main address by Mr. Gordon, the graduates were presented commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces by Lt.-Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the field. Wings were awarded the graduates by Major Donald G. McPherson, director of training at the post. Student officers receiving wings were Second Lieutenants John Daniels of Chicago, Ill., and William B. Ellis of Washington, D. C.

Among those receiving wings and commissions were: Second Lieutenants Lee Andrew Archer, New York City; Harry L. Bailey, Chicago, Ill.; William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Samuel Lee Curtis, Yeadon, Pa.; William W. Green, Staunton, Va.; George B. Greenlee Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga.; Jack D. Holsclaw, Spokane, Wash.; Daniel James Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati, Ohio, Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif.; James W. Mason, Monroe, La.; Eddie A. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss.; William R. Melton Jr., Los Angeles, Calif.; Robert H. Nelson Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Maurice R. Page Los Angeles, Calif.; Cornelius G Rogers, Chicago, Ill.;

Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lowell C. Steward Los Angeles, Calif.; Elmer W. Taylor, Pittsburgh; Pa.; Alva Newte Temple, Carrollton, Ala.; Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta, Ga.; Robert H. Wiggins, New Cork City; Leroy Shelton Williams, Roanoke, Va., and Beryl Wyatt of Independence, Kas.

Haitian Wins Wings.

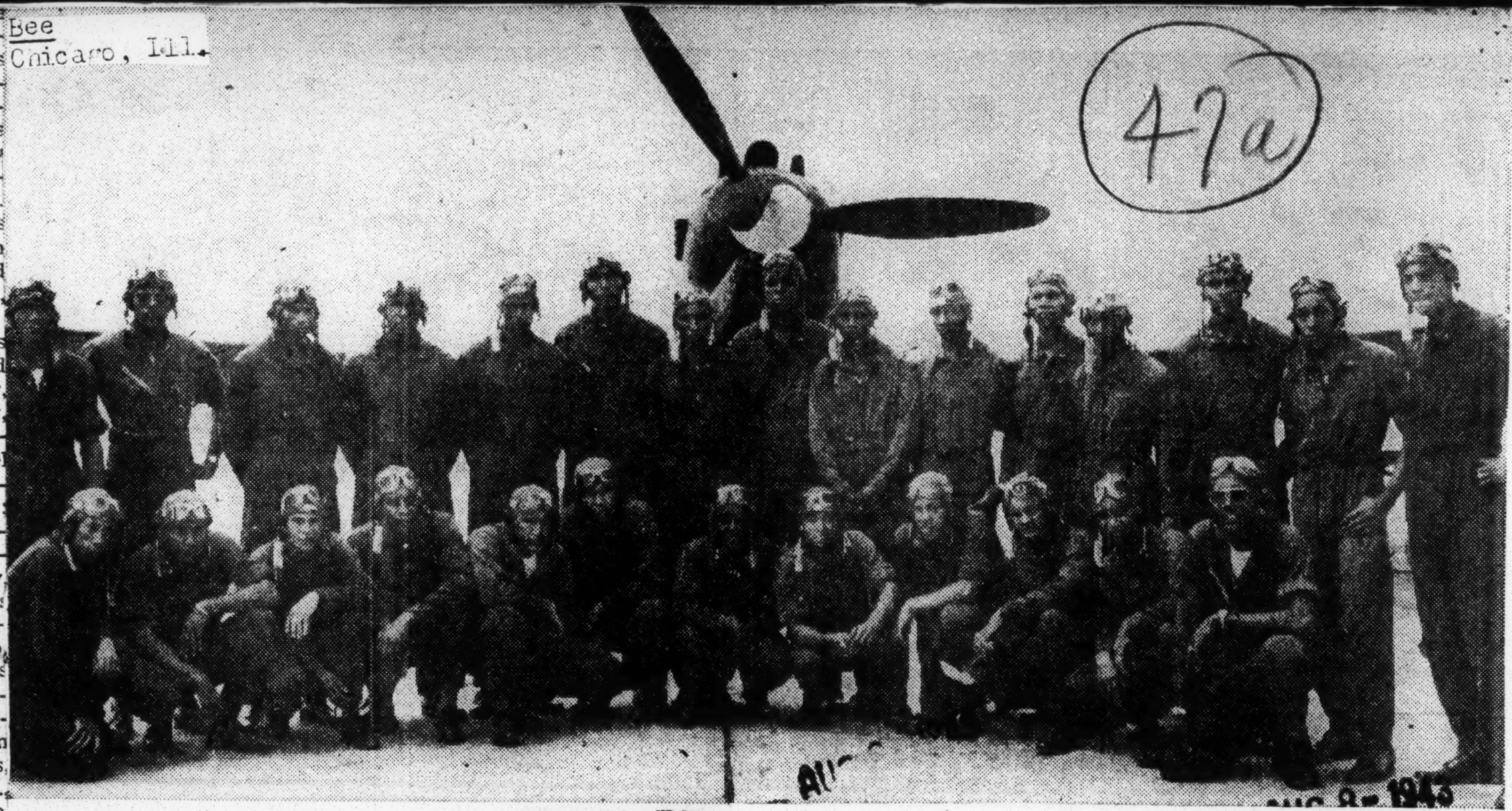
Also completing the pilot training course and receiving wings and a certificate was the first foreign student at Tuskegee, Sgt. Raymond Cassagnol, Haitian Air Force, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

AUG 8 - 1943

Honor Students.

Cadet honors for all-around excellence as cadets were Lee Andrew Archer of New Mork City, Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif., and Daniel James Jr., of Pensacola, Fla. Lt. James was a flight instructor at the Primary Flying field, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., prior to accepting appointment as an aviation cadet.

The graduating class will undergo a short period of transitional instruction and then be assigned to a tactical organization for further combat training.



AUG 8 - 1943

NEW TUSKEGEE BIRDMEN — This group of young men were among the latest single engine fighter pilots graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field. All are second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces. They are from left to right: (kneeling) Lowell C. Steward, Los Angeles, Calif.; William R. Melton, Los Angeles, Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta, Ga.; Maurice R. Page, Los Angeles, Calif.; Elmer Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jack Daniels Holsclaw, Spokane, Washington, Eddie A. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss.; Cornelius G. Rogers, Chicago, Ill.; William W. Green, Jr., Staunton, Va.; George B. Greenlee, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif., and John Daniels of Chicago, Ill. Standing: Lee A. Archer, New York City; William B. Ellis, Washington, D. C.; Alva N. Temple, Carrollton, Ala., William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Le Roi S. Williaims, Roanoke, Va.; James W. Mason, Monroe, La.; Beryl Wyatt, Independence, Kans.; Daniel James, Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Robert H. Nelson, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati, Ohio; Harry D. Bailey, Chicago, Ill.; Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga.; Robert H. Wiggins, New York City and Samuel L. Curtis of Yeadon, Pa.

47a-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

How Operations Of 99th Squadron Are Coordinated And Recorded At Battlefront

SEP 4 - 1943

LEFT—S. Sgt. Wendell D. LaFleur of Chicago, chief operations clerk, makes a report to Captain George S. Roberts, W. Va., operations officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron (seated, center), while 1st Lt. Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, Ohio, assistant operations officer, receives a telephone message (in background), during the squadron's executions of combat missions in Sicily. **RIGHT**—Sgt. LaFleur types out one of the many daily operational reports made and filed by the squadron, now in combat in the Mediterranean area. Lt. Lawrence is the officer at left (back to camera).

SEP 4 - 1943

LEFT—Lt. Lawrence tallies up flying time and other essential statistics on a specially made adding machine which both adds and subtracts hours and minutes. **CENTER**—Captain Roberts watches the progress of operations around his field with binoculars from a window of the operations tower, while Cpl. George W. Jackson, Pittsburgh, Pa., assistant clerk, answers the telephone. **RIGHT**—Captain Hayden C. Johnson, 33, of 1842 Vermont avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., was adjutant of the squadron at the time the picture was made. He has been transferred from the squadron to other duties not specified in censored dispatches from the front. Pictures on his desk are of his wife and daughter. (Photos by Thomas W. Young, Journal and Guide war correspondent).

Bombing And Strafing Needed To Drive Axis From Mountain Line

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

Germans, Cornered In Northeast Sector, Give Ground Inch By Inch Along Paths In Mountains; Allies Outflanking Enemy

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
(By Cable. Passed by Censor)

ADVANCED ALLIED AIRFIELD — Opportunity still knocks at the door of the 99th Fighter Squadron —and Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and his gallant men have not, and are not, letting slip the chance to write a glorious first chapter in the story of the American Negro in war aviation.

AUG 7 1943

Early this week the "final push" to drive the Germans and Italians out of Sicily began, and the air command was quick to call upon the 99th to play a cooperative role with the ground forces and the Allied Navy. The commanders have no doubts that the fighting pilots of the squadron will again live up to the strikingly brilliant record displayed in June and July, its first two months of active combat.

After participating in the Sicilian invasion operations, which began July 10, the squadron is now executing a variety of missions from the island itself.

When the Sicilian campaign is won, the squadron will have recorded important chapters in the two historic assaults providing stepping stones for the invasion of the European continent.

These assaults—the subjugation of Pantelleria by air power alone and the first successful water bourne invasion against Sicily—furnished the background for the opportunity the squadron wanted and needed.

The command opened opportunity's door wide—and the squadron was found not wanting.

At Pantelleria the fighting pilots got their first taste of battle when they were called upon to drop 500-pound missles in the all-out attack. In the invasion of Sicily they helped pave the way by escorting bombers during the softening up forays. In carrying out such an assignment Lt. Charles B. Hall shot down the first Nazi credited to a colored flyer.

AUG 7 - 1943

Now the 99th is striking the enemy with short, hard jabs in a variety of missions like dive bombing, strafing, reconnaissance, and patrolling—operating from an airfield in Sicily.

The North African campaign was over before the squadron completed its advanced combat training, but the fliers moved into the Tunisian theatre in time to help write the death warrant for Pantelleria.

The opportunity to participate in the Sicilian campaign is indicative of the high regard and confidence in the squadron which is held by the high command.

There has been remarkable cooperation and support from authorities since the arrival of the squadron which is taken as positive evidence of the sincere desire to have the squadron succeed rather than fail.

Nothing required by the group to do a topnotch job has been denied.

Unsung heroes of the performance of the group are the mechanics. They rise at the crack of dawn and are on the line preflighting the planes before the rest of the unit are awake. It is nothing unusual for them to work until midnight keeping the planes in perfect flying condition. All of this is done cheerfully by the men whose motivation is love of their work and pride in the squadron.

In the United States the mechanics had one of the best maintenance records and here they are continuing the good work. They still pull engine changes in a day, while most other [illegible]ps require two or more days. Key man is Sgt. Ensworth H. Dansby, 29, of 524 South Haworth street, Decatur, Ill., himself a pilot many years, having been licensed in 1939. Pleasant, intelligent, and personable, he is known as "Danny."

Utan kommentar

— Ur ~~DEC 16 1943~~

DEC 6 1943

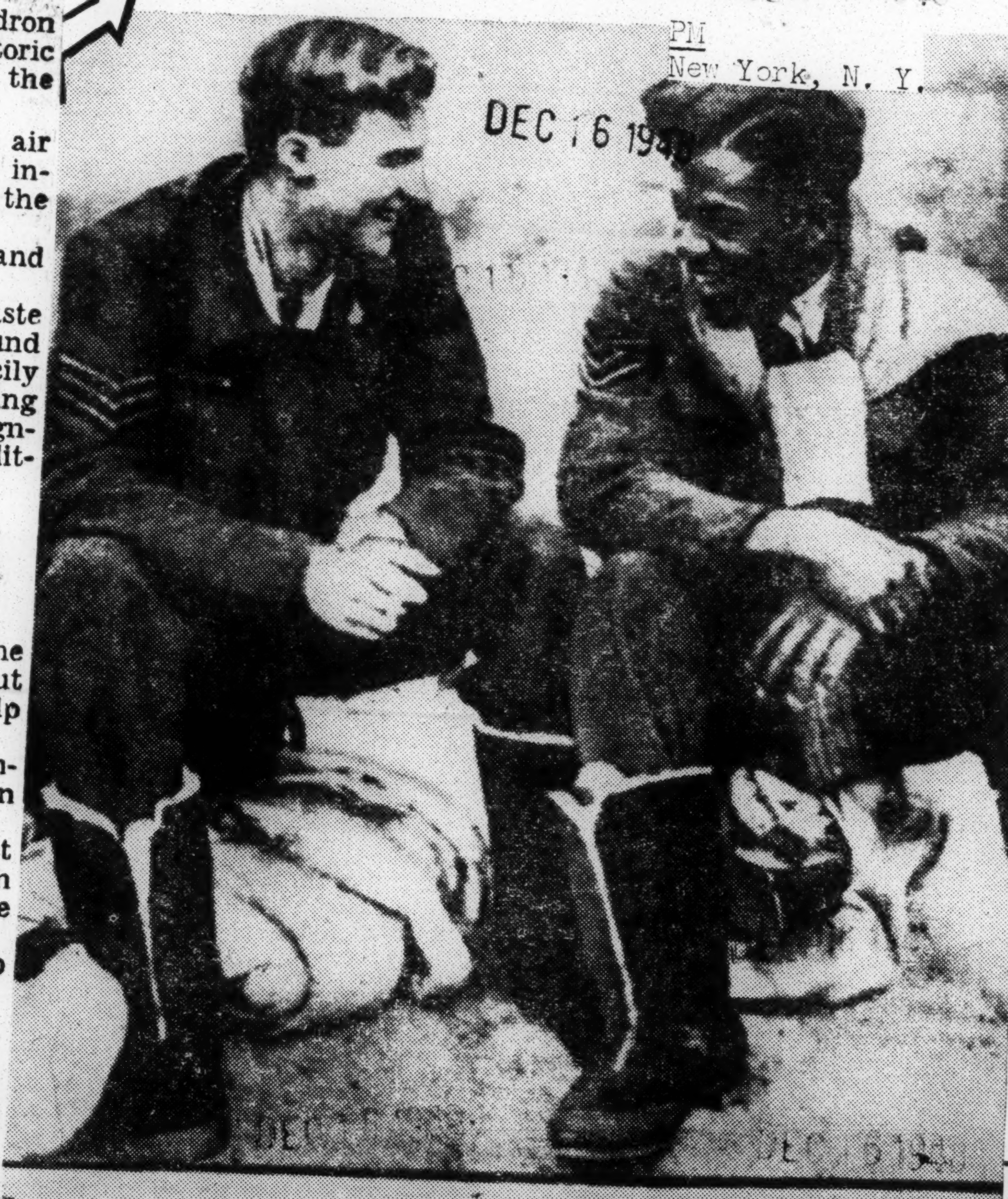
The Daily Sketch, London

för den 31. juli 1943 återge vi nedanstående bild av — enligt den engelska underskriften — "två som deltogo i R. A. F:s stora raid mot Hamburg på torsdag natt — sergeant J. C. Dickinson (till vänster), en kanadensare, och sergeant F. L. Gilkes från Trinidad — i väntan på avfärd till fördelningscentralen".

DEC 6 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

DEC 16 1943



Two who took part in the great R.A.F. raid on Hamburg on Thursday night—Sergt. J. C. Dickinson (left), a Canadian, and Sergt. F. L. Gilkes, from Trinidad—waiting to go to the dispersal centre.

WITHOUT COMMENT
From
THE DAILY SKETCH, LONDON

of July 31, 1943, we reproduce the picture below, showing—according to the English caption—"two who took part in the great RAF raid on Hamburg on Thursday night—Serg. J. C. Dickinson (left), a Canadian, and Serg. F. L. Gilkes from Trinidad—waiting to go to the dispersal centre.

Missing 99th Flyer Back; Tells Of Rescue From Sea

Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Defender

PHOEBUS, Va.—The family of Lt. George R. Bolling, fighter pilot attached to the 99th Pursuit Squadron, was notified this week that the youth had returned safely to his outfit after having been shot down over the Mediterranean and missing for six days.

AUG 7 1943

While details of his nerve-wracking experience were few, it is reliably reported that Lt. Bolling's plane was struck by flak from anti-aircraft guns during the second day of Allied landings in Sicily. He immediately banked and headed back for his base in North Africa.

He had gone only a short distance though, when the machine burst into flames and he was forced to abandon ship. Lt. Bolling jumped, pulled the ripcord and started his 4,000-foot drop. A fellow-pilot, said to be Lt. Sam Bruce, former A. and T. college football star, circled him and fought off Axis planes which appeared bent on machine-gunning the unfortunate Bolling.

Kept Long Vigil

The rest of that day and through the night, Lt. Bolling drifted about helpless in his rubber life raft. Despite the fact that aid seemed to be a remote possibility, Lt. Bolling refused to give up hope. When the next day dawned he resumed his vigil for a ship which may prove his rescuer.

Whenever he saw a ship on the horizon, the flyer would begin waving in an effort to attract attention. Finally, on his second day in the water, Lt. Bolling was picked up by a destroyer and carried to safety. Within a few days he was back with his comrades and relating his experiences over and over to them.

AUG 7 1943

Lt. Bolling was one of two flyers knocked out of formations of the 99th on the invasion of Sicily. The other pilot, Lt. James L. McCullin, of St. Louis, Mo., is still missing.

Defender Washington correspondents report that no word has been forthcoming from the War Department concerning Lt. McCullin.

47a-1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Prejudice Runs Wild At U.S. Tuskegee Airfield

By JOHN LAKE CAUTION

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Discrimination in its ugliest form is undermining the morale of the commissioned officers and ground crews of the 99th and the commissioned officers of the 100th pursuit squadrons at the United States Army Flying school at Tuskegee, Ala., about 45 miles from here.

JAN 2 1943

Investigation bears out the fact that the Axis powers have no better friend in breaking down the morale of the personnel of the 99th and the 100th than the commanding officer of the airport, Colonel Frederick Von H. Kimble. He is retained as commander by the war department although a committee of prominent citizens waited on Secretary Stimson in Washington and told him of the conditions they found at the flying school and of the insistence of Colonel Kimble in carrying out his jim crow policy.

The first sign of segregation seen at the supposed all-Negro flying school is when the Negro commissioned officers file into their mess hall and the white commissioned and non-commissioned men eat to themselves. They work together but eat separately.

The next disturbing sign was the appearance of the signs on the wash rooms in the new technical building. These signs read "for white officers" and "for colored officers." These signs were torn down. They were replaced. Again they were torn down. Colonel Kimble, not to be outdone, is said to have called the commissioned officers together and told them that the signs were "there to stay, that they represented the policy of the post and if they were torn down again, he would place a guard there to see that they remained in place."

The writer recalls a visit to the post in November when the signs designating race were on the wash rooms of other buildings. Later it was learned that an order had been issued by the war department saying that "there were to be no Negro or colored or white toilets on any army post." A few days later the signs were still there. When confronted with the war department order, Colonel Kimble is said to have fumed a bit then ordered the signs down the following day. Since then the new technical building has the signs which violate the army order.

JAN 2 1943

Officers Have Jitters

It is no secret around the town of Tuskegee, Ala., about six miles from the flying school that all is not well between the white town folk and the Negro personnel of the flying school, and those cadets at the Tuskegee institute flying school where the eight weeks of basic training is taught.

There are several reasons. The first is that Colonel Kimble is working "hand and glove" with the town people to have the Negro soldiers and commissioned officers humiliated. The result is that there is curfew law for Negroes in Tuskegee. Another thing is the absence of military police in the town of Tuskegee. A captain of the state highway police, an ordinary Alabama "cracker" represents Colonel Kimble in all police matters in Tuskegee. This "cracker," as he is referred to by some of the soldiers, is of the belief that most of the commissioned Negro personnel at the flying school belong to the Communist organization and that most of the teachers at Tuskegee institute are Communists.

Not only is the Negro soldier at the mercy of the town constables and the representative of Colonel Kimble, but he is subject to insults by citizens who do business with the flying school and army air base.

One reason for some of the hatred on the part of white people is the United States army uniform on Negroes. Any non-commissioned Negro officers or Negro commissioned officer is looked upon with scorn. Any white non-commissioned officer, although working at the U. S. flying field, is more respected by the majority of Tuskegee town whites than a Negro commissioned officer. The bank employes, officers and proprietors of business houses are upset because Negro commissioned officers are paid more than non-commissioned white men.

The general feeling among the white townsfolk is the money Negro officers are paid is too much money for Negroes to be making.

Officers Can't Mingle

There are any number of white officers at the flying school who would like to associate with the Negro officers. Colonel Kimble is accused of having called meetings at the post and warned the white officers that they were "not to socialize with Negro officers on the post or off duty."

All white commissioned and non-commissioned officers immediately leave the post as soon as they finish their daily work. All social activities at the post are for Negroes only because Colonel Kimble has decreed that no white officer can attend the post theatre.

The organizing of the Officers' club brought out Colonel Kimble's anti-Negro attitude. The white officers asked him for his ruling on membership. He ruled that an application blank should be sent to all officers on the post. The next morning he then ordered Captain Compton to gather all the application blanks in the hands of the white officers who were individually informed that they should not join the Officers' club.

Lieut.-Col. Hazzard, called a tyrant and a rabid, cursing officer, is executive officer to Colonel Kimble. Lieut.-Col. Hazzard started as a lieutenant in a CCC camp and within a year was lieutenant colonel at the Tuskegee field. Yet, Colonel Kimble is quoted as having said that no Negro commissioned officer will be promoted above the rank of captain as long as he is commander of the post.

JAN 2 1943

The promotion of Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., from major to lieutenant-colonel was not the work of Colonel Kimble and he didn't dare go contrary to orders from Washington. However, young Davis—his father is General B. O. Davis,—is leader of the 99th pursuit squadron with no executive powers. He has the name of being the head of an outfit which has finished its training but "has no place to go." He is the head of an outfit but "hasn't any orders to give out."

The most flagrant case of an officer without any duties is that of Capt. Lloyd M. Sparks, finance officer who was sent to the Tuskegee flying school five months ago. He is considered one of the brainiest, best equipped and trained finance officers in the entire United States army. He has been in the regular army 25 years and has been stationed in the Philippines and Hawaii most of the time. But the finance work is done by white non-commissioned officers. Capt. Sparks is finance officer without any work to do—because Colonel Kimble through his executive office sees fit to have nothing for him to do.

Capt. Arthur Hayes, brilliant thinker from the old 369th Infantry in New York and one of the first colored officers to study aviation, whose tenure of service in the army rates him a grade above that of a major, remains a captain.

Capt. Roy Morse, former national sprint champion back in 1906 to 1910 remains a captain although he spent years with the 369th in New York city.

JAN 2 1943

The best yet is Capt. Harold Martin who was commissioned and sent to Camp Lee in Virginia supposedly as an athletic officer but put in charge of the Negro officers' mess there. Recently he has been transferred to the Tuskegee flying school but is in charge of the canteen.

Police Beat, Drug Nurse

Montgomery is still incensed over the brutal treatment of a Negro nurse who was stationed at the Tuskegee flying school with the rank of lieutenant. She attempted to board a bus here but was hit in the mouth by a driver when she insisted on getting on.

The local police arrested her and "gave her the works." She was beaten about the head and kicked in the stomach. When she screamed the police beat her some more.

When the police searched her pocketbook they found her credentials as an army nurse. The woman is well known here and at Tuskegee flying school. She does not drink alcoholic liquor. The police are said to have secured whiskey, poured some down her throat, poured some on her dress and pocketbook and then put her out on the sidewalk.

JAN 2 1943

A prominent Negro happened to notice her plight, stopped and in so doing recognized the nurse. She was given medical attention. Colonel Kimble is said to have declared he would investigate. The nurse won't talk. The guilty police officers are still on the Montgomery police force. They haven't lost a day's pay.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Tuskegee Air
Base Hotbed Of Race Bias

Cadets Trained Only As Combat Pilots

JAN 2 - 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Race segregation is being practiced to the utmost extent at the Army Basic and Advanced Flying School here despite its bad effect on the morale of colored cadets who are being trained for combat duty with the Army Air Forces.

JAN 2 - 1943

The intolerant and patronizing attitude of southern white officers, who are in command, is said to be particularly irksome.

Incidentally, the Army Air Forces is the only branch of the Army which maintains and operates a separate officer-training facility for the training of colored officer candidates.

In all ohter branches, colored officer candidates are trained in the same schools with white officer candidates. But colored flying cadets are trained only at Tuskegee and are excluded from all other Army flying schools.

ARMY REGULATIONS VIOLATED

JAN 2 - 1943

Responsibility for Jim Crow signs placed on toilets and other facilities is placed upon Colonel Frederick von H. Kimble, the commanding officer. These Jim Crow signs are said to be an express violation of Army Regulations, but Colonel Kimble is reported to have told an officers' meeting that he intends to run this school not in accordance with any circular from Washington but in keeping with the policy of the Army.

JAN 2 - 1943

The attitude of Colonel Kimble is explainable. It is in harmony with the attitude of the Army Air Forces. It took Congressional pressure to compel the Army Air Forces to establish this separate training school for the training of colored flying cadets.

Only pursuit pilots are trained at Tuskegee. This program in itself is discriminatory. Colored flying cadets must meet the stringent requirements as to height and weight for pursuit pilots. Pursuit piloting is the most difficult branch of flying.

Colored cadets are not accepted by the Army Air Forces for the relatively easier bombardment pilot training course, the observer-pilot training course, the navigator courses, the bombardier courses, and other necessary branches of the Air Forces for which men have been sought so zealously.

COLORED PILOT MUST PROVE HIMSELF

The whole attitude of the Army Air Forces on the question of colored pilots was expressed in a letter recently made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is that the colored pilot must prove himself.

Only a directive from the Secretary of War or public pressure can compel the transfer of Colonel Kimble or a correction of the abuses which are being practiced at Tuskegee.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

1st Commissioned At Jeff Barracks Army Air Force

JAN 22 1943

Left to right, the first Negro commissioned officers to be stationed at the basic training center of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. are Lt. Forrest E. Pritchett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Lt. William Neal Brown of Aliquippa, Pa., and Lt. James B. Garrett of Hopkinsville, Ky. ,Army Aid' Force Tech Training Command.)

Chicago Tribune
Chicago. Illinois

Anti-Negro Stand Hit By Press

JAN 16 1943

Biased Commander Out After Many Protests

By JOHN LAKE CAUTION
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TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Under heavy fire for his biased, discriminatory stand against colored flyers, Colonel Frederick Von H. Kimble has been ousted as commanding officer of the 99th and 100th Pursuit Squadrons at the Army flying school here.

News of the removal of Colonel Kimble because of his enforced segregation and anti-Negro attitude has been kept quiet by the army up to now because it would seem a victory for Negro organizations and newspapers which demanded his ouster.

The Chicago Defender learned exclusively that the transfer of Colonel Kimble from his Tuskegee post was accomplished through the device of having him "kicked upstairs" to a higher army position. This move was considered an appeasement step by the War Department because of Kimble's friendship for prejudiced whites in the town of Tuskegee.

Colonel Kimble has received orders for his transfer to an air field at Macon, the Defender learned.

Now in acting command at the Tuskegee airport is Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, a white officer who was elevated from a major to lieutenant colonel at the same time as Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

Colonel Kimble has not yet left Tuskegee. He is said to be "cleaning up" his affairs.

Actually the removal of the anti-Negro commandant at Tuskegee will be a token victory for Negro groups protesting his policy.

The Defender learned that the whole southeastern air district is being reorganized and Kimble will be in charge of the district. He will possibly be made a brigadier general. Tuskegee will be a part of the district and therefore nominally still under his supervision.

See Changed Policy

But members of the 99th and 100th squadrons who long resented his attempts to enforce Jim Crow at the airport feel that his being stationed at another airfield will go a long way in changing policy at Tuskegee.

Protests against Colonel Kimble's policy were carried right to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson by a group of prominent Negro citizens who cited a number of objectionable practices enforced by Colonel Kimble. These included:

1. Setting of segregated sections, in the mess hall for commissioned officers.
2. Posting of signs "for colored officers" and "for white officers" on wash rooms.
3. Kimble's working "hand and glove" with townspeople to have Negro commissioned officers humiliated through unnecessary curfew laws and the like.

Bar Social Contact

4. Orders to white officers "not to socialize with Negro officers on the post or off duty.
5. Barring of all white officers from Officers Clubs because there were Negroes in the club.
6. Barring of white officers at the post theatre because Negroes are in attendance.
7. Alleged statements by Colonel Kimble that no Negro commissioned officer will be promoted above the rank of captain as long as he is commander of the post.
8. Refusal to allow high Negro officers to take active jobs. They are kept on the shelf confined to barracks.

New York Age
New York. N. Y.

Army Air Forces Technical Training School To Admit Negroes As Officer Candidates

JAN 2 - 1943

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, Mo.—The first Officers' Candidates School for Negro soldiers in the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command will open here on January 15, according to an announcement my Col. Thomas J. J. Christian, commanding officer of the historic Army Post.

First contingent of soldier students selected from the ranks of Negro troops throughout the United States will arrive for the 11 week course on January 15, said the Colonel.

The opening of an Officers' Candidate School at Jefferson Barracks is one of several new functions the Post will take on, augmenting its already well established program as the first Basic Training Center of the Technical Training Command, under Major General Walter R. Weaver.

Negro troops at the Barracks will have equal treatment and equal facilities as all soldiers stationed there, said Colonel Christian, who announced that plans were already underway for th econstruction of a new service club, a Chapel, Post Exchange, an Officers' Club and Bachelor Officers' Quarters for Negroes.

A Cooks and Bakers school for Negro soldiers will open on January 15, said the announcement.

There is also planned, at a later date, to open an Officers' Training School for Air Corps specialists who have received preliminary training at Yale University. This school will open to a select group of Negro officers for intensive six weeks courses.

Graduates of the Officers' Candidate School will be trained as supply officers, adjutants, personnel officers, military intelligence officers and statistical officers. Many will be sent to other schools upon graduation to do further work in the field of their specialization.

It is understood that the graduates will serve as administrative and technical officers for the fighter squadrons being prepared for combat at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

The Barracks has been an Army Air Forces Technical Training Command basic training since September 1, 1940. Prior to that its history goes back to 1826, making it one of the oldest Army posts west of the Mississippi. Colonel Christian took command of the Post on December 5, 1942.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
January [illegible] 1943

To Train Negro Officers

St. Louis, (U.P.): The first officers' candidate school for negroes in the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command will open at Jefferson Barracks, on January 15. Col. Thomas J. J. Christian, commanding officer of the post, said it also planned to open an officers' training school for negro air force specialists who have received preliminary training at Yale university.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Assistant To Stimson Quits

FEB 1 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—(AP)—William H. Hastie, Negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, said today he had resigned in protest against "discriminatory practices" of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes."

He recalled in a statement that a training center for Negro pilots had been established at Tuskegee University in Alabama over his protests against segregation. Since then, he said, adequate provisions have not been made for ground troops to work with qualified Negro pilots.

"The simple fact," he commented, "is that the air command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

47a-1943

Was Curtiss-Wright to Blame for Crashes of Our Flyers?

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Truman Report Charges Company Produced Imperfect Planes of Type Used by Tuskegee Pilots

By MARGARET LEWIS

JUL 17 1943

Is it possible that pursuit planes produced by the Curtiss-Wright Aircraft Corporation, alleged to be defective by the Truman Committee, could be responsible for the death of eight colored pilots from Selfridge Field and Tuskegee Air Bases within the past two months?

A spokesman for the press section of the War Department on Monday admitted, "There are some Curtiss-Wright planes in use at these fields," but added, "a wide variety of planes are used in training at all air bases."

Flyers killed in unexplained crashes of P-40 planes at these two bases since early in May were Lts. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, Washington athletic hero; Nathaniel Hill, also of Washington; Luther L. Blakeney, Sanford, Fla.; Jerome T. Edwards, Steubenville Ohio; Osiar Kenney, Tuskegee James E. Brothers, Chicago; and Sidney J. Moseley of Norfolk, and Cadet Ross C. Stewart of Baltimore, Md.

Denial Issued

The Curtiss-Wright president, in a statement issued in New York Sunday, denied specifically that his company "has at any time sold or delivered to the government, or anyone else, products known to the company to have contained defective or sub-standard parts."

On the other hand, the New York newspaper PM labelled the Truman Committee's charge the "most shameful story of the War."

This account stated that the committee report revealed that the corporation was allegedly defrauding the government by the following means:

JUL 17 1943

Falsification of tests, destruction of records, improperly recording results of tests, forging inspection reports, failing to segregate substandard and defective material, failing to destroy promptly or mutilate such defective and substandard material and other dangerous practices.

Safety Champion Moved

Reports that Lt. Singh was flying a defective plane at the time of his death could not be verified, but Col. Samuel Westbrooks [illegible] to Ralph Matthews, editor of the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN, at the time of the investigation of this crash, that he had been relieved of command and replaced by Col. Robert Selway, a native of Florida.

At that time some sources stated that it was Col. Westbrooks's fight to get the finest equipment for his flyers which got him into difficulty with his superiors. It was said that he refused to send men up in inferior planes.

Doubts Increase

Although new equipment was issued to the fliers, speculation at that time was rife among Detroit leaders as to whether or not the change of commanding officers meant the new official would force the aviators to use whatever planes were given them.

JUL 17 1943

Josiah Hill, on his return from a futile search for his son's body some two weeks ago, told of reports that the motor fell out of Lt. Hill's ship.

Mr. Hill stated that the commanding officer said the boys were flying a new plane (Lts. Blakeney and Hill were together), and the official insisted that he could not account for the accident, unless it was because of the fog and the boys "crashed before they knew it."

The Justice Department and the FBI have been investigating the Truman charges, and the Justice Department has filed three separate suits against the Wright Corporation, naming eight officers of the company in a suit for damages for the alleged sale of defective equipment to the government.

Lieut. Kenny Killed In Crash

Weekly Review

JUL 24 1943

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., — July 22, 1943 — Funeral service for Lieut. Oscar Armstrong Kenny who was killed in an airplane crash while on a routine flight near here Friday, were held in the Institute Chapel Monday afternoon with Harry V. Richardson, Chaplain of Tuskegee, officiating.

Lieut. Kenny was the son of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Kenny. Dr. Kenny is Medical Director of the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital at Tuskegee Institute, and is widely known because of his affiliation with the National Medical Association and other organizations.

Lieut. Kenny's death brought many fine tributes and comforting messages to the bereaved parents from all sections of the counrty. Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, paid a touching tribute to Lieut. Kenny, stating that he exempliifed the fine qualities of an officer and a gentleman, and that no finer tribute could be made when it was said that he laid his life on the altar of freedom.

A mesage of condolence from Dr. F. D. Patterson, President Tuskegee Institute, expressed for the faculty, student body and the community deep sympathy to the bereaved family on the untimely death of their son.

JUL 24 1943

Chaplain Richardson was assisted in the service by Lieut. James D. Morris, assistant to the Chaplain at the Tuskegee Army Air Base; Rev. Charles W. Kelly, and Rev. R. D. Crockett. The Tuskegee Quartet, composed of Messrs Alvin J. Neely, Leroy Brown, Nathaniel R. McCray and William Wiley, sang "Remember Now Thy Creator." Musical selections were rendered by Sgt. Otis D. Wright of the Tuskegee Army Air Field and the Girls' Chorus of the Tuskegee Choir.

In his message Rev. Richardson urged that the sadness of the hour be replaced with the thought of the beauty of young Lieut. Kenny's life and the nobility of his sacrifice. In these, he declared, we will find the strength and inspiration needed to achieve the hopes for which Lieut Kenny died.

Lieut. Kenny was born at Tuskegee Institute, August 3, 1917. He went with his parents when they moved to Newark, New Jersey in 1924, and later to Montclair, New Jersey, where they lived for several years.

Oscar Kenny was graduated from the South Side High School in Newark. During his high school years he was active in tennis and track and was affiliated with several high school organizations, taking an especial interest in the musical groups. In Montclair he was an active member of Troop No. 20, Boy Scouts of America.

JUL 24 1943

He attended the Julliard School of Music in New York City and later entered the Conservatory of Music, Oberlin College, at Oberlin, he was active in campus organizations. He had a large campus acquaintance and a wide cricle of friends. He organized and became president of the Oberlin chapter of the Metropolitan Guild, an organization which was later especially honored by the Metropolitan Opera Company for its work during the organization's nation-wide radio program two years ago. Also at Oberlin he was a prominent member of the Shansi Committee, a campus organization sponsoring Obes-Chinese Relief. He was named chairman of a staff committee of the Oberlin Year Book.

After two years in training in voice and music at Oberlin, he entered a period of training at the Art Students' League in New York City, and did work in flower arrangement and decoration, showing special proficiency in the wax flower production. While studying in New York he passed examination for the Army Air Corps and was sent to Tuskegee for training in November, 1942. He received his wings and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on June 30, 1943.

The messages of condolence received by the bereaved family came from all sections of the country and the numerous floral offerings beautiful beyond description were banked high around the altar.

Comrades of the deceased flyer served as a guard of honor at the bier during the funeral service. Also during the hour of the service several of his classmates flew over the Chapel and dipped their planes in tribute to their departed comrade.

At the conclusion of the impressive service the casket, draped with an American flag, was carried outside of the chapel to the funeral car for further military honors which included the firing of three volleys by a specially selected group of comrades from the Tuskegee Army Air Field, and the sounding of taps by a burler.

Missing 99th Squadron Pilot With Members Of Unit

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
JUL 24 1943

99TH FIGHTER PILOT MISSING IN ACTION — This informal picture of members of Flight "C" of the 99th Pursuit Squadron now based somewhere in North Africa was taken before one of the most popular members of the group was reported "missing in action." He is 2nd Lt. James L. McCullin of St. Louis, Mo., indicated by arrow, who failed to return to his base after a combat flight on July 2. On that same day, however, 1st Lt. Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Indiana, was officially credited with shooting down an Axis plane.

Shown kneeling, are 1st Lt. James B. Knighten, Tulsa, Okla. (left) and 1st Lt. Sherman W. White Jr., Montgomery, Ala. Standing, left to right, are 1st Lt. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; 2nd Lt. Samuel M. Bruce, Seattle, Wash.; Lt. McCullin; 2nd Lt. George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Lt. Hall, flight leader, and 2nd Lt. Walter I. Lawson, Newtown, Va. (Exclusive Journal and Guide Photo by Thomas W. Young)

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

D. C. PILOT OF "99TH"

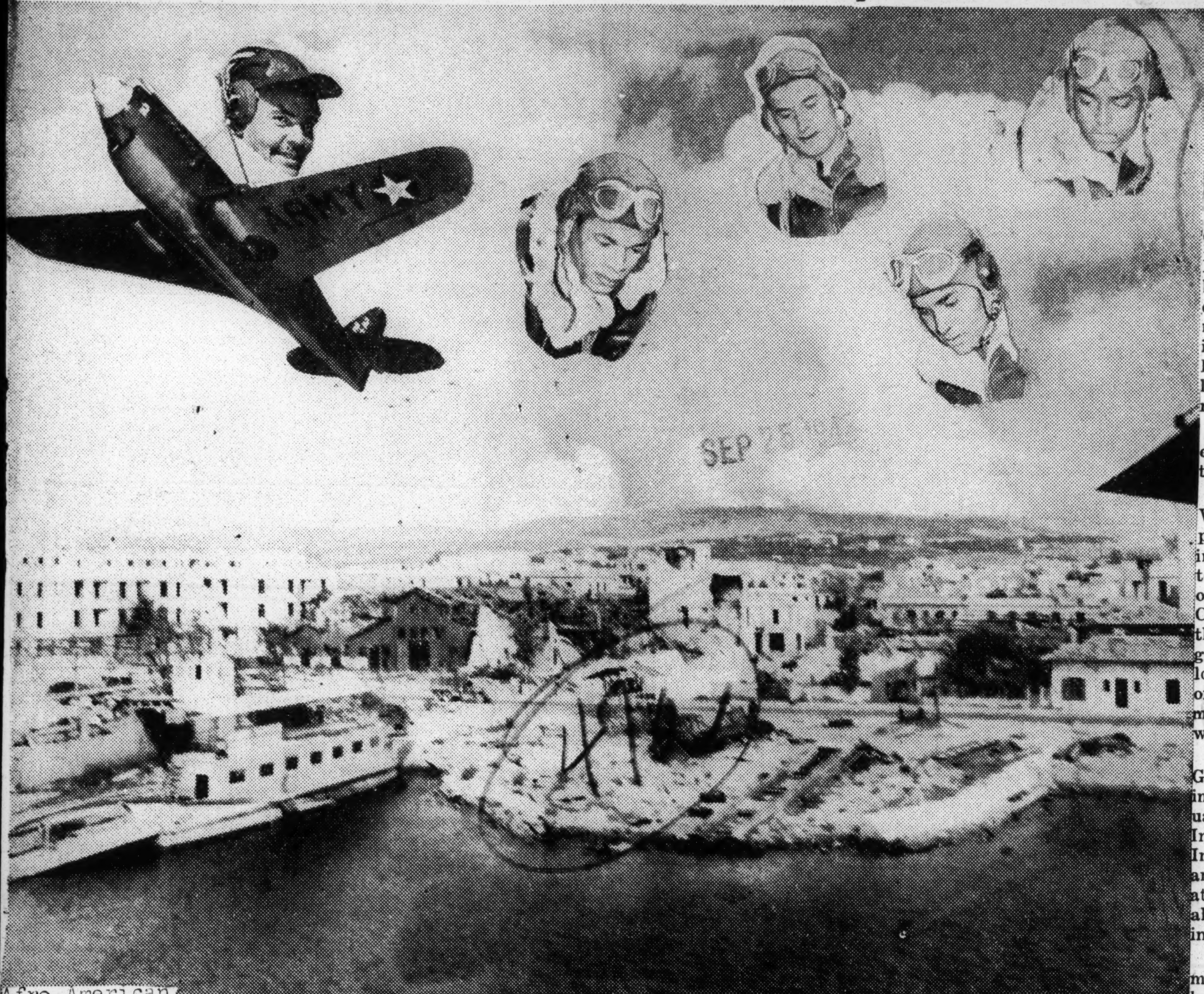
KILLED IN ACTION

Washington. — The report that Lt. Paul G. Miller, a flier, was killed in action in the Nirth African area, August 11, was confirmed by the War Department Saturday. He was a pilot with the 99th Pursuit Squadron, now based in Sicily. The details of the action in which he was killed were not made known.

Lieutenant Miller was a resident of the District of Columbia and a graduate of Howard university.

Also confirmed was the death of Charles S. Chisholm, Jr., also of Washington. He, too, was killed in action in the North African area. His death occurred August 21.

Our Flyers in Air Blitz that Knocked Sicily Out of the War



SEP 25 194

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

View of damage which our flyers helped bring about in Sicily to open the way for invasion of Italy. Inserts show some of the 99th Fighter Squadron who participated and a plane of the type they fly. Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, former commander of the unit, told at a press conference in Washington recently how our boys "dropped out of the clouds and helped to bomb Sicily out of the war."

LT. COL. DAVIS REPORTS HIGH MORAL FOR 99TH

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.
1943

Newark, N. J., Sept. 25.—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., one of the heroes of the Sicilian campaign and organizer and first commanding officer of the famous all-Negro 99th Fighter Squadron, brought word to Newark yesterday that a big factor in the high morals of the men at the front is the knowledge that their families are receiving their family allowances and allotments of pay regularly each month.

Colonel Davis has returned to employ his battle experience in training a larger fighter group.

Stopping in for a visit at the War Department Office of Dependency Benefits to authorize an increase in his allotment of pay to his wife, Mrs. Agatha S. Davis of 97 Carmel St., New Haven, Conn., Colonel Davis declared that the "efficiency of the ODB in getting family allowances and allotments of pay to the dependents of our men in the service, is a major factor in the high morale which prevails."

Colonel Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, now living in Washington. He was graduated from West Point in 1936. In 1941 he transferred from the Infantry to the Army Air Corps, and in 1942 organized and trained, at Tuskegee, Alabama, the first all-Negro air squadron, the Fighting 99th.

SEP 24 1943

Apprised of Colonel Davis' commendation, Brig. Ben. H. N. Gilbert, USA, Director of the ODB pointed out that the millions of letters received by this activity of the Army Service Forces from soldiers and their families have brought to the employes a realization of their reseponsibility toward the army and the nation. "But," he stated, "when returning heroes like Colonel Davis tell us that their men are better fighters because the ODB is doing its job well here at home, it is an added incentive to GET 'EM PAID."

SEP 24 1943

The ODB does business with more than four million soldiers, administering monthly family allowances and allotments-of-pay on behalf of more than eight million dependents of Army men. By cable and radio the ODB receives authorizations for these benefits for the families of men stationed all over the world. And day and night, on two shifts, and on every holiday except Christmas, the employes of the ODB work to GET 'EM PAID.

'Time' Reveals Army Stand On the 99th

SEP 20 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 23. (ANP)—Outspoken "Time" magazine gives the lowdown on the actual position of the Negro in the war effort in its current issue. Speaking of the 99th pursuit squadron, the magazine avers that the high command of the air force is not pleased with the work of the squadron, regardless of glowing reports from the front and that the same command has in mind placing the squadron on convoy duty aboard instead of permitting the men to develop as normally they would if given additional combat work. This does not interfere with plans for the organization of other units, however.

Speaking of combat units, the article continues and says that few area commanders abroad want Negro troops; those that do accept them, want them only in small numbers compared with the whites; and then they do not want combat troops, they want engineers and laborers to do the "dirty work" for the army of which there is a plenty.

Criticism is levelled at the War department policy of separate training and units for Negroes. The article is of the opinion that no real value can be placed on the Negro's worth as a soldier unless he is trained side by side with white troops. It ends with the question still unanswered—"which is the better soldier, the white or Negro?"

First Negro Navigators Begin Training in Texas

OCT 30 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Thrity Negro air cadets today began the first phase of navigation training at Hondo Air Field, Texas, the War Department announced.

These students, the first contingent in the Army's program for the training of navigators for the Medium Bombardment Group, arrived at Hondo Air Field, Friday, October 22, from Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama.

Originally planned to begin in December, the training of Negro navigators was pushed forward to October. They will use B-25 Mitchells.

OCT 30 1943

Ground crews for the Medium Bombardment Group have been in training for some time at Selfridge Field, Michgan; Keesler Field, Mississippi; Sheppard Field was started October 9 with an enrollment of about 300.

Walter A. Arrington, 2508 Shannon Place, Northwest, is one of the 30

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO OFFICER HEADS AIR FORCE FIGHTER GROUP

OCT 6 1943

Washington, D. C. Oct. [illegible]—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the first Negro officer to command an air force combat unit, has taken command of the 332d fighter group at Selfridge field, Mich., the war department announced today.

Davis formerly commander of the all-Negro 99th fighter squadron in North Africa and Sicily, and that squadron is now in action in Italy.

The department said that Davis a West Point graduate, will be honored with a reception at the officers club at Selfridge field tonight. Among the 400 guests will be a number of high ranking officers, including Davis' father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR KILLED IN [illegible]ASH

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Aug. 19—Norman DeWitt Gray, Jr., of Natchez, Miss., civilian instructor of the 66th Primary Flying school, was killed instantly here recently when the plane in which he flew (with one of his students) collided with another flown by a lone pilot, it has been officially announced by George L. Washington, general manager of the flying school.

47a-1943

F 47a

INSIDE THE ARMY

Expert Negro Teachers Rank High At Chanute 'Ground Crew' School

JAN 30 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.

CHANUTE FIELD, Ill. — Pioneering in the youngest branch of our military services—the U. S. army air corps —is a small but highly trained group of Negro civilian men and women whose contribution to the war effort is way out of proportion to their number.

Their work is perhaps the most significant of that being done by any group of similar size within our race.

These men and women are an integral part of the huge faculty assembled here from all parts of the nation to train technicians and specialists whose roles are as important as pilots in "keepin' 'em flyin'."

At frequent intervals—for the courses here are streamlined—they turn out large classes of expertly trained aviation machinists, sheet metal workers, welders, parachute riggers, propeller experts, electricians, instrument repair and servicemen, teletype operators, Link trainer repairmen and weather observers and forecasters.

This is the last of the series of articles written by Enoc P. Waters Jr., of the Chicago Defender staff, on his observations and experiences while visiting the army camps.

Negroes Teach Whites

Attached to air corps units in all parts of the world these highly trained mechanics overhaul every plane shot down and put it in the air again, while at the same time servicing the others so that they operate with maximum efficiency.

What Randolph field—the West point of the air—is to the pilot, the Army Air Forces Technical School at Chanute is to the men who work on the ground.

With the exception of the teacher candidates, some of whom are Negroes, the almost two score colored instructors here teach whites. This is unique in our bi-racial army.

It is a shining example of interracial cooperation and of the type of democracy it is hoped will rise from the ruins of this global holocaust. While integration here is not as complete as it is in the officers' candidate course, it is the closest approach the air corps has made in the direction of real Americanism.

The story of how this set-up came into being is fraught with mystery and is being observed with interest by race leaders, for in the whole process the War Department has been mute and strangely unresponsive to questions concerning the set-up here.

99th Ground Crew

As a part of the establishment of the all-colored 99th Pursuit Squadron near Tuskegee institute in Alabama, several hundred Negro troops were sent here for training as the ground crew complement.

It was a hand-picked group of well educated, highly intelligent and alert young men who breezed through their training here leaving in their wake a record etched deeply on the memories of their instructors and administrative personnel.

Shortly after their transfer to the South where they joined the rest of the 99th, the United States Civil Service Commission launched an intensive campaign for Negroes meeting certain qualifications to train as technical instructors in the air corps.

Chicago, which because of men like Col. John Robinson and Cornelius R. Coffey and women like the late Bessie Coleman and Willa Brown is regarded as the Negro air capital of the world, provided the majority of the more than one hundred Negroes here now.

Mixed Classes

In the three hangars in which 90 per cent of the activity of the school is carried on and each of which is large enough to build a couple of blocks of three-story houses, there are scenes, which had they seen them, that would have extended the life of fiery Monroe Trotter and killed, through a stroke of apoplexy the race-baiting Cole Blease.

Here and there throughout the huge institution are Negroes instructing mixed classes, or supervising a white student instructor, or himself being supervised by a member of the other race. A group of five or eight students for the moment unaware of the differences of color because of their common interest in their subject bend over a piece of equipment which has been purposely put out of commission.

A white soldier from Texas pauses in the corridor between classes to discuss with a fellow student, a Negro civilian, a point which has them both scratching their heads.

In All Departments

At one time or another since their arrival here, Negroes have been in every department and every division of every department of the school whether as student or as instructor.

Courses range from five to 20 weeks in length and in the case of prospective instructors an additional 30 days is spent in learning the fundamentals of teaching.

Though the white students, both the civilian and the enlisted men come from all sections of the country, many of them from the South, none of the Negro instructors with whom we talked reported any unpleasant experiences.

One of them named McElrath of Atlanta, Ga., said the southern whites with whom he had come in contact had either been emancipated from the provinciality of the South, or had been able in a very short space of time to orient themselves to the interracial arrangement. This view is shared by many of the instructors here.

Women Too

In addition to Minor Payne, senior instructor who is highly regarded by officials at the school, Colonel Robinson is looked upon with pride. On two of the field's radio broadcasts over national hook-ups, Robinson has been featured.

In the last several weeks, the first Negro women have been added to the list of student instructors. They are Celestyne Miller of St. Louis; Odelia Wesley, Champaign; Ella W. Murray, Ada Harney and Evelyn Ganns,, all of Chicago.

The civilian staff at the school does not constitute all of the Negroes on the post. Three outfits of Negro enlisted men commanded by white officers are stationed here.

Approximately 300 in all, they are the 933rd Quartermaster company; a medical detachment attached to the station hospital here and the 8th Aviation Squadron.

The quartermaster outfit is a transport unit and services, maintains and drives most of the vehicles at the station ranging from jeeps to huge prime movers.

Hospital Help

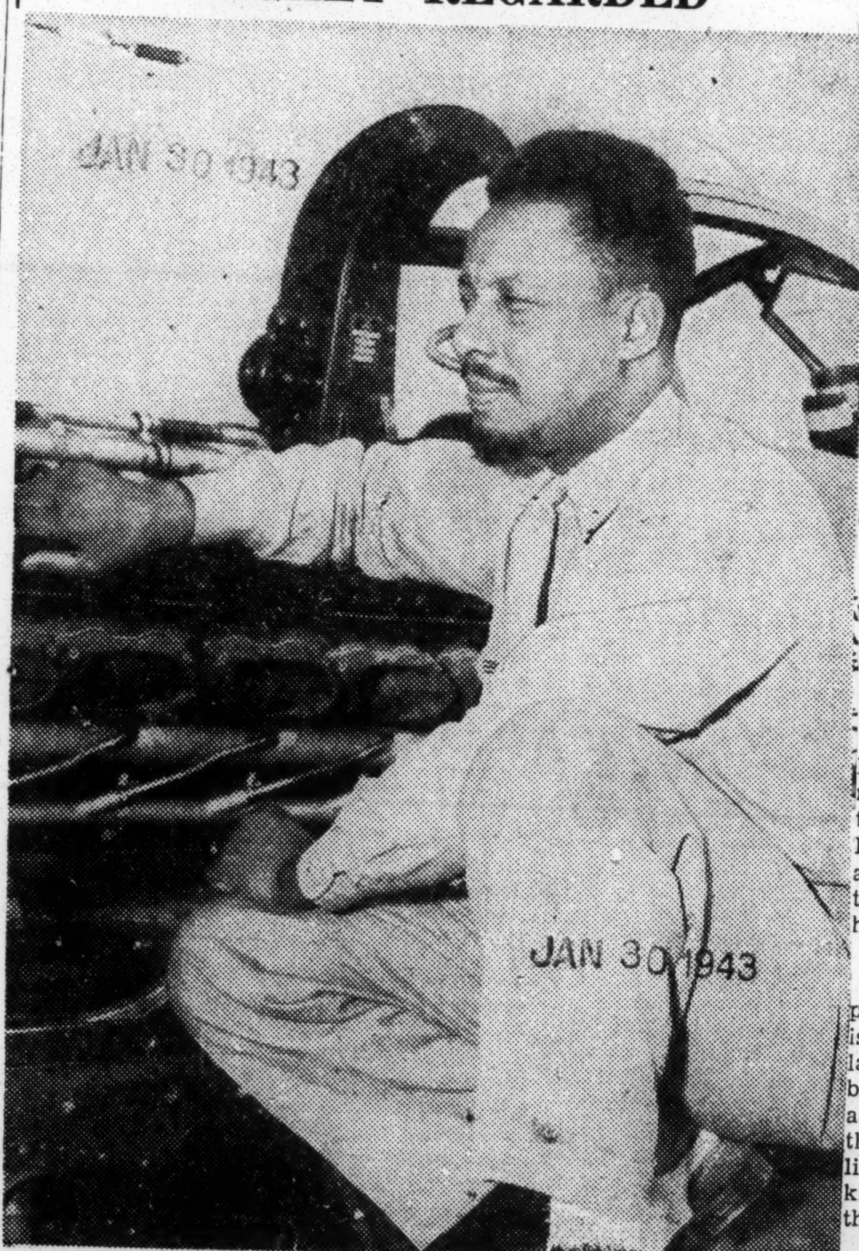
The medical detachment provides unskilled and semi-skilled personnel for the hospital, while the aviation squadron, at present a mere cadre is principally a service unit sed in the school. Presently undergoing training, the men in this outfit will be prepared to train others when the organization is brought up to full strength.

The three outfits are housed in the same area in a recently developed section of the field and aside from living quarters do not have all of the facilities provided at posts where larger numbers of Negro troops are stationed.

The only element to mar what is an otherwise bright picture has been the setting up of a separate Negro air corps technical training school at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Exactly what will happen to the Negro instructors at Chanute Field under this new setup is still not determined—at least for publication. If they are pulled out and all sent to Missouri under the new jim crow setup, army democracy will suffer a bad setback.

HIGHLY REGARDED



COL. JOHN ROBINSON

Chanute Field instructor who was featured twice in national broadcasts from the "West Point" of the Air Corps ground crews.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

JUN 14 1943

Tuskegee-Trained Fliers Hit Island

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—(AP)—The only Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the Allied forces that bombed Pantelleria, it was disclosed Monday.

They flew P-40 Warhawks and were under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, a noted cavalry officer.

The all-Negro squadron trained at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., before coming overseas.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Soldiers Ask Why Colonel Davis Does Not Command Flying School

FEB 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Feb. 18—(ANP)—Why is it that Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., is not commanding officer of the army air school located here near Tuskegee?

That question is being asked by Negro soldiers attached to this base which has recently been receiving considerable publicity because of the strict policy of segregation inaugurated by Col. Kimble.

LOOK ASKANCE AT SET-UP

These soldiers point out that a squadron consists of 13 to 28 planes, a group from 61 to 121 planes and a wing from 125 to 250 planes. Lt. Col. Davis is in command of only a squadron, the 99th, while Maj. Sam Westbrook, white, has charge of a group and Lt. Col. Noel Parrish, white, of the same rank as Davis, heads the Tuskegee Army Flying school.

"Four years at West Point, plus months of training a squadron should be enough to qualify Lt. Col. Davis for the post of commanding officer of the 322nd fighter group or post commander of the Tuskegee Army Fyling school,' these soldiers point out. "Why isn't Davis getting what is due him?"

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Editor's Daughter Describes "Retreat" At Tuskegee Post

MAR 26 1943

Beulah Anne Williams, daughter of Editor L. D. Williams of The Globe and former student columnist of The Globe, is now holding a responsible position in the office of the Tuskegee Flying School. She is a graduate of both Pearl High School (1938) and Fisk University (summer 1942). She describes "retreat" at the Tuskegee Army Post in a letter to her "Dad," received last week as follows:

"The most thrilling sight of all is 'retreat' every evening at 5:15. Everybody stands at attention, the band plays the "Star Spangled Banner" and all the soldiers salute as the flag is slowly lowered. Except the band-playing, nobody makes a sound. The band marches all over the post with four or five companies following and it is a beautiful sight.

"There are about 200 boys in the band and they are all good. The boys out here call me 'Private Williams' and I want to march behind the band but none of the Sgts. will let me. Ain't that mean?

"A Private out here is a rare thing. There are a few Sergeants and a 'million' commissioned officers—most of them Second 'Looies'. There is a big bomber flying overhead now and it really is a thrilling something to think everytime I see one of those things overhead that it is piloted by one of our colored boys. They are really good pilots, too. You know the course they take is very rigid and they have to be good. Only about two of every ten make it."

Battles Axis On Home Front

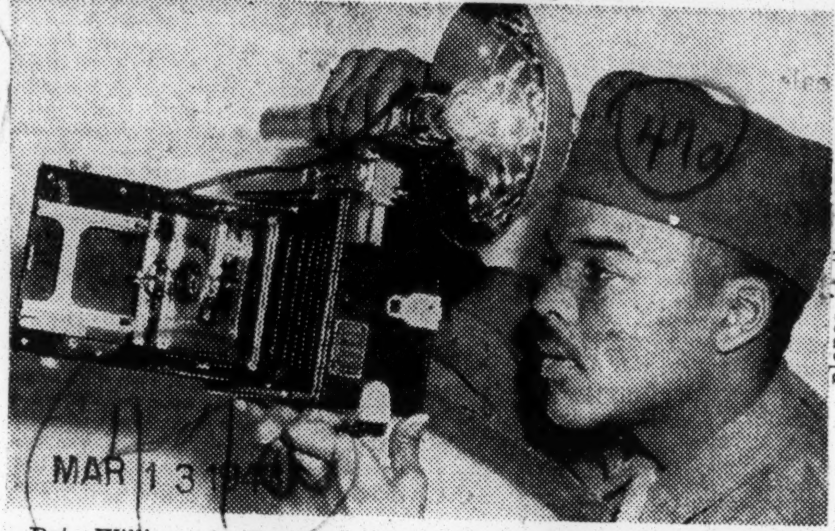
MAR 7 1943

47a

Women are sharing in the defense of America. Here at the Tuskegee Army Flying School, Miss Naomi Polkinghorne, of Pensacola, Fla., is battling the Axis on the home front. She is shown in the Fabric Department of this base. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Polkinghorne, reside at 523 Reus Street, Pensacola, Florida.

AT TUSKEGEE

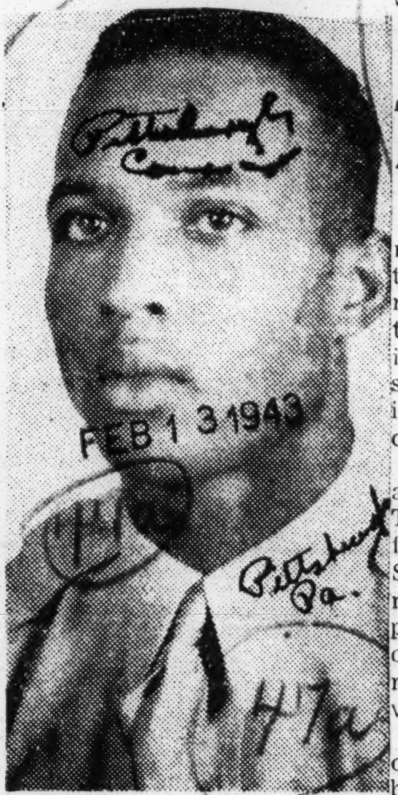
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.



MAR 13 1943

Pvt. William A. Scott of Atlanta, Ga., the son of the founder of the Scott's Syndicate, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying school. His father, who has since deceased, founded the printing association that has aided many small towns in their quest for a hometown paper.

KILLED IN CRASH



Pittsburgh Courier

FEB 13 1943

Pittsburgh Pa.

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While on routine flight last Saturday, Second Lieut. Richard Davis, former Hampton institute student, was accidentally killed as his plane crashed a short distance from the Tuskegee Army Flying School Field.

To determine the cause of the accident a special board of examiners were appointed to make a thorough investigation.

Lieut. Davis was an experienced flyer before entering the Cadet Corps. He was a flying instructor for the Robertson Aircraft Corporation, Lambert Field, Robertson, Missouri. At one time he was owner of a plane in which he barnstormed throughout the United States and South America.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

TWO NEW SQUADRONS FOR 'KEGEE

FEB 7 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4—Announcement here Saturday that the army air corps is forming two new squadrons of flyers to be trained at Tuskegee institute, is interpreted to mean that greater speed is to be developed in forming the unit which has its headquarters there.

The announcement came shortly after President F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee institute had a long conference with Secretary of War Stimson. Rumors have it that many bottlenecks which have impeded the rapid training of mechanics and ground crews in connection with the Alabama base will be speedily corrected.

For a time it was felt that the original 99th squadron which has been on the alert and which was reported absent for several weeks was perhaps on its way to more active fields but it is reported that it returned to headquarters last week. Some doubt exists as to whether the two additional squadrons referred to mean the 100th and 101st which were activated some time ago or two entirely new units.

Aviation squadrons work in units of three. Apparently it has been decided to make an entire unit before sending the men to combat rather than attaching the 99th to a white unit.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

THE TUSKEGEE FLYERS.

Maj. Donald G. McPherson, director of the army air training base at Tuskegee, Ala., says of the men of the 99th pursuit squadron, "They are ready." This is the first squadron of colored flyers in the history of the army and all of the nation impatiently awaits a demonstration of its skill in combat against the country's enemies.

The 99th squadron began training July 19, 1941, and its continued detention at its original base after the passage of 21 months has provoked much criticism of war department policy. Every one who is familiar with the remarkable records of colored athletes has the utmost confidence that colored air men will prove second to none. The Tuskegee flyers should be given the opportunity to prove their worth by an immediate assignment to a fighting front.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Nazi High Priest Shocked By U.S. Negro Air Aces

JUL 3 1943

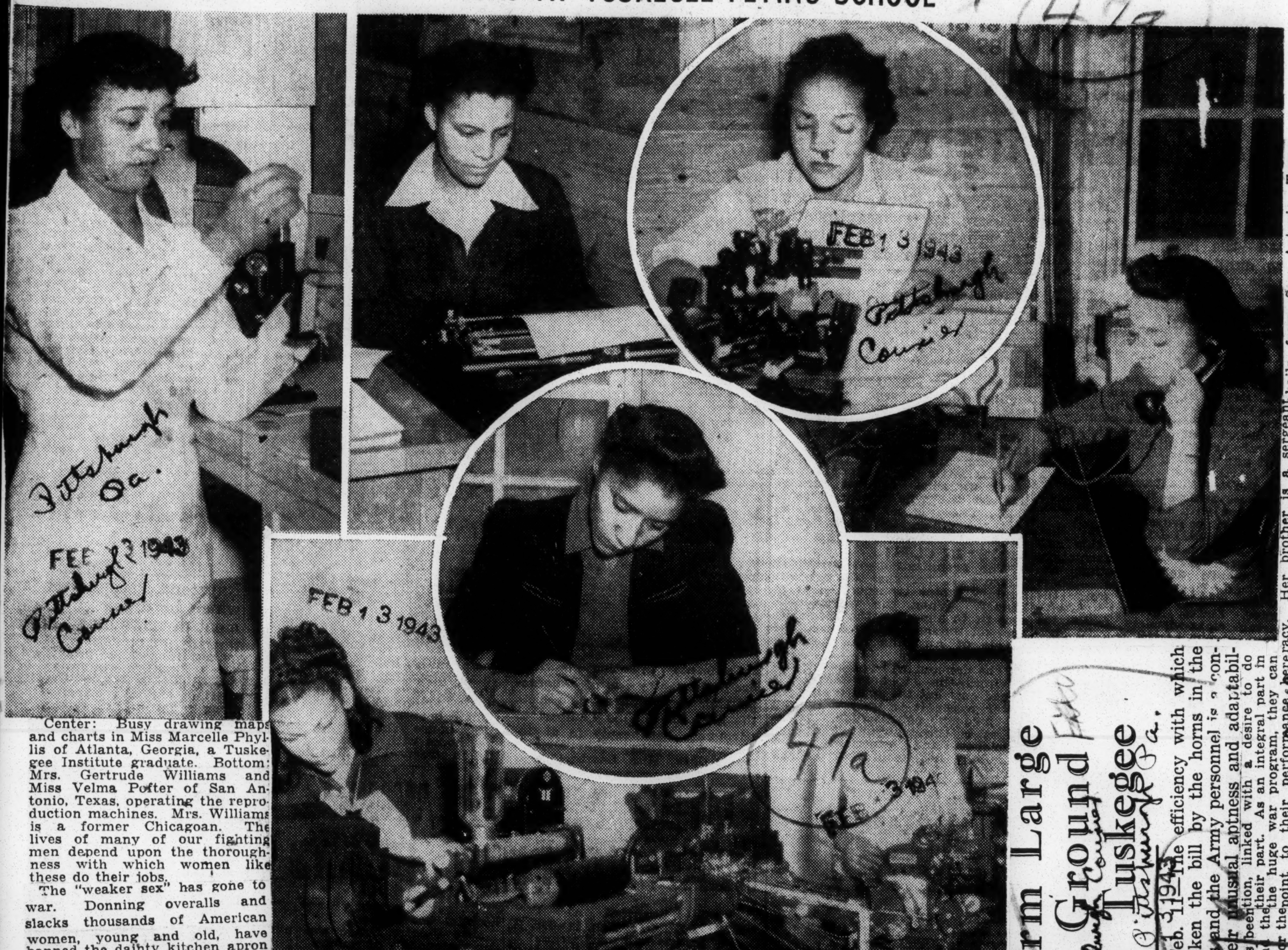
NEW YORK.—Alfred R. Rosenberg, high priest of the Nazi racial creed, expressed consternation last week over the audacity of American culture permitting Negroes to fly planes in the war against the Axis.

In an address before 400 newspapermen in Vienna, picked up by the Columbia Broadcasting system, Rosenberg referred disparagingly to use of colored airmen in Allied attacks on Pantelleria. He said:

"The Yankees even fly their bombers with Negroes sitting in them. This shows to what a low level American culture has fallen.'

47a-1943

WOMEN PERFORM IMPORTANT TASKS AT TUSKEGEE FLYING SCHOOL



Center: Busy drawing maps and charts in Miss Marcelle Phyllis of Atlanta, Georgia, a Tuskegee Institute graduate. Bottom: Mrs. Gertrude Williams and Miss Velma Porter of San Antonio, Texas, operating the reproduction machines. Mrs. Williams is a former Chicagoan. The lives of many of our fighting men depend upon the thoroughness with which women like these do their jobs.

The "weaker sex" has gone to war. Donning overalls and slacks thousands of American women, young and old, have banned the dainty kitchen apron and rolled up their sleeves to do a big job in this man's war.

At Tuskegee Army Flying School invaluable aid is given by women. The scenes above show at left: Miss Helen E. Allie, laboratory technician, at work. In the next photo at top: One of the many outstanding clerks of the field, Miss Violet Brown, attached to the Quartermaster Corps. Miss Brown is formerly a resident of New York. Miss Lillian Register of Pensacola, Florida, is shown at her desk going through her daily routine as requisition clerk. At right: The first woman aircraft dispatcher, Miss Cecelia Dixon of Columbia, S. C.

Girls Form Large Part Of Ground Crew At Tuskegee

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.
FEB 13 1943
File
47a

TUSKEGE, Ala., Feb. 11—The efficiency with which the weaker sex has taken the bill by the horns in the numerous war industries and the Army personnel is a convincing revelation of their unusual aptness and adaptability. The "red bandanna" has been discarded for ear phones and the kitchen apron packed away for the leather rubber aprons for the duration.

The Tuskegee Army Flying School presents one of the first opportunities by which the Negro woman has found opportunity to serve in skilled jobs that are a part of the many tasks in "Keep 'em Flying" at a wartime flying field.

Only a few of the women working at this station were technically trained in their respective jobs, butt hey have succeeded by their courageous spirit and determination, linked with a desire to do their part. As an integral part in the huge war program, they can point to their performance here with pride.

The majority of these unsung heroines who "Keep 'em Flying" are under 21 years of age and spend their spare time in supporting the activities of the USO. They come from New York, Los Angeles, and from the smaller cities of the South.

Take for example, Mrs. Gertrude Williams of Chicago. She attended Sumner high school in St. Louis, Mo., and later the University of Illinois for two years. Her entire family typifies the spirit of democracy. Her brother is a sergeant at Camp Lee, Virginia. Her mother is a director of a USO branch in California, and her father is an examining physician at Lambert Field, near St. Louis, Missouri.

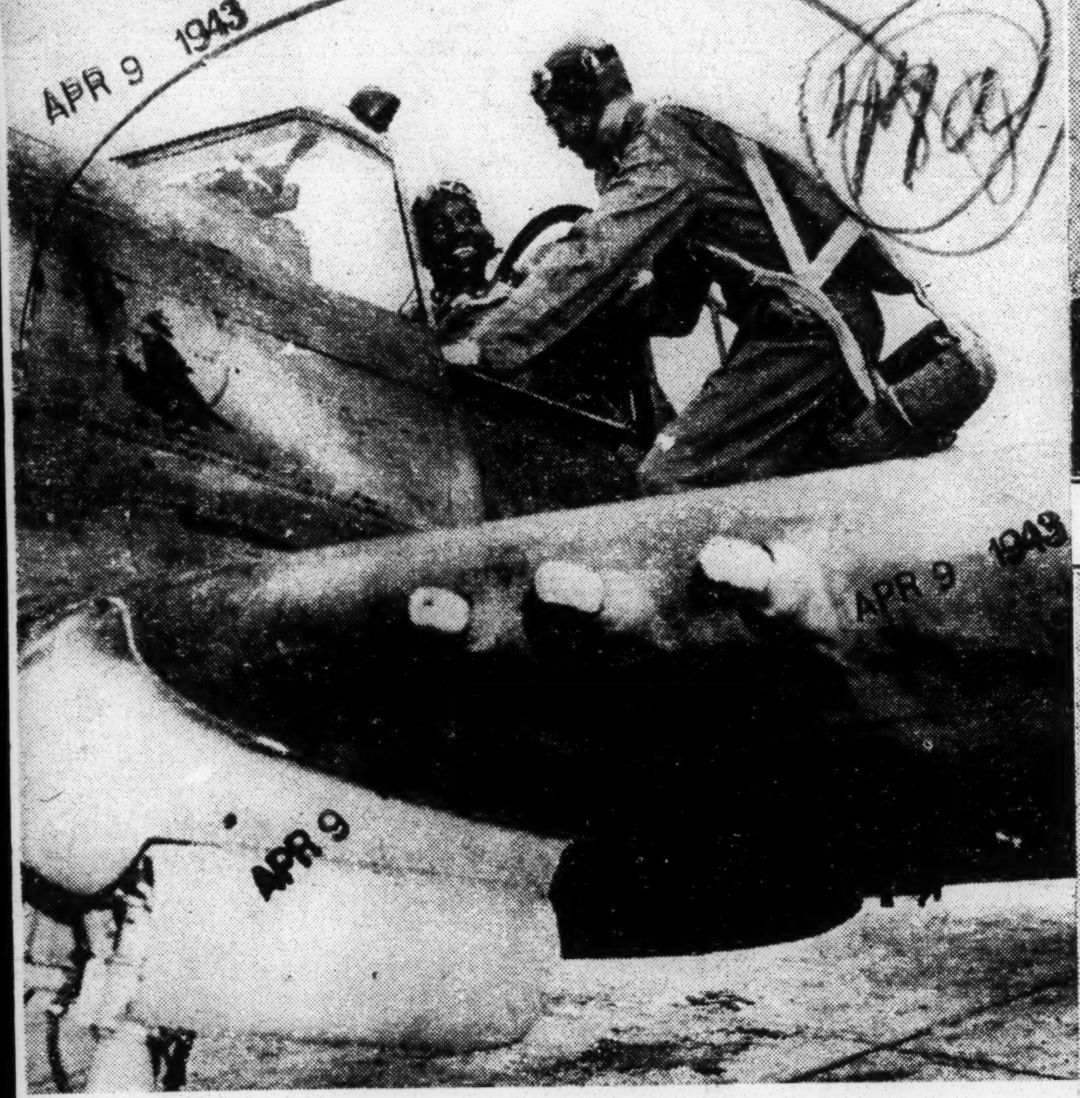
Only 20, and the mother of a baby boy, she operates the intricate reproduction machinery at the Sub Depot here. She and her coworker are specialists in the handling of the lithograph, multigraph, multilith and addressograph machines that furnish circulars, bulletins and other reading matter to thousands on this Post. Miss Velma Porter, her co-worker, hails from San Antonio, Texas, where she received her certificate as aircraft electrician when only 16 years old. Miss Porter received training at Tuskegee Institute.

From the Quaker City comes charming Miss Helen E. Allie to take over the highly skilled business of laboratory technician at the Base Hospital here. She finished the Mount Sinai Laboratory School and later earned the nurse's certificate at the Mercy Hospital in Philadelphia. She is a resident nurse in Tuskegee, Alabama, and rides twenty miles each day to fill her job as a technician.

They're Earning Wings in Army To Battle for a Better World

PM
New York, N. Y.

APR 9 1943



Lt. Col. Benjamin Davis (on wing), son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin Davis, gives some final advice to Lt. Charles W. Dryden, of New York, before Dryden takes off in a P-40 fighter on a mission at the Army Air base at Tuskegee, Ala

HAS RESPONSIBLE JOB

Probably the first Negro woman aircraft dispatcher is lovely and petite Miss Cecelia Dixon of Columbia, S. C. A former West Virginia State coed and dancing star she claims the A. K. A. as her sorority. Miss Dixon shelved her social duties for war duties, and now gives the all clear signal to incoming and outgoing air craft at this field. Her job is probably one of the most responsible ones on the field.

Pittsburgh Courier

In the fabric repairing department down on the line, patching up damaged wings, ailerons and rudders, is Mrs. Adelle McDonald of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, classified as a mechanic learner. The friendly, plump housewife is a former Stillman Institute Junior College student.

Two of the most proficient clerks on the Post are two charming young office workers at the Quartermaster Corps. They are Miss Violet Brown and Miss Lillian Register. The requisition clerk, Miss Register, hails from Pensacola, Fla., and boasts of her brother in the service who is stationed at Camp Lee, Virginia. She attended Tuskegee Institute while Miss Brown comes from Harlem in New York, N. Y. She also has a brother in the Army. Miss Brown, athletic and nineteen, is the chief clerk at the Quartermaster Office at this station.

FEB 13 1943

WOMEN IN GROUND CREW

Last but not least of the versatile group of skilled ground crew personnel is Miss Marcelle Phyllis Reid of Atlanta, Georgia. Miss Reid, although on the ground, is to the pilot what the navigator is to the chief pilot in the large bombers. She plots the cross-country courses that our flying officers take in their routine flights. Holding a degree from Tuskegee Institute, Miss Reid is so thoroughly trusted by the officers that they seldom check behind her accuracy that makes her an artist in the field of navigation

These young ladies form part of the ground crew that make it possible for the pilots here to undergo their training. They are proud of their jobs that indirectly will send down to earth in flames the planes of our enemies.

Some of our enemies give medals to their women for their most bountiful baby crop. American women receive no medals for their service to their household. But they are rewarded as they gaze into the futtile and picture the new world for which they strive. They know that the "Keep 'em Flying" slogan down here at Tuskegee Army Flying School will keep 'em fling in lands where a man's world is a slave world and a woman's world is a slave dungeon.

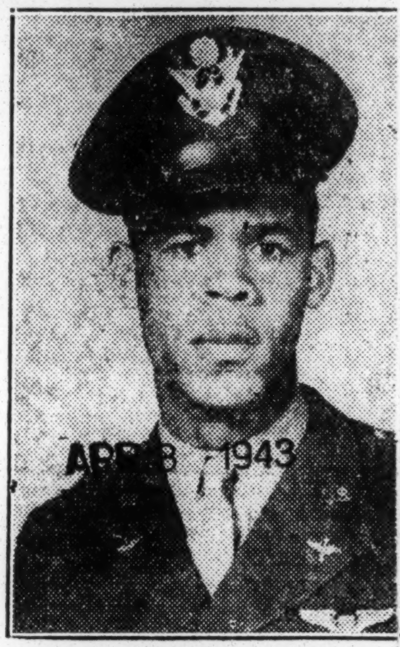
FEB 13 1943

Officers On Duty At Tuskegee

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

APR 3 1943

2nd Lt. Andrew S. Morse



2nd Lt. William E. Griffin

1st Lt. Hayward Burns

2nd Lt. Walter M. Downs

Lt. Morse, former communications officer with the 369th at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., has been recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Flying School, as a finance officer attached to the 96th Air Service Group. Lt. Morse served as an account clerk in the U. S. Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., prior to his induction. Lt. Griffin of Birmingham, Ala., is a recent graduate of the Flying School. Before entering the Cadet Corps he was a member of the Sumter County Board of Education, Livingston, Ala.

APR 3 1943

Lt. Burns of Dawson, Texas, promoted from master sergeant to his present rank, was recently assigned to the Flying School. He has been in the regular Army for 13 years. Lt. Downs is a member of the most recent graduating class to receive the silver wings and gold bars. He is a graduate of Alcorn A. and M. College, Miss.

APR 3 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

THE 99TH SQUADRON.

In the rotogravure section of today's TRIBUNE there is a photograph of American airmen who are eager for the opportunity to prove themselves against the enemy. They are members of the 99th pursuit squadron—the first Negro aerial combat unit in history. More than 100 Chicagoans are numbered among the pilots and ground crews.

The 99th pursuit is a fully trained squadron. Its instruction began in July, 1941, and the completion of training was formally observed more than six weeks ago when commissions were awarded. The pace of training set by the army air force, which held back the squadron for 21 months, would seem to have been leisurely in the extreme, when the eagerness and aptitude of the flyers might suggest that the work could have been completed much sooner.

The fact that six weeks later the squadron is still at its original base at Tuskegee, Ala., awaiting orders, indicates that it is high time to light a fire under somebody in Washington. A source of strength to the nation is being neglected, and there will be no patience with that.

APR 2 1943

News
Birmingham, Ala

Search For Flier's Body Temporarily Abandoned

Search for the body of 2nd Lt. Earl Eugene King, Bessemer Negro, flier, whose Army airplane crashed into Martin Lake, 30 miles north of here March 24, has been abandoned temporarily due to high water, the public relations office of the Tuskegee Army Flying School announced Wednesday.

E. E. KING

Lt. King took off from the Tuskegee field on a training flight the afternoon of Wednesday, March 24, in a P-40 plane. Reports that he had crashed into Martin Lake were not confirmed until Sunday, March 28, when salvage operations recovered a propeller identified as being from the plane King was flying.

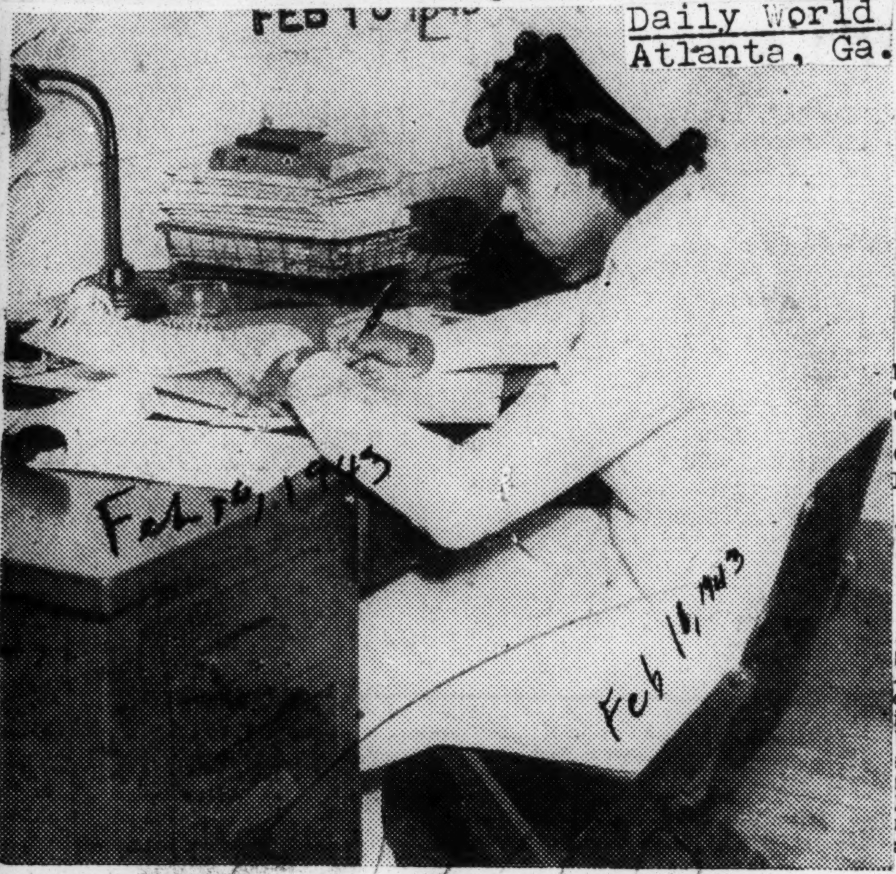
King attended Tuskegee Institute from 1939 to 1940. While attendig the institute, he completed the primary and secondary civilian pilot training courses. He enlisted as an aviation cadet in 1941, and received his wings and commission on Aug. 5, 1942. He was the son of William P. King, of Bessemer.

MAR 31 1943

47a-1943

Makes Final Report For Day

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.


FEB 1 0 1943
Feb 14, 1943
Feb 18, 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)—Before leaving for off-duty following a busy day, nurses on ward duty at the Tuskegee Army Flying School hospital must make out their final report for the day. Pictured is Lt. Abbie Voorhees of New Orleans. After having observed the patients the entire day she compiles all of her observations concerning each patient. This report goes to the head of the medical services and then to the flight surgeon. (Photo by Tuskegee Army Flying School.)

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

ONLY ONE BRANCH IS OPEN TO US

FEB 20 1943

(Editor's Note—In the following statement, William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War in protest against the shortcomings of the military aviation program as it affects Negroes, discusses some additional aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces.)

By **WILLIAM H. HASTIE**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—It was not until March, 1941, that the Army Air Corps began accepting applications from Negroes for aviation cadet training. The actual instruction of Negroes to be flying officers did not begin until several months later. But even then, and to this day, there was and is only one type of combat aviation namely, pursuit flying—for which the Air Command will train a Negro.

Why Can't They Serve As Pilots?

Last week William H. Hastie, resigned Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, charged the Army Air Force with refusal to use the services of capable and experienced colored aviators. Here is the list:

JAMES L. H. PECK, veteran civilian and military flier, writer and authority on aviation, fighter pilot in the Spanish Civil War, volunteer for the U.S. Air Corps. Still on the waiting list.

FRED H. HUTCHERSON, American pilot, who was in command of a white crew ferrying U.S. bombers from Canada to England. Applied for a commission in the Army Air Corps last spring but landed as a victim of red tape and run-around. Returned to Canada as an instructor and ferry command pilot with the rank of captain.

GILBERT CARGILL and ROBERT ASHE, civilian pilots, received telegrams from the Army Air Forces to report to Maxwell Field for service pilot training. On reporting were told bluntly no provisions were made for training Negroes.

ROBERT TERRY, commercial pilot, rejected by the Air Command as an Army service pilot.

MOST DIFFICULT AIR COURSE

How did it happen that the training of Negro aviators was started in the field of pursuit flying? It is common knowledge that grave doubts were expressed from the beginning as to whether the Negro was capable of making good as a combat aviator. The Air Command described and still describes the training of the Negro in aviation as an "experiment." Yet, in face of this expressed skepticism, the Air Command saw fit to begin with the training of Negroes for pursuit flying, the most difficult type of combat aviation.

The single pilot in his pursuit ship has the most exacting of air tasks, handling his fast plane, maneuvering it at terrific speed in actual combat, mastering the technique of accurate and properly directed fire in aerial dog fights, and exercising split second judgment in unexpected situations and emergencies. Why was the Negro, whose ability was in doubt, not started off with observation flying or in bombardment where co-pilots and other crew members assist each other and share and divide responsibility?

Only the men who made the decision know the answer. They may have reasoned that through pursuit flying Negroes would demonstrate their ability to perform any air combat task. Fortunately, it seems to be working out that way. They may also have reasoned that Negroes were less likely to succeed in pursuit flying than in somewhat less exacting work. Yet, in all fairness it should be said that the best of facilities and thoroughly competent instructors were provided for the segregated training program for Negro pilots. And the men in the field who started this training did so with enthusiasm and determination to make it a success.

OTHER COURSES OPEN TO WHITES

FEB 20 1943

Statistics already released by the Air Command show that, during the first year of Negro pursuit pilot training, 42 per cent of the Negro trainees successfully completed their courses and earned their wings as pilots. During the same period 59 per cent of white aviation cadets who entered training qualified as flying officers. Of course the number of Negroes was small and the statistics are therefore not conclusive. More important is the fact that Negro candidates have no opportunity at any stage of training to be assigned to some other branch of combat flying, if they seem not to be well adapted to pursuit work.

The Negro cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing. White cadets are sorted out and placed according to their apparent aptitudes. Under these circumstances, the fact that 42 per cent of the Negroes who had the physical and educational qualifications for aviation made the grade in the most difficult asplishment.

Beyond the fact that the Negro must have the ability for pursuit flying, or else not fly at all, he must meet the special physical specifications of the pursuit pilot. If he is too tall or too heavy for pursuit flying, he cannot be an Army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work.

In wasted manpower, it is difficult to say how much is being lost by imposing such restrictions upon the Negro. It seems probable that some 200 Negro pursuit pilots will earn their wings in 1943. But the Air Command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young Negro men with superior training into flying training.

NO NEGROES FOR COLLEGE RESERVE

When the Air Forces set up their college reserve program, no Negroes were wanted. The small "Negro quota" was already filled for a year in advance. So, while the Ground Forces were welcoming Negro college men into their college reserve, the Air Forces refused to accept them. Even earlier the Air Corps had undertaken the recruiting of groups of men from the individual college campus who would go into training as a unit with the group spirit and enthusiasm developed through their association at college. The Negro was excluded from this also. Thus, only the Negro who went forward on his own initiative, determined despite hell and high water to be a combat flyer, ever became an aviation cadet. Even then, he was accepted only within limited quota restrictions and for one type of training.

Within the past two months, restrictions upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army have been extended to aviation cadets. Apparently, aviation cadets will be chosen almost exclusively from men already in the Army. A new problem faces the Negro. He must apply for aviation cadet training through his commander and his papers must survive a journey through military channels. It remains to be seen whether his application will be encouraged and facilitated to the same extent as the application of the white soldier.

FEB 20 1943

In this connection, one recent experience is disturbing. For more than a year the Air Command has been selecting young soldiers, high school graduates, to be taken from the ranks and trained to become enlisted pilots. They become master, staff and technical sergeants with flying rating. So far as I have been able to discover, Negro enlisted men have not been accepted in this program. How different will the situation be now that both prospective flying officers and prospective enlisted pilots will be enlisted from the ranks of the army?

Two hundred Negro pursuit pilots a year is something more than token representation. Certainly, 200 pilots can make a big difference in almost any of the present theatres of war. Yet the failure of the Air Command to encourage or even permit the full participation of the Negro in flying training and service prevents the number of Negro pilots from being several times 200 per year. If the Air Command should decide to use Negro flying officers and enlisted men without racial restrictions, .000 pilots would be a conservative estimate of annual production.

Of course there would be serious practical difficulties in developing segregated training fields and segregated organizations of many various types in such an expansion. From a military point of view all of this new segregated set-up probably would not be worth the time, expense and diversion of personnel.

INFLUENCE MAY STILL
BE FELT

Criticized For Discriminatory Practices

TUSKEGEE, Ala.-Colonel Frederick von Kimble, commander of the Army Basic and Advanced Flying School here, where colored flying cadets are being trained, has been transferred to a wing command of the southeastern division.. His headquarters will be in Macon, Ga..

The transfer, it is believed, puts him in line for promotion to the rank of brigadier general and places him in position to continue to wield considerable influence in the shaping of policies and practices at Tuskegee, since the flying school here will be under his command administratively.

Colonel Kimble has been severely criticized for Jim Crow practices which have been in effect here under his command.

He is said to have been responsible for the placing of Jim Crow signs on various facilities on the post together and requiring complete segregation of colored and white commissioned personnel, except where their duties compelled their working

Blame Command For Low Morale At Tuskegee Base

(Editor's Note—Immediately after William H. Hastie, recently civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, made his militant expose of narrow U. S. Army policy at the Tuskegee Army Flying school, The Pittsburgh Courier rushed one of its ablest traveling reporters to the scene to make a first-hand study of present conditions at the much-discussed air base.)

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

FEB 20 1943

By Special Correspondent

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Feb. 18—Judge Hastie's resignation and his accompanying statement exposed the outline of the major grievances of the Negro's position in the U. S. Army Air Forces. There is, in addition, a multiple of minor grievances at the Tuskegee Army Flying school which prevent this one and only instance of the Negro's participation in the Air Forces from being the splendidly functioning unit it ought to be.

Each separate complaint regarding the situation at Tuskegee is relatively unimportant, but the total adds up to dangerously lowered morale. Both officers and enlisted men are smoldering with resentment, when a few bold strokes by way of eradicating the evils would leave them bursting with pride. They are proud of the field, of its orderly rows of new buff buildings, the bright green winter grass, the breath-taking stretch of the apron—all lying flat and shining under the intense blue of the southern sky.

But they are soul-sick over the relentless impact on their lives of the hatred of white Alabama in general and the little town of Tuskegee in particular. Their morale is low because they feel that the Command at the post has tried to placate the hatred of a poor, insignificant, little Southern town like Tuskegee, rather than assert the authority of the United States Army and protect the men at any cost. If a soldier has got to feel that his is the best army in the world, how is he going to feel that way if his army can't lick a Tuskegee, Alabama?

Aside from the initial fact that there should be no segregated flying school, nor segregated units at all is the com-plaint that a handful of white men run the whole show, It is contended that segregation, if it must be endured, ought to work all the way to the top as well as it does on the lower levels.

Let's have a look at the Command at the Tuskegee air base. The infamous Colonel Frederick V. H. Kimble has not yet gone. He departed February 5, but returned on February 9 and everyone has begun to fear that he is going to establish his new office at Tuskegee. It is said that he "likes" it there. However, while his promotion to Brigadier General is pending in Congress, he has checked over to Cochran Field near Macon, Ga., where he will command a wing. Whether the group allegedly being formed at the Tuskegee post of the 99th, 100th and the 301st squadrons will be part of that wing is a matter of conjecture. Actually, Colonel Kimble, in commanding the area, is still in control at Tuskegee, whether he moves or not.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

RACE AND COLOR NO BAR TO FLYING FOR ENGLAND IN ROYAL AIR FORCE, AFRICAN OFFICER REVEALS

By Rudolph Dunbar

LONDON-- Africans and West Indians whose academic, technical and physical capacities fit then for the rank of Officer in the Royal Air Force are given commissions. Recently commissioned is Adeniyi Peter Thomas from Nigeria proud possessor of a pair of wings signifying that he is a qualified pilot.

Ten years ago he and some youthful companions set out from Kakawa st, Lagos, to see the "miracle" of Sir. Alan Cobham's flying boat in the Lagos Lagoon. These african boys were so keen on flying that later they saved their pocket money for short flights in Mr. Carpenter's private airplane at the A papa Airfield.

1-7-43

Young Adeniyi in far away Nigeria was so much moved by the stories of the exploits of the RAF in the Battle of Britain that he sailed for England determined to become a pilot Mr. Carpenter was one of the first instructors he met in Britain and he thus received his training from an old friend at an English air training school.

"There has been much hard work, and there have been many difficulties to overcome, but I have enjoyed every minute of it," he said.

Pilot Officer Adeniyi Peter Thomas strange sounding Christian name -- Adeniyi -- meand "Crowned with Glory." He is 27 and was educated at Lagos Grammar school and King's College.

His father, Peter J. C. Thomas is one of the most prominent merchants in Lagos.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

COLORED AVIATION MECHANICS GIVEN WORK BY AIR CORPS

MAR 12 1943

Men Trained at Canute Field Sent to Several Southern Posts

CHICAGO, Mar. 4—(ANP)—The aviation mechanic instructors, trained at Chanute field during past year, have been placed. The men have been transferred to several different schools in squads of 16 to make up a unit for the most part. The stations or depots to which they have been sent are Wichita Falls, Tex., Amarillo, Tex.; Gulfport, Miss.; Biloxi, Miss.; Goldsboro, N. C.; Lincoln, Neb., and a few are still left at Chanute Field.

This distribution gives some inkling in part of the future plans of the air corps regarding the training of Negro aviation mechanics. About a year ago 60 Negro men were assembled at Chanute field, one of the finest aviation mechanic centers in the country, and trained to be instructors. The rumor at that time was that these men were to go to Tuskegee airfield where a great training center was to be set up to school the men who were to replace the mechanics who were serving with the 99th squadron and were expected to be moved out momentarily when that outfit went into active duty.

These mechanics finished their training working along with white men who were being trained in the same skills. The men came from every walk of life. There were two or three graduates in engineering, one Phi Beta Kappa from Iowa, one or two who had aeronautical training at a college here in Chicago, lawyers, students and what not. The whites came from a similarly diversified group, though on the whole the Negroes were slightly superior in training. The whites finished in four months and moved out. The Negroes finished but remained. They took refresher courses, they loafed, they merely reported. Nobody knew what was to be done with them.

The Tuskegee mechanic school faded into thin air. Critics still claim that adequate replacements for the mechanics who will go out when and if the 99th ever moves, have not yet been trained. Finally word came that the Negro aviation mechanic school was to be set up at Jefferson barracks in Missouri. This met a storm of protest because it became apparent that instead of training men at Chanute or one of the fields already set up, an attempt was being made to set up an entirely Negro school in the north. The men at Chanute marked time again

A month ago however they were moved out in squads to the six depots mentioned above. Reports show that they fared differently in different places. At Goldsboro, N. C., men were not given instructional duties at first but were assigned to various mechanical tasks, moving planes out of hangars and the like. Finally a group went to the commandant and told him they would like to do the job they were sent there for and they are now instructing. At Wichita Falls, Tex., the men were immediately sent to instructing soldiers. They found living conditions most agreeable and are said to be especially happy over their work and environment. The same report comes from Lincoln, Neb.

These instructors train soldiers in what are known as aircraft maintenance schools. The instructors are presumed to have overall knowledge with a specialty. The soldiers, enlisted men, specialize in some one phase propellers, inspection and maintenance; instruments, testing and repairing. If the planes need a major job these men merely report it and the plane goes to a repair depot. The soldiers who show aptitude are sent to Chanute for a special 42 day course and the instructors remaining at Chanute give that course. A group of 100 soldiers are there now, the first soldiers who have been trained at Chanute since the mechanics of the 99th who were turned out some two or three years ago.

1943

The men at Chanute get along splendidly except for adequate recreation. They go to classes with white soldiers but eat in a separate mess. It is said they do not use the USO house. Champaign, the nearest town, is some few miles away. There are about 300 men stationed regularly at Chanute, quartermaster corps, medical detachment, etc. These men drive officers' cars, trucks, cut grass, clean streets, clean the hospital and similar duties.

MAY 8 1943

Pittsburgh
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NATIVE JAMAICAN FLYER PROVES HEROIC DAREDEVIL FOR BRITISH RAF

MAY 8 1943

MAY 8 1943

MAY 8 1943

By RANDY DIXON
(Accredited U. S. Army War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, May 6—(Censored)—When Prime Minister Winston Churchill spoke his immortal words, "Never before in history have so many owed so much to so few," one of the "so few" to whom he referred was Flight Sgt. Vincent Bunting. Now 23, Bunting three years ago left his post as customs officer in his native Jamaica and came to England to volunteer for King and Country, in the air service.

He was apt and eager and earmarked as a great pilot of the future. Many other candidates were shipped off to Canada for training but Bunting was kept in England and in an incredibly short span of time, had won his silver wings, RAF emblem, and was taking to the skies in the battle of Britain to stymie the hell-tossers "Jerry" had strewn aloft.

He flew with the regular squadron and soon became known thruout Britain and in the enemy camp as well, as one of the most daring and accurate shooting among the immortal "so few."

MAY 8 1943

BUSY CAMPAIGNER

Later, Bunting participated in the battles of Egypt and Libya and always he returned with his battle-proven Spitfire fighter, to the dismay of the Huns and the delight of the Britishers.

Bunting has escaped injury so far, but once they almost got him—through a cleverly conceived trap. Returning from escorting American Fortresses on a devastating sortie over Occupied France, he espied two Messerschmitts flying over the Channel at low level. He swept down and was coming onto their tails when some intuitive force commanded him to glance around, and there right behind him were three additional enemy planes. The two flying at low level had been the bait.

He made a quick arc with his plane skimming the water by a few feet, and hastened on to safety. On another occasion, he has been out on a sortie and was returning to his base near Tobruk when the radio flashed that Toburk 'had fallen and for pilots to proceed to another landing field. His petrol tank was nearly empty but with the aid of a benevolent tail-wind that sprung up from nowhere, he just did manage to make it behind his own lines. Bunting is an affable, likeable chap, and as you read this little piece is probably up there. That's the credo of the "so few."

NEW YORK POST
Circ. D. 219,363 S. 164,785

JUN 14 1943

U. S. Negro Flying Unit Helped Bomb Pantelleria

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, June 14 (AP)—The only American Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the Allied forces that bombed Pantelleria, it was disclosed today.

They flew Warhawks and were under the command of Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, a noted cavalry officer.

The all-Negro squadron trained at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., before ~~coming overseas.~~

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

APR 24 1943

COLORED AIR PILOTS WILL AMAZE CRITICS

FIRST U. S. FLYERS TO CHALLENGE AXIS PLANES IN SPAIN, AFRICA

Recent transfer of Colored aviation units from Alabama to Michigan and New York has again focused national (and international) attention on the possibilities of Colored pilots "shattering the Axis" with medium and light bombers, heavy flying fortresses, fighters, interceptors and pursuit, coastal patrol and vital observation aircraft.

APR 24 1943

"It can't be done" is the dogmatic dirge from certain political and prejudiced brass-hats within our nation.

"It can be done", says Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, American flying ace of world war one, high executive of the popular Eastern Airlines, and unquestionably an authority on air-warfare, if there ever was one.

APR 24 1943

"It's all a big joke," laugh the (superior) critics, "Colored men can't fly. Colored men haven't the fast mental and physical reactions to become airmen . . . The Colored race is too dumb for scientific marhines. Colored aviators will never see action in this war."

APR 24 1943

Judge Hastie Disgusted

The wise counsel of American aviation ace, famous Eddie Rickenbacker has been completely lost in the "jumble of prejudice," some of which unfortunately emanates from Washington, D. C. An aroused American Colored citizenry, led by democratic organizations including the colored press, has only thus far succeeded in breaking the ice to a limited extent. A few "colored" aviation units have been established an doriginally all of them were in the deep south. The first units were seemingly "ground crew" affairs not withstanding the very attractive news photos of "colored airmen" in your favorite weeklies. The supposition is that until Mr. Hastie got busy, the plan was to make colored "airmen" mostly ground crews and hanger laborers. Even Dr. William H. Hastie, Civilian Aid to the War Department quit in disguest.

APR 24 1943

Col. Robinson, Hero

The funny part part of all this foolishness, ladies and gentlemen, is the already recognized (and published) fact that colored aviators were among the first Americans to challenge Axis planes in this war.

APR 24 1943

Four days after Benito Mussolini of Italy opened the present conflict with the criminal October 1935 attack on defenceless Ethiopia, an American air hero was acclaimed in the U. S. daily papers.

The American air hero so widely acclaimed in the world wide news dispatches was Col. John Robinson, a Chicago flyer who volunteerd to fight the Axis (EIGHT YEARS AGO), before America entered the war, and who fought off FOUR Italian planes singlehanded while flying a comparatively ancient "crate." Robinson had tried in vain to enlist in the U. S. Air Corps and had been turned down like so many others. Colored pilots also fought in Spain against the Franco Axis regime. The colored air heroes in Spain were active long before we declared war.

APR 24 1943

Col. Julian Helped

Eight years ago, Colonel Robinson was foremost among American war pilots and was honored by the name of the "Brown Condor."

APR 24 1943

France and Britain both had colored war pilots in action before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The Jap attack was the concrete clincher to our War Department that "other nationalities" can fly battle planes. The Japs were tragically under-rated as war pilots and we paid heavily for our mistake. The non-aryan Japs have proved better and more effective air-pilots than the "aryan" Italians.

For years, Colonel Hubert Julian, the so called "Black Eagle of Harlem" tried futily to convince this nation that all nationalities should be encouraged to serve the U. S. Air Corps. In spite of Julian's flair for showmanship, he kept the

GUARDIAN — JACK Apr 23 ..
Roving Along—Continued 2 ..

colored air pilot question before the American public, the press and radio. While people laughed at the "Black Eagle" his pioneer efforts were causing serious thought.

APR 24 1943

Locals In Airforce

While numerous misinformed persons were still contending that Colored Americans were incapable of flying planes, I was exchanging aviation columns with Ben Hunter the first class colored aviation editor of the Washington, D. C. Tribune.

Years before Pearl Harbor there were as many as 70 licensed colored air pilots in America. There was a national colored air club centered at Chicago. There were colored licensed commercial pilots, one of them being Johnny Green of Boston's Third Battalion, 372nd Infantry. Other licensed pilots included Ross Wheeler of Springfield, and Walter Hareld Jr., both of East Providence. Recent reports indicate that Lieut. Alvin Williams of Boston, formerly Technical Sergeant of Boston's 372nd is now one of more than 100 colored commissioned officers with the 332nd Fighter air force Selfridge Field, Michigan. Many New England boys have cast their lot with the Army Air Corps.

APR 24 1943

Boston Plane Engineers

Judge Hastie's resignation was for the purpose of assuring the best possible training of colored pilots in the best available planes, in the most up-to-date surroundings and possessing all of the equal chances and opportunities of other air cadets. Is this too much?

A half-trained pilot can not enter combat in any airforce and Mr. Hastie knew that half trained colored boys absolutely had no future in the air. Modern planes can be made faster than good pilots.

The Army has finally decided to become serious in the training of colored pilots. The Navy (as expected) is still unconvinced. Two local boys, Joseph Dunning of Milton, MIT honor graduate; and Eddie Dugger of Medford, famous Tufts School track champion were both called to serve at Army air plants in California and Ohio respectively. It is the Army which is undertaking the training of colored air pilots mechanics and administration officers. So why the fuss?

APR 24 1943

Colored Told To Wait

Present "Blitz" wars will not tolerate the exceelingly slow and stupid progress that has been made regarding colored air pilots, a progress that has already been exposed by Mr. Hastie and requires no further explanation here. Suffice it to say that if our nation had had to wait for the completion of training of colored pilots before launching air offensives in the Far East, Europe and Africa there is no doubt that our armies would be in a mighty ba dway.

APR 24 1943

Training of war pilots begins before hostilities begin or as early thereafter as possible. Yet, at a time when the nation was shouting for more pilots, I know of many fine colored chaps angrily inactive on long unnecessary "waiting lists" and some, I am told, had to wait so long they were finally drafted into the Army.

Chicago Bee

TRIBUNE HITS 99TH'S INACTIVITY

Chicago, Illinois

MAY 9 1943

Its editorial on April 25 indicates that the Chicago Tribune is aware of the harm of segregation. The editorial points out that in the rotogravure section of that day's issue of the Tribune there were pictures of American airmen who were "eager for an opportunity to prove themselves against the enemy." The photographs were of the 99th pursuit squadron.

The editorial states that the 99th pursuit is a fully-trained squadron. Its instruction began in July, 1941.

MAY 9 1943

The Tribune laments that six months after the completion of the training period, needlessly stretched into 21 months as attested by the eagerness and aptitude of the flyers the squadron is still inactive as a combat unit.

"A source of strength to the nation is being neglected," the Chicago Tribune concludes, "and there will be no patience with that."

MAY 9 1943

Bowling at Tuskegee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

FEB 20 1943

FEB 20 1943

A group of bowling fans are shown at the new Tuskegee sport center ready for action. The bowling alleys were recently opened to the officers and enlisted men of the Tuskegee Army Flying School

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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pre-Flight Trainees Go To Tuskegee, Ala.

June 5, 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., June 3—Recently, the first group of aviation students (Air-crew) to complete six weeks of intensive study at the College Training Detachment on the campus of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., were transferred to the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., where they will commence the pre-flight stage of aviation cadet training with the rank and pay of Aviation Cadets.

This class represents the newest method adopted by the Army Air Forces for the training and selection of men prior to their being designated as Aviation Cadets.

The following are a list of the aviation students, cadet training in the preflight phase:

Sgt. Wise, Henry A. Jr., Cpl. Bailey, Buford, Cpl. Roderick, John J., Pfc. Brooks, George T., Pvts. Adkins, Winston A., Alers, Arturo

E., Anderson, Robert D., Bell, Rual
W. Boykin, Arsene, O., Calhoun
James A., Chandler, Robert, Col-
ins, Joseph W. Jr., Diggs, Charles
W., Dunn, Andrew T. Jr., Dunn,
Charles W., Gaiter, Roger B., Gay,
Thomas L., Gordon, Joseph E.,
Gorham, Alfred M., Hall, John J.,
Harder, Richard S., Harrison, Will-
iam, A., Haves, Reginald W.,
James, David F., Long, Wilbur F.
Macon, Richard D., Mason, Alvin
F., Matthews, George B., Moody,
Frank H., Pouncy, Hilliard War-
ren, Rhodes, Samuel E., Robnett,
George A. Jr., Rodgers, Marion R.,
Turner, Davidson V., Westbrook,

Shelby F., White, Charles L., White, Cohen M., Willette, Leonard R., Williams, Kenneth I., and Dilson, Charles E.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

The Tuskegee Flyers

From Chicago Tribune

APR 28 1943

Major Donald G. McPherson director of the army training base at Tuskegee, Ala., says of the men of the 99th pursuit squadron of colored flyers, "They are ready." This is the first squadron of colored flyers in the history of the army and all of the nation impatiently awaits a demonstration of its skill in combat against the country's enemies.

The 99th squadron began training July 19, 1941 and its continued detention at base after the passage of months has provoked much criticism of war department policy. Every one who is familiar with the remarkable records of colored athletes has the utmost confidence that colored air men will prove second to none. The Tuskegee flyers should be given the opportunity to prove their worth by an immediate assignment to a fighting front.

47a-1943

Stimson's Aide Says Negro Fliers Shunned

"Courier-Journal" Louisville Ky.

FEB 1 - 1943

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 31.—William H. Hastie, Negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, said today he had resigned in protest against "discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes."

He recalled in a statement that a training center for Negro pilots had been established at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama over his protests against segregation. Since then, he said, adequate provisions have not been made for ground troops to work with qualified Negro pilots.

FEB 1 - 1943

Says Views Disregarded.

"The simple fact," he commented, "is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

Hastie, dean of law at Howard University here, said that when he took office "the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action.

"In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee. I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. Whatever information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them. . . .

FEB 1 - 1943

Asserts Negroes Not Wanted.

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since."

He described Negro ground troops assigned to aviation as "so-called 'aviation squadrons (separate)'" and said they "have never had a defined function." They are assigned, he reported, to "odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at airfields. The units," he continued, "would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces."

FEB 1 - 1943

Calls Program Unbalanced.

Hastie said that "a few" Negroes were accepted for ground force technical training at Chanute Field, Ill., and "did excellent

Negro Protests Discrimination In Air Forces

Stimson's Aide Quits, Says Views Ignored

FEB 1 - 1943

Continued from First Page

work," but that training stopped with the first group.

"The Air Forces," he continued, "then made efforts to set up segregated technical training 'at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension.

FEB 1

"The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available."

FEB 1 - 1943

He asserted also that Negro applicants for assignment as weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields were rejected although the Air Forces need "large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army."

P. M. Daily
"New York N.Y."

FEB 1 - 1943

Negro pilot officers at Tuskegee Army Flying School after getting their wings last July. They are watching classmates in the air.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Negro Aide to Stimson Quits; Charges Army With Race Bias

FEB 1 - 1943

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Hastie, dean of law at Howard University here, said that when he took office "The Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action."

"In December, 1940, the air forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee," he said. "I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reason in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the air command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. Whatever information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them ...

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the air forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the air command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since.

FEB 1 - 1943

He described Negro ground troops assigned to aviation as "so-called 'aviation squadrons (separate)'" and said they "have never had a defined function." They are assigned, he reported, to "odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. "The units, he continued, "would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the air forces."

Hastie said that "a few" Negroes were accepted for ground force technical training at Chanute Field, Ill., and "did excellent work" but that training stopped with the first group.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Tuskegee Fliers Twiddle Thumbs; White Commander Ignores Order

JAN 9 - 1943

With the opening of a New Year came the plea via radio news bulletin, last Saturday, of a high official of the Australian government for the United States to send more men and planes to the South Pacific and not concentrate too much of its armored strength in the battle against Germany. Japan has been girding its forces while the United Nations have centered their main attention on Hitler, the official warned. Meanwhile, both radio and press continue to ask for more American fliers.

JAN 9 - 1943

In spite of the urgent need for more air strength, the situation at Tuskegee Army Flying School at Tuskegee, Ala., shows signs of becoming worse. Negro flyers are still officially "grounded" as far as any real combat action is concerned, and last week's revelation by the Associated Negro Press of appalling discrimination fostered by the Tuskegee white commanding officer, Colonel Frederick Von H. Kimble. The ANP story revealed the following:

- segregation in mess hall, with Negro commissioned officers and white commissioned and non-commissioned men eating separately;
- appearance of signs in the new technical building wash rooms, "for colored officers" and "for white officers." This in spite of the fact the War Department has allegedly issued orders against such discrimination;

JAN 9 - 1943

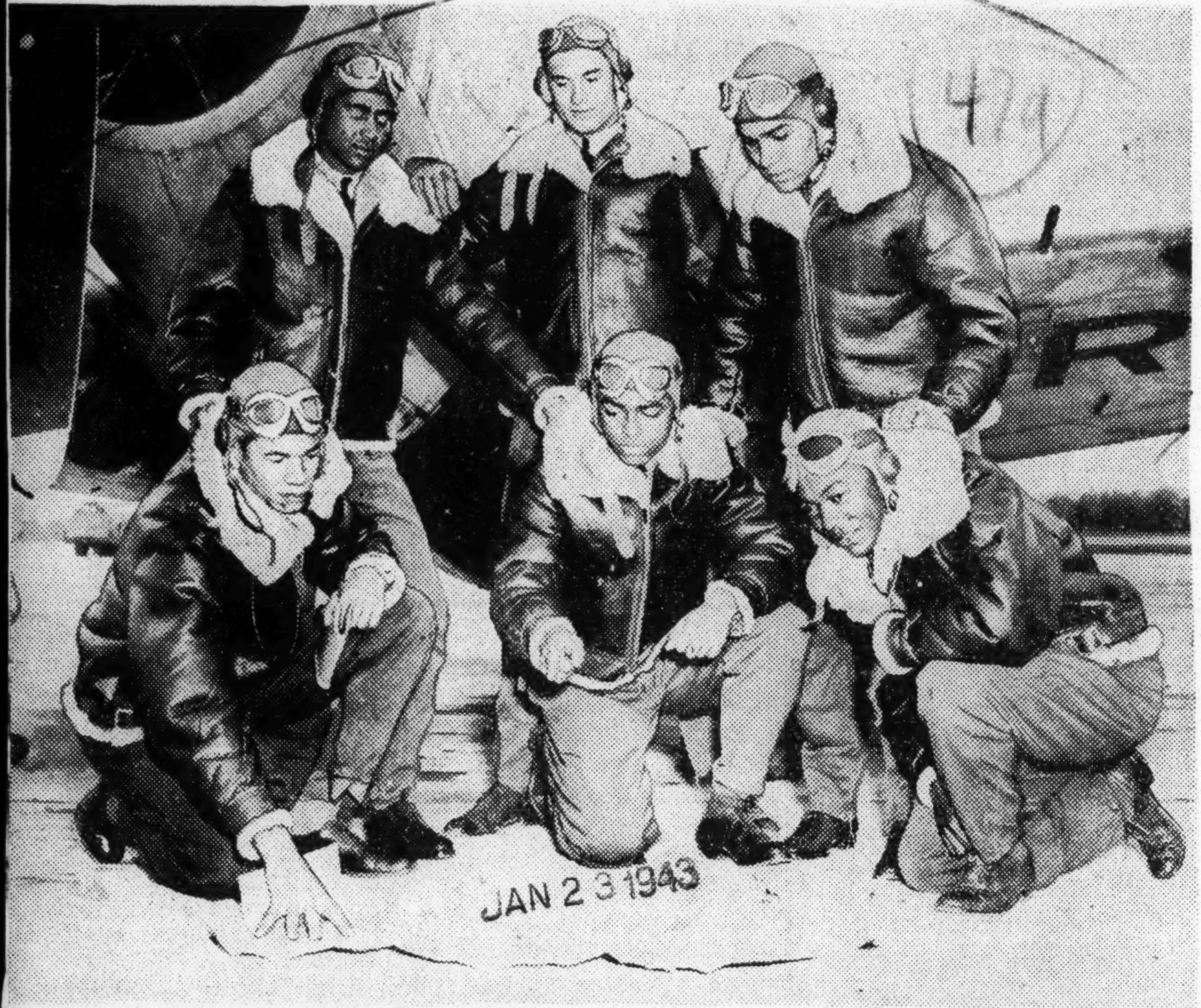
- Colonel Kimble is accused of cooperating with prejudiced white townspeople in the humiliation of Negro flying cadets and commissioned officers and instead of military police, the Colonel is represented in such affairs by a captain of the state highway police;
- social activities and Officer's Club on the post closed to white officers who are actively discouraged by Kimble in any attempt to mix with their Negro brother officers;

JAN 9 - 1943

- executive officer to Colonel Kimble is Lieut.-Col. Hazzard, white, who started as a lieutenant in a CCC camp and within a year had reached position of Lieut.-Colonel at Tuskegee; while qualified Negro officers merely "twiddle thumbs";

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

All Part of Earning Their Wings


JAN 2 3 1943

474

These Tuskegee Army Flying School pilots, members of the class receiving silver wings and commissions as second lieutenants January 14, are shown charting ..r course for a routine flight. ..ey, left to right, kneeling, are: Andrew Maples, Jr., Orange, Va.; George T. McCrumby, Fort Worth, Tex.; Clinton B. Mills, Durham, N.C.; standing, Quitman C. Walker, Indianola, Miss.; Charles R. Stanton, Portland, Oregon; Armour C. McDaniel, Martinsville, Va.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Air Forces to Get 2 More Negro Units

JAN 29 1943

Washington, Jan. 28. (U.P.)—Two new squadrons of Negro combat fliers will be added to the one now in training, Secretary of War Stimson announced today. Negroes are receiving instruction not only in the technical training command of the Army Air Forces, Stimson said, but also at the air ..ficers' training school in Miami.

Columbia ... State
January 29, 1943

APPRECIATION TOLD

Negro troops at Columbia Army Air base yesterday expressed deep appreciation for courtesy of Negro citizens of Columbia in entertaining them.

Approximately 200 Negro soldiers were guests in private homes Sunday. They attended church services in the morning and then enjoyed dinner with their hosts. In the afternoon the troops engaged in games at the Benedict college gymnasium.

The program was arranged through the co-operation of Chaplain Rual Perkins, Lieut. Oscar E. Patterson and Lieut. James G. Major.

47a

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

PROTESTS TUSKEGEE OUSTER OF NEGROES

47a

Please accept our thanks for your efforts and fine article in your paper on the Tuskegee Army Flying school. However what you have said is just a sample of what the truth really is here.

I have been asked by several of the employes to write this letter to you and ask you to continue to help to remove all these vultures of democracy who are trying their very best to drive us out of this base. We have been subjected to all kinds of mistreatments and abuse.

Jan 16, 1943

Several civil service jobs here are held by whites while qualified colored men are denied their rightful jobs and promotions. Some departments that are headed by whites are the machine shop, paint and dope shop, electrical shop, instrument shop sub depot, office civil service superintendent office and several others.

The superintendent who is by name Henneckes, who is one of the lowest, most evil and unqualified type of southerners, has said from time to time that he will not stop until every "nigger" is out of here.

Jan 16, 1943

We are appealing to you and other tax payers who are able to bring pressure on the war department and the civil service commission to remove these men and replace them with qualified colored men.

We need your help NOW, NOW. Please don't fail us now. If the employment of whites continues at the present rate, all the colored will be out in a very short time. We want to keep this base and our jobs for colored. We had a hard time to get it as you know, and now to have it taken away before our very eyes is a hard thing to take, even in the South. If we continue to sit by and do nothing, we won't have it very long. Our fight is at home as well as abroad.

--Tax-paying citizens, Tuskegee Army Flying school.

47a

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

Ask Why Davis Is Not Commanding Air Base

FEB 16 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)— Why is it that Lt. Col. Benjamin Davis Jr. is not commanding officer of the army air school located here near Tuskegee?

That question is being asked by Negro soldiers atttached to this base which has recently been receiving considerable unfavorable publicity because of the strict policy of segregation inaugurated by Col. Kimble.

FEB 16 1943

These soldiers point out that a squadron consists of 13 to 28 planes, a group from 61 to 121 planes and a wing from 125 to 250 planes. Lt Col. Davis is in command of only a squadron, the 99th, while Maj Sam Westbrook, white, has charge of a group and Lt. Col. Neol Parrish, white, of the same rank as Davis, heads the Tuskegee Army Flying school.

FEB 16 1943

"Four years at West Point plus months of training a squadron should be enough to qualify Lt Col. Davis for the post of commanding officer of the 322 fighter group or post commander of the TTuskegee Army Flying school," these soldiers point out. "Why isn't Davis getting what is due him?"

Negro Teachers Transferred

MAR 22 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BILOXI, Miss., March 21.—A group of Negro civilian instructors of the Army Air Corps, who have been teaching ground crew work to white students here and at Gulfport for the past several weeks, have been relieved of duty, despite their admittedly excellent job, and transferred to posts north of the Mason-Dixon line.

MAR 22 1943

47a

News
Birmingham. Ala.

Crash Kills Flying Officer

MAY 11 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— (AP) —Second Lt. Sidney James Mosely, Jr., of Norfolk, Va., a flying officer at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was injured fatally in a plane crash Monday while engaged in a routine training flight in the vicinity of the field.

Lt. Moseley received his commission and wings April 29. Prior to his entrance into the service he was employed in the Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va.

47a-1943

COMBAT IN AIR IS SINGLE AIM OF ALL TUSKEGEE

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Colored Pilots Look to Big Test.

APR 4 1943

This is the first of three stories describing the training of army flyers at Tuskegee, famous colored educational center.

BY ROSCOE SIMMONS.

Tuskegee, Ala., April 3.—Flying—this is all that matters at Tuskegee's huge army establishments for the training of colored pilots.

Here is everything, and everything first class, for eager young men of the air; everything save one—combat. And that, in the opinion of the commanding officer, Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, Kentucky born and Texas reared, will not long be postponed.

APR 4 1943

Promise of action comes from a confident commander. "Simply say for me," Col. Parrish says, "that our boys will win when engaged. Nothing eles counts in war."

Ready for Great Test.

Many of the best from Tuskegee's army flying school are considered fully ready for the test. The plea of one young pilot-fighter defined the spirit of this amazing place.

"We want to prove to you, and all, sir," he said, "that we have fighting hearts."

This is the spirit today of Tuskegee, the famous institute and the air schools built around it, now gone to war; Tuskegee, a pioneer experiment in education wholly dedicated to serving America in an emergency.

Here it was that Booker T. Washington, American educator born in slavery, let down his celebrated bucket. He drew it up from a well of faith and it was filled to overflowing with living waters for his people.

APR 4 1943

Army Turns to Tuskegee.

Almost from the beginning of Tuskegee institute under Washington, thru all the genius of the years of the late George Washington Carver, the [illegible] watched this venture, an [illegible] in education and in the [illegible] field of teaching people of different shades and bloods how to live in peace with one another.

It was to this scene that the United States army turned when it sought a place to establish a flying school in which young men, elsewhere not always pleasantly placed, might learn to fly and fight as they fly, and learn also the construction of every type of flying artillery.

It was in 1939 that the government joined Tuskegee as partner in a civil aeronautics school, the first of its kind. That venture was inching along without fuss when war came and war's decree that other issues and problems must wait or become asides to the main task.

Frederick Douglass Patterson, president of Tuskegee, and foremost figure in the education of colored youth, offered his institution as a place with "every necessary facility for teaching flying fighters."

Unique Among Flight Schools.

Despite arguments and recriminations, and doubting Thomases, the war department broke ground in mud and water in 1941 for the Tuskegee army flying school, the last of the three units here. It is unique among all army flying schools; up to the standard, yes; in many things above the standard.

"It is ours," said Col. Parrish, commanding officer, "and as such we mean to make it second to none." A preacher's son, his faith in human nature crops out all over [illegible]

There are three flying schools at Tuskegee, distinct, but each a part of the whole training program.

They are the civil aeronautics school, first training school established here; the 66th army air force primary training school, the second to be opened, and third, the army flying school proper, where the flyer receives his "wings."

Looks Like Tough Fort.

Coming up on the West Point route you see the first army flying school. It is situated nine miles from the Tuskegee campus. From a train window it resembles a tough, stout fort. Riding back from Tuskegee institute by automobile you are on high ground and the school resembles a citadel guarded by an ever moving winged army.

The school stretches over 1,600 acres of valleys and hills and back water from the lazy Tallapoosa river. It is a busy rallying point of the heart of a colorless, raceless American youth. All things are not as all people would want them, but as for flying, there is nothing to tempt the critic's pen.

Maxwell field, noted air base at Montgomery, is but 30 miles away. The Tuskegee flying school is wholly under control of the war department and is its property. The crack 99th fight squadron is here. Its record is one of great discipline and loyalty. Its flights are pride of the command.

The 66th air forces primary training school is five miles away. It is a partnership school, the war department having the commanding officer and Tuskegee institute the civilian director. The buildings were erected by Tuskegee students, and the 640 acres of land it occupies is owned by Tuskegee institute.

Feeder for Flying School.

It was the first school of its kind established by the war department and is feeder and ally of the flying school. The war department maintains the cadets and their barracks are on the Tuskegee campus five miles away.

The civil aeronautics school, also a partnership venture, is eight miles from the town of Tuskegee, 11 from both Tuskegee institute and the army flying school. It was established to provide a course in flying at Tuskegee.

It occupies 160 acres of land under lease to Tuskegee institute, much of it unimproved, but fit for teaching flying. Its graduates are instructors at the primary school, and represent 90 per cent of the flying instructors there.

APR 4 1943

Praise from Chaplain.

Flying visitors, even from foreign lands, come in to ride with the boys. They wonder at the progress made in the air and likewise the progress exhibited on the ground where all colors are joined in a great task.

Chaplain Douglass Robinson, son of Dr. J. G. Robinson, editor of the Methodist Review, had a word to say. "If," he said, "the war had done no more than open the way here that we might show what we could do, it would be an all right war."

At the primary school the commanding officer is Maj. W. T. Smith, who took over when Col. Parrish was transferred to the advanced school. The civilian director is G. L. Washington, Massachusetts Tech graduate and superintendent of the mechanical departments at Tuskegee, an aviation specialist.

At his school the mechanics are colored, with one exception, and he whistled at his work. The clerks are white and colored, young men and women at ease with one another. The instructors, colored and white, work together at the 66th primary with noticeable enthusiasm.

At the civil aeronautics school Director Washington is in complete charge and instructors and crews are entirely colored. "I was entrusted," said Washington, "with the beginning of all you see."

APR 4 1943

Cites Huge Growth.

From a handful—a small hand—of bold, venturesome young men with headquarters in a dilapidated house built before the Civil war he has seen young men troop this way by hundreds, some to fly, some to teach, and others yet to mend and repair.

But one complaint breaks upon the air. It is that combat, however close, seems too far removed. "If I can get up there," said one young man, "I'll help change things down here."

APR 4 1943

"If, left unannoyed by lip artists," said President Patterson, chief patron of these schools, "from among these young men, of whom any people would be proud, will come heroes as daring as the great Rickenbacker."

FLYERS READY AT TUSKEGEE; WANT TO FIGHT

APR 11 1943

Display Easy Skill Handling Planes.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

(This is the second of three stories on the training of colored flyers at Tuskegee.)

APR 11 1943

BY ROSCOE SIMMONS.

Tuskegee, Ala., April 10.—"Go next door," said Maj. Donald G. McPherson, director of training at the Tuskegee advanced flying school. "Go over and see the 99th squadron, as finely trained as any fighter flyers anywhere."

The major, a Californian, and air combat with every breath, said that he would put his bottom dollar on the 99th. "They are ready," he declared.

It seemed so with each class of young men, busy either on flight or with the endless equipment of an American flyer.

Everything Ready.

The 99th, or at least part of it, made ready with warlike impatience for an afternoon drill in the sky. The drill would sweep territory in Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia, all within an hour or two. Maj. McPherson was right—everything, everybody was ready.

The flight was to be made under command of Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 99th, warrior faced, strong knit; West Point in manner and carriage; tall, and son of the only colored general in the United States army.

The way those flyers arose into space—ease, precision, formation, timing, leveling out for the run—they might have been headed for Africa.

APR 11 1943

The ground crew, white and colored, had been trained by the best that the ground command affords. The crew watched the 99th move upward and away, then quickly turned to the ships left behind. Ships seemed everywhere, all fighters, and the army's best.

Show Fighting Stuff.

One crack unit, having completed the tasks here, has left to get acquainted with bombers and all their allies in destruction. This outfit had shown fighting stuff, aptness, pride in duty.

The army has held back nothing from them and when this is published this outfit may be over the ocean.

The air school is big—two or three plantations thrown together—with shops and hangars as far as eye can see, yet the enthusiasm and anxiety for combat of the boys have already overrun it.

Capt. Clay Allbright is superintendent of fighter training and the big fighters, arranged in formation on the ground, their long, heavy noses poked out and turned up, seemed to know Allbright.

When the boys get here Capt. Allbright can soon determine if they are flyers likely to fight it out in the air, or merely sky rockets, quickly up and soon down.

Thirteen flying and flight instructors are on the ground at the advanced school. They deal only with problems of the air. All other issues they leave to decisions of superiors.

"Wings" Is Magic Word.

At army flying school, cadets are received and assigned for training. Back and forth they move between the advanced and primary schools. "Wings" is the magic word, but only the flying school may bestow them; so every heart is set this way.

White and colored mechanics are working side by side, all of one mind; all in step. Civilians by the hundreds move over the vast acreage; they sit at desks in the corridors. Even the civilians are all war and flying.

The instructors in both basic and advanced training were chosen for the Tuskegee flying school because of capability, and also because they possess the intelligence to deal with big undertakings.

Tension Not Visible.

There have been reports of tension here, but it was not visible to this eye during a visit of a week. And this reporter had free run of all schools. Quick movement, handling of the involved regalia of flight, unaffected alertness and petting of the big planes—these things filled a morning and afternoon of close examination. And the flyers in talking among themselves and to outsiders spoke of nothing but of learning and getting away to have it out with the enemy in the sky.

Humor and philosophy and army poetry abound when day is done, for here are many lettered young men, some from the best colleges, south and north. One flyer poet tried his hand, risking court martial for crime against verse, with this result:

"They say we're off for Tokyo,
"Then Tokyo let it be;
"But Tokyo or Africo,
"This waiting—it's killing me."

Downed Three Times.

A foreign flyer, one with a name for feats in the air, reported that he had been "downed" three times by a Tuskegee "adversary." The story of this place is a chapter in the annals of American aviation.

There seemed too many buildings to count; too many shops to inspect under a week's time. The course provides two months in the elementary school; thence to the big school for a test; months more for the secondary period; then the final steps.

Meanwhile discipline is at work, not hard or tough, but discipline that develops self-control and fortitude, prime requisites for success with an air ship.

As for discipline, the story is a short one. Nothing too sensational has clouded routine.

The trial judge advocate is a well known Chicago lawyer, Capt. Fleetwood M. McCoy, U. S. air corps.

TUSKEGEE TAKES FLYER TRAINING IN EAGER STRIDE

april 13, 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Colored School Is Used to Accomplishment.

(This is the last in a series of articles on the training of colored pilots at Tuskegee, Ala.)

BY ROSCOE SIMMONS.

Tuskegee, Ala., April 17.—The army flying schools were located here because of Tuskegee institute and the illustrious works of its founder, Booker T. Washington, and the things Tuskegee could provide.

Tasks entrusted by the war department to Tuskegee got on faster here than elsewhere. For 60 years the air of achievement, of loyalty, of patient intelligence had distinguished the place. Then, too, Tuskegee townspeople were ready for the venture.

Projects still considered experiments elsewhere had met with success at Tuskegee. Tuskegee townspeople, descendents of the men who saw Booker T. Washington thru dark, hungry days more than half a century ago, have pride in the school. They refer to it as "our school."

April 13, 1943

Flying School Welcomed.

For two generations they had been used to colored youth looking into books, handling tools, erecting great structures, and they were prepared for aptness with scientific instruments and airplanes. And the townspeople were ready to welcome the flying school. Tuskegee residents are accustomed to important visitors and important events at the institute.

Tuskegee institute is the largest, wealthiest, most successful business among American colored people. It was established, built, and administered by them. More educated colored people are found here than at any other single enterprise. Tuskegee's efficiency and thoroness are by-words, whether in office, class room, shop, or laboratory.

From the beginning of the flying schools army and civilian workers have labored together without fuss or friction. "I could ask for no better help," said Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer. In the air or on the ground people are getting on, going ahead to win the war.

Tuskegee Was Ready.

Tuskegee had the jump on other flying centers. Five schools were picked to open up training of colored flyers. Four were for elementary training—Hampton, Va.; Howard, Washington, D. C.; Negro Agricultural and Technical, Greensboro, N. C., and West Virginia State—and one, Tuskegee, was for advanced training. Before this, with its civil aeronautics school a success, Tuskegee had added flying to its course, a part of its vast extension work.

G. L. Washington, director of mechanics at Tuskegee, had impressed the war department when he was coördinator and civil administrator of the first air school. A Massachusetts Tech background fitted him for study of aviation. His school and its achievements had become talk of the industry.

When the government and Tuskegee opened the civil aeronautics school with Washington in charge, the faculty was mixed as to race. Today it is all colored, and all its graduates are instructors at the 66th primary school, forming 90 per cent of that school's faculty.

Praises White Friends.

"I would like only to say," said Mr. Washington, "that my success, a small one, is due to the confidence of the war department, the support of Tuskegee's President Patterson, and the unfailing loyalty of our southern white friends."

Back across the hills are two great hospitals, the veterans and John A. Andrew hospital, seat of the famous Tuskegee clinic for which hundreds of doctors, colored, and white, gather yearly.

4-13-43

But the hospital of the army flying school is one to remember, too. The great array of buildings, spotless inside and out, is staffed with men notably competent in medicine. Its apothecary contains every healing substance.

Lt. Col. Richard C. Cumming, a graduate of Johns Hopkins university, and intimate friend of the men who made Johns Hopkins famous, heads the staff. "We deal here," he said, "only in health."

Autographed photographs of the builders of Johns Hopkins adorn the walls of his office. Hanging there, also, larger than any, is a picture of George W. Carver. "Science," said Dr. Cumming, "is universal."

Seven Doctors on Staff.

There are 13 nurses, the pick of the best nurses training schools, all colored young women. The nurses are under the direction of 1st Lt. Della Raney, a graduate of Lincoln nurse training school in Durham, N. C. Every nurse is a commissioned officer.

Seven doctors, all officers, are on Dr. Cumming's staff. Six are products of Howard and Meharry medical colleges, and one, of Pennsylvania. Maj. Richard King heads the dental clinic.

The war early depleted the Tuskegee campus. Thru its miles of grounds and buildings it looked as if only girls were to be educated. But a new step changes the scene.

Happy Changes Brought.

"Tuskegee is asked to help in the only way it can help; we will do what we can to win this war and continue in our way," says President Patterson. "The exigencies of war, as observed at Tuskegee have wrought happier changes than halls of state."

No history of American aviation can be written without the story of the Tuskegee air schools. Here in the atmosphere of Booker T. Washington, George W. Carver and their illustrious associates, old things are passing and new things rise everywhere.

Capt. McCoy enjoys the respect of superiors and the esteem of officers and men. His office is a show place and his work is praised.

Don't Think of Color.

No one mentions that Capt. McCoy is colored; no one seems to think about it. But one look at him adds a chapter to the book of progress.

On the grounds the several hundred officers—only 60 of whom are white—move about in freest communion and the urbanities are strictly observed.

The command seems to think any previous civilian or military grievance will be numbered with things of the past when these boys start moving in the air.

"We overcome by doing at Tuskegee," said President Patterson. "Such is our history since the beginning under Booker Washington."

Lt. Singh Is Ready To Go

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Sports fans who are accustomed to seeing him in the togs of an All-America football hero or in the uniform of a star basketball player may not recognize this pursuit squadron lieutenant as Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, Syracuse University football and basketball immortal. Lt. Singh, who achieved national fame as the passing genius of the Syracuse elevens and then rose to even greater acclaim as a collegiate and professional cage star, operating for the now world's pro champions, the Washington Bears, is a native of Washington. He recently received his silver wings and his commission as a second lieutenant at the Tuskegee Army Flying School, graduating as the second ranking student in the class. Lt. Singh was one of six fighting pilots to get a medal for aerial sharpshooting. He is getting ready to taxi one of the fighter planes down the runway at the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

APR 3 1943

Negro Students Finish Army Air Forces Photo Training

MAY 1 1943

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

47a

DENVER, Col.—Graduation diplomas were presented Saturday to members of the first class of Negro students to complete the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command photo course at Lowry Field here, authorities at the field said Saturday.

The Negro section, part of a class of students which attended school on a 'round the clock schedule and a seven-day week, included men from all parts of the country, and academically was one of the highest-ranking in the history of the school.

MAY 1 1943

46 STUDENTS

The section, officers said, totaled 46 students and attended classes during "A" shift — from 5:30 a. m. to noon. One of its men, Sgt. Richard S. Monclova, from Brooklyn, N. Y., led his section in honors, as well as ranking highest in grades for the whole graduating photo class comprised of three sections, of which the Negro group was one.

Sgt. Monclova's diploma, given for completing with honor and distinction the course of photography prescribed by the Technical Training Command of the A. A. F., was signed by Maj. Gen. Walter R. Weaver, commanding general of the vast network of technical schools comprising the A. A. F. T. T. C., headquartered at Knollwood Field, N. C.

Of the seven distinction diplomas given the class—awarded to students whose grades were slightly below the honor graduate — three went to Negro students, including Pfc. Thomas M. Miller, Boston, Mass., Pfc. William L. Kydd, New Bedford, Mass., and Pvt. Garrett H. Fernell, from Seguin, Tex.

THE COURSE

MAY 1 1943

The course given the Negro students was the same as that given the other two sections of white students comprising the class. Of 12-weeks duration, it included seven weeks of technical training in theory and operation of cameras and films, plus five weeks of advanced lab work.

1943

The 46 Negro students, who will be assigned to tactical squadrons manned by members of their race, came to the field several months ago, Lowry officers said. Many were on detached service, or sent here because of their aptitude and ability along technical lines.

JUNE 19, 1943
HOUSTON, TEX. DEFENDER

BLACK BIRDS FIGHTER UNIT ESCORT BOMBERS

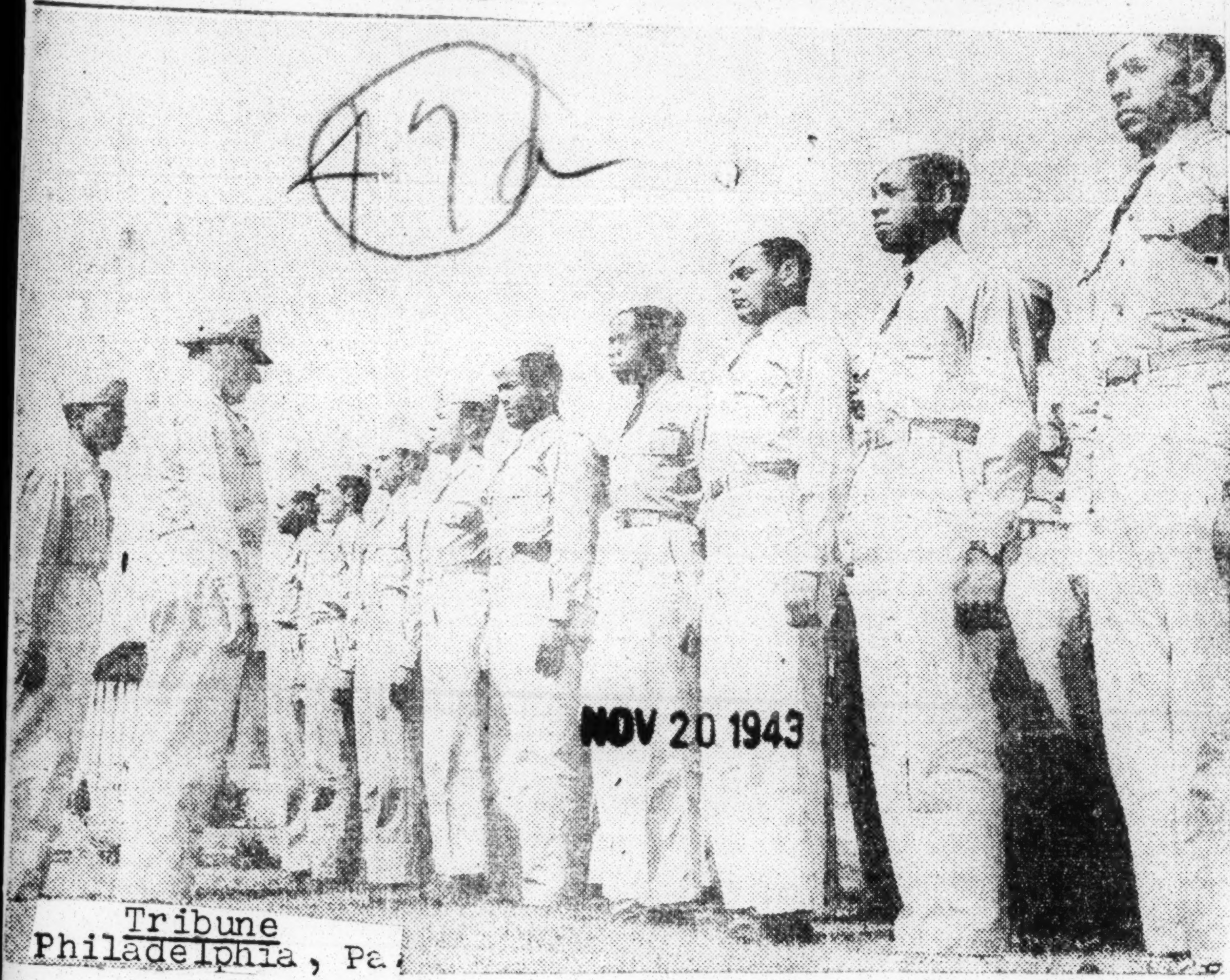
LIED HEADQUARTS IN NORTH AFRICA—(Special)—Sooner than expected, the Tuskegee trained flyers received their baptism in battle when Pantelleria was bombed by the Allied forces recently, it was disclosed this week by OWI.

Under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., (whose father is the highest ranking Negro officer in the American Army, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis) flying P-40

47a

47a-1943

Air Navigators Welcomed



47a

NOV 20 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Department

FIRST NEGRO NAVIGATORS arrive in Texas Airbase. The 30 smartly disciplined members of Squadron 10, first Negro unit to report for navigation training at Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo Texas, are shown being inspected shortly after their arrival at the huge navigation airbase. The inspecting officer is Captain Frank H. Sheffield, senior tactical officer of the school's Group III. To Captain Sheffield's left is Navigaton Cadet Arnold W. Galimore, flight marcher for the unit. (Photo by Army Air Forces).

NOV 20 1943

Leads 99th Squadron

SEP 25 1943

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

George Spencer Roberts

George Spencer Roberts was born in London, W. Va. on September 24, 1918. He graduated from West Virginia College, Institute, W. Va., with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1938. He received a commission as second lieutenant (temporary in the Army United States) on March 6, 1942 and was assigned to the 99th Fighter Squadron.

SEP 25 1943

He was promoted to first lieutenant (temporary) on August 18, 1942 and to captain (temporary) on March 16, 1943, and has been placed in charge of the 99th Squadron, the North African theatre, since Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was ordered home.

Negro Youths Taking Aerial Careers At Tuskegee Air Field

Age
New York, N. Y.

OCT 30 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD Ala. — Many Negro youths are starting aerial careers at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. They are learning to master the art of flying under the watchful eyes of capable officers.

The men from New York that recently completed their pre-flight training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field and have been assigned to the 66th A. A. F. Flying Training Detachment at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., where they will begin actual flying are: Aviation Cadets Woodrow J. Huff of Lackawanna N. Y.; Thomas P. Rock of Brooklyn. N. Y.; Lloyd R. Goldson of New York City; Egbert A. Craig of Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Alfred M Kinloch of New York City.

Cadet Huff, son of Mrs. Della Huff of 83 Dona street, Lackawanna, N. Y., was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, prior to entering the armed forces.

Cadet Rock, son of Mr. and Mrs Thomas P. Rock of 1614 Emmers lane, Brooklyn, N. Y., was an apprentice jeweler, prior to entering the armed forces.

Cadet Goldson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred B. Goldson of 287 Edgecombe avenue, New York City, attended New York University from 1940 to 1943.

Cadet Craig, son of Rev. Egbert A. Craig of 5211 Franklin avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., attended Brooklyn College from 1940 to 1943. He was a junior checker at the Port of Embarkation, prior to entering the service.

Cadet Kinloch, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Kinloch of 246 West 138th street, New York City, attended City College of New York from 1942 to 1943. He was employed as a clerk in the Army Transportation Service, prior to entering the armed forces.

OCT 30 1943

A Message That Holds Hope:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Negro Pilots 'Naturals' Italian Pilots Say Of 99th Thunderbirds

NOV 6 - 1943

By NELL DODSON RUSSELL

A few months ago, high above the African city of Bizerte, a formation of P-40's escorted a squadron of American bombers. On the ground below in a prison camp, Italian and French soldiers, and a few American merchant seamen who had brought cigarettes to the prisoners, watched the planes as they droned steadily into the distance then disappeared in the direction of the Italian coast.

"The colored fliers!" one of the Italian prisoners exclaimed excitedly, "indicating the formation of P-40's. "They are good fliers those boys! Always they stick right with the bombers no matter how bad it is up there. We didn't know America had colored fliers, but they are good!"

There was quick , enthusiastic assent from the other Italians and the French soldiers.

The fliers of the 99th Pursuit Squadron have proven themselves, according to William Henry Sigmon, 856 Metcalf ave., East Bronx, member of the United States Merchant Marine. He was one of the seamen who looked skyward that day in Bizerte and heard foreign prisoners of war commend the courage and flying ability of the handful of Negro pilots helping this country to battle the Nazi sky scourge.

NOV 6 - 1943

NATURAL PILOTS

"I can't explain how I felt when I saw the 99th escorting the bombers and those fellows started telling me about the way they'd flown straight into hell in the battle of Pantelleria and stuck with the bombers even when they were catching cross fire from all directions, including anti-aircraft. The Italians said they were naturals as combat pilots!" (Ed. Note Sigmon's story bears out the eyewitness account of the air battle as printed in the August edition of **Yank**, the Army magazine and reprinted in a subsequent edition of PV.)

NOV 6 - 1943

Sigmon also verified the reports, which in spite of brush-off by the daily press, are finding their way back to the States from overseas battlefields, reports of American Negro soldiers not only seeing actually combat service but going into battle with steel nerves and a don't give-a-damn for their own lives. There was one prize tale of a colored lad in the battle of Bizerts who fired a gun so fast he sent a nest of Nazi supermen scrambling for safety and solitude.

NOV 6 - 1943

Sigmon, who has been with the merchant marine for over eight years and has seen practically every port in the world, can speak Italian, French and a few other foreign languages all enough to make out pretty well in a conversation. In talking with Italian prisoners he found them more than satisfied to be in an American prison camp.

"Come to think of it," he said, "they seemed to like American ideas from start to finish. And they all hated Mussolini!"

LIKED IN THE BRONX

A German prisoner with whom he swapped a package of cigarettes for a souvenir miniature plane talked good Eng[illegible] the is-a-small world angle came when he found the fellow used to live on Ward ave in the Bronx and had been an employee of Consolidated Edison. According to Sigmon, he'd landed in this country about eight years ago as a deck-hand on a German liner, had taken out naturalization papers and was about to become an American citizen when the war broke out and he returned to Germany.

NOV 6 - 1943

Seaman Sigmon pointedly brought out that in almost every port in which his ship dropped anchor, the people themselves treated Negro soldiers with open hospitality, the only trouble coming from the Dixie white soldiers who resented the gracious reception their darker brothers were getting.

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8 Pilots In Group Promoted

Journal & Guide
Norfolk. Va

Lts. Letcher, Proctor, Johnson, Get Key Posts

AUG 28 1943

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

(By Censored Wireless and Cable)
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ALLIED AIRFIELD, Sicily—In recognition of their courageous roles in the conquest of Pantelleria, Sicily, and other Mediterranean islands and in the softening up of the Italian "boot," as well as their battle-proved qualities of leadership, nine officers of the celebrated 99th Fighter Squadron, including eight combat pilots, have just been promoted from second to first lieutenants.

Those el[illegible]in rank were:

AUG 28 1943

Lt. George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.

Lt. Walter I. Lawson, Newtown, Va.

Lt. William H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.

Lt. Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.

Lt. Willie Ashley Jr. Sumter, S. C.

Lt. Samuel R. Bruce, Seattle, Wash.

Lt. Louis R. Purnell, Germantown, Pa.

Lt. Paul G. Mitchell, Washington, D. C.

Lt. George R. Currie, Los Angeles, Cal.

All but Lt. Currie are combat fighter-bomber plane pilots, flying the famous P-40 Warhawk. Lt. Currie is ordnance officer for the squadron.

Burns To Death

Defender
Chicago. Ill

LT. SIDNEY P. BROOKS

* * *

Cleveland Air Ace Killed In Action In Italy

OCT 23 1943

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—Mrs. Lucille Brooks, newly-wed wife of Lieutenant Sidney Brooks, was saddened this week when she received confirmation from the War Department announcing the death of her husband in Europe.

The lieutenant was a member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, formerly commanded by Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Brooks, along with Lts. Clarence Jamison and Erwin Lawrence had received the coveted air medal for meritorious service in ten or more sorties against the enemy in the African-Sicilian-Italian areas. Brooks is said to have been knocked out of the skies by enemy planes a month or so ago.

At the Brooks home, [illegible] East 142nd street, where Brooks' wife resides with her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Brooks, Lieut. Col. Benjamin Davis had occasion to lend further praise to Brooks when he heard of his fate. Davis said, "Sidney was positively one of my best men. He was one of very best flyers, well liked, in fact, he was admired and loved by every one."

OCT 23 1943

Welcome, Bombardiers

Kansas City, Mo

The Midwest welcomes the news that Negroes will be trained as bombardiers either in Del Rio, Texas, or at Ft. Dodge, Kas. Our pilots have received training in the deep South at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and in the North at Selfridge Field, Mich. The Southwestern states are glad of the opportunity to play host to another group of aviation experts.

SEP 1943

Even more welcome is the news that there will be no separate training center for the bombardiers. American youth of all colors will be trained together how to drop the deadly bombs on enemy targets. This is the American way for which our boys are fighting.

Kansas City Call

SEP 17 1943

Tuskegee Field Cadet Is Third Ranking Gunner, East's Best

Norfolk. Va.
Journal & Guide

DEC 11 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. —Aviation Cadet Othel Dickson of the Tuskegee Army Air Field led all flying cadets from the Eastern Flying Training Command in the National Fixed Gunnery Meet held on the AAF gunnery ranges along the Florida Gulf Coast near Eglin Field the last weekend in November.

In addition to becoming the top ranking aerial gunner among Eastern Flying Training Command cadets, the Tuskegee sharpshooter finised third among all AAF Training Command students.

"FLYING GUN PLATFORMS"

Fixed gunnery is the term applied to the process of teaching fighter pilots how to use their airplanes as "flying gun platforms." The armament on all fighter planes is mounted in the wings and noses in fixed positions, and in order to bring the guns to bear on the target, the airplane must be aimed.

U. S. fighter pilots are taught that their planes are actually "flying engines" with guns tied on. They are taught that they must learn to shoot their planes as well as fly them.

When Aviation Cadet Dickson rained down his shower of thirty calibre bullets in competition for the "Buzz Wagner" trophy, he was shooting against the best marksmen from the graduating classes of each of eleven Army Air Forces fighter pilot schools.

The eleven schools represented in the national meet were Craig Field, Ala., Napier Field, Ala., Spence Field, Ga., Marianna Field, Fla., Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., Foster Field, Texas, Aloe Field, Texas, Moore Field, Texas, Eaglepass Field, Texas, Luke Field, Arizona, and Williams Field, Arizona.

The trophy is named after one of America's first aces of World War II, Lt. Col. Boyd D. "Buzz" Wagner, who after a colorful combat career in the Philippine, Australian, and New Guinea campaigns, died in a crash near Eglin Field, Fla., on a routine flight.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd M. Wagner, parents of the late Lt. Col "Buzz" Wagner, flew from Johnstown, Pa., to Eglin Field, Fla., last Thursday to be guests of honor of the First Single Engine Fixed Gunnery Training Group, hosts for the national meet. Mrs. Wager made the initial presentation, personally handing the trophiesto A/C T. C. Hill, Aloe Field, Texas, and Lt. V. S. Brokaw of Foster Field, Texas, who won top national gunnery honors for aviation cadets and instructors respectively.

Better Times Ahead

Kansas City Call

Another indication of the disposition to apply to Negroes the same measuring stick used for others is the comment of TIME news magazine on the 99th pursuit squadron, which has been fighting in the North African theater of operations. The return of its commander to this country, was the occasion of the magazine "damning' these Negro flyers "with faint praise."

OCT 22 1943

, Mo.

Its comment drew comment, to which it made a reply which we are happy to quote, because of its universal application. TIME said: "TIME'S unofficial reports . . . . raised no question about the Negro's fighting ability. If the 99th's record has been only fair, the blame must be shared by the Army Command responsible for the segregated training and operation."

There in a nutshell is the case against segregation and discrimination. Knowledge is a pool to which all men in all ages have contributed. They should be free to draw from it equally. They are not when through segregation, the blind must lead the blind. So long as Negroes buy in the same market at the same price they must be given the same training so that they can earn at the same rate. Anything less is rank injustice!

47a-1943

Concert Artist Drops Violin For Airplane

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 18 1943

47a

CADET EVERETT A. LEE, outstanding young Cleveland concert artist, completed a tour of the south and returned to Cleveland to find orders to report to Tuskegee to begin training as an aviation cadet.

Above is shown Cadet Lee with his favorite Stradivarius. His father, Mr. E. A. Lee Sr., is a prominent Cleveland OPA executive.

Concert Violinist Learning To Be Sky Fighter For U. S.

JUN 18 1943

47a

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—(A N P)—Everett A. Lee, Jr., well known Cleveland concert violinist, like many other American youths has put aside his civilian profession for the duration in order to go into the armed service of the U. S. A. Lee is now an aviation cadet at the Tuskegee Army Air field.

The [illegible]-year old musical prodigy began his study of the violin at the age of eight and made his first public appearance one year later in Cleveland. Since that time Cadet Lee has appeared in concerts in various cities throughout the country, and has become widely known as one of the more popular young artists.

While enrolled in the Cleveland Institute of Music, the musician-flyer was awarded the Ranny Fund scholarship for outstanding work in music and the institute scholarship which was awarded by the Cleveland Institute of Music from which institution he was graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1941.

Receiving the coveted appointment as an aviation cadet a little over a month ago after completing a concert tour of the south, Lee was ordered to report to the Tuskegee air base for aviation training. Now instead of studying courses familiar to him such as counterpoint, harmony, violin, and the theory of music, Cadet Lee is confining his attention to subjects made more important by present day conditions. His schedule now includes air navigation, physics, mathematics, pistol, chemical warfare, theory of flight, customs of the service and a host of other subjects designed to fit the needs of future officers and pilots in the army air forces.

JUN 18 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

LT. MC CULLIN WROTE LETTER TO HIS COACH

Tells Mentor He Flies So Others Might Be Free To Enjoy Life

By HOWARD B. WOODS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

AUG 7 1943

ST. LOUIS. — The Mound City stands at her window tonight holding a lighted candle as she peers anxiously out into the blackness of the raging battle in Sicily seeking further news of her favorite son and hero, Lt. James L. McCullin, who for more than a week now has been reported by the War Department—missing in action.

As if the crack pilot of the 99th Pursuit Squadron realized impending misfortune, the former Kentucky State gridiron ace wrote W. H. J. Beckett, who coached Lt. McCullin during his days at Sumner high school:

"If you hear from Uncle Sam, before you hear from me, you will know they got me.

"I was flying that others might be free to live and enjoy life."

Steve Glass, proprietor of a barber shop at Vandeventer and Cook avenues who for many years trimmed the hair of the missing lieutenant, stated that on his last furlough here, he came in to visit him.

"He talked of his post-war plans," Glass said, "but he always added 'If I come back.'" Apparently Lt. McCullin had the matrimonial path in mind, according to the statements he made to his barber.

Edward Dawkins, driver for a local beverage company, told the Defender that McCullin had worked with him several summers on the truck during his time at Kentucky State. Dawkins said he was quite an energetic type who had an abundance of ambition.

George D. Brantley, principal of Sumner high school, said his first knowledge of the lieutenant's reported missing was when he saw it in the Chicago Defender. "Lt. McCullin was an outstanding citizen," he said, "with an impressive personality and a sterling character. He was very businesslike at Sumner and ranked among the best students at the school. As long as he is missing, it is a decided loss to the alumni of Sumner; the city and to the country."

Former classmates of the lieutenant constantly call the Defender headquarters asking for further information.

DOGFIGHT OVER SICILY BRINGS CASUALTIES

Defender
Chicago Ill

Pilot Who Downed Nazi Wins Sole Coca Cola In African Camp

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Two of our planes are missing in action.

JUL 24 1943

That curt, cryptic message from North African Allied headquarters told this week of the initial loss by the 99th Pursuit Squadron of two of its fighter aircraft in a dogfight against superior Nazi forces over Sicily.

Although outnumbered, the Negro flyers got credit for positively bagging one Nazi, and probably damaging and destroying two others.

This was the battle in which Lt. Charles Hall of Brazil, Ind., was credited with getting a Focke Wulf 190, the first enemy plane downed by the 99th flyers.

Believe One Pilot Safe

The identity of the two missing pilots was not revealed by the War department, the practice being to notify their kin first.

At least one of the aviators of the missing planes is believed to be safe.

Disclosure of the first losses by the 99th came with additional details of the enthusiastic reception which the flyers received on their return from the bomber-escort mission designed to soften up Sicily for the Allied invasion which began last week.

JUL 24 1943

Present on the flyers return besides General Dwight Eisenhower, were General Spaats, British Air Marshal Cunningham and General Jimmy Doolittle, the man who led the American raid on Tokio.

Gets Coca-Cola

Lt. Hall and Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the squadron were warmly congratulated by the visitors.

Eisenhower asked Lt. Davis about his father, Brig. General Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro army officer. The Allied supreme commander in North Africa expressed general satisfaction over the work being done by the 99th.

He questioned Lt. Col. Davis on the rations his flyers have been getting, and Davis said that there was enough but not enough variety.

JUL 24 1943

Lt. Hall was given a party by the other pilots and was awarded possession of the only bottle of Coca-Cola in the outfit—a prize which had been saved for the first pilot to down an enemy plane.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

TECHNICIANS OF AIR CORPS

END TRAINING

FEB 6 1943

300 Sent To Army Flying Fields To Instruct Ground Crews

CHANUTE FIELD, Ill.—More than 100 of the young Negro civilians have completed their training as instructors in aviation mechanics at Chanute Field here, and have been assigned to various flying fields of the Army Air corps, it was learned this week.

Comprising six units of 17 men each, these young men although without army status and in civilian clothes, will act as technical instructors in the air corps, and train enlisted men in the many duties required of ground crews in the servicing, repair and maintenance of the various types of U. S. Army aircraft.

Some of the civilian instructors have been here at the Army Air Forces Technical school for periods up to eight and nine months and have mastered the courses which now enable them to impart this technical aircraft knowledge to the enlisted men who will act as ground crews to keep our fighting planes in the air and in tip-top condition.

FEB 6 1943

It was explained that every large bomber requires from 12 to 14 men in the ground crew to service and maintain it, and the smaller planes about six men. Each Pursuit Squadron has its own ground crew, and, as in the case of the 99th Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee, scores of men are needed to service and repair the big ships.

FEB 6 1943

Col. John Robinson, veteran airman and an instructor for some time here at Chanute field, has been assigned to the field at Gulfport, Miss., it was reported, and with him will be about 16 other civilian instructors. One of the Chicago instructors, Joseph Howard, is a carburetion specialist.

Other fields where the graduate instructors have been assigned, include, Goldsboro, N. C.; Biloxi, Miss.; Lincoln, Neb.; Amarillo, Texas, and Wichita Falls, Texas. Assignment of well known young Chicagoans who have completed their training, is as follows: S. M. Davis, Biloxi; Leonard Evans, Gulfport; Joseph Howard, Amarillo; Radcliffe Woolford, Gulfport; Lloyd Wheeler, Amarillo; Clifton Pierce, Amarillo; Tom Watson, Lincoln and Robert Taylor and William Reed, both at Wichita Falls. Reports from the men in the south indicate they are being well treated and find great interest in their work.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Recover Body Of Lt. Hill D. C. Flyer

47a

EXCLUSIVE

The body of Lt. Nathaniel Milton Hill, 24, 1717 Ninth Street, Northwest, was recovered from Lake Huron this week and returned to Washington where funeral services were conducted today (Friday) at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church.

JUL 3 1943

Lt. Hill, who enlisted in the Air Corps February 25, 1942, was graduated from the Army Flying School at Tuskegee October 1942. He was sent to Selfridge Field, Michigan, where he was attached to the 332nd fighting unit and a member of the 100 fighter squadron.

According to information received from Hill's mother, Mrs. Irene Hill, her son and Lt. Luther Blackeney, of Sanford Florida, went up on a routine flight on the morning of June 9th, in the midst of a heavy fog.

JUL 3 1943

Flying a Two Place Basic Training plane, the officers were never able to get the plane high enough in the air to bail out. The crash occurred just 50 feet from Hill's home at Oscoda, Michigan.

Hill was the second District flyer to become lost from the Selfridge Field. The other was Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, whose body was recovered from Lake Huron a few weeks ago and buried here at Arlington Cemetery.

A former *Tribune* newsboy, Lt. Hill was a graduate of Cleveland, Phelps and Armstrong High School. He later entered Hampton Institute, and was matriculating there when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

He was married to Miss LaVerne G. Lee, 1514 First Street, Northwest, January 1 of this year.

His mother visited him while he was at Tuskegee and was with him at his new home in Oscoda.

Burial was in Arlington Cemetery, with military honors.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Says P-40 Warhawks Defective

Senator Claims Ships Are Not Up to Standard

JUL 16 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON —(ANP) — A Truman investigating committee says that the P-40 Warhawk, the type of plane being used by the 99th Pursuit squadron in North Africa, is exhibit "A" of its charge against the Curtis-Wright corporation that the company "was producing and causing the government to accept defective and substandard material."

The sensational charge, made public Saturday in the report of the sub-committee headed by Sen. Mon C. Wallgren (D) of Washington, also carried the accusation that the army air force had a hand in palming the materials off on the government.

Planes Obsolete

So serious are the charges, the report says, that the matter has been turned over to the war frauds division of the department of justice for action against the Curtis Wright corporation.

JUL 16 1943

The report revealed that not only was the army using these planes widely which it had earlier said were "relatively obsolete when we entered the war," but that the company had had "spectacular and unprecedented success" in obtaining the second greatest amount of war contracts for the construction of airplanes.

The army has since agreed to cease the production of P-40s and to substitute a better type plane, one which has not yet been selected.

P-40 fighters, however, will be used for replacements and for training purposes.

Inspectors Removed

The committee charged further in its report that falsification of tests, destruction of records, improper recording of tests, the forging of inspection reports, failure to segregate substandard and defective material, failure to destroy such material promptly, all had been some of the methods employed. Army inspectors who had the temerity to report these defects, the report said, were subsequently transferred to other assignments. Leaky engines were reported but the inspectors were generally removed.

JUL 16 1943

The report admitted that an army board of investigation had investigated the matter and had "made the same findings of fact as the committee," although their findings, so the Truman report says, tended to minimize the seriousness of the situation at the Wright plant. Charges against the army officers, the report stated, were not investigated by the army probers.

Meanwhile G. W. Vaughn, president of the Curtiss-Wright corporation, took issue with the Truman report here in Washington, and charged the latter with making over-statements.

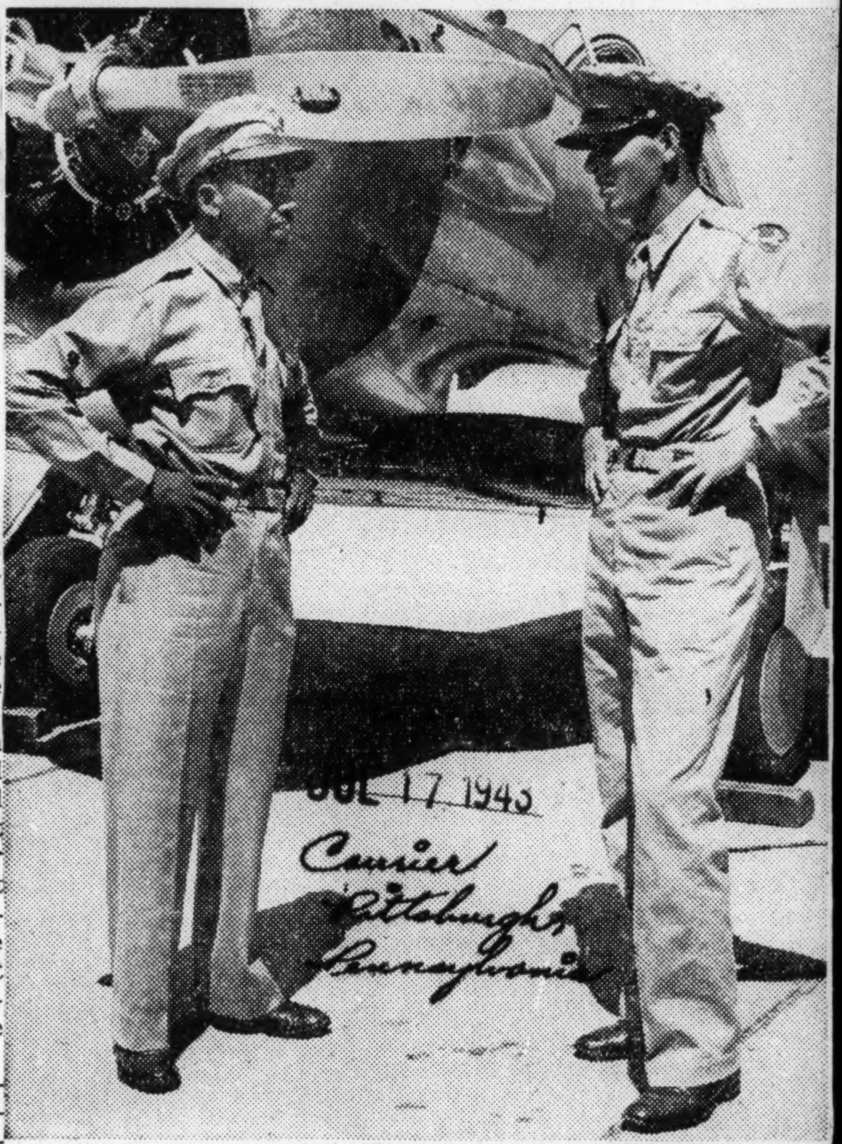
Performed Valuable Work

"In its report the Truman committee referred to the Curtis P-40 fighter planes as follows," says the Vaughn statement: "These planes were usable and have performed valuable work on the various fronts but were really obsolete at the beginning of the war and of much more limited value than other fighting planes produced by other American companies and by the British."

"Yet the P-40 has been continually modernized since our entry into the war and it has been the backbone of the United States army fighter squadrons, with a very successful record in every theatre of the war, having shot down from three to 20 enemy planes for every P-40 lost.

"We believe that this criticism serves a useful purpose in calling attention to things which can and have been remedied in the ever-pressing task of producing military equipment of the quality and quantity which the war demands."

LIEUTENANTS RECEIVE SILVER BARS



JUL 17 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania

Second Lieutenant Cassius A. Harris, III (left) and Second Lieutenant Donald M. Conkley, who were recently promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, discuss the many problems that confront them on the flight line at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Lt. Harris, son of Mrs. Evelyn V. Harris, Philadelphia, Pa., attended Temple university from 1938 to 1939, and West Virginia State college from 1939 to 1941. He is an engineering officer of one of the basic flight training squadrons at this base.

JUL 17 1943

Lt. Conkley of 362 Somer street, Leetonia, Ohio, is also an engineering officer at this base. He received his commission at the Air Corps Administration Officers' Candidate school of Miami Beach, Fla.

Montgomery, [illegible] Advertiser
October 4, 1943

Worker Is Honored

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Oct. 3.—(AP)—Commendation from a high Army officer came to R. C. Daniels, negro civilian worker at Tuskegee Army Air Field, today.

Maj. Gen. T. J. Hanley, Jr., commanding general of the Eastern Flying Training Command, cited Daniels for saving the life of a negro pilot from a burning plane.

General Hanley said Daniels risked his life to rescue the pilot, Lieut. Andrew H. Doswell, "in keeping with the best traditions of the American spirit of unselfish sacrifice."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

4 Fighter Group Men Study P-39's

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Four officers of the 332nd Fighter Group, which uses P-39 Airacobras in instruction at the Bell Aircraft Corporation's engineering schoil at Buffalo, N.Y.

OCT 16 1943

They are Lieut. Robert L. Smith of Houston, Texas; Second Lieuts. William M. Gordon, Jr., of Mobile, Ala.; Elmer L. Gordon of Portsmouth, Va., and Quitman C. Walker of Indianola, Miss.

47a-1943

Fails To Return From Air Battle In Sicily

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

Missouri Flier Took Part In Mission

Lt. Hall Shot Down First Enemy

JUL 24 1943

By THOMAS W. YOUNG

Journal and Guide War Correspondent

(By Cable, Passed by Censor)

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WITH THE 99TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, NORTH AFRICAN BASE—Lt. James L. McCullin of St. Louis, Mo., has been identified as one of the fighter pilots of the 99th Pursuit Squadron reported missing in action following action against an air field in Sicily. The Missouri flier failed to return from the same mission on which Lt. Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Ind., shot down the first enemy plane credited to a Negro pilot of the United States Army Air Forces. Operational reports, taken from briefs reported by the fliers, listed both planes as lost, with one pilot probably safe. Returning from a mission to Castelventrano airfield in Southwestern Sicily, to which target the 99th Squadron, led in flight by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, the planes were attacked by German Messerschmitt 109's and Focke-Wulf 190's. Lt. Hall blasted one plane, which hurtled to the ground and crashed into the Sicilian earth. The plane was reported as not bursting into flames. "It raised a big cloud of dust," Lt. Hall reported.

YOUNG

The Germans pursued the Warhawk fighters from Sicily to Pantelleria. Two of our planes suffered slight damage, according to first reports. Later it was announced that two planes out of the 12 did not return to base and had not been reported downed on friendly territory. It would not have been difficult for a pilot to slip from the sight of his comrades since the action, which took place on July 2, lasted for 25 minutes, during which violent dogfights ensued.

Three other squadrons also took part in the attack on the airport. The 99th was given the number 1 spot in the protection for a flight of Mitchell twin-engined bombers.

The 99th took an active role in the preparatory softening up of Sicily for the invasion which got underway on July 11. At last reports the American-Canadian spearhead was within sight of Enna, communications center and a major objective, while the British, with its immortal Eighth Army, victors in the African desert, neared Cantania, vital seaport.

Reports from the front showed that Axis resistance was crumbling on both fronts. Italians were surrendering in droves. In some sectors, it was reported, only the Germans put up a fight.

Meanwhile on Monday morning Rome, capital city of Italy, was bombed for the first time by a large formation of American bombers, which attacked in waves. A Rome statement said the attack was "of great violence" and that "numerous victims" were counted. American airmen, who encountered no fighter opposition reported only inaccurate anti-aircraft fire from the defenders of the city.

Orders to the fliers, who were long and specially trained for the mission, instructed that church sites and religious institutions in the Eternal City "must on no account be damaged." Vatican City, and the churches, St. John Lateran and Santa Maria Maggiore were given bombing sanctuary. Many airmen of the Catholic faith were picked for the expedition.

Army Air Force Policy Defended

Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

Under Secretary Patterson Answers Charges Made by Judge Hastie Regarding Use of Negro Personnel in Aviation Units

APR 10 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 8—The status of the Negro in the Air Force, spotlighted several months ago by the resignation of Judge William Hastie from the War Department, was pushed into the limelight again this week as Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson issued a detailed statement of army policy on the question.

The Undersecretary's statement was issued in reply to a number of questions submitted by Wilbur La Roe Jr., (white), chairman of the committee on civic affairs of the Washington Federation of Churches.

Most of the questions submitted by Mr. La Roe were based upon the same Air Force policies which prompted the Hastie resignation.

FOLLOWS PATTERN OF POPULATION

In his reply the Undersecretary indicated that army policy affecting induction was to have a proportion of Negroes in the army in proportion to their representation in the national population as required by the Selective Service and Training Act.

The questions and their answers follow:

Q. What is the policy of the Air Corps in this respect?

A. Negro organizations are being established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant. Assignment to the air and ground forces must be in the same proportion as stated above.

Q. Has the army made special effort to provide modern facilities for the training of colored personnel for the Air Corps?

A. The same modern facilities have been provided at the Tuskegee Air Force Flying school for the training of Negro pilots as are provided at the schools which train white pilots. At the Officer Candidate school and the technical schools Negroes attend the same schools as white candidates.

MAJORITY FAIL TO QUALIFY

Q. Is there any truth in the allegation that colored soldiers are assigned to menial jobs and that they are not given an opportunity to be trained for the manning of fighter planes?

A. The army follows the general principle that it can attain its maximum strength only if its personnel is properly placed in accordance with the capabilities of individuals. All enlisted men on their entry into the service are graded by the army general classification test and the mechanical aptitude test.

Because of the proportionately larger number of highly technical duties required of men in the Air Force, War Department policy provides that 55 per cent of them qualify by passing the G. C. test with a grade of 100 or better.

The remaining 45 per cent assigned to the Air Forces who do not meet this qualification are assigned to comparatively unskilled jobs.

Experience to date has shown that while 47 per cent of all white enlisted men meet this qualification, the same minimum standard is met by less than 10 per cent of the Negroes inducted.

As a consequence, in order to absorb the same proportion of Negroes as exists in the total population, a small percentage of them who enter the Air Corps are qualified for entrance into the technical school, the large majority must be assigned to unskilled tasks.

LIMITED TO FIGHTER GROUPS

Q. Will you comment on the allegation that Negro soldiers in the Air Corps are given an opportunity to rise as high as the command of a single engine pursuit ship, but not permitted to man heavy bombers?

A. It is true that Negroes are so far being given the opportunity for training on single engine pursuit ships. It was believed wise to start by training a fighter group, where only one air man per plane is involved, namely the pilot.

To train a heavy bomber group, it is necessary to train in addition to the pilot, a navigator, a bombardier, an aerial gunner, a radio operator, an additional mechanic and several other technicians.

Because of the technical and other features present in flying, it was decided to proceed toward the formation of the more complicated units after having gained experience with the simpler units.

TO GET COMMANDS WHEN QUALIFIED

Q. It is alleged that at Tuskegee the Negro men in training for the Air Corps are commanded by white officers and that no attempt is made to provide colored officers. Will you kindly advise whether colored officers are available and, if so, why are they not used?

A. While white officers have charge of training at Tuskegee, Negroes will be given command duties as soon as they qualify for them. (The Undersecretary then cited instances where this is being done.)

Q. It is alleged that at Tuskegee separate mess arrangements for the white officers and colored men and a very undesirable segregation of the races.

A. There is one officers' mess at Tuskegee, to which all officers are eligible. However, it is customary for the white officers, when they do not eat at home, to use the facilities of the Post Exchange. These facilities are available to all military personnel on the post.

NO SEPARATE WHITE SQUADRONS

Q. It is alleged that certain squadrons, known as "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" have been established for the colored soldiers but that they serve no specific military need and have never had a defined function. It is further alleged that these men perform odd jobs of common labor and that there are no equivalent white organizations in the Air Corps.

A. The reason for establishment of Aviation Squadrons (Separate) is given above. They provide a place for men in the Air Forces who do not have the qualifications for more technical work. The duties they perform are to a large extent labor and housekeeping jobs that have to be done at every Air Force base.

While there are no white units actually named "Aviation Squadron (Separate)", there are many white headquarters squadrons which perform the same type of duties at Air Force installations.

STUDYING USE OF SERVICE PILOTS

Q. It is represented that the Air Corps is rejecting Negro applicants for weather officers, though the army admits a need of a large number of weather officers.

A. A sufficient number of qualified Negro applicants have been secured and are in training to support the Negro flight group now in training. When new Negro units are organized, there will be opportunity for additional weather officers.

Q. It is alleged that a number of well qualified applicants for appointment as army service pilots have been rejected; that two were requested to report for training and sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negro.

A. No Negroes qualified to be service pilots have yet been used by the Air Forces. To date there have been few applicants for this duty, but this number will increase as individuals now attending school become qualified. The use of qualified Negro service pilots is now under study.

DROPS BAN ON MEDICAL OFFICERS

Q. It is stated that Negro medical officers are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field.

A. Until February 1, Negro medical officers at Tuskegee were not in residence at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field, but since that date Negro medical officers have been assigned to residence study there. This schooling was originally covered by extension courses and commutation to Maxwell Field. When this situation was called to the attention of Air Force headquarters, the change was made in order that Negro medical officers might have the same opportunity as white medical officers.

OTHER BRANCHES UNDER STUDY

Q. Will you be so kind as to indicate what the policy of the army is with respect to the future induction and training of Negro soldiers for service in the Air Corps?

A. The Air Forces are now bringing the Negro fighter squadron to strength, including ground crew, personnel, and will train them to carry out their combat mission.

The question of training additional units, including a bomber group, is now under study. The Air Force will continue to use Aviation Squadrons (Separate). These squadrons will be constantly screened to secure personnel for technical training.

TACTICAL AIR UNITS BEING TRAINED

The units above described will not fill the complement of Negro personnel assigned to the Air Forces. In addition to the units being supplied to the Air Forces by the arms and services, others are being organized into air base security battalions, which are trained by the ground forces.

These battalions have important tactical duty of guarding air bases. They will perform this duty not only in the continental United States, but also in overseas theaters.

You may be assured that the War Department will exert every effort to safeguard the interests of the white and Negro personnel alike and that full use will be made of the capabilities of each individual in furtherance of our war effort.

Sincerely yours,
Robert P. Patterson,
Undersecretary of War.

99th Ready To Leave For Combat After Farewell Talk By Commander

Chicago Illinois Defender

(Special to the Chicago Defender)

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — The famous all-Negro 99th Air Squadron will go into combat soon — probably in North Africa!

New indications that the ace colored pursuit pilots based here will soon be on their way overseas came this week from several sources.

FEB 27 1943

Virtual corroboration was given by the new commandant of the Tuskegee air field here, Lt. Col Noel F. Parrish, when copies of his farewell speech to the 99th were released to the press.

It was also learned that African tropical equipment has been issued the flyers in the 99th. (From London, too, the Chicago Defender's Bureau reported reliable reports from unimpeachable sources that the 99th was due for action.)

Farewell Talk

Lt. Col. Parrish's talk to the officers and men of the 99th told them openly: "All of you know that any time you may be sent into an active combat zone. Since none of us can foretell the day of your departure from this station and this command I shall take this occasion to speak a few words of farewell."

It is believed that Judge William Hastie's recent resignation in protest against discrimination in the U.S. Army and especially in the Air Corps spurred the decision to ship the men of the 99th into a combat zone.

Another factor leading to the decision to put the 99th into action has been the creditable manner in which colored engineer battalions of aviation units are carrying on in front line service in the North African sector against formidable Nazi opposition.

General At Field

Lt. Col. Parrish's speech, made in the presence of General Benjamin O. Davis, on a visit to the air field, and Davis' son, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who commands the 99th, is a remarkable statement of the status of the Negro in the aviation arm of the U.S. army.

It is especially significant since Lt. Col. Parrish is a Southerner.

The field commander, who replaced Col. Frederick Von Kimble, told the men of the 99th:

"You have a double responsibility. As a squadron of the Air Corps, you are responsible to the army of your comrades and to the nation which shelters those you love. As the first flying Negro fighting unit in history, you are responsible to all the darker people of America who look upon you with pride.

"Some of you may feel that you do not wish to carry this double responsibility, that you do not wish to represent any group other than the whole nation. You may say, and with some justification, that you do not care for the extra attention and publicity you receive because you are Negroes, and that you prefer to be considered simply as pilots or mechanics or technicians or whatever your military classification may be.

Sees Handicap

"But whether you like it or not, you are already well known and you will become famous. Some of us have tried to protect you from too much notice and from too much uninformed criticism or praise. But we have only partially succeeded. Whether you, or anyone, likes it or not, you will soon be the most widely discussed Squadron in the entire Army Air Forces.

"Of the handicaps you have suffered, this will perhaps be the greatest of all. For reasonably, or unreasonably, there are great differences of opinion as to yourselves and your equipment, and how well you can stand up to enemy bombs and machine guns. Whatever you do will encourage some and discourage others.

"Whatever you do badly, will encourage those who hate you, and that includes the Germans and Japanese who hate you most of all, because your mere existence is some proof of the sincerity of this nation in trying to provide opportunity for all people. Whatever you do well will encourage those who have fought for a square deal for you who have insisted, sometimes against great odds, that the chance you are given should be a fair chance.

Fair Chance

"I know personally that the pilots, in their training, have received a fair chance, and I know that the determination to give you a fair chance meant a great deal of extra effort by all concerned. I do not argue that all Negroes everywhere in this country are given a fair chance at everything, and you are not expected to try to prove any such thing. Many people, white and colored, who speak and write about the problem of race in this country, become very indignant about a great many situations, sometimes about situations which involve you.

"It is not my purpose here to dispute with them or to say their indignation is not justified. But it is my purpose to advise you that for you to allow such agitation to seriously disturb you and to destroy your efficiency and your concentration on the job you have to do, would be tragic for everyone, including yourselves.

"For the job you have is one of the biggest jobs in the world. It is the job of proving, against a mass of opposite opinion, that you are capable of doing the best that is expected of you. You still have many handicaps to overcome. There are still many complications to be ironed out by those officers who must plan for you, and you must yet master many problems which will make the problems of the past seem simple.

Some Will Die

"Because of lack of opportunity in the past, you may have come to think of success in terms of opportunity. You have been told that all you need is a chance. But you must have more than that. Having the opportunity, you must come to think of success in terms of effort. You must realize most of all, that the road to glory is not easy.

"I read somewhere today how well-meaning friends have complained that white boys have been flying and fighting and winning medals while you have had to keep on training. That is true, but they failed to mention that white boys have been sweating, bleeding, and dying while those medals are being won. You know that, and you know that if you get into combat some of you will die. You know also that far too many people honestly think you are not capable of dying bravely when you are on your own.

"I must face with you the fact, that you, as Negroes, have not been particularly encouraged to be heroic in the past. You have been more often taught to be patient and to endure misfortune. Those are excellent abilities, and I hope you can continue to cultivate them and keep them. But there is a time to keep quiet and a time to fight, and the time for you to fight may come soon. Not to fight for me, for the Air Corps, for Negroes or even for yourselves. I hope you will think of yourselves as fighting, first of all, for this nation, not because it is a perfect nation, from your standpoint, but it is our nation, an improving nation and the best nation of all.

For All Mankind

"I hope you will think of yourselves as fighting for more, even, than a nation. I hope you will remember that you are fighting for all mankind. This is more than a war between nations. It is a war of a march toward freedom against a march toward slavery. All of humanity is involved in this war, regardless of color or creed. And most of humanity will be grateful to those who play a major part in winning it, regardless of color or creed.

"It is your privilege, for the first time, as Negroes, to play a part that is by no means a low or subservient part. You now have a top role. And you must win in that role just as any other group of men must win, by unselfish vigorous effort and determination.

"I can only remind you in the midst of all these problems of race that seem so serious now, and that seem so much less serious when we are hard at work or in the presence of more fundamental things like death or heroic living—I can only remind you that we must not forget the human race, to which we all belong, and which is the major problem after all. The fate of all of us is bound up with the fate of humanity, and the fate of humanity is still, and perhaps always, in the balance. You are, first of all and most important of all—MEN. No one can ask more than that you acquit yourselves like men. Each of you, and all of us, must prove, first of all, that we are capable of the dignity and the nobility of manhood; that we can, when the occasion calls for it, fight and die for a cause that is greater than any one life, or any one man, or any one group of men.

Hard Work

"You cannot expect to be one hundred percent successful. Air Corps squadrons have run into serious trouble before and will do so again. For this squadron to fail in any mission would be doubly unfortunate but it could happen through no particular fault of your own.

"There is only thing you can make certain beyond any doubt, and that is, that any failures, however serious or slight, occur through no fault or your own. And certainly you must prove, for your own pride and consciences, that you do not let each other down, through any lack of serious, concentrated effort.

"War is worry, as well as heroism, and a monkey wrench is just as much a weapon as a machinegun. No pilot, who is worthy of the name, will fail to fight for a loyal and efficient crew, and no real crew will neglect anything which will give a fighting pilot faith in his fighting plane. It must be one for all and all for one. It must be work and study and more work. And then, whatever happens, you can always hold up your head anywhere in the world and say quietly and with no necessity for boasting,

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"I WAS A MEMBER OF THE 99TH."

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SPAULDING PRAISES TUSKEGEE

DURHAM, N. C.—(ANP)—After a recent visit to the Tuskegee Army Air field, C. C. Spaulding, Durham, insurance executive and banker, expressed great satisfaction with the unit and its commanding officer, Col. Saul Parrish.

JUL 3 1943

Nazi Broadcast Reveals It!

GERMANS FEAR NEGRO AIRMEN

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

By RANDY DIXON

LONDON, July 1—(Via Cable)—Nazi sources are expressing great alarm over the presence of colored American pilots in Africa. Warnings reveal an eloquent confession of one aspect of Nazi morale with their cautioning that colored airmen are ferocious and bloodthirsty.

JUL 3 1943

Nazi-controlled radio, broadcasting by way of Hilversum June 17—in the Dutch language—told Holland listeners:

AMOUNTS TO HIGH PRAISE

"The first Negro pilots have arrived in French North Africa. Extremely ferocious and cruel, they will be entrusted with the most risky and dangerous of the Allied Air Force."

High Allied sources regard the broadcast as a precious tribute to the fighting qualities of Negro Americans. Some recalled Negro heroics against the Germans in the first World War and opine that, since then the Nazis have maintained the greatest respect for and fear of them as soldiers and fighters.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

5 Pilots Of 99th Back In U. S. From Combat War Zone

NORFOLK—Five pilots recently transferred from the 99th Fighter Squadron in Italy to new duties in the United States have all arrived in this country, the Journal and Guide learned Tuesday.

Three of them—Lieuts. Charles W. Dryden of New York City, Louis R. Purnell of Philadelphia and Graham Smith of Ahoskie, N. C.—arrived by plane over the South Atlantic route last week.

VISITS NORFOLK

The other two—Lieuts. Walter I. Lawson of Newtown, Va., and Lee Rayford of Washington, D C.—came by ship early this week They had been put on a boat at a North African port along with a number of others awaiting air transportation when plane facilities became over-taxed.

Lieut. Smith was a visitor in Norfolk last weekend. He was granted a three-week leave before taking up his new duties. It is presumed that the other had been granted like furloughs.

Lieuts. Rayford and Lawson were in Newport News Tuesday. Rayford went on to Washington to visit his mother, and Lawson to Blackstone, Va., to see his wife who is teaching there. Both will report to Mitchell Field this week before starting their furloughs.

ON ALL-AMERICAN

The exact nature of assignments for these five fliers who went overseas with the 99th last April and fought with it through from June 2 to October 2 was not learned.

Two possibilities are assignment to either the 332nd fighter group as flight leaders or the instructional staff at Tuskegee Army Flying School or Selfridge Field.

Transfer to posts in the United States was regarded, however, as a promotion or reward for these five fliers. Dryden, Rayford and Lawson were named two weeks ago on The Journal and Guide's "All-America Flight of Negro Fighter Pilots" by War Correspondent Thomas W. Young who was attached to the 99th until September 2

47a-1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Alabama Runs Tuskegee Air Base, And, Brother, It's Really Awful!

Special

JAN 2 3 1943

47a

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—"Tuskegee" Air Base.—It was the name that fooled us—connoting as it does "opportunity for Negroes." Had this military reservation been called "Alabama" Air Base we would have known just where we stood. It's miles from Tuskegee Institute campus, over very bad dirt roads and so far as any possible connection with the Institute is concerned might just as well be in Alaska!

The location is important because the South has vigorously resurrected the main issue of the Civil War—state rights. And today, the South is winning out on that issue. Over anything the War Department or Commander-in-Chief of Army and Navy might say—Alabama is dictating the policies at Tuskegee Air Base. As proof we offer:—

Colonel Frederick Von H. Kimble has *not* been "ousted as commanding officer of the 99th and 100th Pursuit Squadrons at the Army flying school here." Colonel Kimble has carried out the wishes of Alabama. Every paper in this section is ringing with his praises. Letters have been written by "prominent citizens" and sent to Washington. He has been *promoted* to the rank of Brigadier General, commanding the entire army wing in this area with Tuskegee Air Base part of that wing.

His successor at Tuskegee Air Base, Lt. Colonel N. F. Parrish, serves under him. Not one step can Colonel Parrish make without Brigadier General Kimble's approval. Men sometimes are "kicked upstairs," but this doesn't happen to be the case here. And Lt. Colonel Hazard, reported to be his henchman, is still Executive Officer at the Base. A former Commander of Tuskegee Air Base was "ousted." At one time he placed certain soldiers to guard supplies waiting shipment in a nearby village. Upon it being reported to him that these soldiers had been molested, he sent out orders that "these soldiers of the United States army are stationed on guard duty with orders to shoot anyone who, in any manner, interferes with them."

Such a statement concerning Negro soldiers offended the powers of Alabama, and shortly after this incident, the Commanding officer was "removed" to a distant state.

WHITE OFFICERS WILLING

It is true that Captain L. M. Sparks, finance officer, has not been permitted to function in this capacity. Captain Sparks is one of the senior men in the United States Army Finance Department. For twenty-five years he has served, handling the Army's money. Because of his long record of efficiency and extensive experience, Captain Sparks was sent to take charge of the finances at this new air base.

The United States Army Finance Department could not assign Captain Sparks to a desk on the Post. Only the Commanding Officer of the Post could do that. White junior officers in the department were perfectly willing to work under Captain Sparks. Post authorities told him to stay away from the Finance building. Alabama had spoken!

Every young Negro lad admires Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. When the War Department sent him to Tuskegee all of us felt a thrill of pride. As a matter of course he operated from the regular Headquarters. But, not for long. Lt. Colonel Benjamin Davis was placed "way out on the outskirts of town." He commands exactly thirty-three flyers, their mechanics and—that's all! So far as the Air Base goes, the superior of this West Point graduate—son of a General—is the Post Executive, Lt. Col. Hazard, whom, I am told, is a CCC Camp graduate.

There are certain very definite army regulations regarding the line between officers and enlisted men. For reasons of its own, Alabama doesn't like this line and so in this state it is erased and the "color line" substituted.

JAN 2 3 1943

COL. DAVIS HAD TO WIN

Some time ago Louis Armstrong played at Tuskegee Air Base. The huge hangar was packed. Directly down center was a roped-off section of seats. To these seats were escorted the few white officers who attended. Also in this section sat *white* enlisted men and other people. The seats, however, were not filled. Colored officers arriving with their wives sat wherever they could find places with the soldiers. It is said that when Lt. Colonel Davis arrived, he stood until a soldier seeing him, rose and gave him his seat. All this time there were vacant seats in the reserved section. Here, as in the matter of "white" and "colored" signs, Army ruling was broken, but Alabama rules upheld.

Negro M.P.'s in Alabama do not carry arms. White Military Police all over the country are armed. According to martial law, only an M.P. has jurisdiction over a soldier. He cannot be arrested by a policeman or state trooper. Instead, I have it on good authority that every white man in the village of Tuskegee is deputized, therefore authorized to carry arms. This is Alabama's way of avoiding "trouble." Regarless of what happens, the Negro soldier has not the slightest protection. He knows the M.P.'s are not armed.

It is well for us to be rudely shaken out of our complacence. We all read about these things, but since being in the "deep" south I've experienced the "feel" of it. The other day, while walking down a street, strictly attending to my own business, I approached an intersection and paused, uncertain which way to go. A rough voice said "Move on, nigger!" I looked up. The man was talking to me. Something exploded inside my head! Across the street were several soldiers, among them an M.P.

Under any other sky in the world I would have called that M.P. and he would have come. But, in this case, I simply "moved on," thanking God the soldiers hadn't heard. Had I been in real trouble, anyone of those soldiers would have crossed the street to have helped me and he would have been shot down like a dog.

JAN 2 3 1943

USO CLUB MILES AWAY

The soldiers at Tuskegee Air Base prefer staying inside the army reservation. In spite of their very large number they have no Service Club. Last week, the basement of the dining hall at Tuskegee Institute was turned over to the U.S.O. that they might use it for a recreation center. This, however, is many miles from the base.

The two Special Service officers (colored) are alert and do all they can. A moving picture theatre has just been completed. Dances are held in the recreation hall. The hall may be small and the floor not so good, but the orchestra, composed of soldiers, can hold its own anywhere. It's decidedly tops! The men, as a whole, are tops. They know the eyes of the country are on them and in every phase of their work they are determined to make good.

JAN 2 3 1943

Fortunately, the soldiers bear no ill will towards officers because of conditions which are obviously imposed upon them. And this feeling extends to the white officers. Several colored officers who have been here many months told of how, when they first arrived, there was open and pleasant fraternalizing between colored and white officers. Alabama doesn't like that sort of thing. So, it stopped. The matter of the "Officers' Club" needs a little clarifying. There is no real Officers' Club

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Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal
February 7, 1943

NEGRO GETS RECOGNITION

Lieut. W. D. Casto Praised For Efficiency System

47a

Lieut. William D. Casto, formerly of Memphis, and once an employe of Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., here, recently has taken over command of the 40th Aviation Squadron, an all-negro detachment at the Myrtle Beach Bombing Range, Myrtle Beach, S. C. According to Sergt. Bert Cumby, negro, also of Memphis, Lieutenant Casto has instituted a system of squadron efficiency regarded by visiting inspectors and finance officers of the base as one of the best in the Third Air Force.

Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal
February 14 1943

Error Was Made In Casto Story

In a story in The Commercial Appeal last Sunday detailing the advancement of Lieut. William D. Casto, former Memphian and commander of an all-negro detachment at Myrtle Beach, S. C., the headline incorrectly stated that "Negro Gets Recognition."

Lieut. Casto, former employe of Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., is not a negro, and The Commercial Appeal regrets the error.

Lieutenant Casto is in command of an aviation squadron and his work in instituting a system of squadron efficiency has been praised by visiting inspectors.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohic

ARMY EXPANDS PROGRAM!

FEB 1 1 1943

47a

The War Department announced today expansion of the program for training Negro combat fliers. A Group will be formed composed of one Squadron now being trained and two new ones which are in the process of organization. It will be provided with all the supporting services not only those of the Air Corps, but of other arms and services such as Signal Corps and Quartermaster Corps.

FEB 1 1 1943

Negroes are being trained throughout virtually the entire Technical Training Command of the Air Forces, as well as at the Air Forces Officers' Training School at Miami.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pilot Is Killed While Training

FEB 1 3 1943

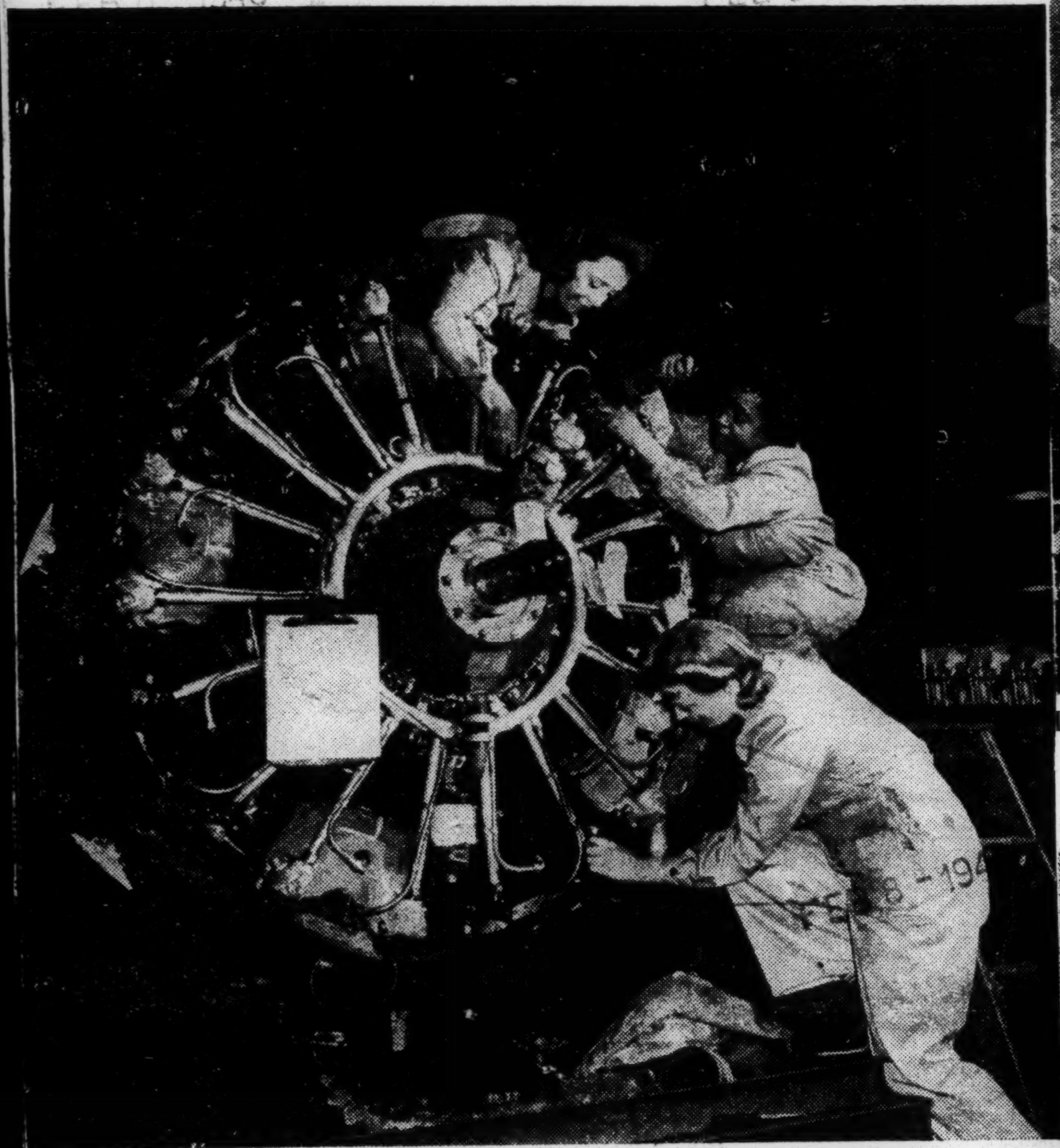
TUSKEGEE, Ala., Feb. 11—(By Capt. Nugent E. Brown for ANP)—Lt. Richard Davis, 25, pilot, was instantly killed in an accident here Saturday night. The accident occurred on a routine flight with a pursuit airplane. A board has been appointed by the commanding officer to investigate the cause of the crash.

Davis, whose home was Fort Valley, Ga., was a former student of Hampton Institute. Also, he was a pilot before entering the army, having been an instructor for the Robertson Aircraft corporation at Lambert Field, Mo. The deceased pilot is survived by his father, Henry Davis, farmer, of Fort Valley, and a brother, Moses Davis, civilian mechanic on duty at the primary flying school, two brothers at Fort Valley, one brother at Coconut Grove, Fla. Burial was at Fort Valley.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Girl Mechanics, White and Colored, On the Job for American Airlines

FEB 8 - 1943



Working on a motor in an American Airlines hangar at La Guardia field, top-to-bottom—Lillian Flekenstein, Jeannette White, and Jane Price. American keeps 'em flying with the help of whites and Negroes, men and women, working together. Their policy contrasts with other war plants, which turn away skilled Negroes. Negroes are accepted on equal footing into Air Lines Mechanics Association, collective bargaining agent for Air Lines.

In American Airlines' engine accessory department, Louise Williams and Christian Kroner are skilled employes.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabam

NEGROES SENT INTO AIR CORPS BY RATIO

By United Press.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson said today that Negroes are being assigned to the Army Air Forces in proportion to the total number of Negroes inducted into the Army.

In a letter to Wilbur La Roe Jr., chairman of the Committee on Civic Affairs of the Washington Federation of Churches, Patterson answered questions dealing with alleged discrimination against Negroes in the air forces.

"It is the policy of the Army, as required by the Selective Service and Training Act, to have a proportion of Negroes in the Army in proportion to the Negro population of the country," Patterson said. "... assignment to the air and ground forces must be in the same proportion. . . ."

APR 2 1943

New Warrant Officers at TAFS

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JAN 30 1943

These nine enlisted men of the Tuskegee Army Flying School personnel have qualified to become warrant officers, the first to be selected direct from the ranks at this station. They took the oath of office on January 20. Warrant officers wear bronze shoulder bars and are addressed by other soldiers as "mister." The men and their former ranks, left to right, are: Tech. Sgt. Edward Edgehill of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Technical Sergeant Hollis T. Arnold of Muskogee, Okla.; Corporal Glenn L. Head of Madison, Ga.; Master Sgt. William H. Johnson of North Woodbury, N.J.; Staff Sgt. Richard Rutledge of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Staff Sgt. Robert R. Snead of Cleveland, Ohio; Sgt. Burks Esaw of Detroit; Master Sgt. Timothy Calder of Waterville, Maine, and Master Sgt. Chalmers P. Smith of Bentonia, Miss.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Negro Fighter Unit Bombed Pantelleria

By the United Press.

ALLIED HQ., North Africa, June 14.—An American Negro fighter unit participated in the battle of Pantelleria, marking the first appearance of their race in overseas aerial combat, it was announced today.

The Negroes, who flew P-40 Warhawk fighter-bombers, arrived in North Africa only recently and went through a month of special training.

Lt. Col. B. C. Davis, Jr., of Washington, son of Brigadier General Davis, is commander of the squadron. The ground crews also are Negroes.

1943

47a-1943

NEW MORALE SPURS NEGRO AIR TRAINEES

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Give West Pointer Credit for Spirit.

[This is the second of two articles by Roscoe Simmons on the training of Negro airmen at Selfridge field, Mich.]

BY ROSCOE SIMMONS.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Oct. 30.—No greater transformation has marked the preparation for war than that at Selfridge field, where as late as April of this year talk had it that training for air fighters, particularly colored trainees, had broken down.

The story of the revolution in both training and morale which is on at Selfridge is the story of a new spirit which now animates the base command, but it is particularly the story of the vision and heart of one man, Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., a West Pointer, who was called in to do a job of morale engineering.

"Time and Understanding."

Col. Selway came to Selfridge in May. "Nothing is wrong," he said, "nothing that a little time and understanding can't right." Col. Selway, a professional soldier, brought patience and discipline with him.

Within five months a dispirited, almost aimless set of men became so alert for training and action that to assist Col. Selway in hurrying his program Col. B. O. Davis Jr., ranking colored combat officer in the United States army, has been called from overseas to become executive officer at Selfridge and to assist in strengthening teamwork hard to duplicate in the war.

At Selfridge is the 332d fighter group of colored fighters and the 332d headquarters group. Embraced in the group are the 100th, the 301st, the 302d, and the 99th squadron. The 99th is in Italy, where it covered itself with glory.

Here also is the 44th aviation squadron, commanded by Capt. Joseph A. Murphy, said by army officers to be as dashing an outfit as aviation has produced.

High Praise for 44th.

It was the 44th of which Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr. said his travels and inspection had failed to show him its superiors anywhere. Its Irish captain has infused into his men a resolute spirit that crops out in all they do.

Hidden away at Selfridge and a few miles away at Oscoda, the gun range grounds, are outfits but slightly known, but all a part of the new spirit of the command. "All in all," said Col. William Boyd, base commander, "I will put them up against any and all comers."

But an important unit here, the supervisory unit, is the 403d fighter squadron, composed of fighters returned from the front. Many of them are heroes, some wearing citations for bravery, and all of them noted for skill in the air. It is this unit that has been assigned the task of lending personal supervision to the development of the 332d. The 332d considers the presence of the 403d, composed entirely of white comrades of the air, a rich opportunity in their military career.

Progress in Teamwork.

At Selfridge there is a teamwork which indicates the kind of progress going on beyond common knowledge of the country. War alone seems to be the problem here.

"There is no absence of technical capacity in the colored flyer," said Col. Selway, "but having had no parent unit to give birth to a program, it was necessary to start from scratch."

Col. Selway went back to scratch. When he got to Selfridge he held a meeting with his men. "If you have the heart," he said to them, "show it. If you wish to fly and shoot as you fly, I will go all the way with you. If you wish to play on my team, you will have to go to bed nights, rise early, and give all you have to flying."

The sleepy woke up, talkers got quiet, and the race problem went out of the window. Until June the average aviation group flew around 500 miles per month. That was flying on the ground.

Knows His Men.

"Now," said Col. Selway, "we average around 2,000 hours per week."

From room to room he walked and showed every instrument known to flying. He knew every name among the flyers and he knew who among his men was all there and who was struggling to reach the standard.

In two days during the week flying reached 660 hours. It was as if the entire 332d meant to take off for Italy or Japan the next day. "I cannot tell you," said Lt. James Pughlesy, adjutant of the 332d, "what a change has come over our men within two or three months." Lt. Pughlesy is a veteran of the regular army, having served 25 years in the famous 25th infantry. He seems the invaluable figure of the group.

"I told the men," said Col. Selway, "that where there had been no background we would have to make up for it, and we would have to do that scientifically." He then began to assemble at Selfridge the latest and finest equipment.

"Nothing," he said, "was ever so bad with the material end here that it could not be remedied within a week, once aptitude and willingness showed on the field. I don't know when I shall be called elsewhere, but if I should go, I will leave behind me potential fighters worthy of the sky."

Equipment, Men Ready.

The hangars, the concrete runways, the great array of planes stretching the field, the crowded shops and classrooms filled with flyers who sit glued to their seats, together with every device produced to increase the qualifications of trainees, plus a personal touch from every authority on the field, all indicate that, long war or short, flyers from Selfridge will be ready for the test of combat.

"Accidents at Selfridge," said Col. Selway, "are almost things of the past." As he spoke the telephone rang. "Where did you land?" he asked. "No wires, no trees! Of all things!"

One of his men had run out of gas and settled his ship on the highway. "He wants no help," he said to Lt. Pughlesy. "All he wants is some gas."

Old aircraft at Selfridge are off the field for repairs, and the hangars and runways are lined with the latest models, all new, and almost all of them P-39s, sparkling beneath the October sun.

Some 90 planes are moving or about to move and alert young men are keen for the lift. A part of the 403d had been withdrawn to Oscoda so that the trainees could try it alone for a day or two.

"Keep Eyes on Guns."

One hundred and twenty-seven flyers had made Col. Selway's "team." Above every classroom door and on the fields is found Col. Selway's motto for his men: "Keep your eyes on the damned guns!"

This thought, and thoughts similar to it, and the language of war, brought in to Selfridge, has stirred the flyers. Asked where he was born, a flyer, not more than 20, answered:

"Born in Alabamy; raised on the
pecan;
Not goin' back to 'bamy 'till I've
seen Japan."

In honor of his air boys Col. Selway wrote a song, "The Air Corps Roar." Both the words and music are his. "I wrote this song," said Col. Selway, "before I reached Selfridge, but like all good music, it will do anywhere." Lt. Pughlesy said one of the flyers had taken the song up with him and called it "Music in the Air."

SICILY VETERAN

HEADS COLORED SELFRIDGE UNIT

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Trains More Negro Combat Pilots.

BY ROSCOE SIMMONS.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Oct. 23—It was more silver lining than cloud for Selfridge field when Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr. was inducted as executive officer of the 332d fighter group.

Lt. Col. Davis.

All Selfridge put on its best for the occasion, glad that the more pleasant hour had struck for a place harassed by a chain of circumstances that got out of hand.

Talk of Sicily Action.

Visitors who had come in for the event dwelt on the recent exploits of Col. Davis in the Sicilian campaign, but there were those who felt that the war department was anointing him with an authority new to the customs of the army.

But the day was not entirely one for Col. Davis, regarded by many as the model West Pointer. A father stepped into the scene, and that father went back to the Spanish American war. It was for that conflict that Col. Davis' father, Gen B. O. Davis Sr., enlisted as a private from Washington, D. C.

Now he was present as a brigadier general on the staff of the inspector general of the army, an official witness to the induction of his only son as an executive officer in one of the great air fields of the country, this beginning a new era for the American Negro soldier.

Star in His Eyes.

At dinner a Negro soldier, waiting on the officers and their party, had fixed his eyes on the star which decorates the expensive shoulders of Gen. Davis. He seemed blind to all else about him. He tipped a cup of coffee, which spilled over two officers.

"Excuse me, please do," he said, a great smile playing a chubby countenance. "But I was just looking. I heard talk of the colored general. I have seen him; now I'm ready for any questions either Hitler or the Japs want to ask me," is the way he put it to comrades.

A dozen officers' hands went up in forgiveness and he went his way rejoicing.

Col. Davis was ordered home from Sicily to undertake the training of American flyers. He had led the 99th squadron in a campaign nothing short of an eye-opener to the command in Africa. Within four months the 99th had proved all talk of unreadiness of the American trained Negro flyers for combat against any foe was but dumb doubt.

Win Fellows' Respect.

The conduct of the 99th in the air won the admiration of their fellow American flyers and the surprised respect of the British.

"They were the gallant boys," said Col. Davis, "alert under fire, brave enough, holding back nothing. Americans thru and thru, and I hated to leave them, but I'll be seeing them soon again, I hope."

Of his own exploits Col. Davis would say nothing, with him it was "we" for even the little he would consent to tell of the conduct of his comrades.

"We landed at Casablanca in April," he said, "and we were busy with the enemy until we reached Sicily. We undertook every mission assigned to us and it is said we failed in none."

Daily Deadly Task.

Engagements took the 99th from Tunis to the Italian boot, and for 11 days over Pantelleria the 99th fighters threw their ships thru the air in ceaseless combat. Dive bombing, the deadliest warfare in the air, became a daily dask. "They didn't miss and they didn't flinch," said Col. Davis.

"Every opportunity was afforded us," he said, "to show what we could do, and we stand on the record." Col. Davis was sent home to ready other colored flyers for air war in both the Atlantic and Pacific.

From the hard engagement over Pantelleria the 99th moved to defensive routine patrol, but soon began to provide escort of protection for the movement against Sicily. It became a major air support unit, and as such participated in the battle of Salerno.

For 13 days Col. Davis and his fighters covered the movements and landings of the troops bound for Sicily. "Those are days we can never forget," he said. "We had 37 pilots, and every pilot was an American soldier.

"We saw all the soldiers engaged with us, the French, the British, and the utterly fearless Gourmerllers, but we had every reason to be proud of the boys in the uniform of the United States," said Col. Davis.

When early in September the allied forces began its movement on Italy the 99th was called on to cover. "It was the highest hour for our fighters," said Col. Davis

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Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DAVIS HOME, LAUDS '99th'

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., until September 2 commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron—which saw action against the enemy over Pantelleria, Sicily and Italy—came back home last week. He is now at Mitchell Field, N. Y., headquarters of the First Army Air Corps, on temporary duty, prior to assignment to the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich., which is soon to be sent into active combat duty. There it is reported, he will become commanding officer with the rank of full colonel.

At a War Department press conference—attended by leading Negro publishers—Colonel Davis, accompanied by his father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, gave for the first time, a complete running account of the experiences of the

They were up in the thickest of the conflict. They knew that they had done well and had won the attention of Gen. Eisenhower's command.

When the 5th army effected its crossing and moved into Italy the 99th moved in with them. The American command gave every evidence of pride in the skill and faithfulness of its daring colored fighters in the air.

New Col. Davis is back as chief executive to Col. Robert Selway Jr., commander of fighter units at Selfridge field. He will train the 332d fighter group, which is the heart of men at Selfridge getting ready for air combat.

"Two things," said Col. Davis, "I would like to speak of. First, the morale of our boys both as exhibited in Africa and in Italy; then, the comforting gallantry and kindness of Josephine Baker, a great American girl, who took us to her heart and became our friend, our monitor, and our comrade. Our country will owe much to her, and in Africa she was all the world to us."

The entire base at Selfridge, without race or color distinction, gave Col. Davis a soldier's reception, the warmest yet seen at this field.

No one, not even Col. Davis' soldier-father, seemed happier than base commander Col. William Boyd and Col. Selway.

overseas.

SEP 18 1943

NOW SEASONED FLYERS

Wearing the Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster—awarded him August 20 for more than 20 flying missions over enemy territory—Colonel Davis said: "The men I left behind are seasoned veterans. After the middle of July, we had a squadron of pilots whose fondest dreams were no longer about the girls back home. Instead, they dreamed about a German pilot who would be foolish enough to slug it out in aerial combat."

The "99th," Colonel Davis told the press conference, had had more than 800 sorties over enemy territory and had demonstrated the ability of the Negro pilot to live up to highest standards of the Army Air Forces.

Describing what he termed the "most interesting engagement" experienced by the squadron, which took place when it was on a bomber escort mission to Sciacca, Italy, he said: "Our ships were close escort for the bombers that day and we were right with them . . . We absorbed the attack of the Me-109's, Macchi 202's and FW-190's and, on that day, we lost a couple of aircraft. We definitely destroyed one of the enemy, probably destroyed a couple more and damaged three. Incidentally, on that day, General Eisenhower visited our field, and during his stay congratulated Captain Hall, one of our flight commanders, on his and our first confirmed victory."

NO LONGER "EXPERIMENT"

Davis pointed out that both the men in the squadron and high ranking officials of the Army Air Forces looked upon the "99th" as an experiment to determine whether the Negro flyer was mentally, physically and emotionally fitted for the rigors of combat flying. He said: "Just what a Negro pilot in a P-40 would do when anti-aircraft fire burst about his ship or when an enemy aircraft was strewing cannon shells and machine gun bullets about his cockpit, was a matter that was really conjecture in the minds of some of these high ranking officers in the AAF."

REALIZED RESPONSIBILITY

"It was a very significant fact," the younger Davis declared, "that all members of this organization were impressed at all times with the knowledge that the future of the Negro in the Air Corps probably would be dependent largely upon the manner in which they carried out their mission.

ACCEPTED CHALLENGE

"The fact that his unit was an experiment became a challenge to him . . . Every man in the '99th' will go through any ordeal concocted by combat or garrison existence to assure the successful completion of the experiment."

With his description of the record of the "99th" in combat, Davis left no doubt of his conviction that the 27 Negro pilots in the squadron and the ground crew personnel supporting them had fully justified the experiment.

GROWTH OF RELIGION

Davis declared that, with an increase in their experience as fighter pilots, there developed among the men a "growth of religious feeling." "Toward the end of the Sicilian campaign," he stated, "I had very little trouble getting together an audience for the visiting chaplain, Colonel Pinnel. He always had a nucleus of pilots to speak to. Lieutenant Bowling, one of my pilots, was shot down by flak in the Mediterranean and forced to stay in his dinghy for 24 hours, and he said to me: 'You know, Colonel Davis, when you sit out there that long, shivering from cold at night and trying to hide from the heat of the sun by day—always hoping against hope that somebody is going to see you and pick you up—you just pray automatically.'"

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

Tracing the experiences of the "99th" from the time it left New York April 15, Davis painted a vivid picture of the growth of the combat team from inexperienced flyers to seasoned veterans. He said that as senior officer aboard the transport which carried the squadron to North Africa, he had responsibility not only for his unit but for some 4,000 Negro and white soldiers aboard ship. The squadron landed at Casablanca and then later was sent to the town of Fez in French Morocco where they stayed a month in intensive combat training under the guidance of Colonel Philip Cochran—famed in the comic strips as the "Flip Corkin" of "Terry and the Pirates."

ENTERTAINED BY "JO" BAKER

Describing Fez as "one of the most delightful spots ever visited by us," and as containing "everything a young man away from home a young man could wish for," Colonel Davis said: "The officers of the squadron were made socially secure in the town by the visit of Josephine Baker. Miss Baker insisted on presenting several different groups of our officers to the prominent French and Arab families in the town. All in all, Miss Baker was largely responsible for our most pleasant social relations in the town of Fez."

On May 31st the squadron took off for Cape Bon peninsula and shortly after the first of June were engaged in their first combat over the Mediterranean islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa, he said. "Every man in the squadron," said Davis, "went into action with more than 250 hours' flying experience in a P-40 plane."

After the Pantelleria show, the squadron had nine days of active combat as bomber escort over Sicily, in strafing enemy communication lines and in dog fights with enemy fighters. After the middle of July they moved up to Southern Sicily and engaged in combat work over Italy. Now the squadron is engaged in training replacements prior to new combat assignment.

NO BIAS SHOWN

"From the time this squadron left the continental limits of the United States to the present time, there has not been a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader," said Davis.

"Our field," he said, "was often visited by high ranking officers of both the British and American army. Among the visitors were such men as Air Marshal Cunningham, Lord Trenchard, General House of the 12th Air Support Command, General Doolittle, who led the mission over Tokio, and General Spaatz, commanding general of the Northwest African Air Force."

An Opportunity Well-Earned

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 8 1943

News of the sky-rocketing success of the P-40 Warhawks, piloted by the first Negro fighter squadron in the history of the world, is eloquent testimony to the fact that Negroes can, if given the opportunity, make a valuable contribution in all phases of modern warfare.

Blasting down death and destruction in one of the heaviest air operations in the history of warfare, these colored fighting men of the air attacked heavily fortified Pantelleria, and from this island off the coast of Sicily they brought the Tuskegee Army Air Field out of the experimental stage to prove the true worth and value of Negro pilots in the present war.

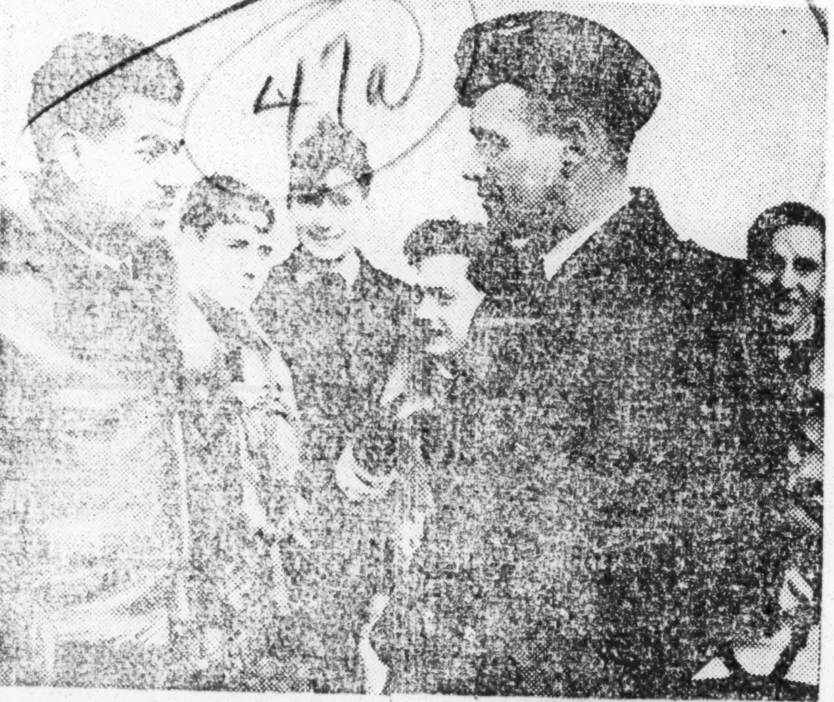
On many previous occasions we have directed attention to the ability of Negroes to advance and profit in the skills and techniques in all fields of endeavors, and that their only obstacle is man-made, rather than inherent and native. We contend, as we always have, that proscription and circumscription based on color and racial origin not only serves to stifle and discourage initiative, but weakens the whole frame-work upon which social progress is built.

We congratulate these valiant fighters and plead for the further advantages to which other Negroes are justly entitled, not merely in the air operations, but in all phases of American life. True ability and devotion to ideals and to country deserve no less.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE LUFTWAFFE'S NEMESIS

47a



With the record of 32 Axis planes knocked out of combat, many of them being from the vaunted Luftwaffe, Group Captain A. C. Malan was elevated to wing commander at his fighter station somewhere over there last week. He holds the Distinguished Service Order and the Distinguished Flying Cross and bar. The 32-year-old South African is shown chatting with Flight Sgt. V. Bunting of Kingstown.

TRAINING

Chicago. Ill Time

Experiment Proved?

SEP 20 1943

To Washington last week came tall, lath-straight Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., until recently commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, the Air Forces' first all-Negro fighter outfit. At a press conference West Pointer Davis, who led the 99th in Tunisia and Sicily, said that in his opinion Negro pilots had made the grade, and training them should no longer be regarded as an experiment.

In one of their first encounters, Colonel Davis said, the 99th had two planes shot down, but got one German fighter definitely, two probables and three damaged. On every bomber escort mission his men met superior enemy forces and managed to break a little better than even. His conference finished, Colonel Davis, son of the Army's only Negro general officer, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis Sr., departed. His new command: the 332nd Fighter Group, to be formed of three Negro squadrons.

So little operational data on the 99th had reached Washington that it was impossible to form a conclusive opinion about its pilots. It has apparently seen little action, compared to many other units, and seems to have done fairly well; that is as far as anyone would go. But unofficial reports from the Mediterranean theater have suggested that the top air command was not altogether satisfied with the 99th's performance; there was said to be a plan some weeks ago to attach it to the Coastal Air Command, in which it would be assigned to routine convoy cover.

In any case, the question of the 99th is only a single facet of one of the Army's biggest headaches: how to train and use Negro troops. No theater commander wants them in considerable numbers; the high command has trouble finding combat jobs for them. There is no lack of work to be done by Negroes as labor and engineering troops—the Army's dirty work. But the American spirit of fair play, which occasionally devotes some attention to Negro problems, would be offended by a policy of confining Negroes to such duty, and the Negro press has campaigned against it. There are plenty of Negro combat troops, but almost none of them have been tested under fire.

Most thoughtful Army officers probably would agree that the Negro will never develop his potentialities as an airman or any other kind of soldier under the system of segregation in training. But the Army is convinced, rightly or wrongly, that any major effort to break up the system now would touch off outbreaks of race prejudice and hobble the war effort.

Whether the Negro pilot-training experiment is proved or not, it is going to continue. Negro cadets will begin medium-bomber training next month in classes with white cadets. But their squadron, to be activated on July 1, 1944, will be all-Negro, the first in the Air Forces. This squadron, too, is an experiment, and will be one until the question as old as U.S. independence is answered: is the Negro as good a soldier as the white man?

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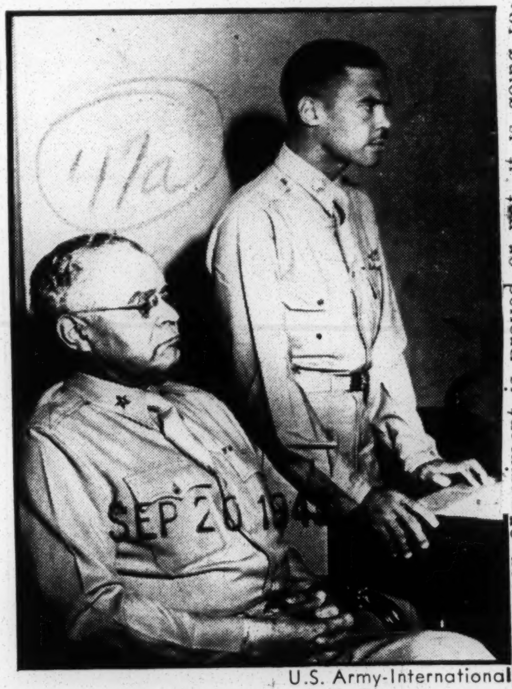


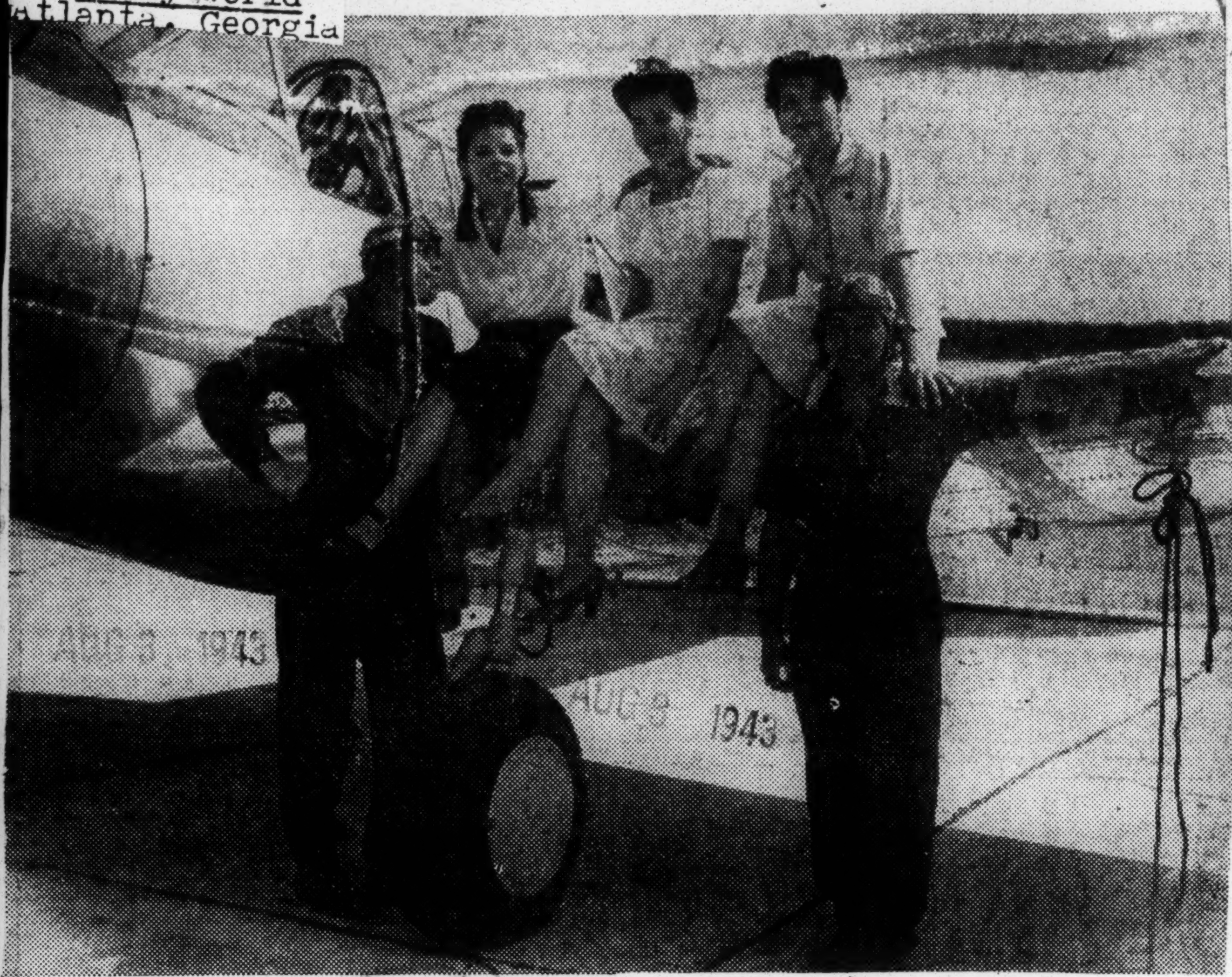
U.S. Army-International

DAVISES, FATHER & SON
The Army's head still aches.

47a-1943

Beauties And New Birdmen At Tuskegee

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



AUG 9 1943

Pictured above are two of Tuskegee's latest pilots and a bit of feminine pulchritude. Shown from left to right are 2nd Lt. Jack Daniels, Holsclaw, Spokane, Wash.; Mrs. Celestine Monclova, New York City, Miss Gwendolyn Norman, Chicago, Ill., Miss Marian Hervey and 2nd Lt. Cornelius G. Rogers of Chicago, Ill. Miss Hervey is the fianecee of Lt. Rogers . . . which probably accounts for the smiles.—(Photo by the Tuskegee Army Air Field)

47a

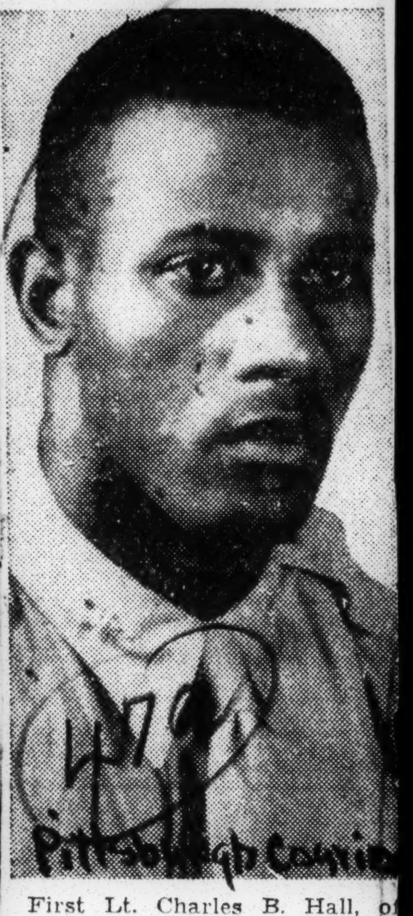
AUG 9 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUL 3 1943

SINGH'S BODY FOUND—The body of Wilmeth Sidat Singh, former Syracuse University football and basketball star shown above just after he received his wings at Tuskegee Arm Flying School, was discovered in Lake Huron by Selfridge Fiel (Mich.) authorities, according to a radio announcement Sunday night. Singh bailed out from his plane, while on a routin training flight over Lake Huron in early May. He was seer leaving the ship but he apparently got trapped in his parachute gear and did not get out in time to avoid drowning in th lake. He was an outstanding grid passer, a stellar cage ac who performed professionally for the Rens and for the Lichtmai Bears. He was a police officer in Washington before enlisting.

DOWNED NAZI



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Pittsburgh Courier

First Lt. Charles B. Hall, o Brazil, Ind., has the distinctio of being the first colored Ameri can airman to get an enem plane in combat. Lieutenan Hall scored his triumph las Thursday, while protecting a group of Mitchell bombers, tha were blasting the Italian bas on the island of Sicily. H downed a German Focke-Wul fighter that tried to intercep the bombers over the target.

JUL 10 1943

West Indian Ace Missing After Raid On Germany

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

47a

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Courier War Correspondent)

MAR 20 1943

LONDON, Mar. 18—(Via Cable)—London's West Indian community feels grea anxiety concerning the news that the ace West Indian pilot, Flying Officer H. S. Etienne had failed to return after an offensive operation over Germany.

The 19-year-old airman was a native of the island of St. Lucia, where he had a brilliant academic career at St. Mary's college before entering the local Civil Service.

AMONG FIRST CONTINGENT

Shortly after the British Air Ministry decided to recruit pilots among the colored Caribbean population, dozens of young Negroes arrived in this country to undergo intensive training at Air Force training quarters. Among the first contingent was Etienne, who distinguished himself so much that he was selected for a fighter pilot and awarded the much coveted Royal Air Force "wings."

After a number of flights as a Spitfire pilot against the Luftwaffe over Britain, Etienne was assigned to a bomber squadron and participated in several attacks upon Germany and enemy occupied territory.

Etienne recently was given the King's Commission as a flying officer, the first West Indian Negro to receive the distinction. Etienne who was a slim, dashing fellow was exceedingly popular with his fellow officers and a man who was highly respected and esteemed as a fearless pilot.

He was also very popular among his fellow West Indian compatriots in London.

MAR 20 1943

Army To Expand Its Program For Training Negro Fliers

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta. Ga.

47a

FEB 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The War Department announced this week expansion of the program for training Negro combat fliers. A group will be formed composed of one Squadron now being trained and two new ones which are in the process of organization. It will be provided with all the supporting services, not only those of the Air Corps, but of other arms and services such as Signal Corps and Quartmasters Corps.

Negroes are being trained throughout virtually the entire Technical Training Command of the Forces, as well as at the Air Forces Officers' Training School at Miami.

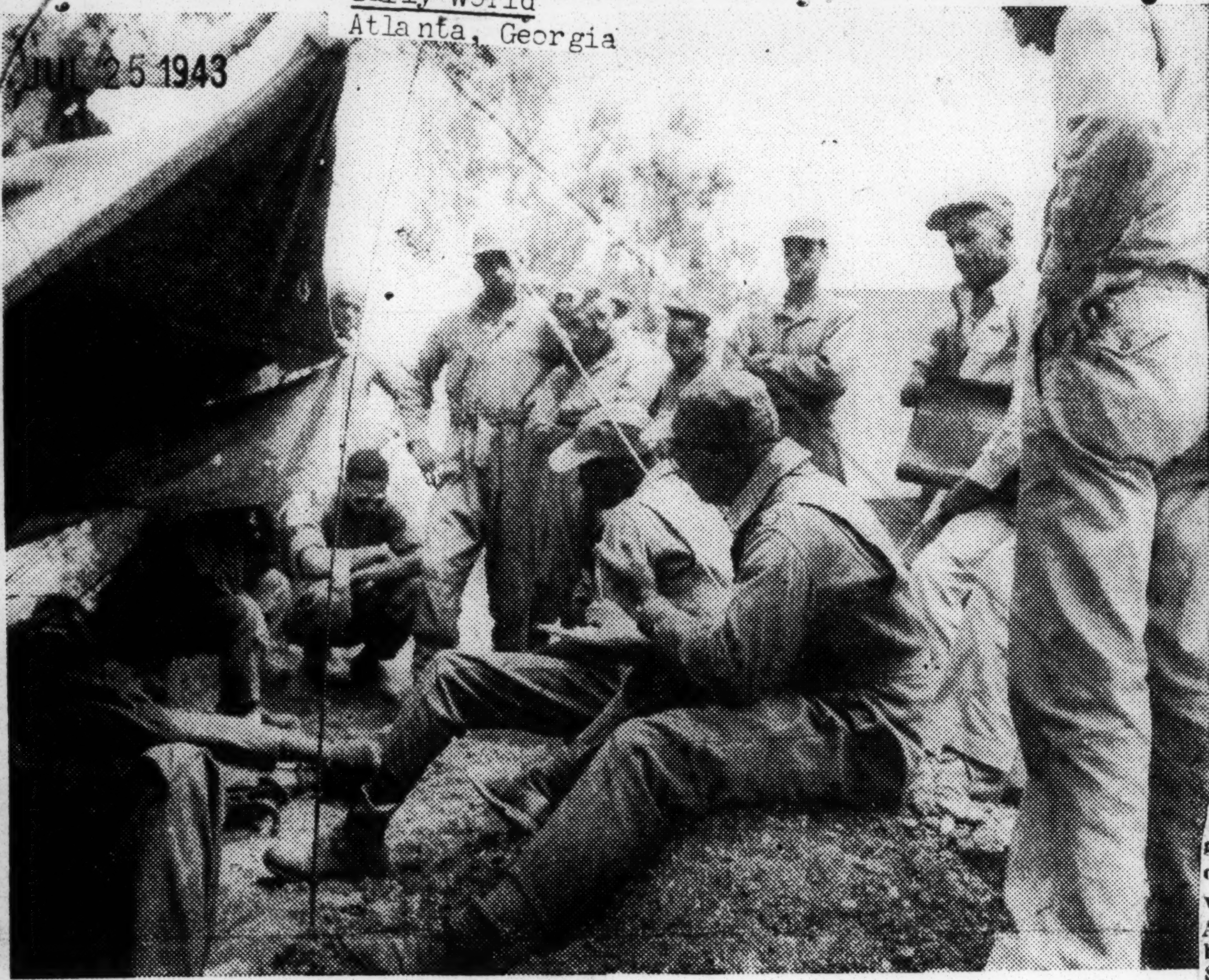
The Army now has a number of large Negro units, including several Negro Infantry and Cavalry regiments; tanks and tank-destroyers battalions; and important units of Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, Anti-arcraft, Engineer Medical Corps, Chemical Warfare Signal Corps and Quartermasters troops. In addition to the units here are innumerable smaller ones of great aggregate importance Substantial Negro contigents are to be found in all arms and services of the Army at home, in all major Expeditionary Forces abroad, and in almost all the technical and service schools, military and civilian, run by the Army or under contract to it.

The role of the Negro in civilian War Department employment is also an importment one. Statistics from the field installations are not available, but figures of the Department Administrative Services show that of a total of 47,644 civilian employees at the present time, 9,569 are Negroes.

As Captain Briefs Heroic Black Warhawks

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUL 25 1943

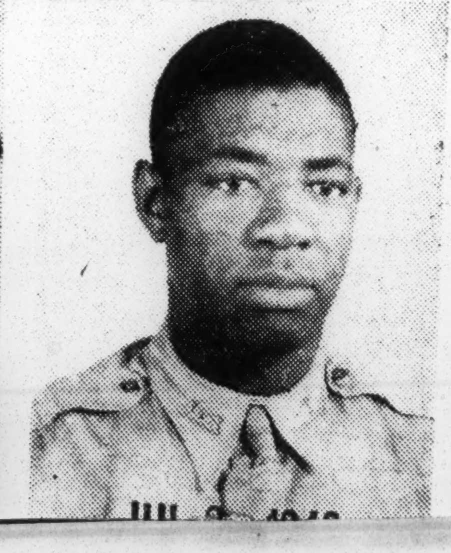


SOMEWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA—(SNS)—Captain George S. Roberts of Fairmount, West Virginia, seated in foreground wiwth two-bar insignia on shoulders is shown here as he "briefs" pilot members of the 99th Fighter Squadron before they depart on their mission of protecting American bomber squadrons and attacking enemy bomber formations. The 99th is an integral part of The North Africa Tactical Air Forces

JUL 25 1943

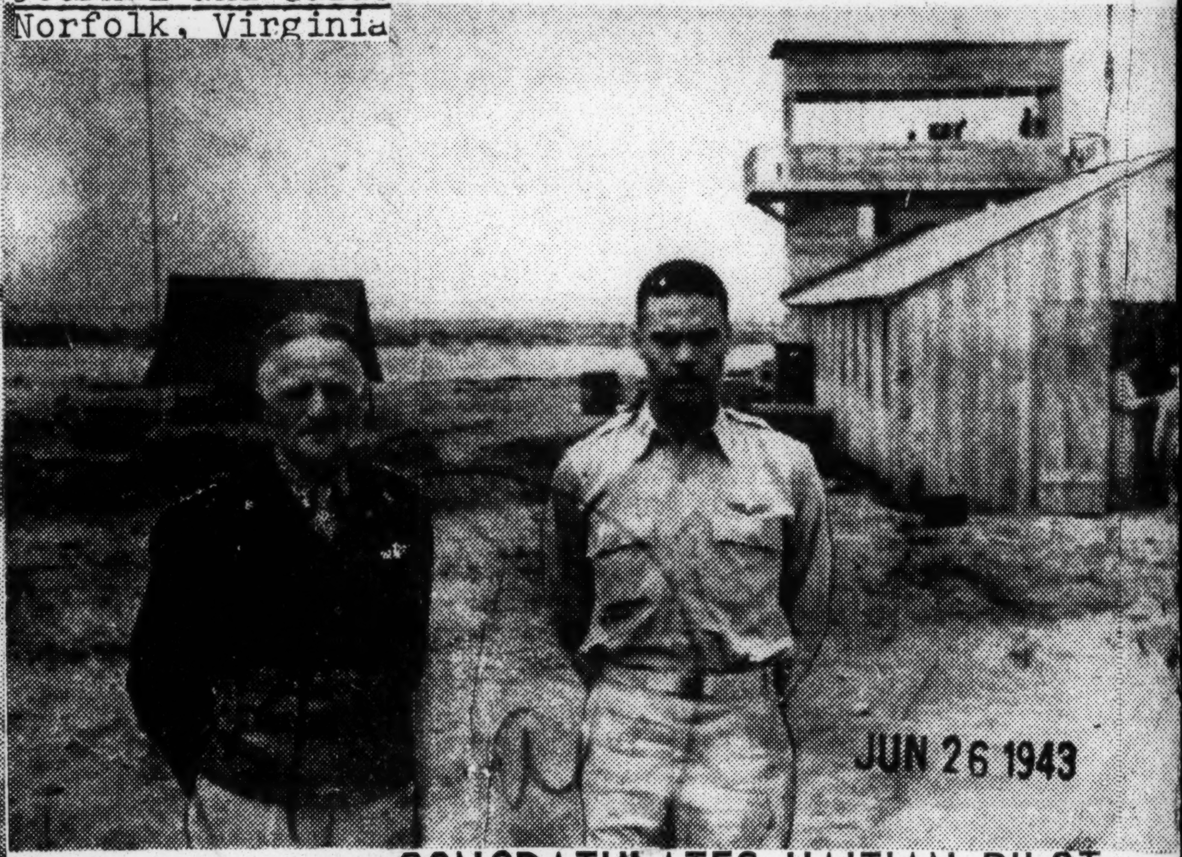
GERMAN FIGHTER PILOTS SWOOPED DOWN ON THEM—A flight of six pilots of the 99th Pursuit Squadron were the first members of the squadron to engage in dogfights with German fighter planes. The action took place above Pantelleria, which the American fighters were defending. The date was June 18. They engaged a formation of 22 enemy fighters

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



Allied Air Chief Talks With Lt. Col. B. O. Davis

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

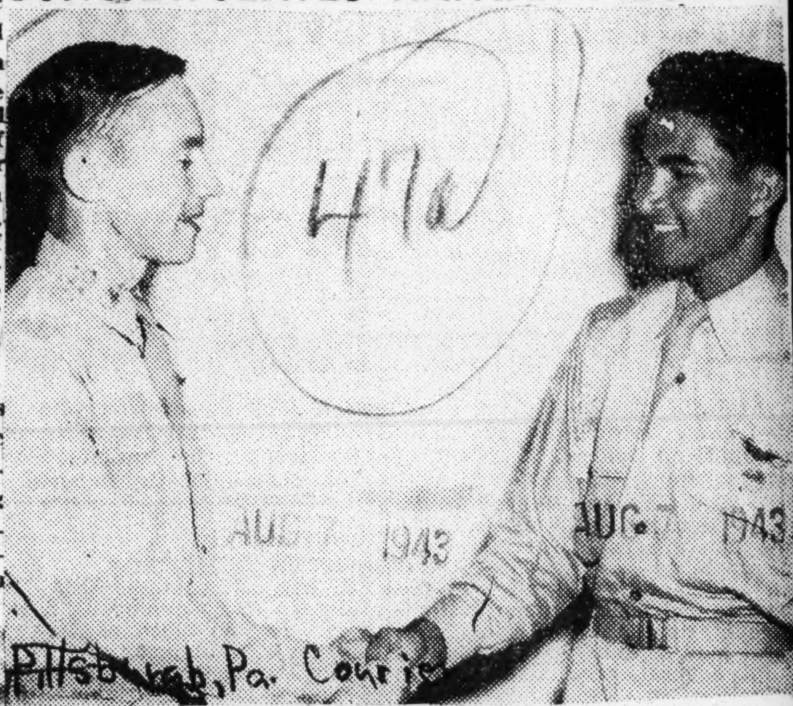


JUN 26 1943

Heading a party of distinguished United States Air Force officers who paid an unexpected visit to the airfield in North Africa where Negro fliers are based was Lt. General Carl Spaatz, commanding officer of the Northwest African Air Forces, photographed here with Lt. Colonel B. O. Davis Jr., right, commanding officer of the squadron. In the background other members of the party are entering the pilots' room adjoining the operations tower.

Lt. Col. Davis is sharing equally combat duties and has already led four missions. He has been commended for "showing remarkable understanding of tactical details and exhibiting inspiring leadership." (Exclusive Journal and Guide Photo by Thomas W. Young.)

CONGRATULATES HAITIAN PILOT



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AUG 7 1943

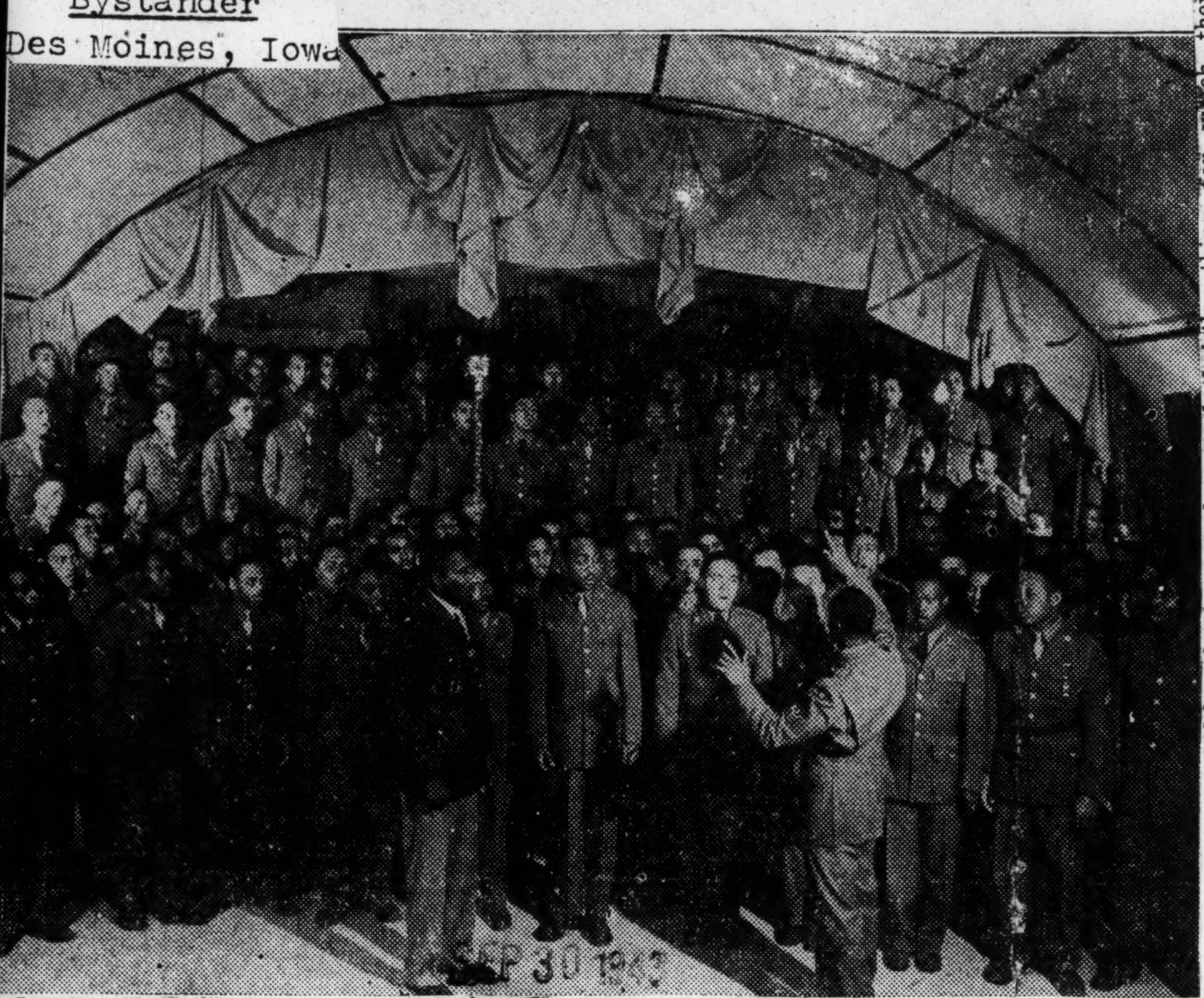
Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, congratulates Sgt. Raymond Cassagnol of the Haitian Air Force on his recent accomplishment at this base. Sgt. Cassagnol received his wings as a polit at the Tuskegee Army Air Field recently. He is a native of Port au Prince, Haiti.—Photo by the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

47a-1943

SOLDIERS A BIG HIT IN LINCOLN CONCERT

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa



SEP 30 1943

London, England—Lords and ladies, generals and admirals, shopkeepers and civil servants, Allied servicemen and women witnessed Tuesday night in London's famous old Albert hall an event unparalleled in British annals.

On the vast stage where the world's greatest musicians have played and sung, 200 American Negro soldiers from the United States army aviation and engineering units put on a two-hour program of spirituals, narrative ballads, and sycopated tunes such as only American Negroes know how to sing.

Roland Hayes, distinguished American tenor, came over from the United States especially to appear with these G. I.'s but the enthusiastic reception he received after his long absence from the London concert platform was overshadowed by the way the distinguished audience reacted to the soldiers themselves. Above is shown First Sergeant Alexander B. Jordan, St. Paul, Minnesota, as he directed the choir during rehearsal held in one of the Nissen hut theaters in rural England.

Twin-Engine Pilot Training Started At Tuskegee Field

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

OCT 8 1943

Trainees to Be Selected From Upper Basic Class of Cadets

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — (SNS) —The second dream of air-minded Negro youth of today materialized into a reality, as twin engine training officially started last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

With the advent of the first all-Negro Fighter Squadron to combat, in single engine P-40 Warhawks, the question immedately rose as to the possibility of an all-Negro bomber squadron.

The question was answered when the War Department sanctioned the training of Negro cadets in the arduous task of becoming multi-engine pilots, here at the home of the first all-Negro Fighter Pilot Squadron now engaged in deadly combat over the war torn skies of Europe.

Selected to head this new school the first of its kind anywhere in the world, is Major Clay Albright, the man who has taught every Negro fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces today, how to fly fighter aircraft. Lieutenant Milton B. Hall of Owensboro, Kentucky, is assisting him in an administrative capacity. Instructors of the newly formed school are 1st Lieutenant Leonard [illegible] Crozier and 2nd Lieutenant Robert [illegible] Meagher.

Pilot trainees for twin engine training here will be selected from the Upper Basic class of cadets. They are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training here and then be transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin engine course here, is the AT-10 BH (Beechcraft). This plane is referred to as an "assimilated loaded bomber," as its altitude in flight is comparable to that of a medium bomber with a full load of bombs. All the ingenuity and skill required of a bomber pilot is necessary in flying the AT-10 Trainer.

For the highly technical job of maintenance, instructors from Turner Field, Georgia, have been attacched here to familiarize our mechanics in the fundamental knowledge of keeping these ships aloft.

Commanding Officer Tells Of Combat Experience; To Train More Flyers

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

SEP 17 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

Washington, Sept. 17. (ANP)—A hero, proudest of the lot, returned home from the war to receive the plaudits of an admiring people, [illegible] himself and for his fighting men.

He is Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., until recently commander of the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron, the first unit of Negro fliers to be trained by the army air forces, and the only one to see action in the fighting in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Col. Davis is here to take up a new but undisclosed assignment with the 332nd Fighter group at Selfridge Field, Mich.

Tanned and toughened from exposure to heat, sun and unrelenting enemy, Col. Davis stood beside his equally famous father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., and told a press conference last Thursday of the war experiences he and the squadron that comprised 27 pilots and 250 enlisted men have had up to his departure from the front.

He had praise for officers who completed their instruction in combat, for the comradeship that has been established with white airmen, for the courage and eagerness of his buddies, the fighting ability of the P-40 Warhawks which they piloted, and finally the skill and prowess of British fliers.

From the day the squadron left continental United States on April 15, Col. Davis declared in measured tone, "every step of the way was dramatic." Further, "there has not been a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader." By qualification, the experience here at home was not quite so qualified.

The 9-year-old West Pointer was the senior line officer on the transport that carried he and his men across to North Africa although the squadron and their complement of ground crew were only 15 per cent of the total passenger list of 4,000 men.

Everything proceeded smoothly and without incident throughout the eight-day voyage. They landed at Casablanca and were greeted by Col. Allison of the army air force who in turn presented Gen. Campbell. The latter explained to Col. Davis that the 99th would not go into combat until he, Davis, considered that they had been adequately schooled in combat training.

The colonel told something of the type of "post-graduate" training they were given in several stations in North Africa, and at all of which they met with a friendly reception both by white officers and enlisted personnel. At one time they were based near the town of Fez, which he described as a "delightful" spot, visited almost nightly for a month, and at no time was there friction with the white soldiers they met. "A considerable bond exists between those who fly," Col. Davis declared, "regardless of color or race."

It was here that the 99th met Josephine Baker, noted actress, who entertained them. La Baker not only received the officers, but also presented them to prominent French and Arab families of Fez who added to the pleasantness of their stay there.

On May 31 the squadron took off for Cape Bon, Tunisia for the final phase of their experience, the thing for which they had spent months in preparation beginning at Tuskegee and ending with the battlefields of North Africa.

"No unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th squadron," the colonel declared. "We were weak in one respect only, and that was the squadron commander and the flight commander. Neither of us had had any combat experience. It is this quality that gives confidence to those who are led that the men in charge of the formation know what they are doing. Frankly, I didn't know."

He judged, however, that this deficiency was adequately counterbalanced by the fact that his pilots had had an average of 250 hours in the P-40s. There are not a lot of pilots around who can point to such flying time before entering combat.

The men were all on edge. They were assigned to the group commanded by Col. William W. Monyer for operational purposes only, meaning, that they received flight instructions for each succeeding day from Col. Monyer. Otherwise, they maintained separate identity.

The fliers went as swingmen over Pantelleria on their first mission, about the first of June, and returned every day until June 7 to dive bomb enemy positions until the island fell. It was during this "show" that six of the squadron had the first real brush with the enemy, while the others merely encountered the flack of anti-aircraft.

About the first of July they began escorting bombers to Sicily, and everyday they were attacked by enemy fighter craft, the purpose of the latter apparently being to draw off the escort the better to reach the fortresses.

He related the experience when on an escort mission over Chiaco, the bombardier couldn't get his bomb door open promptly and so had to circle over the target twice before releasing the explosives. This permitted the enemy craft to get off the ground and climb up to meet them, "and they really do climb."

That day they provided close escort, the bottom, medium and top cover being given by other units. "We lost a couple of craft, destroyed one enemy and possibly damaged three others," he said. The lost pilots were 1st Lt. Sherman W. White, Montgomery, Ala., and 2nd Lt. James L. MacCullum of St. Louis. Both have previously been reported officially missing in action.

Soon after [illegible] engagement the squadron was visited by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of all allied forces in the North African Theatre of Operations. Others who visited the unit on various occasions were Air Marshal Cunningham, and Lord Trenchard, both of the Royal Air Force and among the best air tacticians in the world. Gen. Spotts, commanding general for the Northwest African Air force, also made calls on the squadron.

July 10 was "D Day" for the Sicilian invasion. The squadron gave cover for bombing attacks, itself dive bombed installations and strafed retreating axis forces that ultimately succeeded in breaking down resistance to the drive. The unit was later based on the southern coast of the island.

Training replacements began to come in about this time, new combat crews, new responsibilities, he said. The new men had to be shown the ropes, and they were. On Sept. 7, Col. Davis was ordered to report for assignment to the 332nd fighter group, and so picked up his hat and was homeward bound.

"The men I left behind," he declared, "instead of being the fledglings we were on June 1, are now seasoned veterans of a combat experience of which all of us may well be proud."

Col. Davis commanded the 99th Squadron from Aug. 27, 1942, to Sept. 2, 1943, when he was relieved of command. While in the course of training and since, the squadron developed a certain feeling about matters which have been very much to the fore. They realized, for example, that they had to show just what American Negro pilots could do in a P-40 when faced by an enemy. To high officials of the army air force it was admittedly a matter for conjecture. They realized that it was up to them to prove that Negro pilots, "mentally, physically and emotionally" could meet the requirements of fighter pilots. They were "extremely conscious" over the fact that the future of Negroes insofar as the air force was concerned, depended upon how they comported themselves. Hence, the colonel said, when he took over the command it was a real "pleasure," but he was ever mindful of [illegible] things.

The 99th also was aware of the publicity that had been given the question of putting them into combat, as well as the idea of a segregated field. He said tha some of these things hurt. Th men felt that the people outsid believed they "were not being given a square deal." All of thi presented them more strongl with the "challenge" to disprov false impressions.

To answer critics on both side of the fence there is the evidenc of the ability of the pliots as ex emplified by the clusters wor by all of the men for the num ber of sorties they had made The colonel himself has the ai wedal and cluster. The squadron while in Africa, made about 80 sorties for an average of 25 to 2 for 26 pilots. The difference is accounted for by a few who were layed up for sickness.

Repeatedly in his remarks he referred to the cordiality that existed between the 99th and the members of other units they came in contact with beyond the shores of the United States. This was generally construed as a rebuttal to those who espouse segregated training for Negroes and whites.

Further, he had this to say:

"I definitely regard the record of Negro pilots as proof that it is no longer an experiment, and to those who are working with us, the experiment is finished."

Col. Davis had something to say about the P-40s they were using. Asked what they could do in a dog-fight, he said "Three things—turn, turn and turn." He added that "they never run away from a fight because they can't." In effect he said that if the German fighters came down where they were—and not too fast—they might be able to do something with them so long as it didn't require a chase.

The British Spitfires, however, he considered superb. The British fliers, he declared, "are good very good; they know the story—the whole story. The axis fighters, he said, don't have the enthusiasm they once did. "Our boys," he declared, "no longer dream about the girl back home but rather getting into a good fight with the enemy."

Their experiences have made them religion conscious. They have no particular thoughts abou the future since thinking abou the 24 hours ahead takes up to much time. As for commercia flying, he did not believe man of the men had given much attention to the subject. The colonel intends to continue his caree as a part of the army air force.

Col. Davis' next move will b to Mitchell Field, New York, headquarters of the First Army Ai Force of which the 332nd fighte group is a part. His stay ther will be temporary. He is expecte to convey his fund of battle ex perience to the three squadron that comprise a group. The grou has been in training for sometime and there is speculation that Davis will ultimately be their com mander with the rank of full colo nel.

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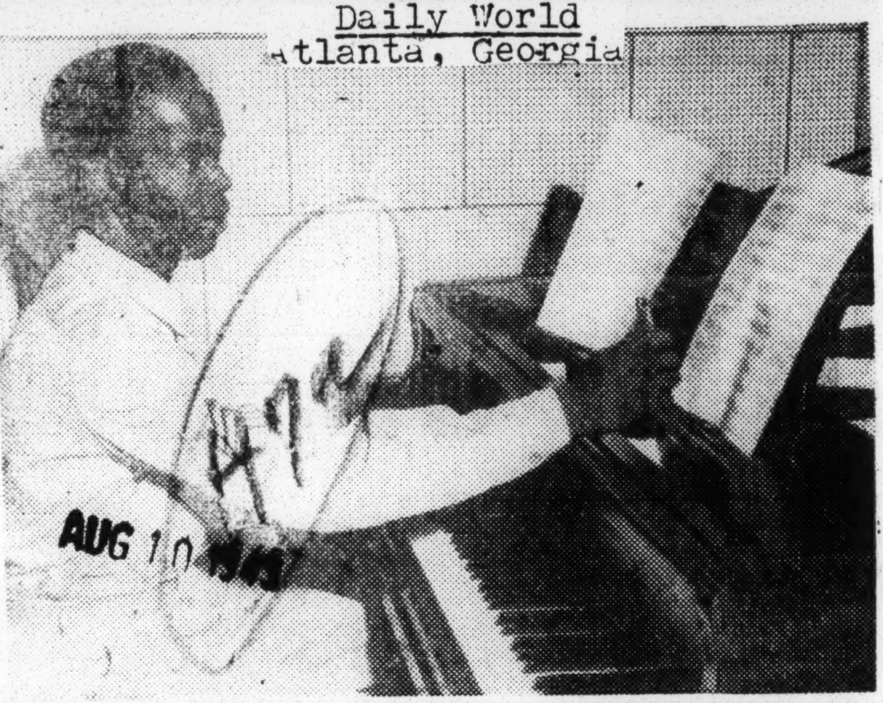
Leads Tuskegee Orchestra

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Youthful leader of the "Imperial Wings of Rhythm" dance orchestra of the Army Air Forces Band at the Tuskegee Army Air Field is Sergtant Claude Garvey of New York City. As the leader of the musical aggregation at this base, the trombonist not only plays a neat horn, but also is a capable arranger. — PHOTO BY TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD.

AUG 10 1943
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Negro Bombers to Train In Mixed Units in Texas

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON—(FP)—A step in the breaking down of the army's jimcrow policies was revealed Sept. 2. Acting Secretary of War John J. McCloy told a press conference that within the next 30 days Negro cadet pilots will be sent to Fort Dodge, Kan., or Del Rio, Tex., to start training, with white students, for the army's bomber forces.

They will start training in B-26 transition units, "with the objective of the command of B-26 planes." In December, moreover, Negro cadets will be trained as bombardiers and navigators [illegible] 18 weeks, then sent to gunnery school. All of the training will be with white students, whereas the air force heretofore has segregated Negroes in jimcrow fighter squadrons, training them in jimcrow schools.

Negro bombardiers were promised by War Department officials last spring, but the matter had remained dormant until the announcement of last Thursday. Some quarters feel that the excellent showing of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, trained at Tuskegee Airfield and commanded by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, jr, in the recent invasion of Sicily, gave impetus to this new program for Negro airmen.

The consensus, however, seems to be that the incessant hammering of the Negro press and public, plus the resignation of former Federal Judge William H. Hastie, who left his post as civilian aide to the Secretary of War in protest against jimcro in the air forces, undoubtedly hastened, and perhaps caused, the creation of Negro bombing units.

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332nd Fighter Group Anxious to Meet Axis

Baltimore. Md.
Afro-American

By Staff Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Perhaps Hitler has tucked away somewhere in his files flying fighters who can outwit and out "dog fight" the pilots here, but members of the 332nd Fighter Squadron simply don't believe it and nobody can tell them such a thing; they want to find it out for themselves.

Asked whether or not he wanted to go overseas, each flyer's reply was, "Yes, why not?"

First Lieut. Daniel (Chappie) James, Jr., commander of the unit, who was with the first outfit that graduated at Tuskegee Army Flying School and also has about 1,560 flying hours, stated:

"Sure we want to get overseas. That is what we have been training for and this is no newspaper talk.

We have some of the best flyers in the country here and all of them want to try out their training and experience on the Germans. They want to match wits with the enemy in the air."

OCT 15 1943
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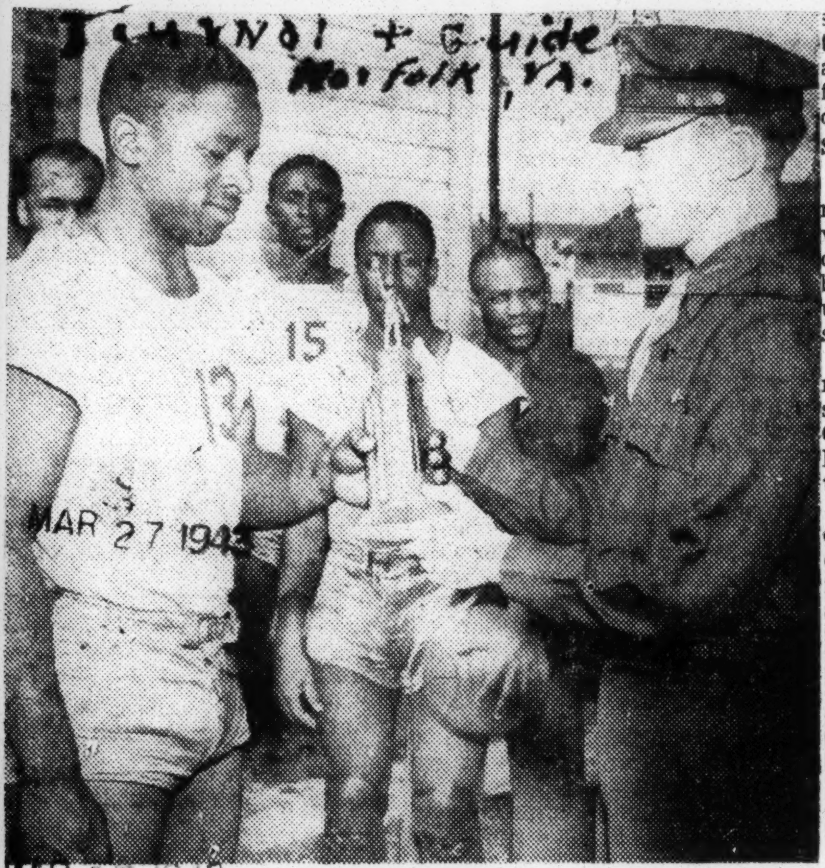
Journal + Guide
Norfolk, VA.
MAR 27 1943

The Tuskegee Army Flying School basketball team won the Southeastern Servicemen's tournament conducted recently in Logan Gymnasium, Tuskegee Institute, Ala. This team defeated the Camp Wheeler five from Macon, Ga., in the finals, 40-35. The final game was a thriller throughout and it went into an extra period after being deadlocked four times in the last half. The score was tied at 30 all when the regular period ended. Estill Mukes tallied 16 points for the Flying School.

Shown in the top picture are the members of the team. Left to right, kneeling, are: Pvt. Arthur Johnson of Hartford, Conn.; Sgt. William Byron of New York, N. Y., captain; Pvt. Primus Bowers, ex-Smith star, of Orange, N. J., and S/Sgt. S. Wesley Henderson of New York, N. Y. Standing: Cpl. Raymond E. Byrd of New York, N. Y.; Capt. George W. Webb of Gettysburg, Pa., Officer-in-charge; Pvt. Estill Mukes of Newcastle, Ind.; Cpl. Joseph Spooner of New York, N. Y.; Lt. William Farrow of Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Chester Burris Institute, W. Va.; Cpl. J. C. Lovett of Orange, N. J.; Warrant Officer William Johnson of Woodbury, N. J., and Cpl. John McLeese of Washington, D. C.

MAR 27 1943

Sgt. William Byron of New York, N. Y., is shown, below, receiving the championship trophy presented by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

LOUISVILLE, KY., TIMES
Circ. D. 140,389
JUN 14 1943

2 Plane Nests Near Italy Burned.

Pictures in magazine.

Allied Headquarters In North Africa, June 14 (AP)—U.S. Heavy bombers of the Middle East Air Command smashed again at Eastern Sicily airdromes at Catania and Gerbini, carrying the Mediterranean offensive to the island gateway to Italy, Allied communiques announced today.

Three other island stepping-stones for invasion already were in the hands of Allied forces—Pantelleria, Lampedusa and Linosa—and Sicily, at the toe of the Italian boot, appeared a logical target in the next phase of the offensive.

A Cairo communique said that at least eight planes were destroyed in the raid on Gerbini, three which ran into bomb bursts as they attempted to take off and five Messercchmitt-109s shot out of the air in an ensuing battle.

SMOKE BILLOWS UP.

At Catania, a port thirteen miles to the east, serious damage was done to hangars and aircraft on the ground, with dense black smoke reported billowing up from hangars hit on the west side of the airdrome.

It was announced that approximately 250,000 pounds of explosives were dropped upon the Gerbini and Catania fields by large formations of liberators of the ninth U. S. Air Force.

Malta-based Spitfires again escorted the four-engined bombers on the last leg of the approach from the middle east, during the attacks, and on the first part of the return trip. Both the targets lie about 125 miles north of Malta.

Yesterday's daylight attack on Catania followed a Saturday night assault by R.A.F. heavy bombers which left large fires that could be seen for miles. Catania has been heavily punished before by Allied bombers in the campaign to obliterate Axis air force nests.

MESSINA ATTACK TOLD.

(The Italian communique said that formations of four-engined bombers also attacked Messina, with two planes brought down by anti-aircraft fire. It asserted also that three planes were shot down over Sicily and two over Pantelleria in air duels.)

Fliers of the Northwest African air forces confined their operations to patrols.

The third island to fall to the Allies, Linosa, was spared aerial attacks or naval bombardment by a swift, bloodless yielding. It is twenty-eight miles northeast of Lampedusa, captured twenty-four hours earlier.

Axis planes took a battering in the thrusts at Sicily's airdromes on Saturday. Nearly 150 planes were caught on the ground at Milo, Castelvetrano and Bocca di Falco airports and Allied headquarters said "large numbers" were riddled by fragmentation bombs.

ENEMY VESSELS FLEE.

Axis naval vessels provided a short-lived show of activity Friday night, firing torpedoes at light coastal craft covering Pantelleria operations, "but on being engaged, fled at high speed," a headquarters communique said.

The only American Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the Allied forces that bombed Pantelleria. They flew P-40 Warhawks. They were trained at Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Warhawks and American-flown British Spitfires performed spectacular operations in shattering the Axis air forces during the last days of the battle for Pantelleria, authoritative quarters said.

The Yankee-manned fighter planes downed a total of seventy-eight German and Italian aircraft for a loss of twelve Allied planes.

The Spitfires, under the command of Lieut. Col. Fred M. Dean of St. Petersburg, Fla., erased twelve enemy ships from the skies last Thursday and came back to get thirteen more on Friday, the day Pantelleria surrendered.

A veteran Warhawk unit from the former Desert Air Force, led by Col. Earl Estates, Jr., of Winnetka, Ill., shot down twenty Axis planes on Thursday while other Warhawk groups under Col. Arthur G. Salisbury of Sedalia, Miss., and Col. William Momyer of Seattle, Wash., played considerable roles in clearing the way for the big Allied bombers.

PM New York
JUN 15 1943

Negro Fliers

A U. S. Negro fighter unit took part in the battle of Pantelleria. Lt. Col. B. C. Davis, Jr., commands the squadron, the first of its kind to take part in overseas combat. The squadron flies P-40 Warhawk fighter-bombers.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

ANOTHER CLASS GRADUATES AT TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR SCHOOL

APR 4 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Apr. 1.—In a graduation exercise spiced with the brilliant wit of Lt.-Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Flying school, the latest contingent of Negro birdmen were elevated to the station of flying lieutenants in the army air force on Thursday, March 25.

Among the impressive sights of the ceremonies was the drilling of the stately underclassmen as they swung snappily around the cadet area to the martial strains of the army air force band, under the leadership of 1st Lt. Frank Drye. Parents and visiting friends gathered to witness the procession of stalwart fledglings as they filed past to take their places within the new post theatre, where the exercises were held.

Class Outstanding.

This particular class is, indeed, outstanding in view of the many "firsts" which characterize it. It is the first class to graduate under the new expansion policy at this field. It is the first class in which medals for "expert aerial gunners" and "aerial sharpshooters" have been presented. And lastly it constitutes one of the largest classes to complete flight training here.

The graduates were summoned to the platform by Capt. Roy F. Morse, director of ground school training, and presented with their commissions as second lieutenants by Lt.-Col. Noel F. Parrish. Silver wings were pinned to the flyers' blouses by Maj. Donald G. McPherson, director of flight instruction.

Athlete Medal Winner.

The presentation of gunnery medals was made by Lt. James L. Wrathall, gunnery instructor. Those officers rated as expert aerial gunners included Lts. Walter L. McCreary, Woodrow W. Crockett, Lawrence E. Dickson, Lloyd G. Singleton and Alfonzo W. Davis.

APR 4 1943

Aerial sharpshooter medals were presented to Lts. Clarence W. Allen, Elmer L. Gordon, Wilmeth W. Sidat-Singh, Leroy Bowman, Charles F. Jamerson, and Pearlee E. Saunders.

Capt. John G. Cooke, commandant of cadets, presented cadet honors to the three highest ranking graduates. The highest award was received by Lt. Alfonzo W. Davis, the second by Lt. Wilmeth W. Sidat-Singh and the third award was presented to Lt. Walter L. McCreary.

Among the members of this class which mark the first anniversary of cadet graduations, are included: Lts. Clarence William Allen, of Mobile, Ala.; Elmer L. Gordon of Portsmouth, Va.; Lloyd G. Singletary of Jacksonville, Fla.; Woodrow W. Crockett of Texarkana, Ark.; Lawrence Everett Dickson of New York; Alfonzo W. Davis, of Omaha, Neb.; Leroy Bowman of Sumter, S. C.; Wilmeth W. Sidat-Singh, Washington; Walter L. McCreary of San Antonio, Texas; Peralee E. Saunders, Bessemer, Ala.; Charles F. Jamerson of Pasadena, Cal.; Alwayne M. Dunlap, Washington, and William Murray Gordon Jr., Mobile, Ala

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Soldiers Get Merit Awards

People's Voice
New York N.Y.
JUN 26 1943

Four Negro soldiers who fought at Guadalcanal received the Legion of Merit award from the War Department last week for "exceptionally meritorious services."

The men were Ben W. Pettis, Pfc., Infantry of Senatobia, Mississippi; Jessie Harris, Pvt., Infantry, of Tuskegee, Ala.; Verna C. Neal, Pvt., Infantry, of Ruleville, Miss.; and Henry Smith, Jr., Pvt., Infantry, of Good Pine, La.

The text of their citation read: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services on March 27, 1943 at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy air raid, in order to assist in evacuating casualties."

Nineteen Pilots in This Record TAFS Graduating Class

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

47a

Members of the largest class of pilots to be graduated from the Tuskegee Army Flying School, who received commissions of second lieutenants on Thursday. They are, left to right, standing: Second Lieuts. U. S. Taylor, Jr., Kaufman, Tex.; H. E. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio; Luke J. Weathers, Memphis, Tenn.; L. C. Smith, Los Angeles, Calif.; L. M. Jackson, Fort Worth, Tex.; C. C. Robinson, Orangeburg, S.C.; V. V. Haywood, Raleigh, N.C.; J. Y. Carter, Winston-Salem, N.C.; W. T. Foreman, Washington, D.C.; C. P. Bailey, Punta Gorda, Fla.; C. I. Williams, Lima, Ohio; kneeling: Second Lieutenants H. C. Houston, Detroit; J. E. Brothers, Chicago; A. W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; Paul Adams, Greenville, S.C.; W. J. Faulkner, Nashville, Tenn.; Fred Hutchins, Donalsonville, Ga.; W. V. Eagleson, Bloomington, Ind.; and S. J. Moseley, Norfolk, Va.

Record Class Gets Wings at Tuskegee

MAY 8 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The largest class of flyers in the history of the Tuskegee Army Flying School received the traditional silver wings and commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army Air Corps on Thursday.

Graduation exercises were held in the post theatre before an overflowing audience of parents, friends and fellow soldiers.

First Goal Reached

Following the invocation by the post chaplain, Capt. Douglas L. T. Robinson, Lieut. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, introduced Major Donald G. McPherson, director of flight training, who delivered the principal address. He said in part:

"No longer can you consider the graduation and winning of one's wings as the achievement of our ambition. Rather you should consider it merely as a stepping stone for the greater ultimate goal, namely, the coming to grips with the enemies of our country and destroying them completely in battle.

May 8, 1943

"On one hand, you must maintain the traditions that have been made in the past by members of the air corps all over the world, and on the other hand, you will make traditions to which members of your race who follow you, may emulate and aspire to."

3 Get Special Honor

Major John G. Cook, commandant of cadets, awarded silver identification bracelets for outstanding academic and military bearing to Second Lieuts. Vernon V. Haywood, Raleigh, N.C.; Ulysses S. Taylor, Kaufman, Texas, and Charles I. Williams, Lima, Ohio.

Other members of the graduating class were Second Lieuts. Paul Adams, Charles P. Bailey, James E. Brothers, James Y. Carter, Arnold W. Cisco, Wilson V. Eagleson, William J. Faulkner, Jr., Walter T. Foreman, Herber C. Houston, Freddie E. Hutchins, Leonard M. Jackson, Sidney J. Moseley, Jr., Curtis C. Robinson, Harold E. Sawyer, Lewis C. Smith and Luke J. Weathers. Jr.

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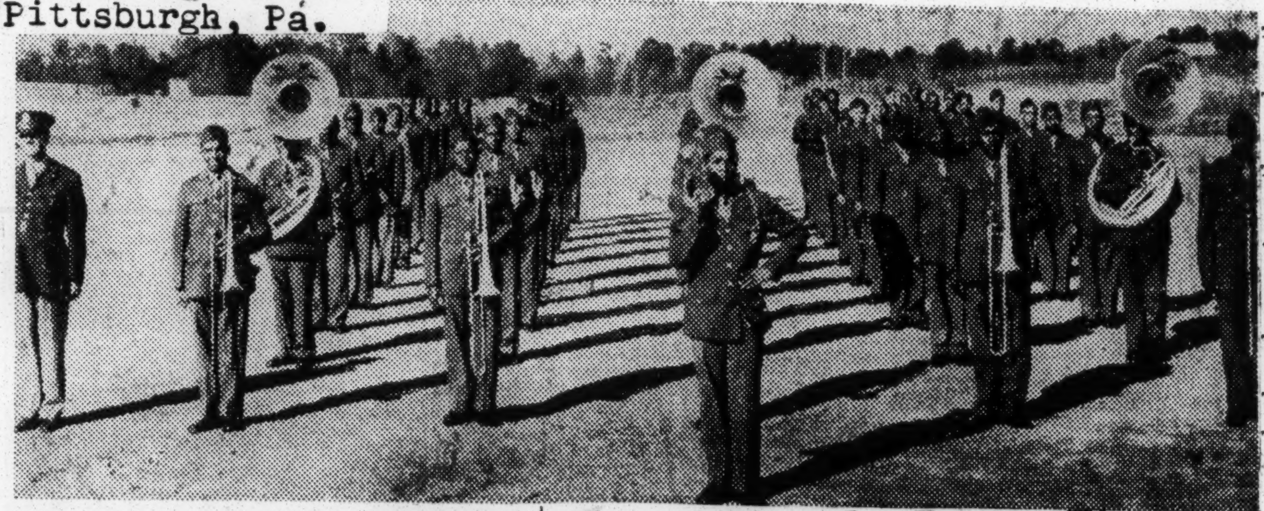
ARMY AIR FORCE BAND ONE OF FINEST

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

June 9, 1943



One of the first Army Air Force bands to be formed in the armed services was the famed 313th Army Air Force Band at Tuskegee, Alabama. The band under the direction of First Lieut Frank Dye, pictured on the extreme left, is composed of 65 talented musicians. Formed in April of last year by Captain Clyde Bynum, Post Adjutant, the band since its organization has been engaged in extensive "War Bond" sales throughout the state.

Negro Squad Knocks Down First Enemy Plane in Fight Over Sicily

BY SEYMOUR KORMAN

(©. 1943, by The Chicago Tribune)

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 4. — The American Negro air fighter squadron flying Warhawks in support of Mitchell bombers knocked down its first enemy plane Friday in a fierce combat above Castelvetrano air field in Sicily, probably destroyed a second and damaged a third.

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The honor of being the first Negro pilot to score a victory went to First Lieutenant Charles B. Hall, 22 years old, of Brazil, Ind.

When the Negro fliers returned to their base, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander in North Africa, greeted them. He congratulated the squadron commander, Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., of Washington, D. C., son of the brigadier general, who is the highest ranking Negro officer in the United States Army.

The haze above the target limited observation, but the Mitchell crews reported bomb bursts on buildings near the Castelvetrano railway yards. More than 20 Focke-Wulf 190s and Messerschmitt 109s came in to attack and Hall downed a Focke-Wulf, while his mates believe they most likely des[illegible] a Messerschmitt and also damaged another plane of this type.

"It was my eighth mission," Hall related, "but the first time I had seen the enemy close enough to shoot at. I saw two Focke-Wulfs following the Mitchells just after the bombs were dropped. I headed for the space between the fighters and bombers and managed to turn inside the Jerries. I fired a long burst and saw my tracers penetrate the second aircraft. He was turning to the left, but suddenly fell off and headed straight into the ground. I followed him down and saw him crash. He raised a big cloud of dust."

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

U. S. Negro Flyers Helped Allies Bomb Pantelleria

ALLIED HDQ. IN NORTH AFRICA, June 14 (AP).—The only American Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the allied forces that bombed Pantelleria, it was disclosed today. They flew P-40 Warhawks and were under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, a noted cavalry officer. The all-Negro squadron trained at Tuskegee institute, Alabama.

JUN 15 1943

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Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Negro Squadron In First Air Fight Turns Back Nazis

JUN 25 1943

Washington, June 24 (AP)—War Secretary Stimson reported today the Air Forces first squadron of Negro pilots, the 99th Fighter Squadron, has "weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably."

The squadron, commanded by Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a son of the first Negro general officer in the Army, is in North Africa and participated — as an escort and fighter bomber outfit—in the siege of Pantelleria. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters fled.

JUN 25 1943

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On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lieut. Charles W. Dresden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by twelve German FW 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

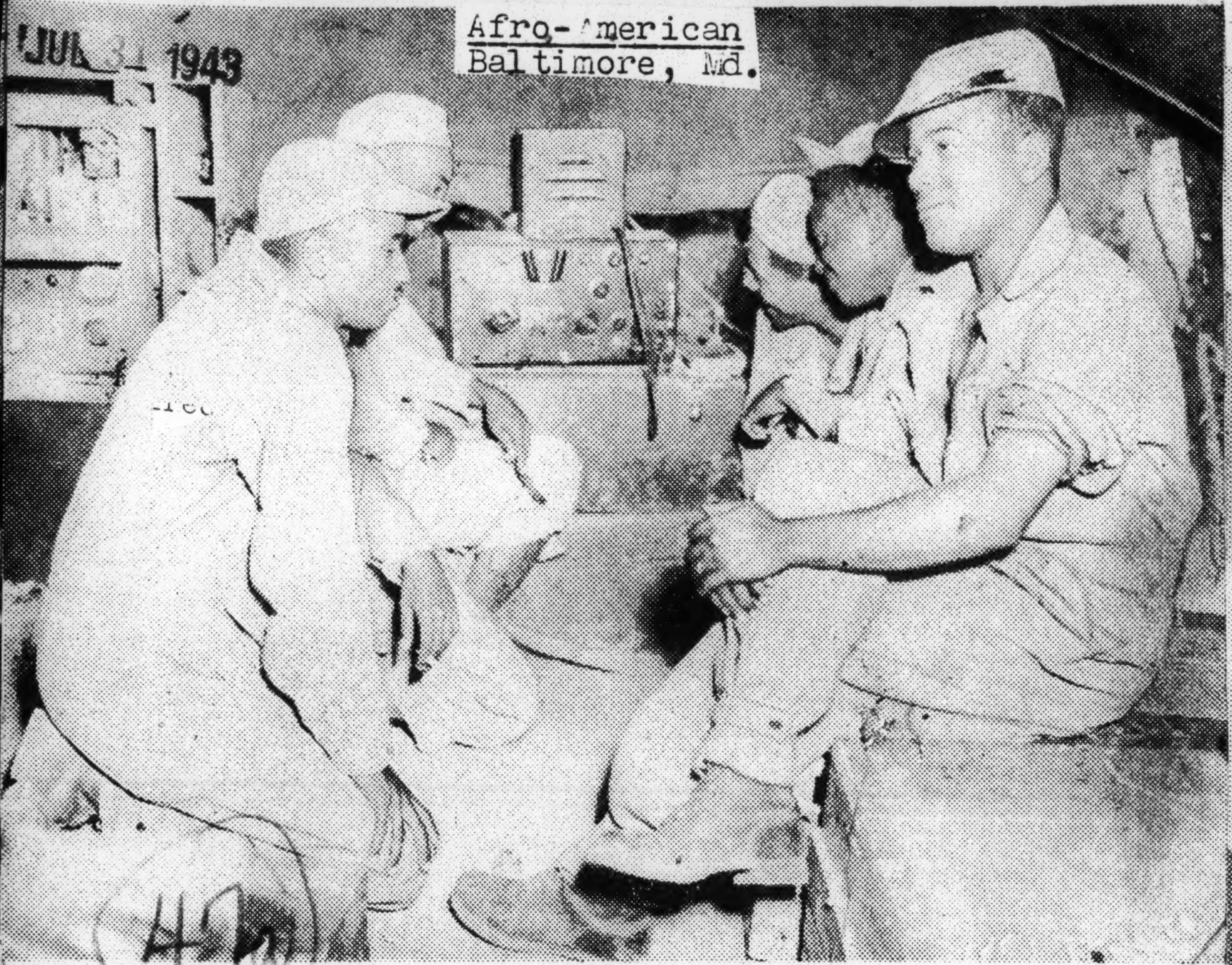
The American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

47a-1943

Air Fighters' Aides Relax in North Africa

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JUN 31 1943



A group of enlisted men attached to the 99th Fighter Squadron enjoy a radio broadcast in their ten somewhere in North Africa. Chess and checkers are among their other diversions while not busy with the P-40's flown by the Tuskegee-trained fighter pilots.

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Spends One Day In Sea; Other Pilot Still Missing

Informer
Houston, Texas

By OLLIE STEWART

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Censored From Stewart, Advanced Air Base—Having his P-40 Warhawk plane shot from under him, being forced to jump and parachute four thousand feet into the sea close to the coast of Sicily and returning uninjured to fighter squadron to tell about it is an experience that few people can boast of. But Lt. George R. Bolling, Pheobus, Virginia, is one of that few. (Note: No word has been received of Lt. McCullin the other missing flyer.)

Graduate of Hampton, Bolling quietly related his story Friday to happy fellow pilots after six harrowing days away from the outfit. His plane was hit by flak July eleventh, the day after the initial landing in Sicily by Allied troops, while on patrol duty. His plane began to burn as Bolling [illegible] headed [illegible] the base across the Mediterranean, so he bailed out and floated down to the water.

JUL 31 1943

Another Pilot Protects

Lt. Samuel M. Bruce, of Seattle, who graduated from A. and T. college, circled the parachute to fight off enemy planes that might have machine-gunned the helpless Bolling. Striking the water, Bolling inflated his Mae West life belt and unstrapped the rubber dinghy.

That was early afternoon. He tried to attract attention all afternoon but failed and in wet garments had to cover himself with part of his parachute to keep warm through the night. He had chills and siept but little.

Said Bolling,, "It was dark and lonesome and I thought I might drift out into the middle of the Mediterranean and be run down by boats. However, daylight found me still sitting in the dinghy waving whenever I saw a ship on the horizon.

JUL 31 1943

Picked up by Destroyer

"About noon I was picked up by a destroyer and given blankets, and a stiff drink. Given clothes and food, I was treated swell, just like a navy officer. They put me ashore later and I had my first walk on Sicilian soil.

"The Allies were taking thousands of prisoners, both German and Italian, and many dead soldiers were lying along roads as the fighting continued for air ports and bridgeheads."

47a

Bolling spent the next four days on a small coastal boat resting and eating pie and ice cream, which he had not tasted for a long time, and was finally delivered to his unit by plane.

JUL 31 1943

He is one of the quietest men in the squadron and almost every man had a handshake for him when he returned. He does not smoke and the Mediterranean dip has not cooled off his fighting ardor.

Crew Chief Worried

His crew chief, S-Sgt. John Hargraves, New York, wandered around like a lost sheep while Bolling was away. With no pilot to fuss over, Hargraves kept insisting Bolling would come back. Day by day my respect for these pilots grows as I watch for them, watch them take off for certain dogfights with the enemy and possible death.

A few months ago they were mild young men studying and attending frat dances in Washington, Tuskegee, or New York, Ordinary hazards of flying they take for granted—their worry is how to keep FW-190's off their tails or dodge ack-ack fire from the ground. Every mission my be their last but they have learned tricks that make them confident that they can fight with the best. Not one of them fears Goering's circus boys.

It is significant that these lads worry more about getting jobs in commercial aviation atfer the war than in combat with the Luftwaffe. War for freedom will not be won unless America gives these men equal privileges with other men who have risked their lives so America may continue to prosper.

Led Flyers Over Pantelleria

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

JUN 3 1943

FIRST LIEUT. **Charles W. Dryden, Bronx youth attained the distinction of leading the first flight of Negro pilots to engage the enemy in actual combat. On June 18, Lieut. Dryden led a flight of six P40's over Pantelleria and were attacked by twelve German 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters flew above. The American pilots forced the German to retreat after damaging two of their craft. Secretary of War Stimson said, "the 99th Fighter Squadron has weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably." The squadron is commanded by Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis.**

47a

Tuskegee's Chief Nurse

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 3 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — (SNS) — Miss Kathryn Y. Bough, operating room supervisor at the Tuskegee Army Air Field became the fifth colored woman in the Army Nurses Corps to get promoted to the rank of Chief Nurse. Miss Bough, with a rich background in the nursing profession, came to the Tuskegee Station Hospital after having served as head nurse at the Harlem Hospital in New York City. The new First Lieutenant in the Nurse Corps was at one time supervisor of nurses at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn,

Lt. Bough, a graduate of the Lincoln Hospital in New York City, did graduate study in advanced nursing at New York University. She was one of the first five nurses at Tuskegee Army Air Field hospital. Nurse Bough is a native of Portsmouth. Va.

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4 Fighter Pilots

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

JUL 10 1943

Second Lieutenants Robert Alexander, William G. Wilkerson,, Herbert S. Harris and Joseph A. Lewis are shown standing before one of the fighter planes at the Tuskegee Army Air Field prior to taking off on a formation flight.

They are all members of the latest class of fighter pilots to be graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field. —Tuskegee Army Air Field Photo.

THE 99TH'S FIRST MISSING AIRMAN

Courier
Pittsburgh
Pa.

One of the 99th Pursuit Squadron's flyers who participated in the brilliant foray against Pantelleria is reported missing in actioin. Second Lieutenant James L. McCullin of 3901 Enright avenue, St. Louis, Mo., is the first member of the famed fighting outfit to go down for the American way of life.

'Forgotten Heroes'

GROUND CREW SHARES IN AIR EXPLOITS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

JUL 17 1943

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 15—"Tuskegee's program for the training of Army Air Force combat pilots is being rapidly improved and expanded to meet the needs of present requirements," said William C. Curtis, acting director of the school of mechanical industries at the institute, in an interview here recently. "As is generally the case," Curtis continued, "publicity is given the pilots to such an extent that the patriotism and the very necessary work of the ground crew members are 'masked.'"

Turning to point out a very important piece of work that two highly skilled workmen were doing on a plane recently received at the institute, Mr. Curtis stated that one need not know a great deal about aviation to realize that no aircraft, especially combat ships, can fly without careful maintenance and repair by ground crew members, and for every piloted plane in the air, there are many highly trained technicians required for these services.

The Army Air Force's expansion program, calling for 100,000 pilots per year, has necessitated the setting up of training fields here in America, and, due to the need of enlisted personnel in combat areas, these training fields must be manned by civilians. To meet the demand for civilian aircraft mechanics, the Civil Service Commission, in co-operation with the Army Air Forces and the U. S. Office of Education, has set up a Mechanics Learners' program. Under this program, civilians who can meet the draft, intelligence and aptitude requirements are certified by the Civil Service Commission as mechanics learners, and are assigned to a training school for aircraft mechanics. These persons receive $75 per month during the training period. Information concerning this program may be secured at any first or second-class post office.

TUSKEGEE SHOPS USED

When the need for highly trained technicians became apparent the government turned immediately to Tuskegee institute as a training area. President F. D. Patterson said he and other school officials would be glad to place the facilities of the institute at the disposal of the government and would at the same time proceed with the regular program of the school. Several shops in the William G. Willcox Trades school have been converted into shops for training aircraft mechanics.

JUL 17 1943

Two More Missourians Near Air Wings Goal

Argus St. Louis, Missour

JUL 16 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 26— America's flying officers are raining bombs and bullets of terror on the Axis powers on all fronts. As have the men that are now serving their country over seas, youths at the Tuskegee Army Air Field are learning the art of flying so they too can participate in destroying the Axis. Here at this base Missouri men are learning to fly the Army way.

The aviation cadets from Missouri that recently completed their basic flight training at the field and have been assigned to advanced flight class are: Aviation Cadets Norvell Stoudmire of St. Louis, Mo., and Everett A. Bratcher of Popular Bluff, Mo.

Cadet Stoudmire son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stoudmire of 4448 St. Ferdinand ave., St. Louis, Mo., is a former student of Stowe Teachers College. He was a service station operator, prior to entering the service.

Cadet Bratcher of 1200 Alice St., Poplar Bluff, Mo., is a former student of Lincoln University. He was employed by the Missouri Workman Compensation Commission, prior to entering the viation Cadet Corps.

JUL 15 1943

47a-1943

Texan Pilots Plane That Fires On German Center

MAY 1 1943

Dallasite Continues Fire Despite Wounds

Houston Texas
Informer

A United States Army Air Forces navigator guided a B-17 Flying Fortress to the target over France dropped the bombs, attended wounded crew members, manned the guns and then plotted the course for the return flight to a base in England, the War Department has been informed. May 1, 1943

The navigator. who was wounded while performing these multiple duties, is Second Lieutenant Raymond W. Rahner, of 1720 Grove street, Ridgewood, Queens, New York City, New York.

Lieutenant Rahner acted as navigator for the big plane on its way to Renness, a railroad center for German naval installations in Brittany, France. First Lieutenant Albert R. Kuehl, of Riesel, Texas, was the pilot.

47

The plane was just beginning its bombing run when a German Focke-Wulf 190 attacked. One 20 mm cannon shell burst in the plane's nose where Lieutenant Rahner and Second Lieutenant Arthur T. Spatz. of 711 Pyramid Way, Sparks, Nevada were stationed. One burst in the top turret, another in the radio compartment and one in the waist. More than 50 machine gun bullets also hit the plane.

Other members of the crew also were busy. Staff Sergeant Dealfred W. Collins, of 3308 Carl street, Dallas, Texas, was wounded when a 20 mm. shell exploded near his top turret. He continued firing his guns until the enemy fighters fled.

The tail gunner, Staff Sergeant Malcolm B. Johns, of Kissimmee, Florida, told how Sergeant Collins kept the German planes from coming in too close by keeping a steady stream of bullets pouring from the top turet.

Lieutenant Spatz, who was busy with his bombsight, was hurled backwards 8 feet by the explosion of the shell. Although seriously wounded, he shouted to Lieutenant Rahner to "get the bombs off."

Lieutenant Rahner jumped into the bombardier's position, toggled the bomb-off switch and sent the load into the center of the target area, as later reports established. After closing the bomb bay doors, he gave first aid to the wounded crew members.

A[illegible]d MAY 1 1943

A swarm of German planes then attacked the crippled Fortress. For 15 minutes Lieutenant Rahner was kept busy moving from one gun position to another. He and the gunners in the plane kept the Germans at bay until a squadron of British fighters drove the German planes away.

" didn't do much navigating during those 15 minutes," Lieutenant Rahner said.

He failed to mention that he was wounded by a shell fragment during the battle.

"Sergeant Johnson got one," Sergeant Johns said. "I followed the spinning plane all the way down until it hit the water."

He was referring to Staff Sergeant Theron E. Johnson, of 217 B Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, right waist gunner, who had been wounded also when one of the 20 mm shells exploded amidship. After he had been hit by a fragment of shell that tore away the rudder cables and punctured his oxygen line, Sergeant Johns shot down a Focke-Wulf 190.

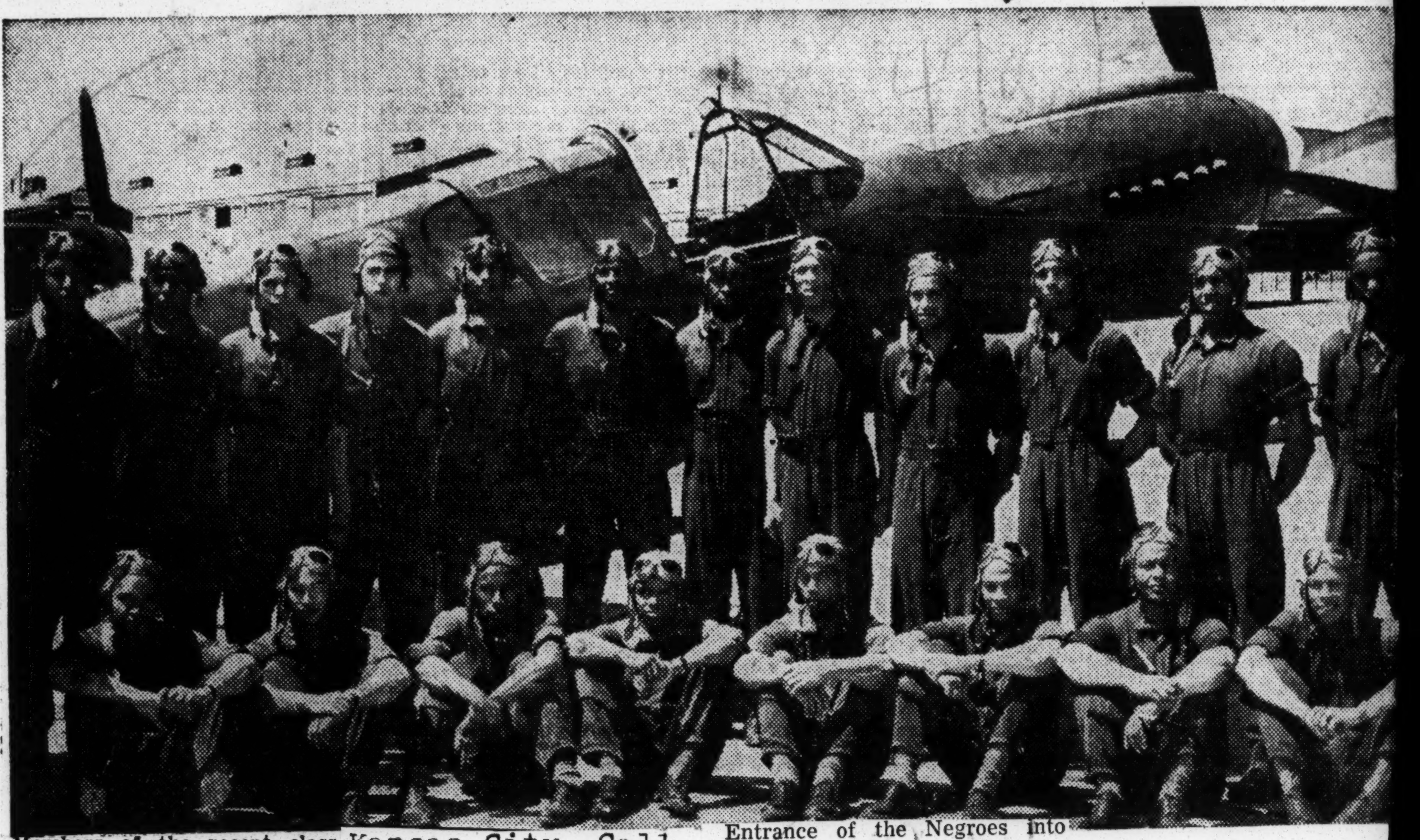
Although hardly able to breathe he stuck to his guns until he had poured a direct burst into the belly of the enemy fighter plane. As the plane started its downward plunge, Sergeant Johns plugged in the intercommunication system and reported to the co-pilot, Second Lieutenant Floyd H. Truesdell, of Anchorage, Alaska, that he was passing out.

MAY 1 1943

Two other crew members, Technical Sergeant Joseph H. Delaney of 66 Myrtie Avenue, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, the radio operator and Sergeant William T. Humberstone of Box 136, North Jackson Ohio, waist gunner, remained at their posts in spite of leg wounds.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 5, 1943

TAAF'S NEWLY COMMISSIONED FLYING OFFICERS



Members of the recent class that received their wings and commission at the Tuskegee Army Air Field are shown standing beside one of the pursuit planes they are soon to fly.

They are, from left to right Standing, Second lieutenants Joseph P. Gromer of Iowa Fall, Iowa; Felix J. Kirkpatrick of Chicago, Ill.; George E. Gray of Hemphill, W. Va.; Dempsey W. Morgan Jr., of Detroit, Mich.; Spurgeon N. Ellington of Winston-Salem, N. C.; Albert H. Manning Jr., of Hartsville, S .C.; Dudley M. Watson of Frankfort, Ky.; Milton H. Brooks of Glassport, Pa.; Harry A. Sheppard of Jamaica, N. Y.; Charles M. Bussey of Los Angeles, Cal., and John F. Briggs Jr., of St. Louis, Mo.

Sitting, Laurence D. Wilkins of Los Angeles, Cal.; Maurice V. Esters of Webster City, Iowa; Oliver O. Miller Jr., of Battle Creek, Mich.; Luther H. Smith Jr., of Des Moines, Iowa; Langdon E. Johnson of Rand, W. Va.; James A. Walker of Manning, S. C.; John J. Suggs of Terre Haute, Ind., and Clemenceau M. Givings of Richmond. Va.

JUNE 14, 1943
ST. PAUL, MINN. DISPATCH

All-Negro Air Unit Helped Bomb Island

47a

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—(AP)—The only American Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the Allied Forces that bombed Pantelleria, it was disclosed today.

They flew P-40 Warhawks and were under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, a noted cavalry officer.

The all-Negro squadron trained at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., before coming overseas.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City. Mo.

Air Force Trains Men In Radio

FEB 19 1943

FEB 19 1943

FEB 26 1943

Operators And Mechanics Made At Scott Field

FEB 19 1943

47

SCOTT FIELD, Ill.—A training program for radio operators and mechanics for the Army Air Force Technical Training Command began recently at Scott Field, parent radio school of the AAFTTC, Brig. Gen. Walcott P. Hayes, commanding general, announced this week.

Entrance of the Negroes into the radio school here marks the second Negro contingent to come to Scott Field. Recently, the 46th Aviation Squadron, a ground outfit, reported here. Additional recreation and study facilities are contemplated for the new men.

Among teachers training the newcomers will be Negro soldier-instructors, who have been studying at Scott Field during the past few months.

FEB 19 1943

For three months or more a prospective radio operator studies six days a week, seven hours a day. During the first few weeks he delves into fundamentals and theory, and learns basic code principles.

FEB 19 1943

Half of the total of 588 hours of study is spent in the International Morse Code, and students advance by successive stages from four words per minute until they reach the required 16 words per minute, although, some are capable of speed as high as 50 words per minute.

FEB 26 1943

The remaining hours of the course are spread over such subjects as circuit analysis and theory, radio telephone technique, instrument maintenance and how to improvise repairs if the transmitter or receiver is damaged, aircraft and surface vessel identification, radio compass use, visual signalling by blinker, and telegraph procedure.

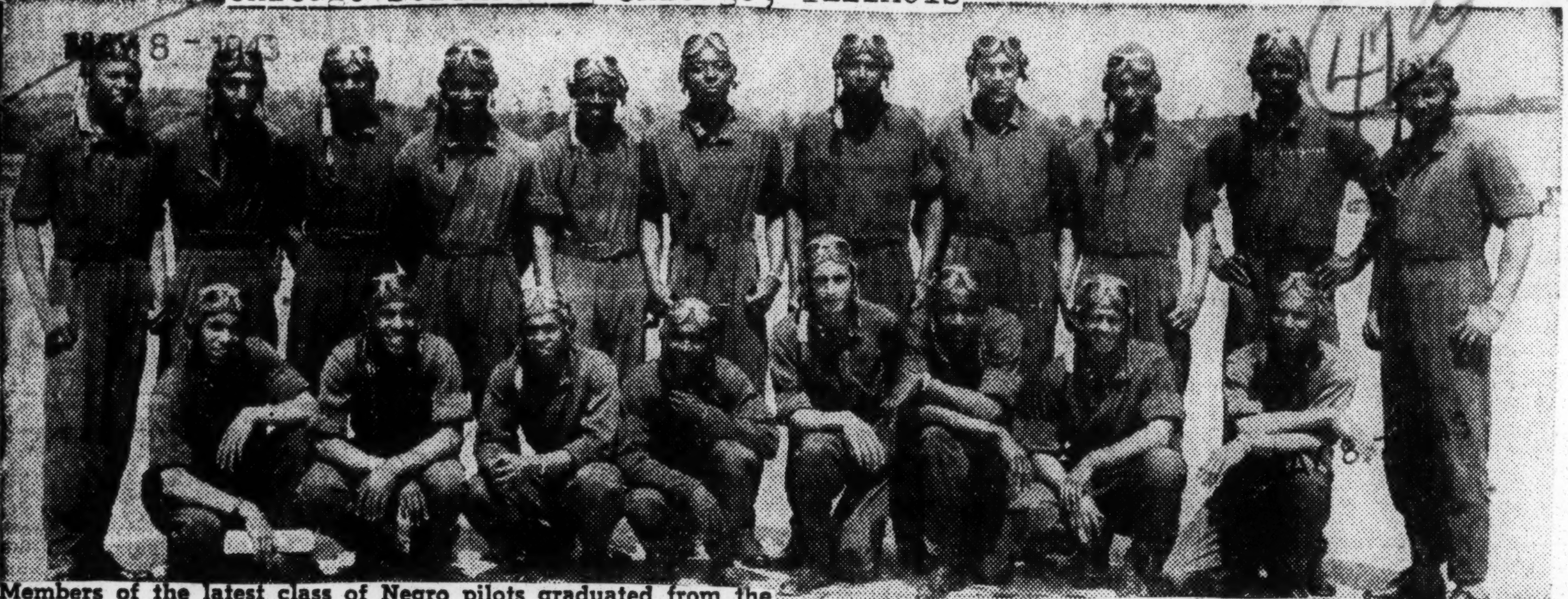
FEB 19 1943

Instruction takes place not only in the classroom of the school but in mobile units, and for the more advanced students, in "Flying Classrooms" which circle high above the field.

NEWEST CLASS OF TUSKEGEE GRADUATES

Chicago Defender   Chicago, Illinois

MAY 8 - 1943



Members of the latest class of Negro pilots graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field last week. Standing from left to right are: Second Lieuts. U. S. Taylor Jr., Kaufman, Texas; H. E. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio; Luke J. Weathers, Memphis, Tenn.; L. C. Smith, Los Angeles, Calif.; L. M. Jackson, Fort Worth, Texas; C. C. Robinson, Orangeburg, S. C.; V. V. Haywood, Raleigh, N. C.; J. Y. Carter, Winston-Salem, N. C.; W. T. Foreman, Washington, D. C.; C. P. Bailey, Punta Gorda, Fla.; C. I. Williams, Lima, Ohio; kneeling from right to left are Second Lieuts. H. C. Houston, Detroit, Mich.; J. E. Brothers, Chicago, Ill.; A. W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; Paul Adams, Greenville, S. C.; W. J. Faulkner, Nashville, Tenn.; Fred Hutchins, Donalsonville, Ga.; W. V. Eagleson, Bloomington, Ind.; S. J. Moseley, Norfolk, Va.

Abandon Search For Body Of Ala. Flying Officer

Atlanta Daily World

Lt. Earl King Missing Since Training Flight On March 24

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)—Search for the body of Lt. Earl Eugene King of Bessemer, Alabama, has been temporarily abandoned due to high water, the Public Relations Office of the Tuskegee Army Flying School announced Saturday.

APR 1 1943

Lt. King took off from the Tuskegee Army Flying School on a local training flight the afternoon of Wednesday, March 24, in a P-40 airplane.

Reports that he had crashed into Martin Lake, 30 miles northwest of the field, were not confirmed until Sunday, March 28, when salvage operations recovered a propeller, identified as being from the plane King was flying.

APR 1 1943

A board of qualified Air Force Officers will be appointed to determine the exact cause of the accident.

Lt. King attended Tuskegee Institute, Alabama from 1939 to 1941. While attending the Institute, King completed the primary and secondary Civilian Pilot Training courses.

He enlisted as an aviation cadet in 1941, and received his wings and commission on August 5, 1942.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William P. King, 16 Center St., Bessemer, Alabama.

Body Not Found

LT. EARL KING

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (SNS) — Lt. Earl Eugene King of Bessemer, Ala., whose body is still missing after the P-40 plane in which he was flying on March 24 crashed into Martin Lake, 30 miles northwest of the Tuskegee Army Flying School field. A propeller, believed to have been from Lt. King's plane, was recovered Sunday, March 28.

APR 1 1943

Birmingham, Ala., News
June 13, 1943

What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

In Washington during last week, President F D. Patterson, of Tuskegee Institute, expressed the hope that the Army Air Corps will soon begin training Negroes as bomber pilots.

Said Dr. Patterson: "Not only would this give Negroes entrance into another desirable unit in the armed forces of the nation but it would serve to make the most effective use of the young men who while failing to secure their wings as fighter pilots, may be qualified to serve as bombardiers.

"Approximately 50 per cent of the men who go in training for fighter pilots fail to complete that course," Dr. Patterson continued, "this should not be a stigma upon these young men who are the very finest of Negro youth. They are well educated, fine specimens physically and only because of some little defect in coordination or some minor failure to fulfill all the rigid requirements for fighter pilots, many find themselves 'washed out' and at present ineligible to other phases of flying in the air corps.

"White flying cadets are 'washed out' at approximately the same rate that Negro cadets are. Out of every class which starts, approximately 50 per cent get through. White pilots, however, are often transferred to bomber schools where they have opportunity to qualify as bomber plane pilots, as bombardiers, navigators or some other phase of aviation. Negro cadets who are 'washed out' have not had this opportunity because no bomber schools have been opened to Negroes. They have, it is true, been frequently given the privilege of training as officers in some other branch of the service.

President Patterson expressed himself as being exceedingly gratified with the fine progress being made by Negro cadets at Tuskegee, and said he felt confident that every Negro will thrill with pride when the 99th and other Negro fighter pilots have an opportunity to demonstrate their worth.

49a

First Time

The first Negro fighter squadron in the Army Air Forces has seen action. This week Allied Headquarters in North Africa announced that among those present for the bombardment of Pantelleria was the outfit which began training at Tuskegee Institute (Ala.) in July 1941.

JUN 2 1943

Between then and Pantelleria, the squadron had been the subject of many a row over its segregation from white outfits. Its officers, headed by the C.O., slim, tea-colored Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., joined in none of the debate, plugged hard and long at their training. By the time West Pointer Davis led his P-40s into battle, white airmen were ready to admit that the outfit was good, that in aerial marksmanship (at which it had had an unusual amount of training) it was one of the best.

Time
Chicago, Illinois

Gabriel Benzur

LIEUT. COLONEL DAVIS
Squadron specialty: marksmanship.

JUN 5 1943

Negro Airmen Arrive at African Kuarters

Weekly Review Birmingham

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — American Negro combat fliers have arrived in North Africa to take their place in th aerial war against the Axis, it was officially announced Wednesday.

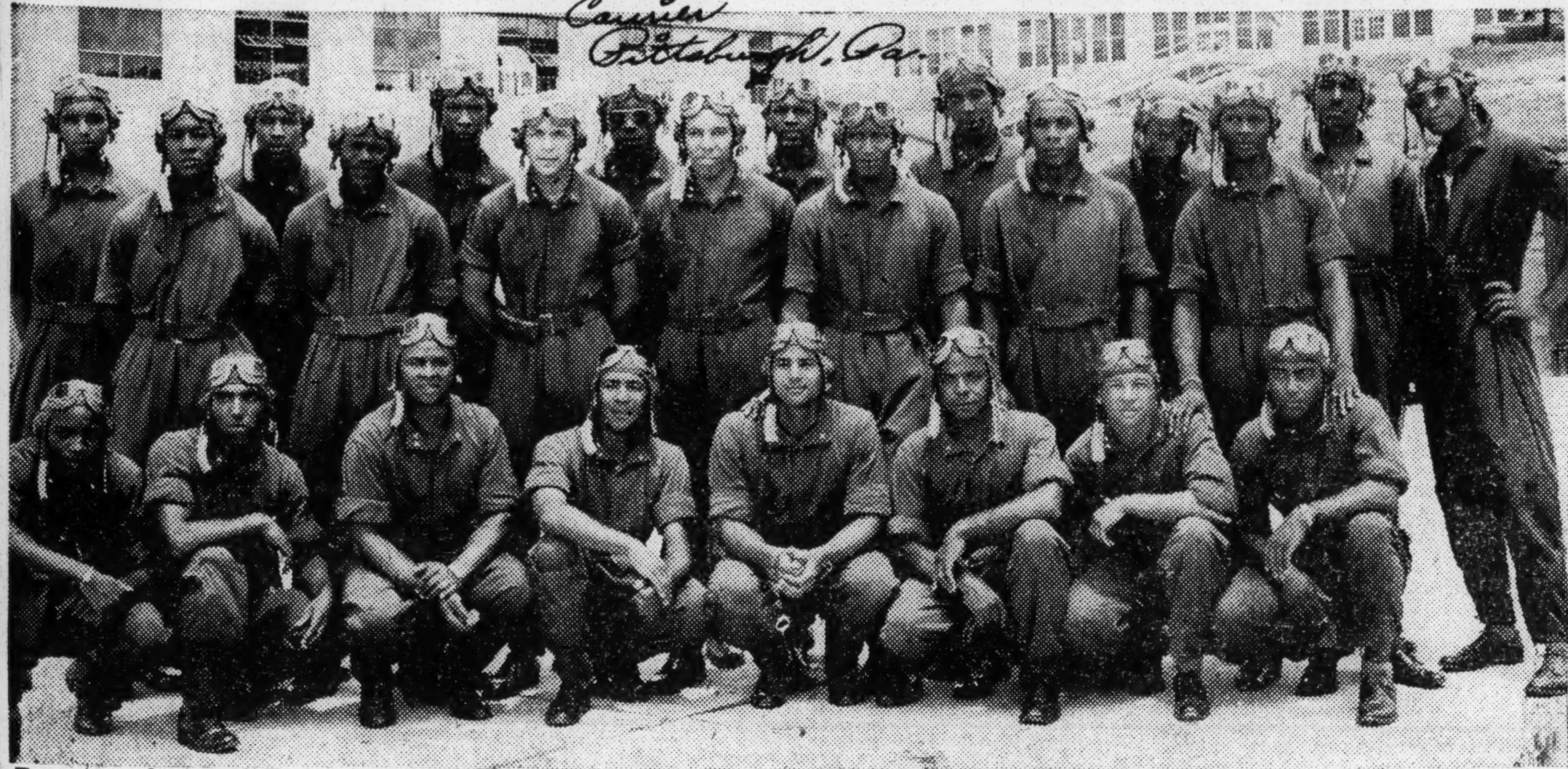
The Negro aviators compose a fighter squadron equipped w i t h P-40 Warhawks. Veteran pilots of the Tunisian campaign instructing the newcomers in the latest fighting tactics.

"Upon completion of this advanced traning the squadron will be sent into action" the statement said.

47a-1943

TUSKEGEE'S GRADUATE AIRMEN HOPE TO SOAR OVER ENEMY TERRITORY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



JUL 17 1943

Recent graduates of Tuskegee Army Air Base at Alabama, having received their commissions and wings, are anxious to join their flying comrades on the fighting front. They are now full-fledged Army Air Force pilots. Above they are pictured on the grounds.

Front row, left to right, 2nd Lieuts. Willie S. Hunter, Wayne V. Liggins, Hezekiah Lacy, Jr., Theodore A. Wilson, Charles A. McGee, Oscar A. Kenney, Richard H. Harris, Jr., and Weldon K. Groves.

Second row, left to right, 2nd Lieuts. Frank D. Walker, Johnson D. Wells, Joe A. Lewis, William H. Johnson, William F. Williams, Leonard F. Turner and William G. Wilkerson.

Third row, left to right, 2nd. Lieuts. John S. Sloan, Walter J. Palmer, Theopolis D. Moore, Virgil J. Richardson, Wyrie S. Seldon, Robert H. Alexander, Herbert Harris, Milton R. Henry and Alexander M. Wright.—Tuskegee Army Air Field Photo.

JUL 17 1943

47a

JUL 30 1943

47a

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

PURSUIT SQUADRON OFFICERS AT 'MESS'.—Somewhere in North Africa, this scene takes place every day. At this outdoor table, officers of the Negro fighter squadron eat their meals to fight the enemy. Lt Col. Benjamin O. Davis commands the fighter squadron.

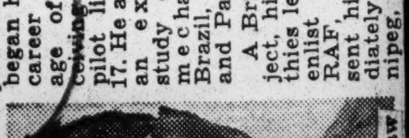
RAF Flying Demon, Pilot At 17, Now At Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

47a

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, Mo., July 1—Cpl. Norman Randall Bradshaw, who saw 14 months of active, hard-fighting service in the RAF, and is rarin' to get back into combat again as a ground man, is now stationed at Jefferson Barracks, basic training center of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command.

Born the son of an English airman in Gama City, Bagon Providence, Brazil, Corporal Bradshaw began his flying career at the age of 14, receiving his solo pilot license at 17. He also made an extensive study of plane mechanics in Brazil, Mexico and Panama.



Corp. Bradshaw

A British subject, his sympathies led him to enlist in the RAF, which sent him immediately to Winnipeg, Canada, for basic training as a ground man. After arduous training there and at Fairbanks and Yuna, Alaska, he was ferried to England for action.

He became an RAF ground crew chief and master sergeant. For 14 months he fought on land, sea and in the air, and had a number of close brushes with death. He was on hand at Tobruk, where he received shrapnel and bayonet wounds, and was blasted out of the air while flying over the English Channel during a stay in London when he helped defend the city against the Luftwaffe.

JUL 3 1943

TASTED VARIED WARFARE

Of the unit to which he was attached, 274 went over as utility men—men who tasted every phase of modern warfare. Only 84 are alive to tell about it today. The corporal's own battle scars testify to a varied fighting experience. Besides shrapnel and bayonet wounds he carries two scars from trench knife stabs.

NOT UNSUNG

His exploits didn't go unnoticed by those in high places. Cited time and again, he has a host of medallions for bravery on the field, craftsmanship, marksmanship in the air, and gratitude awards from the Red Cross for transporting the wounded.

Ferried back to the States with a group of wounded soldiers, the corporal enlisted with Uncle Sam at Fort Benjamin Harrison on October 22, 1942. Before he arrived at Jefferson Barracks, he did duty at Tuskegee Flying School and the Lincoln, Nebraska, Air Base.

JUL 3 1943

Civilian Instructor Dies In Tuskegee Plane Crash

Chicago, Illinois Chicago Defender

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Norman DeWitt Gray, 21, of Springfield, Ill., for two months a civilian instructor here, was killed Saturday when his plane crashed near the air field while apparently on a routine flight.

AUG 7 1943

47a

Gray was popular here with both the flyers and members of the ground crews. In 1940, when the civilian pilot training program was started in Chicago at the Harlem Airport, Gray registered for the course, along with his friend and companion, Simeon Brown, brother of Willa Brown, famed aviatrix and instructor for the civilian program at Harlem Airport.

So enthusiastic was Gray to take the Civil Aeronautics Administration course that he hitch-hiked to Chicago from Springfield, soon as the school was opened.

After completing their first studies at Harlem, Gray and Brown were the first two students to be awarded government scholarships in aviation training.

They pursued their advanced work at Knox college, Galesburg, Ill., and after graduation, Gray accepted an assignment here at the Tuskegee Air Field, while Instructor Brown returned to Harlem Airport in Chicago, to train civilian air students.

AUG 7 1943

Surviving Gray are his father in Springfield, and his sister, a trained nurse, who came to Tuskegee to accompany the body back to Springfield for burial.

JUL 31 1943

Informer
Houston, Texas

47a

TEXAN IS CREW CHIEF OF 99th

Col. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Jr., in command of the 99th Fighter Squadron in North Africa is shown with his crew chief Staff Sgt. VERNON A. WATSON of Seguin, Texas, standing beside a P-40 used in the battle on Sicily.

Lieut. Hall First Negro to Shoot Down German Plane

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

JUL 10 1943

47a

Allied Headquarters, North Africa.—First Lieutenant Charles B. Hall, 99th Pursuit Squadron, Tuskegee, Ala., whose home is in Brazil, Ind., won the praises of General Dwight Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Allied Forces in North Africa for being the first of the Negro race to shoot down Focke-Wulf 190, finest and fastest of the German fighter planes.

Lt. Hall is the first Negro to paint a swastika on his ship. "It was my eighth mission," Hall said, "but the first time I had seen the enemy close enough to shoot at him. I saw two Focke Wulfs following the Mitchells just after the bombs were dropped. I headed for the space between the fighters and bombers and managed to turn inside the Jerries.

"I fired a long burst and saw my tracers penetrate the second aircraft. He was turning to the left, but suddenly fell off and headed straight into the ground. I followed him down and saw him crash. He raised a big cloud of dust."

JUL 10 1943

General Eisenhower was at the base when the squadron returned. He was accompanied by Lt Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Both congratulated Lieut. Hall and the squadron for carrying out its mission.

JUL 10 1943

LIEUT. C. B. HALL

Eastern Nigeria Guardian

APR 2 1943

APR 2 1943

Port Harcourt, Nigeria

AMERICAN TROOPS

American forces are now reported to be less than 50 miles from the Eighth Army in Tunisia, and are fast driving the Germans along the road from El Gettia. This picture of American troops at exercise gives an idea of the type of men who are fighting the Germans in Tunisia

APR 2 1943

47a

Historic Occasions

99th LIVES UP TO BATTLE PROPHECY

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK
(Special Correspondent)

47a

NEW YORK, July 5—(Exclusive)—Sunday, July 4, the 167th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence, was celebrated . . an historic occasion! But July 2, 1943 will henceforth take its place in our military annals as the day that 1st Lt. Charles B. Hall, of the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron, shot down a Focke-Wulf 190. The Focke-Wulf is Germany's fastest fighter plane; has a maximum speed of 370-mph and flashes eight machine guns.

The writer knows that in his office in the Pentagon Building in the Nation's Capital, General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, Commanding General of the U. S. Army Air Forces, today must be wearing a smile. For he had faith in these Negro flyers. He was the one who answered their urgent request for combat duty.

JUL 10 1943

The race revels in them.

At the Olympic games in Germany in 1936, Jesse Owens vanquished all Nazi opposition, right under the Fuehrer's nose.

That hot June 22 night of 1938, Joe Louis hit the Nazi champion, Max Schemmling so hard, he was carried out of the Yankee stadium to a hospital.

These were historic occasions, when Nazi athletes fell before the onslaught of colored Americans.

FLYERS ON KEEN EDGE

On July 2, 1943, the 99th Pursuit Squadron covered itself with glory and lived up to the prophesy of Lt. Col. Philip G. Cochran, Army Air Force, hero of 61 aerial missions over North Africa. His last assignment before coming home was to teach the latest "tricks" of aerial combat to the 99th.

At the Waldorf-Astoria hotel here he told the writer:

"I have lived and worked with Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, and I can tell you that when that time comes, when he and his men meet the enemy . . .the Nazis had better look out. For those Negro officers and men are on a keen edge. They are like race horses champing at the bit.

JUL 10 1943

"Keep your eye on the headlines from North Africa. For sooner or later that's just where you'll find the 99th."

AIR VET GREETS GENERAL DAVIS

After our conversation, the 33-year-old veteran of the aerial wars, his chest covered with medals and service ribbons, came with me upstairs to meet Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, U.S.A., at that time assigned by the War Department as Military Aide to President Edwin Barclay, of Liberia.

The conversation was intimate and strictly "off-the-record." Col. Cochran thought good news, and the 60-year-old Negro veteran of the Spanish-American war swelled with pride.

As I left with Col. Cochran, and midst the adieus, the general told us smiling:

"I know my boy is preparing for big things. His letters are cheerful. He is working hard. I somehow have a feeling that the 99th will be heard from soon now."

JUL 10 1943

47a-1943

3 Richmond Youths Play Big Part In Success Of 99th Fliers

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
(U. S. War Correspondent)

(By Air Mail Delayed. Passed by Censor.)

AN ADVANCED ALLIED BASE IN TUNISIA — Three youthful sons of Richmond, Va., are daily contributing heavily to the success of the 99th Fighter Squadron although their work is on the ground and therefore seldom brought to public attention.

MR. YOUNG

They are Cpl. Kenneth C. Freeman, 21, 411 W. Marshall street; Corp. Augustus W. Gayles 22, 7 South Beech street, and Sgt William H. Young, 22, 107 Birch avenue.

Cpl. Freeman is an aviation mechanic and until recently was crew chief for Lt. James L. McCullin who has been missing in action since July 2.

GRADUATE OF ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Freeman of the same address, he finished Armstrong High School in 1939 and started a course in dental mechanics. But when the new program embracing Negroes in the Air Corps was announced, he and his buddy, Cpl. Gayles volunteered at Bolling Field and on May 8, 1941, shipped off to Chanute Field for six months of intensive training in aviation mechanics. Afterwards he went to Tuskegee where he joined this famed Fighter Squadron.

He is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and is better known by the younger set of Richmond as "Ken" or "Daddy."

Cpl. Gayles finished Armstrong two years ahead of Freeman and put in a year at Virginia State College before the Army got him.

JUL 31 1943

TRANSFERRED TO COMMUNICATION

He too studied aviation mechanics but when he went to Tuskegee he was transferred to the communications section in which he was trained to plot the courses of aircraft by means of radio equipment of a highly secret and complicated nature.

He is a member of Fifth Street Baptist Church and is best known at Second and Leigh as "Gus."

Sgt. Young graduated from Armstrong High in 1938 and worked at Thalheimer's department store until drafted in August, 1942. He is a member of Third Street Methodist Church and was active in the YMCA.

ARMAMENT INSPECTOR

His job for Uncle Sam is the inspection of armament, particularly the .50 calibre machine guns mounted in the wings of the P-40 Warhawks which transact most of their essential business.

JUL 3

He boasts a large number of nicknames, among them "Junie" and "Turf."

Our Men at Pantelleria

Union
Cincinnati, Ohio 1943

The participation of Negro Army aviators in the battle of Pantelleria is a significance deserving of more than passing notice.

It represents the first time Negro flyers have been sent on a combat mission for the United States, which mission gave them an opportunity to participate in the Allies' first test of a new type of aerial warfare.

Under the command of Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a Washington lad, whose father is our only Army General, the boys handled their new P-40 Warhawks with excellent ability and all of their planes were returned to their base without incident, according to War Department reports.

JUN 19 1943

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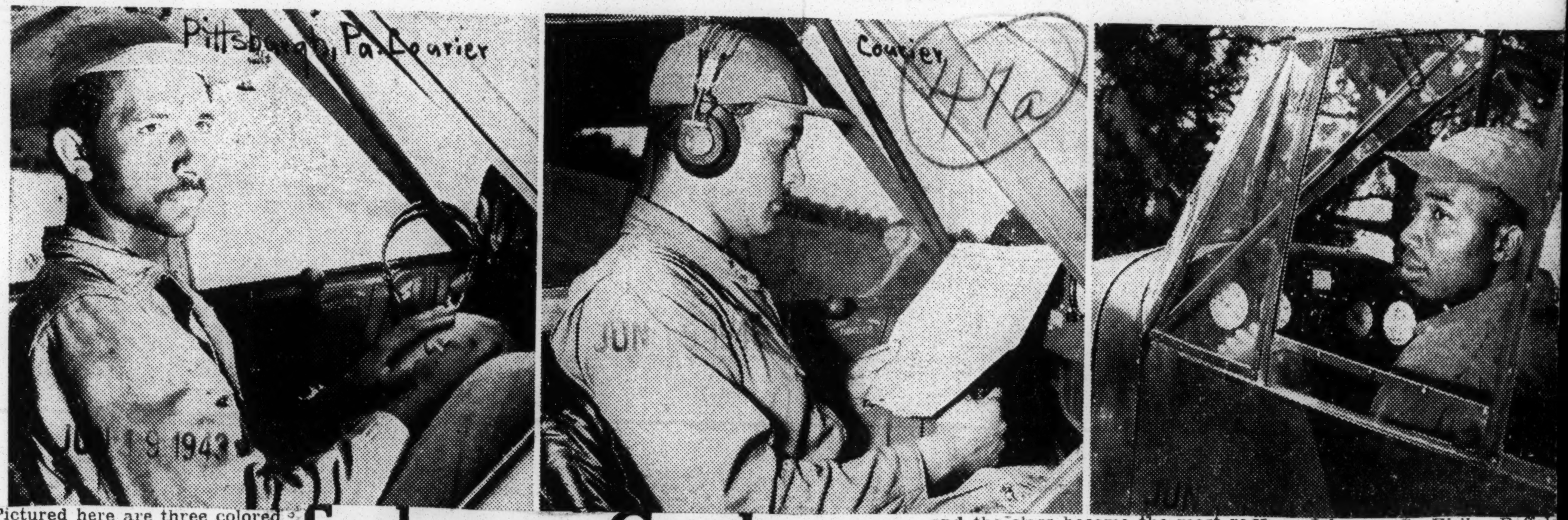
This is the type of participation in the war these Negro aviators have been clamoring for. They wanted an opportunity to take a crack at our common enemy the same as any other American. The War Department has granted them their wish, and as was to be expected, they came through with flying colors. No doubt they are now engaged in the battle for the occupation of Sicily.

Negro soldiers want the opportunity to make the same sacrifices in the war as other Americans are doing. They are willing to sacrifice their lives as well. By the same token we want to be considered as full-fledged Americans, and enjoy all the bounties that will come with the peace for which we are dying.

NEGRO PILOTS FLYING HIGH IN THE LONE STAR STATE WITH WHITE BUDDIES


Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Courier
47a
JUN 19 1943

Pictured here are three colored pilots who are participating with an artillery unit in the maneuvers being held in Texas and Louisiana.

On the left is S. Sgt. Octave J. Rainey, artillery liaison plane pilot, who resides in New Orleans. In the center is S. Sgt. Langston H. Caldwell of Denver, Colo., pilot of an artillery liaison plane. The other is S. Sgt. Elvatus C. Morris Jr., who hails from W. Monroe. La

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Tuskegee Graduates Largest Pilot Class

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 8—With the North African achievements of the great all-Negro fighter squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Benj. O. Davis, Jr., still ringing in their ears, Brig. Gen. Frederick V. H. Kimble told the largest class of fighter pilots—each class gets larger—ever to graduate from the Tuskegee Army Air Field, that, "With the receipt of your wings today, but a short while remains at Tuskegee for transition to combat craft, then you, too, join the Fighter squadrons."

JUL 10 1943

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The impressively brief ceremonies were opened with the invocation by Rev. H. V. Richardson, Tuskegee Institute chaplain. After the main address by General Kimble, commissions were presented to the graduating cadets by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Cadet honors were won by Cadets Joe A. Lewis, Denver, Colo., first; Theodore A. Wilson, Roanoke, Va., second, and Charles E. McGee, Champaign, Ill., third.

AWARDED WINGS

In culmination of the hardest nine months of their lives, the new fighter pilots were awarded their "wings" by Major [illegible] G. McPherson, [illegible] director of training, and the class became the most recent addition to the ever-growing number of Negro fighter pilots in the Army Air Forces.

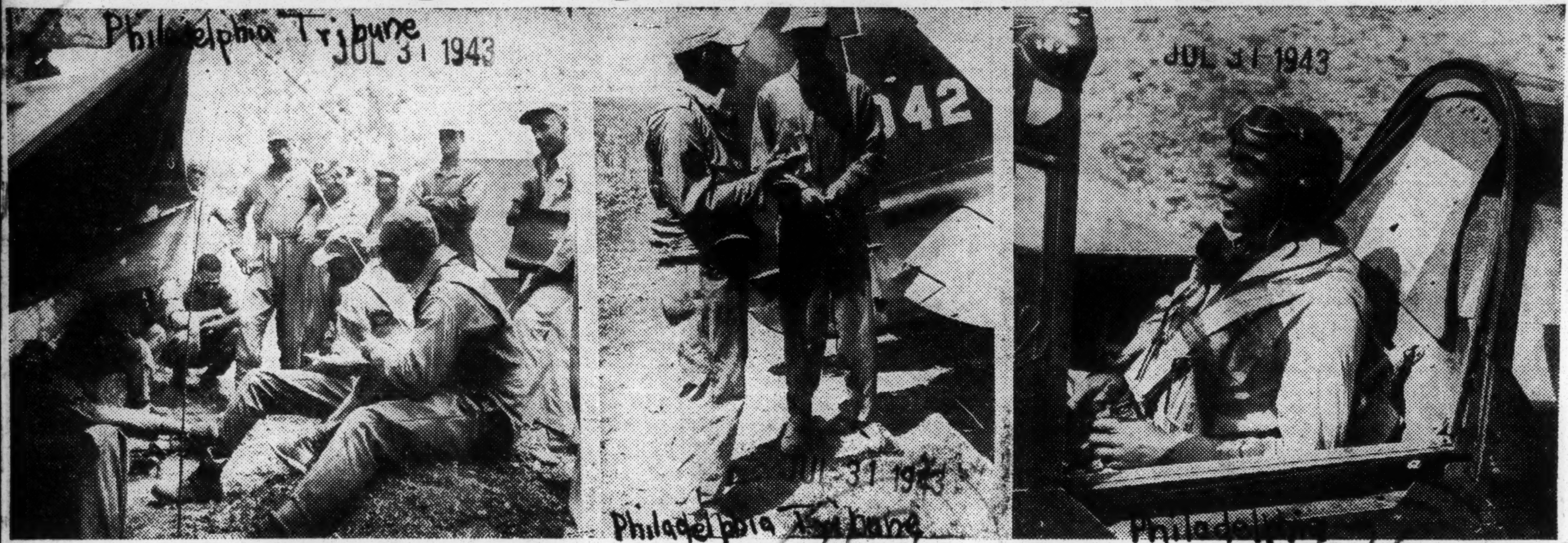
JUL 10 1943

Receiving wings and commissions were:

Second Lts. Milton Henry, Philadelphia; Robert M. Alexander, Harrisburg, Pa.; Alexander M. Bright, Chicago; Weldon K. Groves, Edwardsville, Kans.; Herbert S. Harris, Philadelphia; Richard H. Harris, Montgomery, Ala.; Wilbert H. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif.; Willie S. Hunter, Albany, Ga.; Oscar A. Kenney, Tuskegee institute; Hezekiah Lacy, Jr., River Rouge, Mich.; Joseph A. Lewis, Denver, Colo.; Wayne V. Liggins, Springfield, Ohio; Charles E. McGee, Champaign, Ill.; Theopolis D. Moore, St. Louis; Walter J. Palmer, New York; Virgil J. Richardson, New York; Wylie W. Seldon, Norfolk, Va.; John S. Sloan, Louisville, Ky.

Leonard F. Turner, Washington, D.C.; Frank D. Walker, Richmond, Ky.; Johnson C. Wells, Buffalo, N.Y.; William G. Wilkerson, Camden, N.J.; William F. Williams, Cleveland, Ohio, and Theodore A. Wilson, Roanoke, Va.

99th Fighter Squadron In Thick Of Battle



Philadelphia Tribune JUL 31 1943

JUL 31 1943

Philadelphia Tribune

The 99th Fighter Squadron, first all-colored unit of the U. S. Air Forces, is in Africa and attached to the Northwest African Tactical Air Force. Above are three pictures of members of the squadron. Left, Captain George S. Roberts, of Fairmount, W. Va., "briefs" the pilots just before they go out to battle the Nazis. Center: Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the squadron, is talking to his crew chief, Staff Sgt. Vernon A. Watson, of Seguin, Texas. Right: Lieut. Spann Watson, of Hackensack, N. J., is in the cockpit of his P-40.

JUL 31 1943

99th Squadron Based In Sicily To Protect Invasion Forces

JUL 31 1943

Pittsburgh, Pa.

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
(Courier War Correspondent)

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 29—American Negro fighter pilots are now based in Sicily on one of the airfields U.S. forces have captured from German and Italian defenders. They are presumably taking part in present operations against Axis held objectives in Sicily and the boot of the Italian mainland.

Use of these fighter pilots in the hottest sector of the Sicilian front is regarded here by Headquarters' flight offices as a distinct tribute to the courage and skill these fliers have shown in previous action. Having undergone their baptism of fire, this colored squadron, under the command of Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., is now regarded as veterans and capable of handling any tough assignment.

The squadron is using P-40 Warhawks which are noted for ruggedness and easy maneuverability but are heavier and slightly slower than most new type fighter planes being used by the Allies. The Warhawks are armed with six 50-calibre machine guns in the wings on each side of the fuselage. The firepower is so arranged that it will form 24 letters of the alphabet. The guns use armor piercing and tracer bullets.

JUL 31 1943

PRAISE FOR GENERAL EISENHOWER

You can be sure colored troops are in on the invasion of Sicily if General Ike Eisenhower has anything to do with it, and he has, because he bosses the show.

General Ike gives the colored boys a square deal, no jim crow. As they constitute 10 per cent of the people, he looks for 10 per cent of them in his outfit, and the boys like to fight with him.

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

Ollie Stewart's cable from a North African Advanced Base is typical of the beautiful piece of reporting he has been doing for nearly a year.

He tells how the Ninety-ninth Squadron of colored flyers is helping furnish the air umbrella over Sicily as it did over Pantelleria. And when later word comes, we will hear for a certainty of the excellent invasion job Ike Eisenhower's engineers, quartermasters and air base security units are doing too.

JUL 24 1943

'Stars and Stripes' Hails Valor of Negro Aviators

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

"Stars and Stripes," American soldiers' paper, published overseas, has a refreshing editorial in its July 1 issue on the Negro aviators, who are squashing the Nazis "like bugs."

It follows:

"Addressing the 'congress of the International Union of Journalism' at Vienna recently, Rosenberg, one of Hitler's thugs, stated in quivering accents that the airmen on some American bombers were Negroes.

JUL 30 1943

"Apparently this man is so 'sensitive' that he is unable to bear the thought of Negroes squashing Nazis like bugs.

"The Nazis have maintained that the art of flying is the privilege of the Nordic 'superior' race because it requires courage, and now low and behold a great many of their flaxen-haired Aryans are being killed by bombs dropped by Negroes who appear to have mastered the art of aviation.

"The humiliation of it leaves Rosenberg stuttering; but is nothing to the humiliation he will suffer when black, brown, red, yellow, and white men—**all Americans and all serving with equal courage and distinction—march down the streets of Berlin in the victory parade that will follow the complete destruction of Nazi tyranny."**

JUL 30 1943

Tuskegee Band Helps Raise Million In Bonds

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Making over 52 personal appearances in the last 30 days, the military band of the Tuskegee army Air Field is probably the busiest band in the army.

JUN 5 1943

Aside from local obligations on this field, First Lieutenant Frank L. Drye, of Tuskegee, director of the band, and his sixty-five musicians, have aided in raising more tha na million dollars in the state bond rally through civic organizations, schools, colleges and various institutions.

This bond rally began last October, when the stirring music of the TAAF band swelled out and down the streets of Luverne, Ala., and stimulated the purchase of $10,000 worth of bonds. This was merely he beginning. At Selma, the bond urchase soared to $25,000, and in Montgomery it went to $50,000.

Having traveled more than 3,000 niles throughout the state, there s hardly any city or town that the and has not visited on the "bond selling campaign." From this aggregation the Post Orchestra, known as the Imperial Wings of Rhythm, under the direction of Sgt. Claude Garvey was organized; carrying the bond rally into schools, social organizations, clubs and numerous municipal institutions.

JUN 5 1943

Working in connection with, and under the auspices of the National Division, War Saving Staff for Alabama, of which Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, is chairman, the TAAF band has enjoyed state-wide popularity.

T. M. Campbell, consultant, and Jesse O. Thomas, national organizations division director, both on the War Savings staff for the State of Alabama, have aided in the success of this state-wide campaign.

The Tuskegee Army Air Forces Band, known officially as 313th Army Air Forces Band, has the distinction of being the first Negro Air Forces band; having been activated April 21, 1942, by Captain Clyde H. Bynum, post adjutant. It already has established a reputation of having one of the best set of musicians in the armed forces. The TAAF military band's personnel is made up entirely of enlisted men.

JUN 5 1943

47a-1943

Army Nurses Prepare For Any Emergency

MAR 1 1943 MAR 1 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
MAR 1 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The Army Nurses must travel along with the fighting units. Quick medical aid often means the difference between life and death to a wounded soldier. It's necessary, therefore that the nurses learn military tactics. The fundamentals of drilling, saluting, adjusting the gas mask and other equipment is a part of their daily activity at the Tuskegee Army Flying School. They must be prepared for any emergency.

Captain Nathaniel Freeman, their supervisor, is shown instructing the nurses how to adjust their equipment. They are, left to right: Second Lieuts. Ruth Faulkner, Della Bassett and Ruth Speight.

'Mistake' Puts Negro Cadets In White Air Squad; Bounced

Peoples Voice
New York, N.Y.

MAR 1 3 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—Can a man be a private in the Army air force reserves at the same time he holds an honorable discharge from the United States Army? That's a $64 question that might be asked of Pvt. Stewart B. Fulbright, Lincoln University alumnus and a French instructor here until his Jan. 31 entry into Flight "B" of the 1166th Technical School Squadron at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Off the campus only ten days and then back again, Pvt. Fulbright said, when interviewed here last week, "I thought it strange that I was the only Negro in a group of over 2,000 aviation cadets and I later found out that there were three of us there by mistake."

The others to whom he referred were Pvt. Wendell R. Smith, of Des Moines, and Pvt. Charles L. Smith, of St. Louis.

MAR 1 3 1943

"I can sincerely say that during this processing (mental, physical and orientation tests, interviews and drilling) no discrimination was shown toward me," said Fulbright. He says his white companions accepted him in their conversation and in horseplay and that the flight sergeant was especially kind.

INSULTED BY KP

Pvt. Fulbright ate in a Negro mess hall at his own request, not on orders, but one of his Negro confrerees who ate in the general mess was alleged to have been told by a kitchen police officer that "We don't allow n——s to eat in here."

The day following that incident, according to Fulbright, Pvt. Wendell Smith was transferred from Squadron 1167, which is an aviation cadet unit, to Squadron 917, a Negro unit of enlisted men. Unlike the Lincolnite, he had not been permitted to go through the processing, but on Feb. 8 he, too, was notified that he would be discharged.

The third Negro soldier, Pvt. Charles Smith, was on a 10-day convalescent furlough at that time but the day Pvt. Smith reported for duty he was given an honorable discharge also.

MISTAKE MADE

MAR 1 3 1943

When informed on Feb. 8 that he was discharged, Fulbright was told, "the Omaha office (headquarters of the Seventh Area command) made a mistake." He was given the honorable discharge and permitted to keep his uniform, but he's still subject to the air reserves, according to a notation typed in on his discharge. It took two more days to complete the Army routine of issuing the three discharge papers.

47a

Tuskegee Flyers Praised In House

APR 24 1943

Congresswoman Takes Issue With Downey Bill — Says Criticism Was "Ill-Advised"

~~Pittsburgh Courier~~, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, April 22—For a second time in two weeks, the bitter fight between the advocates of jim crow and non-jim-crow training of Negro Army flyers reached the floor of Congress this week when Congresswoman Frances Bolton, just returned from a meeting of the board of trustees of Tuskegee institute, told members of the House of Representatives last Friday that criticism of the Army's jim crow aviation base at Tuskegee was "ill-advised."

The position of the congresswoman from Ohio was at sharp variance with that taken two weeks ago in the Senate by Senator Sheridan Downey (D., Calif.), who demanded a sweeping investigation by the Senate Military Affairs Committee of practices of segregation by the Army.

LEADERS SUPPORT EARLY HEARING

While this debate was going on in Congress, interest in the Downey-Hastie resolution (S. Res. 132), drafted by Judge William Hastie and sponsored by Senator Downey, which would institute a Senate investigation of Army jim crow, was steadily mounting. Members of the Senate Military Affairs Committee had received this week a number of communications from Negro editors and organization leaders urging them to hold speedy hearings on the resolution.

In her defense of segregation of Negro aviation cadets, the Ohio congresswoman declared: "Now, there are those among our colored people who stand belligerently against any form of what they call segregation. Criticism of this aviation school has been voiced, I think, very ill-advisedly. To my mind, Tuskegee saw with a very real vision that the first step towards wings for our colored boys are best taken in a completely colored school, where they are not subjected to the attitudes which drive them in upon themselves and give them a sense of inadequacy. In the air men must feel themselves gods, or like Icarus, they lose their wings and fall to earth."

APR 24 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh PA

47a

Tuskegee Sends Out Largest Air Class

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAY 8 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., May 6—In keeping with the War Department's program to expand its quota of pilots this year, the Tuskegee Army Air Field graduated the largest class of flyers in its history last week. They received the traditional coveted silver wings and a commission in the Army of the United States, as a result of their untiring efforts and excellent ability in attaining the ratings of pilots.

THREE WIN SPECIAL AWARDS

MAY 8 1943

Following the invocation by the Post Chaplain, Captain Douglas L. T. Robinson, Lieutenant Colonel Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, introduced Major Donald G. McPherson, director of flight training, who delivered the principal address.

MAY 8 1943

Immediately following the address, Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish presented the graduates their commissions. Presentation of the silver "wings" to the candidates was made by Major McPherson. Special honors were awarded to three of the cadets by Major John G. Cook, commandant of cadets. The three honored men receiving silver identification bracelets for outstanding academic and military bearing were Second Lieutenants Vernon V. Haywood, Raleigh, N. C., Ulysses S. Taylor, Kaufman, Texas and Charles I. Williams of Lima, Ohio. Other members of the graduating class were Second Lieutenants Paul Adams, Charles P. Bailey, James E. Brothers, James Y. Carter, Arnold W. Cisco, Wilson V. Eagleson, William J. Faulkner Jr., Walter T. Foreman, Herbert C. Houston, Freddie E. Hutchins,

47a

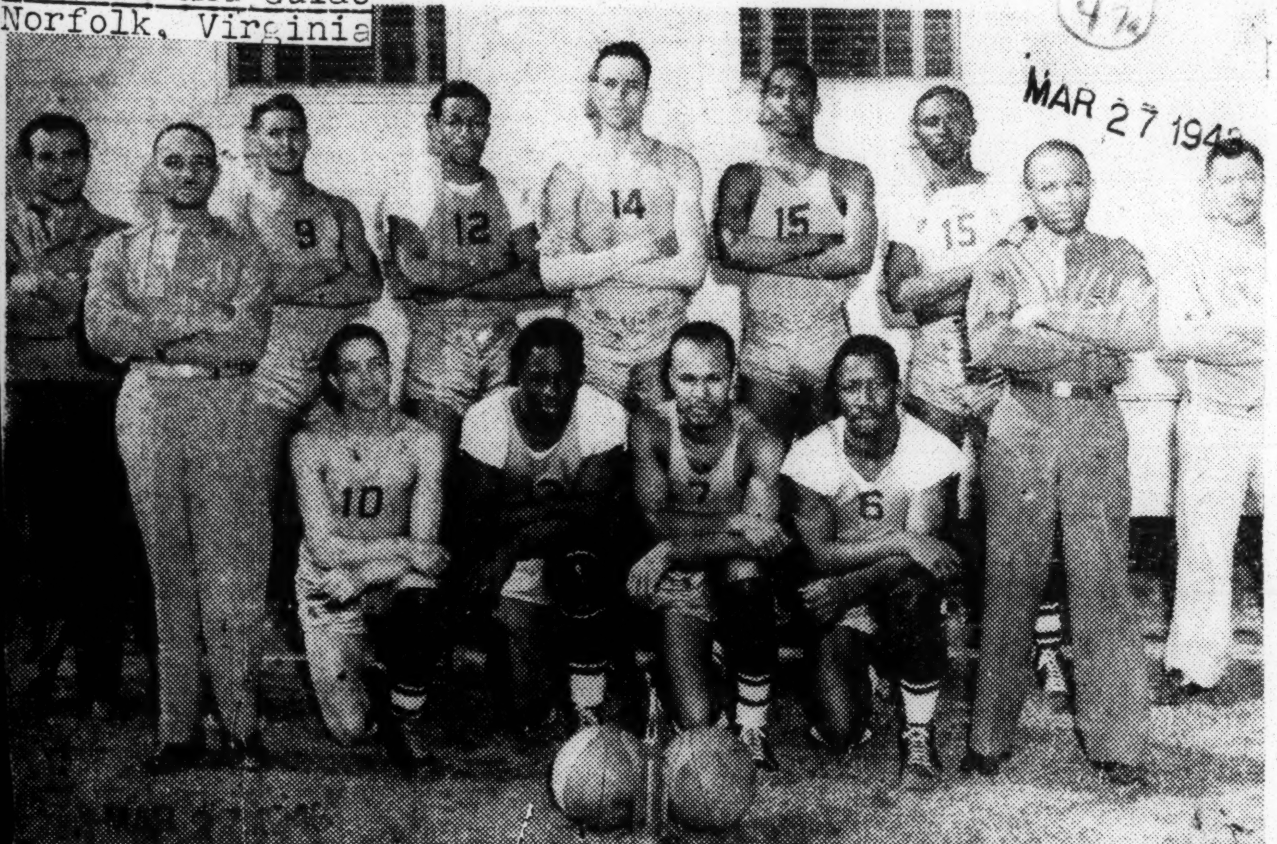
Leonard M. Jackson, Sidney J. Moseley Jr., Curtis C. Robinson, Harold E. Sawyer, Lewis C. Smith and Luke J. Weathers Jr.

Tuskegee Flyers Win Army Tourney

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

47

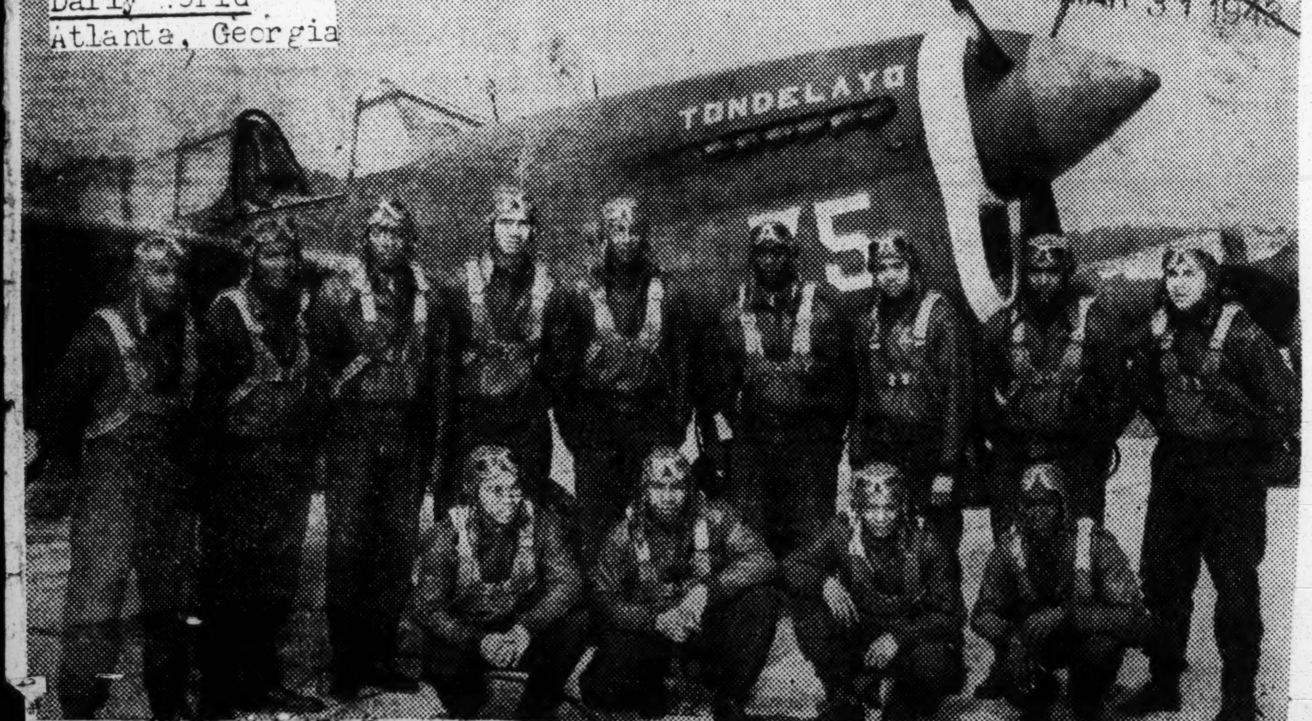
MAR 27 1943



They Have Won Their Coveted Silver Wings

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 31 1943



TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)—Officers that have seen their dreams come true in the field of flying at the Tuskegee Army Flying School are shown standing beside one of the fighter planes. They are, left to right: Second Lieutenants Elmer L. Gordon of Portsmouth, Va.; Lloyd G. Singletary of Jacksonville, Fla.; Woodrow W. Crockett of Texarkana, Ark.; Lawrence E. Dickson of New York, N. Y.; William Gordon of Jackson, Miss.; Alfonza W. Davis of Omaha, Neb.; Clarence W. Allen of Mobile, Ala.; Leroy Bowman of Sumter, S. C., and Wilmeth W. Sidat Singh of Washington,

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D. C. (standing). Kneeling: Walter L. McCreary of San Antonio, Texas; Pearlee E. Saunders of Bessemer, Ala.; Charles F. Jamerson of Pasadena, Cal., and Alwayne M. Dunlap of Washington, D. C.

Bee [redacted]
Chicago, Ill.

AIR SCHOOL GIVES 'BROADWAY TO CHEHAW' AT TUSKEGEE

APR 11 1943

APR 11 1943

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TUSKEGEE, Apr. 8—(ANP)—Under the sponsorship of the Women's club of Tuskegee institute, the special service department of the Tuskegee Army Flying school recently delighted an enthusiastic audience of 3,500, that overflowed the institute's large Logan hall, by displaying a remarkable array of talent in a variety show, "From Broadway to Chehaw."

The entire proceeds of the program were donated to the flying school's Soldier's Day Room fund, —marking a tremendous step forward in providing the men here with well-furnished, adequately-equipped places of recreation and relaxation.

APR 11 1943

Providing entertainment to suit all tastes, the performance exhibited a versatile, well-rounded program that ranged from "hep cat jam sessions' 'to dramatic dances and classical music. Smoothing the breaks between numbers and "giving out" with a steady line of patter, Sgt. James H. Pittman of New York, master of ceremonies, kept the audience in an appreciative mood all evening with his score of surprising and humorous antics.

APR 11 1943

Highlighting the program was the dramatic dance interpretation of the well-known folk song, "Chloe", by the Elizabeth Ray dancers, with an excellent vocal rendition by Cpl. Leon E. Smith of Detroit. These dancers were directed by Miss Elizabeth Ray, woman's physical education director at the institute. Also for the benefit of the so-called "high-brows", was the masterful piano technique of Pvt. James White. Pvt. White, a former student of New England conservatory and a graduate of Harvard university, gave a powerful program of classical selections.

APR 11 1943

The "jive lovers" received their "kicks" for the evening through various "solid" vocals by the quartet of enlisted men, Pfc Carl Barker of Cleveland, Pvt. William Starling of Baltimore, Pfc Warren Johnson of Washington, and Pvt. Emanuel Walker of New York. The flying school orchestra, 'the Imperial Wings of Rhythm", also gained the appreciation of the "swing-set" by their "jam session" of "rocking rhythm."

The "standing room only" signs and the appreciative applause were ample evidence of the show's popularity and the enjoyment received by the studen's and citizens of Tuskegee, as well as the soldiers from the Tuskegee Army Flying school.

The success of the production under the direction of Lt. Kermit Mehlinger of Washington, assistant special service officer, was largely due to the efforts of three civic-minded women of the institute. These three are Mrs. D. D. Patterson, Mrs. Max Bond and Mrs. J. A. Kenny of the public affairs committee of the Women's club, who managed the promotion of the show in the interests o fthe Soldiers' Day Room fund.

Flyer Seen Crashing Into Lake Huron

MAY 14 1943

MAY 14 1943

Army Reports Body, Chute, Plane Could Not Be Found; See Oil Slick

MAY 14 1943

EAST TAWAS, Mich.—Lt. Wilmeth Sidath Singh, graduate of the army flying school at Tuskegee, Ala., and former football ace of Syracuse university, was reported missing on Sunday after his single-seated pursuit plane crashed into Lake Huron near here.

MAY 14 1943

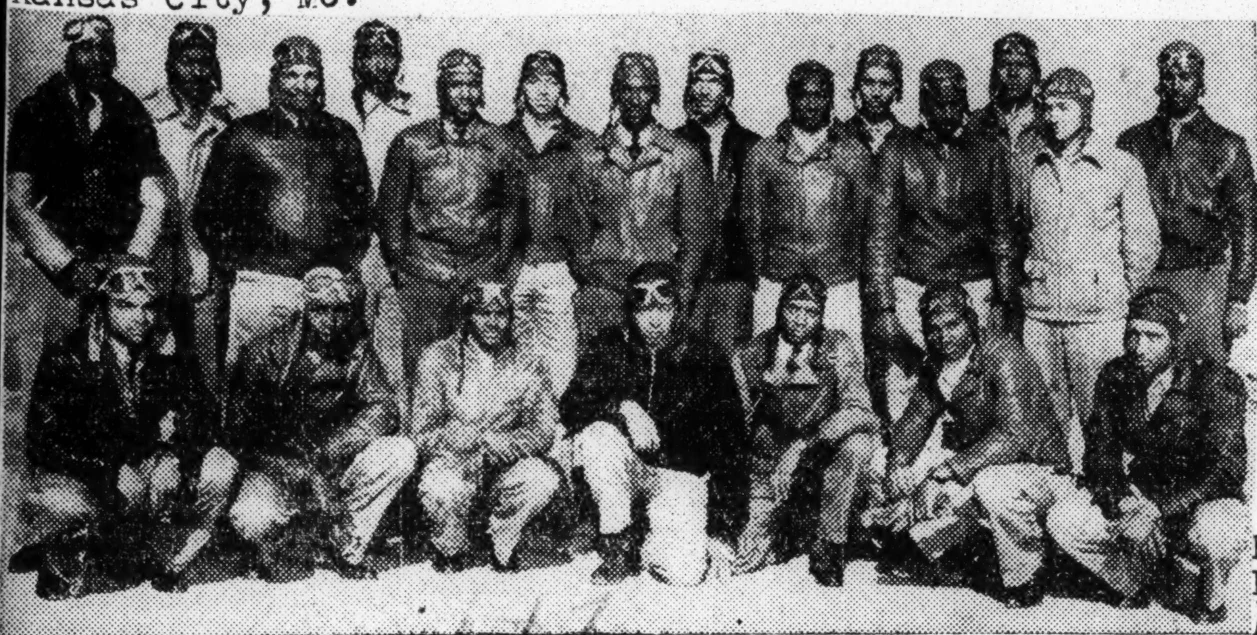
Attaches at the flying headquarters, Selfridge Field said that they had seen him bail out of his plane, but neither plane, his body or chute was found. A large oil slick was found on the lake, the army said.

Army officials said that he was on a routine flight at the time of the crash.

MAY 14 1943

Sidat-Singh starred in sports at Clinton high school, New York City where he was graduated in 1935. He was graduated from Syracuse university in 1939 and was an outstanding star in both football and track. His father, Dr. Samuel Sidat-Singh, lives in New York, and his mother, Mrs. Pauline E. Sidat-Singh, lives in Washington.

47a-1943
Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.



TEACH ROOKIES HOW TO FLY—

These are the men who give the aviation cadets at the Tuskegee Army Flying School their initial experience of climbing into a cockpit. Shown here are civilian flying instructors employed at the Army Air Forces Training detachment, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, where hawkmen at T.A.F.S. receive their primary training before being transferred to this field for their basic training.

Bottom row: (left to right) Perry Young, Oberlin, Ohio; Charles H. Flowers, Wadesboro, N. C.; Claude Platt, Fort Worth, Texas; Charles A. Anderson (chief pilot) Bridgeport, Penn.; C. R. Haris, Wilksboro, N. C.; Wendell R. Lipscomb, Berkley, Cal.; James E. Wright, Savannah, Ga.

Top row: (elft to right) Robert Terry, Greensboro, N. C.; John H. Young, 3d, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Charles W. Stephens Jr., Monroeville, Ala.; Charles R. Foxx, West Palm Beach, Fla.; Roscoe D. Draper, Haverford, Penn.; Sherman T. Rose, Jefferson City, Mo.; James A. Hill, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Adolph J. Moret Jr., New Orleans, La.; Earnest Henderson, Mountville, S. C.; Matthew W. Plummer, San Antonio, Texas; Linkwood Wiliams, Madison, Ill.; Daniel James, Pensacola, Fla.; Lewis A. Jackson, Argola, Ind.; Milton P. Crenhsaw, Little Rock, Ark.

Heading the list with the greatest number of flying hours is Charles A. Anderson, who has approximately 5,000 hours in the air. Challenging this remarkable record are Lewis A. Jackson, director of training, who has chalked up some 3500 air hours, and Milton P. Crenshaw and Charles R. Foxx, each of whom has 15,000 hours to his credit.—(ANP).

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Air Officers' School Opens On January 15

JAN 2 - 1943

First For Colored; Missouri Camp Is Selected For Work

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, Mo. — The first Officers' Candidate School for Negro soldiers in the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command will open at Jefferson Barracks on January 15, according to an announcement by Col. Thomas J. J. Christian, commanding officer of the historic Army Post.

JAN 2 - 1943

First contingent of soldier students selected from the ranks of Negro troops throughout the United States will arrive for the 11-week course on January 15 said the colonel.

The opening of an Officers Candidate School at Jefferson Barracks is one of several new functions the Post will take on augmenting its already well established program as the first Basic Training Center of the Technical Training Command, under Major General Walter R. Weaver.

Negro troops at the barracks will have equal treatment and equal facilities as all soldiers stationed there, said Colonel Christian, who announced that plans were already underway for the construction of a new service club, a chapel, post exchange, an officers' club and bachelor officers' quarters for Negroes.

A Cooks and Bakers School for Negro soldiers will also open on January 15, said the announcement.

JAN 2 - 1943

PLAN OFFICERS' SCHOOL

There is also planned, at a later date, to open an Officers' Training School for Air Corps specialists who have received preliminary training at Yale University. This school will be open to a select group of Negro officers for intensive six week courses.

Graduates of the Officers' Candidate School will be trained as supply officers, adjutants, personnel officers, military intelligence officers and statistical officers. Many will be sent to other schools upon graduation to do further work in the field of their specialization.

It is understood that the graduates will serve as administrative and technical officers for the fighter squadrons being prepared for combat at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Aviation cadets slated for flight training at Tuskegee may be sent to Jefferson Barracks for preflight ground school, said the colonel.

The barracks has been an Army Air Forces Technical Training Command basic center since September 1, 1940. JAN 2 - 1943

Prior to that its history goes back to 1826, making it one of the oldest Army posts west of the Mississippi. Colonel Christian took command of the Post on December 5, 1942.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Mrs. Gertrude Williams, Miss Helen E. Allie and Miss Cecilia Dixon Work With Determination to 'Keep 'Em Flying'

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — The efficency with which the weaker sex has taken the bull by the horns in the numerous war industries and the army personnel is a convincing revelation of their unusual aptness and adaptability. The red bandanna has been discarded for ear phones and the kitchen apron packed away for the leather and rubber aprons for the duration.

The Tuskegee Army Flying school presents one of the first opportunities by which the Negro woman has found opportunity to serve in skilled jobs that are a part of the many tasks in "keep 'em flying" at the wartime flying field. Only a few of the women working at this station were technically trained in their respective jobs, but they have successed by their courageous spirit and determination linked with a desire to do their part. As an integral part in the huge war program, they can point to their performance with pride. 1/15/43

The majority of these unsung heroines are under 31 years of age and spend their spare time supporting the activities of the USO. They come from New York, Los Angeles, and from the smaller cities of the south.

Take, for example, Mrs. Gertrude Williams of Chicago. She attended Sumner high school in St. Louis and later the University of Illinois for two years. Her entire family typifies the spirit of democracy. Her brother is a sergeant at Camp Lee, Va. Her mother is a director of a USO branch in California, and her father is an examining physician at Lambert field, near St. Louis. Only 20, and the mother of a baby boy, she operates the intricate reproduction machinery at the sub depot here. 1/15/43

She and her co-worker are specialists in the handling of the lithograph, multigraph, multilith and addressograph machine that furnish circulars, bulletins and other reading matter to thousands on this post. Miss Velma Porter, her co-worker, hails from San Antonio, Texas, where she received her certificate as aircraft electrician when only 16 years old. Miss Porter received training at Tuskegee institute.

From the Quaker City comes charming Miss Helen E. Allie to take over the highly skilled business of laboratory technician at the base hospital. She finished the Memorial Laboratory school and later earned the nurse's certificate at Mercy hospital in Philadelphia. She is a resident nurse in Tuskegee and rides 20 miles each day to fill her job as a technician.

Probably the first Negro woman aircraft dispatcher is lovely and petite Miss Cecelia Dixon of Columbia, S. C. A former West Virginia State coed and dancing star, she claims the AKA as her sorority. Miss Dixon shelved her social duties for war duties, and now gives the all clear signal to incoming and out-going air craft at this field. Her job is probably one of the most responsible ones on the field. 1/15/43

In the fabric repairing department down on the line, patching up damaged wings, ailerons, and rudders, is Mrs. Adell McDonald of Tuscaloosa, Ala., classified as a mechanic learner. The friendly, plump, housewife is a former Stillman Institute Junior college student.

Two of the most proficient clerks on the post are two charming young office workers at the Quartermaster corps. They are Miss Violet Brown and Miss Lillian Register. The requisition clerk, Miss Register, hails from Pensacola, Fla., and boasts of her brother in the service who is stationed at Camp Lee, Va. She attended Tuskegee while Miss Brown comes from Harlem. She also has a brother in the army. Miss Brown, athletic and 19, is the chief clerk at the quartermaster office. 1/15/43

Last but not least of the versatile group of skilled ground crew personnel is Miss Marcelle Phyllis Reed of Atlanta, who although, on the ground, is to the pilot what the navigator is to the chief pilot in the large bombers. She plots the cross-country courses that our flying officers take in their routine flights.

Holding a degree from Tusgegee, Miss Reid is so thoroughly trusted by the officers that they seldom check behind her accuracy that makes her an artist in the field of navigation.

These young women form part of the ground crew that make it possible for the pilots here to undergo their training. They are proud of their jobs that indirectly will send down to earth in flames the planes of our enemies.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Cadet Gets "Wings"

DEC 26 1942

Cadet Robert B. Tresville of West Point, his mother, Mrs. Robert Tresville and his brother enjoy a happy reunion as Tresville completes flying training at the Tuskegee Army Flying School. He will return to the United States Military Academy to receive his commission in the early part of 1943.

West Pointer Among Flying School Grads

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Outstanding among the many cadets who have completed their flying training at the Tuskegee Army Flying School is Air Cadet Robert B. Tresville of the United States Military Academy.

He completed his secondary education at the Germantown High School, Philadelphia, in June, 1937, and the following year entered the University of Pennsylvania. As an undergraduate student he excelled in swimming, track and tennis.

To West Point in '39

After one year of college, he entered West Point July 1, 1939, where he was active in routine sports and achieved recognition in the realm of tennis before his assignment to the 66th Army Air Forces Training Detachment at Tuskegee Institute for his primary flight training.

He completed his advance training at the Tuskegee Army Flying School on December 12, with the status of air cadet. At present, he holds an instructor's rating in American Red Cross swimming. On the rifle range he has a rating of marksmanship and sharp shooter with the pistol.

Father a Warrant Officer

Air Cadet Tresville's father, R. B. Tresville, holds the rank of warrant officer and is the bandmaster of the famous 24th Infantry stationed for many years at Fort Benning, Ga. Mr. Tresville began service abroad many months ago.

Mrs. R. B. Tresville, his mother, resides in Bay City, Tex. Cadet Tresville will return to West Point in the near future where he will graduate in the early part of the incoming year.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

TUSKEGEE BASE RECORD PRAISED

FEB 5 1943

Social Disease Group Is Told Phenix City Also 'Cleaned Up'

FEB 5 1943

ATLANTA, Feb. 3 —(AP)— The Tuskegee (Ala.) Air Base, all-Negro flight training center, has established one of the nation's best records in curbing venereal diseases, an Army medical officer asserted Wednesday.

The air school's rate of infection dropped in October to one of the lowest in the Army, Maj. Ernest B. Howard, of the Army Medical Corps, told a regional social hygiene conference.

Phenix City, Ala., near Ft. Benning, world's largest infantry school, "has been cleaned up," said the venereal disease control officer for the Fourth Service Command.

Jacksonville, Fla., too, is doing a good job, he added, but no favorable trend has been noted in Atlanta, where some infection increase is reported.

Problem Intensified

Surg. Gen. Thomas Parran, of the U. S. Public Health Service, told the conference the influx of thousands of trainees had intensified the problem of venereal disease control in the South.

FEB 5 1943

Selective service examinations reveal, he said, a surprising geographical variation in syphilis incidence.

In the 16 Southern states and the District of Columbia, the surgeon general said, the rate among white boys examined was 21 per 1,000 compared with a rate of nine in the North Central states.

"When one adds that to the much higher rate among Negroes," he added, "it is apparent that the problem is intensified in the South."

Col. Charles G. Souder, M. C., of the Fourth Service Command, said civilian committees in the seven states covered by the command "had not responded promptly and freely" to the Army's request for suppression of prostitution.

Eight Leaders Listed

The eight cities in the Southeast where the most cases were reported for the first 11 months of 1942 he listed as Jacksonville, Fla.; Atlanta, Columbus, Savannah, Macon, Augusta, in Georgia; Columbia, S. C., and Fayetteville, N. C.

"Four Georgia cities listed were responsible for 34 per cent of infections acquired in 15 leading cities of the Southeast," Col. Souder said, and added that for the months of October and November of last year "Atlanta led all other cities as to source. No other city approached it except Birmingham."

Among 19,000 reported sources of infection in the first 10 months of 1942, Col. Souder said, "20 per cent were acquired in Georgia. North Carolina, Georgia and Florida accounted for over 50 per cent o the cases."

Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala

Tuskegee's All-Negro Flight Training Center Praised By Parran

Spread Of Infections In Birmingham Reported High During Part Of '42

ATLANTA—(AP)—Influx of thousands of military trainees has greatly intensified the problem of venereal disease control in the South, Surgeon General Thomas Parran, of the U. S. Public Health Service, told a regional social hygiene conference here Wednesday.

Selective service examinations, he said, have revealed a surprising geographical variance in syphilis incidence, explaining that the rate among white boys in the 16 Southern states and the District of Columbia was 21 per 1,000 as compared with nine in the North Central states.

FEB 4 1943

"When one adds that to the much higher rate among Negroes, it is apparent that the problem is intensified in the South," he declared.

Col. Charles G. Souder, M.C., of the Fourth Service Command, asserted that the Army's request for suppression of prostitution had not met prompt response in the seven states in the Fourth Service Command.

FEB 4 1943

Jacksonville, Fla., Atlanta, Columbus, Savannah, Macon and Augusta, in Georgia; Columbia, S. C., and Fayetteville, N. C., were listed by Col. Souder as the eight cities in the Southeast where the greatest number of cases were reported in the first 11 months of 1942.

He reported four Georgia cities were responsible for 34 per cent of the infections acquired in 15 leading Southeastern cities, and that for October and November, 1942, "Atlanta led all other cities as to source. No other city approached it except Birmingham."

FEB 4 1943

On the brighter side of the picture, the conference heard another Army medical officer describe how the all-Negro filght training center at Tuskegee, Ala., had made one of the nation's best records in combatting venereal diseases.

Maj. Ernest B. Howard, venereal disease control officer for the Fourth Service Command, told also of improvement in the situation at Jacksonville, Fla., and Phenix City, Ala., near Ft. Benning.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

FOR MORE NEGRO PILOTS

FEB 29 1943

Two New Squadrons Will Be Trained at Tuskegee

FEB 29 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 — The Army Air Corps is forming two additional squadrons of Negro pilots to work in a group with the first such squadron now in training at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

FEB 29 1943

In addition to training of pilots for these squadrons, the Army will train Negroes in all supporting ground services. Negroes have already been assigned in large numbers to other important arms, including the field artillery, coast artillery, anti-aircraft units, engineers and signal corps.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

SCIENTIST TO FLYER!

MAR 18 1943

BLACKLAND ARMY FLYING SCHOOL, Waco, Texas.—From a statistical economist in the Miscellaneous Minerals Branch of the War Production Board in Washington, D. C., to acting sergeant and clerk at Blackland Army Flying School, Waco, Texas, is the story of Corporal Herman A. Johnson of Washington, D. C., now serving in Blackland Field's first Negro Aviation Squadron

MAR 18 1943

Corporal Johnson was inducted into the Army January 13, 1943(and has recently been promoted to the rank of Corporal.

He is 26 years old and left for the Army soon after New Year's from his desk in the War Production Board, where since June 1, 1942, he had been in charge of tabulating and allocating such metals as silver, mercury, antimony, cobalt and quartz crystals whenever such materials were imported or exported for the United States.

MAR 18 1943

He was born and raised in Schenectady, N. Y., where his father was a refrigeration engineer. His mother and grandmother now live at 619 Lee Court, Scranton, Pa.

He received his B. S degree in accounting and business administration from Albany College with three years previous study at Cornell.

47a-1943

Last All-Fighter Class Of Pilots Get Wings As Bomber Pilots Begin Training At Tuskegee Air Field

OCT 16 1943

FUTURE BOMBER PILOTS — Lieutenant Robert B. Meagher, one of the instructors of twin-engine training at Tuskegee Army Air Field, explains the workings of a controllable-pitch propeller on the AT-10 twin-engine trainer to a group of cadet trainees. The cadets (from l. to r.) are Herman R. Campbell, New York, N. Y.; Jerome D. Sperlin, Chicago Ill.; Haldane King, Long Island, N. Y.; Harvey Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; and Perry Hudson of Atlanta, Ga. These cadets are members of the first Negro group of twin-engine pilots preparing for future medium bomber training.

OCT 15 1943

CAISSONS GET WINGS— In keeping with expanded training facilities recently instituted at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, liaison pilot wings were presented to fledgling flyers of the Field Artillery this past week, marking the first graduation of its kind in the history of the field. The graduating officers will receive their advance and tactical training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Among the officers to receive their wings after nine weeks of intensive training are, standing from left to right: 1st Lt. James I. [illegible], 2nd Lts. James E. Woodson, Arnold D. Grant, 1st Lt. William Y. Rose, 2nd Lts. Leander A. Hall Jr., Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Alvin J. Johnson, Captain William H. Shannon 1st Lt. Charles T. Hood, assistant director of liaison pilot training, and Captain Errol W. Becthold, director of liaison training at Tuskegee. Kneeling, left to right: 2nd Lts. Aldrick H. Wilson, Benjamin F. Moore, Darry C. Bishop, Harry W. Dungil, Leonard E. Wilburn, Charles G. Dunn, and 1st Lt. Chauncey Eskridge. (Photos by TAAF).

OCT 16

AUG 7 - 1943

47a

Capt. Hall Tells How He Shot Down "Jerry"

47a

AUG 7 - 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

The first pilot in the 99th Pursuit Squadron to shoot down an enemy plane was Captain Charles B. Hall, 22, of 1034 E. Hendrix street, Brazil, Ind., a flight leader. Captain Hall is shown in the top photo explaining to a group of interested pilots the way he went after the Jerry and brought him down. At left is 2nd Lt. Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C. (wearing sun helmet), while 2nd. Lt. Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J., can be seen walking away, at the extreme right.

No. 2—Captain Hall writes a letter to his wife, the former Miss Maxine Parris, Terre Haute, Ind., telling her about his experience in shooting down the enemy plane.

No. 3—A prize had been put up for the first member of the 99th Squadron to knock down an enemy plane, and Capt. Hall is shown here about to enjoy his well deserved trophy—a bottle of Coca-Cola. Others shown are 1st. Lt. Sidney P. Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio (behind bottle), and 2nd Lt. Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C. The coke, the only one seen by most of the squadron since they arrived in North Africa, was served ice cold and had been brought back to the advance training base several weeks earlier by 2nd Lt. Louis R. Purnell, of Germantown, Pa., from Oran where he had gone to ferry a new P-40 plane back to his field.

No. 4—Also flying in the same mission on which Capt. Hall scored his victory was Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., Washington, D. C., commanding officer, shown listening to accounts of the action from others in the flight. At right is 1st. Lt. Clarence C. Jamison, Cleveland, Ohio, flight leader (face half shown) and between them is 1st. Lt. Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, Ohio, assistant operations officer (side of face shown). (Photos by Thomas W. Young, U. S. War Correspondent)

Joe Fighter Squadron Writes To His Mom

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
(By Air Mail, Delayed.)
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ALLIED AIRFIELD IN SICILY, AUGUST 12—Below is the second of a series of imaginary letters typical of those which any member of the 99th Fighter Squadron might write to his mother.

In the first of these the reader was acquainted with the religious practices in the squadron, the recreational and amusement the men indulge in, and something of the Arab people who are most numerous in North Africa.

Since then, the pioneer Negro fighter pilots moved over to Sicily shortly after the invasion forces secured airfields and established lines sufficiently advanced to make their use practicable.

Remember this is not a real letter from any particular soldier to his mother, but it contains a great many items in which all friends and parents of the members of th[illegible]squadron are interested. And because of that, it might have been written by any one of them.

SOMEWHERE IN SICILY
August 13, 1943

DEAR MOM,

It has been several weeks since I wrote you a letter telling you the news of our camp. But during that time we have moved from North Africa to the Italian island of Sicily which the United Nations invaded on July 10th.

This is really the most ideal spot we have occupied yet. Our tent area is in a pleasant grove of olive trees among which the Sicilians also grow wheat. These provide enough shade to keep our tents enjoyably liveable during the day, and the intense heat of the tropical sun is greatly relieved by the soothing breeze that blow (censored) off the Mediterranean Sea across our base.

We live right at the foot of a steep and rocky hill that rises (censored).

The evenings, too, are really delightful. They are so different from those in North Africa where it was terribly hot in the day and cool — often chilly — at night. Here the nights are as pleasant as tomorrow's anticipation [illegible]il from home. It is not hot at all, and we sle[illegible]ry soundly and comfortably under one or two blankets.

The natives here are very friendly. They seem to be glad to have the Americans here. Up on the hill behind our camp live some of the better class families of this section. Roaming through the hillsides we have met and talked to them, and visited them in their homes. The hospitality we have received has been surprisingly genuine.

But with all of these new sights and experiences to interest the soldiers, they are still groping for an adjustment to the new way of life they are cast in. This was very obvious recently when our camp was visited by a traveling show put on by soldiers in an Air Corps outfit.

One of the acts was a memory test in which one of the performers showed amazing power of retention. He asked the soldiers in the audience to list on a blackboard twenty subjects that came most readily to their minds. Then after looking it over for 30 or 40 seconds he turned his back to it and as the audience would call out the numbers he would recite the subject written opposite that number.

With remarkable accuracy he named the subjects opposite each number asked for—and they were not asked in consecutive order, but more in a "scrambled" fashion. We all got a great kick out of it.

But what intrigued me most was the nature and scope of subjects that came first to mind. They reveal, perhaps, the subconscious thinking of men in arms, and indicate the scope of things that would make life in the army more nearly normal, or more easily endurable. Here are the twenty thoughts [illegible] by men in this squadron:

Scotch and Soda
Fatima
Pepsi-Cola
Herring
Hamburger
Gin Rickey
Ham Sandwich
"Finis"
Woman
Tondelao
"A" Train (NY sub)
Ice cream
Victory
"Pro"
Pail of water
Furlough
"C" Ration
Paramount Theatre
Medina
Lana Turner
MEDICAL DISCHARGE

At another camp it might be twenty different subjects, but it is a good bet that at least half this list would be duplicated by other units of soldiers throughout the combat area. You have to be a soldier for a while to understand what I mean.

Another one of our members is an "overseas father." This time it is Lt. Malone (Thomas N. Malone Jr., 24, of 5627 Tilman avenue, Detroit, Mich., adjutant of the service detachment with the 99th Fighter Squadron). He became the father of a 6 pound boy on May 30, although he did not receive the letter telling him about it until August 6, way over in Sicily. Such beaming and chest sticking out you never saw before.

(Editor's Note: First member of the squadron to become a father overseas was Sgt. Robert J. Chap[illegible]ontgomery, Ala., whose son was born on April [illegible] Mrs. Malone is the former Danis Johnson of Montgomery, Ala. They were married on October 31, 1942. Lt. Malone is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Malone Sr., of the same Detroit address).

If being in the combat zone has its hazards, it also has some advantages, such as a free package of cigarets every day for every man. These are provided by the Army and are issued along with the rations.

Love to all the folks at home, and tell them to write as often as they can. I miss you very, very much.

Your loving son,
JOE FIGHTER SQUADRON

AUG 7 1943
SEP 8 1943
SEP 18 1943

47a-1943

New Men Carry On For The Fallen

2ND LT. McCULLIN

1ST LT. WHITE

1ST LT. MITCHELL

2ND LT. GIBSON

2ND LT. BAUGH

2ND LT. TOPPINS

Since soaring into the Mediterranean skies in June [illegible] the Axis enemy, three pilots of the 99th Fighter Squadron have been listed as missing or killed in action. To fill these gaps and to relieve the "veterans" of many sorties against the enemy, 12 additions to the unit have joined the squadron.

Reported killed in action is First Lt. Paul G. Mitchell of Washington, D. C. Missing pilots, since July 2, following an attack on the Castelventrano Airfield in Sicily during the preliminary to the invasion, are Second Lt. James L. McCullin of St. Louis, Mo., and [illegible] Herman White Jr. of Macon, Miss.

Three replacements to the unit are Second Lts. Howard L. Baugh of Petersburg, Va., and Edward L. Toppins of San Francisco, Calif., who joined the squadron on July 26; and Second Lt. John A. Gibson of Chicago, Ill., who joined the fighters on August 5. A fourth early replacement is Second Lt. John S. Morgan of Cartersville, Ga.

Eight other pilots flew the Atlantic to take up duties with the squadron on August 15. They are Second Lts. Henry B. Perry of Thomasville, Ga., Robert W. Deiz of Portland, Ore., Edward T. Driver of Trenton, N. J., Clarence B. Mills of Durham, N. C., William H. Walker of Carbondale, Ill., George T. McCrumby of Fort Worth, Texas, Price D. Rice of Montclair, N. J., and Herman A. Lawson of Marysville, Calif.

Journal and Guide

A Noteworthy Change In Army Policy

Norfolk, Virginia

A SIGNIFICANT modification of Army policy, or at least practice, was formally announced last week, when Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy made known the program of training for Negroes as crews for medium bomber planes, the twin-engined Martin B-26, one of the finest of its type in the world. The War Department official emphasized that the training was to be in mixed classes, a departure from the initial plan of giving fliers segregated training as at Tuskegee. This is a democratic step.

Its feasibility was demonstrated in the officer candidate school program in every section of the nation. That colored and white men can fight together, as well as train together, and that a colored officer can command white officers and troops was brilliantly demonstrated in the activities of the 99th Fighter Squadron after it left this country.

Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., of the 99th was the senior line officer on board the transport which carried him to Africa last April. He was designated to pick a staff and report to the transport commander as executive officer, despite the fact that of the 4,000 troops aboard, less than 15 per cent were colored.

"After the first 24 hours or so of curiosity and wonder at this unusual staff of the transport commander, everything proceeded smoothly and without incident for the remainder of the 8-day voyage," Lt. Col. Davis commented Friday during a press conference in Washington.

"In relation to the 99th's experiences to date overseas, the young and able commander related: ". . . there was not a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader," and he narrated various experiences to prove the validity of this conclusion of his: ". . . .that a considerable bond exists among those who fly, regardless of color or race."

This is a good augury for the success of the training plan of the War Department for bomber pilots and crews. The high command of the Army has a positive viewpoint about this, as expressed by Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, who has said: "Everybody who goes to bombardier and navigator school will be used as bombardiers and navigators. They're not going to be used to cut paper dolls or play marbles."

The Army is going ahead, definitely, in making that branch of the service closer to the democratic ideal in its practices. As General [illegible] pointedly [illegible] in his recent report on Selective Service and its problems and accomplishments, the story is quite different with respect to the Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps.

In his words, a lot more remains to be done by those service branches before a proper utilization of American manpower is truly realized. They have done some liberalizing, but too little so far.

Benning Given First Negro Parachute Unit

Constitution

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The first Negro parachute unit in the American Army will be activated at Fort Benning, Ga., the War Department announced today.

Serving under Brigadier General Leo Donovan, commanding general of the Airborne Command, the unit is designated as the 555th Parachute Infantry Company.

The War Department has authorized General Donovan to select volunteers for an enlisted cadre from the 92d Infantry Division at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

After the first month's training at the Fort Benning parachute school, those qualifying will be assigned to their unit and will receive $50 monthly additional pay.

Atlanta, Ga.

Other new parachute units are in process of formation, the department said, and applications for that duty still are being accepted.

The War Department emphasized that parachute units have been used successfully in combat in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and the Southwest Pacific.

During recent maneuvers near Camp Mackall, N. C., an entire airborne division was landed in a single night-and-day operation, the Army said.

'Rochester' Visitor At Tuskegee Base

Montgomery, Ala.
Advertiser

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA. [illegible].—Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, famous radio and screen star, on tour of army camps, visited the Tuskegee Army Air Field and spent a half hour on the Tuskegee Institute Campus today, being received by Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, who told the famous actor that he was cordially welcome on the campus of the Institute.

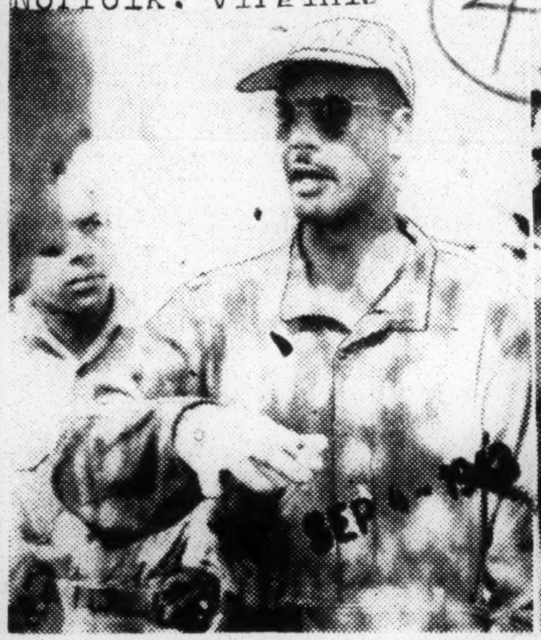
The noted radio and screen star visited the USO, the George Washington Carver museum and the Booker T. Washington monument. He [illegible]ssed himself as [illegible] with his visit to the [illegible]us and said he hopes that Mr. Benny and his entire cast may be able to visit Tuskegee Institute at an early date.

Relaxation Is Important To Sky Warriors After Mixing With The Enemy

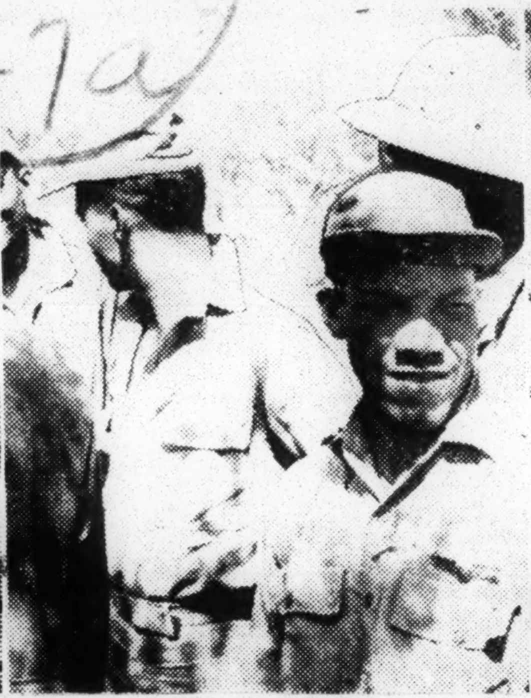
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

47a

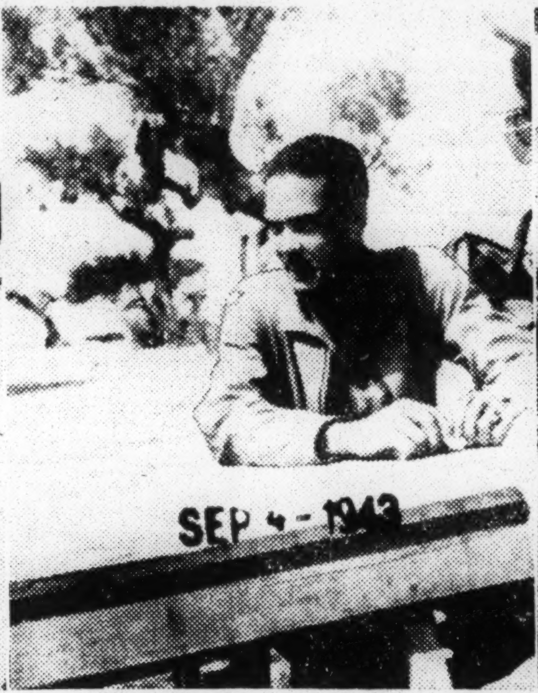
SEP 4 - 1943



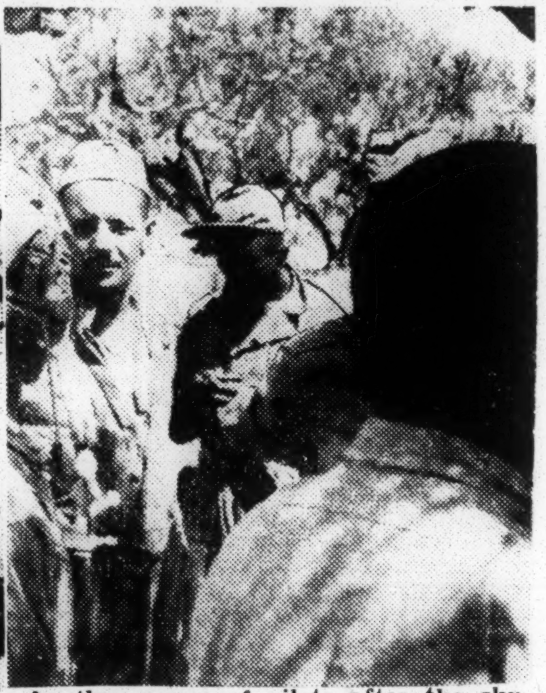
Lt. Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr., describes an aerial encounter with German planes by members of the 99th Fighter Squadron which he commands. The fliers have fought from North Africa and Sicily, performing notably.



A group of listeners includes 1st Lt. William A. Campbell, T[illegible]ee Institute; 1st Lt. Lee [illegible]ford, Washington, D. C., (head turned); and 2nd Lt. John W. Rogers, Chicago.



Lt. Colonel Davis, West Point graduate and son of the only Negro general in the Army, enjoys a bit of the humor [illegible]ing out of the dogfight. The squadron [illegible] at least one official victory and two probables.

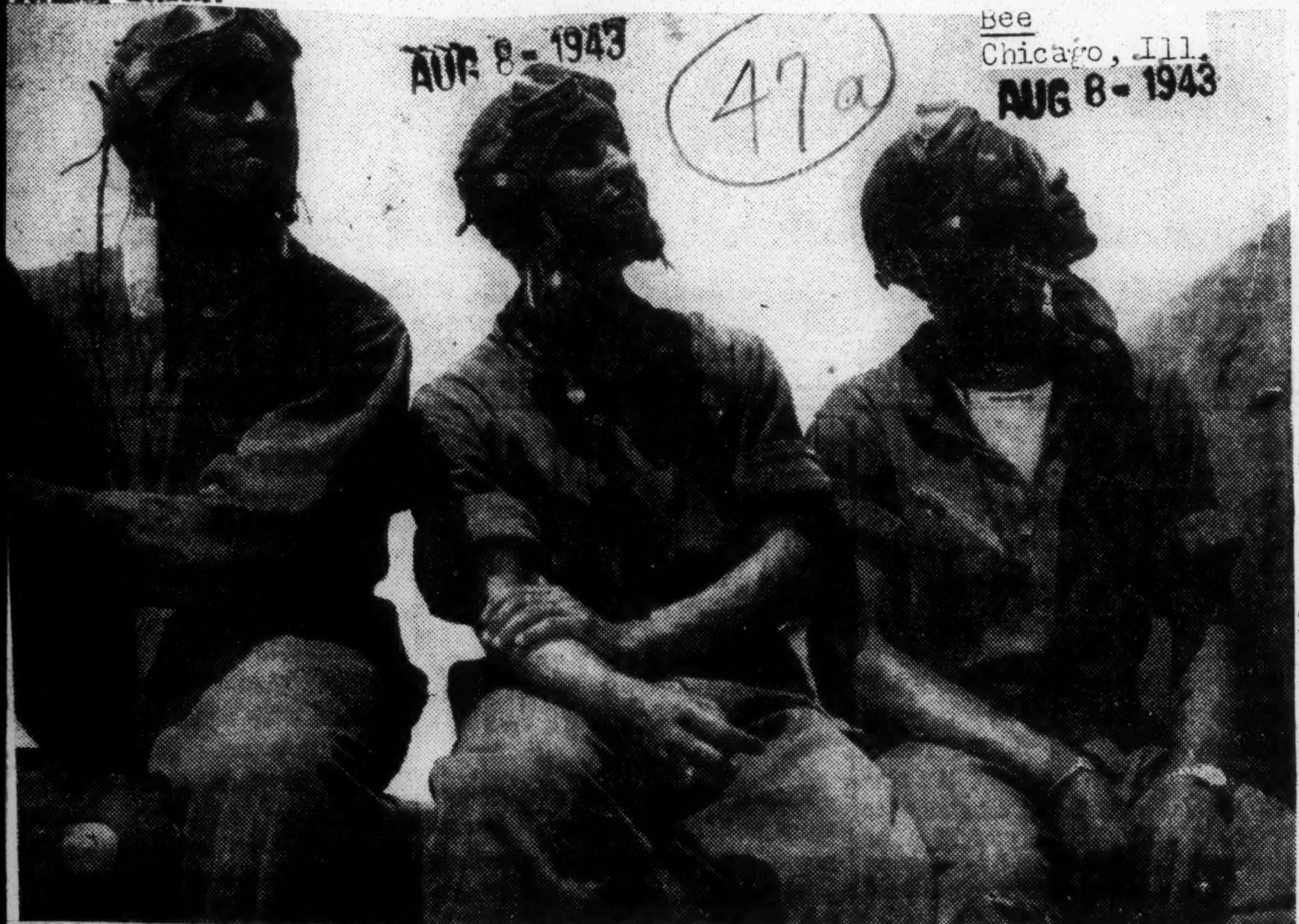


Another group of pilots after the sky-warring.: Looking towards the camera is 2nd Lt. Samuel M. Bruce of Seattle, Washington, [illegible]ormer A. and T. athlete. (Photos by Thomas W. Young, Journal and Guide war correspondent.)

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 8 - 1943

47a



CHICAGOANS GET WINGS — These three Chicago youths are among the nation's most recent flying officers. They received their "wings" at the recent graduation exercisies held at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Pictured from left to right, are: Second Lieuts. Harry L. Bailey, Cornelius C. Rogers and John Daniels.—Photo by Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Distinguished Service Medal Action

New York, N. Y.

Amsterdam News

47a

SEP 4 - 1943

During the Battle of Sicily, an intrepid member of the already famous 99th Pursuit Squadron came to the rescue of U. S. bombe[illegible]lanes w[illegible]hey were about to be attacked by Nazi fighters. Momentarily lost from his squadron, the youthful Negro aviator immediately made for the Nazi planes when he saw what they were up to, shot down two of them and caused the others to turn tail and flee. Then he returned to his base as if nothing had happened.

Army aviators have already predicted that the hero of the Battle of Sicily will be awarded a Distinguished Service medal for his valor under grave circumstances. He courageously attacked and dispersed the enemy while in extreme danger to himself.

Incidentally, the members of the 99th are among the best gunners in the world. In fact, other aviators declare that they si[illegible] canno[illegible] as good as they are, although they have prove[illegible]eir marksmanship time and time again.. (The others say they can't be so good not because they are colored but because the men of the 99th are breaking gunnery records like a good shot smashes clay pigeons in a shooting gallery).

One reason why the men of the 99th are such excellent gunners is that, when they had completed their gunnery course before they were sent abroad, the Army Air officials were faced with sending them on cross country hops where they would have had to stop at camps with white air corps officers. In order to prevent any association between the men of the 99th and white air corps officers, the 99th was ordered to continue gunnery practice. Therefore, they practiced gunnery so long and so much that they could shoot a speck off a fly's wing traveling at 300 miles an hour. When they went overseas, their extra gunnery training made them standouts among American aviators.

The success of the [illegible] of the 99th who shot down two German plan[illegible]d forced others to flee is a tribute to the courage and a[illegible]ity of every man of the 99th. We sincerely hope that the U. S. Government recognizes officially and publicly the heroism of the young fighter by awarding him a Distinguished Service Medal.

47a-1943

Air Force Head Can Use More Colored Flyers

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

AUG 21 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U. S. Troops in Sicily

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SOMEWHERE IN SICILY—(By Cable, Censored)—In a special interview this week for the AFRO, Major General Edwin A House, air force commander, had only praise for the fighting ability of the 99th fighter squadron, which has given German flyers over Pantelleria and Sicily much grief.

Said General House, "The colored fighter squadron has carried out its mission in superior manner and I am pleased to have them as members of this command. I expect these pilots to take their part in the final victory in Sicily."

More of our flyers would be welcomed over here, according to General House. Reports of injuries to Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, commanding officer of the unit, in a plane crash have been much exaggerated. Colonel Davis is in fine shape, with no sign of injury.

These flyers are ranging daily over the entire island, repeatedly striking at the area around Mount Etna and Messina.

When no reports of enemy planes shot down are forthcoming, the daily sorties are still important, and telling on the pilots.

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Every morning the boys are on line at daybreak to take to the air or be on the alert. The usual story when they return is "heavy flak over target area but few enemy planes sighted."

The job is often routine, but any mission may be one which a storm will break, so the boys are always keyed up.

I am still amazed at the efficiency of the ground crews. Not one life has been lost because of carelessness or oversight on the part of mechanics. These men deserve credit for every successful sortie.

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99 th Chieftian Authorizes More

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Money For Wife

Four Million Families Now Receiving Aid

SEP 21 1943

NEWARK, N. J.—(S-N-S)—Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., one of the heroes of the Sicilian campaign and organizer and first commanding officer of the famous Negro 99th Fighter Squadron, brought word to Newark, Saturday that a big factor in the high morale of the men at the front is the knowledge that their families are receiving their family allowances and allotments-of-pay regularly each month.

Colonel Davis has returned to employ his battle experience in training a larger fighter group.

GIVES WIFE MORE

Stopping in for a visit at the War Department of Dependency Benefits to authorize an increase in his allotment-of-pay to his wife, Mrs. Agatha S. Davis of 97 Carmel St., New Haven, Conn., Colonel Davis declared that 'the efficiency of the ODB in getting family allowances and allotments-of-pay to the dependents of our men in the service, is a major factor in the high morale which prevails.'

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Colonel Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, now living in Washington. He was graduated from West Point in 1936. In 1941 he transferred from the Infantry to the Army Air Corps, and in 1942 organized and trained, at Tuskegee, Alabama, the first all-Negro air squadron—the Fighting 99th.

ADDED INCENTIVE

Apprised of Colonel Davis' commendation, Brig. Gen. H. N. Gilbert, USA, Director of the ODB, pointed out that the millions of letters received by this activity of the Army Service Forces from soldiers and their families have brought the employees a realizatioin of their responsibility toward the Army and the nation.

SEP 21 1943

"But," he stated, "when returning heroes like Colonel Davis tell us that their men are better fighters because the ODB is doing its job well here at home, it is an added incentive to GET 'EM PAID."

The ODB does business with more than four million soldiers, administering monthly family allowances and allotments-of-pay on behalf of more than eight million dependents of Army men. By cable and radio the ODB receives authorizations for these benefits for the families of them stationed all over the world. And day and night, on two shifts, and on every holiday except Christmas, the employees of the ODB work to GET 'EM PAID.

SEP 21 1943

RACE BOMBERS TO FLY B-26'S, ARMY REVEALS

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Mixed Training Setup Upholds Hastie Argument

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The 'impregnable fortress' of the army air forces' jim crow policy, like Hitler's Europe, is about to be pierced! The first Negro cadets will enter training as bombardiers and navigators "within the month" along with white students, according to Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy.

The new plan for bomber crews will wipe out the segregated Air Corps training setup of long time standing. Mixed Negro and white students will go to school together, according to McCloy.

Whether the dropping of the Jim Crow policy in bomber training will affect the segregated Tuskegee Army Flying Field, where cadets are trained for pursuit ship fighting, is not known. However, it is expected to give new impetus to the campaign for more mixed units in various Army units.

Will Fly B-26's

"Within the month," McCloy said, "Negro cadets will be sent to either Fort Dodge, Kansas, or Del Rio, Texas, to start training in the B-26 transition school with the objective—command of B-26 airplanes (bombers).

"In December, Negro cadets will be trained as navigators and bombardier officers. They will be trained as such for 18 weeks, after which they will go to gunnery school. All this training will be with white students.

"To complete the crews of this medium bombardment group, which must be activated by [illegible] 1944, many Negro enlisted men are already in training all over the country. They are studying radio, aviation mechanics, electrical work and armor at Lincoln, Chanute, Lowry Fields and other air force installations, all with white enlisted men."

The unqualified statement that Negro and white air corps students will train and fly together marks a historic departure from the War Department's stubborn stand for Jim Crow air units.

New Setup Hailed

Negro leaders here and throughout the nation hailed with high enthusiasm the setup and saw in the change a victory for the long battle by Judge William Hastie, who resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War largely because of the insistent Jim Crow attitude of the Army air Command. On Feb. 18 he released a statement in wihch he said:

"If we want white and colored flyers in combat to get along well with each other, the best plan is to build mutual understanding and self-respect by training them together from the time they begin learning to fly. The worst plan is to keep them apart until they are forced together under the stress of circumstances in combat. Prejudice is based on ignorance. Let men get acquainted with each other in training and there is no great problem of their harmony later on.

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"All this has seemed simple and obvious to me. The Air Command, however, cannot see it. The Air Command is not even influenced by the fact that the ground forces have been training white and colored officer candidates together with excellent results ever since the beginning of the present army expansion.

"There are none so blind as those who do not want to see. And the Air Command just does not want to see the advantages of training white and colored flyers together. I believe this blindness will continue until public criticism and condemnation of the segregated training policy becomes so strong that it can no longer be ignored."

'Time' Says Army Not Satisfied With The 99th

SEP 22 1943

Commanders Said To Want Group For "Dirty Work"

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Outspoken "Time" magazine gives the lowdown on the actual position of the Negro in the war effort in its current issue. Speaking of the 99th Pursuit squadron, the magazine avers that the high command of the air force is not pleased with the work of the squadron, regardless of glowing reports from the front and that the same command has in mind placing the squadron on convoy duty abroad instead of permitting the men to develop as normally they would if given additional combat work. This does not interfere with plans for the organization of other unit shower.

SEP 22 1943

Speaking of combat units, the article continues and says that few area commanders abroad want Negro troops those that do accept them, want them only in small numbers compared with the whites; and then they do not want combat troops, they want engineers and laborers to do the "dirty work" for army of which there is a plenty.

Criticism is levelled at the war departmnt policy of separate training and units for Negroes. The article is of the opinion that no real value can be placed on the Ngro's worth as a soldier unless he is trained side by side with white troops. It ends with the question still unanswered, "which is the better soldier, the white or Negro."

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

RAF Paratroop Unit Has First Colored Private

NOV 6 1943

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON — The proudest Negro serving in the British army is Pvt. Charles Waterman, first of his race named as a paratrooper with the Canadian force training for the invasion of Europe.

Wearing his insignia of a parachute with wings on his chest and a shoulder badge marked "Airborne—Canada," Waterman arrived here last week on leave. The only colored member of the battalion, Waterman was born in the West Indies but settled in Toronto where he worked as a furrier, and in spare time made a reputation as an amateur boxer.

NOV 6 1943

He took part in the semi-final golden gloves contests in New York in 1940. Waterman says that boxing is excellent training for paratroop operations. He explained that only a small part of the operation is concerned with actual dropping from a plane.

Like all colored boys serving as pilots in the RAF, Waterman is very proud of his wings, obtained after eight months' training. He expressed the hope of meeting Joe Louis when the champion visits England for his proposed exhibition bouts.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Army

Operating from Foggia They Strafe Nazis

With New Outfit Share Equally in Rations and Missions

NOV 13 1943

DECISIVE CLASH IS EXPECTED SOON

Lt. Bill Campbell Explains Results of Dive Bombing

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ALLIE[illegible]—(By Cable, Ce[illegible])—[illegible] ever wondered how it feels to take part in dive-bombing missions? Then listen to 1st Lt. Bill Campbell of Tuskegee, who has just told me somethine of such tactics. Said Lt. Campbell:

"All our fellows get a tremendous kick on dive-bombing snows. You approach the target in formation and peel off to strike at terrific speed. Usually you don't see your bombs land, but you may see the results of bombs from man diving ahead of you.

"If the target is a small town or garrison, little houses seem to jump into air after the bombs hit them."

Activity Plentiful for 99th

The 99th Fighter Squadron is getting plenty of activity blasting railroad junctions, coastal shipping, troop concentrations and convoys. Dive bombing is unglamorous because the lads see no enemy aircraft and get no chance to increase their score of planes shot down.

However, the work is necessary and the high command has praised the squadron for its splendid co-operation with ground forces, who attack after the enemy is demoralized by plane activity.

Now With 8th Army

The squadron is happy despite bad weather, and is attached to a group that gives it every opportunity to make a good showing. Our pilots s[illegible] equally [illegible]cations, missions and entertainment. The group is one that began fighting with the British at Alamein and has been with the Eighth Army since. Thus the 99th is now part of the Eighth Army air army.

The enemy is reported strongly entrenched in mountains north of Foggia and indications are that strong resistance[illegible]xpected in what[illegible] soon be a [illegible]sive clash.

Playing Important Role

Details of the daily operations cannot be released, but every time a new objective or town is reported captured, all of us know our lads have helped pry the Germans loose from another piece of Italian soil.

Special credit [illegible]o the medical detachment, under Capt. Maurice Johnson, which does emergency work on the spot and keeps us healthy now that the rains have come.

Service is Constant

Surgical and dental technicians are carried and ambulance service maintained on the field at all times.

The crew includes [illegible] Arthur Gooding, [illegible] York; [illegible]. Joe Davis, Savannah, Ga.; Sgt. Oswald Braithwaite, Memphis; Pfc. Ruby Jackson, New Orleans; Pfc. Carlton Sufford, Carters Grove, Ala.; Cpl. Elmer Acree, Denton, Md.; Cpl. James Abrams, Macon, Ga.; Pfc. Howard Cunningham, Columbia, S.C.

There are known as the men behind the men who keep planes in the air.

Bomber Pilots Get Wings

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Tuskegee Graduates Men To Pilot B-25 Bombers

NOV 13 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The first Negro pilots in the history of the U. S. Army Air Forces to receive the coveted silver wings of twin-engine bomber pilots were commissioned second lieutenants at graduation exercises held in the post chapel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Wednesday morning, November 3.

Included among the initial group of Negro bom[illegible]ilots, who represent[illegible] eigh[illegible] states, are 2nd [illegible] Henri F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; 2nd Lt. Perry Hudson Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; 2nd Lt. Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; 2nd Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; 2nd Lt. Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lt. William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.; 2nd Lt. Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.; 2nd Lt. Herman R. Campbell Jr., New York City; and 2nd Lt. Haldane King, of Jamaica, N. Y.

This group of flyers will report to Mather Field, Calif., where they will undergo transitional bomber training in B-25 Mitchell bombers.

ADDRESS BY FATHER OF 99TH PILOT

T. M. Campbell, field agent, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and father of 1st Lt. William Campbell, first of the all-Negro fighter squadron to bomb the Axis, delivered [illegible] address to one of the largest aud[illegible]s ever to witness a graduation at this base.

Mr. Campbell, who has two sons in the armed forces and a daughter in the WAC, pointed out to the new flying officers that, "the courage, skill and precision, which you have exhibited during your period of training here will not only be of great inspiration to those following in your footsteps but will command the respect and admiration of both races of people in this immediate community, this state, this region, this nation and other parts of the world where you may chance to go."

CADET HONORS

The three top-ranking cadets of the class were awarded prizes emblematic of their all-around excellence as potential officers in the Air Forces. First honors were awarded to 2nd Lt. Leslie A. Williams, former student at the University of California.

Second honors went to 2nd Lt. Edward M. Thomas, former Chicago postal clerk, while 2nd Lt. Harvey N. [illegible]kney, who attended Morgan Co[illegible] [illegible]prize.

SINGLE ENGINE PILOTS

Cadets completing their training and commissioned as single engine fighter pilots comprised a majority of the class and included representatives of eight states and the District of Columbia.

Listed among the single engine graduates are the following second lieutenants: Gwynn W. Pearson, Oakland, Calif.; James B. Brown and William Thomas, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roger B. Brown, Glencoe, Ill.; Oscar D. Hutton, Emory L. Robinson, and Edward M. Thomas of Chicago, Ill.; Alfred Q. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, N. Y.; Charles W. Dickerson, and Theodore H. Mills of New Roch[illegible] N. Y.

Hugh St. Clair [illegible]ner, New York City; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Ivey L. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls, Texas; Earl S. Sherard, Columbus, Ohio; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Paul C. Simmons Jr., Detroit, Mich.

A PERSONAL NOTE

Augusta, Ga., Herald
December 26, 1943

GEN. MARK CLARK CITES NEGRO AIRMEN

Now on the verge of entering the New Year, the noteworthy achievements of Negroes in the war during the year should make us all feel some degree of pride. As the days and weeks and months came, according to reports from the many fronts in this global war, the Negro men serving Uncle Sam—on land, in the air, and on the high seas—have given a good account of themselves. Marked deeds of heroism have been performed by them—to which The Herald has called the attention of its readers from time to time.

From the Fifth Army, now on the war path in Italy, now comes news that a resourceful Negro anti-aircraft battalion that accounted for two German bombers, even before the unit became the first American Negro combat force to land on European soil, has been cited by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, for "outstanding performance of duty" in its "baptism of fire."

This unit, the 40th Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion, already had the distinction of being the first Negro combat body to land in North Africa. And these troops were aboard ships in Naples harbor when German bombers began an attack on shipping massed in the bay.

Aboard one vessel, the soldiers had been selected to man 40 m.m. weapons that were part of the ship's armament. Because of the position of the hostile aircraft, the main anti-aircraft defenses of the ship could not be maneuvered to produce effective fire. An enemy bomber was picked up by searchlights, however, and the American crew was soon pumping shells at the target.

Several hits were observed—the last of which appeared to tear off the right wing of a Nazi plane. The enemy bomber crashed into the sea. As the story goes, on a nearby ship that was carrying other personnel and equipment of the battalion, a Negro Master Sergeant from Detroit, jumped into a deck-loaded truck and opened fire with a .50 calibre machine-gun mounted on the cab. A second bomber, struck by the Sergeant's shots, plus other fire being put up from the ship, also crashed into the sea.

Thus, within a few moments, the colored troops accounted for the destruction of two Nazi bombers—which definitely weakened the enemy's raid on harbor shipping.

And so in commending the Negro troops, General Clark declared: "I am proud of the outstanding performance of duty of these soldiers in this baptism of fire. Their conduct was excellent and reflects the training and discipline of their unit. The Fifth Army welcomes such soldiers."

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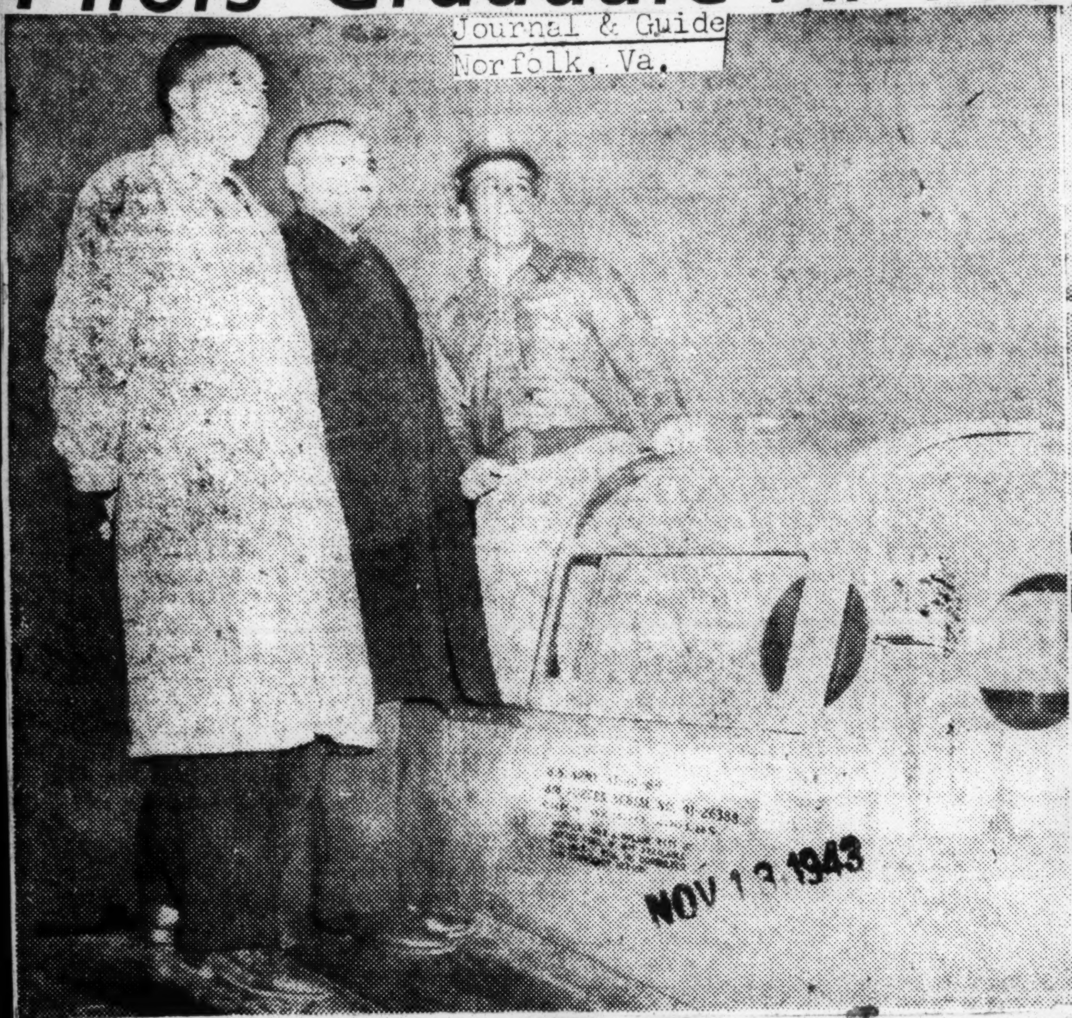
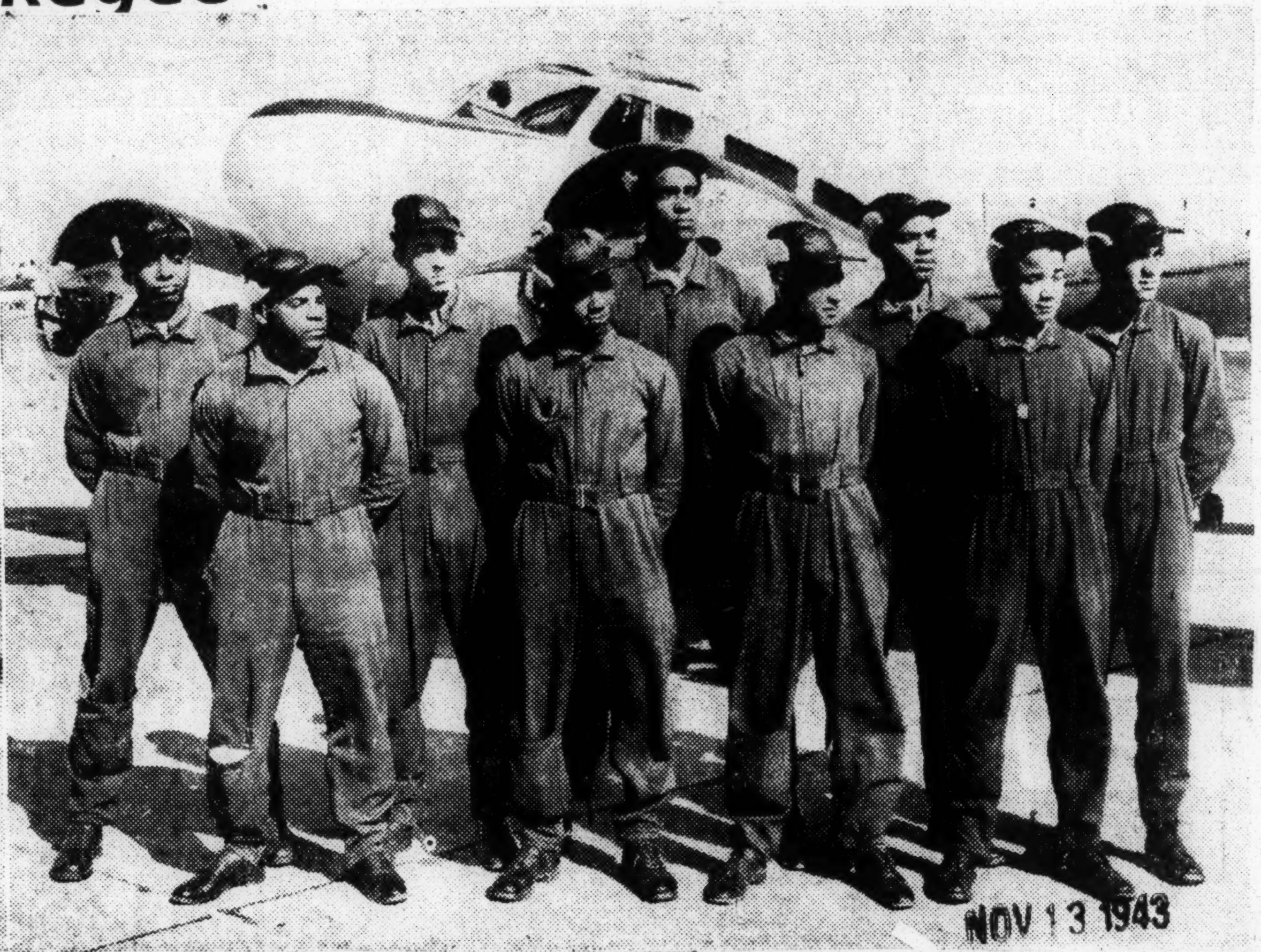
First Class Of Twin-Engine Bomber Pilots Graduate At Tuskegee

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.



NOV 13 1943



NOV 13 1943

Fond memories of thrills from pioneer flying days were rekindled for two aviation "old timers," at the Tuskegee Army Air Field when Dr. Albert E. Forsythe of Atlantic City, N. J., (center) visited his old flying chum, Charles Anderson, chief flight instructor at the 66th Army Air Forces Flying Training Detachment (left). Lt. Cassius A. Harris III, of Philadelphia, Pa., (right), accompanied the pioneer pilots on their tour of the modern Army planes at Tuskegee base. Dr. Forsythe and Mr. Anderson were the first of their race to make a transcontinental trip to Haiti in the early thirties.

At the latest graduation exercises held Nov. 3, at the Tuskegee Army Air field, the first class of Twin Engine pilot trainees received their wings and commissions.

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The recently commissioned 2nd Lieutenants, shown l. to r. are Herman R. Campbell, Jr., New York, N. Y.; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Perry E. Hudson Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; Haldane King, Jamaica, N. Y.; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago, Ill., Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md., William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.

Going over a last minute checkup of the cockpit procedure to be undergone in the At-10 Twin Engine Trainer before the take-off are 2nd Lieutenants Herman R. Campbell, New York, in the pilot's seat; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J., in the co-pilot's seat, and William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass., peering over the shoulder of the pilot. In the background surveying the scene is 2nd Lieutenant Harvey N. Pinkney of Baltimore, Md. Standing on the wing in the foreground is 2nd Lieutenant Haldane King. All the flying officers shown in the picture are recent graduates of the Twin Engine School of Flying at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. (Photos by Tuskegee Army Air Field).

NOV 13 1943

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Officers of the 332nd Fighter Group Air Corps Now Based at Selfridge Field, Michigan, Under Command of Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

OCT 30 1943

LT. ELMER L. GORDEN
Portsmouth, Va.

LT. EVERETT W. JOHNSON
Philadelphia, Pa.

LT. ARMOUR G. McDANIEL
Martinsville, Va.

LT. PETER C. VERWAYNE
New York [illegible]

LT. SAMUEL L. FULLER
Norfolk, Va.

LT. ALVIN WILLIAMS
Boston, Mass.

LT. BASCOM S. WAUGH
Camden, N.J.

LT. JAMES Y. CARTER
Winston-Salem

LT. CLAUDE B. GOVAN
Newark, N.J.

LT. EUGENE D. WEAVER
Philadelphia, Pa.

LT. JOSEPH A. CHRISTMAS
Durham, N.C.

LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON
Olney, Md.

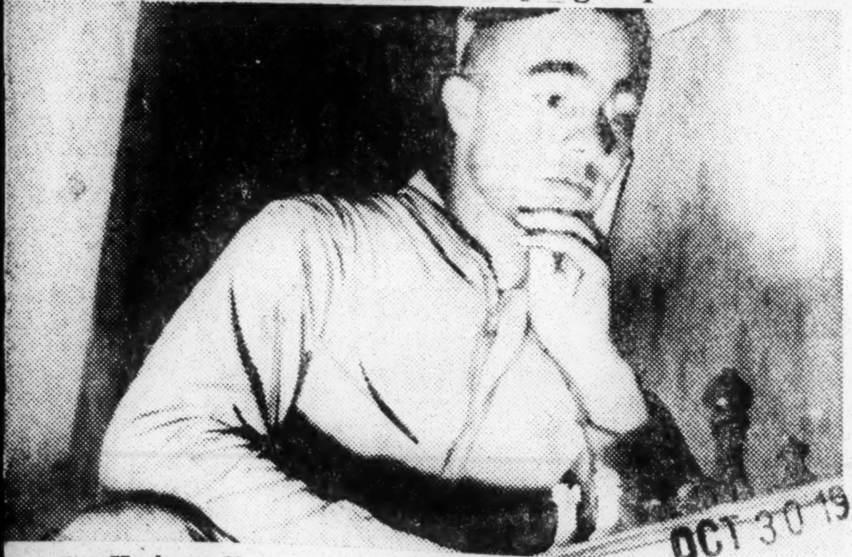
LT. BENJAMIN D. JONES
Philadelphia, Pa.

LT. MILTON R. BROOKS
Glassport, Pa.

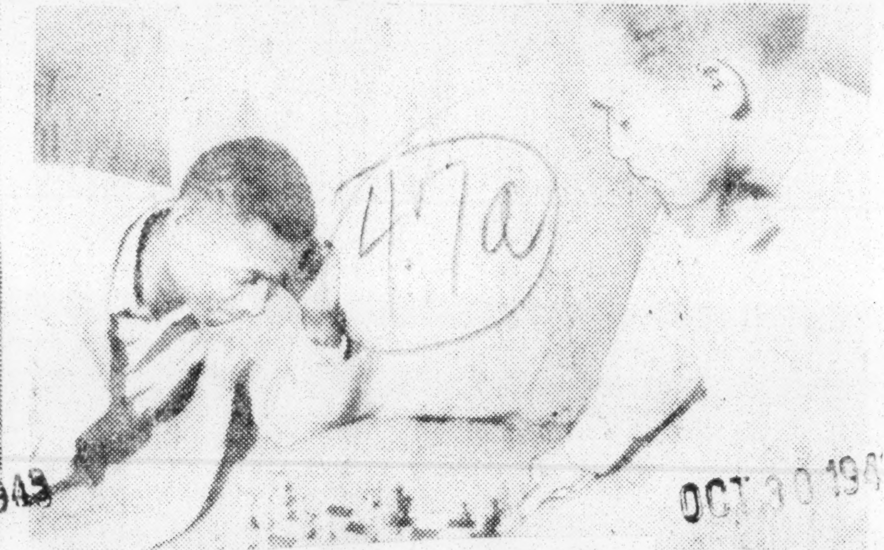
LT. JAMES M. McFATRIDGE
Huntington, W.Va.

LT. VERNON V. HAYWOOD
Raleigh, N.C.

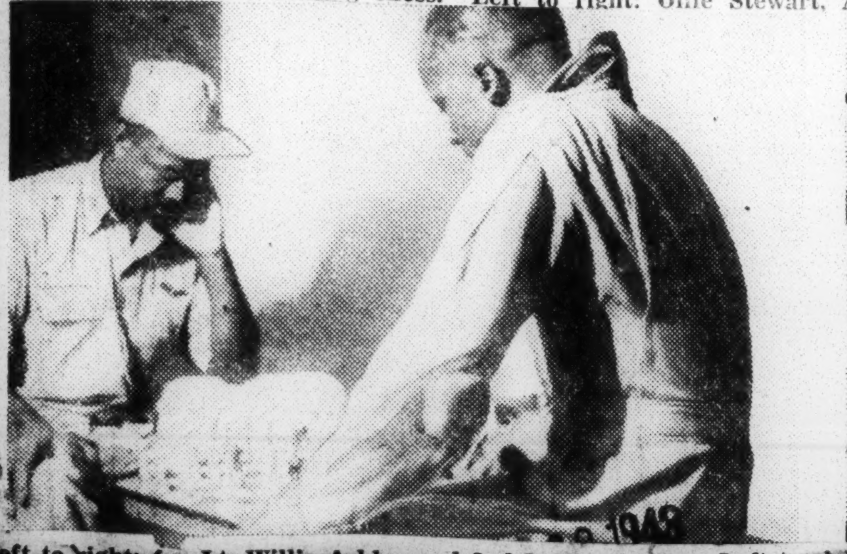
What Soldiers of the 99th Flying Squadron Do in Italy in Their Spare Time. The Games Are Chess, Pinochle and Bridge



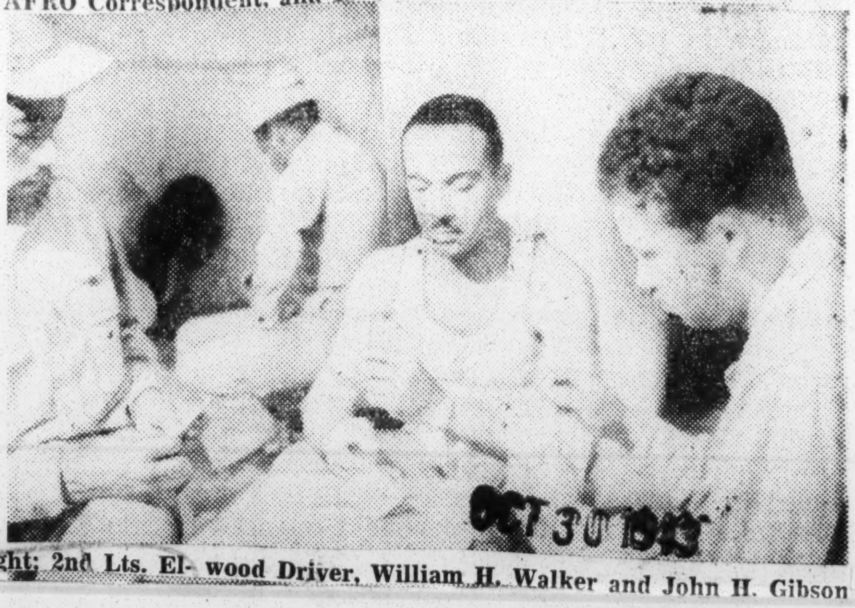
1st Lt. Herbert Clark playing chess.



Left to right: Ollie Stewart, AFRO Correspondent, and 1st Lt. James T. Wiley.



Left to right: [illegible] Lt. Willie Ashley and 2nd Lt. P. D. Rice.

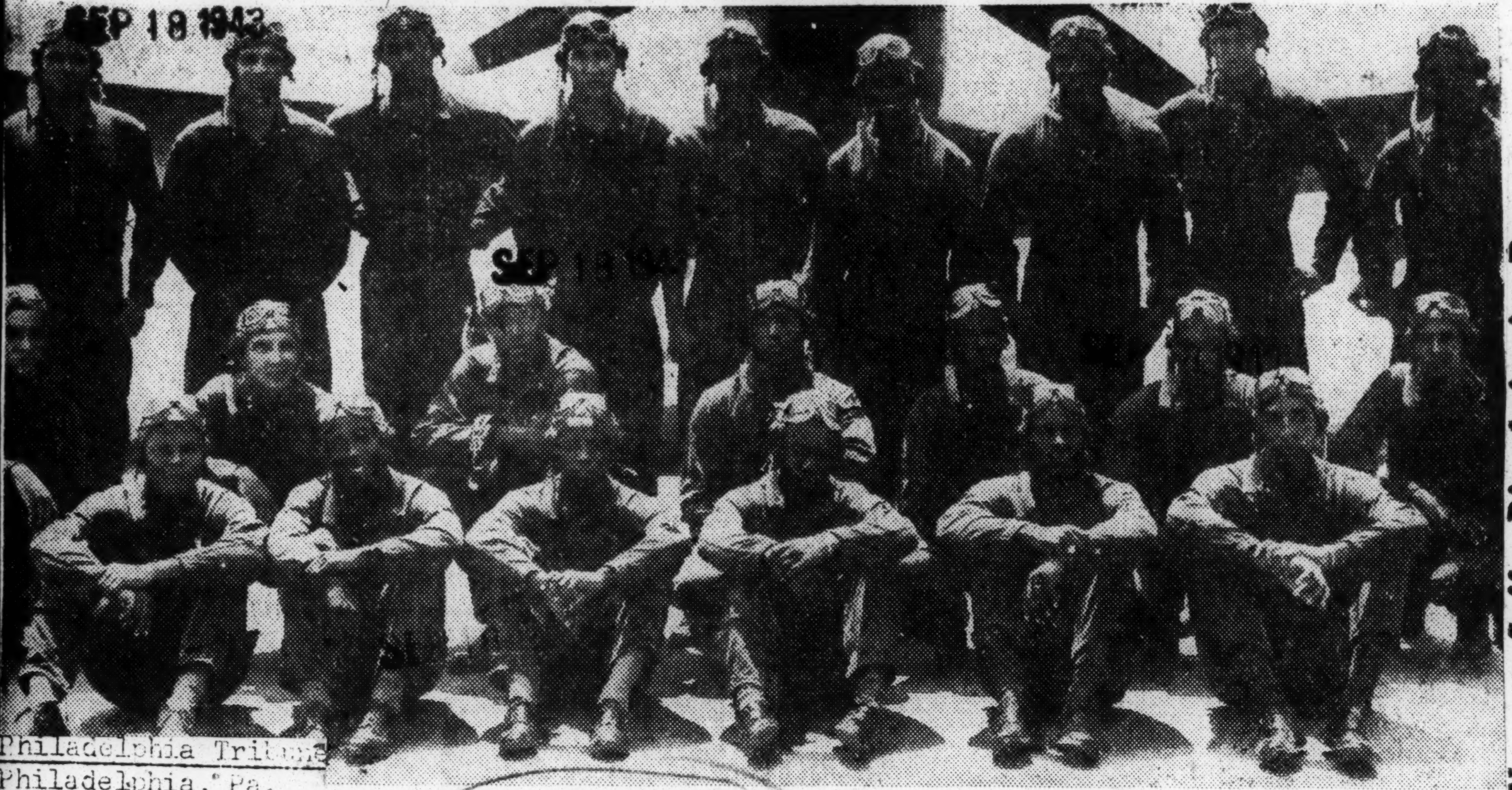


Left to right; 2nd Lts. Elwood Driver, William H. Walker and John H. Gibson

47a-1943

Fighters Ready For Action

SEP 18 1943



Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Pictured above is the most recent contingent of pilots to wear the wings of the Army Air Forces. Shown from left to right are: 1st row, 2nd Lts. Carroll S. Woods, Valdosta, Ga.; GEORGE A. TAYLOR, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hubron R. Blackwell, Baltimore, Md.; Edward W. Hill, Narransett, R. I.; Smith W. Green, Los Angeles, Calif.; and Hubert L. Jones, Denver, Colo.

2nd row, 2nd Lts. Charles W. Tate, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Willard L. Woods, Los Angeles, Calif.; Starling B. Penn, New York City; Leon Purchase, New York City; Everett A. Bratcher, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; Samuel Jefferson, Galveston, Texas; and Harry J. Daniels, Indianapolis, Ind.

3rd row, 2nd Lts. William B. McClenic, Akron, Ohio; Alton F. Ballard, Pasadena, Calif.; Roger Romine, Oakland, Calif.; Floyd A. Thompson, London, W. Va.; Alix Pasquet (Haitian Air Force), Port-au-Prince, Haiti; Norvell Stoudmire, St. Louis, Mo.; Bernard Jefferson, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Andrew H. Doswell, Cleveland, Ohio; and Charles A. Dunne, Atlantic City, N. J.

'An Indispensable Arm.'

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 29 1943

47a

THE 99th fighter squadron continued in Sicily, the brilliant successes that characterized its efforts in North Africa. Its commanders have termed these valiant Negro airmen as "an indispensable arm" of their outfit.

These young Negro airmen are writing a continuous series of glorious chapters to the total saga of America's intrepid flying men. Upwards of 300 sorties were inflicted on enemy positions since the arrival of the "99th" in North Africa and Sicily.

This "softening" up work made the ultimate task of the ground forces in North Africa and Sicily incalculably easier.

Lt. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis and his command were cited in a recent War Department communique for, "its mission of bombing Axis communications and supply columns in Sicily."

The skilled training, personal courage and high degree of resourcefulness in battle is evinced by the fact that in the recent report only two flyers from the squadron have been reported missing, Lt. Sherman W. White and [illegible] James B. McCullen.

Rarely in [illegible] history of air combat with a record of 300 battles, has a squadron accomplished so much with a parallel minimum of casualties. When Hitler's "Fortress Europa" begins to fragment under the ceaseless impact of allied air power, we are confident that when the history of the accomplishment is disclosed, the 99th fighter squadron will more than ever merit the citation "An indispensable arm" of their outfit.

STIMSON PRAISES 99th ON RETURN HOME

Weekly Review

(BY ERNEST E. JACKSON)

AUG 14 1943

47a

WASHINGTON, — [illegible] — (ANP)—Negro [illegible], quartermaster and anti-aircraft units were warm-praised for their work in connection with the preparations for the Sicilian invasion, some of whom were actual participants when Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson discussed his 13,500 mile inspection trip to the European and North African theatres of operations at his press conference last Thursday. Birmingham, Ala.

The secretary was in good spirit, and a bit jocular as he answered the questions of reporters dealing with progress of the war, his trip, and sundry other items.

During his journey he [illegible] Negro troops in England and others in North Africa, and had occasion to personally meet Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commanding the 99th pursuit squadron, now stationed in Sicily.

Accompanied by Maj. Gen. John Lee Stimson inspected several of the colored units and found what he called an "interesting situation" in which the men were "workingvery vigorously and getting along well togeher with all troops." He had no comment to make, as to whether there had been any reports to the contrary.

In Africa he said he had seen a unit of engineers which had previously served in Liberia in the construction of the Roberts Airfield, said to be the largest in the world.

"That unit performed very valuable work on the construction and repair jobs at the North African ports from which the invasion of Sicily was undertaken," he said. "Furthermore, [illegible] Negro quartermaster units [illegible] excellent wor in the [illegible], and some of thes troops [illegible] actually with th landing forces in Sicily."

Obviously his statement of th quartermaster unit that was in the landing force was in answer to a question submitted inquiring for additional information regarding the news photo of a Negro soldier rushing up the beach at Gela.

"I personally met Col. Davis of the 99th, which is now stationed in Sicily," the secretary said. "He flew over to Tunis to meet me." Stimson recalled his earlier statement of a few weeks ago that the squadron is [illegible] "creditable work." He also revealed that a colored anti-aircraft unit is in Africa.

AUG 7 1943

Skilled Negroes Suffer Discrimination By Army Air Forces, Says NAACP In Protest

New York, N. Y. — Age

Specific cases in which skilled Negroes are being denied opportunity for training and technical service i nthe Army Air Forces are cited by Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, in the most recent protest of the NAACP against racial discrimination in the armed forces.

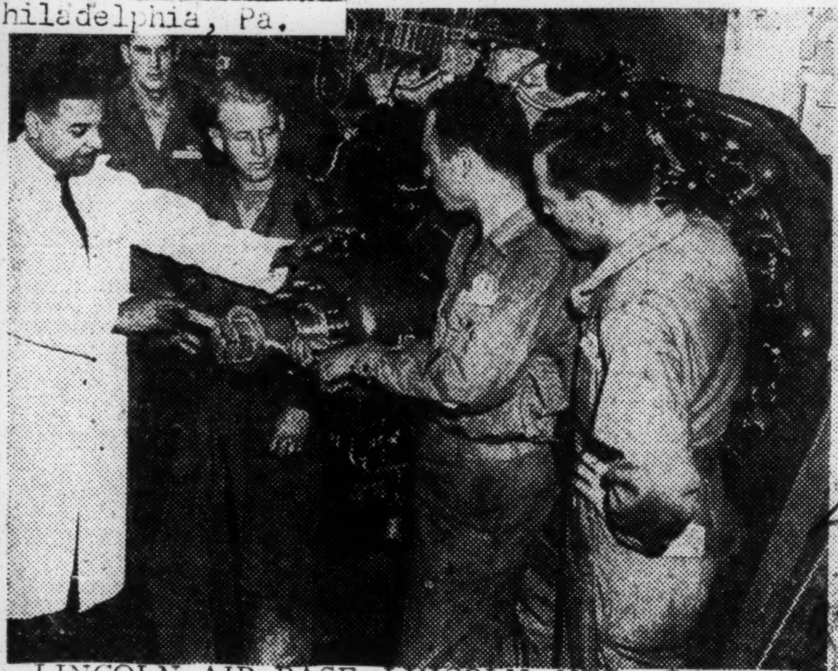
In one case, it is pointed out that four Negro enlisted men of the air corps, one the top man and all-ranking students in their class in photography, were rejected for advanced training leading to higher ratings and commissions in this field, while white classmates whom they had out-ranked were selected. The pretext for this discrimination was the charge by one of their officers that Yale University, where the advanced training is offered, "is not ready to accept Negroes."

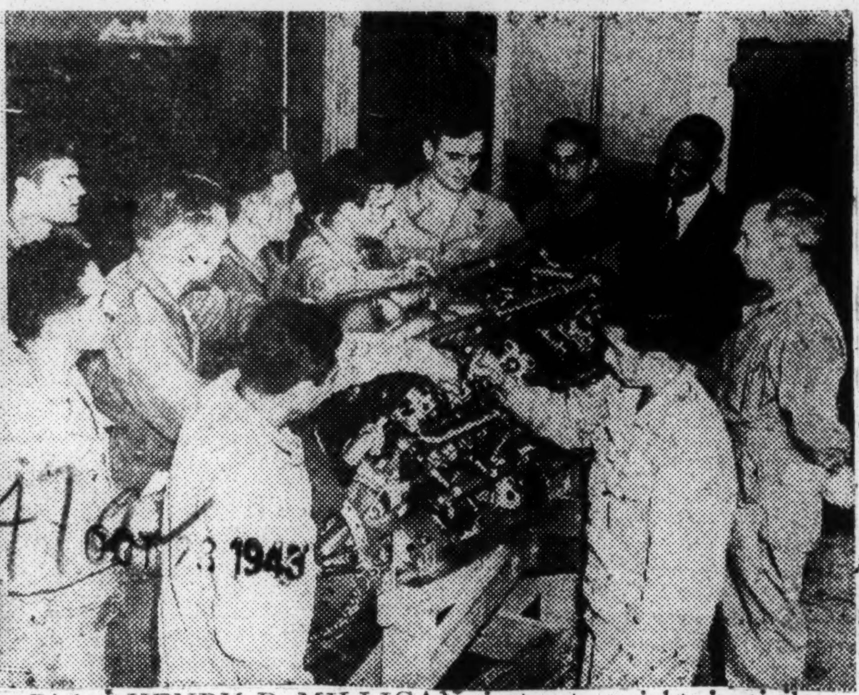
Mr. Wilkins also cited the case of a Negro soldier, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of a leading university, with advanced study in biology and bio-chemistry, who was first denied assignment to laboratory work in an army hospital, then especially trained as an air corps armourer, and finally sent to an air field to work as a laborer.

In presenting the matter to Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy, Mr. Wilkins thus summarized the position of the NAACP by stating: "While the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks for remedial action in the cases above cited, we are even more concerned that by more careful and frequent checks and inspections, and by disciplinary action against particular commanders as may be merited, the War Department actually enforce a policy of assigning, training and advancing the skilled Negro soldier on the basis of his merit and potential usefulness, rather than wasting and demoralizing [illegible] as is all too often the case at present."

Air Forces Use Colored Instructors

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.





LINCOLN AIR BASE, LINCOLN, NEB.—Colored instructors are teaching at the Army Air Forces Training School here.

Left: Details of a Pratt Whitney airplane are being explained to students by LLOYD M. WILLIAMS, extreme left, Kansas City, Mo., graduate of Southern University, Kansas State Agricultural College and Bradley Polytechnical Institute.

Right: HENRY P. MILLIGAN, instructor, right, in civilian attire, is teaching the functioning of an airplane engine on a "cutaway" model at the Army Air Forces Technical Training School, here. Milligan is a graduate of Langston University, and received his training in aircraft engines at Amarillo Field, Texas. —(Photos by U. S. Army Air Forces.)

OCT 23 1943

Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., Commander Of 99th Pursuit Squadron, Brought Back From Africa For Duty With New Negro Fighter Group

Back From War Front

Age
New York, N. Y.

Lt. Col. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Jr.

ARLINGTON, Va.—Ordered back to this country for duty with the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich.. Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, jr., commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron which saw service [illegible] the African, Sicil[illegible] and Italian invasions, told the editors of 20 Negro newspapers at a War Department conference in the Pentagon Building, Friday, that Negro pilots in the air force are no longer regarded as an experiment as result of the exploits of the 99th overseas.

Commander of the 99th from August 27, 1942, until September 2, 1943, Col. Davis traced the history of the squadron as "an experiment to determine whether the Negro pilot was physically, mentally and emotionally suited to the rigors of combat flying."

He said that all members of the squadron were "impressed at all times with the knowledge that the future of the Negro in the Air Corps probably [illegible] be dependent largely upon the manner [illegible] which they carried out their mission. Hence, the importance of the work done by this squadron, the responsibility carried by every man be he ground crewman or pilot, meant that very little pleasure was to be had by anyone until the experiment was deemed an unqualified success."

For himself he said the pleasure of commanding the squadron "was realized when it became apparent that the 99th Fighter Squadron had taken and could maintain its proper place in the Northwest African theatre of operations. Very little pl[illegible] existed prior to that time."

Declaring [illegible] the publicity of the segregated aspects of the Tuskegee Airfield had a profound effect upon the individual members of the 99th, Col. Davis said that while the members felt hurt that the training station at Tuskegee Army Airfield "was being regarded by some persons outside the military establishment [illegible] being a discrimi[illegible]y felt that the best means to "defeat the end of supporters and philosophers who delegated him (the Negro) to a subsidiary role in the life of the United States, was to do his job in such a way that the world would know that he was capable of performing a highly specialized and technical piece of work in a creditable manner."

The fact that the unit was an experiment, Col. Davis said, became a challenge to the men and he declared that "every man in the 99th will go through any ordeal concocted by combat or garrison existence to assure the successful completion of the experiment. At all times every man realizes that the pleasures and relaxations that are available to men in other organizations are not available to him because his task is far greater, his responsibility is much heavier, and his reward is the advancement of his people."

No Segregation Abroad

The segregation against the 99th Squadron in the United States, Col. Davis said, was not practiced overseas. "From the time this squadron left the continental limits of the United States, and that was on April [illegible] 1943, [illegible]esent time, there has not been a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader," he declared.

On their arrival in Casablanca, the squadron was sent to its base in French Morocco where the men experienced, for the first time, the thrill of flying brand new airplanes. Their instructor was Lieutenant Col. Philip Cochran — the Flip Corkin of "Terry and the Pirates" cartoon fame. On May 31, the squadron took off for the Cape Bon Peninsula, and action.

"I personally believe," said Col. Davis, "that no unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th Fighter Squadron. We were weak in one respect only and that was simply that the squadron commander — myself — and the flight commanders had had no actual combat experience....On the other hand, this deficiency was balanced by the fa[illegible]at [illegible] averaged about [illegible] hours in a P-40, and a young pilot in these days who has 250 hours in a P-40 before he goes into combat is a hard man to find."

Escorted Bombers

First mission of the 99th was over Pantelleria and later it escorted bombers to Sicily and Sciacca, Italy. After the fall of Sicily, the squadron spent its time training replacements that come from the United States. On September 2nd, Col. Davis received orders assigning him to the 332nd Fighter Group and left for home.

For the time being, Lieut. Colonel will be stationed at Mitchell Field, Long Island, at headquarters of the 1st Air Force, of which Selfridge Field, Mich. is a part, and when he leaves Mitchell for Selfridge he will be stationed with the 332nd Fighter Group, composed of three squadrons of [illegible]o fighter pilots. If named [illegible] commander, he will probably be promoted to the rank of full Colonel.

SEP 18 1943

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Pilots Report On Successful Battle With The Enemy In Sicily

47a

AUG 21 1943

AFTER AIR BATTLES with the enemy, members of the 99th Fighter Squadron, now taking part in the Sicily action, report to an intelligence officer on their latest mission. Above a group of serious looking pilots are making such a report. It is this group of pilots who are making history for the Negro pilot which has caused the Jim Crow bars to lessen in the Army Air Corps, (we will soon have Negro and white cadets training as navigators and bombardiers). These are the men in actual combat which the Tuskegee Army Air Field paid tribute to a fortnight ago as the All-Negro air base celebrated its Second Anniversary.—Official U. S. Army Photo.

In Tunisa With Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

Weekly Review

BY Pvt. IRWIN SHAW

The following article appeared originally in "Yank" the army weekly, it is being reproduced by the Associated Negro Press through special arrangement with Yank).

AUG 28 1943

TUNISIA —It was sunny on the Mediterranean and Pantelleria looked like a small dark stone struck in the shining blue sea 8,000 feet below the six P-40's droning along on an afternoon patrol. The fighters had been ordered to take off from their African field to sweat out an hour and some minutes of cover over the invasion of Sicily.

47a

Lt. G. W. Dryden of New York City was leading the flight. His squadron, in action for only three weeks had bombed Pantelleria in the furious air push toward Italy and at other times had escorted bombers. However, as de from a little wild flack loosed by the forlorn gun crews on the island, the outfit had never known trouble.

Birmingham, Ala.

The litutenant scanned the wide empty sky and looked around to make sure the flight was tucked in neatly behind him. He looked at his watch and noticed that the patrol was nearly over.

Behind him the big engines filled the bright salt air with their deep steady noise. Then, through the earphones clamped on his head, over the wild and howling crackle of aircraft radios, came the voice of the air observer on Pantelleria: "Unidentified aircraft approaching the island."

Lt. Dryden wheeled and the flight wheeled behind him. They went out looking for trouble.

Behind Dryden were Lt. Leo Rayford of Washington, D. C.; Lt. Willie Ashley of Sumter, C. C.; Lt. Spann Watson of Hackensack, N. J.; Lt. S. P. Brooks of Cleveland, Ohio, and Lt. Leon Roberts of Pritchard, Ala. They settled tighter in their seats and tensed a little against the pull of the big engines, because there was a fight coming up and all their long hours of training, all the studying and all the sweat and misery of earning their wings and learning how to fight were either fianlly going to pay off or not pay off on this calm blue afternoon.

They went up to 12,000 feet as the sitll unseen plane dodged in over the sea, trying to avoid detection. Suddenly from out of the sun the Messerschmitts and the Focke-Wulfs dove. There were 12 of them, screaming down the peaceful air, and behind and above them were 12 bombers, come to lay waste the precious airfield below.

Roberts saw the planes pouncing, looking with their pale paint againts the bright sky like white puffs of ack-ack. He wheeled and the rest of the flight wheeled with him, but they had been taken off balance, and it was impossible to maintain company against the Germans, who were coming down in loose formations of twos at 450 miles an hour.

The P-40 is a comparatively slow plane and its fighting has to be defensive, because the Messerschmitt ,with its superior speed, can pick the angle and time attack. But the P-40 has one advantage; it can make tighter turns. The flight yanked hard on their controls and turned into the German onslaught.

Dryden, after his turn, found himself far out beyond the edge of the melee ,with the bombers passing sedately 5,000 feet above his head. So he roared up above them and then dove down across the tail of the formation, spraying them as he went, and continued right down into the dobfight below.

Three of the P-40's were making a lufberry, a slow, spiraling circle in which each plane protects the other's tail. From that defensive circle, like covered wagons gathered around a square against Indians on the plains, the defenders can shoot out as the enemy speeds around on the outside. Dryden shook a Focke-Wulf on his tail and snugged into the lufberry, circuling, firing his guns as the **Germans flicked across his sights.**

Leo Rayford was having troubles of his own. To FWs kept at him, and when he turned into one, the other would get a burst in at him. One burst hit and his right wing shuddered as a 20-mm cannon shell exploded there. Rayford was fighting grimly, taking the long gamble against the two Germans, when Spann Watson appeared on his wing from nowhere. Watson opened up at long range. He hit the outside German and the two planes broke away out of the fight.

At the initial turn Willie Ashley's plane had gone into a spin and he'd lost considerable altitude. When he pulled out, he started spiraling up to rejoin the others. Suddenly ahead of him he saw another plane on the loose. He edged in to investigate. It was a Focke-Wulf.

AUG 28 1943

Ashley got in good and close before letting go with his entire works. He saw that his tracers were going too far in front, so he cut down on the lead until he saw the tracers hitting home. He sprayed the German from end to end, and it began a long smoking glide toward the sea.

The pilot followed the falling German plane as far as he dared, but the air behind him was still full of machine-gun fire and spitting planes. He wheeled and climbed to make sure there was no one on hsi tail, and when he looked down once more there was no sign of the German. Ashley climbed to rejoin the flight.

The six American planes spiraled in formidable procupine formation, and the German fighters left off and sailed toward Italy. Meanwhile the jittery enemy bombers had jettisoned their loads into the sea, without attempting a run over the island. and were making for home.

Once again the P-40s joined company front, flying wing to wing in extended horizontal order, and resumed their patrol over Patelleria. A few miuntes later they were relieved and headed for home, flying [illegible] formation of Sp[illegible] coming out to carry on the daylight virgil over the island.

There is nothing very new in this story. Six untried pilots from a squadron new to action meet the enemy and do rather well against him, beating off superior forces without loss to themselves and with probably loss to the enemy. They finish their patrol, alive with new confidence, and fly home to dinner. It must have happened time and time again in this war to thousands of fighters. There is nothing new —except that all the pilots are Negroes and the entire squadron, flyers and ground crew, commanding officer and buck private, are Negroes.

Over the Meditteranean six Americans of this race for the first time in history fought for their country in an aerial battle against the enemy.

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the squadron, who flies with his men, was graduated from West Point in 1936. He is 30 years old, tall and wiry, and has that peculiar tenseness you find among flyers. Son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, now on duty in the ETO the colonel formed the squadron himself and bears the large weight of responsibilty.

He has told his men that he's not interested in commanding just another squadron. He wants a crack outfit or nothing.

AUG 28 1943

47a

BOMBARDIERS TRAINING

To Fly B-25 Bombers

St. Louis, Mo.
Argus

NOV 19 1943

47a

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The third and final step in the training of Negroes as bombardiers has been taken with the announcement by the Army Air Forces that Negro navigation cadets now in training at Hondo Army Air Field, Texas will serve the dual function of navigator and bombardier.

Upon the successful completion of the navigation course, the cadets will be assigned to a school in the Central Training Command for bombardier training.

At the same time the War Department announced that twelve Negro flying officers, the first Negroes [illegible] receive wings as twin-engine pilots, have been assigned to the B-25 transition school at Mather Field, California, where they will study the operation of B-25 bombers, the proposed basic arm of an all-Negro medium bombardment group.

Names and addresses of the nine second lieutenants selected from Tuskegee Army Air Field, follow: Herman R. Campbell, Jr., New York, N. Y.; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; Perry E. Hudson, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, New Jersey; Haldane King, Jamaica, New York; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago, Illinois; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.; and Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.

The flying officers from Selfridge Field are: Second Lieutenants Daniel James, Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; Charles I. Williams, Lima Ohio; and James Y. Carter, Winston Salem, N. C.

NOV 19 1943

A Progressive Trend

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

AUG 21 1943

47a

The training of Negro bombardiers and navigators by the Army Air Corps is another important advancement of the race in the nation's fighting forces. That Negro youths are fully qualified for such high positions in the Air Corps goes without saying, for [illegible] since the colonists fought for freedom in the Revolutionary War Negro men in this country have been in the vanguard of its best fighters.

Although Negro Americans haven't been granted absolute equality in our armed forces, they have made real strides since World War Two was started. In 1939, there were only about 13,000 Negroes in the Army. Today, there are about 700,000. While there were only two line officers four years ago, there are now more than 1,000. A little over a year ago Negroes were accepted in the Navy only as messmen. Today, black and white naval gunners man the guns on our fighting ships side by side. Barred from the Army Air Corps until 1941, at this very minute Negro aviators are having dog fights with Nazi pilots over Sicily.

The race still has far to go before it is granted complete opportunities to serve their country in its fighting forces equally with white men. Its very record, if [illegible]ing else, should have resulted in it being granted an equal right to serve in all capacities long ago. Nevertheless, it has made genuine progress in the past few years—more than ever before. We salute our bombardiers and navigators in-the-making. They will carry on as efficiently and courageously as Negro Americans have always done in every war our country has fought.

AUG 21 1943

Tuskegee Graduates Another Flying Class

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

AUG 6 1943

47a

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — In perfect cadence to the stirring notes of the "Air Corps Song," Class SE 43-G filed into the new theater building Wednesday, July 28, at the Tuskegee Army Aid field to receive their wings and commissions as single engine fighter pilots in the Army Air Forces.

This contingent of airmen became Tuskegee's most recent group of flyers to complete the arduous pilot training course and become flying officers in the Air Corps.

They were addressed by Roger F. Gordon, field director, of the American Red Cross at the Tuskegee Army Air Field who advised them to, "Meet the next stage of your training and the trials that are to follow with the same purposeful determination, the same optimism and the same faith that have to this point crowned your efforts with success."

Mr. Gordon, who proved to possess a keen insight into human nature further admonished the graduating cadets that, "Yours then is a dual responsibility. Your nation expects of you a stellar performance; and because of its peculiar situation with that nation your race demands it. For as you raise the wings of your P-40 into the flame-infested sky of some foreign land, the fate, the future and the prayers of thirteen million Negro American ride with you."

Immediately following the main address by Mr. Gordon, the graduates were presented commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the field. Wings were awarded the graduates by Major Donald G. McPherson, Director of Training at the post.

Student officers receiving wings were Second Lieutenants John Daniels of Chicago, and William B. Ellis of Washington, D. C.

Among those receiving wings and commissions were: Second Lieutenants Lee Andrew Archer, New York City, Harry L. Bailey, Chicago; William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Samuel Lee Curtis, Yeadon, Pa.; William W. Green, Staunton, Va.; George B. Greenlee Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga.; Jack D. Holsclaw, Spokane, Wash.

Daniel James Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati; Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles; James W. Mason, Monroe, La.; Eddie A. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss.; William R. Melton Jr., Los Angeles; Robert H. Nelson Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Maurice R. Page, Los Angeles; Cornelius G. Rogers, Chicago.

Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia; Lowell C. Steward, Los Angeles; Elmer W. Taylor, Pittsburgh; Alva Newte Temple, Carrollton, Ala.; Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta; Robert H. Wiggins, New York City; Leroy Shelton Williams, Roanoke, Va., and Beryl Wyatt of Independence, Kas.

Haitian Wins Wings

Also completing the pilot training course and receiving wings and a certificate wthe first foreign student at Tuskegee, Sgt. Raymond Cassagnol, Haitian Air Force, Port au Prince, Haiti.

Cadet honors for all around excellence as cadets were Lee Andrew Archer of New York City, Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Cal., and Daniel James Jr., of Pensacola, Fla. Lt. James was a flight instructor at the Primary Flying Field, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., prior to accepting appointment as an aviation cadet.

The graduating class will undergo a short period of transitional instruction and then be assigned to a tactical organization for further combat training.

Air Crash Brings Death To Tuskegee Flight Instructor

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

AUG 14 1943

47a

TUSKEGEE INST., Ala.—George L. Washington, General Manager, 66th Primary Flying School, Tuskegee Institute, officially announced today the death of civilian instructor, Norman DeWitt Gray, Jr., of Springfield, Illinois. Instructor Gray was killed instantly last Friday afternoon, July 30, 1943, at 4:15 P. M. when the ship flown by a solo student collided with the ship in which he was flying (with one of his students).

Mr. Gray was born February 2, 1920 in Natchez, Mississippi. His early years in Springfield schools were spent in Springfield, Illinois where he received his [illegible] and High school education.

In September, 1938, Mr. Gray, desiring to further prepare himself for future accomplishments, entered Jackson College in Jackson, Miss.

When the Civilian Pilot Training Program came into effect, Mr. Gray was among the enthusiastic young men who enrolled for this special course. He completed his flight training in Chicago and received his commercial license, Instructor, C. A. R., Engine and Ground Ratings.

In May, 1943, Mr. Gray came to Tuskegee Institute with a prospective view toward becoming a Flight Instructor at the 66th. After completing the Refresher Course and successfully passing the Army check flight, he was assigned a quota of students to begin instructing on May 21, 1943. At this time also, he was issued the Army Air Corps Certificate of Proficiency.

For those of us who knew Gray his loss will be kneenly felt. He is survived by a father, Mr. Norman D. Gray, Sr., two [illegible], Vivian and Dorothy of Springfield.

He passed [illegible] performing duty of training military pilots for the U. S. Air Corps and may be therefore considered as having made the supreme sacrifice in the defense of his country.

AUG 14 1943

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The General Inspects

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OCT 16 1943

Brigadier General B. O. Davis, Sr., of the Inspector General's Department, and Truman Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, shown doing a week's inspection tour of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich. Left to right, Gen. Davis, Col. Robert R. Selway, Jr., Officer in charge of all Fighter Groups at the Field, 1st Lt. James Pughsley, adjutant; Captain George L. Knox, Operations officer and Mr. Gibson. The sergeant in the back is not saluting—the sun is in his eyes.

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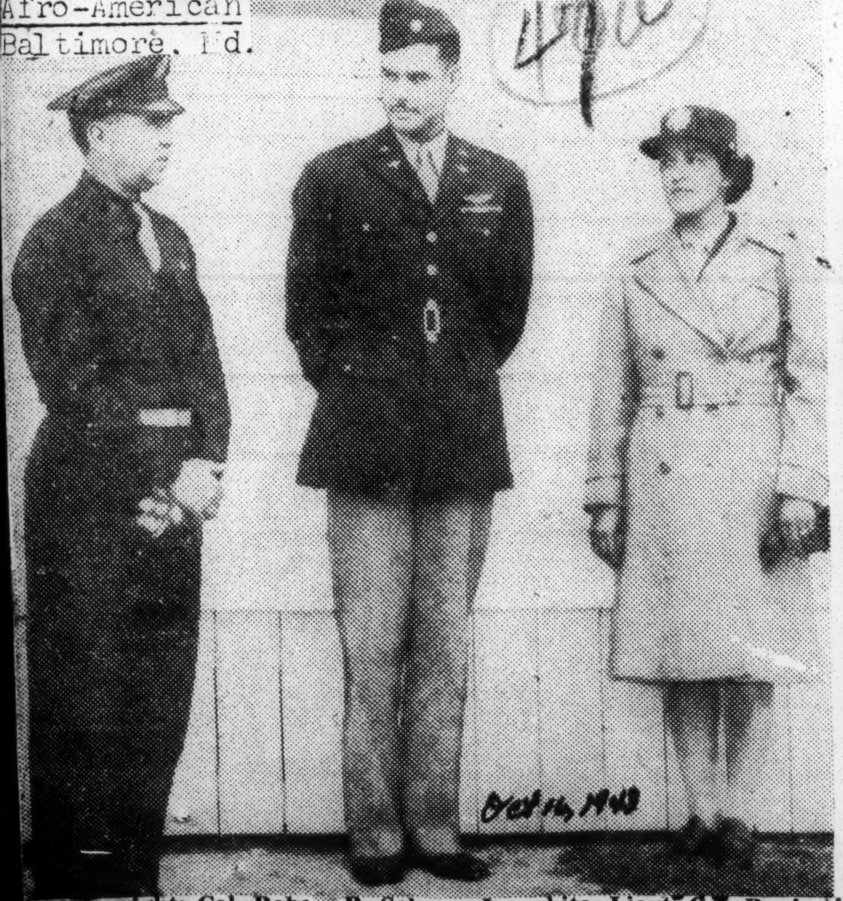
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

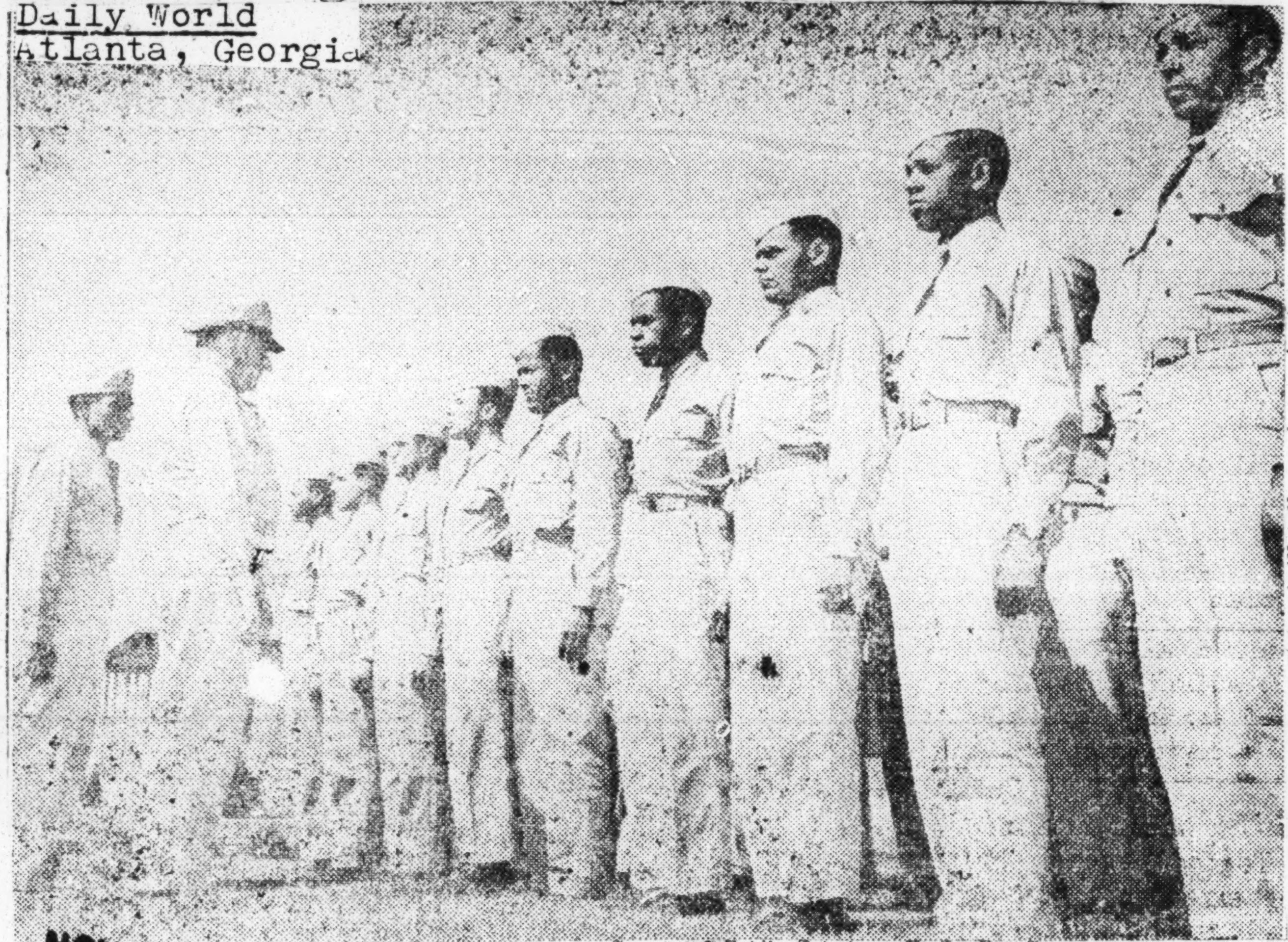


Oct 16, 1943

Left to right: Col. Robert R. Selway, Jr., white, Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., now commanding officer of 332nd Fighter Group, and Harriet M. West, Women's Army Corps, at Selfridge Field, Mich.

First Navigators At Texas Airbase

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Department

FIRST NEGRO NAVIGATORS arrive in Texas Airbase. The 30 smartly disciplined members of Squadron 10, first Negro unit to report for navigation training at Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Texas, are shown being inspected shortly after their arrival at the huge navigation airbase. The inspecting officer is Captain Frank H. Sheffield, senior tactical officer of the school's Group III. To Captain Sheffield's left is Navigaton Cadet Arnold W. Galimore, flight marcher for the unit. (Photo by Army Air Forces)

NOV 1 1943

47a

Colored Boys to Fly This B-26

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Acting Secretary of War John J. McCloy announced Thursday that colored airmen will soon be flying the B-26 shown above as navigators and bombardiers.

The plane is made at the Martin factory in Baltimore. It is a medium bomber of midwing monoplane design. Construction is all-metal monocoque. The landing gear is a retractable tricycle type.

The power plant consists of two Pratt and Whitney 18-cylinder engines rated at 1850 horsepower. The propellers are Curtiss automatic electric, four bladed, full feathering with diameters of 13 feet 6 inches. The gross weight of the plane is 26,625 pounds. Provisions are available for a crew of five.

Races Train Together at Selfridge Field

Afro-American

OCT 16 1943

No Discrimination in Dining Room or Theatre

332ND ANXIOUS TO GET AT ENEMY

Two Fighter Groups, Quartermaster and Service Units There

By Staff Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—There is a real All-American setup at this field. White and colored officers eat in the P-X dining room, attend the base theatre, and train together without discrimination.

A white group, the 403rd Fighter Squadron, is attached to the 332nd Fighter Group "to be of whatever service it can in training the flyers for combat duty."

There are actually four outfits here and at Oscoda, a gunnery school about 200 miles away.

Two Service Units

There is a quartermaster outfit that recently arrived here. It is an air base squadron whose duty it is to serve the needs of the base. They clean up, drive trucks, cook and serve tables.

There is also the Ninety-sixth Service Group which keeps the planes flying. The planes are kept in tip-top shape by these soldiers and they also perform many other duties.

Then the 332nd Fighter Group which has three squadrons of flyers and more. There are a number of flyers over the group quota who are training right along with the regulars.

Boys Want Action

These flyers have their own ideas (which are quite unofficial) as to when they are going over, and they will tell you in a minute that they believe and hope that it won't be long.

They want to get over and do their part. Here is how one flyer puts it:

"It is just like getting a knife good and sharp. The first thing you want to do is to try it out on some one or something. That is what we want. We have had quite a bit of training and now we want

OCT 16 1943

to try it out on the Japs and Germans."

OCT 16 1943

These flyers are not afraid. They are daredevils. They don't mind fighting but they want to return to a better world after the war is over.

Flyers from Tuskegee

The flyers who are sent to this field come from Tuskegee where they have learned to operate a plane. They learn operational flying, how to work with a group and to fly in formation.

This camp was established on July 4, 1941, and pilots began arriving shortly after that. It was not until May 20, 1943, that the 332nd was actually organized by Col. R. R. Selway. Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., took command of the outfit last week.

Virginians Die In Plane Crash

LT. WILLIAM WALKER

LT. LeROI WILLIAMS

Two Virignia Pilots Die In Midair Crash

OCT 23 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Planes Collide During Flight At Selfridge Field

Special to Journal and Guide

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — Two Negro pilots, both natives of Virginia, were killed at 3:10 p. m., Thursday, October 14, in the midair crash of two single seat P-39 Airacobras. Their bodies were burned beyond recognition in the accident two miles northwest of Selfridge Field, and three miles northeast of Mt. Clemens, Mich.

The [illegible] to earth in flames [illegible] of several motorists.

The pilots were 2nd Lt. William H. Walker of Suffolk, Va., and 2nd Lt. LeRoi Shelton Williams, 221 East Harrison avenue, Roanoke, Va., both of the 100th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group, now in training at Selfridge Field. They were on a routine training flight.

Lieutenant Walker's mother is Mrs. Braddy Walker, General Delivery, Suffolk, Va. Lieutenant Williams' mother is Mrs. [illegible]delia Shelton Williams, [illegible] Harrison avenue, [illegible]anoke, Va. Their fathers are deceased. Both were unmarried.

LT. WALKER

Lieutenant Walker was born January 20, 1919, in Keysville, Ga. He was educated in East Suffolk public schools, at Nansemond Institute, and St. Paul's Polytechnic Institute. [illegible] the Army as an aviation cadet April 9, 1942, he took flight training at Tuskegee Army Flying School, Ala. He reported to Selfridge Field with the 332nd Fighter Group March 29, 1943.

LT. WILLIAMS

Lieutenant Williams was born July 30, 1919, at Roanoke, and was educated in schools there and at Hampton Institute. Prior to reporting to Selfridge Field, on August 30, 1943, he had taken nine months of flying training at Tuskegee Army Flying Field, Ala.

THE THIRD VIRGINIAN

The deaths of these two pilots make the third Virginia Negro flyer to die in a crash on a routine training flight within the past six months. Lt. Sidney J. Moseley of Norfolk, who [illegible] at Tuskegee Army Flying School on May 11, was the first.

Lt. Moseley died within less than 30 days after receiving his wings, having graduated on April 29, with the largest class the school had ever turned out. He had also recently been married.

Full military honors were to be accorded both flyers at funeral rites scheduled to be held this week.

Funeral services for Lt. Walker were scheduled to be held Wednesday afternoon at three o'clock at the Macedonia AME Church, Pine street, Suffolk, with the Rev. Dr. J. Alvin Russell, of St. Paul Polytechnic Institute, Lawrenceville, Va., officiating. The Rev. E. B. Bowling is pastor of the church.

Lt. Walker's body was accompanied from Selfridge Field by Lt. Verwayne of the 332nd Fighter Group who was also making preparations to secure a guard of honor from Fort Eustis, Va.

THREE SISTERS, FOUR BROTHERS SURVIVE

In addition to his mother, Lt. Walker is survived by three sisters: Mrs. Louise Thomas, of New York City; Mrs. Myrtis Roper, Suffolk; and Miss Ruth Walker, also of Suffolk; four brothers: Pvt. Porter Walker, now stationed somewhere in the South Pacific; Pvt. Quilla Walker, of the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md.; and Joel and Shaver Walker, both of Suffolk.

Lt. Theodore Wilson, also a native of Roanoke, Va., accompanied the body of Lt. Williams to his native city where funeral services, with full military honors, were scheduled to be held Thursday afternoon at three p. m. at the First Baptist Church, Roanoke. The pastor, the Rev. A. L. James, D. D., was to be the officiating minister.

Lt. Wilson also brought messages of sympathy to he bereaved family from members of he 100h Figher Squadron and he 332nd Fligh Group a Selfridge Field. A military escort consisting of six white officers from the Woodrum Air Transport Field near Roanoke, was present for the rites. A Douglas transport plane from Woodrum Field was scheduled to circle the cemetery during the interment rites at Lincoln Park Cemetery.

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Active pallbearers were: Messrs. Albert Macklin, Thomas Coleman, Gilbert March, Edwadr Wright, and Thomas Croan. Members of the Addison High School faculty served as honorary pallbearers.

Flower girls were: Janette Turner, Margaret Wilson, Sallie Terrell, Iris Saunders, Hazel Hall, Mary Curtis, Elizabeth Howard, Elnora Petty, Ruth Lash, Marie Taylor, Elizabeth Batts, and Janie Grantham.

In addition to his mother, Lt. Williams' survivors include: Corporal James T. Williams, Camp [illegible]lis, Ill.; Capt. Eugene Williams, Hampton Institute, Va.; Prof. H. H. Williams, Hampton Institute; Mrs. Virginia Williams and Mrs. Edna Geraldine Williams, Roanoke.

Report 99th Successes In Hard Sicily Fighting

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 21

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.— Successful participation by the 99th Fighter squadron in the air battle over Sicily was given official cognizance in a War Department communique this week.

Praise for the work of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis and his command "in its mission of bombing Axis communications and supply columns in Sicily," was couched in the announcement, which followed on the heels of a revelation that the Negro outfit has emerged from upward of 300 sorties on enemy positions since its arrival in North Africa early in the summer.

While it is next to impossible to determine the exact number of battles in which the former Tuskegee squadron has been engaged, it is known that these include well over 300. The skill of the men and the coordination which marks their efforts are attested to by the fact that only three have thus far failed to return on schedule.

Two Now Missing

Of this number, one, 1st Lt. Sherman W. White, was reported missing by the War Department since July 2. A second, Lt. James B. McCullin, is also missing. The only other flyer to fail to return on schedule, however, showed up six days after being downed in the Mediterranean by a Nazi plane. He was Lt. William Bolling, of Phoebus, Va.

Lt. White, 22-year-old Macon, Miss., lad, failed to return after a mission during the fall of Pantelleria, first of the Italian island strongholds projecting into the Mediterranean to be taken by the Allies. His mother, Mrs. Nettie B. White, lives near Wetumpka, Ala.

The War Department communique also lauded other Negro troops which have seen action in the North African theatre. Special mention is made of "the efficiency of the ordnance and supply units in North Africa from the moment of their landing on the shores of Gela."

These units consist of airbase security squadrons, whose work it is to take over, rebuild and help defend all air bases captured from enemy hands. Also included in this category are quartermaster and truck commands which race supplies to the front lines for use by the fighting units.

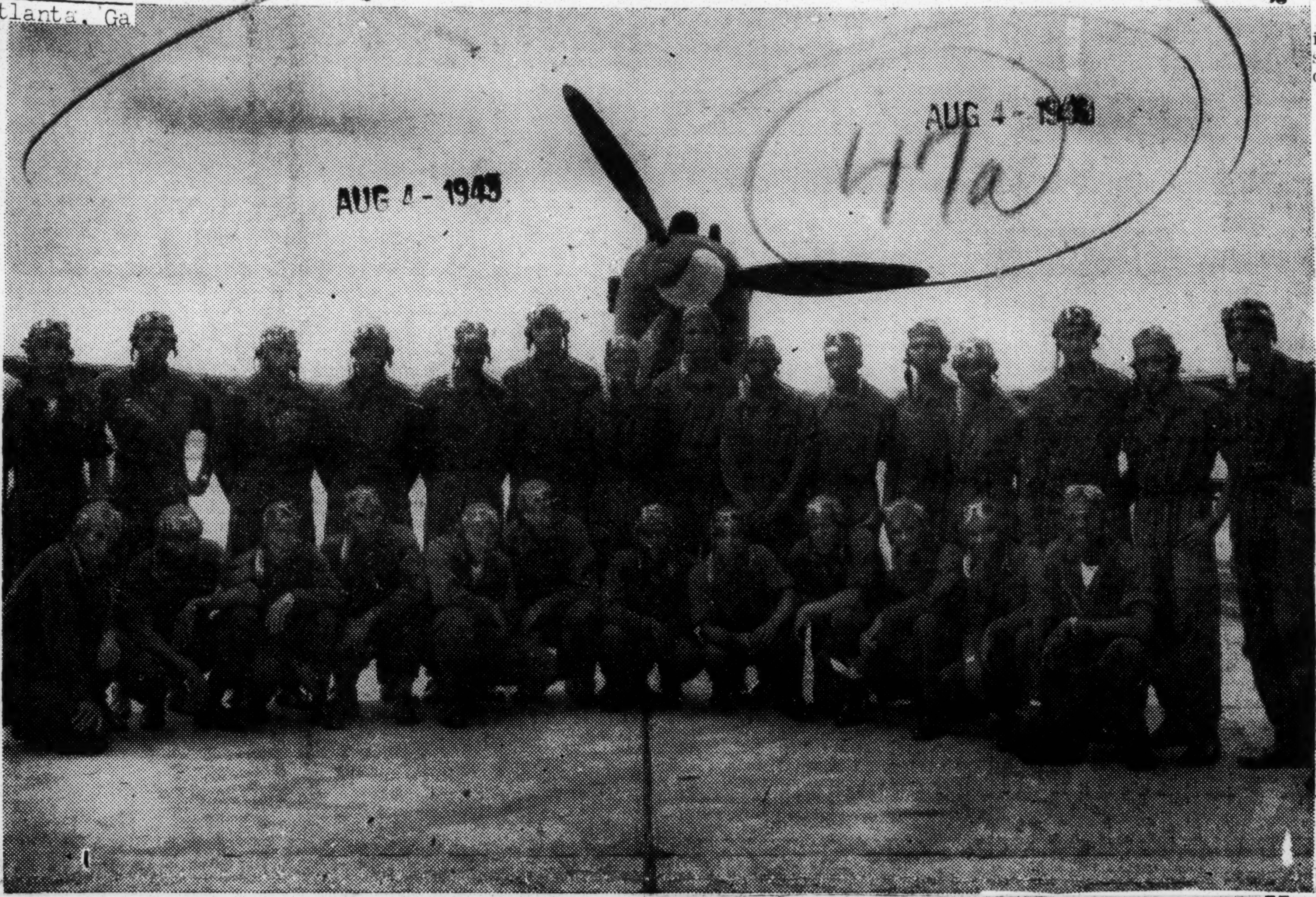
Other curt references are made to colored troops in the following War Department announcements: "Engineers are pursuing construction and repair work at North African invasion ports," and emphasis is laid on the bravery being displayed by these outfits.

The work of anti-aircraft batteries, manned by Negroes, has been especially noteworthy, the announcement reveals. Colored troops manning these guns have run up a creditable score and their commanders have frequently referred to them as "an indispensible arm" of their outfit.

47a-1943

Here's Latest Crop Of Tuskegee's Fighter Pilots

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga



AUG 4 - 1943
AUG 4 - 1943

47a

This group of young men were among the latest single engine fighter pilots graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field. All are Second Lieutenants in the Army Air Forces. They are from left to right: (kneeling) Lowell S. Steward, Los Angeles, Calif.; William Melton, Los Angeles; Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta, Ga.; Maurice R. Page, Los Angeles, Calif.; Elmer Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jack Daniels Holsclaw, Spokane, Washington; Eddie R. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss.; Cornelius G. Rogers, Chicago, Ill.; William W. Green, Jr., Staunton, Va.; George B. Greenlee, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, and John Daniels of Chicago, Ill.

(Standing) Leo A. Archer, New York City; William B. Ellis, Washington, D. C.; Alva N. Temple, Carrollton, Ala.; William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Le Roi S. Williams, Roanoke, Va.; James W. Mason, Monroe, La.; Beryl Wyatt, Independence, Kans.; Daniel James, Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Robert H. Nelson, Jr., Pittsburgh; John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati, Ohio; Harry D. Bailey, Chicago, Ill; Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga.; Robert H. Wiggins, New York, and Samuel L. Curtis, Yeadon, P

99th Squadron "Experiment" Is Succeeding — T. W. Young

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUL 17 1943
JUL 17 1943
JUL 17 1943
JUL 17 1943

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

By Air Mail, Delayed by Censor.)

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AN ADVANCED ALLIED BASE IN NORTH AFRICA —Those in the Army Air Forces high command who had faith in the future of a Negro Fighter Squadron can relax a little now.

Their "experiment"—and such it was, for the idea involved for the first time the training of Negro pilots for combat fighting —is succeeding beautifully.

Those in the high places who had the temerity to make room in the expanding Air Corps for colored mechanics, armorers, engineers, administrators, ordnance men, and fliers did so in the face of a variety of objections, some expressed, some implied, and of far-from-unanimous belief that it would work out happily in the end.

The "experiment" IS succeeding, measured by any yardstick. It is yet too early to claim that it now is an accomplished success, although

the pilots have flown more than two hundred sorties and forays, twenty-nine of them actual combat missions.

The operations of this squadron include fighter-bombing and strafing, bomber escort, patrol over routes flown by our bombers to enemy targets, and patrolling advanced allied bases subject to attacks by enemy planes. They have been completed without loss of a man or a plane, or even injury of any kind to personnel.

FOUGHT ENEMY

These fliers have encountered enemy fighters while escorting bombers and chased them away. They have engaged in dogfights with Messerschmitts and Focke-Wulfs and returned to their base with cannon and machine gun holes in their aircraft.

But after all this . . . after weeks of living in North Africa under inconveniences and hardships never experienced before . . . after a trip across the submarine-infested Atlantic which only a handful had ever crossed before . . . after seven months of alert status in the United States prior to departure for this theatre the esprit de corps of this squadron is high, its morale is solid and inspiring.

As everybody knows, this is no ordinary fighter squadron. Being the first of its kind, it has pioneered its way from the beginning right into the thick of the fight to drive the enemy from his European bastion.

Its reputation has spread even beyond the continental bounds of the United States. Everywhere it has been over here it has been cordially and warmly received.

WELCOMED BY EVERYONE

Every community it has entered has welcomed it. Americans, British, French, and native North African officials have always appeared happy to see and meet the officers and men of the Squadron about which they had heard even before it reached this theatre.

This correspondent has traveled thousands of miles and spent many pleasant weeks with the squadron since being attached to it before leaving the States. This can be said categorically: its conduct, its demeanor, its performance as a tactical unit in the Army Air Forces have been better than might reasonably have been anticipated.

In my travels I have seen many other units of colored soldiers, a great many of them in this theatre of operations. The superiority of this fighter squadron in almost every way over other organizations of colored troops I have seen is so marked that I have sought some explanation.

A few of them come to mind early. These are all superior men—way above the masses, much better than the average. It is an organization of technicians and fliers, and just ordinary people don't become experts in mechanical and organizational operations, or in flying complicated fighter planes like the P-40.

MORE MATURE

They are more mature, perhaps, than the members of other organizations. The squadron has been activated more than a year now, and the personnel was in on the ground floor. Many were in the Army long before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The age differential is pronounced among the flying officers. They have been in the Army Air Forces for a year or more. They completed their regular training for combat work long before they finally sailed. Many were pilots and pilot instructors in civilian life before entering the Army. They were seasoned fliers and composed a close knit organization when they entered this theatre of operations. Those are some of the obvious reasons. The less obvious ones are probably more significant and bear a closer relation to the result.

The officers and men all realize that they, because of the great amount of attention given this squadron, are being watched closely by both colored and white people at home. Knowing they are on trial, so to speak, they are anxious to live up to the most critical expectations of their well-wishers.

Another subtle reason is the kind and quality of officer material commanding this squadron. One of the most fortunate decisions in the activation of this unit was that which gave it Negro officers from the commanding officer down. That arrangement has fostered a wholesome respect and regard for the enlisted men by the officers, and for the officers by the enlisted men.

JUL 17 1943

THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Most fortunate of all the circumstances is the superior leadership qualities of the commanding officer, Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., a soldier and a gentleman who has the complete respect of every man in the squadron from the lowest private to the top ranking subordinate officer.

That is no coincidence. Colonel Davis was almost born and reared to this job. His background is military. Almost since he can remember he has been shuffling about the world on military missions performed by his father, Brig. General B. O. Davis Sr., the only Negro general in the U. S.

He entered the U. S. Military Academy at West Point with odds of 1,000-to-1 against his finishing—that is, he had been an ordinary person.

No Negro had gone through West Point since Col. Charles Young graduated in 1887. Two other youths had been appointed, passed entrance examinations and been admitted.

In one year young Davis established his right to the respect and admiration of his fellow cadets at the Academy. At the end of his plebe year he was "recognized"—a traditional formality by which the first year men are admitted into the comradeship and society of West Point.

From then on till graduation the only trial of any consequence was that of loneliness, almost solitude, in being the only member of his race among the cadets.

He participated in cross-country running, with two years of varsity competition, boxing, and gymnastics [illegible] enjoyed the friendship and association of most of the cadets, but because he was the only Negro there he found nothing of interest in the social life of West Point.

JUL 17 1943

WANTED AIR CORPS

On completion of his course in 1936 he applied for the Air Corps, but there was no place then for a Negro officer in that division, so he went into the Infantry. It was natural, therefore, that as soon as an opportunity came to get into the Army Air Forces, he took it.

Doubtless because of those early amibitions he is today, at 30 years of age, the highest ranking Negro officer in that branch of our armed services.

Every inch a soldier, he has required that his men live up to all that is expected of soldiers in the United States Army. Often they have had to wear full uniforms on their post over here when soldiers at other bases nearby were indulged for their stricter attention to fighting than to military rules and regulations which in active combat zones tend to become tedious and oppressive.

They did not have passes sometimes when men from other fields in the vicinity were enjoying liberty in nearby cities. But all these things were a part of the price men had to pay for membership in this squadron. There was some grumbling and belly-aching; there would have to be. But the price was small and most of them paid it cheerfully.

JUL 17 1943

KNOW PROBLEMS

Even in this brief experience overseas, the members of this squadron have gained a world of experience and knowledge about operations of a fighter squadron in combat areas. They know the problems of administration, of personnel, of intelligence.

They are versed in the intricacies of maintainance and repair of aircraft under combat conditions. They know well the problems of supplies, transportation, medical care, mess, communications, armament, ordnance and special services.

JUL 17 1943

Air Force School Term Lengthened to 8 Weeks

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Only One Colored Cadet Has Finished Secret Business Training at Harvard

BOSTON—The course of training given to the army air force statisticians at the Harvard Business School has been increased from five to eight weeks.

So far, only one colored student has attended the school, Lieut. Emmett Rice of New York City, and City College of New York City, now stationed with one of the Tuskegee Army Air Force squadrons.

The course was lengthened from five to eight weeks to give the statisticians practical experience at airfields in the Boston area before they are shipped to combat zones.

Only School of Its Kind

By the new system, which has been in operation over a year, a statistician control officer is placed with every army air force unit. The demand for these men is so great that most of the graduates are overseas.

The school is the only one of its kind in the nation, and was also the first to experiment with the use of civilian professors to teach army courses. Organized in June, 1942, it was kept secret until Time magazine revealed the setup in January, 1943.

The men get specialized training in the problems of air logistics, learn the new AAF statisticians' system, how the air forces are organized, methods of collecting and gauging statistics, personnel analysis, and military law.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

Train All Neg[illegible] Bomber Group

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (UP).—Training of pilots for an all-Negro bombardment group to be activated on July 1 of next year will begin within a month at either Fort Dodge, Kans., or Del Rio, Tex., the War Department announced today.

In December, other Negro cadets will be trained as navigator and bombardier officers at air fields which are as yet unannounced. Ground [illegible] for the [illegible] bombing group [illegible] already in training at air forces installations throughout the country. The Negroes who will make up the group are all being trained with white students.

Negro Bomber Pilots Receive Coveted Silver Wings at 'Skegee

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The first Negro pilots in the history of he U. S. Army Air Forces to receive the coveted silver wings of twin engine pilots were commissioned second lieutenants at the graduation exercises held in the Post Chapel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Wednesday morning, November [illegible]

NOV 13 1943

To Train on West Coast

Included among the initial group of Negro bomber pilots, who represent eight states, are 2nd Lt. Henri F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Texas; 2nd Lt. Perry Hudson, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; 2nd Lt. Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; 2nd Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; 2nd Lt. Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lt. William D. Tomkpins, Fall River, Mass.; 2nd Lt. Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif,; 2nd Lt. Herman R. Campbell, Jr., New York City; and 2nd Lt. Haldane King, of Jamaica, New York.

This group of flyers will report to Mather Field, Calif., where they will undergo transitional bomber training in B-25, Mitchell bombers.

Cadets Honors

The three top-ranking cadets of the class were awarded prizes emblematic of their all-around excellence as potential officers in the Air Forces. First honors were awarded to 2nd Lt. Leslie A. Williams, former student at the University of California. Second honors went to 2nd Lt. Edward M. Thomas, former Chicago postal clerk, while 2nd Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney, who attended Morgan College, won third prize.

Single Engine Pilots

Cadets completing their training and commissioned as single engine fighter pilots comprised a majority of the class and included representatives of eight states and the District of Columbia.

Listed among the single engine graduates are the following, second lieutenants: Gwynn W. Pearson, Oakland, Calif.; James B. Brown and William Thomas, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roger B. Brown, Glencoe, Ill.; Oscar D. Hutton, Emory L. Robinson, and Edward M. Thomas of Chicago, Ill.; Alfred Q. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, N. Y.; Charles W. Dickerson, and Theodore H. Mills of New Rochelle, N. Y.; Hugh St. Clair Warner, New York City; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Ivey L. Letfwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls. Texas; Earl S. Sherard, Columbus, Ohio; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Paul C. Simmons, Jr., Detroit, Mich.

Tuskegee Flyer Made Nazi Officer Climb a Tree

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

DEC 4 - 1943

CHICAGO (ANP)—Lt. Price D. Rice, Montclair, N.J., of the 99th Tuskegee Flyers, dropped down out of the skies in Italy and strafed a certain German headquarters at dawn.

He saw a German officer, clad in red-and-white sport pajamas, leap from the window, dash across the field and begin to climb a tree.

Shot Him Down

DEC 4 - 1943

Lieutenant Rice was so startled that he circled, came back and shot the officer down.

This is the story of H. R. Knickerbocker, white, Chicago Sun Service foreign correspondent, in a dispatch to his paper last week.

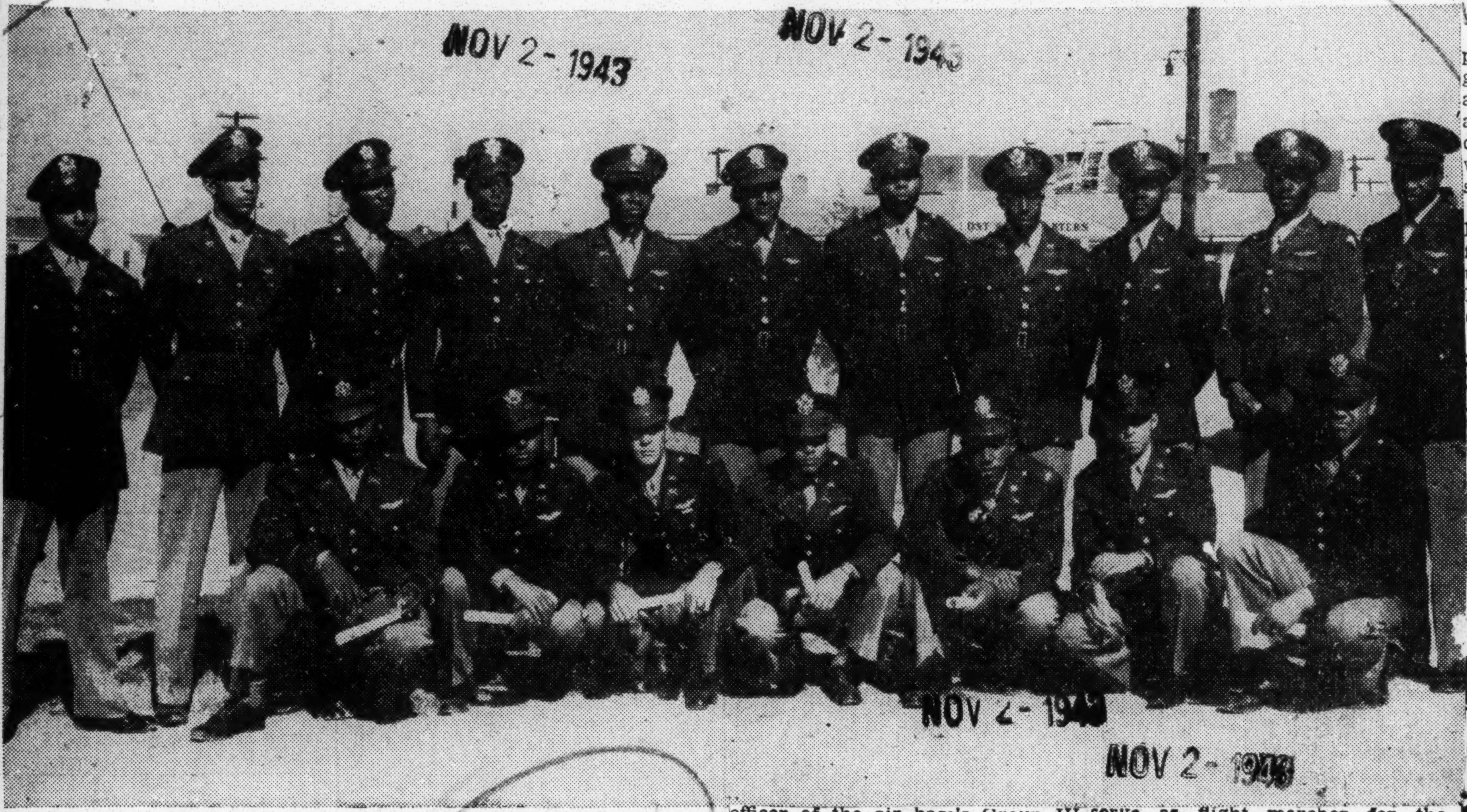
Captain Hall

Speaking of Capt. Charles B. Hall, 23, now commanding the 99th, Knickerbocker said: "Hall has been on thirty-seven missions and once strafed a line of German motorcyclists and saw them pop into the air like watermelon seeds."

47a-1943

They'll Become Overhead Eyes Of The Caissons

NOV 2 - 1943



Pictured above is the most recent class of liaison pilots from the Field Artillery to complete their training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Shown, left to right (kneeling) are: 2nd Lt. John E. McCode, Houston; 1st Lt. John B. Dudley, Brooklyn; 2nd Lt. George F. Bizzell, Lancaster, Ohio; 2nd Lt. John O. Cunningham, Kokeno, Ind.; 2nd Lt. William J. Cleveland, Warren, Ohio; 1st Lt. Robert L. Wrenn, Cincinnati; and 2nd Lt. John M. Franklin of Toledo, Ohio. (Standing): 2nd Lt. Louis K. Hanks, Toledo, Ohio; 1st Lt. Gaines C. Farley, Paducah, Ky.; 1st Lt. Terry H. Brooks, Houston; 2nd Lt. Richard C. Chatman, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Henry Bennett, New Orleans, La.; 1st Lt. Fred E. Howard, Chicago; 1st Lt. Leroy Stephens, Jr., Chicago; 2nd Lt. Daniel C. Thomas, Akron, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Thurston Mason, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Paul Weathersby and 2nd Lt. William M. Jordan of Chicago.—PHOTO BY TAAF.

First Navigation Cadets Arrive At Texas Air Base

Defender Chicago, Ill.

NOV 6 1943

HONDO ARMY AIR FIELD, HONDO, Tex.—Thirty Negro navigation cadets have arrived at this air base, the first Negro unit to be enrolled as aerial navigation students in the AAF Central Flying Training Command.

Under the leadership of Aviation Cadet Arnold W. Galimore, 21-year-old flight marcher from New York City, the members of Hondo Field's "Squadron 10" reported to Captain Frank H. Sheffield, senior tactical officer of the air base's Group III, and were immediately launched into the first busy day of the huge school's intensive 15 weeks' training program.

Many of the new navigation cadets have had primary or flight training at Tuskegee, Ala. Selected for final classification as combat crew navigators, these men reported at Hondo for advanced training along with other Negro soldiers formerly assigned to various branches of the Army Ground Forces. A number of the latter were non-commissioned officers before transferring to the Army Air Forces.

Mostly College Men

A high percentage of these cadets had either been graduated from or were attending college and universities throughout the United States at the outbreak of the war.

Assigned to give "Squadron 10" initial orientation lectures at Hondo was 1st. Lieut. George F. McInerney of Group III's instructor's school staff. Lieut. McInerney is a flight commander at the air base, thoroughly trained in assisting new students to get into the swing of the stiff Hondo Field training program with a minimum of lost time.

Cadet Galimore will continue to serve as flight marcher for the members of "Squadron 10." The young navigation student was a staff sergeant in the Medical Corps before beginning cadet training. He has four years' service in the Army. The son of Mrs. Hazel Tudor, 244 West 137th street, New York City, Cadet Galimore attended City college, New York, and New York University College of Engineering before becoming a member of the armed forces.

Upon successful completion of the navigation course at Hondo Field, the members of Hondo's first Negro cadet squadron will receive commissions as flight officers or second lieutenants. They then will be available for active duty on the fighting fronts, or will receive assignments as navigation instructors in the United States.

Captain Sheffield said today of the new cadets: "I am well pleased with their soldierly bearing and eagerness to begin training. We are confident they will prove their worth in the rigid program that lies ahead."

Chicago, Ill. Defender

Hint New Tuskegee Instructors Negroes

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Negro pilots, members of the last class to graduate from the Tuskegee army air field, are to be returned there as instructors, according to rumors current here. They will replace white instructors who are to be assigned elsewhere.

There have previously been no Negro instructors at the army airfield, although flying teachers are used in primary training and at Moton field, Tuskegee, where secondary training is given.

It has also been learned that the 332nd fighter group, in training at Selfridge field, Mich., has been assigned to the first army air corps based in New York. This unit, composed of three squadrons, is understood to be complete with a full complement of ground crew. All the pilots are graduates of the Tuskegee army air school and Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., recently recalled from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Pursuit squadron, is expected to command the 332nd.

Defender Chicago, Ill.

99th's Davis Back In U.S., Hails Success Of Our Pilots

By HARRY McALPIN

(Chief, Defender Washington Bureau)

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON—The "experimental stage" of the Negro in combat aviation is over—the Negro pilot is no longer a question mark.

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. until recently commander of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, came home from North Africa and Sicily this week to furnish strong testimony to the coming of age of the Negro in aerial warfare.

Back in Washington preliminary to taking a post with the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich., youthful Davis told a War Department press conference that the 99th pilots had answered the challenge of those army chiefs who doubted the Negro's ability to master the combat plane.

"Just what a Negro pilot in a P-40 would do when anti-aircraft fire burst about his ship or when an enemy aircraft was strewing cannon shells and machine gun bullets about his cockpit was a matter that was really conjecture in the minds of some of the high-ranking officers of the American air force," Colonel Davis declared.

"The fact that his unit was an experiment became a challenge to him, a challenge which he has answered," he said of the 99th pilots "and in such a way as to change many things that were unpleasant to him and others of his race."

In paying tribute to the way the pilots accepted this responsibility he said: "Every man in the 99th will go through any ordeal concocted by combat or garrison existence to assure the successful completion of the experiment. At all times every man realizes that the pleasures and relaxations that are available to men in other organizations are not available to him because his task is far greater, his responsibility is much heavier, and his reward is the advancement of his people."

Davis declared that "from the time this squadron left the continental limits of the United States," which was on April 15, 1943, and up to the present time, they experienced not a single circumstance or incident that could be regarded as discriminatory. He said that "a considerable bond exists among those who fly regardless of color or race."

On the way to Africa, he said

the first act of the drama began. The day before they sailed, the passenger list showed the transport commander that Lt. Col. Davis was to be the senior line officer on board. He was directed to pick a staff consisting of an adjutant, mess officer, police and prison officer, a provost marshal, and to then report to the transport commander as executive officer.

Get Along Well

This staff of colored officers carried out the orders and policies of the transport commander despite the fact that of the 4000 troops on board, less than 15 per cent were colored. No incidents occurred as a result of this unusual situation.

The squadron landed in Casablanca, and was later stationed at a field about 150 miles inland, in French Morocco. "Our stay there was probably our most pleasant stay overseas," the colonel said.

"Most cordial relations existed between the members of the squadron and the members of the fighter bomber group nearby. The pilots of the two organizations engaged in impromptu dogfights to determine the relative superiority of the P-40 and the A-36, and were very happy to verify our belief that the P-40 was vastly superior in this phase of aerial combat. Enlisted men of the two groups got along together very well in all types of athletic contests and other means of recreation.

Fine Training

In the town of Fez "was found one of the most delightful spots that any of us had ever visited," Col Davis declared. The stay there was made socially successful through the efforts of Josephine Baker, who saw that the officers met many of the outstanding and prominent French and Arab families. "The town provided everything that a man away from home could wish for," he stated.

Concerning the training of the men, he said: "I personally believe that no unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th Fighter Squadron. The pilots averaged about 250 hours in a P-40, and a young pilot in these days who has 250 hours in a P-40 before he goes into combat is a hard man to find."

The 99th Squadron was attached to a fighter group for operations purposes, and were sent out on daily missions. The first missions were over the island of Pantelleria. There they dive-bombed objectives every day until the fall of the island on June 11. They also escorted bombers to the island, and on one such occasion experienced their first brush with the enemy.

The most active days for the squadron, the colonel declared, were those from July 1 to 9, escorting bombers to Sicily. "On every trip we were attacked by superior numbers of enemy fighters," he said.

Dream of Combat

"After the middle of July, we had a squadron of pilots whose fondest dreams were no longer about the girls back home. Instead, they dreamed about a German pilot who would be foolish enough to slug it out in aerial combat."

He referred to the engagement over Sciacca, Sicily, where the squadron lost two aircraft, but accounted for one enemy definitely destroyed, two probably destroyed and three damaged. That was the day, he said, that General Eisenhower visited their field and during his stay congratulated Lt. Charles B. Hall, now Captain Hall.

The field was often visited by high ranking officers of both the British and American armies, he stated. Among such visitors were men as Air Marshal Cunningham, in command of the Tactical Air Forces; Lord Trancher of the last war; General House, commanding general of the Twelfth Air Support Command; General Doolittle, who is in command now of the Strategic Air Force; General Spaatz, commanding general of the Northwest African Air Force, and many others.

The squadron provided cover for the landing beaches on Southeastern Sicily on July 10. Thereafter, until July 19, they escorted C-47s which moved the air echelon of the various units to new bases on Sicily. On July 19, they moved to a base on Southeastern Sicily and provided air support for the ground troops by dive-bombing and strafing strong points holding up the advance.

SEP 28 1943

Get Replacements

Since the fall of Sicily, the 99th pilots have devoted their time to trainng replacements that reached them from the States, Colonel Davis said. On September 2, he received orders assigning him to the 332nd Fighter Group, and he left his pals overseas.

"I believe that the men that I left behind instead of being the fledglings they were on the first of June are now seasoned veterans of a combat experience that all of us may well be proud," he declared.

Colonel Davis' father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., sat beside him during the press conference, unable even with his years of strict military discipline to conceal his just pride in his son. When asked what he thought of his son, he said "Well, he has always been my son, and he's still my son."

General Davis said he thinks the Negro fighter pilots have done a good job, and that he always felt they would do a good job.

Lieut. Col. Davis said his orders do not indicate in what capacity he is to serve the 332nd Fighter group. In answer to a question, however he said that the Table of Organization calls for the commander of such a group to have the rank of a full colonelcy.

At the conference were many of the editors and publishers of Negro newspapers throughout the country, who happened to be in Washington at the time for conferences with the War Department and the Fair Employment Practice committee.

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

SEP 23 1943

Chief of Negro Air Unit Tells How It Passed 'Test' Over Italy

By Eugene Gordon

One of the most significant statements of the war—not reported in the allegedly "free" commercial daily press—is the report by Lt.-Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., until recently commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, on his return from the Italian front.

Col. Davis, son of Brig.-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, America's only general in a Negro population of more than 13,000,000, commanded the all-Negro 99th Fighter Squadron from Aug. 27, 1942, until Sept. 2, 1943—from the time it was conceived at Tuskegee, Ala. until after it had taken part in numerous fights above Sicily.

The 99th was intended by the government as an experiment, according to Davis, "to determine whether the Negro pilot was physically, mentally and emotionally suited to the rigors of combat flying." The 30-year-old lieutenant colonel added: **"It is a very significant fact, I believed, that all members of this organization were impressed at all times with the knowledge that the future of the Negro in the air corps probably would be dependent largely upon the manner in which they carried out their mission."**

TEST CASE

The members of this unit thus became a test case for all the Negro people. It speaks well, therefore, for Americans' innate fairness that, seeing the double handicap facing the Negro flyers and ground crews, numerous influential officers interceded.

The first handicap was discrimination and segregation. The men must overcome a SENSE of this handicap before they are psychologically prepared for combat against an enemy whose stock in trade is discrimination and segregation of non-"Aryan" minority peoples. The second handicap, shared by the Negro fighters in common with their white fellow Americans, was that of overcoming and defeating the fascist opponent.

While the War Department was figuring what to do with this "experiment"—the Negro people, meanwhile, demanding action for the 99th—this squadron was undergoing a schedule of training far beyond the normal period. They profited immensely thereby. Col. Davis reports:

"The first act of the drama began the day before we sailed. The passenger list showed the transport commander that I was to be senior line officer on board the transport. I was directed to pick a staff consisting of an adjutant, mess officer, police and prison officer, and a provost marshal, and then to report to the transport commander as executive officer.

NEGRO AND WHITE

"The staff of colored officers carried out the orders and policies of the transport commander despite the fact that of the 4,000 troops on board less than 15 per cent were colored. After the first 24 hours or so of curiosity and wonder at this unusual staff of the transport commander, everything proceeded smoothly and without incident for the remainder of the eight-day voyage.

A military man doesn't criticize his superior in a report to the public. There are ways, however, by which he may indicate his feeling.

The youthful colonel's eyes twinkled, witnesses say, when he reported:

"During all this time the members of the squadron basked in the awe of the attention paid them by other soldiers on board and succeeded admirably in creating the impression that the colored pilot and the colored soldier are not so much different, after all."

From the moment of their landing at Casablanca to their entrance into combat, men of the 99th Fighter Squadron met only comradeship and cooperative goodwill. In French Morocco they were located near an American service command station—white, of course. Near them, also, was a fighter-bomber group. Its commander was a Col. Stevenson, whom Col. Davis had known at West Point.

"Most cordial relations" existed between the Negro squadron and the white bomber group. Pilots of the two organizations "engaged in impromptu dogfights to determine the relative superiority of the P-40 and the A-36, and we were very happy to verify our belief that the P-40 was vastly superior in this phase of aerial combat."

The enlisted men of the two units "got together very well in all types of athletic contests and other means of recreation." Miss Josephine Baker, outspoken anti-fascist, "insisted on presenting several different groups of our officers to the prominent French and Arab families" in the town of Fez.

The 99th first went into combat over the island of Pantelleria, "no unit," in Col. Davis' opinion, having ever entered its initial fight "better trained or better equipped than the 99th Fighter Squadron."

FIGHTING IT OUT

The Germans were not so eager for fighting as they once had been. Col. Davis attributes this fact to losses among Nazi pilots. Pilots of the 99th, on the other hand, "who were initially uncertain of themselves, had now developed a very strong fighting spirit and were eager for an opportunity to meet the German and really fight it out."

After the middle of July the 99th pilots no longer dreamed only of the girls back home. "Instead, they dreamed about a German pilot who would be foolish enough to slug it out in aerial combat."

The Negro flyers participated in almost all engagements after that. They were visited in the field by such high-ranking officers as Air Marshal Cunningham, in command of the Tactical Air Forces; General House, commanding general of the 12th Air Support Command; General Doolittle, in command of the Strategical Air Force. General Eisenhower visited them on a day when they had downed several of the enemy.

TIME FOR CHANGE

One would judge from Col. Davis' report that it is high time for the War Department to stop experimenting and to enlist Negro men and assign Negro officers in greater numbers and without the sponsorship of that anachronism of the Civil War—Col. Jim Crow."

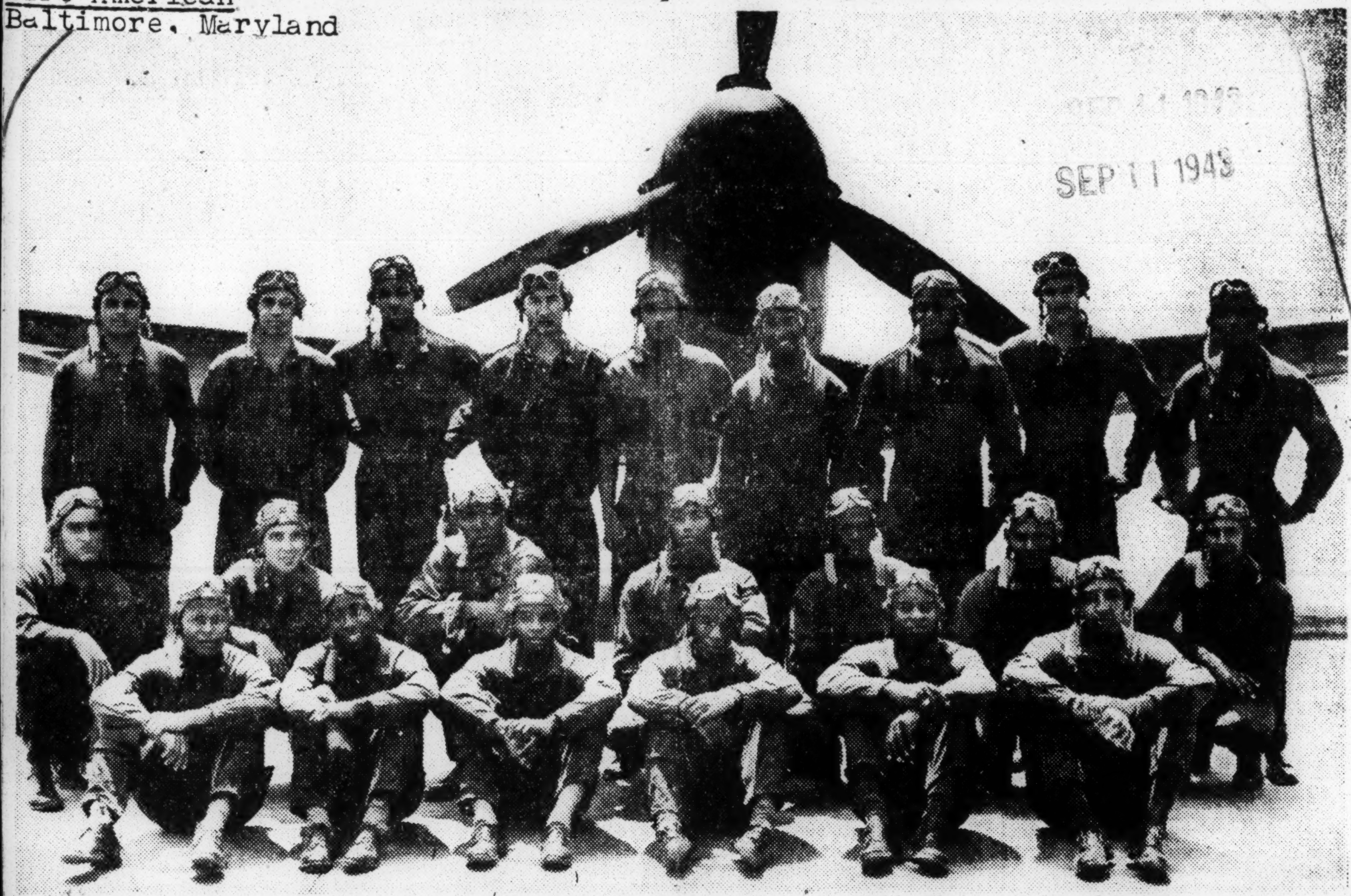
The report concludes

47a-1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

More Airmen Ready to Help Lick the Axis

SEP 11 1943



U.S. Army Air Forces Pilots who were graduated last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. They are, left to right, First row, 2nd Lts. Carroll S. Woods, Valdosta, Ga.; George A. Taylor, Philadelphia; Hubron R. Blackwell, Baltimore; Edward W. Hill, Narragansett, R.I.; Smith W. Green, Los Angeles; and Hubert L. Jones, Denver, Colo.; Second row, 2nd Lts. Charles W. Tate, Pittsburgh; Willard L. Woods, Los Angeles; Starling B. Penn, N.Y.C.; Leon Purchase, N.Y.C.; Everett A. Bratcher, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; Samuel Jefferson, Galveston, Texas; and Harry J. Daniels, Indianapolis, Ind. Third row, 2nd Lts. William B. McClenic, Akron, Ohio.; Alton F. Ballard, Pasadena, Calif.; Roger Romine, Oakland, Calif.; Floyd A. Thompson, London, W.Va.; Alix Pasquet (Haitian Air Force), Port-au-Prince, Haiti; Norvell Stoudmire, St. Louis, Mo.: Bernard Jefferson, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Andrew H. Doswell, Cleveland, and Charles A. Dunne, Atlantic City.

99th Squadron Wants Job of Training More U.S. Flyers

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland AUG 21 1943

After Three Months' Service, Flyers Believe That They Can Train Men for Combat Duty Better Than Anyone Else

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Sicily

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SOMEWHERE IN SICILY (Via Air Mail—Censored) — This is a story of a state mind that has its roots and, consequently its solution, in the USA. I write about it because I think it is so significant that many people will be interested, and because it would never reach interested people except through a neutral party like a correspondent.

Those who have the problem are too busy to talk about it. They are too busy hunting German planes and shooting them down. They are too busy escorting our bombers — too busy patrolling and protecting our newly won battle areas.

A certain fighter squadron with which I have had close contact for four months has an entire colored personnel. The squadron was formed as an experiment and sent overseas to prove or disprove the contention that colored pilots could hold their own in combat.

Pioneers on Spot

It also had the opportunity of proving or disproving that colored ground crews could service and keep in first class condition the latest combat ships — and most important of all, that colored officers could maintain discipline and efficiency in a crisis.

Why anyone should doubt the possibility of these things is beside the question. The fact is legendary that in America no one had ever seen it done; and even the men involved knew that as pioneers they would definitely be on the spot. The future of colored in American aviation would hang in the balance, and depend on what they did.

AUG 21 1943

Experiment Successful

The experiment has been successful. I say this without qualifying my statement because I have corroboration from experts in combat aviation and because the record of the squadron will bear me out.

A colored commanding officer, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., a group of colored flying officers, and a colored ground personnel have all worked together in combat against the luftwaffe for three months. They have done everything that has been asked of them. They have performed along the same lines as any other squadron of their type in the war zone.

Now, for the state of mind. These men, from the colonel on down to the last grease monkey, feel that they have survived the test because their casualties have been low.

They have not been overdestructive of their expensive machinery (every time a pilot takes off he has at his fingertips more than $50,000 worth of plane and equipment) and they have not betrayed the confidence of those who gave them a chance.

Worried About Home Front

Because these things are true, they feel the keenest interest in anything that threatens or may be detrimental to the work they have done.

Reports from home have them worried. What they hear (and I hear it, too) from the formation of a colored group in the States is not favorable. In fact, it is downright discouraging. For some reason or the other a succession of incidents has resulted in publicity that is detrimental to larger inclusion of colored young men in aviation.

The men over here who went to such pains to build up good feeling in the minds of the War Department and the American people do not want to see the program discarded.

Listening to them I gather that they are more anxious to do something about the situation — and what they feel is best to do follows along these lines:

Train Aviators in U.S.

Before somebody throws up his hands in disgust, these experienced pilots would like to be given the opportunity to return to an airbase in the States and help train the hundreds of younger men now coming into aviation — give them, so to speak, the benefit of all the experience that has been gained both at home and abroad.

Without unnecessary injection of race into the issue, this squadron feels itself better qualified to explain the heavy responsibility awaiting a young colored flyer than any white instructor could do, because this squadron has felt unique responsibility more than anybody else has felt it.

Jealous of Reputation

I, perhaps more than anyone else, have seen this unit face many problems. I was present when the first ten men were accepted into the air corps. I saw the first class graduate. I saw their flying field when it was covered with cotton stalks, and later a beautiful army base. I saw the squadron arrive in North Africa. I know almost every man, officer and enlisted man, by name.

I know how jealous the outfit is of its reputation. Every mechanic knows he is a pioneer. Every pilot is stared at when he lands at a new field because he is a novelty. But nothing matters to them as long as no bad mark is registered against the squadron.

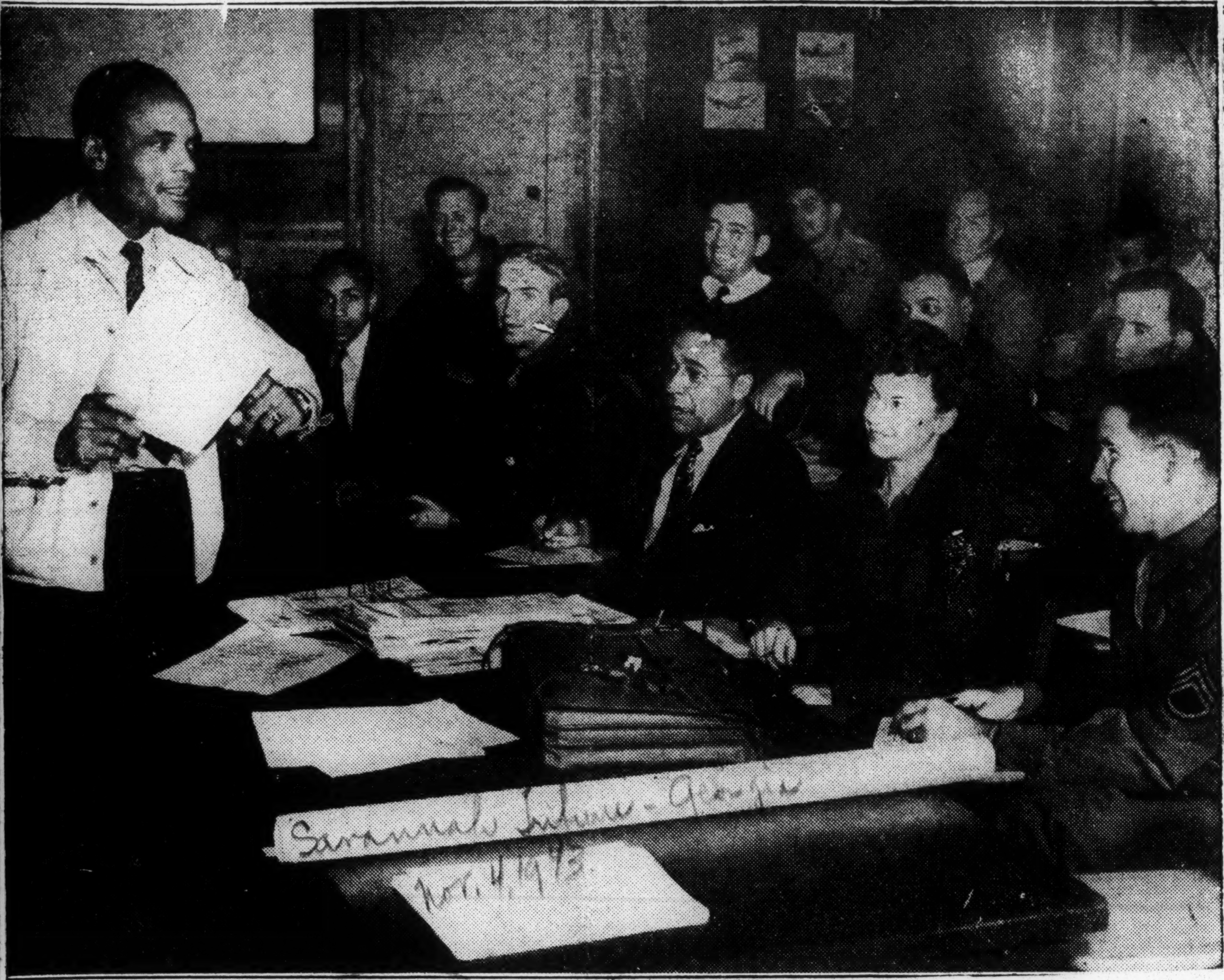
Objection Worthwhile

They feel the same way about aviation for colored at home.

If groups are being formed and twin-engined courses opened and navigation and bombardier classes offered, they feel that they have something to contribute to the efficiency of these newcomers.

As an observer, I feel the same way. As an American I humbly submit that the case is good and the objective worthwhile. This squadron could do wonders as an example and inspiration if returned to the States as officer personnel in the formation of subsequent squadrons and groups.

CLASS FOR INSTRUCTORS OF ARMY'S NAVIGATOR - BOMBARDIER TRAINING PROGRAM



Savannah Tribune - Georgia

Nov. 4, 1943

Grover C. Nash, senior instructor in the Airplane Mechanics chool at Lincoln Air Base, Nebraska, is shown explaining principles f navigation to a group of instructors who will form the nucleus f teachers for the Army's bombardier-navigator training program ith the objective command of B-25 bombers. As announced by the ar Department, Negroes and whites will be schooled together. ash, only civilian flight instructor at Lincoln Air Base, is a graduate of several flying schools. In 1938 he was the first and only Negro to fly the United States mail. He spent 16 months as instructor for the U. S. Army Air Forces Training Command, and has almost 3,000 flying hours to his credit in 30 different types of planes. His home is in Chicago, Illinois, where he operated his own flying school for six years. (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps).

Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Department

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Segregation Banned as Air Corps Plans Bombing Unit

WASHINGTON

Details for the activation of an all-colored medium bombardment group by next July 1 were announced by Acting Secretary of War John J. McCloy at his press conference Thursday.

Mr. McCloy emphasized that the men who are to compose this bombing group are to be trained in mixed classes. This is the first time the army air force have abandoned segregation in the training of pilots.

Within a month, the acting secretary said, colored cadets will be sent either to Fort Dodge, Kan., or to Del Rio, Texas, to begin training in a B-26 Transition School to fly B-26 airplanes.

Ground Crews in Training

In December the first colored cadets will begin training as navigators and bombardier officers. Their training as such will cover a period of eighteen weeks, after which they will go to gunnery school.

Ground crews for the bombing group are already in training in classes with white students.

These men are studying radio, aviation mechanics, electrical work and armor at Lincoln Field, Neb., Chanute Field, Ill., and Lowry Field, Colo., and at other air force installations.

Announcement was first made that the army air force would train colored personnel as bombardiers and navigators by Robert P. Patterson, the Under Secretary of War, on July 15.

The decision of army air force to activate an all-colored medium bombardment group is believed to have been influenced by the 99th Pursuit Squadron, now based in Sicily, which demonstrated its efficiency whenever it contacted the enemy.

47a-1943

Paints Graphic Picture Of 99th In Slow P-40's

Daily World
—Atlanta, Georgia—

AUG 23 1943

By PVT. IRWIN SHAW

(The following article appeared originally in "Yank," the army weekly, it is being reproduced by the Associated Negro Press through special arrangement with Yank.)

TUNISIA— IT WAS sunny over the Mediterranean and Pantelleria looked like a small dark stone stuck in the shining blue sea 8,000 feet below the six P-40's droning along on anafternoon patrol. The fighters had been ordered to take off from their African field to sweat out an hour and some minutes of cover over the conquered Italian island while the Allies pushed ahead with preparations for the invasion of sicily.

Lt. G. W. Dryden of New York City was leading the flight. His squadron, in action for only three weeks, had bombed Pantelleria in the furious air push toward Italy and at other times has escorted bombers. However, aside from a little wild flak loosed by the forlorn gun crews on the island, the outfit had never known trouble.

SCANS EMPTY TROUBLE

The lieutenant scanned the wide empty sky and looked around to make sure the flight was tucked in neatly behind him. He looked at his watch and noticed that the patrol was nearly over.

Behind him the big engines filled the bright salt air with their deep steady noise. Then, through the earphones clamped on his head, over the wild howling crackle of aircraft radios, came the voice of the air observer on Pantelleria: "Unidentified aircraft approaching the island."

Lt. Dryden wheeled and the flight wheeled behind him. They went out looking for trouble.

TENSE AGAAINST PULL

Behind Dryden were Lt. Leo Rayford of Washington, D. C.; Lt. Willie Ashley of Sumter, S. C.; Lt. Span Watson of Hackensack, N. J.; Lt. S. P. Brooks of Cleveland, Ohio. and Lt. Leon Roberts of Pritchard, Alabama. They settled tighter in their seats and tensed a little against the pull of the big engines because here was a fight coming up and all their long hours of training, all the studying and all the sweat and misery of earning their wings and learning how to fight were either finally going to pay off on this [illegible] afternoon.

The [illegible]000 feet as the still unseen planes dodged in over the sea, trying to avoid detection. Suddenly from out of the sun the Messerschmitts and the Focke-Wulfs dove. There were 12 of them, screaming down the peaceful air, and behind and above them were 12 bombers, come to lay waste the precious airfield below.

Roberts saw the planes pouncing, looking with their pale paint against the bright sky like white puffs of ack-ack. He wheeled and the rest of the flight wheeled with him, but they had been taken off balance, and it was impossible to maintain company front against the Germans, who were coming down in loose formations of two at 450 miles per hour.

PLANE IS SLOW

The P-40 is a comparatively slow plane and its fighting has to be defensive because [illegible] Messerschmitt, with its superior speed, can pick the angle and time of attack. But the P-40 has one great advantage; it can make tighter turns. The flight yanked hard on their controls and turned into the German onslaught.

Dryden, after his turn, found himself far out beyond the edge of the melee, with the bombers passing sedately 5,000 feet above his head. So he roared up above them and then dove down across the tail of the formation, spraying them as he went, and continued right down into the dog-fight below.

Three of the P-40's were making a lufberry, a slow, spiraling circle in which each plane protect the others tail. From that defensive circle, like covered wagons gathered around a square against Indians on the plains, the defenders can shoot out as the enemy speeds around on the outside. Dryden shook a Focke-Wulf on his tail and snugged into the lufberry, circling, firing his guns as the Germans flicked across his sights.

WING IS SHATTERED

Lee Rayford was having troubles of his own. Two FWs kept at him, and when he turned into one, the other would get a burst at him. One burst hit and his right wing shuddered as a 20-mm cannon shell exploded there. Rayford was fighting grimly, taking the long gamble against the two Germans, when Spann Watson appeared on his wing from nowhere. Watson opened up at long range. He hit the outside German, and the two planes broke away out of the fight.

At the initial turn Willie Ashleys plane had gone into a spin and he'd lost considerable altitude. When he pulled out, he started spiraling up to rejoin the others. Suddenly ahead of him he saw another plane on the loose. He edged in to investigate. It was a Focke-Wulf..

Ashlev got in good and close before letting go with his entire works. He saw that his tracers were going too far in front, so he cut down on the lead until he saw the tracer hitting home. He sprayed the German from end to end, and it began a long smoking glide toward the sea.

GERMAN DISAPPEARS

The pilot followed the falling German plane as far as he dared but the air behind him was still full of machine-gun fire and spitting planes. He wheeled and climbed to make sure there was no one on his tail and when he looked down once more there was no sign of the German. Ashley climbed to rejoin his flight.

The six American planes spiraled in formidable procupine formation, and the German fighters left off and sailed toward Italy. Meanwhile the jittery enemy bombers had jettisoned their loads into the sea, without attempting a run over the island, and were making for home.

99th Moves Up from Sicily to Front Line

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

OCT 30 1943

Stewart Says German Planes Roar Again Over Fields at Night

COLORED TROOPS UNDER NAZI FIRE

Pontoon Bridge Blown Up After Part of Unit Crosses Volturno

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ALLIED AIR BASE IN ITALY.—(By Cable, Censored).—I am now in Italy. My recent arrival here (censored) saw a reunion (censored) in Mussolini's former stronghold and placed our pilots again within striking distance of enemy troops and communication lines.

Our brief period of inactivity beneath the Sicilian sun is ended. Once again the drone of German planes at night reminds me that Jerry still has some punch left. However, our bombers roar overhead at regular intervals and most of them return after dropping devastating calling cards.

I had my first view of Naples from the sky, riding in a captured Italian plane. Edgar Rouzeau of the Pittsburgh Courier, was with me. Our plane made its approach above the clouds and had difficulty finding a hole through which to drop and land.

As our forces move northward, the terrain is much the same—all mountains and valleys. The people are more modern than in Sicily, but there is the same distress from lack of food and clothes. Also dialects make conversation difficult.

Towns All Quiet

Cities and villages that once knew eternal songs and troubadors at fiesta time are now quiet, except for an occasional melancholy chant from a donkey cart driver, and pock-marked from bombs and shrapnel.

At night, behind shuttered windows huddled families talk in musical whispers, but soon grow silent when enemy bombers or our night fighters begin roaming.

Soldiers Make Friends

Our lads have had amusing experiences in places where colored people have not been seen before. Often everybody runs but old men and cripples. Our boys soon make friends, however, and in a few minutes they become the center of attraction. Even children want to rub their heads.

I have met many outfits that I saw in North Africa last fall soon after the invasion. Most of these have pulled repeat performances here with the Fifth Army.

Engineers Praised

The recent crossing of the Volturno River and the storming of Maddeloni found our lads doing their part under fire. While crossing the Volturno part of one unit raced over a pontoon bridge which was immediately blown up by the Germans, and other men were forced to wait under fire for construction of a new bridge. Our engineers were complimented on their work and bravery.

One quartermaster trucking unit runs shuttle service to and from the front, hauling precious ammunition, [illegible] and troops.

Soldiers in Italy

Old friends of mine seen include:

Chaplain Thomas Jenkins, Charlotte, N.C., whose wife sends clippings from home which we all appreciate; Chaplain F. Hugh Warley, Atlanta, Ga.; Capt. Samuel Coleman, First Lieuts. Oliver Lewis, James Dcoley and Elba Cole;

Second Lieuts. William Morrow, George White of Boston; Warrant Officers George Kirby, Roscoe McDowell, Arnold Barclay, and the following enlisted men:

Sgt. Allen Ward, Brooklyn; Cpl. William Benyard, Wilmington, Del.; Cpl. Charles Johnson, Washington; Cpl. William Chandler, Cambridge, Mass.; Pfc. John Simmons, Chicago; Cpl. William Parks, Atlanta; Pvt. Clinton Sandusky, Cleveland, Ohio; Sgt. Leroy Charles, Jersey City, N.J.; Cpl. Clifton Frisby, Baltimore, and Pvt. Harry Jones, Philadelphia.

Another pleasant surprise in Italy was meeting T/Sgt. William Chaney of Washington, D.C., personal orderly to General Clark. I saw Chaney last in London. He keeps the General in good health with the assistance of a mess staff including Cpl. Lloyd Gist, New York; Cpl. Bular Manley, Alton, Ill., and Cpl. Hurschel Baker, Los Angeles.

I found Corporal Gist cooking a pot of greens, which the General likes with pork. Chaney was with the General for many years before the war and bosses the household in the city as well as in the field.

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8 New Pilots Reach Italy to Join 99th

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 23 1943

5 Regular Flyers Sent Home to Teach Cadets at Selfridge Field

POVERTY SHOCKS NEW ARRIVALS

Inhabitants Eating Stray Cats, Horses; Soldiers Barefooted

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ADVANCED AIR BASE IN ITALY.—Indications of forthcoming deevlopments became apparent last week with the arrival of fresh fighter pilots. The new replacements joined the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron with eagerness in their eyes and confidence in their ability to knock Goering's boys out of the skies.

Coming from various parts of America, these newcomers, looking forward to their first sortie, add pep to the training routine that often is a grind to veterans.

Grilled About Home

For the first few days we all kept them busy talking about that distant and almost forgotten place called home, and a thousand questions were as[illegible]ic, movies, night clubs, and girls who wear stockings.

They were shocked to learn that over here people are so hungry that every stray cat is eaten, also horses and insects.

Learn of War Horrors

They looked with awe at the first Italian prisoners, returning home barefoot and almost naked, who beg rides on the highway all day and sleep in a ditch at night.

The horrors of war are brought home to the newcomers quickly when veteran pilots point out places near us which they bombed and helped capture many weeks ago.

One [illegible] says [illegible] relief a few da[illegible] because his bomb destroyed their home during the Sicily fight.

Eight New Arrivals

The new pilots, all second lieutenants, include:

W. V. Eagleson, Bloomington,

Ind., former student at Indiana University; L. C. Smith, Los Angeles, graduate, UCLA; C. P. Bailey, Punta Gorda, Fla., Bethune-Cookman College; Clarence W. Allen, Mobile, Ala., West Virginia State; Leonard M. Jackson, Fort Worth, Texas, Tillotson College; H. C. Houston, Detroit, Morehouse; W. E. Griffin, Birmingham, Ala., Miles Memorial, and A. M. Dunlap, Washington.

As the new men arrived, five veteran pilots, all first lieutenants, left the squadron for a replacement center to instruct others. They included Walter Lawson Graham Smith, Lee Rayford, Louis Purnell and Charles Dryden. It is reported that they will join Colonel Davis, who has been assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group, at Selfridge Field, Mich.

OCT 23 1943

Killed in Action

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — The report that Lt. Paul G. Miller, a flier, was killed in action in the North African area, Augsut 11, was confirmed by the War Department, Saturday. He was a pilot with the 99th Pursuit Squadron, now based in Sicily. The details of the action in which he was killed were not made known.

Lieutenant Miller was a resident of the District of Columbia, and a graduate of Howard university.

Also confirmed was the death of Charles S. Chisolm, Jr., also of Washington. He, too, was killed in action in the North African area. His death occurred August 21.

'COLONEL DAVIS ON WAY BACK,' ROUZEAU CABLES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. 1943

Capt. George S. Roberts, Fairmont, W. Va., Now Heads Fliers in Sicily

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
(Courier War Correspondent)

SEP 11

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SICILY, Sept. 9 — (Via Wireless)—I've been chasing Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron, ever since I've been in this theatre of operation. When I finally caught up with him, I didn't recognize him, and almost missed discovering that he was on his way home.

Thanks to the Colonel, he recognized me when our paths crossed at a North Africa air transfer base and it was there that I found he had been recalled to the United States so that his vast fund of tactical flying knowledge, obtained in North African, Sicilian and Italian air battles, can be used elsewhere.

D. C. Pilot of "99th"

Undoubtedly he will be in the United States by the time this is published.

Davis will be succeeded by Capt. Geoge S. Roberts, of Fairmont, W. Va., formerly second in command, as commander of the 99th, now in action over Italy.

"I'M COLONEL DAVIS"

It was through the merest coincidence that I met the Colonel, who was accompanied on his homeward flight by my pal, War Correspondent Tommy Young of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, who has been with the squadron constantly since they left the States. I was switching planes for Sicily when I heard someone call, "Rouzeau!"

I looked around and saw an officer whose face was strangely familiar. He was sitting on a bed roll. When he saw me, he arose, and as he approached, he held out his hand. Seeing my puzzled look, he said, "I'm Colonel Davis."

I was quite ashamed, since I covered his graduation at West Point years ago. I've been chasing him ever since, and have had every reason to remember him. He was awaiting transfer for a homeward-bound plane.

Tommy Young did not recognize me, either. He was away searching for water when Colonel Davis and I met. Returning, he threw me an uninterested look and said, "Howdydo."

When I said, "Hello, Tommy," he looked again sharply and almost shouted with glee. The happy meeting with Davis and Tom was too brief. My flight number was called, and amid a torrent of questions, I had to run to catch the plane. As they accompanied me to the plane, we barely had time to exchange regards to our respective wives.

In the meantime, the 99th Squadron, through their new commander, sends greetings to The Pittsburgh Courier and their many friends among the readers, as they now concentrate on objectives on the Italian mainland.

Assured Care of Families Aid Morale of Army Men

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NEWARK, N.J.—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, one of the heroes of the Sicilian campaign and organizer and first commanding officer of the famous all-Negro 99th Fighter Squadron, brought word to Newark yesterday that a big factor in the high morale of the men at the front is the knowledge that their families are receiving their family allowances and allotment of pay regularly each month.

SEP 25 1943

Colonel Davis has returned to employ his battle experience in training a larger fighter group.

Stopping in for a visit at the War Department Office of Dependency Benefits to authorize an increase in his allotment-of-pay to his wife, Mrs. Agatha S. Davis of New Haven, Conn., Colonel Davis declared that "the efficiency of the ODB in getting family allowances and allotments-of-pay to the dependents of our men in the service, is a major factor in the high morale which prevails."

Colonel Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, now living in Washington. He was graduated from West Point in 1936. In 1941 he transferred from the Infantry to the Army Air Corps, and in 1942 organized and trained, at Tuskegee, Ala., the first all-Negro air squadron—the Fighting 99th.

SEP 25 1943

Single And Twin Engine Pilots Get Commissions

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Last Class Of Liaison Pilots Receives Wings

DEC 12 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD Ala.—The second mixed class of single and twin-engine pilots to complete the Army Air Forces Training Command course for pilots at the Tuskegee Army Air Field received their wings and commissions Saturday morning, Dec. 4th.

At the exercises held in the Post Chapel, Capt. Harold D. Martin, director of the Ground School, spoke to the graduating class. Capt. Martin lauded the entire class upon the excellent scholastic record they had compiled in the academic phase of learning to fly the Army Air Forces way. In closing he admonished the new pilots to justify the confidence placed in them by the AAF and the U. S. government. "We know you have laid a solid foundation," the ground school director told them, "and hope that your fine record will be an inspiration to drive you on to an honorable and efficient job in combat and in life."

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN CLASS

Having been previously commissioned at officer candidate schools and having seen active duty in the Southwest Theatre of Operations, 1st Lt. Elmore Kennedy Philadelphia, Pa., and 1st Lt. Fitzroy Newsum, New York City, were awarded their wings as twin-engine pilots, while 2nd Lt. Edgar L. Bolden of Arlington, Va., was awarded his wings and rating as a single-engine pilot.

SINGLE-ENGINE PILOTS

Among the cadets completing the single-engine course and receiving their wings and commissions were Clarence H. Bradford, St. Louis, Mo.; Robert H. Daniels, Jr., Corona, N. Y.; Othel Dickson, San Francisco, Calif.; Robert J. Friend, New York City; Frederick D. Funderburg, Monticello, Ga.; Howard C. Gamble, Charleston, W. Va.; Stanley L. Harris, St. Paul, Minn.; Lloyd S. Hathcock, Dayton, Ohio; Wellington G. Irving, Belzoni, Miss.; Clarence D. Lester, Chicago, Ill.; William R. Lewis, Boston, Mass.; Henry Pollard, Buffalo, N. Y.; Reid E. Thompson, New Rochelle, N. Y.; William L. Hill, Huntington, W. Va.; Edward J. Williams, Columbus, Ga.

TWIN ENGINE-PILOTS

Completing the twin-engine pilot course were Samuel A. Black Plainfield, N. J.; Harold E. Brazil Joplin, Mo.; Eugene C. Cheatham, Philadelphia, Pa.; Stewart B. Fulbright, Springfield, Mo.; John L. Harrison, Omaha, Nebr.; Henry P. Hervey, Chicago, Ill.; Richard B. Highbaugh, Indianapolis, Ind.; Harold A. Hillery, New York City; Samuel Lynn, Jamaica, N. Y.; Amos A. Rogers, Tuskegee, Ala.; Wendell Wells, Norfolk, Va.; Joseph D. White, New York City, and Willie L. Byrd of Fayetteville, N. C.

DEC 12 1943

Prizes for the cadets having the best all-around records were awarded Flight Officer Samuel Lynn, first; 2nd Lt. Frederick D. Funderburg, second; and 2nd Lt., Othel Dickson, third.

LIASON PILOTS GET WINGS AT TUSKEGEE

In impressively brief ceremonies at the Tuskegee Army Air Field Post Chapel, Tuesday morning, Dec. 7th, the last group of Field Artillery Officers to complete the liaison pilot training course were awarded silver wings and pilots ratings.

Marking the termination of liaison pilot training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, the graduating class was addressed briefly by Capt. Raymond I. McKinh, Director of Liaison Training. Pilot ratings were awarded by Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer, while Capt. Joseph W. Gurnow, Assistant Director of Liaison Training, handed out the silver liaison wings to the following officers: 1st Lt. Lee Arthur Baker, Ft. Worth, Texas; 1st Lt. Scott K. Cleage, Hamden, Conn.; 2nd Lts. John D. Battle, New York City; Edward W. Brice, Rock Hill, S. C.; Johnny Y. Brooks, Mineola, Texas; George D. Conquest, Chicago, Ill.; Charles B. Elam, Troy, Ohio; Sterling K. Jackson, Chicago, Ill.; Ernest W. Goldsborough, Chester, Pa.; Maxwell Honemond, Tuskegee, Ala.; William H. Johnson, Tulsa, Okla.; Elwood A. Smith, New Orleans, La.; Sherman W. Smith, San Antonio Texas; Lemuel L. Tucker, Philadelphia, Pa.; George Woods, Cleveland, Ohio; and Wendell W. Long, Champaign, Ill.

Upon receiving their pilot ratings the members of the class were ordered to report to Ft. Sill, Okla. for further tactical training.

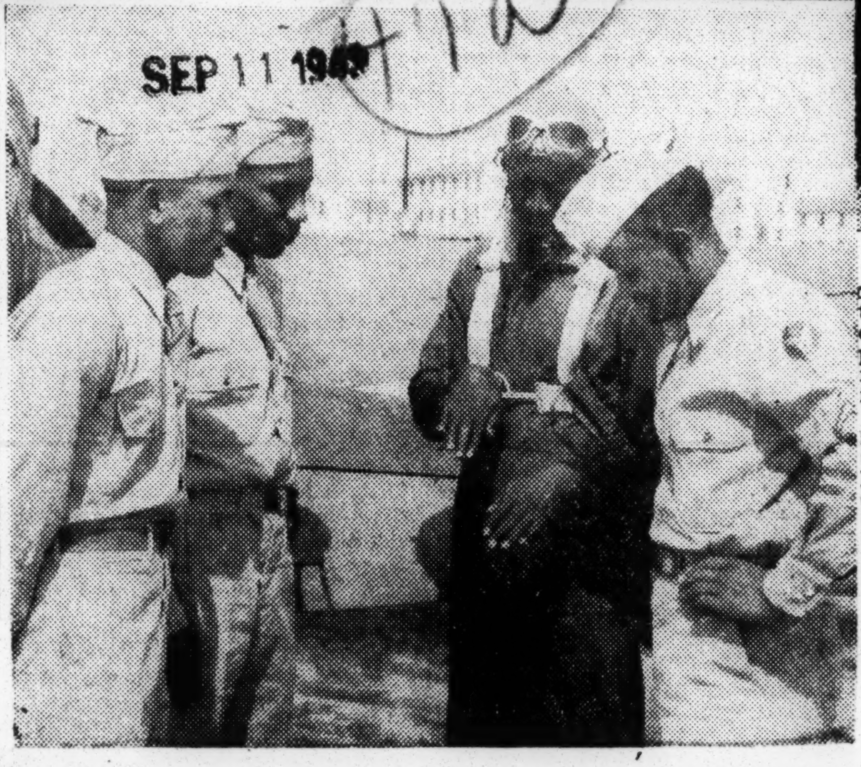
47a-1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

FOR A GREATER GAME—Second Lt. Bernard Jefferson, former Northwestern University grid star, upper left, and Second Lt. Andrew H. Doswell, former Ohio State track star, upper right, are now prepared for the greater game—the battle against the Axis forces for freedom. Both became full-fledged fighter pilots recently at graduation exercises at Tuskegee Army Air Field. To the right, Lt. Jefferson is pictured giving a few of the finer points of flying to three flying hopefuls who are taking primary training.

They are, left to right, Pvt. Clarence Madden Jr., airplane mechanic, from Altoona, Pa.; T/Sgt. Norman F. Prime, photographer from East Orange, N. J.; Lt. Jefferson, and Cpl. Stephen Hotesse, service aide from New York City.

SEP 11 1943



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GOOD OLD AMERICAN HUMOR

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

HARLEM
EXCHANGE
AUG 7 1943
4
T-60

Displaying the unfailing humor of U.S. soldiers everywhere, these soldiers of an Air Base Security battalion, hailing from all parts of the country, stand before an island "oasis" somewhere in the Pacific area.

The staff of this mainland counterpart is pictured from left to right, top row: Pvt. Salem Field, Indianapolis, Ind.; Pfc. Clarence Smith, Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y.; Pvt. Walter Caesar, Jambing[illegible], W. Va.; Lt. Nathan Baker, Bernardino, Calif.

Bottom row: Pfc. Fred Rice, Huntsville, Ala.; Pfc. Harding Phippe, also of Huntsville, Ala., and Pvt. Robert Davenport, Chattanooga, Tenn.

AUG 28 1943

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NEW EAGLES FROM TUSKEGEE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

SEP 11 1943

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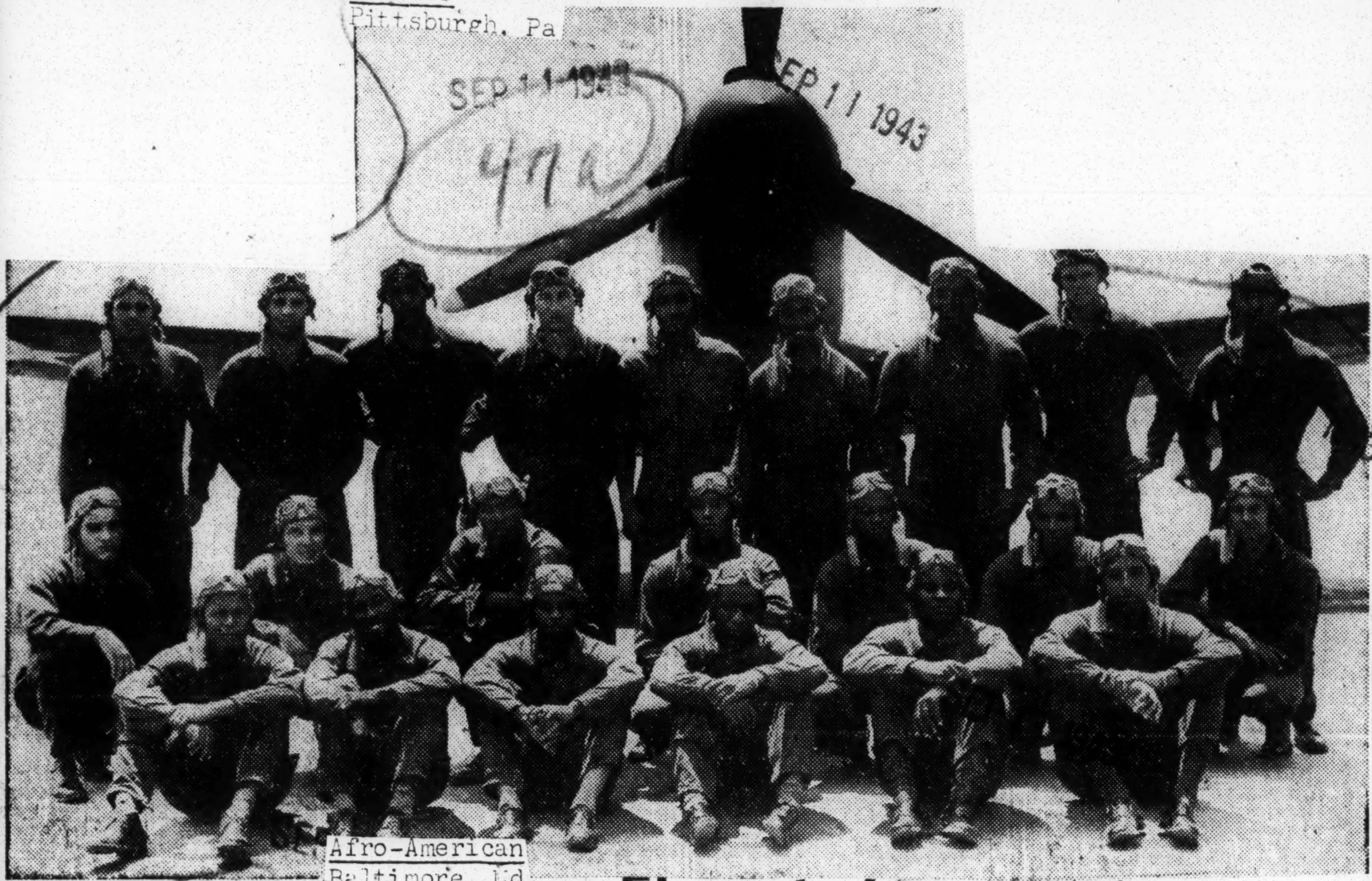

Pictured above is the most recent contingent of Negro pilots to wear the wings of the Army Air Force. Shown from left to right are, 1st row, 2nd Lieuts. Carroll S. Woods, Valdosta, Ga.; George A. Taylor, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hubron R. Blackwell, Baltimore, Md.; Edward W. Hill, Narrangansett, R. I.; Smith W. Green, Los Angeles, Calif., and Hubert L. Jones, Denver, Colo.

Second row: 2nd Lieuts. Charles W. Tate, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Willard L. Woods, Los Angeles, Calif.; Starling B. Penn, New York City; Leon Purchase, New York City; Everett A. Bratcher, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; Samuel Jefferson, Galveston, Texas, and Harry J. Daniels, Indianapolis, Ind.

Third row: 2nd Lieuts. William B. McClenic, Akron, Ohio; Alton F. Ballard, Pasadena, Calif.; Roger Romine, Oakland, Calif.; Floyd A. Thompson, London, W. Va.; Alix Pasquet (Haitian Air Force), Port au Prince, Haiti; Norvell Stoudmire, St. Louis, Mo.; Bernard Jefferson, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Andrew H. Doswell, Cleveland, Ohio, and Charles A. Dunne, Atlantic City, N. J.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

5 Overseas Flyers to Go to Selfridge as Instructors

Members of 99th Are Allowed 23 Days' Furlough Before Reporting for New Job

By DOUGLAS HALL
Staff Correspondent

MITCHELL FIELD, N.Y.—Five weary flyers, who really know first hand the story of warfare in the skies over the North African theatre of war, reported here for duty this week.

The pilots, all members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron now based in Italy, are Lts. Lee Rayford Washington, D.C.; Walter Lawson, Newton, Va., Charles Dryden NYC, Louis Purnell, Philadelphia and Graham Smith, Vicksburgh North Carolina.

Unhurt, Nerves on Edge

The boys reported a long but uneventful trip back to this country. All have had at least thirty combat missions over enemy territory and do not have a scratch to show for it. Most of them admitted their nerves "are a bit on edge" but that is about all.

"Nothing is wrong that a bit of good old American hospitality won't cure," one of them stated. They have been given twenty-three day furloughs to "rest up a bit."

Eligible for Award

The flyers are eligible for the Oak Leaf Cluster, an award given to a flyer who has made at least thirty combat missions, but they did not have time to wait for it in Italy. They will get their awards later.

It is understood that these flyers will report to Selfridge Field as instructors when their furloughs are over. Indications also point to promotions for the battle-worn heroes.

The pilots expressed surprise that the people over here know that the people over here knew home. They said they wanted to surprise their friends but learned that almost everybody knew that they were being returned, because Ollie Stewart told about it in his dispatches from Italy.

Off to Visit Relatives

-Here is what happened to the pilots after they received their furloughs:

Lieutenant Smith returned to North Carolina to visit relatives and friends. Lieutenant Rayford left for his home in Washington. Lieutenant Dryden is at home in New York. He has been in the hospital for a few days. Nothing serious. His parents, one sister and brother are in New York.

Lieutenant Lawson is visiting his wife Mrs. Cleo Lawson in Virginia. He was married only a month before he was sent overseas.

Age-Herald

What Negroes Are Doing

Birmingham, Ala.

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

NOV 14 1943

The first Negro pilots in the history of the U. S. Army Air Forces to receive the coveted Silver Wings of twin engine pilots were commissioned second lieutenants at graduation exercises in the post chapel, Tuskegee, Ala., Wednesday of last week.

Included among the initial group of Negro bomber pilots are 2nd Lt. Henri F. Fletcher, San Antonio, Tex.; Perry Hudson, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore, Md.; Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago, Ill.; William D. Thompkins, Fall River, Mass.; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif.; Herman R. Campbell, Jr., New York City; and Haldane King, of Jamaica, N. Y.

This group of fliers will report to Mather Field, Calif., where they will undergo transitional bomber training in B-25 Mitchell bombers.

T. M. Campbell, field agent for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and father of 1st Lt. William Campbell, first of the all-Negro fighter squadron to bomb the Axis, delivered the main address to one of the largest audiences ever to witness a graduation at the Tuskegee Air Base. In his speech, Mr. Campbell, who has two sons in the armed forces and a daughter in the Wac, pointed out to the new flying officers that: "The courage, skill and precision which you have exhibited during your period of training here will not only be of great inspiration to those following in your footsteps, but will command the respect and admiration of both races of people in this immediate community, this state, this region, this nation, and other parts of the world where you may chance to go."

The three top-ranking cadets of the class were awarded prizes emblematic of their all-around excellence as potential officers in the air forces. First honors were awarded to 2nd Lt. Leslie A. Williams former student at the University of California; second honors went to 2nd Lt. Edward M. Thomas, former Chicago postal clerk while 2nd Lt. Harvey N. Pinkney who attended Morgan College, won third prize.

Cadets completing their training and commissioned as single engine fighter pilots comprised a majority of the class and included representatives of eight states and the District of Columbia. Listed among the single engine graduates are the following:

Second Lts. Gwynn W. Pearson Oakland, Calif.; James B. Brown and William Thomas, Los Angeles Calif.; Rodger B. Brown, Glencoe Ill.; Oscar D. Hutton, Emory L. Robinson and Edward M. Thomas of Chicago, Ill.; Alfred Q. Carroll, Washington, D. C.; Clarence W. Dart, Elmira, N. Y.; Charles W. Dickerson and Theodore H. Mills, New Rochelle, N. Y.; Hugh St. Clair Warner, New York City; Edward Laird, Brighton, Ala.; Ivey F. Leftwich, Fairfield, Ala.; Turner W. Payne, Wichita Falls, Tex.; Earl S. Sherard, Columbus, Ohio; Eugene D. Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio; Nathaniel C. Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa. and Paul C. Simmons, Jr., Detroit, Mich.

47a-1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

9 Members of 99th Squadron Promoted

SEP 4 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Sicily

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SOMEWHERE IN SICILY.—First Lieutenant Henry M. Letcher of Washington, D.C., is now executive officer of the Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron. The appointment was announced Sunday by Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr., effective August 21, and makes Letcher responsible for the efficiency and functioning of all ground members of the command.

Said Letcher: "I feel highly honored that the commanding officer has chosen me for this position of great responsibility, and I shall make every effort to justify his faith in me."

Letcher has already made his presence felt in the squadron by his untiring efforts as special service, transportation and PX officer. He is a former Howard instructor and prior to coming into the service taught at Phelps Vocational School. His wife, Mrs. Evelyn H. Letcher, now teaches in the Washington public schools and lives at 3028 Sherman Avenue, Northwest.

Bolling Makes Safe Belly Landing

George R. Bolling has walked away from another one. This pilot, who weeks ago parachuted to safety near the coast of Sicily, Saturday slid his plane in on its belly after his motor cut out on him at 1500 feet and stepped out without a visible scratch.

He had just read in the AFRO of his other escape and wishes to assure his mother that he is still okay.

Eight Pilots Promoted

I left the squadron a few days ago for a visit to the front and returned to find nine squadron officers promoted, effective August 1. All promotions were from second to first lieutenant and all were pilots but one. The exception is First Lieutenant George Currie of Los Angeles, ordnance officer and graduate of Aberdeen.

The pilots have almost three months' combat duty to their credit and all send love and best wishes to their families. Included are:

George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Walter Lawson, Newtown, Va.; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N.C.; Willie Ashley, Sumter, S.C.; Louis Purnell, Philadelphia; William Fuller, Tarboro, N.C.; Samuel Bruce, Seattle, Wash., and Paul Mitchell, Washington, D.C.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Lt. Lawson Came Home on Half Wing and a Prayer

Former Tuskegee Flyer Says Germans Don't Stand and Fight Any More

By DOUGLASS HALL

NEWTON, Va. — "Coming Home on a Wing and a Prayer" is a pretty safe business, but what happens to a flyer when he has only a prayer and half a wing left? Lt. Walter Lawson, member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, knows the answer because he had that experience in North Africa.

Lt. Lawson

While escorting a bomber on a mission over enemy territory, Lieutenant Lawson was attacked by a group of German planes. He dived into them! When it was all over, he had only half a wing left and a plane whose motor was not running none too well.

His Closest Call

"I headed for home," Lieutenant Lawson stated, "flying low. The plane did not have the power to climb very high. I had my fingers crossed and I prayed — hoping that I would not meet the enemy flyers again. I did not and arrived home safe."

That was Lieutenant Lawson's closest call. Soldiering was no bed of roses for the boys in North Africa, he said, but he wouldn't take a million dollars for his experiences.

Germans Hit and Run

"Never at any time were the boys afraid," the lieutenant added, "they like to engage the enemy planes in dog fights, but that is almost something of the past. The Germans no longer stand and fight; they strike hard and run.

"But when one sails through the skies en route to a target," he stated, "there is a terrible feeling that comes over him. Behind every roll of cloud enemy planes seem to be lurking. It is the unknown that bothers us — not the known.

"Let them come out and fight—man to man, plane to plane — and the war will soon be over. But, no, they lurk in the clouds and fall down when you least expect."

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Race Bomber Pilots To Start Training Within Thirty Days

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—Negro aviation cadets, destined to pilot B-26 medium army bombers in the recently announced Negro medium bombardment group, will begin their training either at pilot schools at Fort Dodge, Kansas, or Del Rio, Texas, within the next 30 days, John J. McCloy, assistant secretary of War, said at his press conference here Thursday. The cadets will be trained in company with white cadets.

Answering a question of The Pittsburgh Courier on the status of the project for a medium bombardment group, Mr. McCloy said that, in addition to the training of bombing pilots, training of Negro cadets as navigator and bombardier officers will get underway no later than December, 1943. "They will be trained as such for 18 weeks, after which they will go to gunnery school. All this training will be with white cadets," he declared.

Giving further particulars, Mr. McCloy stated, "To complete the crews of this medium bombardment group—which must be activated by July 1, 1944—many Negro enlisted men are already in training all over the country. They are studying radio, aviation mechanics, electrical work and armor at Lincoln, Chanute, and Lowry fields, and other Air Force installations—all with white enlisted men."

TEAM WORK STRESSED AT TAAF GRADUATION

SEP 11 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., Sept. 9—Stressing the value of team work, discipline and punctuality, Major George McDonald, formerly a prominent Baltimore, Md., physician, spoke briefly to the latest graduating class at the Tuskegee Army Air field, August 30.

PRESENTED COMMISSIONS

Following the address by Major McDonald, executive officer of the Tuskegee Station hospital, commissions as second lieutenants were presented to the members of the class by Major Donald McPherson, director of flight training. Among the cadets being commissioned, were 2nd Lts. Alton F. Ballard, Pasadena, Calif.; Hubron R. Blackwell, Baltimore, Md.; Everett A. Bratcher, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; Harry J. Daniels, Indianapolis, Ind.; Andrew H. Doswell, Cleveland, Ohio; Charles A. Dunne, Atlantic City, N. J.; Smith W. Green, Los Angeles, Calif.; Edward W. Hill, Narragansett, R. I.; Lawrence B. Jefferson, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Samuel Jefferson, Galveston, Texas; Hubert L. Jones, Denver, Col.; William B. McClenic, Akron, Ohio; Starling B. Penn and Leon Purchase, of New York City; Roger Romine, Oakland, Calif.; Norvell Stoudmire, St. Louis, Mo.; Charles W. Tate, Pittsburgh, Pa.; George A. Taylor, Philadelphia, Pa.; Floyd A. Thompson, London, W. Va.; Carroll S. Woods, Valdosta, Ga.; and Willard L. Woods, of Memphis, Tenn.

HAITIAN OFFICER IN CLASS

Second Lt. Alix Pasquet, aviation student from the Haitian Air force, was among those completing the flight training course. Lt. Pasquet, who holds a commission in the Haitian army, was presented a certificate and wings.

INDIANA FLYER GETS TOP HONORS

Cadet honors were awarded to 2nd Lt. Harry J. Daniels, of Indianapolis, Ind., by Maj. John G. Cooke, commandant of cadets. Second and third honors were won by 2nd Lts. Andrew H. Doswell, Cleveland, and Alton F. Ballard, Pasadena, Calif.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

Army Air Forces School Has Negro

BOSTON (ANP).—The course of training given to the Army air force statisticians at the Harvard Business School has been increased by three weeks. So far only one colored student has attended the school—Lt. Emmett Rice, of New York City, and City College of New York City, now stationed with one of the Tuskegee Army Air Force squadrons.

SEP 18 1943

The course was lengthened from five to eight weeks to give the staticians control officer is placed with airfields in the Boston area before they are shipped to combat zones.

By the new system which has been in operation over a year, a statistiicans control officer is placed with every Army air forces unit. The demand for these men is so great that most of the graduates of the school are overseas.

Because of this demand, the school is being enlarged, and new classes enter very four weeks. The schol is the only one of its kind in the nation, and was also the first to experiment with the use of civilian professors to teach Army courses. Organized in June, 1942, it was kept secret until Time magazine revealed the set-up in January, 1942.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Lt. S. W. White Of 99th Is Missing

AUG 14 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — First Lieutenant Sherman Windham White, Jr., of Macon, Mississippi, is the second member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron reported lost in combat following engagements over Pantalleria Island in the Allied advance on Europe. White was reported missing in July.

Details in the air fight are lacking.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NEGRO AVIATORS SHOWN IN CLICK MAGAZINE

AUG 17 1943

NEW YORK — (SNS) — Click magazine for September has a three-page picture story on the "Black Panthers," Negro fighter group, now finishing training at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. The article declares the group is "tough, smart and rarin' to go," and declares the instructors of the squadron say the members fly and fight "intelligently, bravely and skillfully."

Lauds 99th Pilots

Amsterdam News
New York. N. Y

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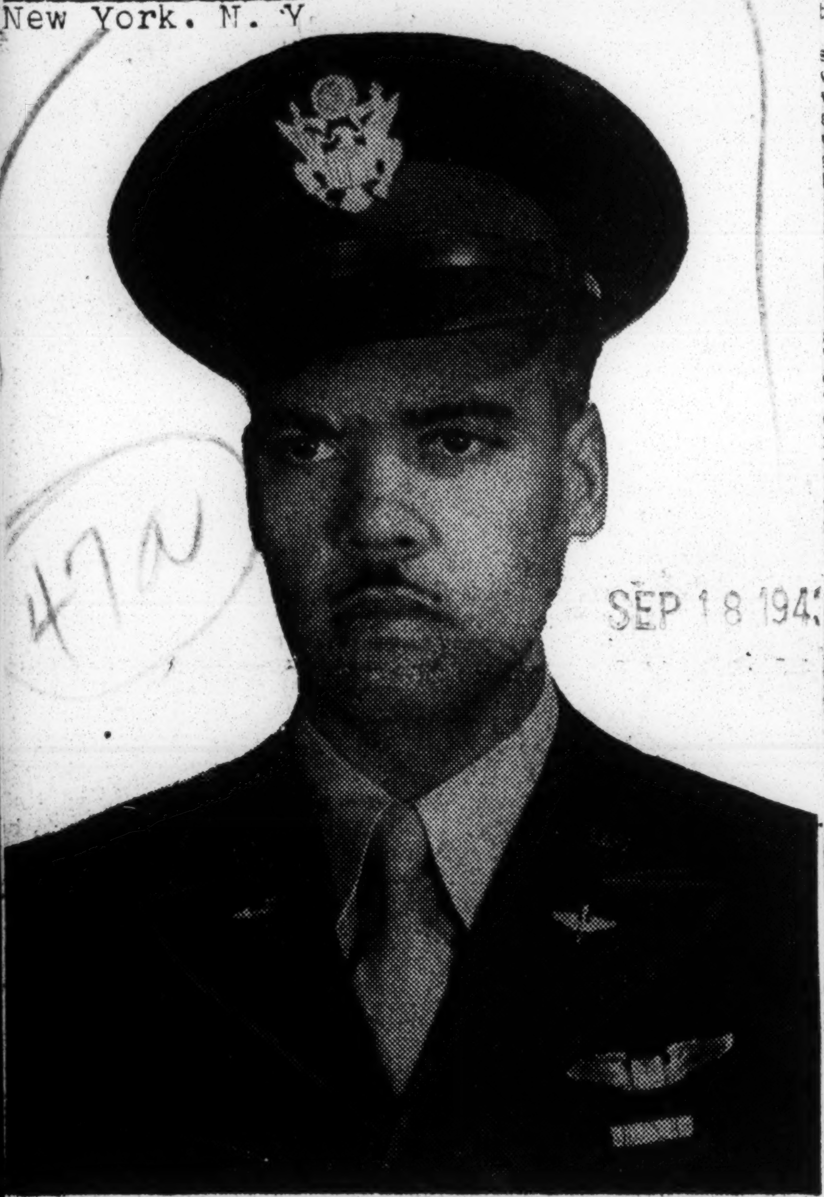
SEP 18 1943



LT. COL. B. O. DAVIS, former commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, who returned to the States last week. He praised the work of the fliers of his outfit. He will go to Selfridge Field to join the 332nd Fighter Group there.

Leader Of 99th Flies From Sicily For Engagement

AUG 14 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary of War Also Discloses Other Negro Troop Units Working Side By Side With Whites in Spirit of Harmony

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 12—At his first press conference since his return from a visit to the fighting front, held last week, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson declared himself well pleased with the creditable showing of Negro troops in all branches of the service.

He declared emphatically that his visits to Negro troop units convinced him that they were working well together with white American troops.

Of Negro troops in England he said: "I inspected one of the units with General Lee and I found a very interesting situation. The several units I saw were all working very vigorously and very earnestly and seemed to be working well together with other troops."

SQUADRON DOING CREDITABLE WORK

The Secretary indicated that at his invitation Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, had flnown from an advanced air base in Sicily to Tunis in North Africa for a special conference. Stimson stated: "I personally met Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., the commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, which is now stationed in Sicily. He flew over from Tunis to meet me. That squadron, as has already been reported, is doing creditable work in its mission."

Stimson also had high praise for Negro engineer, quartermaster and anti-aircraft units in North Africa and Sicily. He said: "In North Africa there was an engineer unit of Negro troops which served in Liberia in the spring of 1942, and that unit performed very valuable work on construction and repair jobs at North African ports from which the invasion of Sicily was undertaken.

"Furthermore, Negro quartermaster units did excellent work in preparation for the Sicilian invasion, and some of these quartermaster troops actually were with the landing forces in Sicily. Negro anti-aircraft units have been performing their mission all through North Africa."

AUG 14 1943

MARTIN B-26 BOMBER—WE'LL FLY 'EM SOON!

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 11 1943

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The Martin B-26 medium bomber, above, will soon have brown hands at the controls—brown eyes sighting the guns and the skill and daring of brown bodies guiding its course as it deals out death and destruction to our enemies. A War Department release admits "our boys" will start training in this type of ship within the next 30 days.—International News Photo.

Amsterdam News
New York. N. Y.

Meteorology Grads OK'd

Men Honored At M.I.T. While Churchill Was Honored At Harvard U.

By PAUL DANIEL DAVIS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., (ANP)—On Labor Day in this city while Harvard University was conferring an honorary degree upon Prime Minister Winston Chuchill, two young Negro aviation cadets were among the group of men studying at the United States Army Air Corps Meteorology school, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to be commissioned lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, as weather forecasters.

Those Commissioned

They are John Tomas Willis of Riverton, N. J., and Robert Maurice Preer of St. Louis and Atlanta. For the past 11 months they have been taking the difficult meterology coures at the famed M. I. T. in Cambridge, and now at finished products will be stationed in strategic positions to aid in air combat by their ability to predict and chart weather conditions accurately, which is all important in air combat.

Was an Athlete

John Thomas Willis the son of Mrs. Eleanor J. Young, of Riverton, attended the Palmyra, N. J., high school and graduated from the Trenton, Teachers College in 1942, where he held a scholarship. There he was on the track and soccer team, and in the glee club. At the meterology school he was in the weatherman's chorus, which broadcast frequently over Boston Stations. He was also a member of Kappa Delta Pi, national honor society for teachers, and treasurer of his College's chapter.

Willis then studied photogrammetry at Princeton University under the national defense courses and later worked in the geological survey division of the department of the interior for six months and continued course work at Howard University.

He became a member of the enlisted reserve on August 24, 1942 and reported to M. I. T. as a cadet on Nov. 7, 1942, where he did his basic training and entered the regular meterology program.

Come From Atlanta

Robert Maurice Preer, the son of Mrs. Rose Preer Brown of Parson Street, Atlanta, graduated from the Booker T. Washington high school in Atlanta and from Morehouse College in Atlanta with the class of 1941 obtaining a B.S. in chemistry. He was a member of the science and math club, member of the "M" club, and one of the national directors of the Delta Phi Delta, journalism society.

He later worked as postmaster at Atlanta University and in the registrar's office. He volunteered in June 1942, for meterology training and was called to active duty on November 9, 1942, Preer married Miss Bette Banner, of Boston and Atlanta University, and one June 10, become the father of a son, Preer Jr.

At Other Schools

At the present five universities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New York University, University of Chicago, California Institute of Technology, Pasedena, and the University of California at Los Angeles are offering this highly technical training in cooperation with the Army. Five men are now in the advanced phases of meterology in the Air Corps. One of the other two commissioned officers besides Willis and Preer is Lt. Benjamin Bullock, stationed at Tuskegee; one aviation cadet is now in training in California.

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

TAAF Commended for Safety Record

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — For its part in the air safety record of the army air forces for 1943, the Tuskegee Army Air Field was recently presented a facsimile of the National Safety Council's Distinguished Service to Safety Award bestowed on the army air forces.

In a letter to the TAAF commander, Col. Noel F. Parrish, Robert A. Lovett, Assistant Secretary of War for Air, said: "Please convey my congratulations to the officers and men of your field. You have helped effect a reduction in the rate of army aircraft training accidents during 1943 as compared with the previous year."

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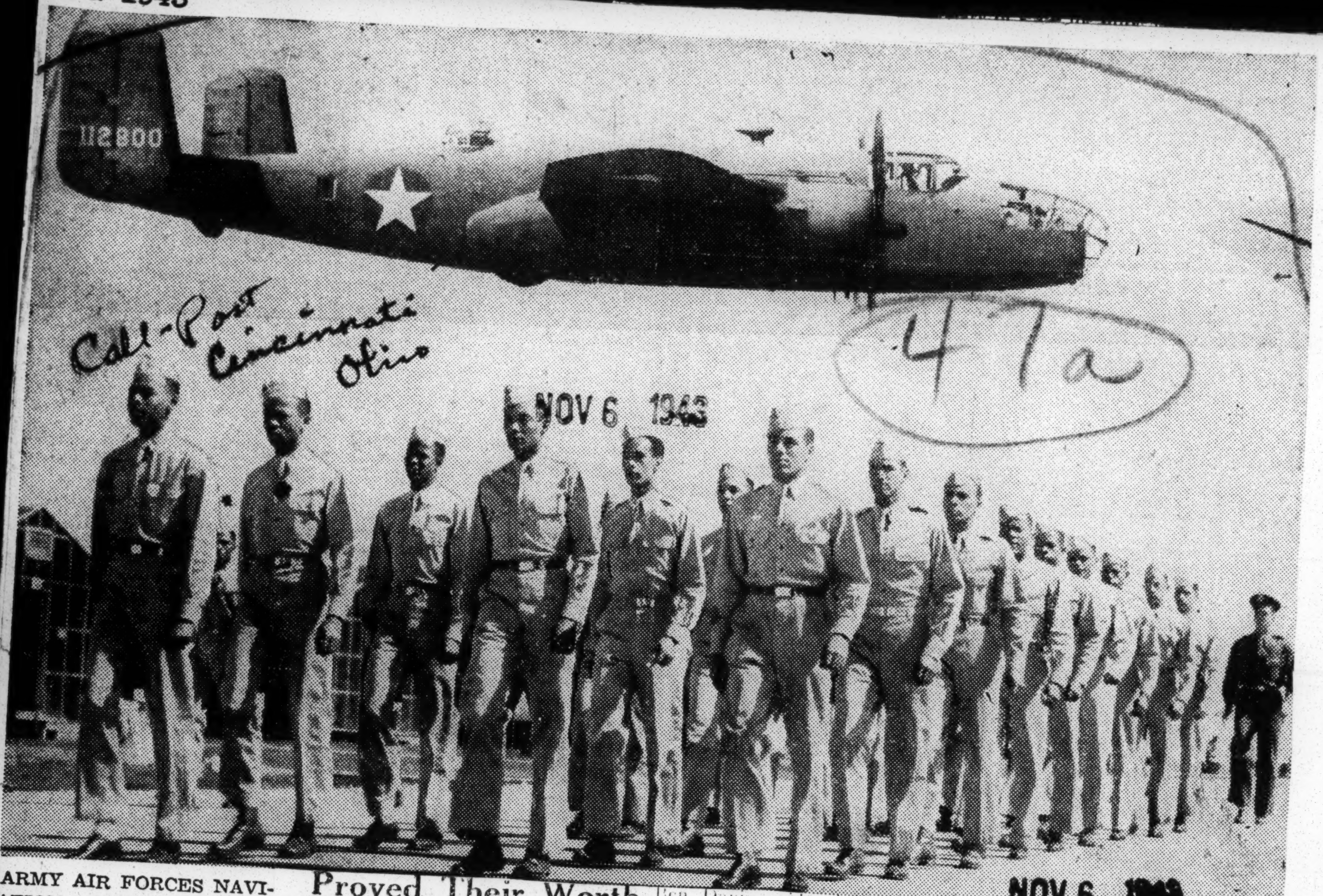

Call-Post Cincinnati Ohio

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NOV 6 1943

NOV 6 1943

ARMY AIR FORCES NAVIGATION SCHOOL, Texas—Heads up and arms swinging in the clipped arc of the Army Air Forces, these 30 members of the Hondo Army Air Field's first Negro navigation cadet unit march to their first classroom lecture. Their instructor in orientation subjects is 1st Lt. George F. McInerney.

Flying at the top of photo is the powerful North American B-25 bomber in which they are destined to see service against the Axis enemy. The admission of Negroes to navigation and bombardiers schools is anoter forward step in really "Americanizing" the U. S. armed services.

NOV 6 1943

Last Of Fighter Pilots Finish At Tuskegee, Ala.

OCT 15 1943

Negro Flyers Have Proved Their Worth But Fail To Get Fair Break From Chiefs Of United States Army, Says Report

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Oct. (ANP)—Perhaps a situation surrounding fliers should always be more less "up in the air." Certainly such a position has characterized much of life as it has surrounded the doughty airmen being trained at this post. Probably the fundamental cause is that teaching Negroes to fly and making them an integral part of the army air corps was not envisioned at the start and always has been a sort of carbuncle on the corps' neck.

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All of the white pilots being trained for the army are fitted in according to a stated plan which is related to combat needs. Not so with the Negro pilots. Despite the fact that the government has spent nearly $1,000,000 in the development of this fine field; even though colored fliers have proven beyond doubt that they could fly with the best, as Lt. Col. Ben Davis said when he returned from North Africa, "Negro pilots are no longer an experiment," still they are an extra something, on the outside so far as the air corps is concerned.

Originally there was no plan to [illegible] Negroes. The pressure exerted by Negro public opinion and the effective planning and cooperation by Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee, plus the influence of many other racial factors finally got the field located and started. It sounds fantastic to say so today, but it is reported that even though they were building the field, there were many higher ups in the air corps who never felt it would be a success.

So the 99th Pursuit Squadron was trained and after it had completed its normal work they did not know what to do with it. To make it an integrated part of a regular fighter group would defeat the ideas of those who felt that even in the highly individualistic pursuit planes where a man flies to his glory or his death alone Negroes could not be made part of white units. So the 99th stayed at Tuskegee and practiced until they became the most expert [illegible] still on this side.

1943

While it was decided to develop an all Negro fighter group. This would call for several squadrons to make up the group. With the hundreds of men necessary for ground crews and the perhaps hundreds or two pilots which replacements would require it was felt that despite the fact that the United States has trained 50,000 white pilots in the last two or three years, the couple of hundred would suffice to satisfy Negro public opinion, so that Negro fliers are still outside the "regular" army air corps plan.

Then came the anxiety upon the part of Negroes to be included in more than just the pursuit plane groups. They wanted to be part of the highly publicized bomber-fighters too. They began to exert pressure. Directed at the office of the civilian aide, the pressure was felt. Slowly the air corps responded. "All right, it will train bombers, men who will fly two engined jobs instead of the single engine pursuit planes alone."

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The air corps could have sent a group of colored youth on to school just as it sends whites. Instead, the emphasis is being shifted from pursuit flying. This class which graduated from TAAF last week is the last 'all-fighter' group which will probably graduate at Tuskegee. This doubtlessly means there will be no more fighter units after the 332d. A few, perhaps half of the students at TAAF, will go into pursuit flying so as to make up replacements for those put out of action with the 332d. The rest of the pilots will be trained in two engine bomber flying, leaving Tuskegee after they get their preliminary phase for training in one of the bomber-pilot schools, probably Fort Worth, Tex.

Thus far no colored mechanics are being trained for the bomber program. If the two programs are to be effectively pushed it would appear that colored mechanics would have been put into training at Lincoln or Chanute and plans laid for a really all-out bomber program. This could have been done while still producing fighter groups. It need not have been projected here at Tuskegee.

Why could not bomber training have been instituted somewhere else? Now that Negroes have proven themselves as good fighter pilots, why could Negro bomber trainees have not been taken right into the white schools forgetting about this folly of separateness? Asst. Secretary of War McClay said there would be no segregation and we accept his word as a gentleman.

Perhaps we did not carry our pressure far enough. It looks as though we are getting half a loaf and that there is danger of hashing up the fine job Tuskegee field has been doing in its specialized field when all we will get out of the bomber angle is a token representation. The army air corps dies hard the howls and protests which we raise are sometimes not intelligently directed to secure the best overall results for which we all pray.

Crowd Applauds Tuskegee Band

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 27 1943

The crack Tuskegee Air Field Band, directed by Captain Frank L. Drye, former conductor of the Tuskegee Institute Band, was given a great ovation by the large crowds that witnessed the colorful parade for the southern premiere of "This Is The Army," which was held last night at the Fox Theatre.

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The well-balanced Tuskegee Air Field cadets thrilled the crowd with their brilliant performance of "This Is The Army Mr. Jones," at fast march tempo and their perfect footwork.

AUG 27 1943

The parade featured various military units, including the army, WACS, Marines, Spars, Paratroopers, and heavy artillery and tanks corps, as well as the American Red Cross, American Women's Volunteer Service, American Legion, Civilian Defense and "Victory Gardens."

Bomber School Already Begun

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

OCT 16 1943

By DOUGLASS HALL

OSCODA, Mich. — Training of the ground crew for the bombardier school which is to get under way in Texas at a very early date has already begun here.

There are two Martin B-26 Marauder planes here which the boys are learning to take apart and put together. It is expected that these trainees will be shifted to the new outfit as soon as it is organized.

The new school will be opened as soon as there are trained ground men to make up the crew, the AFRO learned.

50 Colored Officers Here

"In truth," an official stated, "one [illegible] say that the school is already under way. Men are being trained for responsible positions in it. Of course, pilot training cannot began until the ground setup is working smoothly."

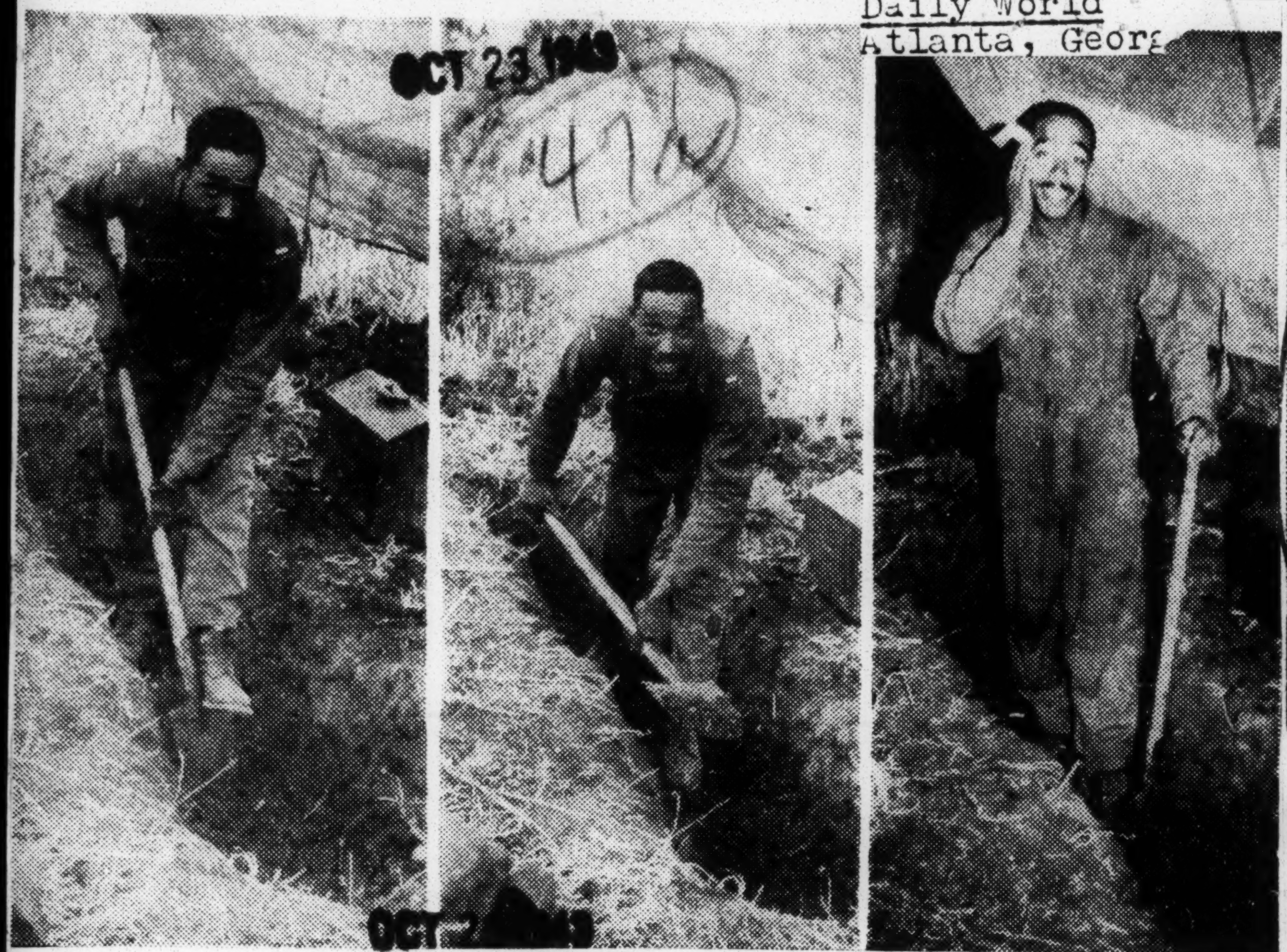
At this field there are more than fifty colored officers ranging from second lieutenants to majors.

Before Plane Crash Ended A Brilliant Flying Career

Daily World
Atlanta, Georg

OCT 23 1943

47a



OCT 23 1943

First Lt. Sidney P. Brooks of Cleveland, Ohio, is pictured as he worked on a foxhole near the air base of the 99th Fighter Squadron in Sicily prior to his fatal accident in mid-September. The flying officer was given a military funeral on September 19. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Brooks of Cleveland, and is also survvied by his widow, the former Miss Lucille Miller. When he joined he Army two years ago he was a junior at Ohio State University. (Journal and Guide photos by Thomas W. Young)

OCT 23 1943

Leads Eastern Cadets In Air Gunnery

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47a

DEC 8 1943

Aviation Cadet Othel Dickson of the Tuskegee Army Air Field led all flying cadets in the Eastern Flying Command and finished third in the national ranking of all cadets in the AAF Training Command at the recent National Fixed Gunnery Meet held at Elgin Field, Fla. The shooting young airman is shown loading the thirty calibre cowl gun on the AT-6 which he flew in the recent competition. A-C Dickson hails from Coffeyville, Kansas. (Photo by AAF Training Command)

DEC 8 1943

Last Rites Held

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

SGT. JAMES A. JACKSON

Military Burial For Youth Who

AUG 7 - 1943

Served With 99th

AUG 7 - 1943

Atlantans Pay Tribute To Sgt. James A. Jackson

47a

Funeral services for Technical Sergeant James A. Jackson, who died en route to Atlanta from North Africa, were held Friday at the First Congregational church, with Rev. John C. Wright officiating.

Hundreds of Atlantans attended the impressive military rites, and paid their last tribute to the young soldier, who merited the respect and admiration of all who knew him, by his useful and unselfish life.

President Benjamin E. Mays, of Morehouse College, stated that the deceased was the first casualty from Morehouse College in World War II, and mentioned the splendid record made by Sgt. Jackson in both scholarship and extra-curricula activities at the college. "A good man died in a good cause," Dr. Mays concluded.

Fred D. Maise, assistant Scout Executive of District 10, told of Jackson's well-rounded life as a scout.

Prof. J. P. Whittaker, registrar of Atlanta University and an official of the First Congregational church, said the deceased has always identified himself with the highest expressions in life. He also stated that Sgt. Jackson's knowledge of French was of practical use in North Africa.

In an eloquent and scholarly manner, Rev. Dr. Wright spoke at length about the many desirable character traits possessed by the deceased. Among those mentioned were his willingness to serve his fellowman, and unusual ability to make friends.

The funeral was completed at the grave at Southview Cemetery, where the deceased was paid the traditional military honors, including the gun salute and taps.

Sergeant Jackson was one of the first Atlanta youths to volunteer for the United States Air Corps, and trained at Chanute Field, Ill., and the Tuskegee Army Flying School, before going to North Africa as a member of the 99th Fighter Squadron. He was in combat area when he became sick and was being transferred to Lawson General Hospital in Atlanta when he died.

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Jackson was well known in the Gate City. He attended David T Howard Elementary and Junior High School where he was awarded a loving cup for being the best all-round student, and graduated from the Atlanta University Laboratory High School and Morehouse College. He was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, and while at Morehouse, was a cheer-leader.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Ruth Jackson, two sisters, Mrs. A. W. Brown of Orangeburg, S. C., Mrs. Joseph Daniels, and one brother, Stephen Jackson.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Haywood Assigned To Advanced Flight Class At Tuskegee

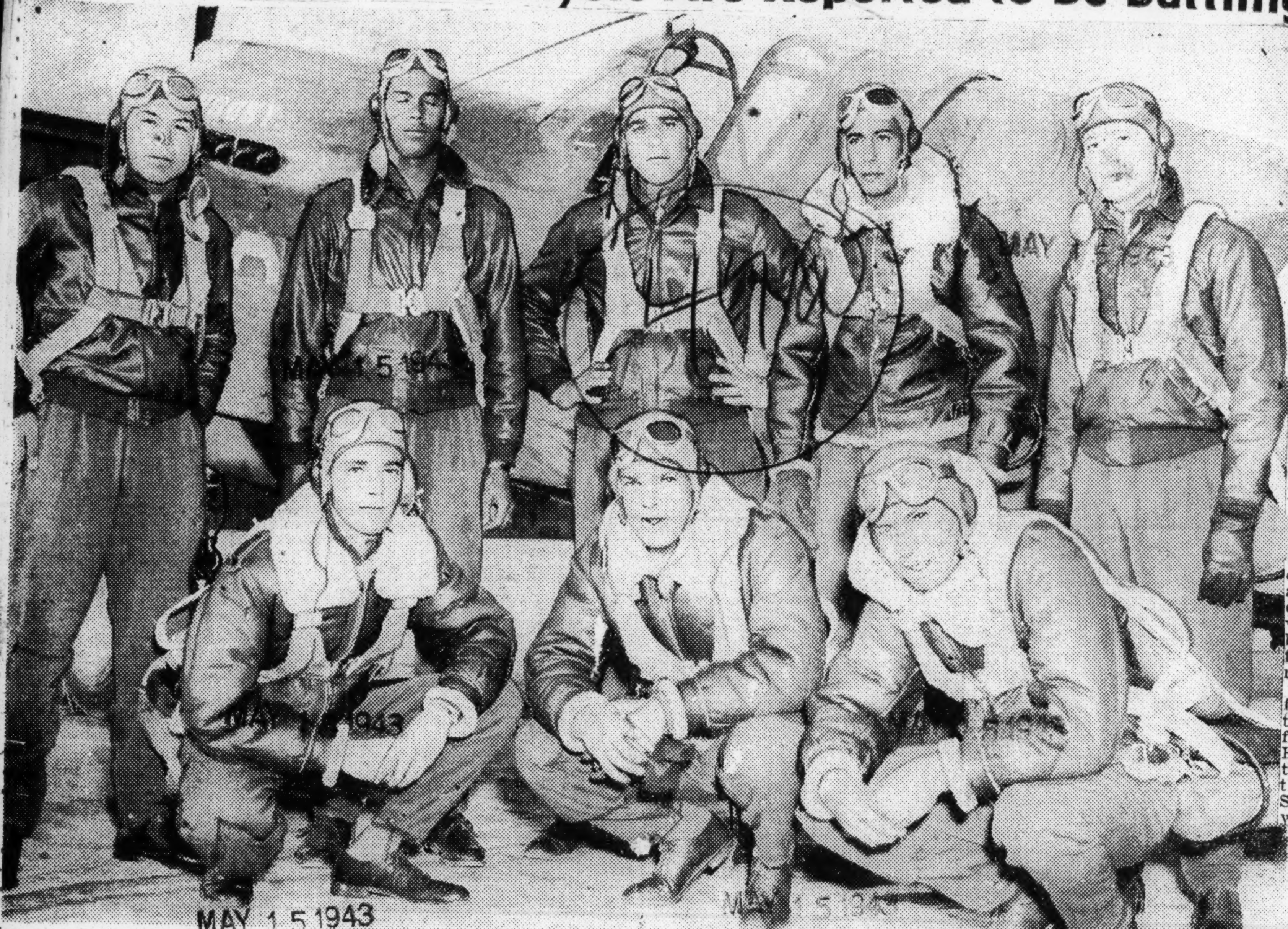
JUL 17 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Aviation Cadet Thomas W. Haywood Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. T. W. Haywood of Warrenton, N. C., recently completed his basic flight training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, and has been assigned to the advanced flight class. He graduated from Hampton Institute in 1941 with a B. S. degree.

Prior to entering the Aviation Cadet Corps, Cadet Haywood was an instructor in industrial arts at Douglas High School in Winchester, Va.

47a-1943

Some of These TAFS Flyers Are Reported to Be Battling the Axis in Africa



MAY 15 1943

Left to right (front row) Edward C. Gleed, Lawrence, Kansas; Richard C. Pullam, Kansas City, Mo.; William H. Walker, Suffolk, Va.; back row, Milton T. Hall, Owensboro, Ky.; Robert B. Tresville, West Point cadet, of Bay City, Texas; Peter C. Verwayne, New York; Wendell O. Pruitt, St. Louis, Mo., and Marcus R. Williams, Marshall, Texas.

Speaking of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, which has been on the "alert" for six months, awaiting assignment to a theatre of war, a top ranking air force general said recently in an off-the-record statement, "We have trained these boys all right. They are the best trained flyers in America today They are really ready for combat but the trouble is that those guys up at Washington can't make up their minds what to do with them."

That statement was made several weeks ago and now it can be said that Washington is known to have made some important decisions that cannot be revealed for some time to come. Incidentally, a lot of pilots and ground personnel have been reported missing from Tuskegee and the group at Selfridge Field does not account for all of them.

WILL NOT MIND FIGHTING JAPANESE

Recently a man discussing the th Pursuit Squadron from Tusgee wanted to know how I thought they would feel if they come to grips with Japanese Zeros and their pilots. He shared my opinion that the Negro aviators when they get their first taste of battle are going to be pitted against the little men from the land of the rising sun.

The boys from the 99th will be flying the Stars and Stripes, I told him, and whether the foe they face is a Japanese, an Italian or Hitler himself you can count on them making every effort to prove the black contingent in Uncle Sam's flying force is the best the world ever saw.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Congress Hears Negro Air Squadron Leaves For Duty

Ohio Solon Puts Matter On Record In 'Skegee Talk

MAY 7 1943

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—First public statement that a Negro air squadron had left for combat duty was made by Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton of Ohio on the floor of the house Thursday, April 15, when, speaking about Tuskegee institute of which she is now a trustee, she said:

"The first squadron of colored flyers has left for combat duty taking the hearts of Tuskegee with them. I am sure the entire membership of this house wishes them well and hopes for them a high record of honor and of glory."

Although Mrs. Bolton's speech is found in its entirety in the Congressional Record for April 15, thousands of copies of which have been printed and distributed throughout the nation to read by any interested person, the war department has sought to prevent its publication in newspapers, stating that no mention of this squadron's departure, should be made until official sanction is given by war department officials.

However, the Office of Censorship has given permission for the Associated Negro Press to reproduce Mrs. Bolton's statement exactly as it appears in the Record.

MAY 7 1943

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Says 99th Is 'Best Trained'

MAY 11 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

MAY 1 1943

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Air Force General Praises Tuskegee Airmen, Raps Washington

By ALBERT ANDERSON for ANP

WASHINGTON, April 29—

ANOTHER AVIATOR KILLED ON LAKES

Pittsburgh Courier

BULLETIN! Due to the many unusual angles that have developed surrounding the shooting incidents, airplane crashes and graft charges, The Pittsburgh Courier has dispatched its managing editor, William G. Nunn, to Selfridge Field for a personal investigation.

MAY 15 1943

(SEE LETTER PAGE 4)

DETROIT, Mich., May 13—Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, second lieutenant in the Army Air Force, and former football star at Syracuse university, was reported missing Sunday night at the Army Air Force base at Selfridge Field after an eight-hour futile search along the shores and in the waters of Lake Huron.

Singh's pursuit plane plummeted into Lake Huron Sunday at noon a few hours after Second Lieut. Jerome Thompson Edwards, Steubenville, O., was killed in a crash at the Oscoda sub-base to Selfridge Field.

The War Department reported Monday that the U. S. Coast Guard was continuing its search for the body of Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh. He was last seen to bail out of his single pursuit ship while ke Huron. His mother, uline E. Sidat-Singh,

spressed hope he would turn up alive.

ARMY BOARD TO PROBE CRASHES

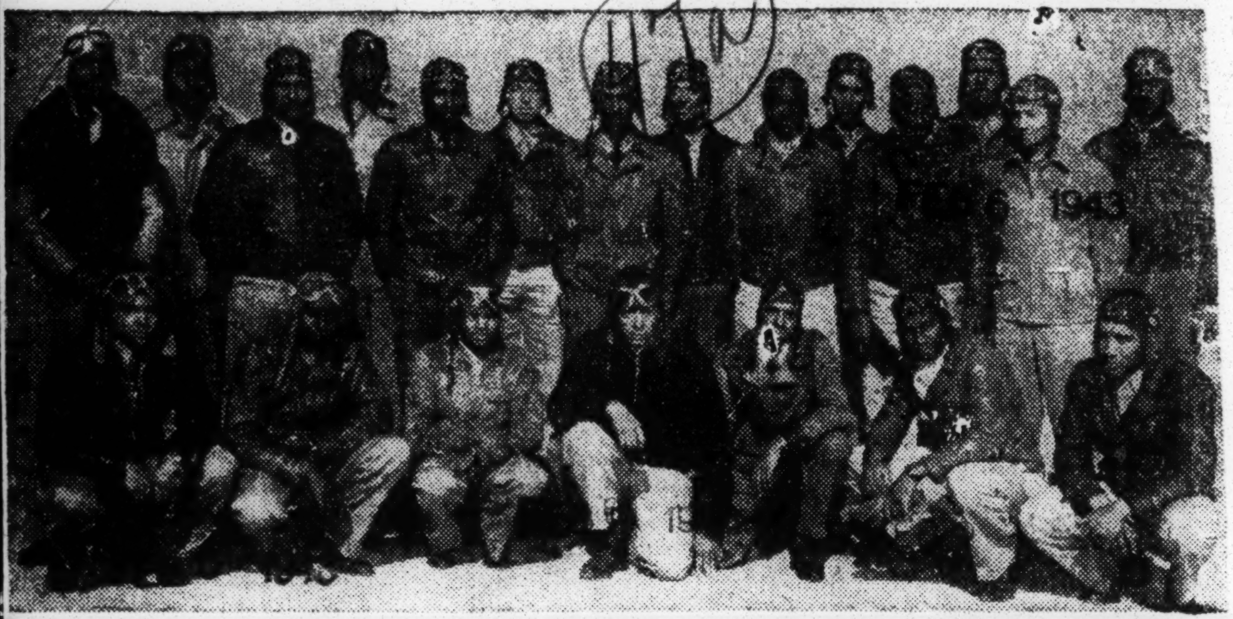
Singh, who had arrived at Selfridge Field last Tuesday, was engaged in a routine flight when his single-seat plane developed engine trouble. The flyer took to his parachute and baled out. An oil smear on the surface of the lake indicated where the plane went down, but no trace of the body had been found late Sunday night. The flyer was a member of the 301st Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group. A board of Army officers has been appointed to determine the cause of the accident.

Singh was graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Force school March 25, this year. He was a graduate of DeWitt Clinton high school, New York, and Syracuse university. Pior to entering the Army he served as a police officer in Washington, D. C., and played basketball with the world champion Washington Bears. His mother, Mrs. Pauline Sidat-Singh, resides in Washington, and his father, Dr. Samuel Sidat-Singh, in New York.

MAY 15 1943

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Civilian Flying Instructors Train Negro Cadets At Tuskegee



By Bureau of Public Relations, U. S. War Dept., Wash., D. C.

TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA—These are the civilian flying instructors who give the aviation cadets at the Tuskegee Army Flying School their initial experience of climbing into a cockpit. Bottom Row, left to right, Perry Young, Oberlin, O.; Charles H. Flowers, Wadesboro, N. C.; Claude Platt, Fort Worth, Tex.; Charles A. Anderson (Chief Pilot) Bridgeport, Pa.; C. R. Harris, Wilkesboro, N. C.; Wendell R. Lipscomb, Berkley, Cal.; James E. Wright, Savannah, Ga.

Top Row, left to right, Robert Terry, Greensboro, N. C.; John H. Young, III, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Charles W. Stephens, Jr., Monroeville, Ala.; Charles R. Foxx, West Palm Beach, Fla.; Roscoe D. Draper, Haverford, Pa.; Sherman T. Rose, Jefferson City, Mo.; James A. Hill, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Adolph J. Moret, Jr., New Orleans, La.; Earnest Henderson, Mountville, S. C.; Matthew W. Plummer, San Antonio, Tex.; Linkwood Williams, Madison, Ill.; Daniel James, Pensacola, Fla.; Lewis A. Jackson, Argola, Ind.; Milton P. Crenchaw, Little Rock, Ark.

FEB 6 1943

Lieut. Sidat-Singh, Great Negro Athlete, Missing

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

MAY 11 1943

The United States Army bulletin which was issued yesterday and reported Air Corps Lieut. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh "missing" after his plane had crashed in Lake Huron, comes as a deep and terrible shock to millions of sports fans all over the country who had come to know the great Negro athlete from his exploits on the football gridiron and basketball court.

Lieut. Sidat-Singh, just recently graduated from the Tuskegee, Alabama, Army Flying School, was on a routine flight over the lake when his single-seater pursuit plane went crashing into the water. Headquarters at Selfridge Field, where he was stationed, reported that eye-witnesses had seen him bail out before the ship crashed but a search for him has proved unsuccessful so far.

As the Daily Worker goes to press there is still no word of Sidat-Singh's whereabouts, but together with millions of other Americans we hope fervently that the search for the Negro Air Corps Lieutenant will prove fruitful and that he will be found alive and well.

* * *

The sports pages have a way of using the word great with much abandon, but in the case of Sidat-Singh the word is used in its real and proper meaning. For if ever there was an athlete who was great, it was this well-built, handsome all-around athlete who is still remembered as one of the most magnificent stars ever developed by Syracuse University.

Not only was he a great star at Syracuse but he was likewise one of the greatest natural athletes in the entire country.

Wilmeth Sidat-Singh was brought up in New York City where his father, Dr. Samuel Sidat-Singh, has long been one of Harlem's most eminent physicians. He went to Clinton High School, where from his first year he was one of the most talented athletes and scholars in the school. Quiet spoken and modest, Sidat-Singh starred on three teams, winning his varsity letters in football, baseball and basketball.

Upon graduation from Clinton he went to Syracuse University where he intended to study medicine. It was in Syracuse that he rose to become one of the greatest athletes in America.

A brilliant halfback, Sidat-Singh sparked his team to victory after victory. He was a wonderful broken field runner, a fine punter and a wonderful passer. He rose to the height of his fame when in the traditional game with Cornell in 1938 (then one of the mightiest teams in the land) he almost single-handedly beat them by throwing three long touchdown passes in the last three minutes of play.

But he was more than just a football star. He was even more talented perhaps on the basketball court. In fact, when upon graduation from college he found it was impossible to land in the football major leagues because of the Jim Crow ban on Negro players, he joined the famed Renaissance Basketball team—an all Negro five which has been ranked by many experts to be the greatest basketball team in the world. For four years he was one of the brightest figures in basketball and was known to fans in every section of the country.

Almost immediately after Pearl Harbor was attacked, however, Sidat-Singh's athletic career came to an end. He enlisted in the Army despite the rotton Jim Crow set-up he knew he was getting into. In short time his superb physical condition and his obvious high mentality and leadership abilities impressed his superior officers and Sidat-Singh was sent to the Army Air Corps Training School at Tuskegee. He graduated from there on March 25, a full-fledged air fighter and was impatiently awaiting transfer to a fighting front when his plane crashed into Lake Huron at about noon Sunday.

* * *

There is little one can say as long as the search for him goes on. But one can point out that Sidat-Singh is a fine representative of the Negro people. His devotion to his country and to the fight against fascism was manifested time and again. One of the happiest days of his life came in 1938 when his team, the "Rennies," played a game for the benefit of Loyalist Spain. Sidat-Singh and his Negro teammates were heart and soul for Spain and when the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade presented him with a little badge in token appreciation for his services, he replied in a voice full of emotion: "Long live Loyalist Spain. Salud!"

Such a man is the man who crashed into the water wearing the uniform of a Lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps.

Salud!

—Nat Low.

MAY 11 1943

Argus
St. Louis, Missour

March 12, 1943

EXPAND AIR TRAINING PROGRAM AT TUSKEGEE

TUSKEGEE, Ala., March — A new chapter of training in the Army Air Forces was opened today on the campus of Tuskegee Institute famous Alabama school for Negro youth, with the arrival of Flying Training Command personnel assigned here to head the newly instigated training program for aviation cadets.

The new program, announced recently by the War Department will see the thousands of cadet reserves inducted immediately into colleges from coast to coast for academic and military courses prior to their actual training. After the program is underway the students will take a five months' course.

March 12, 1943

A limited flying program will be conducted for all students in cooperation with CAA War Training Service.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., STAR
Circ. D. 130,904 S. 187,592

JUL 4- 1943

PROMINENT IN ATHLETICS.

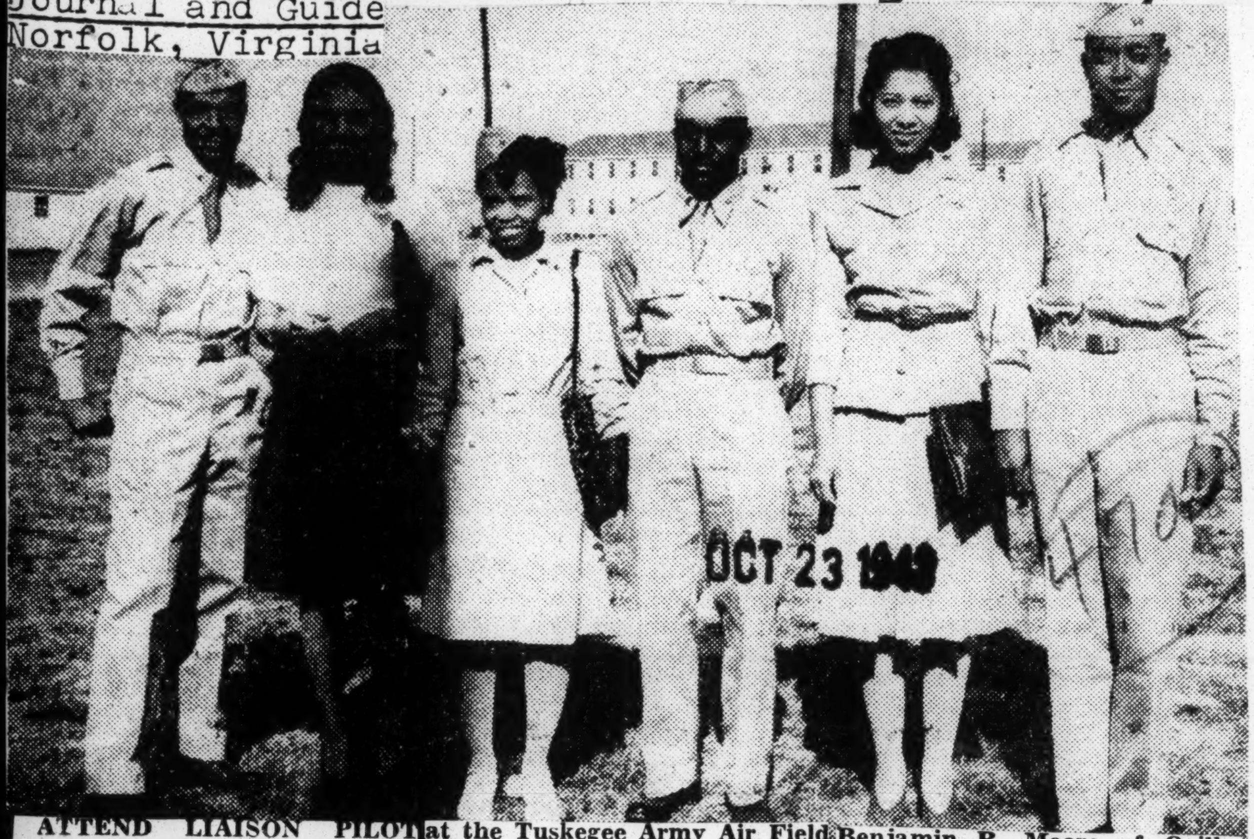
Brazil, Ind., July 3.—(Special)—Lieut. Charles B. Hall, 25 years old, first Negro aviator to down a German plane, is the son of Mrs. Anna Hall of this city and enlisted in Air Corps three weeks before Pearl Harbor. He received his wings at the advanced flying school at Tuskegee University, Alabama. Hall was graduated from Brazil High School and won a scholarship to Eastern Illinois Normal. He was prominent in football and track in high school and at Normal.

47a-1943

Families And Friends On Hand For Fighter And Liaison Pilots' Graduation At Tuskegee Army Air Field

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



OCT 23 1943

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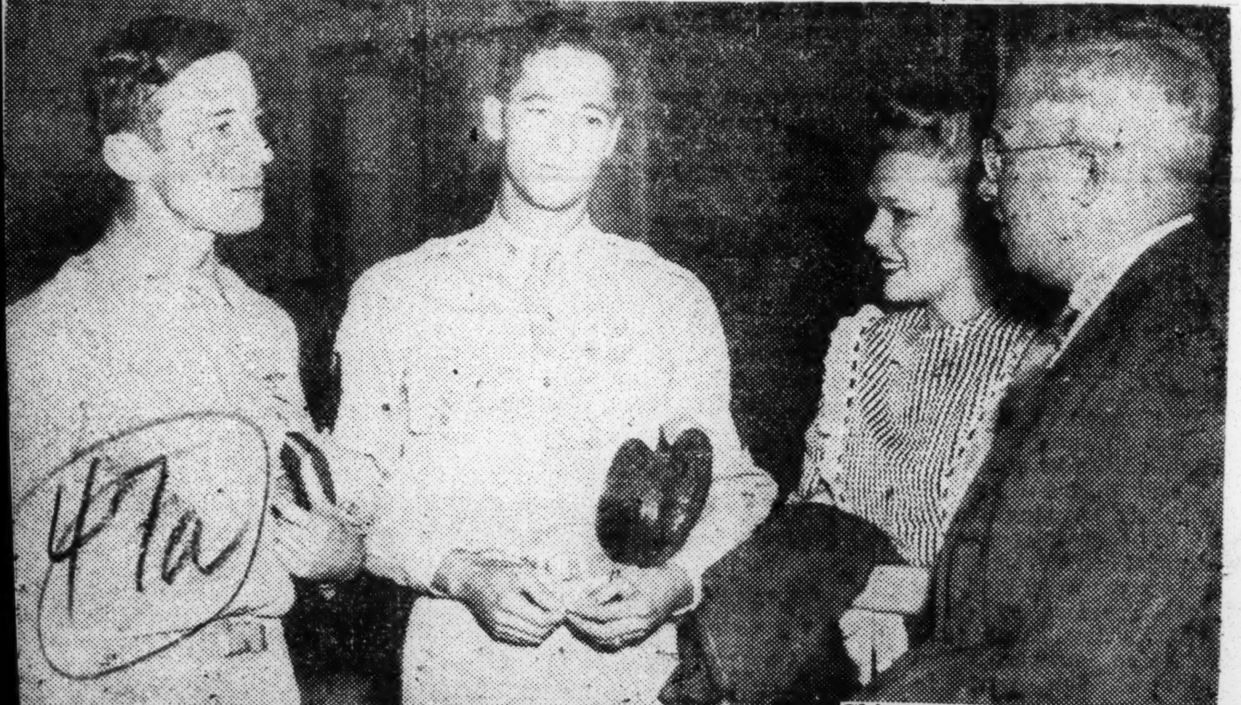
ATTEND LIAISON PILOT GRADUATION— Among the many guests present for the graduation of the first group of Field Artillery officers to receive their liaison pilot wings at the Tuskegee Army Air Field were (left to right): Lt. and Mrs. Chauncy Eskridge of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Miss Willa M. Thomas of Cleveland Ohio; Lt. Benjamin R. Moore of Ocilla, Ga., (both are graduates of Georgia State [illegible]ege) and Cap[illegible] and Mrs. William H. Shannon, Chicago, Ill. (Photos by TAAF)

OCT 23 1943

OCT 23 1943

HAPPY DAY FOR FORMER CADET CAPTAIN—Having the honor of being chosen the outstanding cadet of his class for being the most efficient and all-[illegible] s[illegible]t to Cadet Captain Carl E. Johnson of Char[illegible]sville, Va. Pinning the coveted wings on the ranking cadet immediately following graduation is Miss Arbodia Edith Lee of 1718 South 27th avenue, Birmingham, Ala.

OCT 23 1943



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ATTORNEY WINS WINGS—Second Lt. Carroll M. Langston Jr., fingers his "silver wings," awaiting their pinning on by his charming wife, as the commanding officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, Col. Noel F. Parrish, and Atty. Carroll N. Langston Sr., discuss the young flyer's future. Lt. Langston, prior to his entra[illegible] the cadet corps, was a[illegible] in Chicago. His father is an eminent lawyer of that city. The flyer's wife, the former Miss Marguerite Wilson previously taught in the Chicago [illegible]blic schools.

OCT 23 1943

11 Officers Promoted at Selfridge Field, Michigan

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By Staff Correspondent

OCT 6 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Dr. James [illegible] Ramsey [illegible]iladelphia was promoted from captain to major here Sunday. He is group surgeon of [illegible] 332nd Fighter Group.

OCT 16 1943

Ten other promotions included the following:

To Be Captains

First Lieuts. George L. Knox of Indianapolis, operations officer; Franklin B. Beck, dental surgeon; Harry B. Anderson of Indianapolis, flight surgeon;

To Be First Lieutenants

Second Lieuts. Eugene D. Weaver of Philadelphia, personnel officer; Joseph A. Christmas of Durham, N.C., statistical officer; Roosevelt Richardson, weather officer; Robert L. Smith, of Aledander Rapids, La., engineer officer; William A. Banks of Clarksdale, Miss., engineer officer; Edward C. Gleed of Lawrence, Kans., material officer, and Robert G. Pitts of Ottumwa, Iowa, intelligence officer.

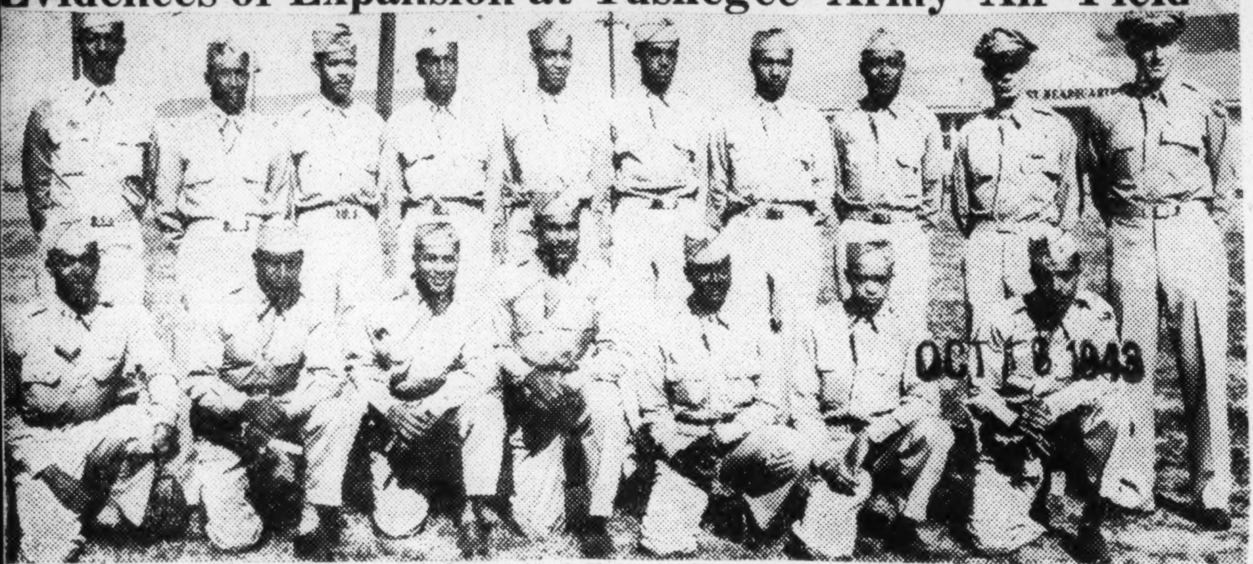
Promotions Lagging

Some of the group's pilots have expressed uneasiness lest they be sent overseas be[illegible] expected numbe[illegible] promotions have been made.

OCT 16 1943

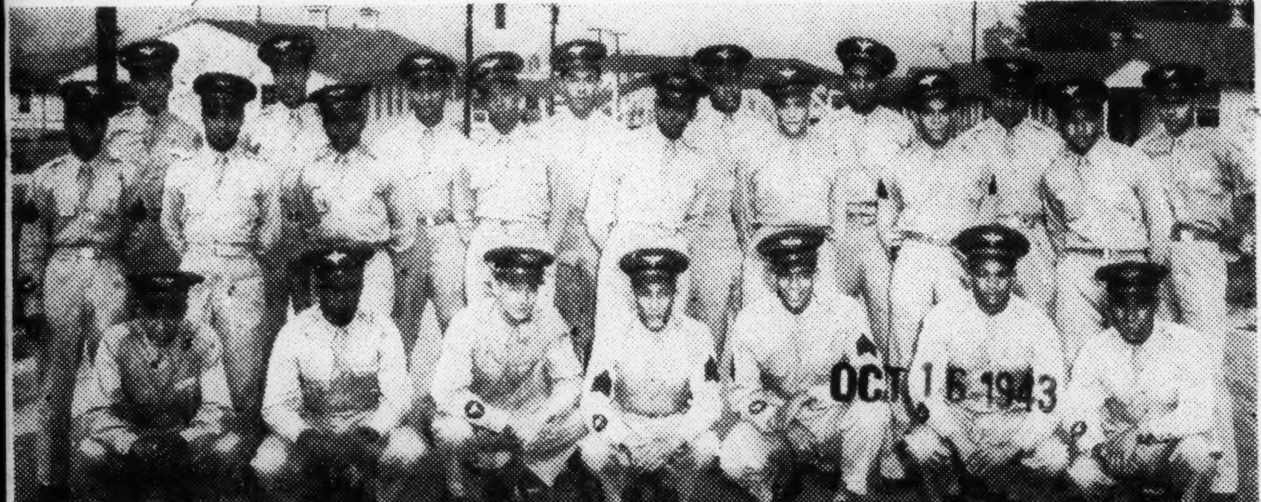
Such a group is said normally to have a lieutenant colonel, 2 majors, 17 first and 17 second lieutenants. The 332nd is considerably short of this standard.

Evidences of Expansion at Tuskegee Army Air Field



OCT 16 1943

Field artillery officers who last week received liaison pilots' wings in the first such graduating class at the expanded Tuskegee Army Air Field. Their training covered nine weeks of preparation for observation and communications flying in connection with operations of ground forces. Shown, left to right, are: Standing—1st Lt. James I. Minor, Washington; 2nd Lts. James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kan.; Arnold D. Grant, Coffeyville, Kan.; 1st Lt. William Y. Rose, Chicago; 2nd Lts. Leander A. Hall, Jr., Mobile, Ala.; Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; Alvin J. Johnson, Chicago; Capt. William H. Shannon, Chicago; 1st Lt. Charles T. Hood, assistant director of liaison pilot training, and Capt. Errol W. Becthold, director of liaison training of the Tuskegee Army Air Field; kneeling—2nd Lts. Aldrick H. Wilson, Chicago; Benjamin F. Moore, Ocilla, Ga.; Darryl C. Bishop, Houston, Tex.; Harry W. Dung[illegible], Chicago; Leonard E. Wilburn, Columbus, Ohio; Charles G. Dunn, Cincinnati, Ohio, and 1st Lt. Chauncey Eskridge of Washington. The graduating officers will receive their advance and tactical traning at Fort Sill, Okla.



OCT 16 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Members of the last all-fighter group to be graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field, who received their wings and commissions last week. Future classes will be split up; some to enter twin-engine training in preparation for bomber work, while the remainder will continue as fighter pilot trainees. In this group, left to right, are: Fi[illegible] row—2nd Lts. R. H. Smith, Baltimore; W. D. Ross, Ashland, Ky.; C. N. Langston, Chicago; C. E. Johnson, Charlottesville, Va.; G. J. Haley, Bath, N.Y.; Flight Officer William Cross, Cleveland, Ohio, and 2nd Lt. C. B. Johnson, Philadelphia; second row—2nd Lts. C. B. Browne, N[illegible] Jones, N.Y.C.; N. W. Scales, Austin, Tex.; C. W. Newman, St. Louis; M. A. Harris, Boston; [illegible] F. May, [illegible]anapolis; P. G. Goodenough, Washington; G. M. Rhodes, Brooklyn, N.Y.; third row—W[illegible] Alsbrook, Kansas City, Kan.; W. N. Morgan, Omaha, Neb.; A. Simmons, Jacksonville, Fla.; D. B. Ponder, Chicago; C. L. Browder, Wilmington, N.C.; N. V. Nelson, Chicago; E. W. Watkins, Freeman, W.Va., and H. B. Scott, Jersey City, N.J. Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, addressed the graduates. Cadet honors for outstanding excellence as officer candidates were awarded to Carl E. Johnson of Charlottesville, Va., first; Carroll N. Langston, Jr., Chicago, and Gene C. Brown, of N.Y.C. Lt. Browne, who is 19, is said to be the youngest colored pilot in Army Air Forces.

OCT 16 1943

Ready For Crack At Dictators

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 7 1943

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A quartet of recently commissioned 2nd Lieutenants, graduates of the Twin Engine School of Flying at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, eagerly talk over the prospects of contemplated bombing forays over Germany or Japan, when they will ultimately complete their training in B-25 Medium Bombers at Mather Field, California. Pictured from left to right, are: [illegible] Lieuten[illegible] Henry F. Fletcher, San [illegible]nio, Texas; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, California; Jerome D. Spurlin, Chicago; and Perry E. Hudson, Jr., of Atlanta.—(PHOTO BY TAAF)

NOV 7 1943 NOV 7 1943

2-Engine Bomber Pilots Now Training at Tuskegee

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Prepare for the Forthcoming Activation of All-Colored Bomber Squadron; U[illegible] AT-10's

OCT 16 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Training of pilots for flying twin-engine planes officially began last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, in preparation for the forthcoming activation of an all-colored bomber squadron.

Major Clay Albright, who is said to have taught every colored fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces how to fly fighter aircraft, was selected to head the school. Lieutenant Milton B. Hall of Owensboro, Ky., will assist him in an administrative capacity. Instructors are 1st Lieut. Leonard B. Cro[illegible] and [illegible]t. Robert B. Meagher.

OCT 16 1943

Pilot Selection

Pilot trainees for twin engine training will be selected from the Upper Basic class of cadets, and are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training. After this they will be transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin-engine course is the AT-10BH (Beechcraft), or the "assimilated [illegible] bom[illegible]" Ingenuity and skill are required of pilots who operate them.

OCT 16 1943

Instructors from Turner Field, Ga., have been attached here to familiarize mechanics in the fundamental knowledge of keeping these ships serviced.

47a-1943

FIRST NEGRO FIGHTER GROUP

Pilots Beg To Stay In Air, Set For Crack At Facists

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SEP 11 1943

By **DETON J. BROOKS**
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—From early morning until the last rays of closing day vanish from the horizon, grim, determined, nerveless pilots of the all-Negro 332nd Fighter Group work and train for the moment they must hunch over gun sights and draw a bead on sallow Japs or haughty Germans in some aerial battleground high above a far-away foreign land.

The continuous roaring rumble of fast P-40 and P-47 pursuit ships thundering across Selfridge Field or the gunnery range 200 miles north near Oscoda, Mich., are a constant reminder of what these boys are about.

Theirs is the grim business of preparing for battle — a battle of speed, where twisting, diving planes hurtle through the air, where trigger-haired judgment is the lone bulwark against eternity, where nerve and courage and personal skill are as essential to victory as perfectly constructed planes.

When I visited Selfridge last week, observing these dark flyers as they went through maneuvers and later talking or playing cards or drinking a bottle of beer with them in their quarters, I got a new kind of thrill.

Cream of Manpower

Here was assembled a large group of physically and mentally perfect young men representing the cream of the nation's manpower, regardless of color. A few months ago they were spread all over the United States, going about their peaceful occupation while today they are members of the most daring branch of the armed services — the Army Air Force, and they are organized into the first full-fighter group of Negroes.

Their organization is three times larger than the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron now in service overseas. In fact, there are three squadrons—the 100th, the 301st, and the 302nd. As a group, they are a complete administrative and tactical unit.

FATHER AND SON COMBINATION

1ST LT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE, JR.
Commander of the 100th Squadron at Selfridge Field, Mich., who is a West Pointer—the first Negro to graduate from the Military academy into the Army Air Corps.

WARRANT OFFICER ROBERT B. TRESVILLE, SR.
Regular army band master who has a long record of service and is proud of his son in the Air Corps.

While all these men are graduate pilots, they are still training and the competition is keen. Their commander, Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., set the pattern when he told me that the unit was overstaffed. "I prposely wanted it that way, so that every pilot would feel that he had to work to stay with the group. Those men who can't make the grade must go. Only the best will remain."

This spirit helps to keep the men on their toes and keenly interested in their training program. If one thinks that because these flyers look glamorous or because they lead a daring life that their schedule isn't rigorous and hard, a short visit to Selfridge will disabuse their minds.

When a fledgling officer arrives at the post after receiving his wings at the Tuskegee Flying school, he is usually sent up to Oscoda for a period of two or three weeks. The training base there is cut out of the wilderness. There is a beautiful concrete runway and hangars, but the pilots live in very simple huts which are camouflaged among tall trees. From the air all you can see is the hangars and runways.

Here, far away from girls and night clubs, they fly on an average of six hours a day and sometimes they go on night missions. It is here that they practice ground-strafing and skip-bombing. The technique in both of these maneuvers, as it was explained to me, is to keep from crashing into the ground while dropping low enough for withering machine gun fire blasting from wing guns to hit troops walking along or to be low enough for demolition bombs to be dropped on machine gun nests or huts.

This takes plenty of nerve and practice. For a plane may be circling at a thousand feet when it spots a likely target. It peels off and dives almost vertically. The pilot had better not misjudge his distance and forget to pull out soon enough since he can't make that mistake twice.

After a period at Oscoda, the flyers return to Selfridge. There, after breakfast, which must be over by 7:45 a.m. every morning, they report to the flying line. In their ready rooms, squadron commanders with the help of instructors outline the day's mission, and from 8 o'clock until dark someone is in the air.

Strenuous Program

At Selfridge they perfect the technique of formation flying. They practice gunnery, firing at towed-sleeve targets, and they begin and end cross country long distance hops.

On bad days when they can't fly, they either study tactics in the ready rooms or go to the pistol or skeet ranges for practice. Skeet shooting is very valuable to pilots because it teaches them to follow a moving target.

They are hard at work six days a week. They only have one day off and this doesn't necessarily fall on Sunday as someone is flying every day.

Recently orders were issued requiring all pilots who haven't completed 80 hours of flying time with the group to be in bed at 10 p.m every night with the exception of the night before and their night off. The colonel took this action to protect them from having accidents as a result of overfatigue. All of this indicates how strenuous their program is.

In the evenings after the day's work is over, they loiter in the club room of their BOQ (Bachelor Officer's Quarters to the uninitiated) where they play cards or drink a few bottles of beer or, as most of them do, eat candy. If they are lucky and have completed their 80 hours training, then they can leave the post. Some of them like to spend an evening with the girls in Detroit.

At 10 o'clock those that are under restrictions must be in their rooms for the checkup by the Officer of the Day.

It's quite a strenuous routine; sometimes a few will start to grumble a little in protest of constant flying. Then a fellow officer will pull out a letter he's received from a buddy on the battlefront with the 99th and read "Get all the flying in you can. Don't wait to be told; beg to stay in the air. That's your protection when you get over here." That sober thought stops the protest and the boys get ready for another mission.

Instruction Gives Group Opportunity In Unusual Field

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By **ELLIOTT J. BARNETT**

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—(ANP)—Tuskegee Institute's division of aero-mechanics started its second year of existence last week with a gain in enrollment and vastly supplemented equipment, William C. Curtis, director of the school of mechanical industries announced.

Open to freshmen and sophomores, the aero-mechanic course covers a two year period of laboratory work and lectures designed to fit the students to pass the aircraft and engines examination given by the Civil Aeronautics authority, to obtain the much coverted A and E. licenses. The students spend about 30 hours a week in the shops and hangar in addition to their regular academic studies. Upon completion of the prescribed curriculum, a trade diploma [illegible]arded by the college.

OCT 1 - 1943

VITAL TRAINING

OCT 1 - 1943

"This u[illegible] of instruction is set up to give Negro youths an opportunity to participate in the field of aircraft repair because there is a distinct need for this training at present and the coming post-war period," Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee, said in a recent interview.

The course originated in the summer of 1940 as an outgrowth of the definite need for aircraft mechanics to service the planes owned by Tuskegee's Flying field. An intensive search failed to uncover a sufficient number of competent mechanics so George L. Washinton, at that time the director of the school of mechanical industries, and at present the civilian manager of the 66th Air Force Flying Training detachment, presented the idea of training the necessary personnel to do their own maintenance work to Dr. Patterson. The far-sighted president quickly saw the merit of the program, with the unlimited opportunities for the training of Negro youths, and gave the proposition his full support.

Four shops are coordinated in the presenting of the courses. They are air-craft engines. aircraft fabric and repair, aircraft painting and dope, and aircraft sheet metal.

There is well over $250,000 worth of equipment for actual shop work. Two P-40's, one P-39, and assembly yard, Allison 1710 liquid cooled engines, Pratt and Whitney and Wright twin rowed air cooled engines, comprise the modern material with which the classes become familiar daily.

OFF-RESERVATION SCHOOL

OCT 1 - 1943

The school has be[illegible]ed by an off-reservation school set up by the federal government and by a state training program, under the supervision of Wilson S. Allen. The off-reservation school has been used to train mechanics for the Tuskegee Army Air Field Sub-depot, and other flying fields scattered over the country. Highly trained technicians in specialized fields constitute a well rounded faculty.

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Since T[illegible]kegee is th[illegible]y Negro college, that offers a complete and thorough training in aircraft mechanics, the geographical distribution of the students is large. At present eight states are represented by the enrollment records in the registrar's office, with New York and Texas students trav[illegible]ing the greatest d[illegible].

OCT 1 - 1943

While, going through [illegible] shops and hangar on an inspection tour and watching the seriousness registered on the boys faces as they listen to lectures or as they study and work on some unit of a P-40, the impression is gained that these youths know what they want and they intend to make full use of the chance to fulfill their ambitions.

Hint 332nd To Leave For Combat Soon

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The departure of the first all-Negro fighter group of the army air force, the 332d fighter group, for a combat area is imminent. An inform[illegible] source in the war departmen[illegible] revealed that the date of departure [illegible] the destination have been set. Th[illegible] the group for which Lt Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr, returned from the North African theater of operations to assume command They are stationed at Selfridge field, Mich.

NOV 16 1943

And when that glorious day arrives, [illegible]4 pilots and a flock of enlisted men and their officers who make up the ground crew, will be on their way to put into practice the training for which the government thas spent roughly $4,000,000 Further, it is authentically learned, when they arrive at their destination, they will get into the cockpits of a flying ship of superior capabilities, which the army force has said [illegible] little about to date.

"TURN, TURN, TURN"

NOV 16 1943

Throughout their training both at Tuskegee and at Selfridge field, the men have been flying P-40s made by Curtis-Wright, and P-39s, made by Bell Aircraft. Of the former, Col. Davis had said upon his return from Sicily that all they could do waste "turn, turn, turn."

A fighter group is comprised of three squadrons . Each squadron normally [illegible] commanded by a lieutenant colonel, an[illegible]e group itself by a full colonel. It is not unlikely that young Davis may be raised in rank before the group departs.

NOV 16 1943

Meanwhile, the war department has officially announced that 12 pilots from Tuskegee and Selfridge have been ordered to report to Mahter field, Cal., by Nov. 15 [illegible] begin their training in the handling of B-25 bombers. Already a group has arrived at Honde Army Air field, Texas, where they are undergoing training as navigators and bombardiers.

GRADUATES LISTED

The three who have proceeded from Selfridge are 2nds Lts. Daniel James Jr., P[illegible]la, Fla.; Charles I. Williams, [illegible] Ohio; [illegible]ames Y Carter, Winston Salem, [illegible] N. C. Those from Tuskegee, all graduates in the Nov. 3 class, are 2nd Lts. Henry R. Campbell, Jr., NewYork; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonie, Texas; Perry E. Hudson, Jr., Atlanta. Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N J ;Haldane King, Jamaica, N. eatr Y.;Re Y.; Jerome D. Spurlon, Chicago; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore; William D. Thompkins, Fall River, Mass; and Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo.

NOV 16 1943

The war department bureau of public relations explained that navigators and bombardiers will now perform dual functions. They will all learn navigating first and then bombarding techniques.

The reason for this change in practice, it [illegible] said [illegible] because of the loss[illegible] effecti[illegible] of a bomber should either of the two skilled men become disabled in the course of a mission.

FIRST NEGRO CADETS ARRIVE AT HONDO FIELD

NOV 6 1943

Call Post Cincinnati, Ohio

Study Aerial Navigation At Texas Field in 15-Week Grind

NOV 6 1943

HON[illegible] ARMY AIR FIELD, HOND[illegible]s —Thirty Negro navigatio[illegible]ts have arrixed at this bas[illegible] the first Negro unit to be enrolled as aerial navigation students in the AAF Central Flying Training Command.

Under the leadership of Aviation Cadet Arnold W. Galimore, 21-year-old flight marcher from New York City, the members of Hondo Field's "Squadron 10" reported to Captain Frank H. Sheffield, senior tactical officer of the air base's Group III, and were immediately launched into the first busy day of the huge school's intensive 15 weeks' training program.

Many of the new navigation cadets have had prim[illegible]r flight training at Tuskeg[illegible] Alabama. Selected for final classification as combat crew navigators, these men reported at Hondo for advanced training along with other Negro soldiers formerly assigned to various branches of the Army Ground Forces. A number of the latter were non-commissioned officers before transferring to the Army Air Forces.

A high percentage of these cadets had either been graduated from or were attending colleges and universities throughout the United States at the outbreak of the War.

Assigned to give "Squadron 10" initial orientation lectures at Hondo was 1st Lieutenant George F. McInerney of Group III's instructor's school staff. Lieut. McInerney is a flight commander at the air base, thoroughly trained in assisting new students to get into the swing of the stiff Hondo Field training program with a minimum of lost time.

Cadet Galimore will continue to serve as flight marcher for the members of "Squad[illegible]0." The young navigation st[illegible] was a staff sergeant in the Medical Corps before beginning cadet training. He has four years' service in the Army. The son of Mrs. Hazel Tudor, 244 West 137th Street, New York City, Cadet Galimore attended City College, New York, and New York University College of Engineering before becoming a member of the armed forces.

Upon succesful completion of the navigation course at Hondo Field, the members of Hondo's first Negro cadet squadron will receive commissions as flight officers or second lieutenants. They then will be available for active duty on the fighting fronts, or will receive asignments as navigation instructors in the United States.

Captain Sheffield said of the new cadets: "I am well pleased with their soldierly bearing and eagerness to begin training. We are confident they will prove their worth in the rig[illegible]ogram that lies ahead."

NOV 6 1943

99th Squadron Divided for Italy Invasion

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 2 1943

Split of Tuskegee Flyers Affects Unit

Like Family Death

ACTION IS FIERCE SOUTH OF NAPLES

Captain Roberts with Section That Stays Behind

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ADVANCED SICILIAN AIR-BASE (By Cable, Censored) — The separation of [illegible] from embarkati[illegible]ints near here is like death in a family. Recently we stood grim and silent as we watched part of the 99th Fighter Squadron leave for Italy, not knowing whether the entire outfit would ever be united again.

OCT 2 1943

There were a few damp eyes among those who were left, for all of us had eaten and bunked together for months, and even toughened soldiers regard their comrades as brothers after all have shared a common danger. Now as we wait our turn to set foot on Mussolini's former kingdom, we watch the daily news carefully.

In Battle South of Naples

Some of our comrades were in the fierce fighting last week with the Fifth Army south of Naples. Instead of being frightened by the stiff German resistance in Italy, all men I have talked to are anxious to get there and take a hand in the scrap.

No outfit makes headline news every day, but after watching this squadron since its first combat with the enemy in June, I can say that they are good soldiers every day.

Capt. Geo. S. Roberts, commanding officer since th[illegible]arture of Lieut. Co[illegible] B. O. [illegible], gets co-operatio[illegible]m pilots and ground personnel in every respect.

OCT 2 1943

The men, who arrived here plump and chubby, are now lean and weather-beaten. In the ordnance u[illegible] recently booked for Italy, I met S/Sgt. John Reynolds, of Camden, N.J., former All-CIAA center at Johnson C. Smith; Pvt. Raymond Cato, West Point, N.Y.; Sgt. John Williams, Albany, N.Y.; Wilbert Wallace, NYC; Pvt. James Knowles, Mound City, Ill.; Pvt. Joe Bowser, Tunis, N.C., and Pfc. Albert Porter, Springfield, Ohio.

Deny Story 99th Is "Not Satisfactory"

OCT 2 1943

WASHINGTON

In reply to an article in Time Magazine last week which talked of the probable assignment of the 99th Pursuit Squadron now in Italy to the coastal air force and which also intimated that the High Command was not satisfied with its overseas performance, the Office of Gen. Henry H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Force, issued a statement this week.

Rumors Are Unwounded

It said that it had no knowledge of any such proposal to assign the 99th to the Coastal Air Force and that any rumor to the contrary was without foundation.

As to the record of the 99th Squadron overseas, the official position is that Lieut. Col. Davis in his full statement last week told the correct story and the War Department will stand on Colonel Davis's statement.

OCT 2 1943

The War [illegible]tment is also checking on Ollie Stewart's report that the 99th has been divided. No official comment could be made at this time. Unofficially, it was said the division might be a good thing for it might mean that the 99th Squadron is being integrated with other American air force units.

47a-1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

NOV 13 1943

BRIEFING—A group of fighter pilots get details of their mission before take-off. Note map on ground. Seen in above photo are 1st Lt. Lee Rayford, Washington, D. C. [illegible] to camera); 1st Lt. Herbert V. Clark, Pine Bluff, Ark., (center, background); Capt. George S. Roberts, Fairmont, W. Va., [illegible]re-headed), and 1st Lt. Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, Ohio (scratching neck). (Exclusive photo by Journal and Guide war correspondent).

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

47a

NOV 13 1943

INSPECTING PARACHUTE—Sgt. William O. Warner, Atlanta, Ga., must carefully inspect and o.k. each parachute periodically. Work of the parachute rigger is most vital, because if one of them fails, the pilot just doesn't get a new one. (Exclusive photo by Journal and Guide war correspondent).

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

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LOADING THE GUNS — Sgt. Morris Beavers, 23, 111 Oaone street, Atlanta, Ga., one of the armorers is placing a chain of .50 calibre bullets in the cartridge chamber of [illegible] machine guns mounted in the wings of P-40 Warhawks. (Exclusive photo by Journal and Guide war correspondent).

Flyers at Selfridge Field Tell of Close Calls in Air

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OCT 16 1943

One Says He "Kissed Death" Twice, Others Tell of "Dying Motors" Crashes in Mid-air

By DOUGLASS HALL
Staff Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—In addition to pilling up thousands of hours of fighting flying time, pilots in the 332nd Fighter Squadron also have exciting experiences "on practically every trip up."

These exciting moments range all the way from a plane cutting off in mid air to a crash in the skies. But the boys are not nervous about it all. They laugh it off and go right back for more.

The most common occurence in the career of the fighters is the cutting of the motor in the air. This does not happen so often now that there are a shipment of new planes on the field and the old "motor-stopping" ones have been grounded. They call these close calls "Twik-Experiences"

47a

"Kissed Death" Twice

No flyer here has been any closer to death and still lives than Lt. Woodrow W. Crockett, 1618 W. Eighteenth Street, Little Rock, Ark., who has on two occasions "kissed death."

"My first exciting experience came when I crashed with another plane in mid-air. My plane was damaged [illegible] landed without serious mishap," he said

"The second came when I was coming in and a tire blew out. My plane crashed and I was trapped under it. I escaped that with a black eye and a few scratches on my leg. They cut me out of the plane.

"I want to get over and get a crack at some of those Germans before I kill myself," he kidded.

Lt. Crocket has 375 flying hours—150 of them fighter.

Gets Lost in the Clouds

Lt. Andrew Turner, 1000 Westford Place, Northeast, Washington, wtinessed his highlight experience while still a student at Tuskegee Institute when he got lost while flying in formation.

"We ran into clouds," he explained, "and I lost the man I was following. I flew around trying to find a break in the clouds and my gas was running low all the time. Finally I saw a break and landed at [illegible] Field. The flyer he was following crashed.

Lt. Turner has 475 flying hours, 225 of them fighter.

Lt. Mac Ross is an old timer around here. He finished in the first class at Tuskegee Institute, March 6, 1942, and has 650 hours, 187 of them "fighter."

Only One to Bail Out

He is the only flyer here who has bailed out of a ship and that was his highlight experience. "The plane went bad and I bailed out," Lt. Ross stated, "and that is the only mishap I have had." He is a native of Dayton, Ohio.

The motor of the ship that Lt. William B. Ellis of Washington was flying actually stopped in the air. "Yes sir," he stated, "just c[illegible]ck on again—but not be[illegible]I had done a lot of thinking and praying." He has 260 hours in the air.

Lt. Willie S. Hunter just "ran over a plane that happened to be parked in the lane he landed in. He got "grounded" for it, but even at that he has 323 flying hours, 50 of them fighter.

He "Just Didn't See It"

"I just didn't see the plane," Lt. Hunter stated, "but I had a terrible feeling when I struck it." He is a native of Albany, Ga.

First Lt. Daniel (Chappie) James, J[illegible] Pensacola, Fla., has 1560 flying hours to [illegible] credit. An instructor of primary aviation while at Tuskegee Institute, commands the squadron which has about 10,000 hours in the air.

"I had my narrow escape, too," he stated. "Once I was much closer to trees than I thought I was—right at the top of them. My motor has cut off several times."

Lt. Joseph Elsberry of Langston, Okla., was diving when his plane ran out of gas and cut off. He turned on another tank and saved the day. He has 500 flying hours—about 240 fighter.

Such experiences are everyday occurences with the Fighting 332nd and they still think flying is the best game in the world.

OCT 16 1943

Ferry Command Pilot Tells Adventures On Ocean Hop

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

CRACK BRITISH NEGRO FLYER VISITS

Capt. Fred Hutcherson Jr., only Negro ever to fly in the celebrated Ferry Command, pictured being greeted by friends on his recent furlough trip to his home here. Though only 30 years old, Capt. Hutcherson boasts experiences which would chill the spine of the average airman many years his senior. Here he shakes hands with Mrs. Ida M. Scott, commanding general of the Fred Hutcherson Jr. unit. In the picture also are Dr. James Scott and Mrs. Hutcherson.

By SAM LACY

He is only 30 years of age but the tales he can tell of his actual experiences in the air would grizzle the emotionally-inclined listener overnight. He is a Negro and, therefore, is not one of God's "favored" children who can enter the field of their choice, but even so, he has spent more than one-third of his life in the cockpit of an airplane.

In fact, Capt. Fred Hutcherson, Jr., began flying at the age of 17, and for the 13 years since, has been darting into a sun-swept cloud for the fun of it, or plummeting to within 50 feet of a glacier-bedecked surface of the North Atlantic for "safety's" sake.

The Illinois-born Negro was back in Chicago last week, here for a brief visit with relatives and friends before returning to his job as transport pilot with British West Indian Airways. His present post, while generously sprinkled with dangers, is something of a respite for him as he looks back upon the three years of service he has just completed with the government of Great Britain.

An instructor in the Royal Air Force training system, Captain Hutcherson was in a strategic position to break into the Ferry Command when that arm was established as a means of getting American-built planes to England under lend-lease. Although a contract requirement was that candidates for the Ferry Command "must be of the white race," the record of Capt. Hutcherson in the RAF was such that the exception was made in his case. Thus he became the only Negro ever to undertake, or be assigned to, the perilous task of delivering planes to war-torn Britain at the height of the Nazi blitz on the isles.

Real Work Begins

It was then the real work began. There were to be no more days of flittering around upstairs, dipping a wing into the cumuli or standing the crate on its tail for the thrill it gives. Ahead of him was action of all varieties and types, but none of the kind that he himself could manufacture.

It was, as a matter of fact, his first trip across that provided the first of a long line of nerve-testers which, in reasonably short time, reduced the ranks of those who went in along with Captain Hutcherson from 33 to 16.

"We were enroute to England with our first group of bombers," said Captain Hutcherson in a Defender interview, "and were going along at a fair clip. Since it was our first trip out, it was natural that all of us were keyed to a high nervous pitch.

"My navigator had just told me we were passing the halfway mark when we received a check on the fuel supply from the controlroom. It told us we had about 96 gallons of fuel left, enough for 35 or 40 minutes more of flying on that engine, before switching to our second engine.

"Suddenly and without warning, the motor went dead, stopped cold.

"We were at 23,000 feet, but when engine stopped we began to do the inevitable. We started to drop. I tried frantically to switch to the other engine, at the same time fighting with the instrument panel in an effort to revive the stalled motor.

Cold Feel Tenseness

"Things looked bad. I knew that there was little hope the second engine would get going sufficiently to keep us from hitting the water of the middle Atlantic, because it is customary to allow yourself plenty of time to switch from one engine to another, under normal conditions. Moreover, this is usually done while the first engine is still running in order that the second can be sufficiently warmed up before putting the weight of the plane on it.

"Anyway, we were down to 19,000 feet and losing altitude fast. Everyone was quiet. I could feel the tenseness of the atmosphere, could almost hear the inward pleadings of those brave guys whose eyes were pinned on me. The stutter of the stalled engine brought but little relief, we were only 17,000 feet away from the white caps and though this was no time for picturesque words or story-book description, they looked like a million outstretched hands reaching up after us.

"At slightly better than 16,000 feet the stalled motor caught up and the burst was like music to our ears. The rest of the journey was uneventful but I am satisfied the experience was one that will live forever in the memories of that crew. The hair of my radio operator, a likeable chap from Glasgow, turned from deep black to chalk gray in the course of those few minutes.

His name was Waddy Cohen, Captain Hutcherson said, and he was killed last March in the crash of his B-24 bomber in Bermuda.

Another hair-raising experience fell to his lot a few months later on a trip from Greenland to Iceland, Captain Hutcherson declared. Here again the motors threatend to stop and he was not more than 40 or 50 feet above the ocean waves before he could bring his reserve supply of gas into play. Landing was on the beach of Iceland and, so pleased was he with his miraculous escape, Captain Hutcherson effected the delivery of the machine there.

Still another narrow escape from death, and one which doubtless would have had world-shaking consequences, occurred in May of 1942. He was on a flight from Iceland to Scotland and had ducked down to 500 feet in order to get under bad weather.

About 400 miles south of his taking-off point, Captain Hutcherson saw a huge shape loom up ahead of him in the darkness. He wasn't sure what he should make of it, but decided in short order that he would have to do something. He banked off to his right and at the same time saw a large American plane go off to its right.

A head-on collision with a plane he later learned was carrying Airforce General H. H. Arnold, was thus averted by split-second thinking and action. Intelligence, he said, had failed to notify either him or the pilot of the other plane that an opposite-bound machine was in the air.

Experiences such as these are numerous in log-book of the dapper young sky veteran. Which bears out what was said earlier, that the job he now holds with BWL Airways is soft stuff to what he has been through.

Married but with no children, young Captain Hutcherson is a native of Evanston, Ill. He obtained his first air "ways" under an old German ace of the first World war, Roy Guthier. Gutheir was a teacher at Sky Harbor, which is located about five miles north of the Curtiss-Wright airfield, where Captain Hutcherson spent much of his boyhood watching planes and tinkering with the engines of old abandoned crates.

He loves flying and $1,000 a month for doing something you love ain't hay! Or maybe you think so.

JUL 3 1943

47a-1943

6 Rated As Only Negro Liaison Pilots In U.S.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MAR 27 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL, Ala. — Six former members of the Army Flying school here who made enviable records with the field artillery branch of the service are now the only Negro liaison pilots in the United States, it was learned this week.

These men who have the rating of staff sergeants, but serve in the capacity of officers, are Staff Sgts. Caldwell, Morris, Rainey, Hickman, Johnson and Christian. Three are with the 92nd Division and three with the 93rd.

Assigned first to Fort Sill and after remaining there five weeks, it was decided to train them as liaison pilots, in the course of which, it is understood all made outstanding records.

Of the six men, Langston Caldwell, a pilot, was considered here a top ranking student. He is capable of becoming a leader in aviation, as he demonstrated here and at Ft. Sill, and now leads the air observation unit at Fort Huachuca.

Only Liaison Pilots

The air observation department of a field artillery unit, it was explained, requires five officer pilots and five staff sergeant pilots per unit. The six former Tuskegee men, therefore, are America's only colored liaison pilots. Staff Sgts. Caldwell and Johnson are performing the duties of captains, while Morris, Rainey, Hickman and Christian shoulder the responsibilities of first lieutenants.

MAR 27 1943

Caldwell, Morris and Rainey, airmen here agree, have qualifications to become service pilots in the Army Air Corps. In Waco, Texas, where they took flight checks, they were advised to have their commanding officer, Col. F. V. Kimble, to certify them for the service pilots course because they had experience in heavy aircraft and would be of value in the service or ferry command. The commanding officer however, is said to have refused to give authorization for this work.

On their return to Ft. Sill, the three men are said to have been advised that they would receive commissions as did many of the whites. However, reportedly because of the color, they received rating as staff sergeants, acting in the capacity of officers.

Caldwell and Rainey, it is said, have more than 400 hours in the air to their credit, in aircraft up to 650 horse power, while Morris has 300 credit-hours in aircraft up to 450 horse power. So skilled are they that the only way to distinguish them from the white officer-instructors ,is by noting the color of their skin.

For several months past, a white colonel has been here at Tuskegee Army Flying school recuriting men for liason flying with the field artillery. Many of the men stationed here have expressed regret that these six qualified Negro pilots have not received their commissions and permitted to take part in the training and recruiting here of colored liason pilots.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Sidat-Singh Is Missing; 2 Others Die

MAY 15 1943

Fear Football Star Dragged Down By Chute In Lake

Two colored flyers were killed and a third was reported missing in army plane crashes over the past week end.

MAY 15 1943

EAST TAWAS, Mich. — Second Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, of Washington, D. C., nationally known as an athlete, was reported by the Army headquarters at Selfridge Field to be missing after his single-seat pursuit plane crashed in Lake Huron, near here, Sunday.

Army authorities told the Defender late Monday that no trace of the missing flyer or his parachute could be found, despite a continuous search since Sunday noon. Crash boats and dragnets have patrolled a wide area of the lake and searchers have conducted an unceasing hunt through the surrounding woods.

MAY 15 1943

LT. WILMETH SIDAT-SINGH

Michigan State Highway policemen reported seeing Sidat-Singh bail out of his plane, but the ensuing search by them revealed no indication of his whereabouts. It was assumed that a large oil slick, found on the lake, marked the final resting place of the plane.

Dragged Down By Chute

Fears are being held out that the young pilot landed on the lake surface and was dragged under by the chute when it became waterlogged.

Sidat-Singh was born in Washington, D. C., the son of Mrs. Pauline Webb. On the marriage of his mother to Dr. Samuel Sidat-Singh, an East Indian physician with an extensive New York practice, the youth assumed the surname of his step-father.

MAY 15 1943

Dr. Sidat-Singh, after enabling the lad to complete his high school education, entered him at Syracuse university where he later won nation-wide fame as a football player, basketball star and track athlete. His gridiron efforts, particularly in his senior year when he forward-passed Cornell to defeat in the last seconds of a hectic 20-19 battle, captured the attention of the country's best-known sports writers.

Grantland Rice, in a syndicated column, rated Sidat-Singh as "greater than Columbia's immortal Sid Luckman," the Chicago Bear star who has frequently been selected on all-star professional teams.

MAY 15 1943

His first venture into professional basketball was with the Seagram five, of New York. He played with that outfit in the 1940 professional basketball tournament. The following year he performed with the New York Renaissance, after which he showed in the uniform of the Washington Bruins, which team was the foundation of the Washington Bears, current world's pro champions.

MAY 15 1943

Prior to joining the air forces, Sidat-Singh served as an auxiliary policeman in Washington.

STROTHERS, Ala. — Second Lt. James Brothers, like Sidat-Singh a graduate of the Army flying school at Tuskegee, Ala., died Saturday afternoon when an army primary-training plane cracked up near here.

Lt. Brothers' plane was discovered by two other flyers from the Army Air field here, who had gone in search of the ship after it was reported missing. With him at the time of the crash was Pvt. Stewart, whose first name was not obtained in the early release of the information.

The cause of the accident is unknown and army authorities have ordered an investigation.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Army Pilot Killed at Tuskegee Flying School

FEB 13 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (ANP) — Lieutenant Richard Davis, 25, pilot attached to a pursuit squadron at the Army Flying School, was killed instantly Saturday when the plane he was piloting on a routine flight crashed.

FEB 13 1943

A native of Fort Valley, Ga., Lieutenant Davis was a former student of Hampton Institute and had been a flight instructor for the Robertson Aircraft Corporation, Lambert Field, Mo., before entering the service. His father and four brothers survive.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

New Trainees Assigned to Flying School

MAY 1 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—A number of officers have been transferred here for service with the administrative branch of the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

They, together with the weather officers, engineers and armament officers, make up the non-flying commissioned personnel at the post. Such officers are trained elsewhere, while the pilots receive all their training here.

For the latter, there are four stages of training—pre-flight, primary, basic and advanced flying.

Administrative officers here include:

MAY 1 1943

Second Lts. Paul L. Brown, Bolling D. Burrel, Kenneth McA. Phipps, and Royal E. Harris, of N.Y.C.; Walter Nicholson, Jamaica, N.Y.; Eldridge F. Williams, Kansas City, Kans.; Otha Morgan, Los Angeles, Calif.; John V. Durand, 3rd, New Orleans; Sheppard D. O'Neal, Atlanta, and William P. Brooks, Jr., Washington.

Advanced Training Begun

Among those who have completed their basic training and have begun advanced training are:

Cadets Langdon E. Johnson and George E. Cray of West Virginia; Dempsey W. Morgan of Detroit and Oliver Miller of Battle Creek, Mich.; Maurice V. Esters, Webster City; Luther H. Smith, Des Moines and Joseph Goner of Iowa Falls, Iowa; John J. Suggs, Terre Haute, and John F. Briggs, Anderson, Ind;

Milton R. Brooks of Glassport and Walter S. Board of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Charles M. Bussey and Lawrence D. Wilkins of Los Angeles; Albert H. Manning, Jr., Hartsville, S.C.; Herbert W. Samuel, Rome, Ga.; Spurgeon N. Ellington, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Clemenceau N. Givings, Richmond, and Dudley M. Watson, Frankfort, Ky.; Craig H. Williams, Chicago, and Harry A. Sheppard, Jamaica.

Two officers are now taking their pre-flight training: 1st Lt. Fitzroy Newsun, Brooklyn, N.Y., and 2nd Lt. Albert Howard of N.Y.C.

American Negro Fliers Score in First Air Battle

Washington, June 25—(UP)—The first United States Army Negro fighter squadron to go into action came through its initial encounter with enemy fighters with flying colors, according to reports to the War Department released Thursday.

Six members of the squadron, flying P-40 Warhawks, were attacked June 18 over Pantelleria by 12 German Focke-Wulf 190's. The Focke-Wulfs were escorting German bombers attempting to raid the island, then in Allied hands. High overhead 10 more German fighters hovered to provide protection.

The American Negro fliers, led by First Lieut. Charles W. Dryden, 22, of Bronx, N. Y., parried the Nazi thrust, damaged two German fighters and forced the remainder to retire. The Americans all came home safely.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Cong. Bolton Take Time to Laud Kegee Airmen

APR 25 1943

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22—Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton of Ohio declared on the floor of the house last Thursday that although the ratio of accepted Negro students for the air corps at Tuskegee is a "little lower" than that of the average white air schools, the quality of the successful candidate "leaves nothing to be desired."

APR 25 1943

She was addressing congress on the work of Tuskegee institute, of which she is a trustee, and placing particular emphasis upon the flying school there. She maintained that one of the reasons why Negroes don't qualify as high as the white student is partly due to their "educational difficulties."

"This brings out dramatically one of the problems before this country: adequate educational opportunity to all groups," she asserted. "When these colored lads can have such equal opportunity, in all likelihood their ratio of acceptance as flyers will be as high as other groups."

APR 25 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Recover Body Of Missing Pilot

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—(ANP)—The body of 2nd Lieut. Nathaniel Milton Hill, missing since June 16, has been recovered from Lake Huron near Oscoda, Mich. Next of kin have been notified.

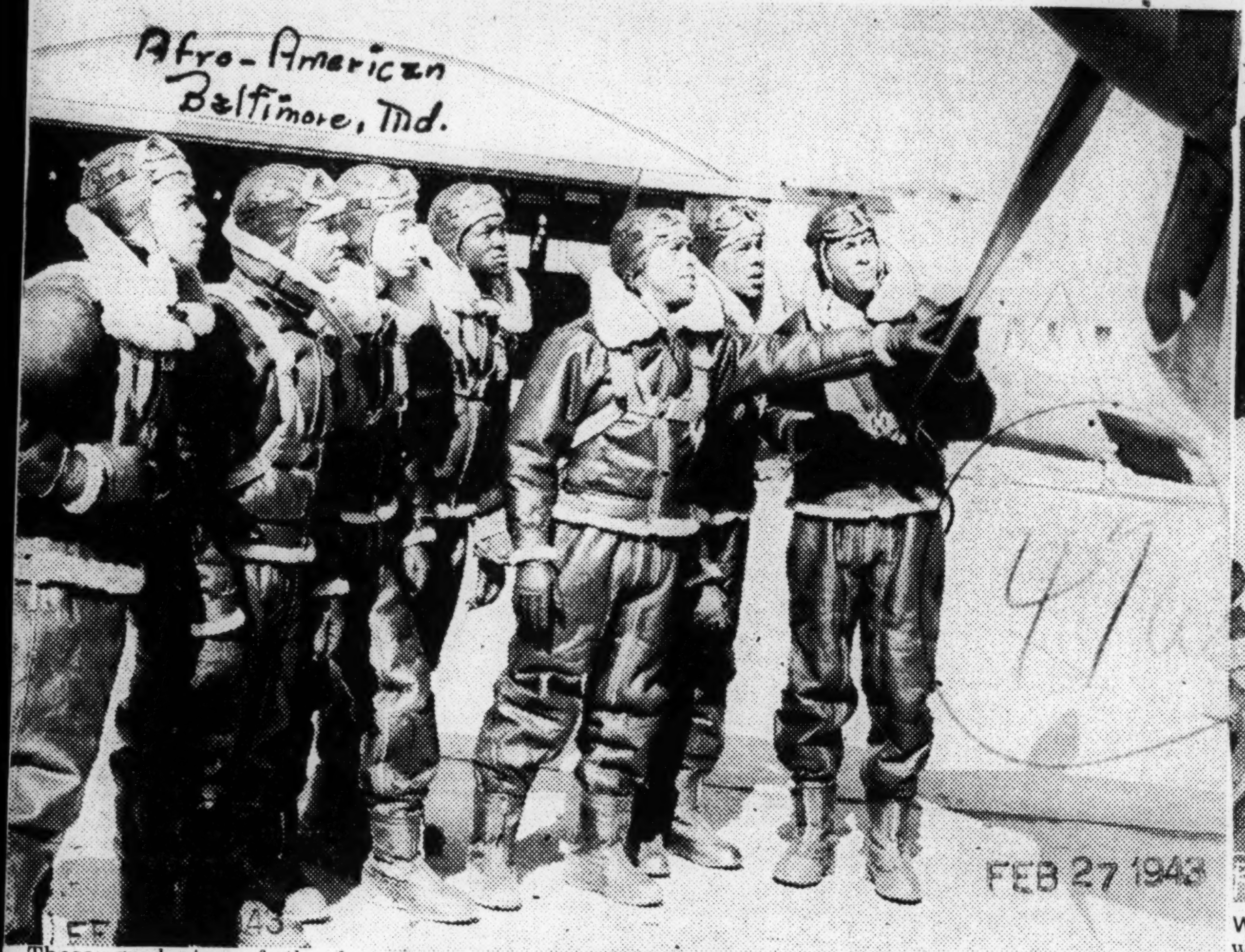
Lieut. Hill was piloting a two seater training plane when he crashed into Lake Huron during a routine flight from the Oscoda army air field, a sub base of Selfridge field. He was accompanied on the flight by 2nd Lieut. Luther Linson Blakeney, a weather officer, whose body was found June 17.

AUG 7 1943

The army air force pilot was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joshiah Hill of Washington, D. C. His wife, Laverne, resides in the same city.

New Pilots Inspect Future Vehicle

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



FEB 27 1943

These graduates of the latest class of pilots to receive their commissions as second lieutenants at the Tuskegee Army Flying School inspect the type of plane they may soon be flying in combat. They are, left to right:

2nd Lieuts. Roy Spencer, Tallahassee, Fla.; Claude B. Govan, Newark, N.J.; James R. Polkinghorne, Pensacola, Fla.; John H Prowell, Jr., Lewisburg, Ala.; William H. Walker, Carbondale, Ill. William E. Griffin, Birmingham Ala., and Walker H. Downs, Mc Comb, Miss.

FEB 27 1943

Negro Pilots Get First Nazi Plane

New York, N.Y.
World-Telegram

By the United Press.

ALLIED HQ., North Africa, July 3.—First Lt. Charles B. Hall, 22-year-old pilot from Brazil, Ind., today claimed the first enemy plane credited to the American Negro fighter squadron in the North African theater. Lieutenant Hall brought down a Focke-Wulf 190 during a dog-fight over Castelventrano airfield in Sicily yesterday. He piloted a P-40 Warhawk escorting Mitchells that raided the field.

JUL 3 1943

More U.S. Pilots Get Wings at Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Members of the 43-B graduating class of the Tuskegee Army Flying School last week heard Maj. William T. Smith, commanding officer of the primary field adjacent to this air base, term their training "second to none in the world."

Maj. Smith also called the graduates' attention to the importance of their forthcoming combat training to the performance of their eventual missions in actual war service.

Held in New Chapel

The class was the first to have its graduation exercises in the new post chapel. The post band, directed by 1st Lieut. Frank L. Drye, furnished music.

Lieut. Col. Noel F. Parrish, acting commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Flying School, presented diplomas, and Lieut Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, pinned wings on the following new 2nd lieutenants:

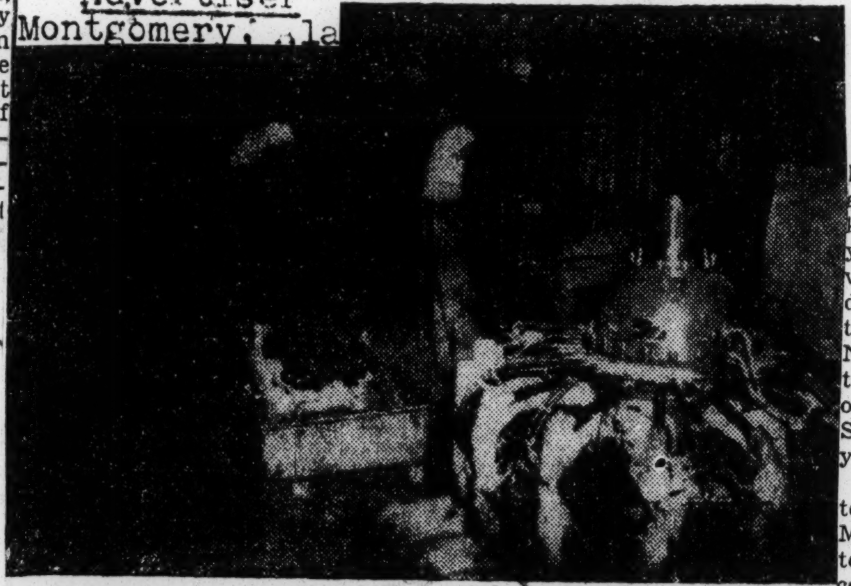
Roy M. Spencer, Tallahassee, Fla.; John H. Prowell, Jr., Lewisburg, Ala.; Claude B. Govan, Newark, N.J.; William E. Griffin, Birmingham, Ala.; James R. Polinghorne, Pensacola, Fla.; Walter M. Downs, McComb, Miss., and William H. Walker, Carbondale, Ill.

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 19, 1943

WHILE HUBBY FIGHTS—Busy with her exacting duties as instrument inspector at a war plant in New York is Mrs. Benjamin Davis, Jr., wife of the lieutenant colonel commanding an all-Negro air squadron of the U. S. forces in the North African theater of operations.

Tuskegee Prepares Mechanics

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala



A view of a section of the Aircraft Engine Laboratory at Tuskegee. In the foreground is shown a Pratt and Whitney Twinrow 14-cylinder Aircooled Engine. The young lady is building up an Allison 1710 Liquid Cooled Engine for installation in a P-40.

JUL 23 1943

JUL 23 1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Negro Pilots Damage Two German Planes In Lively Engagement

WASHINGTON, June 25.—(AP) --War Secretary Stimson reported today that the Air Forces first squadron of negro pilots, the Sixth Fighter Squadron, has "weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably."

The squadron, commanded by Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a son of the first negro general officer in the Army, is in North Africa and participated—as an escort and fighter combat outfit—in the siege of Pantelleria but had little chance to engage enemy fighters during that time. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters the latter fled.

On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lieut. Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

In a lively engagement, the American negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

JUN 26 1943

Others participating in the engagement were First Lieut. Lee Rayford, Ardwick, Md.; First Lieut. Sidney P. Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio; Second Lieut. Willie Ashley, Jr., Sumter, S. C.; Second Lieut. Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J., and Second Lieut. Leon C. Roberts, Prichard, Ala.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

HOOSIER GETS 1ST NAZI PLANE FOR NEGRO FIGHTERS

BY SEYMOUR KORMAN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

ALLIED HDQ. IN NORTH AFRICA, July 3.—The American Negro air fighter squadron on this front knocked down its first enemy plane yesterday in a battle above Castelvetrano air field in Sicily, probably destroyed a second, and damaged a third. The honor of being the first Negro pilot to score a victory went to Lt. Charles B. Hall, 22 year old, of Brazil, Ind., who attended Illinois State Teachers college for three years prior to enlisting.

JUL 4 1943

When the Negro flyers returned to their base after escorting the Mitchell bombers which raided Castelvetrano, Gen. Eisenhower, allied commander in North Africa, greeted them as he stopped there on a tour of allied air fields.

Hailed by Eisenhower.

He congratulated the squadron commander, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. of Washington, D. C., son of the brigadier general who is the highest ranking Negro officer in the United States army.

When more than 20 Focke-Wulf 190s and Messerschmitt 109s came in to attack the Mitchells and P-40 Warhawk escorts over Castelvetrano, Hall downed a Focke-Wulf.

How Hall Bagged Nazi.

"It was my eighth mission," Hall related, "but it was the first time I had seen the enemy close enough to shoot at. I saw two Focke-Wulfs following the Mitchells just after the bombs were dropped.

"I headed for the space between the fighters and bombers and managed to turn inside the Jerries. I fired a long burst and saw my tracers penetrate the second aircraft. He was turning to the left, but suddenly fell off and headed straight into the ground. I followed him down and saw him crash. He raised a big cloud of dust."

Service Club Opens At TAAF

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 29—After nearly 15 months of planning, the Tuskegee Army Air Field Service club held its formal dedication and opening Friday. Housing a lounge and hardwood dance floor with an adjacent blueroom for special games and a snack bar with veranda luncheonette, this clubhouse is one of the finest in this section. Much credit is due Lt. Col. John T. Hazard, post executive officer, for his co-operation with the special service department under Capt. Fred B. Minnis in his negotiating for the club's construction.

LT. COL. PARRISH SPEAKS

Congratulatory remarks by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air field, set the tempo for the celebration festivities at the dedication of the club.

Instrumental in stamping the occasion a huge succes was Eddie ("I Don't Want to Set the World on Fire") Durham and his All-Girl Rhythm band. Creating more of a riot than any band to visit these parts, they chalked up a high score for the Imperial Wings of Rhythm to shoot at. The "Imps," however, bidded fair to match their visiting opponents.

The club's new directress is Mrs. Eugene B. Wood, Howard university graduate from Mount Bayou, Miss.

47a-1943
Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

JUL 31 1943

47a

Tuskegee Trained Fighters Have Faced Their Acid Test

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 30.—When the screaming P-40 Warhawks, piloted by the first Negro fighter squadron in the history of the world, roared through Mediterranean skies to aid an Allied offensive concentrated on the Italian island base of Pantelleria, the Tuskegee-trained fighter pilots faced their acid test and came through with flying colors to prove to the world that they were possessed of the necessary mettle to successfully fly in combat.

Blasting down death and destruction in one of the heaviest air operations in the history of warfare, these colored fighting men of the air attacked heavily fortified Pantelleria, and from this island off the coast of Sicily they brought the Tuskegee Army Air Field out of the experimental stage to prove the true value of Negro pilots in the present war.

This Allied offensive was of unusual significance because it marked the first time that air power alone had completely destroyed all enemy resistance, but to colored people all over the country the battle was of noteworthy interest because it was in this battle that the Negro fighter pilots trained at Tuskegee got their first taste of aerial combat.

Praised by Stimson.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, in discussing the battle plan of Pantelleria, asserted: "We are all very proud of the splendid activity of a fighter squadron commanded by Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis Jr. over Pantelleria."

The Tuskegee Army Air Field, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Noel F. Parrish, who rose through the ranks from private to his present position, is nine miles from Tuskegee Institute, the school founded and made famous by the late Dr. Booker T. Washington. The field was activated in August of 1941, and in March, 1942, the first class, of which Colonel Davis (then captain) was a member, marched into the post recreation hall to receive their wings and commissions in the Army Air Forces. The other four members of the class were Second Lieutenants Lemuel Custis, George S. Roberts (now captains) and Mac Ross and Charles Debow (now first lieutenants). These five men formed the nucleus of the all-colored Fighter Squadron, now on duty in North Africa, and following classes added to its number until it reached full strength.

The men trained in fighter planes from the time of the first graduation until last April, when the entire outfit was transferred from this field, where they had received all their flying training. to overseas duty.

While the squadron was on duty in the Pantellerian offensive, so successful were the Allied operations that they did not have any opportunity to engage the enemy at that time, but a few days later Tuskegee's colored fighter pilots saw real action when a flight of P-40 Warhawks, led by First Lieutenant Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by a dozen German FW 190's escort enemy bombers. Flying above the hostile bombers was a formation of ten more German planes.

Enemy Retreated.

In the ensuing fray the colored pilots pitched in and damaged two of the German planes and forced the others to retreat. Pilots taking part in the fight were First Lieutenants Charles W. Dryden, fight leader; Lee Rayford, Ardwick, Md.; Sidney [illegible] Brooks Cleveland, Ohio, and Second Lieutenant Span Watson, Hackensack, N. J.; Leon Roberts, Prichard, Ala., and Willie Ashley, of Sumter, S. C.

More recently First Lieutenant Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind., shot down an enemy plane in a North African dogfight, to become the first of the squadron to chalk up a complete victory in an air fight.

Since that day nearly two years ago when work on the field was first begun, the Tuskegee Army Air Field has been transformed from what was once an abandoned graveyard into a modern air base teeming with activity with colored cadets and flying officers zooming overhead at all hours of the day and night. The cadets now number hundreds—the first graduating class had five members.

Today the field forms a big valley, a beautiful rolling valley that slopes gently from the runways and hangars to the headquarters building on the hill.

It was within this setting that the Negro pilots, now on duty in North Africa, were trained, and the hundreds of colored cadets are now training to pilot the fighter planes of the war that they, too, like the members of the earlier graduating classes who are now the Fighter Squadron in North Africa. They must, they will, "stay on the ball." So back go their shoulders and out go their chest. And they march for all they're worth.

As they march, they sing. Sometimes it's the "Air Corps Song," sometimes "Six Pence," but the song they really love to sing is:

Contact! Joystick back,
Sailing through the blue.
Gallant sons of the 99th,
Brown men tried and true.
We are the heroes of the night;
To hell with the Axis might.
Fight! Fight! Fight! Fight!
Fighting Ninety-Ninth!

After nine weeks of intensive work, the preflighter is ready for his acid test. He is sent to the 66th AAF Flying Training Detachment at Tuskegee Institute for primary training. Here he does his flying. The primary cadet is issued flying togs, helmet and goggles and assigned to a colored flying instructor. He's ready to fly now—in the back seat. The instructor is in the front cockpit to stay until until the embryonic pilot is ready for a solo flight.

After a quick nine weeks of primary training, the cadet, now a veteran of 60 hours in the air, is rushed back to the Tuskegee Army Air Field for his basic and advanced work. He's now ready for real flying in faster planes than the PT-17 which he has flown for the past nine weeks.

Physical Training.

But there is a good deal more to flying than taking off, doing maneuvers and landings. In order to do these a lot of other things must be done. So the cadet still goes to classes, drills and physical training.

Physical conditioning plays an important part in the life of a Tuskegee cadet. It is essential that he possess the necessary co-ordination and physical stamina to endure gruelling hours of acrobatic flying and maneuvers. A large percentage of cadets who are unsuccessful as fliers are those who do not possess the proper co-ordination of physical and mental ability. The pilot must be able to call the proper muscles into play at all times with split second precision in order to execute certain specific maneuvers. His life depends upon it.

The physical training program includes free-hand calisthenics, wand and dumbbell drills, tumbling, cross-country and a variety of games and achievement tests. Cadets are given the types of exercise necessary to condition them for flying. As a result they are given strenuous push-ups, run tough cross-countries, cover a difficult obstacle course and take calisthenics until the sweat soaks right through their gym suits. It's nothing unusual these hot days to see cadets actually soaking wet after a session on the athletic field.

As they progress through the various stages of flight training, the allotment of time devoted to the various types of exercises is varied in accordance to their specific needs. The advanced group—which is close to actual combat—receives instructions in Judo and rough and tumble fighting as part of their regular schedule of physical activities.

The whole program is tough. Sure. But this is war—every activity is geared for the future combat duty of the pilot—and in order for these colored cadets to join the fighting Negro pilots in North Africa (it may be Europe by the time they graduate) and strike death blows at the Axis, they must be in the pink of condition. They have to be strong and husky. And that is the function of the physical training section—"keeping 'em fit for flying." Needless to say that these cadets seldom lose time through being physically unfit for participation in the daily schedule. They can't. They have a job to do.

Spot Enemy Aircraft.

But this is the Army and there's still more to flying than being in tip-top condition and knowing how to fly. Basic and advanced students must study such courses as aircraft identification (so they can easily spot enemy aircraft), armament and gunnery (so they can shoot with unerring skill), navigation (so they can chart their course and follow it), the radio in making history, can go to combat and train their gunsights on the enemy.

The Tuskegee setup is a unique development in Army aviation in that all the cadet's training is accomplished at Tuskegee. The men selected for aviation cadet training must first undergo a five months' preflight period at the College Training Detachment at Tuskegee Institute. After completing this course, they are sent to the Tuskegee Army Air Field—nine miles from the institute—for preflight. After nine weeks of preflight instruction the cadets are luoaded into big Army trucks and jostled the nine miles back to Tuskegee Institute. This time for primary instruction. After which basic and advanced flight training is taken at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. The cadet completes all of his flight training—from preflight to wings at Tuskegee with only 27 miles of travel in all his training.

The field is nationally known as the only place where colored flying cadets are trained. Here eager young Negro fledglings undergo a type of training that calls on all the stamina, preservance and physical conditioning that the finest of their race possess. It calls on the best in these colored boys. Preflighters called "dummies" by upperclassmen—are really in for something new when they report to Tuskegee. They are subject to the strictest discipline and the toughest courses, and at the same time they must attain the high standards of the Air Corps and maintain them throughout their cadet lives.

From 5 o'clock in the morning when they first arise, until 9:30 at night when taps are sounded, the busy cadets are "on the ball." They go to classes, physical training, drill, lectures, training films and in general keep very busy throughout the day. These preflighters study ground forces physics, maps and charts, math., aircraft identification, radio code and air forces.

"Shoulders Back."

As they march to classes—indeed, as they march anywhere—these eager, young, prospective pilots are warned to "crack those shoulders back" and "look proud, Mister, you're in the Air Corps now." And they really step. It's poetry in motion to see these lads march. Already they have been imbued with the tradition of the Air Corps. Then they have their own tradition. They remember communication, first aid, naval forces, meterology and military sanitation. All these courses are essential to the pilot in the Army Air Forces, and many hours each week are spent in the classroom studying them.

In addition to these subjects, basic and advanced cadets are required to get in a number of hours in the Link trainer. Then they fly cross-country. Sometimes these trips are at night, and they have to stay "on the ball" from the time they take off until they land. This calls into play much of the theory that has been pounded into them by their instructors. If they don't stay "on the beam," they might get lost.

It's a hard job—this matter of becoming an Army pilot, but the Tuskegee cadets revel in its rigors. They are happy to be flying. It has gotten into their blood, and anything that's necessary to flying, they do with a gusto that is an inspiration to see.

How the Day Ends.

Except for the study periods and for those cadets who have flying to do, the day ends with Retreat. This colorful formation is made each day—Saturday and Sunday excepted. The cadets line up in parade formation, and to the music of the post band they march to the front of post headquarters where the flag is flying. There in the cool of the evening as the sun is rapidly fading into the west, hundreds of cadets salute the flag and what it stands for while the National Anthem is played. At the last note they are commanded to "Order Arms!" Hundreds of right hands are brought down smartly, and the men march back to their barracks to prepare for another day. After 15 months of such days, the cadet is ready for graduation and wings.

After receiving wings and commission in the Army Air Forces, the flying lieutenant remains at the Tuskegee Army Air Field for a short while, during which time he amasses a total of 20 hours in a P-40. After getting this time in the air, he is transferred to the Oscoda Air Base in Michigan for his final training in gunnery and aerial tactics before going to combat.

Spurred on by the news of the excellent showing of the other Tuskegee-trained pilots in the North African theater of operation, the cadets look forward with keen anticipation to the day when they, too, can spot the enemy through the gunsights of a fighter plane.

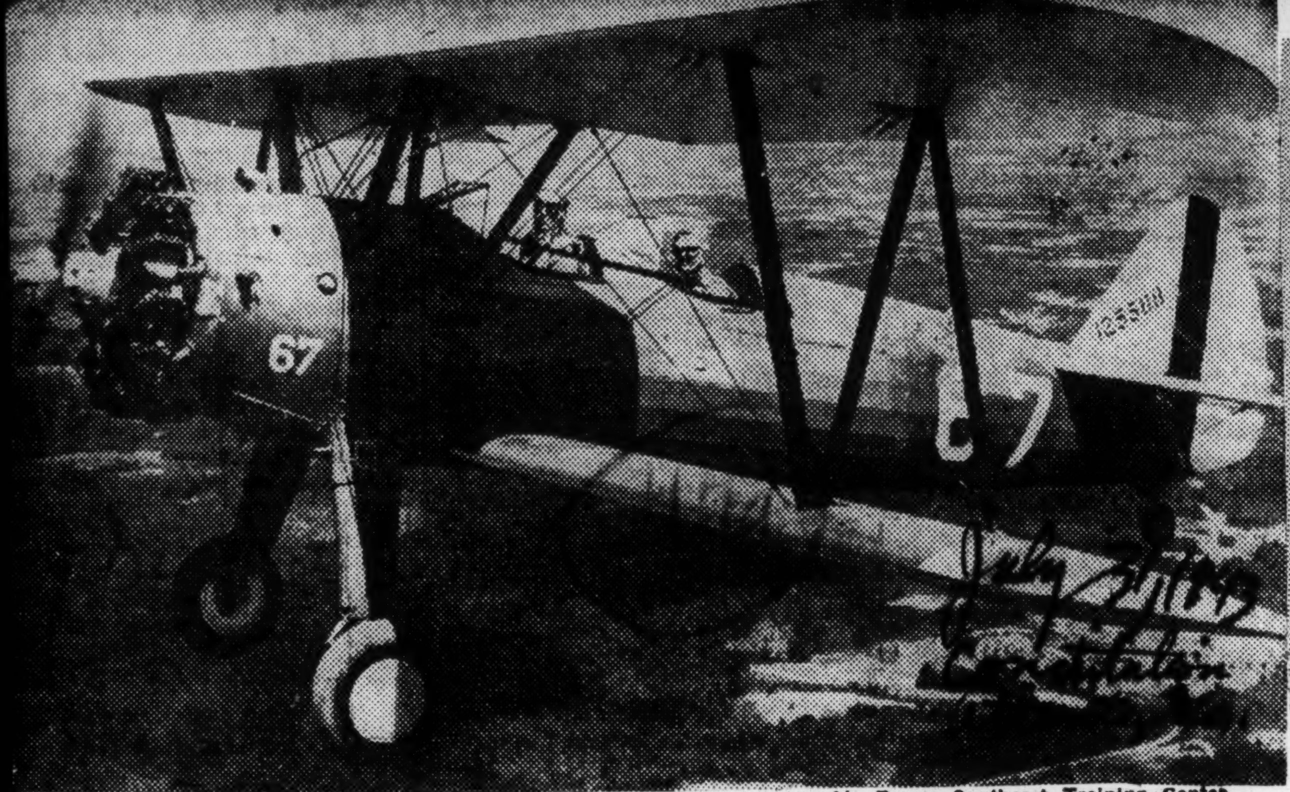
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

JUN 19 1943

Negro Squadron Sets The Pace

COURTLAND ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Of the various units stationed at Courtland Army Air Field, the one setting the pace for squadron excellence is a Negro squadron, which started in third place, forged its way to the front and for four successive weeks, has captured the "Superior" pennant, an award granted after each Saturday night's inspection.

Squadrons are judged by the point system on 12 separate phases of military life, ranging from administrative duties of the orderly room to individual behavior and appearance of enlisted personnel. As a result of this competition, many improvements are becoming evident throughout the base and up to the present time, the Negro squadron is showing the way. Their commanding officer, First Lieutenant Herbert H. Gorman of Jacksonville, Fla., has steadily encouraged the squadron's efforts and says, "These men are in there pitching all the time to improve their own appearance and that of their squadron and are proud of their showing thus far."



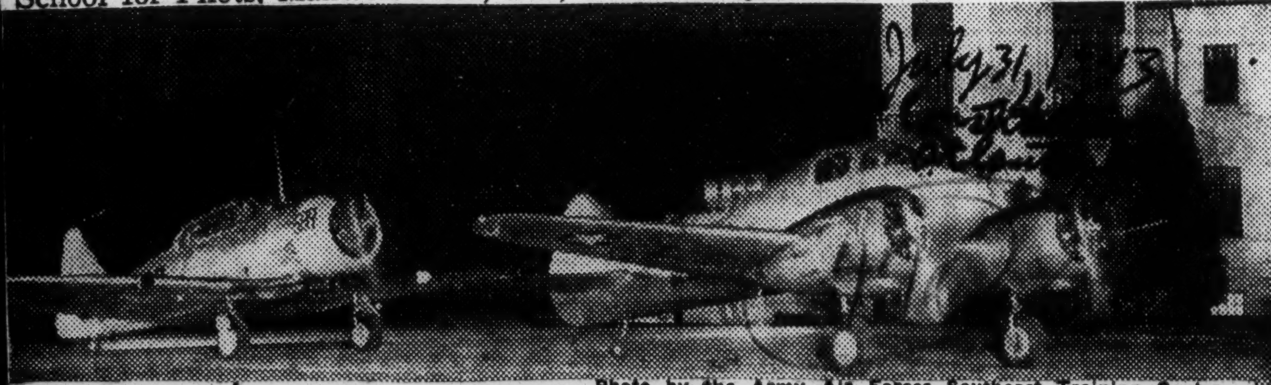
July 31, 1943
Constitution

Photo by the Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center.

PILOTS NEVER FORGET first flights and instructors in primary training. Lessons here are as simple and rudimentary as their ship. Instructor in front cockpit of PT-17, above, directs student through one-way speaking tubes or Gosports. Student first learns to feel out his ship in straight and level flight.

Constitution
July 31, 1943

TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, aviation cadets who are learning to fly high above poisonous gasses, get a whiff of the stuff as part of their training at the Pre-Flight School for Pilots, Maxwell Field, Ala., in the Army Air Forces Training Command.



July 31, 1943

Photo by the Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center.

THE LATE TRICK—America's Army Air Forces Training Stations, like her factories, work overtime late into the night. Above, students in ships representing two types of advanced training, twin and single engine, get the go signal from the operations tower at Maxwell Field, Ala., before taking off on a night training mission.

"MISS TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD"

JUL 31 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

Mrs. Rose Lynn Lane, wife of Lt. Allen Gaston Lane, now stationed with the Negro Fighter Squadron in North Africa, was recently crowned "Miss Tuskegee Army Air Field" by popular applause of the entire personnel of this station.

Mrs. Lane is a graduate of the latest class of Tueskegee institute where she received her B.S. degree. At the present time she is an employee in the Post Signal Office. She is the daughter of Professor and Mrs. J. T. Williamson of Tuskegee institute, Ala.—Photo by the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Fledglings

Complete Basic Air Training

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 17 1943

Ala., July 15—America's flying officers are raining bombs and bullets of terror on the Axis powers of all fronts. As have th men that are now serving their country overseas, youths at the Tuskegee Army Air Field are learning the art of flying so they, too, can participate in destroying the Axis. Here at this base men of Pennsylvania are learning to fly the Army way.

The aviation cadets from Pennsylvania who recently completed their basic flight training at this field and have been assigned to the advanced flight class are: Aviation Cadets Charles W. Tate, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and George A. Taylor, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

COL. SELWAY COMMANDS 332ND

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—(ANP)—Col. Robert R. Selway, air corps, has reported for duty at Selfridge field, and is commanding the 332nd Fighter group, first all-Negro group in the army air forces.

1943

Lead Attack

Honor of being the first Negro flyers to go into combat against the Axis foe went to Lieuts. William A. Campbell (above) of Tuskegee, Ala., and Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind. Campbell, Tuskegee-born son of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Campbell, comes from a patriotic family serving the nation. Four Campbells are in the armed service and a fifth is a war worker.

JUN 19 1943

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Ollie Stewart Visits With Squadron Headed By Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

Kansas City Call

Flyers and Ground Crew Are Taking Advanced Training Preparatory to Action Against Hitler and Japan

Kansas City, Mo.

By OLLIE STEWART

War Correspondent in North Africa

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA.—(Censored)—The colored fighter squadron has arrived in North Africa and I was on hand to greet them. The unit flies P-40 Warhawk planes and now is receiving advanced training based on lessons learned in the Tunisian campaign.

JUN 11 1943

Upon the completion of this advanced training, the outfit will go into action. Headed by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the squadron has its own equipment and ground crew. Its morale is very high.

The way the pilots handle their planes in practice maneuvers is a tribute to the intense training given them in America and to the high caliber of men selected.

AT HITLER NEXT

Soon Hitler's bombers and fighters will be the object of these flyers' pent-up fury and their determination to make a fine record in combat.

JUN 11 1943

"All of us realize we are pioneers and on the spot," says Col. Davis: "Our enlisted men and ground crews are efficient in the handling and serving of our ships and there is teamwork in every operation we undertake."

Since the arrival of the squadron, I have visited them days at a time and Americans can expect great things from this group whose arrival marks the beginning of a new era for men as I shall stick to the unit like a brother.

Another colored correspondent, Thomas W. Young Jr., of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, arrived with the flyers and I welcome him heartily.

GROUND CREW IMPORTANT

As in all air units, the flyers in the colored fighter squadron wear the glamour pants and make the headlines but their success in the air depends upon the boys who stay on the ground—the grease monkeys who nurse the planes and sweat out long hours while their baby is in the air.

For each plane there is a crew chief without whose okay the pilot cannot take off. No mother gives her infant more loving care than these non-coms who wipe and pat and inspect their ship after every 25 hours of flying.

The ground crews are divided into sections: communication, engineering, armament and ordnance. The intelligence quotient of the squadron is amazing even for a hand-picked group.

JUN 11 1943

Almost every man I have talked to is a college man and a specialist in his field.

A ST. LOUISAN

Men in the communications section include Tech. Sgt. George Gail, Baltimore; Tech. Sgt. Clovis Bordeau, St. Louis; Staff Sgt. Harold Carter, Key West, Fla.; Staff Sgt. Herbert Nichols, Masontown, Pa.; Staff Sgt. Lew-Mon Boykin, Los Angeles.

The engineers include: Mech. Sgt. Elsworth Dansby, Decatur, Ill.; Mech. Sgt. Alexander Crawford, Dayton; Staff Sgt. Elliott Lucas, Washington; Tech. Sgt. Donald Quander, New York; Staff Sgt. Abraham Thomas, Los Angeles; Tech. Sgt. Herman Jones, Atlanta; Staff Sgt. Eugene Pickett, Columbus, Ohio, and Staff Sgt. Robert Chapman of Charleston, W. Va.

47a

JUN 11 1943

Armament men who are experts in small arms are: Mech. Sgt. Asa Newman, Cleveland; Tech. Sgt. Fred Archer, New York; Tech. Sgt. James Jackson, Atlanta; Staff Sgt. Thomas Downs, San Antonio; Staff. Sgt. Thomas Gill, Atlantic City; Cpl. William Benson, Camden, N. J.; Sgt. William Morrison, Roanoke, Va.; Sgt. Charles Butler, Brooklyn.

Parachute riggers include Sgt. William Warner, Atlanta; Sgt. James Lockhart, New York; Staff Sgt. Walter Turner, Los Angeles.

Flying Officers Now in Africa

By OLLIE STEWART

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, NORTH AFRICA.—The officer personnel of the Negro flying squadron now stationed somewhere in North Africa is composed of:

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Washington.

Capt. Hayden C. Johnson and Capt. Maurice E. Johnson, brothers of Washington.

Lt. James McCullin, St. Louis, Mo.

Lt. James Knighton, Tulsa, Okla.

Lt. Herbert Carter, Natchez, Miss.

Lt. Herbert V. Clark, Little Rock, Ark.

47c

Lt. James L. Johnson, Washington.

Lt. Henry M. Letcher, Washington.

Lt. George E. Pettross, Washington.

JUN 11 1943

Lt. Paul G. Mitchell, Washington.

Lt. Lee Rayford, Washington.

Lt. Dudley W. Stevenson, Washington.

Capt. Elmer D. Jones, Washington.

Capt. George S. Roberts, Fairmont, W. Va.

Lt. Benote H. Wimp, Chicago.

Lt. Bernard Proctor, Philadelphia.

Lt. George R. Curri, Los Angeles.

Lt. Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland.

Capt. Lemuel R. Curtis, Hartford, Conn.

Lt. James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh.

Lt. William H. Fuller, Tarboro, Ala.

Lt. Louis R. Purnell, Philadelphia.

Lt. Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.

Lt. Clarence C. Jamison, Cleveland.

Lt. Wiley Ashley, Sumter, S. C.

Lt. Leon C. Roberts, Prichard, Ala.

JUN 11 1943

Lt. Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J.

Lt. Charles B. Ball, Terre Haute, Ind.

Lt. Walter Lawson, New York City.

Lt. George R. Bolling, Phoebus Va.

Lt. Samuel M. Bruce, Seattle Wash.

JUN 11 1943

Lt. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala.

Lt. Sherman White, Montgomery, Ala.

Lt. William Thompson, Pittsburgh.

Lt. Cornelius Vincent, Boston.

Lt. James Freeman, New York.

Lt. Thomas Maline, Detroit.

Lt. John Rogers, Chicago.

Lieut. George Bolling Safe After Parachuting Into Sea; Plane Burned

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

No Word Yet Heard From Lt. James McCullin of St. Louis Who Failed To Return From Pantelleria Mission

JUL 30 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

JUL 30 1943

(War Correspondent in North Africa)

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ADVANCED ALLIED AIR BASE.—(Censored)—Having his P-40 War Hawk plane shot from under him forcing him to jump and parachute 4,000 feet into the sea close to the coast of Sicily and to return uninjured to his fighter squadron to tell about it is an experience that few people can boast of.

47c

Lieut. George R. Bolling of Phoebus, Va., is one of that few

BAILED OUT FROM BURNING PLANE

A graduate of Hampton, Bolling quietly related his story Friday to happy fellow pilots after 6 harrowing days away from his outfit. His plane was hit by Flak on July 11, the day after the initial landing in Sicily by Allied troops while on patrol duty.

The plane began to burn as Bolling turned and headed for the base across the Mediterranean so he bailed out and floated down to water.

Lt. Samuel M. Bruce of Seattle, a graduate of A. and T. college, circled the parachute to fight off enemy planes that might have machine-gunned the helpless Bolling. Striking water, Bolling inflated his Mae West life belt and unstrapped the rubber dinghy.

JUL 30 1943

Picked Up By Destroyer

This was early afternoon. He tried to attract attention all afternoon but failed and in wet garments had to cover himself with part of his parachute to keep warm throughout the night. He had chills and slept but little.

Back at the base, Bolling said: "It was dark and lonesome and I thought I might drift out into the middle of the Mediterranean and be run down by boats. However, daylight found me still sitting in the dinghy waving whenever I saw a ship on the horizon.

"About noon I was picked up by a destroyer and given blankets and a stiff drink. I was also given clothes and food. I was treated swell just like a navy officer. They put me ashore later and I had my first walk on Sicilian soil.

JUL 30 1943

Many Dead, Many Prisoners

"The Allies were taking thousands of prisoners, both German and Italian and many dead soldiers were lying along roads as fighting continued for airports and bridgeheads."

Bolling spent the next four days on a small coastal boat resting and eating pie and ice cream which he had not tasted for a long time. He was finally delivered to his unit by plane.

47a

He is one of the quietest men in the squadron and every man in the outfit had a handshake for him when he returned. He does not smoke. His dip in the Mediterranean has not cooled off his fighting ardor.

JUL 30 1943

Crew Chief Hopeful

Hic crew chief, S-Sgt. John Hargraves of New York, wandered around like lost while Bolling was away. With no pilot to fuss over, Hargraves kept insisting Bolling would come back. Day by day, my respect for these pilots grows as I watch for them, watch them take off for certain dogfights with the enemy and possible death. A few months ago they were mild young men studying and attending frat dances in Washington, Tuskegee, New York and other cities. The ordinary hazards of flying they take for granted. Their worry is how to keep FW-190's off their tail or dodge ack-ack fire from the ground. Every mission may be their last but they have learned tricks that make them confident they can fight with the best. No one fears Goering's circus boys.

Bronx Mother Proud of Flying Son Who Led 99th in Pantelleria Battle

By NELL DODSON

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

"I'm so proud and thankful, and so happy!"

These were the words with which Mrs. Charles Dryden of the Bronx greeted the news in the daily papers that her son, First Lieut. Charles W. Dryden, jr., had led a squadron in an air battle against German planes over Pantelleria, June 18.

"He's always been interested in planes," Mrs. Dryden said. "He was always making them and fooling around with them!"

Charles Junior's habit of "fooling around" with planes stood him in good stead in the skirmish above the clouds.

ATTACKED BY NAZIS

On the afternoon of June 18, a flight of six P-40 pursuit planes led by Lieut. Dryden, was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW 190s. The nazi planes were escrting bombers attempting to raid the island. Ten German fighter planes were also in the raiding enemy squdron.

According to an Associated Press report, the boys from the 99th damaged two of the fighter planes and forced the others to high-tail it back to their home field.

FLIERS COMMENDED

Secretary of War Stimson stated the 99th Fighter Squadron had "weathered its first aerial combat very creditably."

Meanwhile, at Lieut. Dryden's home, 800 Home st, his mother and his sister, Pauline, are awaiting some word from Charles whom they haven't heard from in over three weeks.

"The last time he wrote by V-mail," Mrs. Dryden said, "he told us he was very busy!"

We agree, Charles has been VERY busy.

MOM AND POP ARE SOOO PROUD!

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Drayton, Sr., 800 Home St, Bronx, parents of Lt. Charles Drayton, jr., who led a squadron of 99th Pursuit fighter planes in an air battle against Nazi planes over Pantelleria, June 18, look at picture album crammed with snapshots of their flying son. He was always fooling around with planes," Mrs. Drayton told PV last week.—Cecil Layne photo.

LOCAL HERO

First Lieut. Charles Drayton, jr, dood it. He made the daily paper headlines when he led the boys of the 99th Pursuit squadron in an air skirmish, June 18. Recently wrote his mother he was "very busy."

Wings Awarded More Tuskegee Air Pilots

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., Aug. 5—In perfect cadence to the stirring notes of the "Air Corps Song," Class SE 43-G filed into the New Theatre building July 28 at Tuskegee Army Air Field to receive their wings and commissions as single engine fighter pilots in the Army Air Forces.

This contingent of airmen became Tuskegee's most recent group of flyers to complete the arduous pilot training course and become flying officers in the Aid Corps. They were addressed by Roger F. Gordon, field director of the American Red Cross at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, who advised them to "meet the next stage of your training and the trials that are to follow with the same purposeful determination, the same optimism, and the same faith that have to this point crowned your efforts with success."

Immediately following the main address the graduates were presented commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the field. Wings were awarded the graduates by Major Donald G. McPherson, director of training at the post. Student officers receiving wings were Second Lieutenants John Daniels of Chicago, Ill., and William B. Ellis of Washington, D. C.

Among those receiving wings and commissions were: Second Lts. Lee Andrew Archer, New York City, Harry L. Bailey, Chicago, Ill., William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla., Samuel Lee Curtis, Yeadon, Pa., William W. Green, Staunton, Va., George B. Greenlee, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa., Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga., Jack D. Holsclaw, Spokane, Wash., Daniel James, Jr., Pensacola, Fla., John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati, Ohio, Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif., James W. Mason, Monroe, La., Eddie A. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss., William R. Melton, Jr., Los Angeles, Calif., Robert H. Nelson, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa., Maurice R. Page, Los Angeles, Calif., Cornelius G. Rogers, Chicago, Ill.

Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa., Lowell C. Steward, Los Angeles, Calif., Elmer W. Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pa., Alva Newte Temple, Carrollton, Ala., Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta, Ga., Robert H. Wiggins, New York City, Leroy Shelton Williams, Roanoke, Va., and Beryl Wyatt of Independence, Kansas.

HAITIAN WINS WINGS

Also completing the pilot training course and receiving wings and a certificate was the first foreign student at Tuskegee, Sgt. Raymond Cassagnol, Haitian Air Force, Port au Prince, Haiti.

HONOR STUDENTS

Cadet honors for all around excellence as cadets were Lee Andrew Archer of New York City, Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif., and Daniel James, Jr., of Pensacola, Fla. Lt. James was a flight instructor at the Primary Flying Field, Tuskegee institute, Ala., prior to accepting appointment as an aviation cadet.

SHOT DOWN AT SEA . . . SAVED

Pittsburg Courier Pa.

Lt. George R. Bolling, member of the Fighting 99th Pursuit Squadron, in action on the North African frontier, was reported safe, after being shot down while on a mission in that theatre of war. Word received stated that he had been returned to his unit somewhere in Sicily.—Official OWI Photo.

47a-1943

ntertains 'Skegee Personne

Daily World.
Atlanta, Georgia

The versatile Miss Christine Chatman, who recently gave a concert at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, is pictured at her "boogie-woogie" piano. She defrayed her expenses and gave three performances so that all the men here could share in the entertainment.—(Photo by Tuskegee Army Air Field)

47a

Tuskegee Graduates Its Largest Class Of Flyers

Chicago Illinois Defender

MAY 8 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—In keeping with the War Department's program to expand its quota of pilots this year, the Tuskegee Army Air Field graduated the largest class of flyers in its history last week.

They received the traditional coveted silver wings and a commission in the army of the United States, as a result of their ratings as full-fledged pilots.

The newly commissioned officers marched to the post theatre where the graduation exercises was held, followed by lower classmen to the tune of the Air Corps song played by the Post band. Here an overflowing house of parents, friends and fellow soldiers, the largest group yet to witness a graduation, waited to observe the ceremony.

Following the invocation by the post chaplain, Capt. Douglas L. T. Robinson, Lieut. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air field, introduced Major Donald G. McPherson, director of flight training. who delivered the principal address.

Major McPherson emphasized" . . after you leave here, those of us who have trained you will watch your accomplishments with an eager eye and accept them proudly. As you know, it has only been a short time that men of your race have been trained as pilots in the Army Air Corps. Therefore, your contributions to the traditions of the Air Corps have necessarily been curtailed.

"Now you are part of the Air Corps and you will be expected to live up to its traditions and standards. They are high and you will have much to live up to and I have no doubt that you will. You are in a unique position. On one hand, you must maintain the traditions that have been made in the past by members of the Air Corps all over the world, and on the other hand, you will make traditions to which members of your race who follow you, may emulate and aspire to. Let the wings you are about to receive remain a symbol as they have in the past, of excellence, of honor and of courage."

Immediately following the address Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish presented the graduates their commissions. Presentation of the silver "wings" to the candidates was made by Major McPherson.

Special honors were awarded to three of the cadets by Major John C. Cook, commandant of cadets. The three honored men receiving silver identification bracelets for outstanding academic and military bearing were: Second Lieutenants Vernon V. Haywood, Raleigh, N. C.; Ulysses S. Taylor, Kaufman, Tex.; and Charles I. Williams of Lima, Ohio.

Other members of the graduating class were Second Lieutenants Paul Adams, Charles P. Bailey, James E. Brothers, James Y. Carter, Arnold W. Cisco, Wilson V. Eagleson, William J. Faulkner, Jr., Walter T. Foreman, Herber C. Houston, Freddie E. Hutchins, Leonard M. Jaskson, Sidney J. Moseley, Jr., Curtis C. Robinson, Harold E. Sawyer, Lewis C. Smith and Luke J. Weathers. Jr.

47a

MAY 8 1943

Patterson Says Army To Train Black Bombers

Atlanta Daily World

Negro Navigators To Be Trained

Also, He Says

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(A N P) —Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson confirmed the report that the war department intends to train Negro soldiers as bombardiers and navigators in the army air force. His statement, brief and lacking in detail, was made in answer to a question put to him at the weekly press conference last Thursday morning.

Drew Patterson, in his radio column the Sunday before, had alluded to this plan of the war department as its "answer" to the race riots. The question was intended to invite a straightforward statement from the department.

Patterson explained that army schools have always been open to the men of the service, irrespective of their race, color or creed. He said that Negro soldiers would be sent to these schools and that "every man who goes will be used as a bombardier or navigator."

Asked of they would be organied into teams, the acting secretary declared that "these men will be used for combat duty." His reluctance to go into greater details at the moment was apparent.

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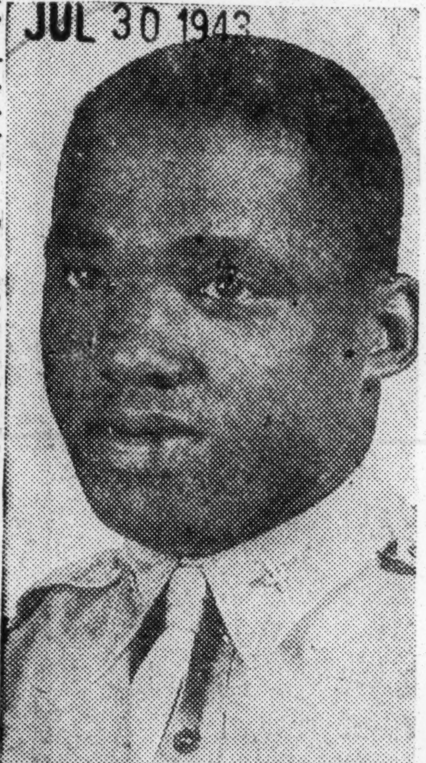
JUL 30 1943



Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

JUL 30 194

MISSOURIAN MISSING.—2nd Lieut. James L. McCullin of 3901 Enright Ave., St. Louis, Mo., is the first flyer in the 99th pursuit squadron to be reported missing in action. He was in the group of flyers who participated in the bombing of Pantelleria.

47a

"Spratmore" and "Skeegumese"

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

(By Air Mail, Delayed. Passed by Censor.)

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JUL 9 1943

ENROUTE TO THE NORTH AFRICAN WAR ZONE—This column contains "Spratmore" principally. That is "Skeegumese" for choice bits of gossip or hangar talk about the pilots and ground crew. "Skeegum" is short for Tuskegee where the Army Flying School at which most of the men in this outfit have spent practically all of their Army life till now is located.

In other words we'll record here the gems of personal news—gossip, if you prefer—about this first unit of Negro pilots to see combat service in the history of the country.

This is the Fighter Squadron which was trained and activated at the Tuskegee Army Flying School and it is at last on its way, as this is being written, to the North African combat zone. Your correspondent is attached to this squadron and will try to bring you week-by-week and up-to-the minute history of this precedent smashing vitally significant flying fighter unit.

47a

1943

Nearest-to-home member of the pilot crew is 2nd Lt. George Richard Bolling of 24 Cummings Avenue, Phoebus, Va., son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Bolling, of the same address. A graduate of Hampton Institute with a bachelor of science degree in electricity, Lt. Bolling got into flying during the summer of 1940 at Hampton where he enrolled in the CPT course.

After graduation he plied his trade at the Norfolk Navy Yard. from June to November, 1941, and then signed up as a flying cadet in the Army's new program at Tuskegee. He finished his primary, basic and advance training and was commissioned on July 3, 1942. Then he joined the Fighter Squadron.

Standing 5 feet 10 inches, and weighing 140 pounds, Lt. Bolling is an admirable specimen of the quality of men who make up this squadron. He is 22 years old. He does not smoke or drink, and the "Spratmore" I've been able to gather thus far would indicate that he sticks pretty close to flying for his recreation.

But there's xplanation for that, too [illegible] sure his sweetheart, Dolores Jenkins, a teacher at Florida A. and M. College, is very happy to have a boy friend like Lt. Bolling.

The youth of these lads is underscored by one fact which Lt. Bolling recalled. At Whittier School where he went through the grades, one of his teachers was my sister-in-law whom he remembers as "the prettiest teacher in the school."

HAMPTON TRADITION

His family formerly lived in Hampton and he is wrapped thickly with the tradition. He went on to Phenix High School from which he graduated in 1936, before matriculating at Hampton Institute.

STROLLS THE DECK

It's way past midnight and I've just returned from a stroll around the deck of our transport. A full moon paints a broad, glistening path across the water to the horizon. There are but a couple more days to go, but we are getting into the "hot" waters now.

Tomorrow we'll probably be within range of friendly patrol bombers from the other side, and they will be keeping sharp eyes peeled for Nazi submarine packs. If you read this you'll know we made tomorrow morning all right because I can't file this story until we debark.

I've promised a 3-column picture in the JOURNAL AND GUIDE for the first pilot of the squadron who knocks down a Jerry. ((Aside to the editor: Please oblige).

* * *

A remarkable thing is how 1st Lt. William A. Campbell (of the Tuskegee Campbells, Suh) has lived to be so old (age 26)! Without question the hardest teaser in the Squadron he is like the seven-years itch when he once turns his sparkling dry humor on a vic tim.

Yet he has more flying hours than any other man in the Squadron, just because he loves to fly. He was far ahead of minimum requirements for fighter pilots going into combat.

HARD TEASER

The wonder is not why or how he has avoided an accident in the air; his skill takes care of that. But it is how he has avoided the brickbats of exasperated "victims" of his teasing. I know. I've been sleeping in the same room with Lt. Campbell for over a week.

1943

Periodically we are told to set our watches ahead a half-hour. Can't say how often we do this because that would indicate the speed of our ship. And wouldn't old Jerry like to know that!!!

332nd Fighter Pilots Seen Ready, Eager For Combat

Journal and Guide
(O Norfolk, Virginia)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The writer of this article, now in the United States on leave of absence, was until recently attached to the 99th Fighter Squadron as an accredited U. S. War Correspondent, and reported the combat action of this famed group of fliers from Africa and Sicily. His background of overseas reporting from a fighting front makes this article on the 332nd Fighter Group especially significant.)

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—There is very little difference between the Army Air Forces unit in training here, of which Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., recently took command, and the more famed 99th Fighter Squadron which he led through three months of precedent shattering combat action in the Mediterranean theatre last summer.

If there is any difference of consequence it is chiefly one of size. This latest assignment gives the 30-year-old son of the Army's only Negro general command of just three times more men, planes, equipment—and problems.

For a fighter group comprises three (or more) squadrons, each of which in its operations and organizations matches the make-up of the pioneer Tuskegee-trained unit which blazed the trail for Negro fliers in the Air Corps, plus a group headquarters which runs the three-squadron show.

AWARE OF DESTINY

Having crossed the ocean with the 99th last April, and observed their carefully scheduled preparation for baptism of enemy fire in the skies above Africa, I studied with keen interest daily routine of these daring young members of the Army Air Forces as they went through the final stages of their organizational training.

They were aware of the almost certain destiny that may soon put them, like their eminent predecessors in the 99th, into actual combat with German—or Japanese—fighters and bombers in the skies above Europe or the Pacific.

Every schoolboy can tell you that the Army is training fighter pilots for just one purpose—and that is, to fight and overwhelm the enemy in the air. There could be no lingering doubts in the minds of these men that they, too, are going to be called on to prove their right to wear the silver wings which so proudly adorn their chests.

There might have been doubts a year ago about what the high command planned to do with these newly accepted Negro pilots in the Air Corps. Those doubts, however, were dispelled when the 99th went overseas after two years of training in the United States.

PROFESS EAGERNESS

So, these bronze Americans who aspired to wear wings, too, knew then, as they know now, that their job in the Army would be fighting. Happily, the 332nd is dominated by men who have no illusions about their destiny.

Yet they show only reasonable and natural concern for the certain trip across one of the oceans that has been written into their secret itinerary for the future. Many profess an eagerness to get over there and show what they can do.

And I am certain that some of these are as sincere and honest about wanting to get into combat as any pilots of any race anywhere on this side of the global bomb line.

Let's make a quick appraisal of some of their "physical assets," and then let us consider some of the "intangibles" that constitute their military sound "net worth."

WILL SATISFY CRITICS

In the few days this writer was able to spend at Selfridge Field there was time to survey the group only by a "sampling" process. There doubtless are many of its finest assets which will not be mentioned here. But I saw enough to convince me of this one thing:—

This group of fighter pilots, the second unit committed to combat, will make a name for itself and hang up a record that will satisfy the most severe critic of colored fliers in the Air Corps.

They have read and heard the criticism recently made of the 99th Fighter Squadron—that its record of planes shot down was unsatisfactory. These boys in the 332nd think they can shoot down Jerries or Japs just as fast as any other fighter pilots can, and they are determined above all else to hang up enough victories over the enemy to forestall any such charges.

The desire and the determination are not all that is required to turn the trick. But they go a long way toward doing it. Any flier who's been overseas can tell you that the task is hopeless without those two requisites.

LEADERS PRODUCED

The 332nd fighter group has a commanding officer who who already has proved himself a "tonic" to the entire outfit. Col Davis had the frightfully difficult task of leading the first group of colored pilots through three months of combat initiation.

His will be the voice of experience, and of established authority, when he speaks. Even without that, he is universally regarded as a soldier and a leader with few peers. Well, West Point is noted for turning out great soldiers, and not every cadet who graduates is the son of a career Army man who rises to the rank of general.

Human nature being what it is, you might have anticipated some petty jealousy or resentment to the elevation of this youthful flying officer. But it wasn't that way.

Just about every man I talked to was happy about the appointment of their new commandant. They had anticipated his coming quite keenly after the news was made known, and his arrival at the field gave the entire organization a tremendous "lift."

That's as it should be. The program to train Negro fliers for the Army Air Forces is, at the outset, a failure if it does not produce men capable of commanding those separate units activated for combat operations. The result would be most unfortunate if the men who make up those units did not accept, and even prefer, the leadership chosen from their own ranks.

ROUZEAU TELLS HOW OUR BOYS FIGHT GERMANS

SEP 18 1943
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU, Courier War Correspondent

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SICILY, Sept. 16—(Via Wireless)—Tuskegee's "Black Eagles" of the 99th Pursuit Squadron from Alabama were in the thick of the fighting when the Allies bombarded Sicily and, with the heat of invasion now stretched to the Italian mainland and the atmosphere heavy with an aroma of impending climax, Our Boys are still "up to their necks" in this "Peoples' War." But, as much consternation as they have caused the Axis in their P-40 Warhawks, the majority of the "99th" pilots want Spitfires or P-51 Mustangs, which, being faster, would rob the Germans of power and would make all combat decisions in their favor.

The pilots of the "99th," to a man, have averaged 25 aerial missions over enemy combat territory since Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., and his now famous bronze fighter pilots first cast their dark but heroic shadows over the North African-Mediterranean basin.

TOUGHEST ASSIGNMENTS

The bulk of the 99th Pursuit Squadron's work, to date, has been of a highly important nature, but it has not been glamorous newspaper reading, because the Allied Air Command does not favor newspaper heroes and frowns on the idea of daredevil pilots hunting aerial combats — the theory being that the results obtained are unworthy of the risk of valuable plane and personnel. The risk is approved only when planes must fight to safely escort bombers to and fro or when bombing enemy gun positions which may, on a large scale, Allied ground operations and endanger thousands of troops.

SEP 18 1943

The Tuskegee-trained fighter fliers of the "99th" have been used chiefly for escorting bombers, strafing troops and bombing gun positions.

On such fighter "sweep" missions, fighter pilots seek fights, since they are permitted to attack anything and everything, in the air or on the ground, within an area assigned to this particular patrol.

GERMANS MAKE DECISIONS

But when Our Boys meet German fighters on these special missions, they must wait for the Germans to bring the fight to them. German Messerschmitts 109 and Focke-Wulfs 190 are two or three thousand pounds lighter than our P-40 Warhawks and can out-race, out-climb and out-dive them.

When German fliers don't want to fight they simply keep out of range and our pilots can't get near them. On the other hand, if the Germans outnumber us and seek

Transportation Corps, Officers' Candidate School.

Sergeant Taylor, who resides in Dallas, Texas, was employed 10 years as machinist, before he entered the Army on January 25, 1941

tage of terrific fire power (six guns), however, and can turn in a much smaller circle than the fast-moving German Messerschmitts and Focke-Wulfs. Usually, the enemy is in the air when contacted, whereupon the Allied pilot simply turns into him. Since the German pilot cannot make a similar quick turn, his rigid guns are out of focus in the twinkling of an eye. The German plane, in such a spot, keeps diving to get out of range of our guns. With the German plane diving, our turning can be continuous without the Warhawks being hit as long as they see the Germans coming and time their turning moment accurately.

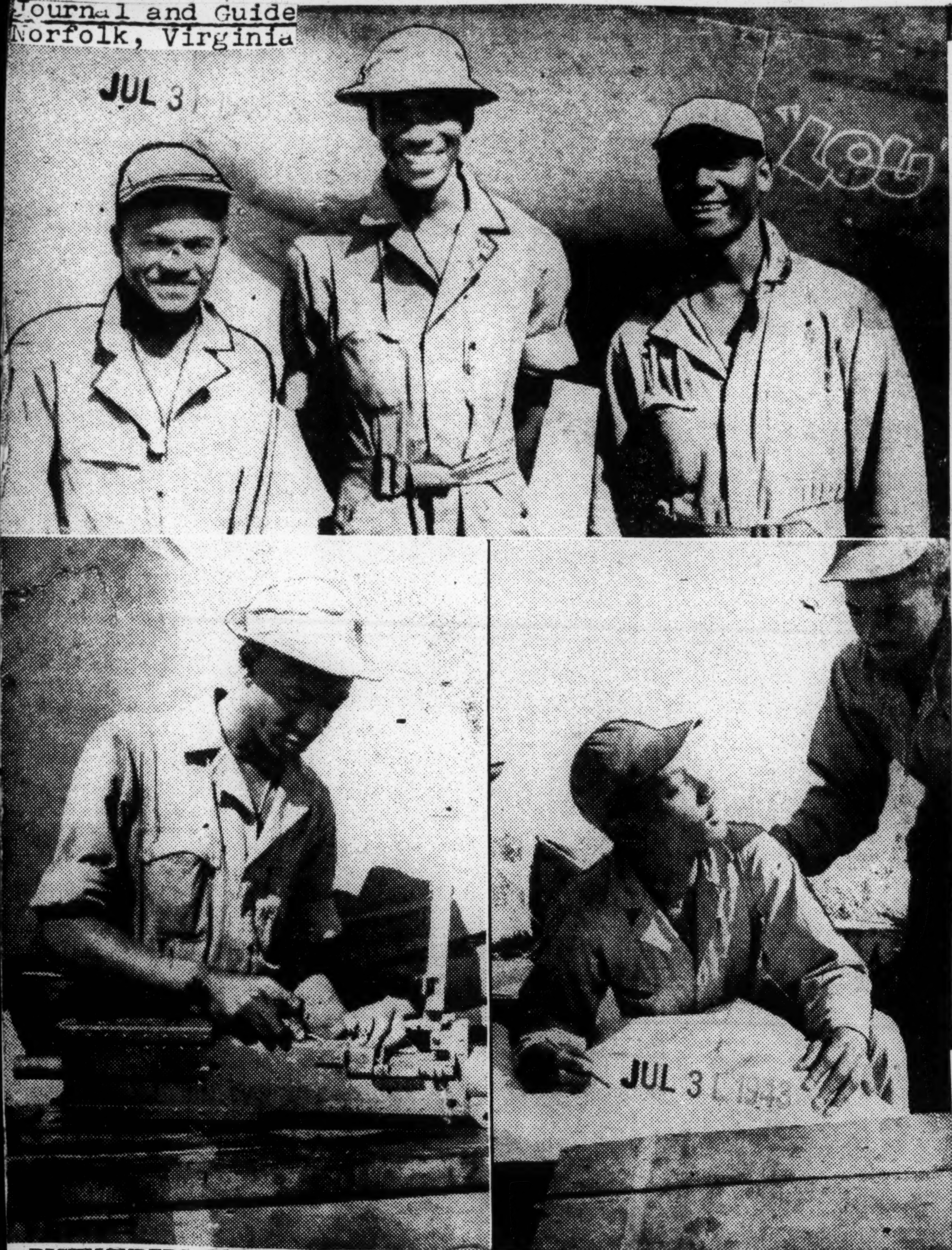
"WILL-O'-THE-WISPS"

The German planes are usually gone before Our Boys can focus guns on them. Few Germans can stomach head-on fights against our guns.

Our pilots have developed great teamwork and know how to protect each other in tight spots. The Germans invariably find themselves facing too many Warhawks and seldom come down from high altitudes to fight. Our Boys feel they have accumulated the necessary experience for successful air combats. They believe the Germans are concentrating on making "fighters"—not "bombers"—and won't risk having these fighters knocked down.

47a-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUL 31



JUL 3 1 1943

RICHMONDERS WITH 99th FIGHTER SQUADRON — The only three Richmond, Va., residents in the 99th Fighter Squadron now doing combat service in North Africa are shown in the above layout. Shown at top, left to right: Corporal Kenneth C. Freeman, 21, of 411 W. Marshall street; Sergeant William H. Young, 22, of 107 Birch avenue, and Corporal Augustus W. Gayles, 22, of 7 South Beech street.

Corporal Gayles is shown bottom, right, seated, pointing out to Corporal Freeman on a map how he finds enemy planes by use of radio and allied equipment. At bottom, left, Sergeant Young is shown repairing a machine gun from the wing of a P-40 Warhawk plane flown by one of the members [redacted] Fighter Squadron of which [redacted] is a member. (Exclusive Journal and Guide photos by Thomas W. Young).

47a

World-Telegram
New York. N. Y.

Col. Davis Given
New Air Command

OCT 5 1943

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., a Negro, formerly commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, now in action in Italy, has assumed command of the 332nd fighter group at Selfridge Field, Mich., the War Department announced today. Both are Negro units. The 30-year-old Davis is the first Negro officer ever to command an air force combat unit.

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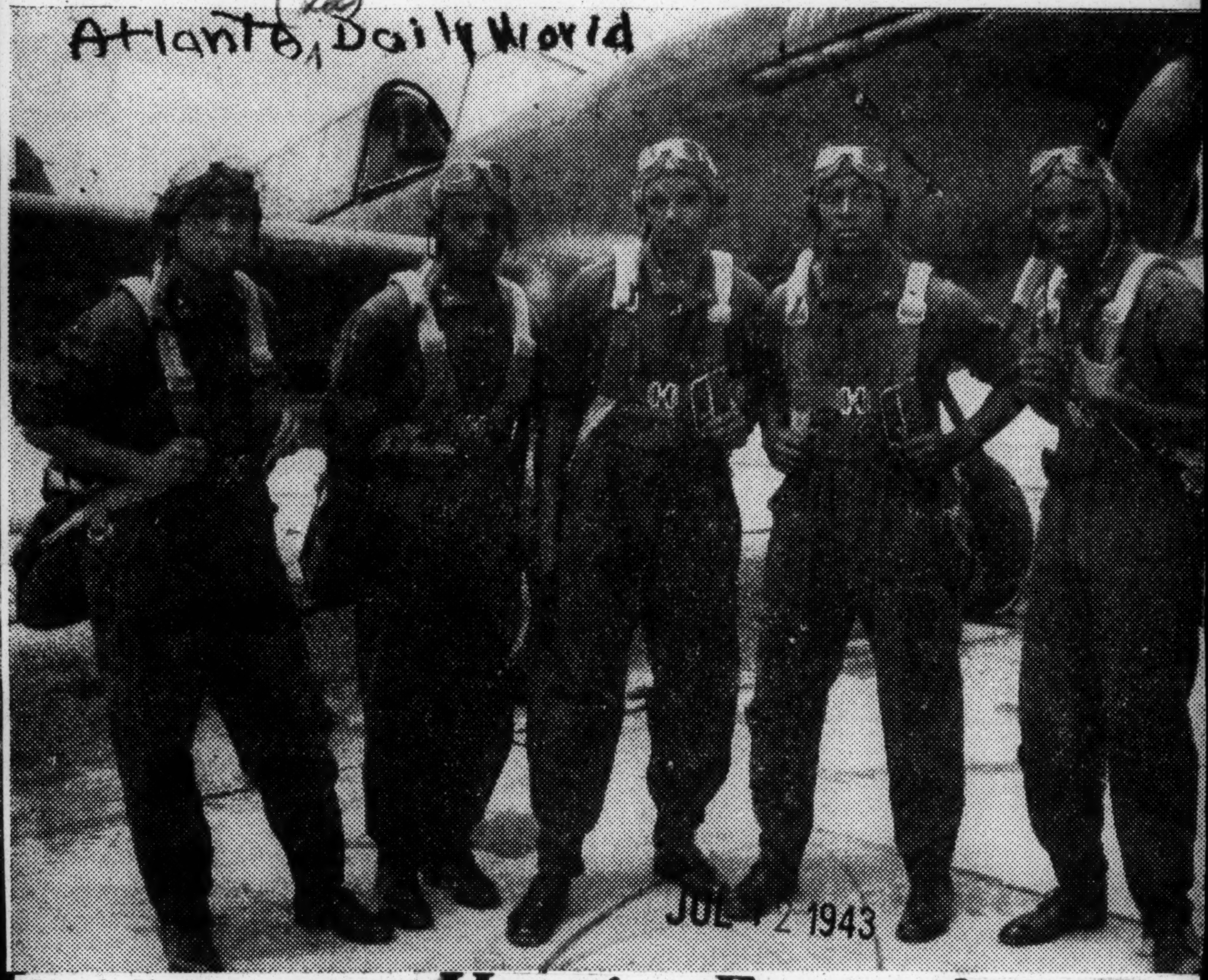
Fighter Pilots Begin Training At TAAF

(2a)
Atlanta, Daily World



JUL 12 1943

Second Lieutenants Richard H. Harris Jr., Oscar A. Kenney, John S. Sloan, Frank D. Walker and Willis S. Hunter are shown getting ready to take a test flight in one of the fighter planes at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. They were among the recent graduates to receive their wings and commission at this base. Lt. Harris, son of Mr and Mrs. R. H. Harris of 283 S Jackson St., Montgomery, Ala. graduated from Fisk University in 1941 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Lt. Kenney, son of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Kenney of Box 248 Tuskegee Institute, Ala., attended Oberlin College from 1939 to 1941. Lt. Sloan of 2817 S. 6th St., Louisville, graduated from Kentucky State College with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Lt. Walker of 110 E. Main St., Richmond, Ky., attended West Virginia State from 1938 to 1941. Lt. Hunter, son of Mrs. Daisy Hunter of 1323 Whitney Ave., Albany, Ga., attended Tuskegee Institute from 1939 to 1941.

JUL 12 1943

(47a)

Hastie Raps Army School At Tuskegee

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

(47a)

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE
(Former Civilian Aide to Secretary of War)

FEB 27 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—There is not now and never has been any good reason for the segregated training of Negro flyers at Tuskegee.

There are two stages in the training of a soldier to be an Army flyer. The first stage teaches the new cadet how to fly, using small light aircraft adapted to the training of a beginner. This part of the program is carried out by private operators who contract with the Army to give preliminary flying instruction to aviation cadets. The private contractor furnishes the field and the instructors, while the Army selects and assigns the cadets, prescribes the course of instruction and supervises training. There are a great many such contract schools scattered in various sections of the country.

The cadet who successfully completes the elementary flying course at such a school is next assigned to an Army field for further basic and advanced training. From this point on, the Army takes complete charge of the training program.

FEB 27 1943

There was no need to segregate Negro cadets in either stage of training. Newly appointed Negro cadets could have been assigned to beginning classes at any one of the many contract schools just as white cadets are assigned. In fact one or two Negro cadets were so assigned by mistake. But when they arrived for training, arrangements were quickly made to reassign them to Tuskegee. Similarly in the more advanced training, Negroes who had completed the primary course could have been sent to the various Army flying training centers, but the Air Command was determined to separate Negro and white cadets at every stage of training.

Tuskegee Institute was awarded a contract to provide Army primary training for Negro Army

FEB 27 1943

aviation cadets. Under this contract the Army enlisted and appointed a small group of Negro cadets every few weeks and sent them to the Tuskegee Institute for elementary flying training under Army supervision. Incidently, this caused some confusion because Tuskegee Institute also had a civilian pilot course which is not connected with the Army. Some young men enrolled in this civilian course under the misapprehension that by doing so they were getting into Army aviation.

For the more advanced training of Negro cadets, the Army invested millions of dollars in the construction of a new Army Air Base for Negroes located a few miles from the town of Tuskegee. Tuskegee Institute has no connection with this Army field or with the advanced training conducted there. However, as to this also there has been some confusion and misunderstanding in the public mind.

But why in the name of common sense should all of this elaborate special machinery be set up to train Negro flyers. It was expensive. It caused a delay of six months or more in the beginning of flying training for Negroes. It was not flexible, since it was adapted only to the training of pursuit pilots. Only by setting up additional Negro training centers for bombardment and observation, or by abandoning segregated training could the program be broadened.

The idea of a separate training base for Negro pilots is indefensible, if Negroes are actually to be an integral part of our combat air forces. It is not possible to train flyers in one small area as foot soldiers can be trained. Even in training, men must fly from field to field. After a flyer is commissioned, his flying in this country will necessarily take him in and out of a large number of flying fields. If he goes into combat abroad one thing is certain, he will not just fly out of a Jim-Crow base with his own Negro unit and fly back again. Even infantrymen traveling on their own two feet get scattered in combat. How much more are aviators bound to get into unexpected places and undergo regrouping from time to time during the course of a campaign. It is simply impossible to maintain racial segregation of pilots in a combat area. The Air Command must know this.

Since such contacts and mingling are unavoidable, the only sensible thing to do is to prepare men for them by providing inter-racial associations in training such as they are bound to have later on. If we want white and colored flyers in combat to get along well with each other, the best plan is to build mutual understanding and self-respect by training men together from the time they begin learning to fly. The worst plan is to keep them apart until they are forced together under the stress of circumstances in combat. Prejudice is based on ignorance. Let men get acquainted with each other in training and there is no great problem of their harmony later on.

All of this has seemed simple and obvious to me. The Air Command, however, cannot see it. The Air Command is not even influenced by the fact that the ground forces have been training white and colored officer candidates together with excellent results ever since the beginning of the present Army expansion.

There are none so blind as those who do not want to see. And the Air Command just does not want to see the advantages of training situation in this country for wha it is rather than for what the would have it to be, know tha these opportunities have been, ar important now, and will be for long time to come. Our great nee

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Lt. Charles B. Hall First To Get "Jerry"

Journal and Guide

Focke-Wulf 190 Knocked Out In History-Making Action Over Sicily

Norfolk, Virginia

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
(By Cable, Delayed. Passed by Censor)
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JUL 10 1943

SOMEWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA—First Lieutenant Charles B. Hall, 22-year-old fighter pilot of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, has blasted from the skies the first German fighter credited to a Negro flier of the United States Army Air Forces.

Lt. Hall was part of a fighter group protecting a formation of U. S. Mitchell Bombers which attacked the enemy airfield at Castelventrano in Sicily. His victim was one of 20 German interceptors which came up thru a heavy haze to battle the formation. A Focke-Wulf 190 fell crashing to earth before the blazing guns of Lt. Hall.

Here is his story:

"I saw two Focke-Wulfs following the Mitchells just after the bombs were dropped. I headed for the space between the fighters and the bombers and managed to turn inside the Jerries.

"I fired a long burst and saw my tracers penetrate the second aircraft. He was turning to the left, but suddenly fell off and headed straight into the ground. I followed him down and saw him crash.

"He raised a big cloud of dust."

The young lieutenant, a native of Brazil. Indiana, also had the distinction of being one of the first two pilots of the 99th Squadron to go into action early in June. The other was First Lieutenant William A. Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala. Lt. Hall was given his wings and commission at Tuskegee Army Flying School on June 3, 1942. It was almost a year to the day that he took off from a North African airfield, home of the squadron, to take part in the bombing offensive against Pantelleria. With other members of the squadron he dropped 500 pound bombs from the P-40 Warhawk fighter jobs they fly. The July 2 flight was the eighth mission for the pilot against the enemy. In addition to the plane shot down by Lt. Hall, a second, a Messerschmitt 109, was probably shot down and a third was hit and damaged.

YOUNG

The attack on Castelventrano was the first mission by medium bombers of the Northwest African Tactical Air Force since the fall of Pantelleria on June 11. The resistance from the enemy was furious as 20 German defenders took to the air.

The communique issued at Allied Headquarters in North Africa on July 3 said: "Yesterday B-25 Mitchells of the Tactical Air Force attacked Castelventrano airfield in Sicily. One enemy fighter was shot down by one of the P-40 Warhawks escorting the bombers." All our planes returned safely.

Following the action of July 2, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied Commander-In-Chief, visited the 99th pursuit unit and personally congratulated Lt. Hall for his exploits. Gen. Eisenhower also congratulated Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., squadron commander.

This first air victory for which the pilots, and all sponsors and boosters of the Negro squadron project, have awaited with eager anticipation since the first class graduated in March, 1942 at Tuskegee Flying Field came after long preparation on the part of the 99th's fliers.

For months the young flying officers awaited the issuing by the Army Air Force of the necessary battle command. With a promise early in the year that the fighters would be in the thick of things against the enemy by June 1, the Army sent into motion operational plans to dispatch the fighters and their crewmen to the North African scene of operations.

Late in April they arrived in Africa just before the fall of the vaunted German Africa Corps. Advanced training in African skies under the expert instruction of battle-wise veterans fitted them for the real test. They were taught the art of bombing from a fighter plane. By June they were ready.

Pantelleria was the first objective of the 99th. For eight days, usually as part of veteran squadrons the fliers swooped over the island and dropped missles of destruction upon the base, which eventually was forced to surrender, making the first complete victory over a fortified stronghold by air power.

The opposition was little. Anti-aircraft fire was all they faced.

Seven days after the Allies took over the island, the Germans came. Twelve bombers and 22 fighter planes formed a formation sent to bomb the installations to forestall the pending Allied offensive. A flight of six pilots of the 99th was on patrol.

Unhesitatingly the planes roared into battle and drove away the enemy. As a result of this June 18 action two German planes were damaged, according to operational reports. None was definitely reported shot down. This came on July 2, when Lt. Hall blasted a Focke-Wulf over Sicily.

Major Is Proud Of 99th Pilots He Gave Start

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

SEP 4 1943

KEARNS, UTAH—When news of the Negro fighter pilot squadron's success in North Africa came through, proudest man on the post was Major T. Smith, who was commanding officer of Moton Field, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., where the pilots received their primary training.

Every one of the P-40 pilots, from the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. down, had gone thru the school while Major Smith was there.

He remembers that first

group, and all the other Negro aviation cadets, as being outstanding aerial gunnery. "They established extremely high records in that field," he said.

Negro cadets are handled in the same fashion as whites. They are recruited from civilian life. from the Army and from men overseas.

PRIMARY PHASE

They received their training at **the Tuskegee Institute and Tuskegee Army Air Base—pre-flight,** primary, basic. advanced, and transition. The major's branch at the institute handles only the primary training phase.

The major came here in July to help recruit CPT men for the Army to act as instructors for flying cadets. He expects to be here until October 1 and then back to Moton Field. After that he wants combat action.

Major Smith graduated from West Point in 1939, received his pilot's wings at Kelly Field, Texas in 1940. He assumed command at Tuskegee on December 1, 1941.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Artillery Men Trained To Fly As Observers

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Another phase of flying has been temporarily added to the training schedule of the busy Tuskegee Army Air Field. Joining the Basic Trainers, Advanced Trainers and P-40's that crowd the busy runways of this active air base, a grasshopper fleet of tiny "cubs," Army liaison planes, are landing and taking off from the field.

This addition to the Tuskegee field's curriculum is a course of instruction for qualified Negro field artillery officers who are training as liaison pilots. The course lasts from nine weeks, during which time the trainee receives sixty hours in the tiny sixty-five horsepower airplane.

SEP 4 1943

The students, all officers, most of whom have come up from the ranks in the field artillery, live in the bachelor officers quarters at the air base. Their schedule calls for them to attend ground school classes every morning.

ARE OBSERVERS

In these classes they are taught such necessary subjects to successful flying as theory of flight, aircraft engines, navigation. aircraft recognition, and weather. Every afternoon they are transported to the Tallasee auxiliary field of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, where they accomplish the actual flying.

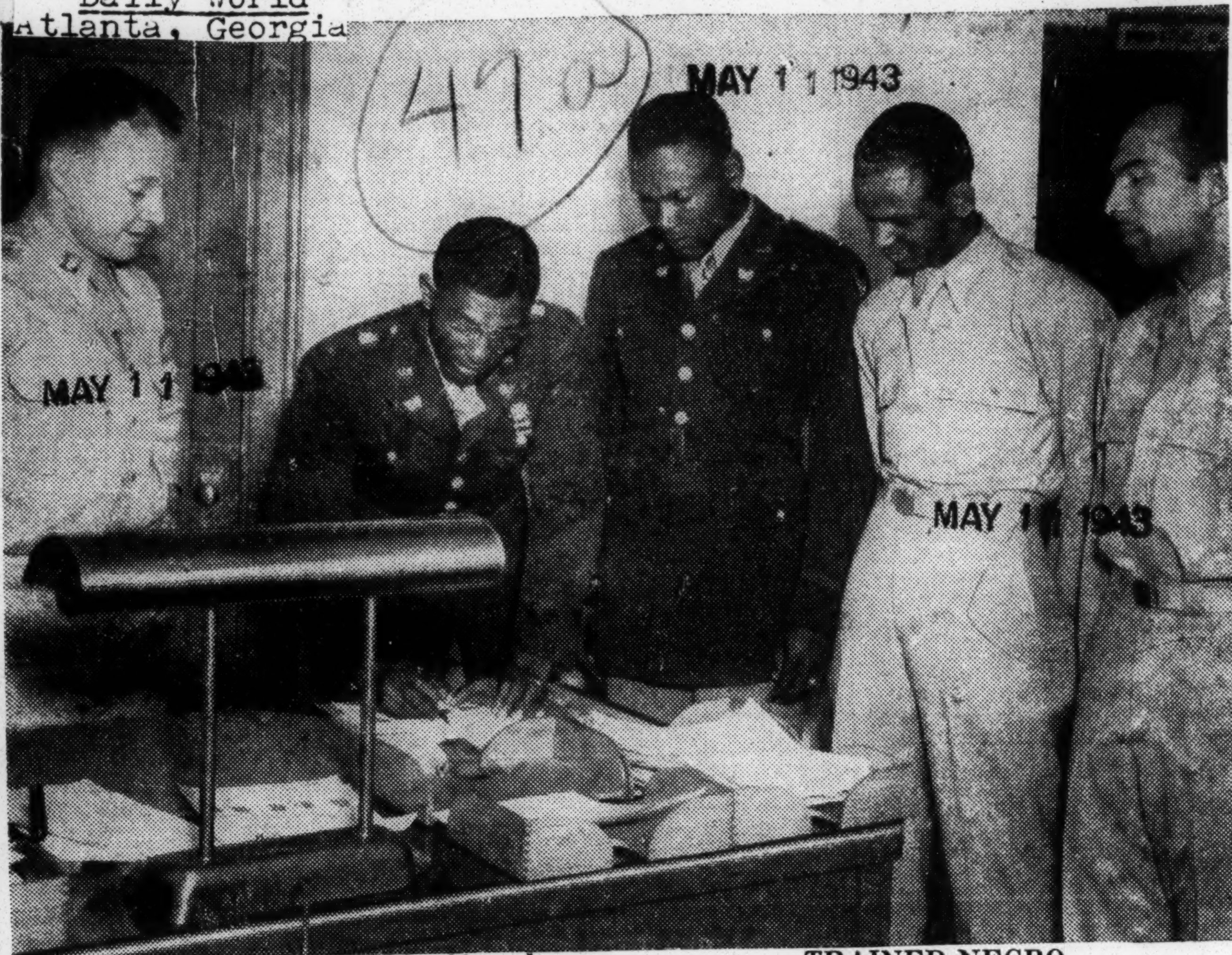
After nine weeks and sixty hours of flying instruction, the student officer receives his liaison pilot wings and goes to Ft. Sill, Okla., for advanced training and preparation for tactical work. In combat these liaison pilots serve as observers of battery fire. They fly so they can see where the salvos from their batteries are hitting. Then necessary corrections are radioed from the pilot to the battery crews until the shots are striking the targets.

47a-1943

New Warrant Officers At Tuskegee Base

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAY 11 1943



TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Among the new officers at the Tuskegee Army Air Field are four new Warrant Officers (Junior Grade) who recently received their commissions in the Army of the United States. All four of the men have been members of the Regular Army and were outstanding non-commissioned officers in their specialized duties. Signing his discharge as an enlisted man in the presence of Captain Clyde H. Bynum of Auburn, Ala., Post Adjutant, is F-Sgt Daniel Hicks of Brooklyn, N. Y. Other newly commissioned "Misters" are: F-Sgt. Augustus Robertson of New York City, S-Sgt. Roscoe Thompson of Camden, S. C., and M-Sgt. Frederick Herbert of Detroit.

Lt.-Col. B. O. Davis Meets Original "Corkin" in Africa

People's Voice, New York, N.Y.

JUN 19 1943

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

"Flip Corkin," flying hero of Milt Caniff's comic strip, Terry and the Pirates, talked about the valor and genious of American flyers without distinction of race and color in a "personal appearance" for the press at the Waldorf Astoria last Tuesday.

"Corkin" is none other than the famous Lt. Col. Phil Cochran, who landed with the first units in North Africa and spent months with a hand full of American flyers in P 40's who supported black and white ground units when Rommel pounded the Allies with his superior forces. He and his men held on in guerilla fashion until supplies and reinforcements arrived.

TRAINED NEGRO SQUADRON

After he had been wounded, "Corkin" was sent to Morocco to train new fighters for the African terrain. His last assignment before leaving for America was the training of the 99th Pursuit Squadron headed by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, jr. Since then, the famous Negro unit has seen fire and has fought with the same "second sense and ingenuity" that "Corkin" says all the "kids" fight with.

"The boys didn't want me to bring back any stories about them until they had had their chance to show the world what they could do," he said.

"They are like any other American fighters — eager, hard-working and daring."

At the end of the press conference, "Corkin" went to Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis' suite to pay his respects and give him first-hand information about his son.

Air Force Schools To Include Negroes

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

JUL 16 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Acting Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson revealed today that steps are being taken to break down jim crow restrictions in the Army Air Force.

Patterson told a press conference that air force schools for navigators and bombardiers will now include both Negro and white cadets.

It is understood that this is but one of a series of moves contemplated by high War Department officials to eliminate some of the discriminatory practices rampant against Negroes in the Army.

The Army Air Force has been one of the strongholds of jim crow, and Judge William Hastie, the noted Negro lawyer, resigned a few months ago after he had failed to make any progress towards removing discrimination in the Air Force.

At present the only Negroes being trained for the Air Force are at segregated schools at Tuskegee Institute and Selfridge Field, Michigan. Those schools train Negro fighter squadrons—which have already seen action.

The new step announced by Patterson means both that progress is being made towards removing segregation in army schools and towards training Negroes for service on bombers for the first time.

Asked for what the Negro navigators and bombardiers would be used, Patterson said: "They are not going to be used to play marbles or cut paper dolls. They'll be used in combat duty."

CHAMBERS COUNTY NEGROES IN THE SERVICE

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

"Editor, The LaFayette Sun,
LaFayette, Alabama.
"Dear Editor:

"The column that you have reserved in your paper for news of 'Chambers County Negroes In The Service' is truly a wonderful opportunity, and very much appreciated by all Negroes of this county.

"Our boys who are in various Army camps and some who are overseas, have had the opportunity to read their home town paper and reports from them say that it is encouraging to know that they are being so kindly thought of by the people at home. So again, thanks for this column.

"Although none of the boys from Chambers County are members of this Squadron, if permissible I would like to say a few words about the splendid work of the First Air Squadron of Negroes the world has ever known.

"This Squadron, which is known as the '99th Pursuit Squadron' is composed of Negroes only, and originated from the Tuskegee Army Flying School, Tuskegee, Ala., located just nine miles from Tuskegee Institute, and is commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, the only Negro to hold the highest Army rank.

"The '99th Pursuit Squadron fought victoriously in the raids of Pantelleria and recent invasion of Sicily.

"This squadron has been highly praised by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied Commander in Chief in North Africa, and Secretary of War Mr. Stimson.

"We should be very proud and grateful to our boys for their courageous fighting and with the help of God and our prayers we are hoping that all of them will come home again victorious.

"EVELYN WEBB."

Below is news:

S.|Sgt. Willie Gresham, stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga., was recently home on 3 days leave.

Cpl. Frank (Mike) Rae is serving with the U. S. Army in North Africa.

Sgt. Harry Lee Flournoy is stationed at Fort Bragg, N. C.

Pvt. Nick C. Flakes is stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.

Cpl. Walter Trimble is with the U. S. Army in North Africa.

Negro Squadron Beats Off Nazis

PM
New York, N. Y.

JUN 25 1943

The first U. S. Negro fighter squadron to see action successfully beat off a force of Nazi F-W 190's which outnumbered them more than three-to-one over Pantelleria June 18.

A War Dept. report says the U. S. pilots, in six P-40 Warhawks, were attacked by 12 Nazis convoying a bomber formation while 10 more German fighter planes hovered overhead for further cover. Two of the enemy planes were damaged and the rest withdrew. All the Americans returned safely.

The leader of the U. S. flight was 1st Lt. Charles W. Dryden, 22, 800 Holmes St., the Bronx.

Haitian Pilots Now Training At Tuskegee

Atlanta Daily World

APR 4 1943

Receiving a pre-flight chalk talk from their instructor at the Tuskegee Institute Primary Training Detachment are from left to right, Sgt. Raymond Cossagnal, Lts. Philipe Calestin and Alix Pasquet. These three Haitians are earning their wings in the United States Army Air Corps for the Haiti Republic.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

TUSKEGEE'S PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM GIVEN BY OFFICER

Men Practice on Two Fields Near Famous School

JUL 16 1943

TUSKEGEE, July 8—(ANP)—The outline of Tuskegee Institute's pilot training program that provided background for the famous 99th Pursuit squadron now on combat duty in North Africa and the relationship of the three fields here was given this week in a report by G. L. Washington, general manager of the division of aeronautics.

Washington, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and former director of the Tuskegee trade school, said the program "is restricted to training under government contracts embracing flying training for aviation cadets and flying training for enlisted reservists under the civil aeronautics administration war training program." Before the advent of the new program instruction was also given to civilians.

There are two fields under the division, one devoted to C. A. A war training, and the other named Moton field in memory of the second president of the institution. This latter field, owned outright by the school, trains cadets in their primary flying stages. Both fields the fall of 1940. stated Washington, and was licensed as an advanced flying school by the department of commerce in 1941. This have been designated landing ares under war emergency regulations.

The other field is six miles out from Moton field and is known as the Tuskegee Army Air field which is owned and operated by the U. S. Army Air corps. This field provides basic and advanced flying instruction to aviation cadets and is a restricted army post.

Tuskegee got its first airport in field trains students under civilian pilot training courses, in cross country, elementary, secondary and instructors courses. It also furnished the instructors for members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron The field is now completing C. A. A. contracts.

At Moton field trainees of the U. S. Air corps are given their primary flying courses. To qualify for training here they must have completed successfully the pre-flight work at field number one. Upon completion of the work here the cadets are next sent to the Tuskee Army Air field. Moton field has been in operation since August, 1941.

JUL 15 1943

Graduates of the primary courses at Moton field are given basic flying instruction in an intensive nine weeks' course at the Tuskegee Army Air field in operation since November, 1941. Successful candidates remain for a similar number of weeks to absorb instructions in advanced flying, and upon graduation receive their wings and commissions.

After all those steps in the training period have been completed the officers are assigned to flying pursuit aircraft preparatory to be transferred to another field of pre-combat flight training, said Washington.

JUL 16 1943

Andalusia, Ala., News
July 15, 1943

Ala. Aviators Given "48-Gun Salute", A Radio Tribute

AAC Hq., Puerto Rico, July 14.—Alabama's Antilles aviators and Air Forces soldiers were spotlighted on the Antilles Air Command's "48-Gun Salute," a 30-minute radio tribute to the 'Bama state and its men in uniform.

A weekly program originated for and by Air Force soldiers, "48-Gun Salute" is broadcast to Caribbean air bases on islands extending from the western tip of Cuba to the sweltering equatorial belt of South America. The program derives its name from the military custom of firing one gun for each state of the union on Independence Day.

Stationed on isolated bases throughout the Caribbean, Alabama's soldiers were reminded of their home state and cities as they listened to skits, facts and music about Alabama. Cities discussed and "visited" included Phoenix City, Birmingham, its steel industries and raw materials; Bessemer; Cullman, known for its strawberry festivals; Muscle Shoals with its huge hydroelectric plants; Dothan, land of the wire grass; Montgomery, cradle of the confederacy; Tuskegee and its famous Tuskegee Institute; Mobile with its Bellingrath Gardens and the Azalea Trail and others.

Cpl. Bill Davidson, of Birmingham, and Sgt. Tom Sharp, of Springhill, participated in the program. Other Alabamians mentioned were Sgt. Otto Simon, of Mobile; Cpl. James Landrum, of Deer Park, and Sgt. James Clements, of Tuscaloosa.

A highlight of the program was the dramatization of the heroism of Lt. (j.g.) Johnny Roberts, former fullback hero of the Crimson Tide, who dive-bombed his plane into a Jap aircraft carrier in the Pacific. Lt. Roberts now is missing in action but he has been credited with the sinking of an enemy aircraft carried in the battle of Midway.

Tribute also was paid to the first Negro Fighter squadron in the Air Forces, a squadron which received part of its training at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. It was this unit that established a record for itself in the bombardment and capture of Pantelleria.

"48-Gun Salute" salutes a different state of the union and its armed forces each week. It is broadcast to palm-fringed air bases from which planes fly daily patrols over an area 39 times that of Alabama, constantly on the alert for menacing Axis submarines.

AAC air bases are located strategically on small coral islands and in the midst of the lush tropical Caribbean jungles forming a protective barrier to the vital gateway to the three Americas and the Panama Canal.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Cheers To Our Flyers.

JUL 17 1943

AT LAST Negro flyers are winging their way through the thick of current air battles. Our first Negro air fighter squadron was reported to be unexcelled in discipline or flying excellence after the termination of action over Pantelleria and proximal territory.

This squadron, flying P-40 Warhawks, is under the immediate leadership of Lieut. Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr., and the general command of Colonel William Momyer. Most of these men are college trained and have unusually brilliant aptitudes as flyers, according to their superiors.

The squadron was cited for its meritorious effort in its initial combat engagement over Pantelleria. These airmen served as patrols over the conquered Island and disabled two Focke-Wulf planes and forced the third to feed its bombs to the fish after an attempted 'nuisance raid' by the Nazi flyers.

JUL 17 1943

These Negro flyers are now escorting big bombers, in addition to engaging in fighter bomber attacks. Colonel Davis said that his men are good flyers and are anxious to get in the thick of things. "They realize that war is only for the hardy types. That is why they are keen for the difficult task ahead, so we can get it over with."

Meanwhile, invasion plans are proceeding with exceeding care and thoroughness. It is to be hoped that these boys are given every facility and every incentive to acquit themselves like the excellent men we know them to be. Davis said that the men wanted to face and get over the difficult task ahead. That view is universally shared.

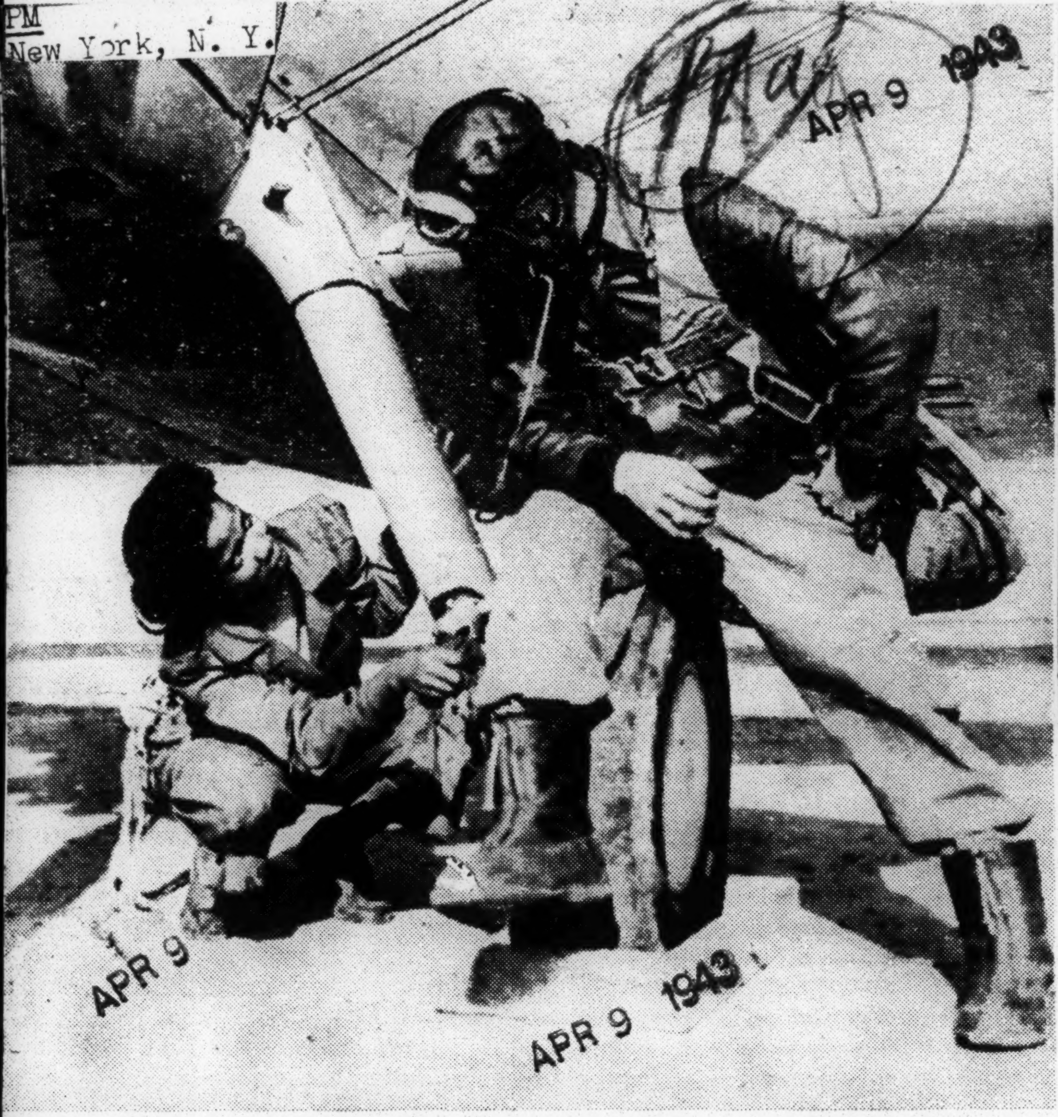
This can best be done by keeping the morale of our boys high by evidencing a wholehearted cooperation both in combat as well as non-combat relationship. We can well dispense with our army and navy pattern of segregation in our air corps set-up.

JUL 17 1943

A black army and navy and a white army and navy are examples of sublime nonsense in a democracy. But it would be an absolute tragedy to continue attempts at segregating airmen. Segregation engenders bad feeling and a lack of comradeship. The rank and file of white and Negro youth do not want it. The brass hats will jeopardize our maximum efforts if they do not rid themselves of the blind spots of prejudice and plan a united all-out effort.

47a-1943

PM
New York, N. Y.



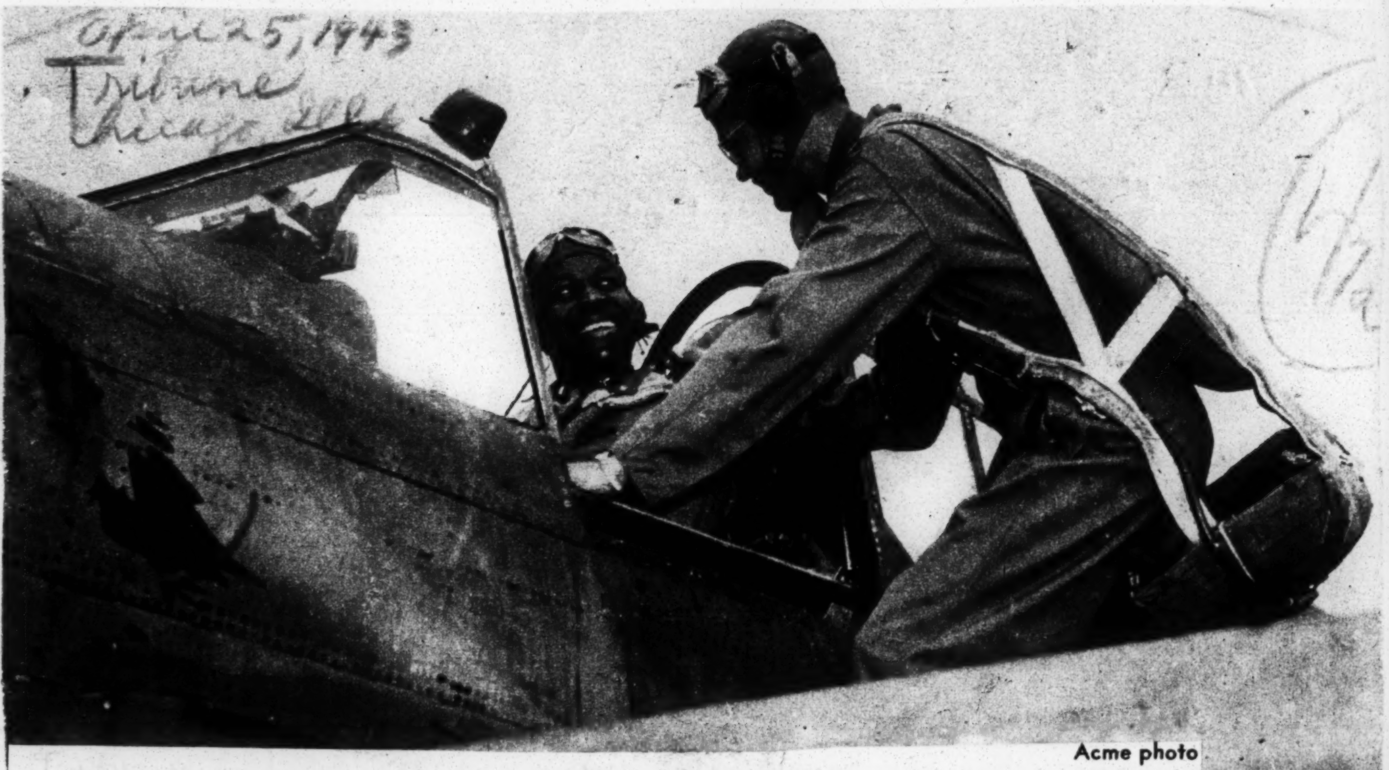
APR 9 1943

APR 9 1943

APR 9 1943

Marjorie Dorsey, apprentice mechanic, was working on the landing gear of this plane when Cadet Cornelius G. Rogers, about to take off into "the blue sky yonder," came up to say hello. The scene took place at Tuskegee, where Negro cadets are trained in advanced flying.

April 25, 1943
Tribune
Chicago Ill.



Acme photo

AN ARMY FLEDGLING learning to fly at the Tuskegee, Ala., air base, training center for colored pilots. His instructor is Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., highest ranking colored officer in the army air forces and son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking colored officer in the regular army.

Student Pilot Killed in Training

FEB 5 1943

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(ANP)—Lt. Richard Davis, 25, pilot, was instantly killed in an accident here Saturday night. The accident occurred on a routine flight with a pursuit airplane. A board has been appointed by the commanding officer to investigate the cause of the crash.

FEB 5 1943

Davis, whose home was Fort Valley, Ga., was a former student of Hampton institute. Also, he was a pilot before entering the army, having been an instructor for the Robertson Aircraft corporation at Lambert Field, Mo.

The deceased pilot is survived by his father, Henry Davis, farmer, of Fort Valley, and a brother, Moses Davis, civilian mechanic on duty at the primary flying school, two brothers at Fort Valley, one brother at Coconut Grove, Fla. Burial was at Fort Valley.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

360TH AVIATION SQUADRON TRAINS AT SAN ANGELO

Group Is Under Command of White Major Who Says "The Good Negro Soldier Can't Be Beat"

APR 23 1943

San Angelo, Texas, April.—There's a sign over a half-length mirror in the orderly room of the 360th Aviation Squadron at San Angelo Army Air Field bombardier school. "Be A Credit to Your Organization," it says.

It is at once a slogan and a goal in this group of nearly 500 Negro troops, who are working hard all day and reporting to the classroom at night in a determined effort to make their squadron second to none.

Directing their efforts is the only white man in the organization, the commanding officer. He's 30-year-old Major Raymond Egan of New Orleans, a 1935 graduate of Louisiana State University who has commanded both white and Negro troops.

The good Negro soldier can't be beat, he says. And though the bad one is as bad as they come, nearly all of them want to be good. And though, those who prefer the rockier path receive exactly the same disciplinary action that white troops receive, it's not fear of punishment, he says, that leads his men to straighten that tie, polish that brass and shine those shoes. It's an intense pride in the uniform they wear—and a determination to be a credit to their organization.

APR 23 1943

Neatness and cleanliness are not confined to the uniform. The barracks are spotless. In fact, there's a tendency to overdo the daily house-cleaning by use of too-strong cleansing agents.

"But there's where they really look good," Major Egan said and pointed through the window of his office to the drill field.

A column movement by the 360th has all the rhythm of a dance and the precision of a watch. There's snap to the turns and a solid beat to the steps. And it's just a little bit different.

APR 23 1943

Ordinarily, for instance, the cadence count of marching troops is a booming 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4. In the 360th, it's 1 2 3 4, 1—2—3—4, 1 2 3 4. It's the rhythmic count of men who like to march.

Three nights a week, members of the 360th who want to improve their educational background attend the squadron school, where Pfc. Frank Hicks of Norphlet, Ark., officers classes in reading, writing, civics and American history. Hicks, a college graduate, was the supervisor of several Arkansas schools in civilian life. His cousin, Pfc. Leo Hicks, is another college graduate. A school teacher and principle in civilian life, he is now a squadron clerk. Still another squadron member who has had college work is Cpl. Junious Lindsey of Rosstown, Ark., the orderly room clerk.

There are others who have proven themselves capable office workers. Major Egan points to Staff Sgt. Reginald Parks of Fordyce, Ark., as one of the best clerks in the army. Staff Sgt. Stanley Blackwell Jr., of Cincinnati, Ohio, has risen to the post of acting first sergeant. Doing a capable job as acting supply sergeant is Cpl. Henry W. Ferguson of Hope, Ark.

APR 23 1943

But the men who win the loudest praise in their organization are Mess Sgt. Roy Weatherall of Dallas and his cooks. The 360th is that long-sought organization in which there are no beefs about the chow. As Major Egan puts it, "It's far and away the best mess on the field."

The squadron has its own mess hall, its own barber shop, its own post exchange and its own day room. The day room orderly, incidently, is a veteran of World War I. He's Pfc. W. L. Whitlow of Dallas, who has two sons serving in the present conflict.

APR 23 1943

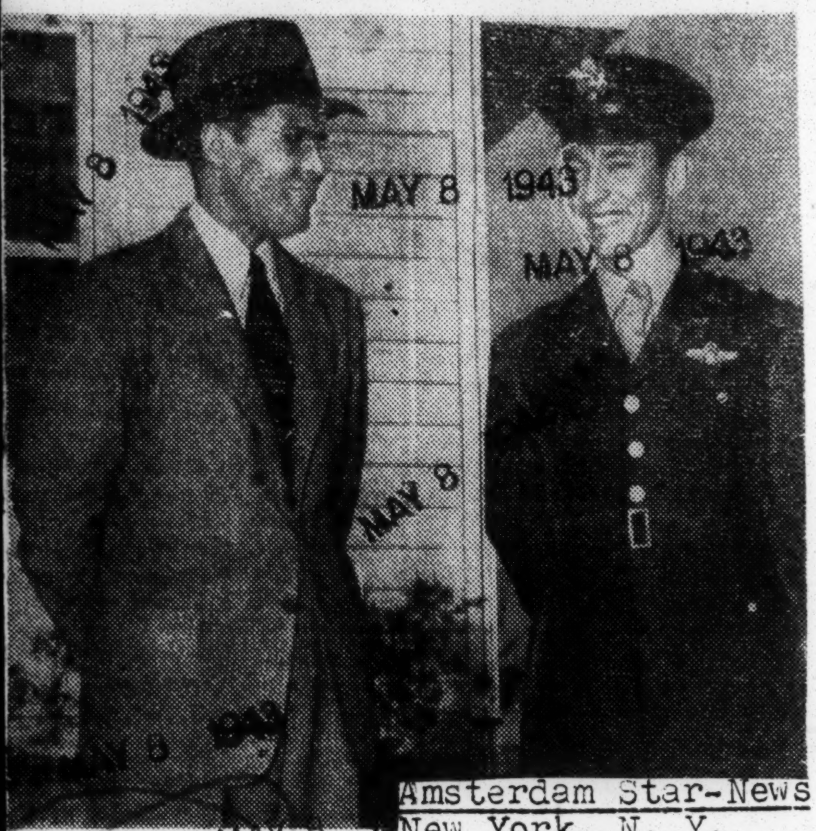
The squadron also has its own military police, but there are very few troublemakers to make their life difficult. Off-duty hours of the 360th are already pretty full and more energy absorbing activities are being added. To tis two quartets, which specialize in spirituals, for instance, the squadron is now adding a band.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

TUSKEGEE FLYERS.

Hammond, Ind., April 19.—THE TRIBUNE of April 16 carried a very significant editorial entitled "Tuskegee Flyers." This paper is to be commended for its broad stand in demanding that these well trained airmen be given an opportunity of showing their [illegible] to our fighting forces. The general public is getting out of patience with those who let their petty race and religious peeves stand in the way of using all of our man power to bring this war to a successful conclusion.

Army Heads Collaborate



MAY 8 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

ATTY. TRUMAN K. GIBSON (left), Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, is seen conferring with Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish (right), Commanding Officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, during a routine tour of inspection at this post. ....
—Photo by Tuskegee Army Air Field

Now At Tuskegee

Atl 22+23
Daily World

JAN 31 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (SNS) — Aiding with her sunshine smile and experience in the field of nursing, Second Lieutenant Elizabeth T. Dezier, was one of a group of nurses assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying School to share in protection of the health of this personnel. Nurse Dezier received her training at the Grady Hospital of Atlanta, Georgia, and was commissioned from the Fourth Service Commanding Office of Atlanta. Before her induction she served as matron of the nurses home of Grady Hospital.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

TWO FLIERS KILLED IN TUSKEGEE CRASH

MAY 11 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala., May 10—(AP)—Second Lt. James E. Brothers, of (5336 Kenwood Avenue), Chicago, and Pvt. Ross C. Stewart, of (2500 Madison Avenue), Baltimore, Md., were killed in the crash of a primary training plane piloted by Brothers near the Tuskegee Army Air Field Saturday.

Lt. Brothers, who recently received his wings and commission at the local field, attended the University of Wisconsin where he was a track star, the public relations office said. Stewart, a former cadet, operated a garage in Baltimore before entering the Army. His mother, Mrs. Elsie W. Stewart, lives in Johnstown, Pa.

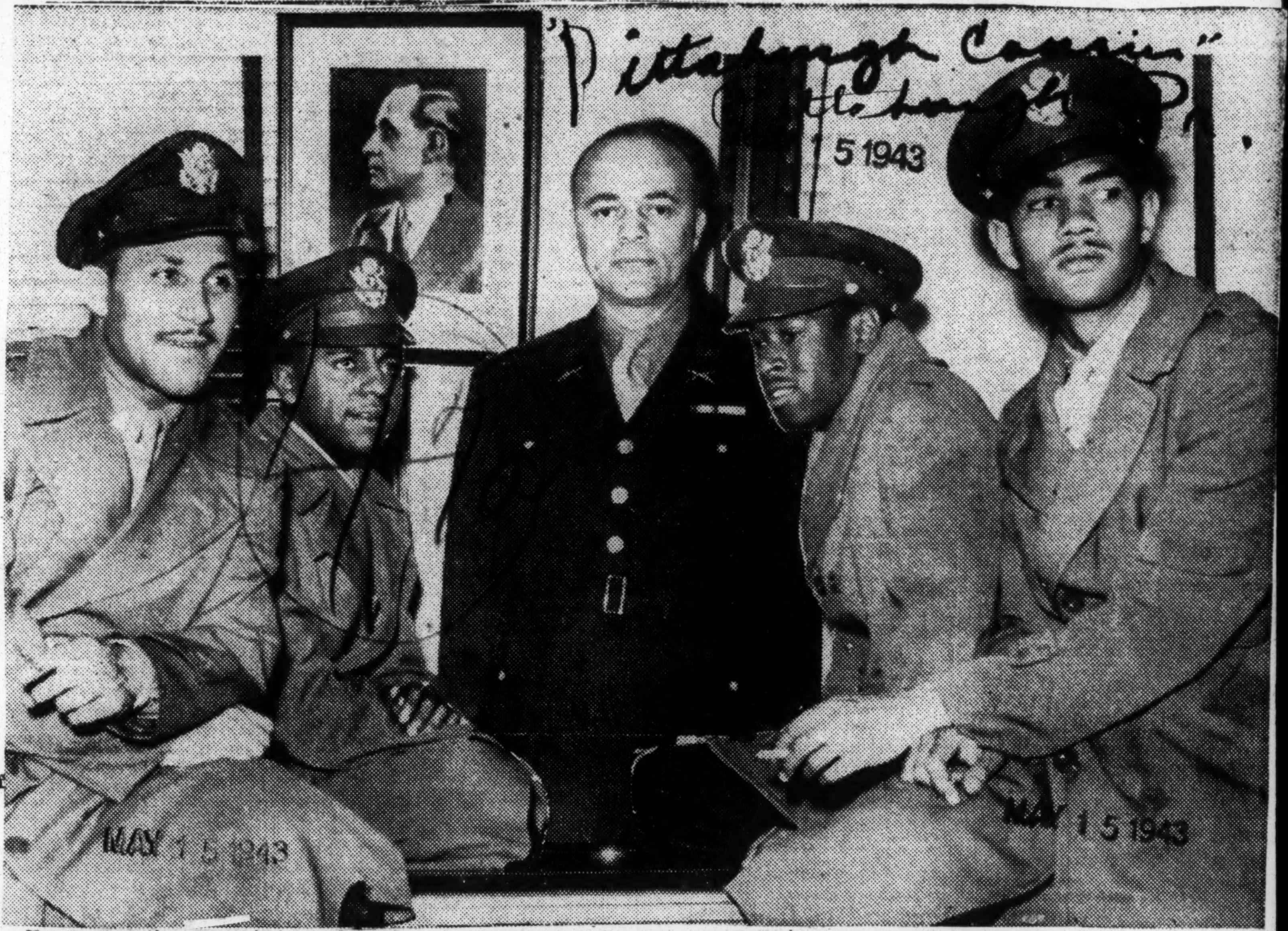
MAY 11 194

DID TRAGEDY BREAK UP THIS QUARTET OF FLYERS?

"Pittsburgh Courier"

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAY 15 1943



Four recently commissioned lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force who, after completing their basic training at Tuskegee, Ala., were transferred to Selfridge Field, Michigan, several days ago, where it is was learned that one of them, Lt. Sidat Singh, Washington, D.C., was reported lost during a flight when he was forced to parachute from his burning plane over Lake Huron, Michigan, Sunday. The four are pictured above during their stopover in Pittsburgh en route to Michigan.

From left to right: Lt. Sidat Singh, reported missing; Lt. E. L. Gordon, Portsmouth, Va.; Lt. Col. Campbell Johnson, Selective Service Office, Washington, D.C.; Lts. E. M. Dunlap, Washington, D.C., and L. E. Dixon, New York City.

MAY 15 1943

TUSKEGEE FLYING OFFICER FATALLY INJURED IN CRASH

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

MAY 13 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—(SNS)— Second Lieutenant Sidney James Mosely Jr., son of Mrs. S. J. Mosely of 1518 42nd Street, Norfolk, Virginia, flying officer from the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, was fatally injured in a plane crash Monday, May 10, while engaged in a routine flight in the vicinity of his home field. A board of qualified Air Force officers will be appointed to determine the exact cause of the accident.

Lieutenant Mosely, a former student of St. Paul College, Lawrenceville, Va., received his commission and silver wings on the 29th of April, 1943. Prior to his entrance into the service, Lt. Mosely was employed at the Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia.

MAY 13 1943

Stimson Praises Negro Air Unit

World-Telegram
New York. N. Y.

By the Ass

JUN 24 1943

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Secretary of War Stimson reported today that the Air Forces' first squadron of Negro pilots, the 99th Fighter Squadron, has "weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably."

The squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a son of the first Negro general officer in the army, participated in the siege of Pantelleria but had little chance to engage enemy fighters. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters the latter fled.

On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lt. Charles W. Dryden, 800 Home St., Bronx, was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW-190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

In a lively engagement, the American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

47a-1943

Relaxation Is Important To Sky Warriors After Mixing With The Enemy

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

47a

Lt. Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr., describes an aerial encounter with German planes by members of the 99th Fighter Squadron which he commands. The fliers have fought from North Africa and Sicily, performing notably.

A group of listeners includes 1st Lt. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute; 1st Lt. Lee Rayford, Washington, D. C., (head turned); and 2nd Lt. John W. Rogers, Chicago.

Lt. Colonel Davis, West Point graduate and son of the only Negro general in the Army, enjoys a bit of the humor growing out of the dogfight. The squadron has at least one official victory and two probables.

Another group of pilots after the sky-warring, looking towards the camera is 2nd Lt. Samuel M. Bruce of Seattle, Washington, former A. and T. athlete. (Photos by Thomas W. Young, Journal and Guide war correspondent.)

Scribe Sees Pilots Pour Winged Death From Skies

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CHICAGO AVIATOR

Second Lieut. Felix J. Kirkpatrick leaves his P-40 pursuit ship after gunnery practice high over Lake St. Clair in Michigan. Lieut. Kirkpatrick is a Chicagoan and in civilian life was assistant airway traffic controller at Chicago Municipal Airport. He also attended the United States Military Academy at West Point for a period of six months as an appointee of former Congressman Mitchell.

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—I watched keen, eager air-warriors of the 332nd Fighter Group, largest Negro combat unit in the army Air Corps, go through breath-taking, death-defying maneuvers this week as they train to blast the Axis from the skies.

In company with a group of ace cameramen, representing all the major newsreel companies, I travelled first to this base near Detroit and then 200 miles north to the gunnery range at Oscoda, Mich.

Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., commander of the 332nd, put his Brown fliers through a spectacular series of training stunts for our benefit.

They performed all type of tactical manuevers. They thundered across the sky in tight formations, so close together that from the ground their wings appeared to be touching. They fired at towed sleeve targets five thousand feet above the blue waters of Lake St. Clair.

They engaged in dogfights, twisting, turning, diving and then shooting sharply skyward until they resembled small black arrows playing tag.

And then as a climax, the three squadrons of the 332nd in the greatest concentration of fighter planes ever piloted by boys of our race blackened the sky as they roared across the airport in a mass salute.

Sees Gunnery Display

When this demonstration finished at Selfridge Field, we proceeded to Oscoda where an advanced training base is stuck in the wilds of northern Michigan and where both pilots and ground crew train under simulated battle conditions. There our bronze pilots treated us to some red hot gunnery.

We went out to the range, which is located adjacent to the airport, in an army truck. There Col. Selway, stationed us about 100 yards from the target which stood 10 feet high and six feet wide. Here we were informed we would be reasonably safe and still get a good view of the action.

Flying single seater P-40 pursuit jobs, the boys took off in flights of five, climbed to a thousand feet, described a wide sweeping arc until they were about two miles in front of the target, and then in Indian file and about a thousand yards apart, they peeled off, diving almost vertically earthward. And when it looked as if they'd crash, they leveled off, coming straight at the target, doing about 300 miles per hour. There was a belch of smoke-flashes as tracer bullets hit—then a steep left bank as the planes veered away from the target and silhouetted against bluish-white clouds as they shot skywards.

Target Ripped

We examined the targets afterwards and they'rd been ripped to pieces. With this demonstration as an indication, I couldn't help but predict destruction for any Axis troops who are unfortunate enough to get caught in the withering ground fire of this group when they go into action.

After this we watched them as they destroyed a hut with small demolition bombs. This is called "skip bombing" because the pilots drop his bombs before he reaches the target and they bounce along the ground until they hit some obstacle. Again the planes came hurtling down to within ten feet of the ground before the pilots straightened out for the attack.

One fellow was especially hot. In six tries he laid five "eggs" right on the hut. Even the colonel got excited when he saw this. He said, "That's a darn good record for a man who's been flying for years. That pilot's coming along fast. He's right on the ball."

When the show was over, I was limp but proud. Those boys looked good—like they have the stuff to give a good account of themselves. The 332nd was activated only a little over a year ago, on July 4, 1942, at Tuskegee, but they didn't start intensive training until they came to Selfridge Field on March 29 of this year. Since that time their instructors claim they have come along fast.

First Fighter Group

They are the first all-Negro Fighter Group in the history of the Army Air Corps. So there isn't any confusion, it must be explained that a group is different than a squadron. A group is composed of two or more squadrons. It can handle bigger tactical missions and it is also organized to handle its own administration. The 99th for instance which is commanded by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and is now overseas, is a squadron.

The 332nd Fighter Group is composed of three squadrons—the 100th, the 301, and the 302nd.

Each is headed by a youthful commander who is being prepped for his job so that he can assume responsibility when the unit sees action. The 100th is under command of First Lieut. Robert B. Tresville, West Pointer, graduate of the class of January 1943; First Lieut. Charles H. DeBow, a member of the first graduating class from Tuskegee Flying school is commanding the 301st; and Second Lieut. Edward C. Gleed heads the 302nd.

The group commander is Col. Selway, West Pointer and for 17 years a pursuit pilot himself. He has only recently taken command of the unit, succeeding Lt. Col. Sam Westbrooks.

SEP 4 1943

Only Best Stays

A strict professional soldier he is keenly interested in developing a top-notch organization. As he told me, "I am interested in making the 332nd a fighter group that the Negro people can be of. Each pilot and crew man will have to be good. We are over-staffed and only the best can stay. I promise you that when they get into battle zones,

47a

Army To Start Training Of Bomber Crews

Journal and Guide

New Policy Set Forth; Success Of 99th Helped

Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That the colored pilot and technician are no longer regarded as an experiment in the Army Air Forces was indicated by Acting Secretary of War John J. McCloy at his press conference last weekend when he made public details for the activation of a medium bombardment group consisting of colored personnel.

SEP 11 1943

Also significant is the fact that the training of the pilots, navigators, bombardiers, and technicians for this medium bombardment group is not to be segregated on the basis of race. Mr. McCloy emphasized that the men who are to comprise this medium bombardment group are to be trained in mixed classes.

CHANGE IN POLICY

In the training of pilots previously, the Army Air Forces has adhered to a policy of segregation. Colored pilots have been trained hitherto at the Tuskegee Army Air Base. A fighter group that received basic training at Tuskegee are now undergoing advanced training at Selfridge Field, Michigan.

The decision of the Army Air Forces to activate a medium bombardment group consisting of colored personnel is believed to have been influenced by the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron, now based in Sicily, which demonstrated its efficiency whenever contact with the enemy was made.

SEVERAL "FIRSTS"

The beginning of the training program within a month will mark the first time that the Army Air Forces has undertaken the training of colored cadets other than as pilots of fighter planes, in which the pilot engages in combat single-handed.

It will also mark the first time that the Army Air Forces has trained colored men as navigators and bombardiers.

Within a month, Mr. McCloy said, colored cadets will be sent to either Fort Dodge, Kansas, or Del Rio, Texas, to start training in a B-26 Transition School to fly B-26 bomber airplanes.

MIXED CLASSES

In December, colored cadets will start training as navigators and bombardier officers. Their training as such will cover a period of eighteen weeks, after which they will go to gunnery school. All of this training, Mr. Cloy emphasized, will be with white students.

The projected medium bombardment group will be activated by July 1, next. To complete the crews, Mr. McCloy said, colored enlisted men are already in training all over the country.

They are studying radio, aviation mechanics, electrical work and armor at Lincoln Field, Nebraska, Chanute Field, Illinois, and Lowry Field, Colorado, and at other Air Forces installations.

PROMISED LAST JULY

He emphasized that these colored enlisted men are undergoing training with white enlisted men.

Announcement was first made that the Army Air Forces would train colored personnel as bombardiers and navigators by Robert P. Patterson, the Under Secretary of War, on last July 15.

HOW TO BE USED

Judge Pattersin was asked how the Army would use colored men it trained as bombardiers and navigators.

He replied: "Everybody who goes to bombardier and navigator schools will be used as bombardiers and navigators. They're not going to be used to cut paper dolls or play marbles."

PROGRAM SPEEDED UP

Persons familiar with the long delay in the beginning of the training of colored pilots after the Army Air Forces had announced, in 1939, in response to Congressional pressure, that it would train colored air cadets, marvel at the quickness with which the Army is moving to begin the training pilots, bombardiers, and navigators for the projected medium bombardment group.

SEP 11 1943

The Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron, which is believed to be responsible for the decision, "Is doing creditable work in its mission," Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson recently reported after he returned from a tour of battlefronts.

Lt. Col. Davis Takes Command Of 332nd Unit

OCT 8 1943

Daily World

New Commander Is Honored At Post Reception

Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 8 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O Davis, Jr., Air Corps, formerly commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron which presently is seeing action in Italy, has assumed command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Michigan, the War Department announced Tuesday.

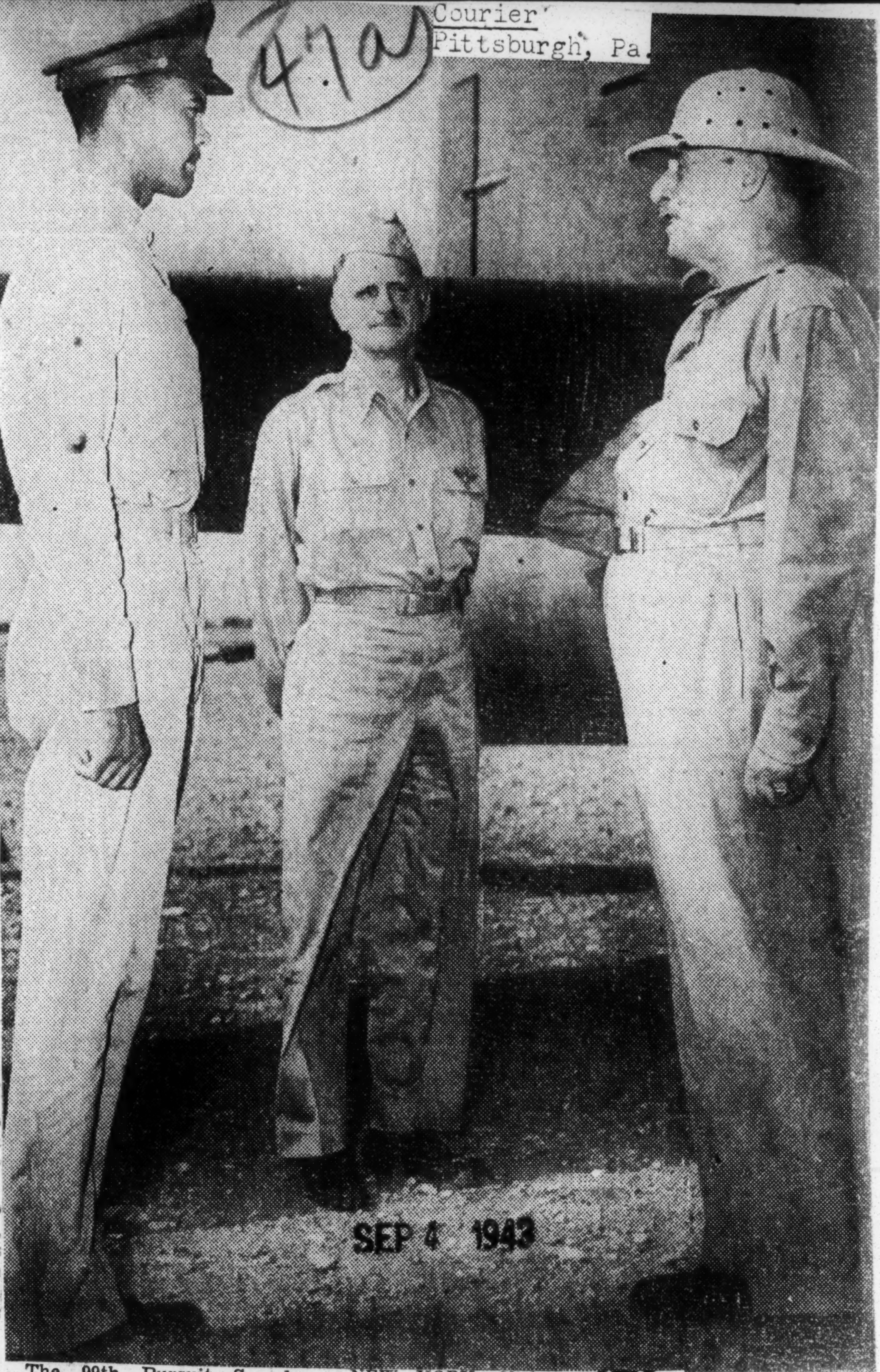
OCT 8 1943

The first Negro officer ever to command an Air Force combat unit, Lieutenant Colonel Davis was honored Tuesday, October 5 in the presence of 400 guests at a reception held in the Post Officer's Club at Selfridge Feild.

Among high ranking Army officers in attendance was Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, father of the new group commander. Major J. P. Ramsey, Flight Surgeon at the Field, was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Lieutenant Colonel Davis returned early last month from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron, the first all-Negro combat unit committed to action against the enemy in the North African area. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, he is 30 years old.

OCT 8 1943



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 4 1943

The 99th Pursuit Squadron, while on duty in the West African theatre of war, were visited by Secretary of War Stimson and Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, commander of the Northwest African Air Forces.

Above, Mr. Stimson is seen talking to Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the unit. General Spaatz is standing in the background.

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

NEGRO AVIATORS SHOWN IN CLICK MAGAZINE

SEP 26 1943

NEW YORK—Click magazine for September has a three-page picture story on the "Black Panthers," Negro fighter group, now finishing training at Oscoda, Michigan. The men in this group finished their first training at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. The article declares the group is "tough, smart and rarin' to go," and declares the instructors of the squadron say the members fly and fight "intelligently, bravely and skillfully."

One squadron trainer at Tuskegee—the 99th under command of Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr.—is already in combat overseas, having taken part in the Sicilian campaign.

they'll be ready to give a good account of themselves."

For this reason he's putting them through an intensive schedule. From eight in the morning until dusk, planes are in the air executing day-time missions. And up at Oscoda flying continues even at night.

When the weather is bad and the planes are grounded, pilots practice shooting either at the small arms and skeet ranges or study tactics indoors.

Every day in the week, Sundays included this program continues. And all day and night long, the faithful unsung heroes of the maintenance crews working in shifts of eight hours each, are constantly on the job servicing planes so they'll be ready to take the air on a moment's notice.

The 332nd is still in training and therefore there is a cadre of white officers and enlisted men who are attached to the group for purposes of supervision. Some of the white flying officers have only recently returned from active combat zones. They are supposed to teach these young flyers the latest and best battle tactics. These men are not part of the group however, and it is expected that they will be detached when the unit is ready for combat.

47a-1943

Tuskegee Flyers Help Crush Italian Island Fortresses

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

Drop Bombs On Pantelleria, and Return To African Base Without Losing Plane

47a

JUN 19 1943

WASHINGTON (Special)—Carrying death and destruction as they winged their way across the Sicilian Narrows of the Mediterranean Sea, intrepid Negro fighter pilots under the command of Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, took part in the bombardment that brought about the surrender of the Italian island Fortress of Pantelleria after 20 days resistance.

In revealing this information, the OWI put on the record the first overseas aerial battle participated in by Negro flyers. Riding through withering anti-aircraft fire, the Tuskegee-trained airmen found their targets and rode home without losing a plane.

The fighter unit flew P-40 Warhawk fighter-bombers, a recently converted type of fighter plane that carries the bomb loads under the fuselage of the plane. Incessant anti-aircraft fire met the fliers on each trip over the thirty-two square mile island from the rock-bound forts manned by Mussolini's soldiers.

TRAINED AT TUSKEKEE

The fliers that comprised the unit received their basic training at Tuskegee's Army Flying School under Colonel Davis, son of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the army.

The fliers and the ground crews arrived in Africa about a month ago and were given additional training by seasoned veteran pilots who helped rout General Rommel's once proud Afrika Korps from Tunisia and Bizerte.

After the four-week advanced flying course on the desert, the fliers were given orders to participate in the bombardment of Panetelleria. The flyers went into action for the first time in actual warfare. No axis fighter planes met them over the island, which lies between Tunisia and Sicily but a constant fire of flak was sent upward.

The island of Lampedusa fell a day after the Panetelleria surrender, and the following day witnessed the capitulation of the tiny, unfortified Italian island of Linosa. Meanwhile the Allies had intensified their bombing of Sicily. It is not expected that heavily fortified Sicily will give up as quickly as did the other islands, yet the Allied command considers it just a matter of time before it too will be forced to succumb under the terrible barrage of bombardment from the air and from warships.

JUN 19 1943

Leads Flyers

LT. COL. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, whose flyers emerged triumphant after their first baptism of fire over the Italian island fortresses which they helped bomb into submission.

SERGEANT MAKES AVIATION CAREER

Pittsburgh Pa.

Courier

JUL 24 1943

47a

EUROPEAN AREA, July 22—If America's first All-Negro Fighter Squadron [illegible] sees action in Africa doesn't set the world afire, the whole outfit is going to have to answer to Master Sergeant Ellsworth H. Dansby, Jr., its 28-year-old line chief.

His work in his outfit with his boys is the climax of a dream to the tall mechanic. "Being out here with this gang and doing this work," he said, "is something I've hoped for all my life." This has just got to be the best outfit in the world. I think it will be as soon as we have a chance to prove ourselves."

KNOWS AIRPLANES

Sergeant Dansby, who is a native of Decatur, Ill., is a pilot and knows airplanes with a knowledge born of devotion to a chosen career in aviatioin. When he was about 14 years old, airplanes began to interest him.

He joined the Army on March 24, 1941, and was sent to Chanute Field, Ill., to be trained at a technical school. Emerging from there, he was sent to Tuskegee, Ala., to join his present outfit at the time it was being formed. Since then he's been advanced to the highest rank within reach of an enlisted man in the Army.

"But I still plan to do my own flying after the war," he grinned. "I hope to stay in the Army, but as soon as this war is over, I'm going to have my own plane so fast it'll make your head swim."

47a

JUL 24 1943

Downs Another Plane; Crew Never Belives They Won't Come Back

The Informer

Houston, Texas

By OLLIE STEWART

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JUL 24 1943

47a

Censored From Stewart. Advanced Air Base, North Africa —It has just been announced that Charles Hall has been promoted to Captain. This amazing young man now has two enemy ships to his credit and his promotion follows fine work in the taking of Pantelleria. Hall has a pet system for outfighting attacking jerries and anybody who has doubts about our lads' being able to hold their own in big league dog-fights can find same here, and now.

As I write this, the second flight before noon takes off for Sicily and we won't have lunch until they come back. However, the kitchen crew is setting up table for the full number because they never believe there will be anybody missing.

Assault from the South

Literally and actually, I have—and have had for weeks—a ringside seat for one of the most amazing dreams the world ever saw—assault of Saziland from the south. I have watched from my Mediterranean peephole developments for the invasion step by step and can now report that every possible precaution against failure was taken before one man's life was risked.

What the world reads about and waits for is but the culmination of intense activity I have seen and heard since unpacking my typewriter in this strategic hot-spot. Colored fighter pilots were in the vanguard of devastation by air which paved the way for allied landings in Sicily just as they were before and during the capture of Pantelleria. Days before American, British and Canadian troops set foot on Sicily, returning air men were describing to me the terrain of the Mussolini island stronghold.

Observations

Said Lieut. Herbert Clark, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas: "Looks like a pretty nice place—from what I could see between bursting lead and while dodging enemy fighters." Lieut. Louis Purnell, Philadelphia, agreed with him. Our fighters were over the island a few hours before the zero hour and Saturday when landings were made they helped provide the all-important air umbrella for ground forces dashing ashore from boats and barges.

JUL 24 1943

Although I knew these pilots fairly well from daily association I was amazed at their coolness before their big mission Saturday morning. I knew an invasion was being pulled off and so did they but they acted as though the flight were a mere routine mission. Lieuts. John Rogers, Chicago, and Spann Watson, Hackensack, New Jersey, were arguing as usual. James Knighton of Tulsa was kidding Leon Roberts of Pritchard, Alabama, and Chubby Lee Rayford of Washington was so eager for blood he had to be calmed down by Erwin Lawrence of Cleveland. When they returned to base there was great disappointment over the scarcity of enemy fighters. Charles Dryden, New York, and Allen Lane, Demopolis, Alabama, were most annoyed because they got no shots at Nazis.

Watched Them Assemble

"It was too peaceful; all I saw were a few fires and lots of boats near shore but no jerries in the air," said Land.

For days before the invasion while swimming in the blue Mediterranean and from top of a nearby mountain I watched the huge sea armada assemble. All types of boats were in the convoy with silvery barrage balloons overhead and slim destroyers darting here and there to keep them together. One convoy was attacked clos to our base at night and flares lit up the sea for miles but ack-ack from shore and ship guns kept Nazis too high to do any damage. Now ships are dispersed but wave after wave of bombers still pound Sicily, around the clock.

JUL 24 1943

Army Reveals 99th Pursuit Squadron in North Africa

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

47a

JUN 17 1943

Allied Headquarters in North Africa—The only American Negro aerial unit in foreign service was among the Allied forces that bombed Pantelleria, it was disclosed Monday.

They flew P-40 Warhawks and were under the command of Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, a noted cavalry officer.

The all-Negro squadron trained at Tuskegee Institute Alabama, before coming overseas.

That the squadron had arrived at its destination was revealed in a dispatch from North Africa by Ollie Stewart, war correspondent for the Afro-American affiliated newspapers. Later Stewart stated that Lt. Col. Davis was living in a town where he was stationed. Both articles passed the censor.

Seen Actual Duty

It was at first stated that the squadron had seen actual combat duty in the closing days of the North African campaign, but this was denied by the war department. The announcement of Wednesday said the flyers, who use P-40 Warhawks, were being given advanced instruction in new fighter tactics by veteran pilots of the Tunisian battles, and that upon completion of this advanced training the squadron will be sent into action.

No news of the actual departure of the squadron was allowed to be printed because of censorship regulations. Mention of embarkation of any unit is explicitly prohibited since such publication would give valuable information to the enemy.

It can be revealed now, however, that the squadron left Tuskegee at midnight April 2. The squadron had no idea where it was going. The train was completely blacked out, with windows and vestibules painted black and affording no opportunity to see out. The group, composed of a full complement of ground and maintenance crew and medical contingent, had the run of the special train which zigzagged across the country to its destination. When the train stopped it was on the docks at a southeastern port and alongside the transport to which the squadron was immediately transferred.

JUN 17 1943

Farewells were said as the men

swung abroad at Tuskegee. Many of their families were at the school and in the community nearby. All were forbidden to speak of their departure. Families of those living in other parts of the nation knew of their boys' departure because personal belongings were sent home to them.

The night the squadron left Tuskegee the 96th Service squadron was transferred to Selfridge Field, Mich. The 332nd Fighter group, composed of several pursuit squadrons and first all-Negro fighter group in army history, was also moved to Selfridge.

Transfer of army pilots from Tuskegee is part of the regular air corps plan. There is no room at Tuskegee for squadrons after they complete their training because at present new flyers are reporting at the rate of 52 every five weeks. Classes are graduating frequently with from 25 to 30 men instead of five or six as was formerly the number.

EXCLUSIVE

KIMBLE'S IRON HAND STILL RULES AT BASE

Defender

FEB 1943
FEB 13 1943

Prejudice Runs Rampant At Tuskegee Field; Morale Low

FEB 1943

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—The Tuskegee Army Flying School here on the red clay fields of Alabama is a deep disappointment.

4A

The most pessimistic predictions of those who opposed it at its inception two years ago have come true. While Negroes have had their first chance to fly Army combat planes, it is felt that the humiliation and loss of self-respect they have been forced to endure has not been worth it.

And to the War Department the school has been a dire disappointment, too. For those anti-Negro brass hats in the Army who thought that by now Negroes would have performed so poorly in the air that the project could be abandoned, have found out different.

Hastie Criticism

All of Judge William Hastie's criticism directed at the school in his resignation still stand. In brief, here is the situation at the field:

1. Col. Frederick Von Kimble, who has insisted on rule by color at the field, is still at the field and his influence is in command here.
2. Race prejudice rules the field with white personnel given special privileges denied all Negro men.
3. Race rather than rank rules at the field.
4. Morale is low with Negro enlisted men disgusted with the Jim Crow setup.

FEB 1943
FEB 1 1943

The conditions on the field are a reflection of the worst features of the South.

In spite of hopeful reports that Col. Von Kimble had been replaced as commanding officer of the post, the fact is that he is still here and his influence still is felt. Lt. Col. Noel Parrish, designated to succeed him, is generally believed to be more the type of commanding officer the men stationed at the post would like to have. But he is powerless so long as Kimble remains on the post.

It is reported from authoritative sources that Parrish is, himself, disappointed with the policy of the post regarding Negroes, but that out of respect for his superior officer, whom he doesn't wish to embarrass, refuses to institute any reforms.

Defender

Perhaps more insidious than the influence of Col. Kimble is that of Lt. Col. John T. Hazzard, executive officer, who at the time of the establishment of the air school here was a lieutenant in the Civilian Conservation Corps.

He is a typical Mississippian, being guided, in his thinking concerning Negroes by the conceptions and philosophy of the worst type of white southerner.

He is at least, equally guilty, along with Col. Kimble, for the disgraceful conditions on the field.

Contrary to general belief, Tuskegee Army Flying school is run—every department and division of it—by whites, many of them southerners, who look upon the Negro as an inferior being. It is the philosophy of those whites in charge that is responsible for the general unrest, dissatisfaction and low morale of the Negroes associated with the establishment.

Bus Discrimination

From confidential sources I was able to get a picture of conditions at the field which brought the resignation of Judge Hastie, as civilian aide to the secretary of war.

In such trivial matters as the buses which operate between the field and the town of Tuskegee there is discrimination. A soldier told us that the bus makes a special stop to pick up enlisted white soldiers, stationed at the field, before it makes its first stop to pick up Negro passengers.

In several instances Negroes have attempted to board the bus at this stop and were told that they could not enter the bus there. The result is that when the bus reaches the first stop where Negroes are permitted to board it, the whites are already seated. The preference shown the white enlisted men here—and there are about 100 of them—is a source of constant irritation to the Negro enlisted men. In many cases they are accorded the privileges not consistent with their rank.

For example, they are not required to live on the post, a privilege accorded only to Negro officers and Negro staff, master and technical sergeants.

Moved to North

Maj. Westbrooks, one of the few white officers commanding the respect of the Negro troops under his command, is reportedly so dissatisfied with the treatment of Negroes at the post that he is having his men trained at Northern establishments in Michigan and Ohio.

Maj. Westbrooks' outfit is the 332nd fighter group, which is the technical outfit for the 100th Pursuit Squadron. The men for the most part are not southerners and have had difficulty in adjusting themselves to southern traditions in respect to Negroes.

A similar situation exists among the 689th Signal Air Corps warning company, a highly specialized outfit under the command of Capt Herbert R. Orr. Capt. Orr, who was professor of electrical engineering at Florida A and M college and was formerly associated with the 366th Infantry at Fort Devens in Massachusetts, and his entire outfit, are said to be seeking a transfer from the field.

Sparks Passed Up

FEB 3 1943

Typical of the treatment of Negroes sent here to assume positions of authority are two cases which were brought to our attention. The first is that of Capt. Lloyd Sparks sent here originally to take charge of the post finance office. Because he was a Negro and for that reason alone — he has been by-passed, and the position given to a white officer, who was working under him in an all-white outfit of enlisted men. It's a lily white outfit.

Capt. Sparks, whom it is believed could have been transferred to another post had he so desired, has elected to stay here and fight the thing through.

For a while he had nothing to do, but, because of pressure from the outside, he was recently appointed to the finance section of the 96th headquarters service group where he is attempting to train a Negro personnel.

So great is the prejudice here that even textbooks, which the army provided for the training of its financial personnel, are denied him by local authorities. From other sources, however, it is reported that he has secured the literature and is developing a group of Negroes to handle army finance in anticipation of the day when he can assume the position to which he was originally assigned.

Refused Post

Not long ago, it is reported, on good authority, a Negro civilian was sent here from Chanute Field, Rantoul, Ill., where the army's largest air corps technical school is located, to take charge of the parachute division. Upon his arrival here, he was told bluntly, by white commanding officers, that a Negro cannot hold such a position of responsibility. Today, according to the report, a white man whom he, as an instructor at Chanute Field trained, was sent here and placed in charge but left the post in protest and never returned.

One of the greatest sources of irritation is the P-X Cafe which has equal quarters for whites and Negroes. The Negro side of the establishment is highly patronized and is contsantly crowded. Yet a Negro dared not go to the white side.

Col. Kimble during his regime made an issue of the posting of signs designating certain facilities for Negroes and others for whites. When the Negroes rebelled and continually tore down the signs, he was finally overpowered. There are no "whites or colored" signs on the post today. But from experience, the Negro knows his place. And his place is certainly not that of the white man here.

Fine Education

The Tuskegee Army Flying school is unique so far as army posts are concerned, the Negroes assigned here being by far the superior of whites from the standpoint of background and education.

Some of the most promising young minds of the Negro race are here. They came here under the impression that because it is a Jim Crow set-up they could advance; that since they would not be in competition with whites, merit would be the yardstick for advancement. But this is not the case.

Here, as elsewhere in the South, the Negro back bender is the man who advances. Without calling names, a case was cited for us. There are two West Point graduates here, both Negroes.

One is a true soldier — that is, he takes orders and never questions them regardless of how embarrassing they may be to him or to the other Negroes. The other, younger and much more militant and race conscious, holds a much lesser rank.

It is my opinion that the latter will not advance at the same rate of speed of the former, not because he is less qualified, but because he is much more of a race man and much less willing to humiliate himself to be promoted. When the war is over one will probably be a general, the other, a lieutenant or at the most a captain.

That is the Tuskegee program and philosophy.

Rebuff Friendship

Negro officers have attempted to make overtures to the white officers in an effort to create goodwill on the post. For the Negro officers there is an officers club and they, according to reports, extended an inivitation to their white fellow officers to become members.

However, when the high ranking officials became aware of this situation they directed the few white officers who accepted the invitation to sever their relationship with the Negroes and today there is no general social relationship between the two groups.

However, the opinion of the Negro enlisted man is that the Negro officers fail to realize that their problem is the same as theirs on the most.

"The whites here," they told us, "have no more respect for a Negro officer than they have for us.

"I have seen," one man said, "white enlisted men and white officers deliberately turn their heads or walk in another direction to keep from having to salute a Negro of higher rank."

Rank Means Nothing

To Col. Kimble and Lt. Col. Hazzard, whether a Negro has bars, a gold leaf or no officers insignia at all, he is a Negro and is regarded as a Negro. Rank, so far as the Negro is concerned, has no significance to the whites except in strictly official capacities.

But dissatisfaction with conditions at the air base are not confined to the post itself where approximately 14 related units are stationed.

At the campus of Tuskegee Institute, which has no official connection with the army flying school, members of the faculty reflect the general attitude of unrest and dissatisfaction with conditions at the army post.

It is felt by many of them with whom I talked that Tuskegee Institute is suffering loss of good will and even prestige as a result of the constant criticism of conditions at the base.

They suggested that a civilian commission, made up of persons who have the confidence and respect of Negroes, be appointed to investigate and make a public report of conditions at the field.

School Proves Little

The Tuskegee Army Flying school, in the opinion of many persons connected with it, has established no new facts so far as the Negro and aviation is concerned.

Its only effect has been to prove an already established fact: That the Negro can fly a plane. But so far as creating new opportunities for him in the field of military aviation, the school is regarded as a failure. It is true that about 50 men have completed the course and have been commissioned as second lieutenants in the air corps as pilots. It is true that others have completed training in associated skilled and technical capacities, many of whom hold commissions. But none of these including Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., are in positions of full responsibility, all of them being accountable to local white officials.

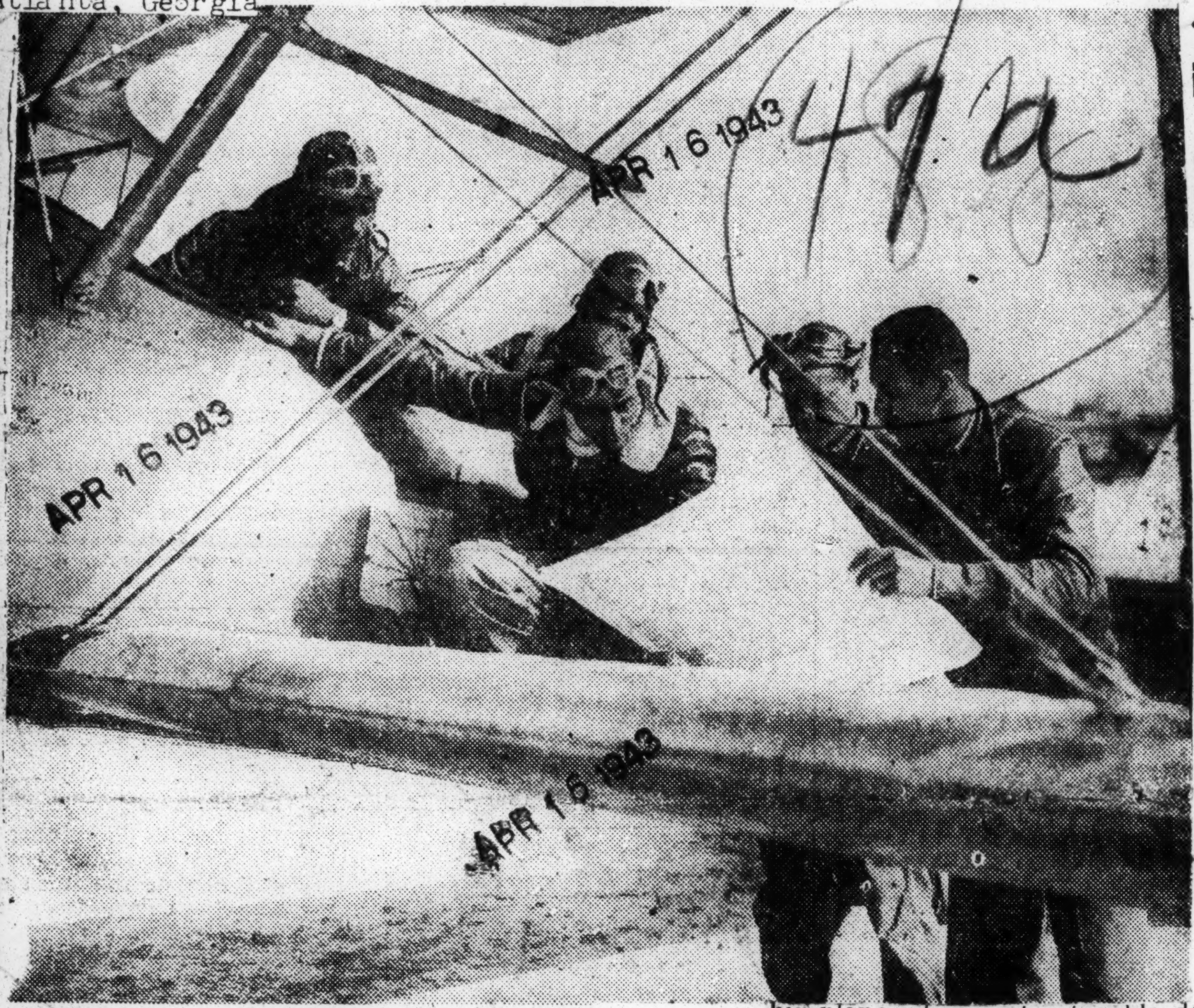
It is a question as to whether the Negro through a segregated unit has gained more, or even as much, as he might have, had he been fully integrated into the air corps without regard to race.

47a-1943

Take Final Look Before Going Skyward

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

APR 16 1943



47a

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)—Aviation cadets take a final look at their maps before going aloft. Left to right: Lt. John Daniels, of Chicago, Ill.; Clayborne Lockett, of Los Angeles, Calif.; Lawrence O'Clark, of Chicago; William Melton, of Los Angeles, and Civilian Instructor Milton Crenchaw (hatless), of Little Rock.

"SMITTY'S"

Kansas City Call

Sports Spurts

Pittsburg Curier

By WENDELL SMITH

Kansas City, Mo.

Sidat-Singh Is Missing . . . But If There's a Possible Chance He'll Return to His Base

MAY 15 1943

I hope I am not writing Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh a last tribute. He is missing somewhere in the vicinity of Oscoda, Mich., where it is alleged that he was forced to leap from his plane when motor trouble developed. The War Department has announced that the plane was found, but at the time of this writing Sidat-Singh was missing.

One week ago Sidat-Singh visited this office. He was on his way to Oscoda then for advanced training. He was wearing his "wings" and, naturally, was proud of them. Three of his flying mates were with him. They had their pictures taken, and answered the questions of a host of admirers who followed them wherever they went.

* * *

I guess I am the last sports writer to have interviewed Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh before he disappeared. He was a great athlete at Syracuse university. He starred in football and basketball. After his college days, he played a year with the New York Renaissance and Washington Bears and then went to Tuskegee.

It is easy to understand why Sidat-Singh wanted to fly. He was the personification of speed, both on the football field and hardwood. He had courage, heart, and would gamble when the stakes were highest. It was only natural, I guess, that he should have chosen the Air Force.

During the interview last week, Sidat-Singh said:

"We know we have a great big job on our shoulders. We are among the first Negro flyers, and we have to make good. This is a war and we are ready for anything . . . come hell or high water."

* * *

Come hell or high water . . . that was Sidat-Singh. He played football and basketball that way. The bigger and tougher they came, the better he liked it. He was a rugged, handsome guy, who had an infectious smile and a winning way about him. He won friends . . . he won ball games . . . and he won his "wings" at Tuskegee the way he lived . . . simply by being himself . . . modest, sincere and considerate.

Sidat-Singh is the first of our famous Negro athletes to encounter real trouble in this war. Like Michigan's great Tom Harmon, Sidat-Singh's been "forced down."

I hope he'll come tramping back like Tom did through the wilds and wastes of upper Michigan . . . so we can all stand up and cheer him once again.

---

500 Negro Troops

At Angelo Bomber Field Strive To Make Their Squadron Second To None In Army

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

MAY 6 1943

There's a sign over a half-length mirror in the orderly room of the 360th Aviation Squadron at San Angelo Army Air Field bombardier school.

"Be A Credit To Your Organization," it says.

It is at once a slogan and a goal in this group of nearly 500 Negro troops, who are working hard all day and reporting to the classroom at night in a determined effort to make their squadron second to none.

Directing their efforts is the only white man in the organization, the commanding officer. He's 30-year-old Maj. Raymond Egan of New Orleans, a 1935 graduate of Louisiana State University who had commanded both white and Negro troops.

The good Negro soldier can't be beat, he says. And though the bad one is as bad as they come, nearly all of them want to be good. And though, those who prefer the rockier path receive exactly the same disciplinary action that white troops receive, it's not fear of punishment, he

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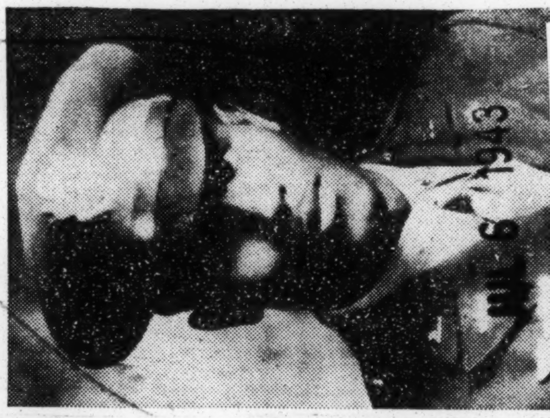
Downs an Enemy



JUL 6 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

[Associated Press Wirephoto.]

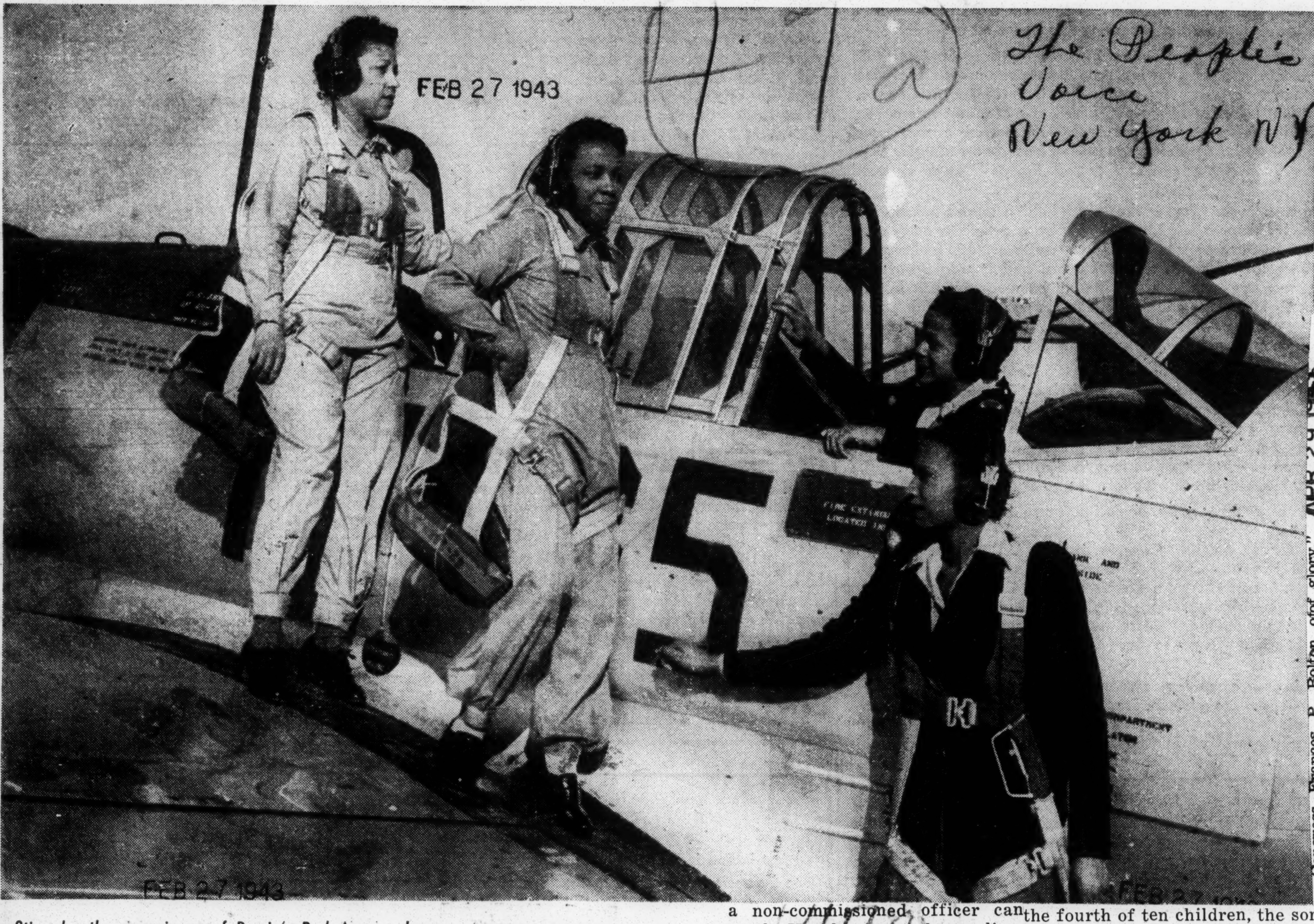
Lt. Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind,. who was the first American Negro to destroy an enemy airplane in combat. He shot down a German fighter plane over Castelvetrano field in Sicily while flying a P-40 Warhawk.

FLYING NURSES:

FEB 27 1943

The People's Voice
New York NY

4/a



FEB 27 1943

FEB 27 1943

Profiting by the experience of Russia's Red Army, where the rate of mortality from lack of medical treatment at the front lines has been cut in half when compared to World War I, the USArmy nurses in World War II are also carrying the hospital to the front lines. Above, staff army nurses of the Tuskegee Flying School learn the proper way to enter and leave a plane. Seated in the plane is First Lt. Rainey, chief nurse; standing, l to r, Second Lts. Voorhis, Speight and Trotter.—(OWI foto.)

Sandy M'Corvey Breaks Record At Perrin Field

Smashing all records for advancement at Perrin Field, and possibly in the whole country, according to an Army release, First Sgt. Sandy J. McCorvey, of an aviation squadron, won his present rating exactly 108 days after arriving at the field.

McCorvey's post is the highest a non-commissioned officer can reach. He plans to make application for Officer's Candidate School.

His commanding officer at Perrin attributes part of his rapid advancement to "his bulldog tenacity and ability to stay on a job until it is done regardles of when that may be."

McCorvey was the popular Negro County Agent of Tallapoosa County and a graduate of Tuskegee Institute. He entered the Army at Ft. Benning. Sandy is the fourth of ten children, the son of E. J. McCorvey, Peterman, Ala. He worked his way through college and saw service in CCC. As agent here he was well liked by both white and colored people and was trusted by both races as unusually upstanding, energetic and dependable.

This lengthy communication from Perrin Field, only a few quotations from which are taken, but which any of his friends who wish may inspect, states that McCorvey is undoubtedly headed for the top.

Des Moines, Iowa
Bystander

CONGRESS HEARS NEGRO AIR SQUADRON LEAVES FOR COMBAT DUTY

APR 29 1943

Washington (ANP)—First public statement that a Negro air squadron had left for combat duty was made by Congress Frances P. Bolton of Ohio on the floor of the house Thursday, April 15, when, speaking about Tuskegee Institute of which she is now a trustee, she said:

"The first squadron of colored flyers has left for combat duty taking the hearts of Tuskegee with them. I am sure the entire membership of this house wishes them well and hopes for them a high record of honor and of glory."

APR 29 1943

Although Mrs. Bolton's speech is found in its entirety in the Congressional Record for April 15, thousands of copies of which have been printed and distributed throughout the nation to read by any interested person, the war department has sought to prevent its publication in newspapers, stating that no mention of this squadron's departure should be made until official sanction is given by war department officials.

APR 29 1943

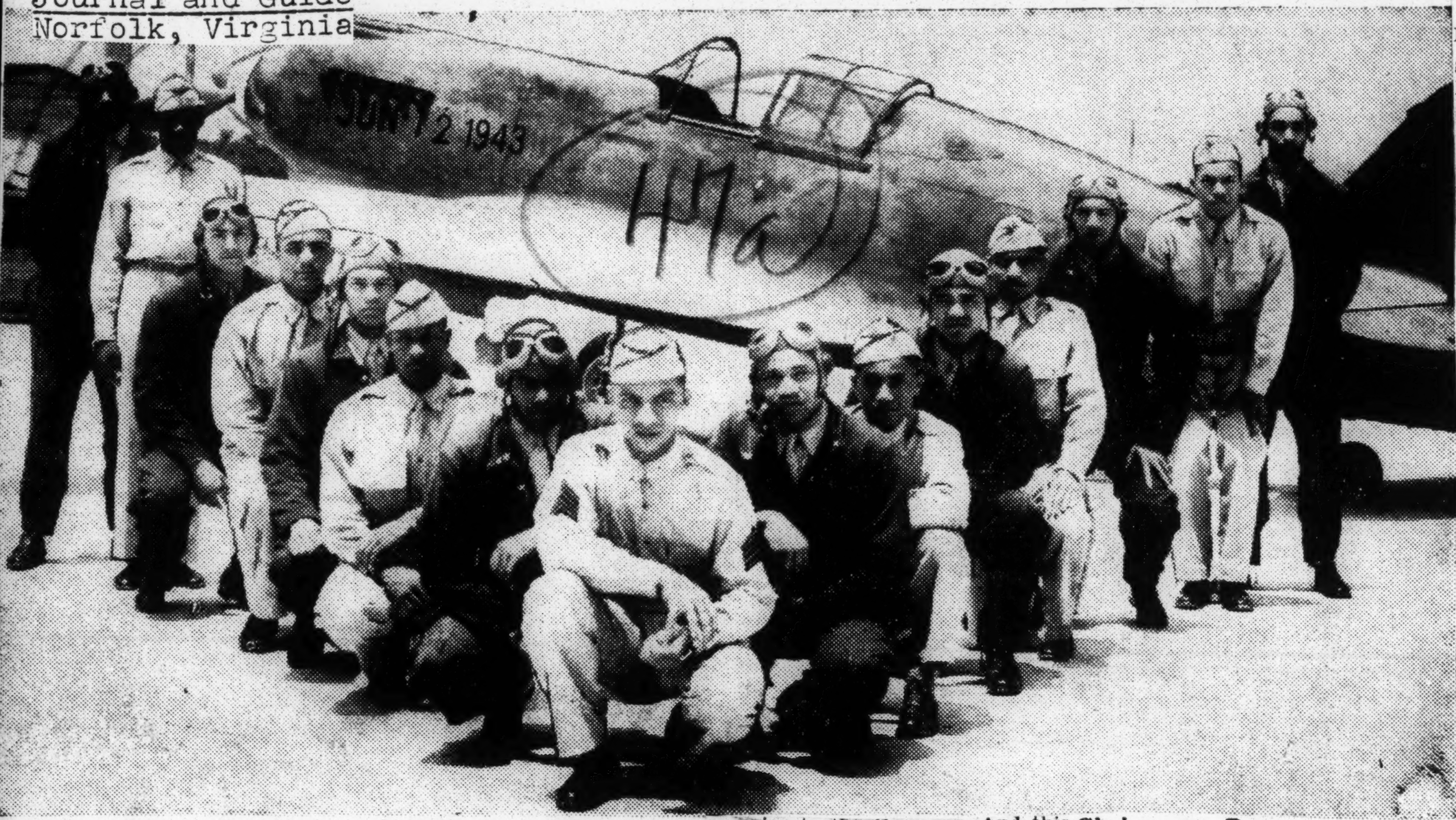
However, the Office of Censorship has given permission for the Associated Negro Press to reproduce Mrs. Bolton's statement exactly as it appears in the Record.

APR 29 1943

47a-1943

They Helped Blast Italian Mediterranean Fortress

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



JUN 12 1943

47a

Nine of the 15 flyers shown have gone into action with the United States Army Air Forces against the enemy. They graduated on June 3, 1942, at which exercises Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., their commander, delivered the finals address. Left to right, the air fighters are, William Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala.; Willie Ashley Jr., Sumter, S. C.; Langston Caldwell, Denver, Colo., who was not among the graduates; Herbert V. Clark, Pine Bluff, Ark.; George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind.; Paul G. Mitchell, Washington, D. C.; Herbert R. Carter, Amory, Miss.; Louis R. Purnell, Germantown, Pa.; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.; Allen G. Lane, Demopolis, Ala.; Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J.; Paythe A. McGinnis, Muskogee, Okla.; James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Irvin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, Ohio. Lts. Campbell, Hall, Wiley, Bolling, Smith, Clark, Mitchell Purnell and Watson have gone into action.

Stimson Lauds Fliers

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUN 26 1943

WASHINGTON, June 24—"We are all very proud of the splendid activity of a fighter squadron commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., over Pantelleria," declared Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, after his press conference last week. This statement owed a review by the Secretary War of the battle for Pantel- a in which he declared, that air battle over the Italian out- ost in the Mediterranean had constituted "one of the heaviest air operations in the history of warfare."

47a

Courier

Indicating that Pantelleria—like the island of Malta, which has withstood Axis enemy bombing for more than three years, was a heavily fortified island used for both offensive and defensive operations by Italy, Secretary Stimson pointed out that the air battle, in which the fighting pursuit squadron played such an important part, was of unusual significance because it furnished the first time when air power alone had resulted in complete destruction of enemy resistance.

Contrasting the failure of the German air arm at Malta with Allied successes at Pantelleria, Stimson said the reason for the difference was the "sporadic and inaccurate bombing of the Germans as against the concentration and precision of our own flyers. "Hits on military targets were scored with mathematical precision," he said. "Our pilots are superior to the Germans. And this is a development which holds great promise for the future."

JUN 26 1943

AIRMAN

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Aviation Cadet Bennie A. Perry of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, has entered the Army Air Forces at Yale university where he will undergo intensive training pointed toward his becoming a technical officer in armament with the rank of second lieutenant. He is the nephew of Mrs. R. E. Smith of Mt. Pleasant.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Fighter Pilot Dies in Crash Near Tuskegee

JUL 18 1943

47a

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 15.—Second Lieutenant Oscar Armstrong Kenney of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., was killed instantly Friday afternoon, July 9, when the P-40 airplane he was flying crashed approximately ten miles northeast of Tuskegee.

Lt. Kenney was on a routine training flight at the time of the crash and a board of qualified Air Force officers will be appointed to determine the exact cause in detail.

The son of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Kenney, Tuskegee Institute Ala., Lt. Kenney attended Oberlin college in Oberlin, Ohio, from 1939 to 1941.

JUL 19 1943

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

NEGRO FLYERS'

VALOR PRAISED

JUL 7 1943

47a

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 4. — A graphic account of how America's North Africa-based Negro fighter sguadron scored its first victory in dogfights during the raid on Castel Vetrano airfield in Sicily was told to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

General Eisenhower was visiting the Negro squadron's air base when the fightersr eturned without loss from their first encounter with enemy planes. Greeting the Negro pilots, Eisenhower congratulated Lieut. Charles B. Hall, twenty-two, of Brazil, Indiana, when Hall described the battle in which he got an enemy plane.

"It was my eighth mission, but the first time I got close enough to shoot," said Hall, who is a fromer student from the Illinois State Teachers' College.

JUL 7 1943

"I saw two Focke-Wulf 190's following our Mitchell bombers just after they got their bombs away. I headed for the space between the fighters and the bombers and managed to turn in alongside the jerries.

"I fired a long burst and saw my tracers go into the second plane. He was turning to the left but suddenly fell off and headed straight for the ground. I followed him and saw him crash. He raised a big cloud of dust."

47a

JUL 7 1943

Another Negro pilot reported he hit a Messerschmitt 109 and probably brought it down, but could not follow to verify it.

General Eisenhower felicitated Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, comander of the squadron, on the work of his fighters.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Tuskegee Graduates New Class

AUG 7 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD Ala. — In perfect cadence to the stirring notes of the "Air Corps Song," Class SE 43-G filed into the New Theatre Building here last week to receive their wings and commissions as single engine fighter pilots in the Army Air Forces.

47a

This contingent of airmen became Tuskegee's most recent group of flyers to complete the arduous pilot training course and become flying officers in the Air Corps.

The graduates were presented commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces by Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of the field. Wings were awarded the graduates by Major Donald G. McPherson, director of training at the post. Student officers receiving wings were Second Lieutenants John Daniels of Chicago, Ill., and William B. Ellis of Washington, D. C. Among those receiving wings and commissions were Second Lieutenants Lee Andrew Archer, New York City; Harry L. Bailey, Chicago. Ill.; William R. Bartley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Samuel Lee Curtis, Yeadon, Pa.; William W. Green, Staunton, Va.; George B. Greenlee Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Richard W. Hall. Albany, Ga.; Jack D. Holsclaw Spokane, Wash.; Daniel James Jr., Pensacola, Fla.; John Howard Leahr, Cincinnati, Ohio; Claybourne A. Lockett, Los Angeles, Calif.; James W. Mason, Monroe, La.; Eddie A. McLaurin, Jackson, Miss.; William R. Melton Jr., Los Angeles, Calif.; Robert H. Nelson Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Maurice R. Page, Los Angeles, Calif.; Cornelius G. Rogers, Chicago, Ill.

Edward N. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lowell C. Steward, Los Angeles, Calif.; Elmer W. Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Alva Newte Temple, Carrollton, Ala.; Walter D. Westmoreland, Atlanta, Ga.; Robert H. Wiggins, New York City; Leroy Shelton Williams, Roanoke, Va., and Beryl Wyatt of Independence, Kans.

Also completing the pilot training course and receiving wings and a certificate was the first foreign student at Tuskegee, Sgt. Raymond Cassagnol, Haitian Air Force, Por au Prince, Haiti.

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43 Enlistees Go To College

Pittsburgh Courier

JUL 10 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., July 8—Forty-three enlisted men of the 332nd Fighter Group and 96th Service Group stationed at Selfridge Field have been ordered to East Lansing, Mich., to take preliminary courses in the Army Specialized Training program at Michigan

State college.

Listed according to organization, their names are as follows:

96th SERVICE GROUP

1st Sgt. Peter J. Chandler, Fort Worth, Tex.
Pfc. James A. Gilliam, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pvt. Melvin C. Harrison, Palto-Alto, Cal.
Cpl. George L. Jameson, Columbus, Ohio.
Cpl. Frederick T. Richardson, St. Joseph, Michigan.
Pvt. Harold T. Alston, Paducah, Ky.

332nd FIGHTER GROUP

Pvt. Raymond W. Bailey, Los Angeles, Cal.
Pfc. Milton C. Bright, Washington, D. C.
Pfc. Cleo D. Clayborne, Ottawa, Kas.
Pfc. Jesse B. Eggleton, Washington, D. C.
Cpl. Daniel L. Ferniel, Los Angeles, Cal.
Pvt. Vernon G. Graves, Millan Gibson, Tenn.
Cpl. Gilbert C. Kenner, Los Angeles, Cal.
Pfc. Brice H. Miles, Philadelphia, Pa.
Cpl. Agustin Monsanto, New York, N. Y.
Pfc. Eugene [illegible] Simmons, Wheeling, W. Va.
Pvt. Eugene [illegible]ow, Roxbury, Mass.
Pvt. Roosevelt Stroman, Far Rockaway, Long Island, New York.
Pfc. George W. Whitehead, Columbus, Ohio.
Pvt. James P. Young, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Cpl. Arthur H. Bruce, Los Angeles, Cal.
Sgt. Cecil C. Watkins, Bronx, N. Y.
Cpl. George M. Applewhaite, New York City.
Pfc. Matthew Bowman, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pfc. Bernert S. Carter, Yonkers, N. Y.
1st Sgt. William H. Carter, Santa Monica, California.
Sgt. William Crawford, Jr., Albany, N. Y.
Pvt. Shepherd N. DeLisle, New York, N. Y.
Pfc. Aleaxnder D. Dungill, Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. George B. Eutemy, Albany, N. Y.
Pvt. Albert Fairweather, New York, N. Y.
Pfc. Harry N. Hall, Danville, Va.
Pfc. Walter C. Hamilton, Lexington, Ky.
Pfc. Eric G. [illegible]s, New York, N. Y.
Pvt. William M. Jenkins, Indianapolis, Ind.
Pvt. Robert J. Law, Baltimore, Md.
Paul L. Lockette, Reynolds, Ga.
Cpl. Emile Milles, Monrovia, Cal.
Pvt. Percy W. Patrick, Danville, Va.
Pvt. Henry M. Smith, Jr., Washington, D. C.
Pfc. George F. Washington, Baltimore, Md.
Pvt. Raymond L. Washington, Baltimore, Maryland.
Pfc. Isaac J. Wilford, St. Louis, Mo.

JUL 10 1943

Air Cadets Get 'Wings' At Tuskegee

Defender
Chicago Ill.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Graduation ceremonies at the Army Air Field here for the Aviation Cadet class of 43-E were featured by the address of Dr. Eugene H. Dibble Jr., medical officer in charge of the United States Veteran's hospital, Tuskegee.

Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, and Major Donald G. McPherson, director of training, officiated at the exercises.

Second Lt. Thomas J. Collins, acting commandant of Cadets presented Cadet Honors to the ranking men of the class of 43-E. These awards went to the following: first award to Clemenceau McAdoo Givings of Richmond, Va.; second to Felix Jackson Kirkpatrick Jr., of Chicago, and third to Laurence Dunbar Wilkins of Los Angeles.

Among the other flying officers who received their wings and commissions were Second Lts. John F. Briggs Jr., St. Louis; Milton R. Brooks, Glassport, Pa.; Charles M. Bussey, Los Angeles; Spurgeon N. Ellington, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Maurice V. Esters, Webster City, Iowa; Joseph P. Gomer, Iowa Falls, Iowa; George E. Gray, Hemphill, W. Va.; Langdon E. Johnson, Rand, W. Va.; Albert H. Manning Jr., Hartsville, S. C.; Oliver O. Miller Jr., Battle Creek, Mich.; Dempsey W. Morgan Jr., Detroit; Harry A. Sheppard, Jamaica, N. Y.; Luther H. Smith Jr., Des Moines, Iowa; John J. Suggs, Terre Haute, Ind.; James A. Walker, Manning, S. C.; Dudley M. Watson, Frankfort, Ky.; and Craig H. Williams, Chicago.

JUN 5 1943

Tuskegee Non-Coms Open Club

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 15—(ANP)—The non-commissioned officers of the Tuskegee Army Air Field formally opened their own exclusive club last Saturday night when Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer, gave the dedicatory address preceding the initial party.

JUL 1 8 1943

The club's president and host, M-Sgt. James Blackstone, welcomed the many club members and their guests to enjoy one of the most festive evenings seen at the air field in quite some time. The enjoyable time had by all seemed proof enough that the demand for a social center for a majority of the enlisted men had, once and for all, been satisfactorily met.

This N.C.O. club, through the leadership of its officials and the assistance of the special service department, seems destined to add a definite contribution to the recreation and social life of the non-commissioned officers of the air field.

The non-coms now have an enjoyable place to retire to amuse themselves and their guests following off duty hours. The officials of the club are: M-Sgt. James Blackstone of Annapolis, Md., president; T-Sgt. Robert E. Donaldson of Chicago, secretary; S-Sgt. William T. McGrew of San Angelo, Texas, treasurer; Sgt. Andrew Collins of Houston, reporter and M-Sgt. Earl C. Ausbey of Portsmouth, Va., sergeant at arms.

JUL 1 8 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Patterson Tells Of New Plan

Air Force To Prepare Men For Combat

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson confirmed the report that the war department intends to train Negro soldiers as bombardiers and navigators in the army air force. His statement, brief and lacking in detail, was made in answer to a question put to him at the weekly press conference last Thursday morning.

Drew Pearson, in his radio column the Sunday before, had alluded to this plan of the war department as its 'answer" to the race riots. The question was intended to invite a straightforward statement from the department.

JUL 23 1943

Patterson explained that army schools have always been open to the men of the service, irrespective of their race color or creed. He said that Negro soldiers would be sent to these schools, and that "every man who goes will be used as a bombardier or navigator."

Asked if they would be organized into teams, the acting secretary declared that "these men will be used for combat duty." His reluctance to go into greater details at the moment was apparent.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Tuskegee Non-Coms Open Club

JUL 16 1943

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JUL 18 1943

RESCUES PILOT OF AIRPLANE

JUL 30 1943
[illegible] Wis. Argus

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 26—Private Arbrady Hicks of Ralston, Ark., on May 26th, was presented with the Soldier's Medal for "extraordinary heroism" following his daring rescue deed of a pilot from a burning plane. The plane crashed near his bivouac area and immediately burst into flames. The unconscious pilot, thrown from the cockpit, lay only a few feet from the burning plane, his clothing on fire. The other men of Hick's company were ordered away from the plane which was expected to explode at any second. Hicks seized the pilot's jungle knife and quickly cut away the burning clothes and removed him to a position of safety. A few minutes later the plane blew up.

A graduate from the Nevada County Training School in 1941, Private Hicks entered the Army the same month. He trained with a Signal Construction Company at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and was the first of his race to be admitted to the Signal Corps. He then transferred to the Tuskegee Flying School, Alabama, where he trained in aircraft warning. Hicks scored another first by being among the first fourteen Negroes to go into the air corps. In April, 1942, he went overseas with a Signal Air Warning unit, to a South Pacific post.

JUL 30 1943

Ironically enough, the day after Private Hicks rescued the pilot, he himself went to the hospital. His trouble? He stepped into a hole and fractured his leg and it was while he lay in the hospital that he was presented with the award. "You know," he said, "Dame Fortune must have it in for me. I cheated her one day, but the next day she goes and breaks my leg."

On the side Private Hicks is a talented trumpet player and played in the first Army Air Force band to be organized at Tuskegee.

JUL 30 1943

Noted Banker Praises S'kegee

Informer, Houston

JUL 3 1943

DURHAM, N. C.—(ANP)—After a recent visit to the Tuskegee Army Air field, C. C. Spaulding, Durham, insturance executive and banker, expressed great satisfaction with the unit and its commanding officer Col. Saul Parrish.

JUL 3 1943

Given Every Opportunity

"I had an opportunity to inspect the grounds and I find that Negroes are being given every opportunity to develop and acquire the same type of training that is offered in any other flying school," declared Mr. Spaulding. "It is unfortunate that those who criticized Tuskegee and who are still criticizing it could not have visited the institution for first hand information.

"President Patterson is laying great stress on the training of the Negro's hands, hearts, and minds. No one can stand by the monument of Booker T. Washington and fail to appreciate what has been accomplished and is now being accomplished at Tuskegee.

Makes Wise Decision

Mr. Spaulding said that the recently much publicized plan announced by school officials to accept a $100,000 yearly subsidy grant from the state was a wise decision. He said we must be realists and practical and make the most of the materials at hand, because the day when Negroes will be admitted to white state universities is a long way off.

JUL 3 1943
Informer

Gov. J. Melville Broughton recently named Mr. Spaulding to the executive committee of the North Carolina state national war fund. The Durham Morning Herald carried a photograph of Mr. Spaulding flanked by Mrs. Grace Walters and Mrs. Nelle Teor, two of the most prominent white women in Durham immediately after the announcement. Observers regard the incident as an example of growing democracy in the south.

King George Gives Medal To Heroic West Indian Flyer

Chicago Ill. Defender

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Chicago Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON — (Censored) — Quite a number of colored West Indian airmen serving with the Royal Air Force have already distinguished themselves in action over Germany.

Among the latest islanders to be awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for gallantry is Sgt. W. K. Hynam of Barbados.

APR 17 1943

The young flyer, who is a bombardier, went to Buckingham Palace to receive his medal from King George.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

99TH SQUADRON PROVING ABILITY

JUL 8 1943

The war department has been giving daily press releases dealing with the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, based in North Africa. This is, of course, unusual because for military reason the exact location of units is not given to the press.

It is quite obvious why this departure from the customary handling of news comes about. The boys are doing a good job, and Washington wants the people back home to know it in order to off-set some of the rotten things that delayed the induction of Negroes into the Air Corps, and their treatment, in some instances, since they have been there.

JUL 8 1943

This is all very fine. It is just the thing to have done. In fact, it is just downright stupid and ridiculous to have done otherwise.

But the publication of this information does more than that: the work of these men simply demonstrates that those who led the fight to make a place for Negroes in the Air Corps were on the right track; that given a chance, the Negro can do a good job.

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
October 16, 1943

Two Negro Officers Killed in Air Crash

SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH., (AP)—Two Negro flying officers, Lieutenant William H. Walker, 24, whose mother, Mrs. Broddy Walker, lives at Suffolk, Va., and Lieutenant Leroi S. Williams, 24, whose mother, Mrs. Cardelia S. Williams, lives at 221 Harrison St., Roanoke, Va., were killed in midair collision of pursuit planes Thursday while on a routine flight.

The planes plunged to earth in flames in view of several motorists.

47a-1943.

Julian Comes to Town With Usual Flourish

Peoples Voice
New York, N.Y.
JUN 12 1943

The fabulous Hubert Fauntleroy Julian, Harlem's colorful and internationally famous soldier, flew to N.Y. from Lincoln, Neb., a couple of weeks ago as a member of a crew of a high-powered U. S. bomber.

He came in a private's uniform with a captain's rating in his pocket. Not only that, he came armed with a staggering number of letters of commendation from Army officials and nationally famous civilians testifying as to his character, ability, personality, etc., and recommending him for the commission he received a couple of weeks ago.

However, the most startling announcement made this trip by the erstwhile Black Eagle, Commander of the Ethiopian Airforce, Captain in the Finnish Air Force and not so long ago private, then sergeant, then private again in the U. S. Army, concerned the mystifying and much publicized incident when the King of Kings supposedly kicked Julian out of Ethiopia several years ago.

"Now that Ethiopia has come into her own again, the truth can be told," he said.

The newly-made captain, sartorially perfect as ever, said that he had left Ethiopia, not in the bad graces of Haile Selassie as the press commented at the time, but on exceptionally friendly terms. He was then a "man without a country," traveling on a League of Nations passport. He had entered Italy, he claimed, with every intention of assassinating Mussolini.

WENT TO KILL IL DUCE

"I had rigged up an automatic affair," Julian said, "that was to go off when I raised my hand in a fascist salute; but by accident I gave myself away and only got out of Italy by the skin of my teeth."

Anyway it's a good story.

Capt. Julian went to the Army Airforce Technical School at Lincoln on Mar. 6, finishing his work there a couple of weeks ago with a 91 percent rating. Subjects he took included hand tools, fundamentals, structures, hydraulics and engines.

"Most of the fellows were just out of college and couldn't understand how I could adapt myself so easily," he commented. "They wouldn't believe that I will be 46 years old in September."

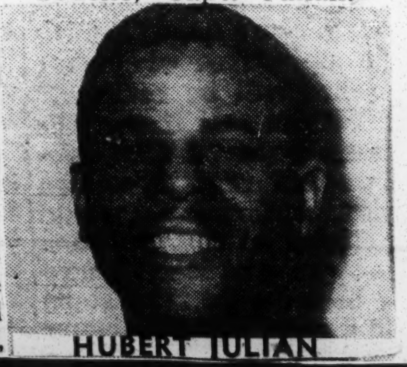
Following are excerpts from letters written about Julian before he was discharged from the school two weeks ago to accept a commission:

Brig. Gen. Early E. W. Duncan: "Pvt. Julian possesses the essential qualities of leadership and I sincerely hope that he receives a commission and is given an opportunity to better serve our country."

Major E. L. Bloom to Col. McDermott: "I would like very much to see him placed under your jurisdiction where there are colored troops. Any courtesy you could give Pvt. Julian would be appreciated by me."

C. S. (Casey) Jones, Pres Curtis Airplane Co.: "From my personal acquaintance with him, I believe he is qualified for consideration for a commission."

Touche, Capt. Julian.


HUBERT JULIAN

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2 Die in Trainer Crackup at Tuskegee, Another when His Craft Plunges into Saginaw Bay

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
MAY 15 1943

WASRHINGTON

Three soldiers, one a Baltimorean, were killed in two army plane crashes over the week end, the War Department acknowledged this week.

The dead are:

2ND. LT. WILMETH SIDAT-SINGH, 25, former Syracuse University athletic star, of Washington;

CADET ROSS C. STEWART, 28, 2500 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, former Howard University student; and

2ND LT. JAMES E. BROTHERS, 26, of Chicago, University of Wisconsin junior.

Lieutenant Brothers and Cadet Stewart died when a primary training plane operated by Brothers cracked up near the Tuskegee (Ala.) Army airfield Saturday.

Brothers, along with eighteen other pilots, was awarded his second lieutenant's wings last Thursday. His mother and several aunts reside in Chicago.

Cadet Stewart had been in the army since February and had just recently applied for release from the service. He was home on furlough two weeks ago.

Stewart's Wife in Baltimore

His wife, Mrs. Evelyn T. Stewart, and two small daughters reside in Baltimore. His mother, Mrs. Elsie Stewart, lives in Somerset, Pa., where the body will be shipped.

Cadet Stewart attended Johnstown (Pa.) High School and Howard University. Before entering the army he was a foreman at the Bethlehem Steel Co.

He has another brother, Sgt. Horace Stewart, on duty with the army in Trinidad.

CADET ROSS C. STEWART

Lieutenant Singh, military authorities state, was reported missing after his single seat pursuit plane crashed into the Saginaw Bay off Lake Huron, Mich., Sunday noon.

Singh Crashed Sunday

Army officers from Selfridge Field, air base for Singh, learned from witnesses that a parachute opened before the plane fell.

However, no trace of Sidat-Singh or the parachute had been found by searchers late Monday. Army men from the Army Gunnery School at Ascoda, Mich., State police and coast guardsmen joined in the search.

The plane sank after it crashed and army officials said that only a large oil slick was found in the lake about a mile off shore.

Lieutenant Sidat-Singh, a native of Washington and a resident there since his college graduation, was graduated as a second lieutenant from Tuskegee Army Flying School on March 25 and had been assigned to the 301st Fighter Squadron at 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field since last Tuesday (May 4).

LT. WILMETH SIDAT-SINGH

Visited Mom 2 Weeks Ago

He had been sent to Ascoda School, a unit of Selfridge 200 miles away, for gunnery practice, and was on a routine flight. When the crash occurred, he was 26 hours overdue.

Two weeks ago, Singh visited his mother in Washington and told friends at the time that he enjoyed flying as much as he had thrilled at college athletics.

At the time of his departure for Tuskegee last August, Singh was a member of the Washington police force, a position he had held for six months. Prior to this, he had worked in the Navy Yard, coached athletic teams and played pro football and basketball.

Colorful Athletic Career

At Syracuse University, where he starred in football and basketball, Singh was considered one of the greatest athletes ever to attend Syracuse.

His basketball proclivities at DeWitt Clinton High School in New York City won for him a scholarship at Syracuse and he lived up to all the expectations of the Orange athletic directors.

On the gridiron eleven, he played halfback and was frequently mentioned for all-American honors. In 1939, he played on the Eastern College all-star squad, coached by Jock Sutherland, formerly of Pitt, against the New York Professional Giants, and the Washington Redskins, the latter in Boston.

In Singh's senior year at Syracuse, 1938, he attracted national attention with his forward passing greatness when he hurled three touchdown passes in Syracuse's traditional game against Cornell in the final nine minutes of play, causing Grantland Rice, syndicated writer, to hail him as "the greatest forward passer of the decade." His passes enabled Syracuse to win the game, 19-17.

After college graduation, Singh played pro basketball with the Renaissance, being a member of the Rens when they won the world pro championship in the Chicago tournament in 1939.

He also played two seasons with the Washington Bears, played pro football with the Washington Lions, and also was the star of the 1942 interracial all-star football game held in New York.

Appeared in Baltimore

In Baltimore against the Baltimore Mets, in February, 1942, Singh established a pro basketball scoring record of 28 points for a single game at the New Albert Auditorium. Charles (Tarzan) Cooper, famed coach of the Washington Bears, called Singh the "best shooter" since Pappy Ricks.

At the height of his athletic career at Syracuse, Singh was always in the headlines as many Southern colleges refused to play against him. The most celebrated instance of the color ban against him occurred in October, 1937, when Syracuse came to Baltimore to play the University of Maryland.

Singh previously had been advertised as a "Hindu halfback," but when it was learned that he was an American-born colored youth, Maryland refused to play against him and Singh had to sit it out on the bench. He was also barred from playing basketball at the Naval Academy in Annapolis.

He resided in Washington at 610 R Street, Northwest, the home of his mother, Mrs. Pauline E. Sidat-Singh, a War Department employee. He is the only son, and the adopted son of Dr. Samuel Sidat-Singh of New York, whose family name he carried.

FIND BODY OF PILOT MIS SING SINCE JUNE

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. Aug. 5—(ANP)—he body of 2n Lt. Nathaniel Milton Hill, missing since June 16, has been recovered from Lake Huron near Oscoda, Mich., according to a statement from Capt. Ramey, public relations officer. Next of kin have been notified.

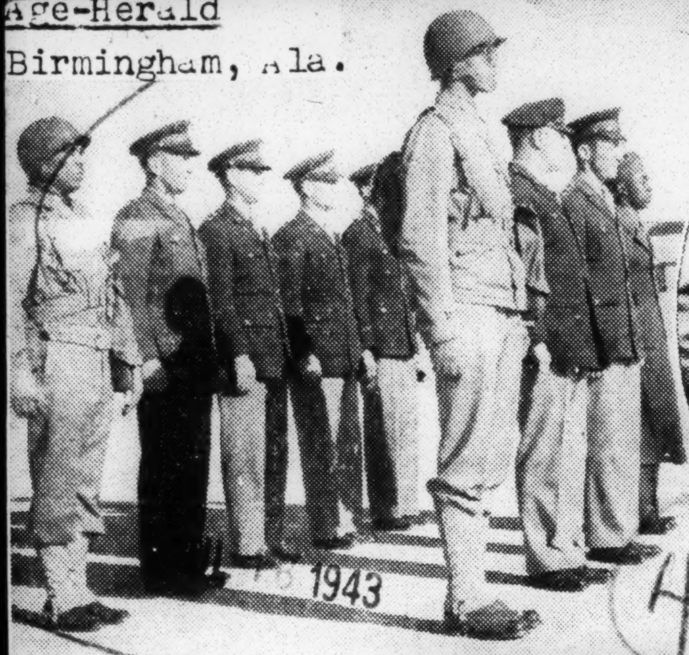
Lt. Hill was piloting a two seater training plane when he crashed into Lake Huron during a routine flight from the Oscoda army air field, a sub base of Selfridge field. He was accompanied on the flight by 2nd Lt. Luther Linson Blakeney, a weather officer, whose body was found June 17.

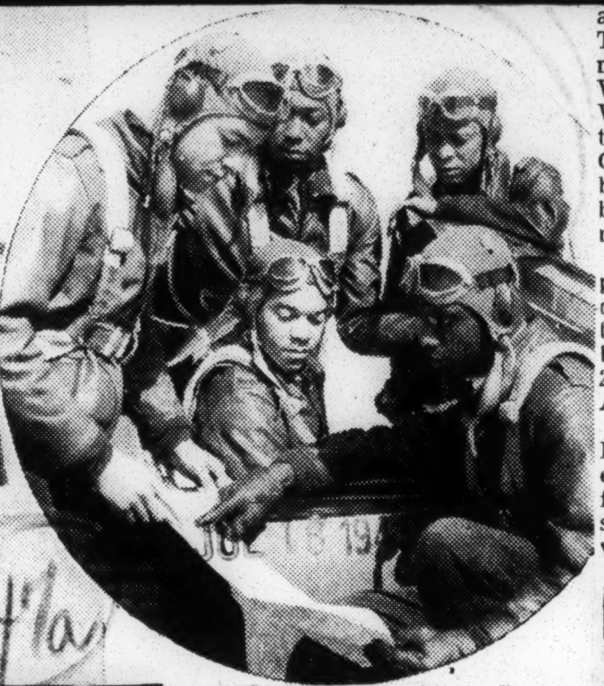
The Army air force pilot was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Hill of Washington, D. C. His wife, Laverne, resides in the same city.

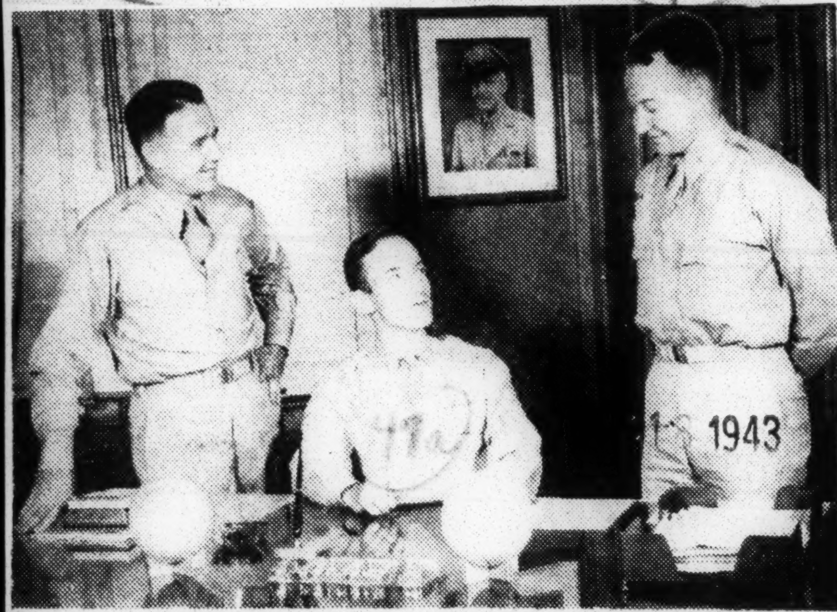
Both flyers were attached to the 332nd fighter group.

1943

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.







NEGRO PILOTS TRAINED—The Tuskegee Army Air Field at Tuskegee is training hundreds of Negro fliers for Uncle Sam's growing air force.

Top photo (above) shows officers who have been instrumental in the development of the air field passing in review at a parade in honor of Sgt. Arthur Freeman, who was awarded the Soldier's Medal for rescuing a child from drowning.

Front row (left to right), Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., Maj. Gen. Ralph Royce, Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer at Tuskegee, and Sgt. Freeman; back row (left to right), Capt. Hayden C. Johnson, Brig. Gen. Von H. Kimble, Lt. Col. John T. Hazard and Maj. John G. Cooke, Jr.

Top right shows flying officers checking their course for a cross-country flight.

Lower photo shows the commanding officer and his staff. Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish (seated) is commanding officer. Lt. Col. John T. Hazard (left) is executive officer and Capt. Clyde H. Bynum (right) is adjutant.

JUL 18 1943

Tuskegee-Trained Fliers Make Good In Combat At Pantelleria

2nd Lt. Leon Roberts, Prichard, Ala., Among Pilots Who Force Nazi Planes To Retreat

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—When the screaming P-40 Warhawks piloted by the first Negro fighter squadron in the history of the world, roared through Mediterranean skies to aid an Allied offensive concentrated on the Italian island base of Pantelleria, the Tuskegee-trained fighter pilots faced their acid test and came through with flying colors to prove that they had the necessary mettle to fly successfully in combat.

Blasting down death and destruction in one of the heaviest air operations in the history of warfare, these Negro fighting men of the air attacked heavily fortified Pantelleria, and from this island off the coast of Sicily they brought the Tuskegee Army Air Field out of the experimental stage to prove the value of Negro pilots in the present war. The first man of the squadron to bomb hostile territory was an Alabamian, 1st Lt. William A. Campbell, of Tuskegee.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, in discussing the battle plan of Pantelleria, asserted, "We are all very proud of the splendid activity of a fighter squadron commanded by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., over Pantelleria."

* * *

THE TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, UNDER THE COMMAND Of Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, who rose through the ranks from private to his present position, is nine miles from Tuskegee Institute, the school founded and made famous by the late Dr. Booker T. Washington. The field was activated in August, 1941, and in March, 1942, the first class, of which Col. Davis (then captain) was a member, marched into the post recreation hall to receive their wings and commissions in the Army air forces. The other four members of the class were 2nd Lts. Lemuel Custis and George S. Roberts (now captains) and Mac Ross and Charles Debow (now first lieutenants). These five men formed the nucleus of the all-Negro fighter squadron, now on duty in North Africa, and following classes added to its number until it reached full strength.

The men trained in fighter planes from the time of the first graduation until last April, when the entire outfit was transferred from this field, where they had received all of their flying training, to overseas duty.

While the squadron was on duty in the Pantellerian offensive, so successful were the Allied operations that they did not have any opportunity to engage the enemy at that time, but a few days later, Tuskegee's Negro fighter pilots saw real action when a flight of P-40 Warhawks, led by 1st Lt. Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by a dozen German FW 190s escorting enemy bombers. Flying above the hostile bombers was a formation of 10 more German planes.

In the ensuing fray, the Negro pilots pitched in and damaged two of the German planes and forced the others to retreat. Among pilots taking part in the fight was 2nd Lt. Leon Roberts, Prichard, Alabama.

More recently, 1st Lt. Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind., shot down an enemy plane in a North African dogfight, to become the first of the squadron to chalk up a complete victory in an air fight.

DAMAGE 2 PLANES OUT OF 12

Pittsburgh Courier

Fighter Squadron, Trained at Tuskegee, Wins First Aerial Combat Test Against the Vaunted German Luftwaffe

JUL 3 1943

WASHINGTON, uly 1 — The Army Air Forces Fighter Squadron in North Africa, composed of Negro pilots, has weathered its first aerial combat test, six of its planes encountering a larger formation of German fighters and damaging two of the enemy without loss to themselves, according to a message to the War Department last week.

This squadron, the 99th Pursuit Squadron, after careful training at Tuskegee and in North Africa, had previously been in action during the air siege of the island of Pantelleria. Its pilots did patrol duty, escorted heavy bombers and served as fighter bombers with other units of the tactical air force over Pantelleria and Lampedusa. However, during the first half of June they did not have much chance to show their ability in a test of strength against enemy fighters. During that time they were fired on only once and when they turned toward the enemy aircraft, the latter fled.

ATTACKED OVER PANTELLERIA

On the late afternoon of June 18 came the first engagement in the air. A flight of six P-40's led by First Lieut. Charles W. Dryden, 22 years old, of 800 Home street, Bronx, New York City, was attacked over Pantelleria, then in Allied hands, by a force of 12 German FW 190's trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above to protect the bombers which the FW 190's were escorting. In a lively encounter the American Negro flyers parried the Nazi thrust, damaged two of the German fighter planes and forced the remainder to retreat.

First Lieut. Lee Rayford, of Ardwick, Md., said he was more surprised than alarmed when his wing was struck by machine gun and cannon fire in this, his first flight under the guns of enemy aircraft. He brought his ship back safely.

GIVEN NEEDED CONFIDENCE

Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the squadron said, "It was the first time any of them ever shot at the enemy. They gave a good account of themselves considering the odds against them, and, most important, they all came back safely."

Lieutenant Dryden who left City college, New York, where he was an engineering student, to become a pilot, said he thought the fight would give the flyers the confidence they needed, the confidence that could not be gained by mere training.

First Liut. Sidney P. Brooks, of 3009 East J street, Cleveland, Ohio, sighted the enemy fighters above his formation and warned the others just as the FW's dived to attack.

"They attacked in formation of four," said Lieutenant Dryden, "and we counted 12 coming down on us. Another 10 stayed above as high cover for the enemy bombers. We turned into them and they made diving attacks on us individually. When they started back up we went with them and they began a wide circle, with us after them. Then they broke off and climbed above us and stayed there waiting for another chance to dive on us. We stayed around until the controller ordered us home."

Second Lieut. Willie Ashley, Jr., of 212 West Bartlett street, Sumter, S. C., said his gas needle pointed to empty when he finally landed. The other planes were all low on gas also.

Lieutenant Rayford said his plane was hit while he was firing on two FW 190's. "While I was after the two," he said, "a third one got on my tail. That's the first time I've ever been shot at."

JUL 3 1943

Weather Teacher

OCT 6 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

LT. PAUL WISE

Recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field as instructor in meteorology is Second Lieutenant Paul S. Wise of Denton, Md., who comes to Tuskegee from the Grand Rapids Army Air Forces Technical Training Command, Michigan. A graduate of A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C., Lt. Wise was employed as a science teacher in the high school at Denton, prior to his appointment as an aviation cadet.

Griffin Ga. News November 16

GRIFFIN COLORED BOY WINS PILOT'S WINGS AND ARMY COMMISSION

Jimmy Brown is the first colored boy from Griffin to win his wings as a pilot and a commission as second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps. He volunteered for the Army in 1941 and was first sent to Tuskeegee Institute (Ala) for preliminary training. Later he was assigned to a Florida field for combat training.

Brown was then sent to Texas for training in aerial gunnery and was entered in the National Gunnery trials by his outfit. He ranked seventh in this competition.

He is the grandson of the late Dr. A. M. Wilkins, who for many years practiced dentistry here.

47a-1943

WINGMEN FINISH TOUGH AIR COURSE AT TUSKEGEE... AWAIT ACTION

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

APR 3 1943

Having completed the required work of student airmen of the United States army, brown-skinned Americans received their officers' ratings and stand ready for duty, eager to get a chance to prove their ability at their new fighting task. Above picture shows some of the wingmen at Tuskegee Army Air base who have seen their dreams come true in the field of flying.

They are, from left to right: 2nd Lieuts. Elmer L. Gordon of Portsmouth, Va.; Lloyd G. Singletary of Jacksonville, Fla.; Woodrow W. Crockett of Texarkana, Arkansas; Lawrence E. Dickson of New York, N. Y.; William Gordon of Jackson, Miss.; Alfonzo W. Davis of Omaha, Nebraska; Clarence W. Allen of Mobile, Ala.; Leroy Bowman of Sumter, S. C., and Wilmeth W. Sidat-Singh of Washington.

Latest Group Of Tuskegee's Full-Fledged War Hawks

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUL 7 1943

47a

—Pictured are a few of the recent graduates at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Thse youths have received their wings and commission, and are now full-pledged Army Air Forces pilots.

JUL 7 1943

Shown in the above pictures are: (Front row. left to right) 2nd Lts. Willie S. Hunter, Wayne V Liggins. Hezekiah Lacy Jr., Theodore A. Wilson, Charles A. McGee, Oscar A. Kenny. Richard H Harris Jr.. and Weldon K. Groves. (Second Row) 2nd Lts. Frank D. Walker, Johnson C. Wells, Joe A. Lewis' William H. Johnson, William F. Williams, Leonard F. Turner, and William G. Wilkerson. (Third Row) 2nd Lts. John S. Sloan. Walter J. Palmer, Theopolis D. Moore, Virgil J. Richardson, Wylie W. Selden, Robert M. Alexander, Herbert Harris, Milton R. Henry and Alexander M. Bright.—(Photo

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Group Awarded Superior Pennant For Four Weeks

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 20 1943

COURTLAND ARMY AIR FIELD, Alabama — (SNS) — Of the various units stationed at Courtland Army Air Field, the one setting the pace for squadron excellence is a Negro Squadron which started in third place, forged its way to the front and for four successive weeks, has captured the "Superior" pennant, an award granted after each Saturday night's inspection.

47a

Squadrons are judged by the point system on 12 separate phases of military life, ranging from administrative duties of the orderly room to individual behavior and appearance of enlisted personnel. As a result of this competition, many improvements are becoming evident throughout the base and up to the present time, the Negro squadron is showing the way.

Their Commanding Officer, First Lieutenant Herbert H. Gorman, of Jacksonville, Florida, has steadily encouraged the squadron's efforts and says "These men are in there pitching all the time to improve their own appearance and that of their squadron and are proud of their showing thus far."

JUN 20 1943

99th Squadron Helps Defeat Axis; Also Finds Time to Play

Afro-American Baltimore Md.

Flyers at Party Given by Jo Baker; Stewart Plays Chess with Commander; Crooner, Athletes in Unit

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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JUL 17 1943

FROM AN ADVANCED AIR BASE—(By Mail, Censored)—When you're around a group every day for several weeks, eating and talking and playing games with men you don't know back home except in a casual way, you learn much and notice much. Your job is to write a bout them, and you try—but somehow you never seem to pin the man down on paper as you see him at his job of helping to defeat the Axis.

47a

Take Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron, for instance. With all the headaches he must have keeping this outfit on the ball. I had to come all the way over here to discover that he plays a whale of a game of chess. I play, too—if Pat Murphy and Walter T. Dixon have no objection to my saying so.

Our guys fight on land and in the air—but still can appreciate left-handed Lieut. Bill Ashley of Hampton when he pitches horseshoes against Lieut. Bill Fuller of Tarboro, N.C.

JUL 17 1943

Ex-Boxer, Ordnance Officer

Particularly do I like to chat with Lieut. James O. Freeman, ordnance officer. Husky, jovial, never without his .45, Freeman's dry humor of his days at Brown University, his life in New York, and his many travels are a constant source of pleasure.

Freeman has been both amateur and professional boxer. He has visited Europe with the American Olympic team, and likewise toured South America with star athletes.

Around New York and New England he was building up quite a reputation as a referee until Uncle sent him "greetings." I wouldn't be surprised if he wound up managing a world champion after the war is over.

Letcher Busy Man

Another athlete and busy man is Lieut. Henry M. Letcher of Washington. Quite a football man was Letcher in his Hilltop days, but now he wins a big nod from me by his efforts as special service officer.

He gets us beer at least once a week, ice cream whenever possible, arranges various games, adds new books and magazines to the squadron library at every opportunity, selects and puts on movies, and provides transportation to the beach.

Entertained by Jo Baker

Before I joined the unit, he arranged for the outfit to see and meet Josephine Baker in her tour of North Africa. They're still talking about a party she threw after the show.

JUL 17 1943

Letcher's right-hand man is Pvt. Robert News[illegible] of Detroit, who until recently had a lot of stripes on his arm, but had a slight misfortune.

Crooner in Group

T/Sgt. James R. Anderson, Jr., South Bend, Ind., has the best ballad voice in these parts. Back home he sang in the Youth Choir of Los Angeles, but now he knocks the GI's off their boxes when he croons. Oh, yes, we have a S/Sgt named Charles Boyer.

Sgt. James A. Jackson comes from Nashville, and had the good taste to attend my old alma mater—Tennessee State College. An Alpha man, he now labors mightily as engineering clerk.

T/Sgt. Donald Quander comes from New York City and Textile High. Corp. Hiram Harding, Dallas, Tex., used to play trumpet in a swing band. Now he does photography.

Md., Pa., Men Seen

Not in this unit, but seen recently were:

Lieut. William H. Hall, Chicago who is an alumnus of Tuskegee and ordnance school at Aberdeen; S/Sgt. William T. Jeltz, Kansas City, Mo., graduate of the University of Kansas;

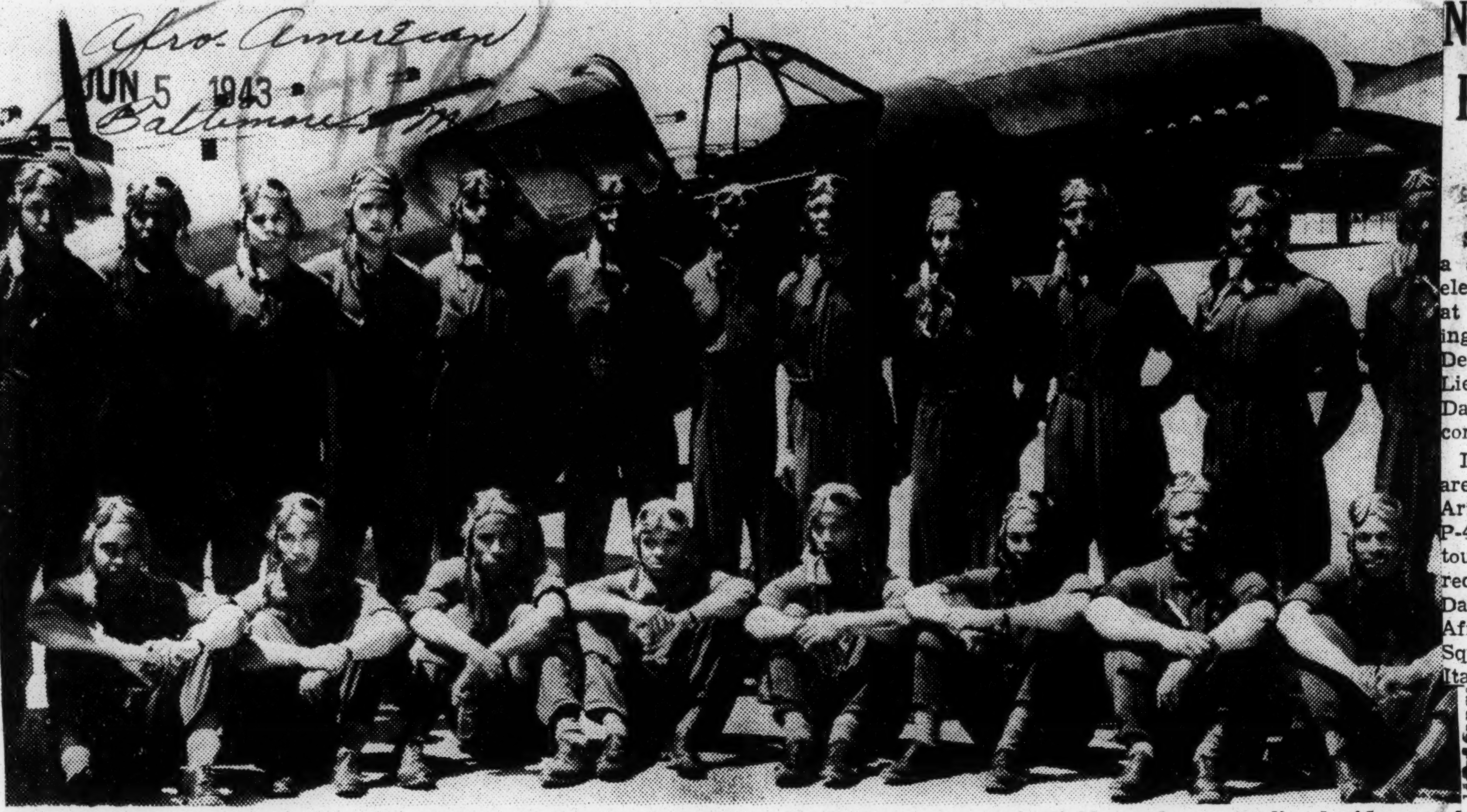
Pfc. James E. Green, electrician, a mechanic many years in his home town in Akron, Ohio; Corp. Wallace McKenney of Frederick, Md., who went to school at Princess Anne, and S/Sgt. Cleveland Watts who claims Homestead, Pa., as his home town.

JUL 17 1943

And all of us have a good word for Miss Hope Sutherland, New York City, who is our favorite Red Cross worker in these parts. She is white—and her weekly visits with doughnuts and coffee are always welcome.

TAAF's Newly Commissioned Flying Officers

Afro-American
JUN 5 1943
Baltimore, Md.



Members of the recent class that received their wings and commisions at the Tuskegee Army Air Field are shown standing beside one of the pursuit planes they are soon to fly. They are, from left to right: Standing, Second Lieutenants Joseph P. Gomer, Iowa Fall, Iowa Felix J. Kirkpatrick, Chicago; Craig H. Williams, Chicago; George E. Gray, Hemphill, W.Va.; Dempsey W. Morgan, Jr., Detroit; Spurgeon H. Ellington, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Albert H. Henning, Jr., Hartsville, S.C.; Dudley M. Watson, Frankfort, Ky.; Milton H. Brooks, Glassport, Pa.; Harry A. Sheppard, Jamaica, N.Y.; Charles H. Bussey, Los Angeles, and John F. Briggs, Jr., St. Louis; sitting, Laurence D. Wilkins, Los Angeles; Maurice V. Esters, Webster City, Iowa; Oliver O. Miller, Jr., Battle Creek, Mich.; Luther H. Smith, Jr., Des Moines, Iowa Langdon E. Johnson, Rand, W.Va.; James A. Walker, Manning, S.C.; John J. Suggs, Terre Haute, Ind., Clemenceau M. Givings, Richmond, Va

JUN 5 1943

Negro Pilots Get New Planes At Selfridge; Davis Is Commander

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—With a smart array of new equipment, elements of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field are fast attaining their training peak, the War Department announced this week. Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, jr., Air Corps, has assumed command of the Group.

Included in the new equipment are P-39s (commonly called the Ariacobra), P-47s and P-40s. The P-40 will be remembered as the tough air arm that brought much recognition to Lieutenant Colonel Davis' 99th Fighter Squadron in the African campaign. The 99th Fighter Squadron is presently serving in Italy.

Sidat-Singh's Body Found; Air Corps Plans Hero's Burial

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Plane to Drop Wreath as Noted Athlete Is Laid to Rest in Arlington

WASHINGTON

An official military funeral with big guns roaring and fighter bombers flying overhead, will be held Thursday for Second Lieut. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, New York Avenue and M Street, Northwest.

JUL 3 1943

A wreath will be dropped from a plane on the body of the army flyer an ex-D.C. policeman and athlete when he is laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery.

Killed 7 Weeks Ago

Lieut. Sidat-Singh, former Syracuse University star athlete, was killed May 9 when he parachuted from his plane which crashed into Lake Huron, Mich. His body was sighted by a coast guard patrol at 3 p.m. Sunday, exactly seven weeks after the fatal accident.

He was a member of the 332nd Fighter Group, and when the plane fell into the lake was on a routine training flight from Oscoda to Selfridge Field.

Mother Feels Better Now

Mrs. Pauline E. Sidat-Singh mother of the flyer, who received official notice from the War Department Monday that her son's body had been found, stated:

"We loved him, but God loved him more. I really don't feel so badly now. Wilmeth had really crammed a whole lot of living into his twenty-five years."

Looking at a large room filled with scrapbooks, trophies, medals, pictures, fan mail that the great athlete had amassed in his very short lifetime, the mother added:

JUL 3 1943

"I am sure a lot of little boys can get a bit of inspiration out of just looking at these things. They worry me all the time now to look at them."

N.Y. School Honors Athlete

Already the flyer's mother is receiving many telegrams and letters of sympathy. Clinton High School in New York, which Sidat-Singh attended, dedicated a pamphlet to the flyer.

Tuskegee Institute has sent a life-size painting of Sidat-Singh with the inscription: "He was a man's man—what more can any man say."

JUL 3 1943

Many national and local organizations are expected to send representatives to the funeral. Pop Gates, the athlete's teammate on the Washington Bears, will head a Sidat-Singh Committee, which will form in New York and journey to D.C. for the funeral.

The flyer's body arrived here Tuesday and was taken to McGuire's funeral home where it will lay in state until the funeral.

The body was accompanied from the station by a guard of honor composed of policemen who had worked with the athlete here.

HEROISM OF '99th' PILOTS RECORDED

Pittsburgh Courier

By RANDY DIXON

(Accredited U. S. War Correspondent)

LONDON, Aug 5—(Via Cable)—Glowingly graphic in detail is the account—just published in "Yank," official organ of Allied troops in the North African Theatre of Operations—of the first battle of the 99th Pursuit Squadron from Tuskegee, Alabama. Prefaced by an explanation that the squadron had bombed Pantelleria for three weeks without enemy opposition, the article glorifies the heroics of six members of the "99th" in thwarting the humiliating German attacking force of 12 bombers, 12 Messerschmidt and Focke-Wulf fighter planes.

Led by Lt. G. Y. Dryden—behind whom were Lts. Leo Rayford, Washington, D.C.; Willie Ashley, Sumter, S.C.; Spann Wilson, Hackensack, N.J.; S. P. Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio, and Leon Roberts, Pritchard, Ala.—the squadron, despite the comparative slowness of its P-40's, beat off the superior forces without loss to it but with certain losses to the enemy.

GERMAN FIGHTERS MUCH FASTER

P-40 fighting must be defensive because the speedier Messerschmidts and Focke-Wulfs can pick an angle and time an attack. Starting the battle, the Americans employed a defensive Ludberry—the slow spiraling circle in which each plane protects the tail of the other. Rayford had two Focke-Wulfs at him when he turned into the burst of still another one. The burst hit and his P-40's right wing shuddered as the 20 mm. shell exploded there. Rayford was fighting grimly and taking a long gamble against two German fighter planes when Spann Watson appeared on his wing from nowhere.

AUG 1943

Watson opened fire at long range and hit the outside German with the result that the two enemy planes broke away from the fight.

"YANK" CREDITS ASHLEY WITH FELLING FIRST PLANE

Meanwhile, Ashley's plane had gone into a spin when he altituded and encountered another Focke-Wulf. This time, Ashley got close and let go the entire "works," spraying the Germans end to end. It began a long, smoking glide into the sea. It was the first German plane shot down by a Negro airman. Then all six planes spiraled into a formidable porcupine formation and the German fighters quit the battle and sped homeward.

47a-1943

Brazilian Opera Star Arrives For Concert At Auditorium

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Bidu Sayao, popular Brazilian soprano of the Metropolitan Opera Company, is pictured at the Tutwiler Hotel displaying her charming qualities of beauty and character shortly after her arrival in Birmingham Thursday afternoon. Mme. Sayao will be presented in joint concert with Richard Crooks in the opening presentation of the local Music Club's artists series at the Municipal Auditorium Friday night.

BY INEZ STEWART TUGGLE

Possessing the rare charm and beauty of a sheltered South American background, Bidu Sayao, popular star of the Metropolitan Opera Company, showed nothing but childlike pleasure and interest in her first trip to the South when she arrived here Thursday afternoon for a joint concert with Richard Crooks Friday night.

Mme. Sayao, willing to accommodate to any extent by graciously posing for pictures and answering questions of interviewers, displayed a sincere quality of character in the interests and surroundings of those about her. Her first thought, however, was getting her mother settled for a rest. Her mother is the singer's constant traveling companion. Charmingly explaining that the beginning of her concert tour had been tiring on her mother, the Brazilian soprano did not complain of any personal fatigue, even though she told of an exciting concert in Atlanta Wednesday night following which she "indulged in only three hours of sleep before leaving for Birmingham."

Crooks Is Delayed

Mr. Crooks' arrival in Birmingham was delayed due to his consenting, on a moment's notice, to sing at a free concert at a Negro Army camp at Tuskegee Thursday night. He was to be flown to Birmingham after the concert.

Presenting a striking appearance in a tastefully-arranged traveling ensemble, Mme. Sayao has rich auburn hair which she wears in a becoming roll on her neck, large brown eyes with a generous fringe of lashes and a disposition which never varies from a wide, happy smile showing beautiful white teeth and dimples.

She and her mother have not visited their native Brazil in three years and both have acquired the habits and reactions of "you North Americans."

Before coming to this country Bidu Sayao had won fame at home and in Europe where she sank at the Paris Opera Comique. She was engaged by the Metropolitan Opera Company in 1937 and the exciting promise of her opera debut as Manon has been richly fulfilled in a variety of roles she has made her own.

New Orleans Next Stop

Just beginning the current concert tour, she appeared in Savannah, Ga., besides Atlanta, before coming to Birmingham. Leaving here she will go to New Orleans and will complete the tour with several Midwestern appearances before returning to New York.

Mme. Sayao and Mr. Crooks will be presented at 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Municipal Auditorium in the opening presentation of the Birmingham Music Club's annual artists series.

Having appeared here in several previous concerts, Mr. Crooks' visit is looked forward to by numerous music lovers in Birmingham. A top-ranking member of the Metropolitan Opera Company, his voice lends itself uniformly well to songs, opera, ballads or religious music.

Albany, Ga., Journal
September 3, 1943

LOCAL NEGRO GETS WINGS

A second Albany Negro, member of an old and respected family here, has won his wings in the Army Air Forces, it was learned this week.

He is Richard Hall, son of Henry and Annie M. Hall, a graduate of Hampton Institute, Va., who enlisted in the AAF, was trained at Tuskegee, Ala., and was commissioned upon his graduation last month. Hall, a second lieutenant, also was awarded a medal for expert gunnery.

First Albany Negro to win wings was Willie S. Hunter, son of Daisy Hunter, in June, when he, too, was graduated from the AAF school at Tuskegee with high honors. He is now stationed at Selfridge Field, Mich.

The Hall Negrfo family has long been associated with the prominent Tift and Hall white families here, gaining its surname in slavery days from the latter family. Daisy Hunter has been employed in the service of Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Barnett for a great number of years.

Bomber Squadron Formed

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—The second dream of air-minded colored youth of today materialized into a reality, as twin engine training officially started last week at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

With the advent of the first all-colored Fighter Squadron to combat, in single engine P-40 Warhawks, the question immediately arose as to the possibility of an all-colored bomber squadron.

The question was answered when the War Department sanctioned the training of colored cadets in the arduous task of becoming multi-engine pilots, here at the home of the first all-colored Fighting Pilot Squadron now engaged in deadly combat over the war torn skies of Europe.

Selected to head this new school, the first of its kind anywhere in the world, is Major Clay Albright, the man who has taught every colored fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces today how to fly fighter aircraft. Lieutenant Milton B. Hall of Owensboro, Kentucky, is assisting him in an administrative capacity. Instructors of the newly formed school are 1st Lieutenant Leonard B. Crozier and 2nd Lieutenant Robert B. Meagher.

Pilot trainees for twin engine training here will be selected from the Upper Basic class of cadets. They are to receive 70 hours of advanced flying training here and then transferred elsewhere for actual bomber pilot training.

The type of aircraft to be used in the twin engine course here, is the AT-10 BH (Beechcraft). This plane is referred to as an "assimilated loaded bomber," as its altitude in flight is comparable to that of a medium bomber with a full load of bombs. All the ingenuity and skill required of a bomber pilot is necessary in flying the AT-10 trainer.

For the highly technical job of maintenance, instructors from Turner Field, Georgia, have been attached here to familiarize our mechanics in the fundamental knowledge of keeping these ships aloft.

Oxford, Miss., Eagle
September 16, 1943

Commander Tells Of Training Negro Pilots

- **Col. Parrish Relates to Rotarians Some of the Work at Colored Training Field in Alabama**

Some of the highlights of the training of negro aviators for Army combat work was told to Rotarians at their Tuesday luncheon by Lt. Col. Parrish, commanding officer of the air training center at Tuskegee, Ala., the only one of its kind in the world.

This training field gives from basic to and including advanced flying instruction, turning out aviators ready for combat service. About 300 negroes have graduated and gone into air service. One group operated pursuit planes in the invasion and victory in Sicily and acquitted themselves well.

Col. Parrish said that the course was exactly the same as given white men and that a negro earning his wings and commission had to be for all purposes as good a flier as a white. About 40 per cent of those who enroll for the course complete the work in comparison to 60 per cent of white trainees

The bulk of the trainees come from northern states and usually have some educational credits from state universities where they attended along with white students. There are, however, some Southern students in the groups, more in the early stages of the field's operation than at the present time.

The majority of officers at the field are colored. Col. Parris, a Georgian by birth, told of some of the difficulties that arise when two races are thrown together on somewhat equal ranking. However, he stated that the colored officers understand the situation and never became presumptuous. There has never been any racial trouble at the field, even though the majority of colored officers and trainees came from sections of the country where they have been used to very nearly the same social privileges as white people.

Col. Parrish came to Oxford with Lt. David W. Smallwood for a short social visit and vacation. Lt. Smallwood was present at the luncheon and introduced his distinguished guest. Mrs. J. A. Smallwood, the young lieutenant's mother, and Mrs. B. S. Guyton were also guests at the Tuesday luncheon.

War Dep'tment Announces Negroes to be Trained as

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

Bombardier Soldiers

Acting Secretary of War John J. McCloy announced at the War Department Press Conference that on September 5 or October 3, Negro cadets will be sent to either Fort Dodge, Kansas or Del Rio, Texas, to start training in a B-26 Transition School with objective the command of B-26 airplanes.

In December, Negro cadets will be trained as navigator and bombardier officers. They will be trained as such for 18 weeks after which they will go to gunnery school. All this training will be with white students.

To complete the crews of this Medium Bombardment Group which must be activated by July 1, 1944, many Negro enlisted men are already in training all over the country. They are studying radio, aviation mechanics, electrical work and armor at Lincoln, Chanute, and Lowry Fields, and other Air Forces installations, all with white enlisted men.

Time
Chicago. Illinois

Experiment in Segregation

Sirs:

. . . I have been a constant reader of TIME for over ten years and during that period I have observed that TIME has done a fair job of honestly reporting the news. However [in the Sept. 20 issue], TIME made some definite statements about the 99th Fighter Squadron and unashamedly admitted these statements to be based on "unofficial reports." . . .

My husband, Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O Davis Jr. . . . until recently commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron. . . . His views are undoubtedly not as objective as those of a disinterested onlooker. . . .

Are you justified in saying that the record of the 99th Fighter Squadron is only fair? My husband tells me that his judgment, based on comparison with the work done by six veteran P-40 squadrons in the same area on the same types of missions over the same period of time, is that the record of the 99th Fighter Squadron is at least worthy of favorable comment.

My indictment is that by publishing an article based on "unofficial reports" you have created unfavorable public opinion about an organization to which all Negroes point with pride. You should realize that these few printed words in TIME—words which *may* be creating a false impression—have struck at one of the strongest pillars upholding Negroes' morale in their effort to contribute to the winning of the war.

AGATHA SCOTT DAVIS

New York City

OCT 18 1943

▸ TIME's "unofficial reports" came from responsible sources which could not be quoted. Those reports—on operational results—raised no question about the Negro's fighting ability.

If the 99th's record has been only fair, the blame must at least be shared by the Army Command responsible for the squadron's segregated training and operation. Perhaps too much was expected of such an experiment—ED.

Sirs:

You are undoubtedly correct in suggesting that Negro pilots are unlikely to develop their full potentialities in a segregated setup. A good analogy is the case of the Negro athlete. Jesse Owens, Brud Holland, etc. were products of unsegregated playing fields and more or less open competition. . . .

ANNE BONTEMPS

Nashville

OCT 18 1943

Sirs:

. . . It is not disappointing to learn "that the top air command was not altogether satisfied with the 99th's performance." . . . All along the "findings" of the top air command have been the bases of Negroes' objection to the establishment of a segregated unit. . . .

While casting a severe eye upon the example, the command should likewise cast an eye of forbearance upon the squadron, for after all it has received second-class training to defend a first-class democracy. . . .

A. A. ABRAHAM

Alcorn. Miss.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Noteworthy Program By Marian Anderson Well Received In City

Four Schubert Numbers Expertly Interpreted, Prove Best Of Offerings

Birmingham gave Marian Anderson her usual ovation Saturday night at the Municipal Auditorium, and she accepted the reception with the numbleness of spirit and unaffected simplicity which seems invariably to accompany greatness in any field.

Standing with closed eyes and singing from her soul, she gave a noteworthy program which opened with a group of 18th century composers, but it was not until she came to the group of four Schubert numbers, "Suleika," "Auf dem Wasser zu singen," "Nacht und Traume" and "Musensohn" and "Ave Maria" as an encore, when she employed mezzovoice in sustained passages that her singing was at its best.

Marian Anderson's virtuosity in outlining of long phrases sung with the half-voice was nowhere more notably displayed than in her rendition of her favorite, "Ave Maria." It was a memorable invocation that held the audience silent and not disposed to break the spell.

Marian Anderson sings music by classic masters not as a lesson learned, or a duty carefully pe formed, but as an interpreter wh has fully grasped and deeply fe the import of the song. Her rang and her control and reserve breath are exceptional and th tonal colors of her vocal organ ar varied and of prevailing beauty.

The aria "Plus Grand Dans So Obscurite" from "The Queen o Sheba" was brilliantly sung and fol lowed by "Comin' Thru the Rye, charmingly done. "Upon Thei Grave," "Evening Song," "Neil," "Dans les ruines d'une Abbaye" an "Vocalise" composed the remainde of the program that was closed wit a group of Negro spirituals. Whe Marian Anderson interprets th songs of her own race she invest them with understanding and spiritual quality that lift them above ordinary folk music.

The Anderson concert, as always was a musical experience to be remembered.

Next of the special attractions o the Birmingham Music Club will be the Jeanette MacDonald concert Nov. 5.—LILY MAY CALDWELL.

40a

September 25, 1943

Local Negro To Sing In London

Greenville, N. C.—Reflector

Headquarters, European Theater of Operations—Private William J. Bernard, 33, of 608 Clark Street, Greenville, N. C., soon will appear in a chorus of 200 colored Engineer Aviation troops on the stage of London's Royal Albert Hall in a concert of American spiritual and patriotic music.

Roland Hayes, the colored tenor, and the London Symphony Orchestra also will be featured in the concert which, under the sponsorship of Lord Beaverbrook's "Daily Express," promises to be one of the outstanding events of the current season.

The program will be presented on September 28 and 29.

Pvt. Bernard, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Austin Bernard, has been in the army about 16 months. He is in the Corps of Engineers.

Symphony Thrills Audience; Still's Music Is Featured

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By RANDY DIXON

(Accredited U. S. Army War Correspondent)

BRISTOL, England, April 15—(Censored)—The chimes of racial achievement pealed forth another epic chord in World War II when 300 colored American soldiers, this week, converged on this city—ancestral bastion of slave trade—to witness a Negro artist mount the pinnacle of cultural achievement on the exact soil where, centuries ago, hapless and illiterate slaves, perhaps direct blood antecedents of these same soldiers, were sold as so much human cargo off the auction block.

APR 17 1943

The occasion was the triumph of the young genius, Rudolph Dunbar, as guest conductor of the National Symphony orchestra. To others in the capacity audience of 2,800 persons, it was an event animated into brilliancy under the combined magic of Dunbar's baton and the sublime, ofttimes exuberant but always invigorating, passages of William Grant Still's Afro-American symphony. But to the 300 soldiers it was much more than that: it was a visual and audible manifestation of their race's upward surge during the more than 75 years since Emancipation. These men grasped, with full significance, the fact that a contemporary product of slavery was returning to the city of Bristol, bygone axis of the slave industry. But returning, not as a bit of human fodder to be bartered, but as an eloquent spokesman of the world's highest culture. And they saw, too, a precise link between the event and their own blood-shedding mission over here.

QUESTIONS THEY THOUGHT ABOUT

Were they not fighting participants in the raging global wars against the present day forces opposing freedom of speech, freedom of action, freedom of opportunity, and the right of mankind, the world over, to live and advance at his whim's dictates, with God-granted talent and inborn abilities as the lone workable criterion?

Were they not about to shed their own blood to make occasions, such as Dunbar's triumph, an everyday event?

INTEROSPECTIVE SITUATION

Yes, they apprehended the irony of the situation. They knew that, for them, history was being written—and they were determined to help write it. Hence, they bought up every ticket remaining from the heavy advance sale. They made certain that their Army chores were disposed of in such a manner that nothing interfered with their requests for time off to attend the concert. They came by train, by tram, on foot. One group, which was out on a truck convoy, worked like demons to shave four hours off its schedule return, in order to come to Bristo for the event. Although very fe had ever before attended a symphonic presentation, their rigidit under the impetus of pride quickl relaxed into dignity and they regarded the proceedings with much reverence. The spirit of Still's music and the genius of Dunbar became infectious. The music transmitted to them the speech of passion, of sentiment, of emotion. It was the divine language of the elements, the sigh, the gasp, the meloncholy moan, the plaintive note of supplication, the caressing murmur of maternal love, the cry of challenge, the soul of emancipation. It was music that made the doors of the brain fly open and the mind swell forth into the world of the past. The senses became steeped in langour, the eyes filled with tears, the memories of the past took form and a voluptuousness and sadness permeated the soul.

APR 17 1943

GRAND RECEPTION FOR DUNBAR

When the concert was concluded and the audience had thundered six curtain calls, the music did not vanish from the souls of those 300 soldier boys. Like a shadow vanishes in one's arms, they carried its memory over to the reception they held in Dunbar's honor and greeted him with a spontaneous tribute as he entered the auditorium of the great George Street Red Cross club, scene of the reception.

When Cpl. Willie Hunter, Florence, Ala., strode up to the conductor and said:

"Thank you, Mr. Dunbar, for your concert; we have gained a new spiritual uplift to go out and fight for democracy," Dunbar replied: "Thank you, Corporal; I am indebted to you, and not you to me, and don't forget, it was not my program or my music or my triumph—it was ours."

MEMORABLE EVENT

Dunbar was besieged for more than 30 minutes, signing autographs and relating the background and history of the American Negro composer, William Grant Still.

Today, every one of those 300 soldiers is back at his post, awaiting the call to combat, but each awaits the call with sharpened morale and increased zest, because he has helped write a new page in the history of racial accomplishment and recognition.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 6, 1943

MARIAN ANDERSON TO BE HEARD HERE

Marian Anderson, Negro contralto, will be heard in a program including arias from famous grand operas and spirituals, when she sings at the Municipal Auditorium Oct. 23 under the sponsorship of the Birmingham Music Club.

Her concert will be the first of the special attractions, not included on the regular artists' series, booked for the Fall and Winter by the music club.

Jeanette MacDonald, titian-haired soprano of screen operettas, radio, concert and grand opera, will sing a "command" concert here Nov. 5. Sigmund Romberg and his concert orchestra and soloists will follow on the evening of Nov. 12. Oscar Levant, of Information, Please, will appear in piano recital Jan. 29.

Opening the music season in Birmingham and the artists' series of the music club, Bidu Sayao, Brazilian soprano of the Metropolitan Opera, and Richard Crooks, of the "Met," will sing in joint recital at the auditorium Oct. 15, their program including arias, duets and scenes from "La Traviata," "La Boheme," and "Manon."

Other attractions on the artists' series will be the Charles L. Wagner production of Gounod's "Faust," Oct. 23; Fritz Kreisler, Dec. 2; Licia Albanese, Dec. 15; Vladimir Horowitz, Jan. 22; Don Cossack Russian Male Chorus, Feb. 7; Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, Artur Rubenstein as piano soloist, Feb. 23, and the Russian Ballet Theater, March 28.

47 a-1943

Another First For History's Book

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUN 26 1943

First pilot in a fighter squadron in North Africa to land a plane on foreign shores was 1st Lt. James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh, one of four fliers who ferried the first consignment of ships to the base from an assembly point. Lt. Wiley brings his plane to a stop and looks happily out of his cockpit. Members of the ground crew stationed at the squadron base climb on wings to greet Lt. Wiley as he brings in the plane. Behind Lt. Wiley is Staff Sgt. Earl Dillard of Marshall, Texas. (Exclusive Journal and Guide photo by Thomas W. Young.)

JUN 26 1943

Map Plans For Air Pickup

Atlanta Daily World

FEB 8 1943

The U. S. Air Force has organized a new ground transport system whereby delivery and pick up between air stations in England is regulated by central offices. Extreme left is Lt. Berry W. Fite, Resaca, Ga., with briefing sergeants in charle of convoy prior to departure. Left to right, Sergeants Raymond R. Delvatch, Yonkers, N. Y.; Sam L. Carmack, Birmingham, Ala.; Roscoe Whitelow, Riddely,

FEB 2 1943

JUL 31 1943

Informer
Houston, Texas

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Informer
Houston, Texas

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1943

RELAXATION IN NORTH AFRICA

These boys are part of the 99th Fighter Squadron stationed in North Africa who are taking part in the battle of Sicily. Even in this war-torn territory Pvt. JAMES B. KNIGHTON, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Lt. WILLIE ASHLEY of Sumter, South Carolina, relax by playing horseshoes. Seen in and on the jeep are other members of our 99th Squadron.

U. S. Negro Pilots Weather First Test Against German Flyers

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

The Army Air Forces fighter squadron in North Africa composed of Negro pilots has weath-

six of its planes encountering a larger formation of German fighters and damaging two of the enemy without loss to themselves, according to a message to the War Department today.

This squadron, after careful training in this country and in North Africa, had previously been in action during the air siege of the island of Pantelleria. Its pilots did patrol duty, escorted heavy bombers and served as fighter bombers with other units of the tactical air force over Pantelleria and Lampedusa. However, during the first half of June they did not have much chance to show their ability in a test of strength against the enemy fighters. During that time they were fired on only once and when they turned toward the enemy aircraft, the latter fled.

On the late afternoon of June 18 came the first engagement in the air. A flight of six P-40's led by First Lieutenant Charles W. Dryden, 22 years old, of 800 Home Street, Bronx, New York City, was attacked over Pantelleria, then in Allied hands, by a force of twelve German FW 190's trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above to protect the bombers which the FW 190's were escorting. I a lively encounter the American Negro flyers parried the Nazi thrust, damaded two of the German fighter planes and forced the remainder to retreat.

First Lieutenant Lee Rayford of Ardwick, Md., said he was more surprised than alarmed when his wing was struck by machine gun and cannon fire in this, his first flight under the guns of enemy aircraft. He brought his ship back safely.

Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the squadron, said, "It was the first time any of them ever shot at the enemy. They gave a good account of themselves considering the odds against them, and most important, they all came back safely."

Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, City College, New York, where he was an engineering student, to become a pilot, said he thought

JUL 10 1943

e fight would give the flyers the confidence that could not be gained by mere training.

First Lieutenant Sidney P. Brooks of 3009 East J Street, Cleveland, Ohio, sighted the enemy fighters above his formation and warned the others just as the FW's dived to attack.

'They attacked in formation of four," said Lieutenant Dryden, "and we counted twelve coming down on us. Another ten stayed above as high cover for the enemy bombers. We turned into them and they made diving attacks on us individually. When they started back up we went with them and they began a wide circle, with us after them. Then they broke off and climbed above us and stayed there waiting for another chance to dive on us. We stayed around until the controller ordered us home."

Second Lieutenant Willie Ashley, Jr., of 212 West Bartlett Street, Sumter, S..C,, said his gas needle pointed to empty when he finally landed. The other planes were all low on gas also.

Lieutenant Rayford said his plane was hit [illegible] he was firing on two FW 190's. "While I was after the two," he said, "a third one got on my tail. That's the first time I've ever been shot at."

The Americans were too busy to get a close shot at the bombers, although Lieutenant Dryden fired one fleeting burst at one of them. They were unable to state whether the bombers had reached their objectives but Lieutenant Rayford said he saw at least four bombs strike the water without doing any damage. Besides Lieutenants Dryden, Rayford, Ashley and Brooks, pilots participating in the engagement were Second Lieutenant Spann Watson of 122 J Street, Hackensack, N.J., and Second Lieutenant Leon C. Roberts, of Murphy and McGee Streets, Prichard, Ala.

An advantage that the squadron has over many other is that nearly all its personnel, commissioned and enlisted, h a s worked together since the outfit was formed in 1941.

The pilots are enthusiastic in their praise of their P-40's, said Lieutenant Dryden. "I can honestly say I'd rather fly the Warhawk than any other ship I know of," he added.

Most of the pilots are college-trained, while a great many of the enlisted ground crew have had civilian training in flying and aircraft mechanics. The knowledge thus gained has in most cases been polished at air corps technical schools in the United States.

In addition to those mentioned above, the following are the pilots of the first squadron of its kind to see action:

Captain George S. Roberts, 317 Quarry Avenue, Fairmont, W. Va.; Captain Lemuel R. Curtis, 67 Pliney Street, Hartford, Conn.; First Lieutenant Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss.; First Lieutenant Edwin B. Lawrence, 2068 East 90th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

First Lieutenant Herbert V. Clark, 810 East 67th Street, Pine Bluff, Ark.; First Lieutenant Allen Ga[illegible], 205 Cherry Street, Dempolis, Ala.; First Lieutenant James T. Wiley, 705 Woods Run Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.; First Lieutenant Clarence C. Jamison, 2252 East 85th Street, Cleveland, O.

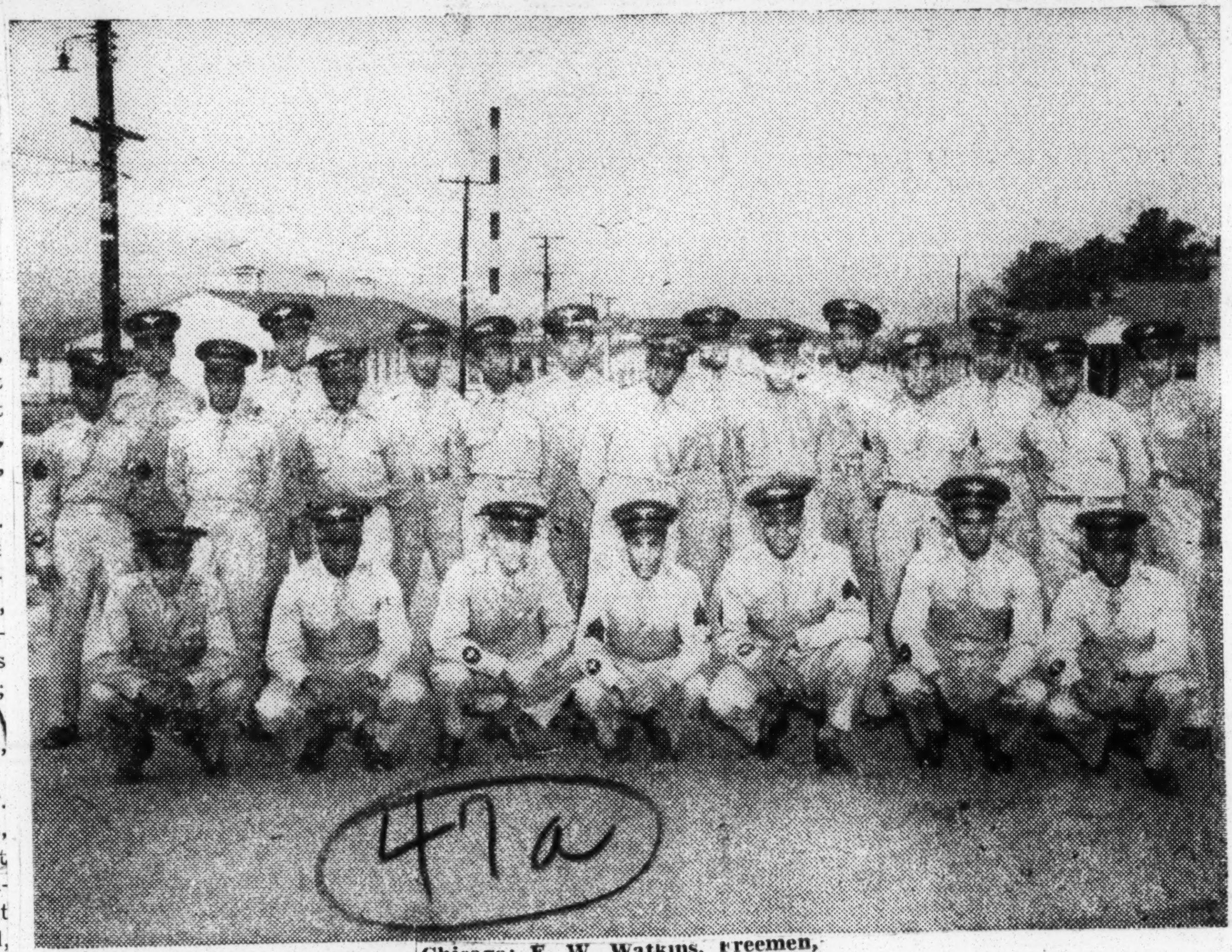
First Lieutenant Sidney P. Brooks, 3709 East 142nd Street, Cleveland, O.; First Lieutenant Charles B. Hall, 1034 East Hendrix Street, Brazil, Ind.; First Lieutenant William A. Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala.; First Lieutenant James B. Knighten, 1130 Mt. Greenwood Street, Tulsa, Okla.

Second Lieutenant Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N.C.; Second Lieutenant Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N.C.; Second Lieutenant Paul G. Mitchell, [illegible] Howard Road, S.E., Wash., D.C.; Second Lieutenant Louis R. Purnell, West Weaver Street, Germantown, Pa.

Second Lieutenant John W. Rogers, 1522 Linn Street, Cincinnati O.; Second Lieutenant Samuel M. Bruce, 319 12th Avenue, Seattle, Wash.; Second Second Lieutenant James L. McCullin, 3901 Enright Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.; Second Lieutenant George R. Rolling, 24 Cummings Avenue, Phoebus, Va.; Second Lieutenant Walter I. Lawson, Newton. Va.

JUL 10 1943

Last 'All-Fighter' Class ToGet Wings



47a

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD. Ala. — What may be the last all-fighter group to graduate from Tuskegee Army Air Field, received their wings recently from this famous training center. This class may be the last to graduate from the Advanced School of Flying here and and remain intact as a fighter group, since all classes following in their wake will be split up; some to enter twin engine training in preparation for bomber work, while the remainder will continue as fighter pilot trainees.

Among the group to receive wings and commissions were: First row: Second Lieutenants R. H. Smith, Baltimore; W. D. Ross, Ashland. Kentucky; C. N. Langston, Chicago, C. E. Johnson, Charlottesville, Va.; G. J. Haley, Bath, N. Y.; Flight Officer William Cross, Cleveland, and Second Lieutenant C. B. Johnson, Philadelphia; Second Row: Second Lieutenants C. B. Browne. New York; E. L. Jones, New York; N. W. Scales, Austin, Texas; C. W. Newman, St. Louis; M. A. Harris, Boston; C. F. May, Indianapolis; P. G. Goodenough, Washington, D. C.; G. M. Rhodes, Brooklyn; Third Row: W. N. Alsbrook, Kansas City, Kan.; W. N. Morgan, Omaha; A. Simmons, Jacksonville, Fla.; D. B. der, Chicago; C. L. Browder, ngton, N. C.; N. V. Nelson, Chicago; E. W. Watkins, Freemen, W. Va.; H. B. Scott, Jersey City.

LT SAM BRUCE SEATTLE PILOT FIGHTS OFF AXIS PLANES, SAVES COMRADE

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

(Sam Bruce, saviour of his comrade is the son of Mrs. Martha Davis, manager of The Angelus, funeral directors. He is a graduate of Garfield High and of A. & T. College. He stared in both football and baseball. His popularity in Seattle was dimmed by his brilliant performance at A. & T. College. His coach was our own Homer Harris.—Editor.)

PHOEBUS, Va. — The family of Lt. George R. Bolling, fighter pilot attached to the 99th Pursuit Squadron, was notified this week that the youth had returned safely to his outfit after having been shot down over the Mediterranean and missing for six days.

While details of his nerve-wracking experience were few, it is reliably reported taht Lt. Bolling's plane was struck by flak from anti-aircraft guns during the second day of Allied landings in Sicily. He immediately banked and headed back for his base in North Africa.

He had gone only a short distance though, when the machine burst into flames and he was forced to abandon ship. Lt. Bolling jumped, pulled the ripcord and started his 4,000-foot drop. A fellow-pilot, said to be Lt Sam Bruce, former A. and T. college football star, circled him and fought off Axis planes which appeared bent on machine-gunning the unfortunate Bolling.

Kept Long Vigil

The rest of the day and through [illegible] night, Bolling drifted about helpless in his rubber life raft. Despite the fact that aid seemed to be a remote possibilitp, Lt. Bolling refused to give up hope. When the next day dawned he resumed his vigil for a ship [illegible] may prove his rescuer.

Whenever he [illegible] ship on the horizon, the flyer would begi waving in an effort to attract at tention. Finally, on his secon day in the water, Lt. Bolling wa picked [illegible] by a destroyer and carried to safety. Within a few days he was [illegible] with his comrades and relating [illegible] experiences over and over to them.

Lt. Bolling was one of two flyers knocked out of formations of the 99th on the invasion of Sicily. The other pilot, Lt. James L. McCullin, of St. Louis, Mo., is still missing.

SEP 15 1943

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9/15/1943

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47a-1943

Hall, Pilot Hero, Kept His Promise

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 17 1943

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS
(Staff Correspondent)

FORT WAYNE, Ind., July 15—"You may be reading about me." Those are words—later to prove as prophetic as the inevitability of fate itself—which First Lieut. Charles B. Hall, the "Brazil Bomber," wrote his mother, Mrs. Anna Hall, local war worker at the Wayne Tank and Pump company, in his last letter from "Somewhere in North Africa."

Yes, Lieutenant Hall—with the determination of any devoted son to make his mother proud of him—has more than fulfilled his prophetic promise. For indeed, not only is his mother reading and hearing about him, but the whole wide world as well!

COMMUNITY IDOL

The modest, unassuming Brazil, Ind., youth, white and colored people alike admired and respected as a polite, restrained and unspoiled young man who was a credit to his community, is no longer just an object of local pride, Lieut. Charles B. Hall is an international hero!

Who could have predicted 22 years ago—when this child of ordinary, God-fearing parents, living in the most modest kind of environment was born—that here was the hero who would revolutionize world history? The unsung copper lad who would become the first American Negro air pilot in world history to shoot down an enemy plane?

FEAT MARKS NEW EPOCH

The idolatry held for Lieutenant Hall—which simmers from General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of Allied forces in the North African theatre of operations, and Charles' fighting mates overseas, across the Atlantic and the Pacific to a hero-worshipping American nation, to a united white and colored press, and particularly to that percentage of 14,000,000 Negroes still left on the home front—is now a thing idyllic in beauty. An epochal event in world history! A legend to fire the imagination of millions of Allied peoples throughout the universe!

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WORLD KNOWS FULL STORY NOW

It is now a matter of world knowledge—how bronze Charles B. Hall, trained at the Tuskegee Army Flying school in Alabama and stationed with the 99th Pursuit Squadron in the North African theatre of operations, flew his P-40 Warhawk, "Maxine" (named for his beloved wife, the former Maxine Parrish of Terre Haute, Ind.) over the clouds of Sicily and junked a Focke-Wulf 190, fastest and most expensive German fighter [illegible] in use by Hitler's fight-

Yes, the world knows Lieut. Charles B. Hall, and the Allied world feels a deep sense of obligation to him—for the surging spirit he displayed in his relentless flare of deepest moral courage and coolness under heavy fire is indubitably the spirit which will win this global conflict.

Lieutenant Hall's father died three years ago. His older sister, Victoria Littlejohn, who also lives here at 1826 John street, is a war worker too—at the General Electric plant. The heroic pilot's sister, Victoria, is the mother of two boys, Charles, nine, and Donald, seven. Both want to be fighter fliers like their now famous uncle.

Permitting her son's entrance in the Air Force, while a tough decision for Mrs. Anna Hall to make—because she had already lost her devoted husband the year before—was, nevertheless, a decision she faced with courage.

UNWILLING AT FIRST

"I was reluctant to sign the necessary papers for Charlie's enlistment," Mrs. Hall admitted to The Courier. "He was only 20 years old and I didn't want to see him go, but after he explained that Negro boys had just been accepted in aviation, and that eventually he would be drafted and would have to accept any service assigned him, I let him have his choice. Soon thereafter, I left Brazil and came here to Fort Wayne to live with my married daughter, Victoria.

"Mr. Hall had passed only a year before, and with Charlie also gone from me, life was too lonesome there in the old home in Brazil. I have not been at all lonely here. Everyone has been lovely and we get mail from Charlie regularly. Only yesterday we received this letter from him." (I read the letter—and it contained, in part, the now history-making sentence, "You may be reading about me."). And it was swift fulfillment of the remarkable prophecy—was the heroic feat which Hall accomplished less than a fortnight ago—because that letter was dated June 19.

MARRIED BEFORE GOING OVERSEAS

"Just before Charlie left for overseas duty," Mrs. Hall resumed, "he had a two-week furlough and came to see us about the first of December. That time, he came by train, although he had flown once or twice before. He only remained three days on that visit, because he wanted to visit with his fiancee, Miss Maxine Parrish, whose home is in Terre Haute, where she lives with her grandparents. While there, Charlie and Maxine married. It happened on December 14. I didn't object, because Maxine is a very lovely girl and an accomplished business woman. Just now, she is serving as secretary for her grandfather, who is an attorney.

BECAME DEFENSE WORKER

"After Charlie left for foreign service, I applied for defense work with the Wayne Pump and Tank company, where shells and tanks are being made. I was accepted immediately. Somehow, I get quite a thrill helping to make shells for Charlie to use.

"Later, Victoria got a job with General Electric. So now, we both are defense workers, and invest every penny we can to buy war bonds, because that is all we can do to help Uncle Sam and our Charlie to win the war. Victoria and I feel that, after the dreadful war is over, and our fellow Americans realize that our boys did their share for victory, better race relations will come and all Americans alike will enjoy freedom, democracy and equal opportunity."

WELL EDUCATED

Both Mrs. Hall and her daughter, Mrs. Littlejohn, are educated and cultured. Mrs. Hall taught school in Hattiesburg, Miss., before her marriage to the late Charles B. Hall, Sr., who, before his death, was successful in the trucking business in Terre Haute.

The local newspapers in Indiana were caught generally flat-footed on the now internationally acclaimed Hall story. They simply "missed the boat" by the proverbial country mile!

RADIO SCOOPS NEWSPAPERS

It remained for Fred Moore Hinshaw, brilliant white news editor of the local station WOWO-WCL, Fort Wayne, to "scoop" the entire field in the Hoosier area. He related the story in several broadcasts, giving The Courier credit for his information. His script, in part, for the first air message, read:

COURIER GIVEN DUE CREDIT

"The WOWO newsroom was informed this afternoon by The Pittsburgh Courier, national Negro weekly newspaper, that Mrs. Anna Hall, mother of the fighting Hoosier, now lives in Fort Wayne."

"The war mother," another bit of the script read, "is a small, smooth-faced lady, who takes a pride in her war work at the Wayne Tank and Pump company. As she puts it . . . "I may be helping to make some of the material he uses." The extent to which this is true may be judged by the fact that Wayne flies the Army-Navy "E" pennant for excellence in war production.

PRIDE SOMETIMES MINGLED WITH GRIEF

"As is the case with any mother of a son overseas," narrated Mr. Hinshaw, "Mrs. Hall could hardly restrain a tear when talking of Charles, and she explained her feeling about his outstanding acts this way: 'I try to feel good, but sometimes, of course I feel bad. Any mother does. We live in hope that he will come back soon—to this country—and I pray for him every day.'

"Her picture of him is not the stern, serious visage of an Army officer . . . but a studio photograph taken at Tuskegee, when he won his wings—in flying togs, helmet and parachute, the lines of his face softened to those of a youth . . . a reminder of Lieut. Charles Hall as Charlie, her youngster.

RECALLS LIFE AT HOME

"The mother speaks with pride of his ability to speak French, learned in college while he was studying a pre-medical course. And his sister, Victoria Littlejohn, recalls the days when she and Charles used to kid their mother by talking about her in French . . . as Mrs. Hall puts it, 'Probably something bad about me behind my back.'"

The touching closing to one of the Hinshaw news round-ups went:

"So, while Charles Hall is fighting the Axis over North Africa, on three shifts here in Fort Wayne, his brother-in-law, his sister, and most of all, his mother, are turning out the goods in Fort Wayne war plants toward the victory over injustice, discrimination and all that the Axis war lords have brought to the world—in suffering death."

Negro Flyers Left April 2 Now In Africa

JUN 12 1943

Informer
Houston, Texas

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Allied headquarters in North Africa announced officially Wednesday what readers of Negro newspapers already knew, that a Negro pursuit squadron, commanded by Lt. Col Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was in North Africa to fight against the axis.

It can be revealed now, however, that the squadron left Tuskegee at midnight, April 2. The squadron had no idea where it was going. The train was completely blacked out, with windows and vestibules painted black and affording no opportunity to see out. The group, composed of a full complement of ground and maintenance crew and medical contingent, had the run of the special train which zigzagged across the country to its destination. When the train stopped it was on the docks at a southeastern port and alongside the transport to which the squadron was immediately transferred.

Farewells were said as the men swung aboard at Tuskegee. Many of their families were at the school and in the community nearby. All were forbidden to speak of their departure. Families of those living in other parts of the nation knew of their boys' departure because personal belongings were sent home to them.

The night the squadron left Tuskegee the 96th Service squadron was transferred to Selfridge field, Michigan. The 332nd Fighter group, composed of several pursuit squadrons and first all-Negro fighter group in army history, was also moved to Selfridge.

Transfer of army pilots from Tuskegee is part of the regular air corps plan. There is no room at Tuskegee for squadrons after they complete their training because at present new flyers are reporting at the rate of 52 every five weeks. Classs are graduating frequently with from 25 to 30 men instead of five or six as was formerly the number.

Announced in Congress

Several weeks ago Congressman Frances Bolton of Ohio announced in congress that "the 99th has departed for combat duty." Immediately the war department took steps to prevent Negro newspapers from printing her statement, although the Office of Censorship authorized publication of Mrs. Bolton's exact words spoken from the house floor.

That the squadron had arrived at its destination was revealed in a dispatch from North Africa by Ollie Stewart, war correspondent for the Afro-American and The Informer chain of papers. Later tSewart stated that Lt. Col. Davis was living in a town where he' was stationed. Both articles passed the censor.

It was at first stated that the squadron had seen actual combat duty in the closing days of the North African campaign, but this was denied by the war department. The announcement said the flyers who use P-40 Warhawks, were being given advanced instruction in new fighter tactics by veteran pilots of the Tunisian battles, and that upon completion of this advanced training, the squadron will be sent into action.

Censored

No news of the actual departure of the squadron was allowed to be printed because of censorship regulations. Mention of embarkation of any unit is explicitly prohibited since such publication would give valuable information to the enemy

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Denver Youth Leads Tuskegee Flying Class

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — The largest class ever to graduate from the Tuskegee Army Air Field received their wings and commissions here recently.

JUL 16 1943

Brig. Gen. Frederick V. H. Kimble, wing commander of the 27th Training Wing, told the class that "With the receipt of your wings today, but a short while remains at Tuskegee for transition to combat craft, then, you too, join the fighter squadron in North Africa.

Cadet honors were won by Cadets Joe A. Lewis of Denver, first; Theodore A. Wilson, Roanoke, Va., second, and Charles E. McGee of Champaign, Ill., third.

There was one Kansas youth and one Missourian in the class—Weldon K. Groves of the famous Groves family of Edwardsville, Kas., and Theopolis D. Moore of St. Louis.

Bombers at Last!

JUL 31 1943

Courier

After dodging the issue since long before Pearl Harbor, the Army has finally decided to train qualified colored youth as pilots and navigators of bombers.

If the Army authorities had not been so scary, this would have been done long ago.

When colored boys are accepted as fighter pilots, what excuse is there for barring them as bomber pilots and navigators?

(47a)

It requires much more skill as a pilot to handle a fighter plane than a bomber, but until now the colored lads who were unable to qualify as fighter pilots were simply dropped and not given a chance to try handling bombing planes.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

The same thing holds true for transport planes which are going abroad in increasing numbers.

JUL 31 1943

It is our hope that both the Army and the Navy will soon end all discrimination against Negroes and make it possible for them to qualify for any kind of flying of which they are capable.

This is the true democratic way.

Fighter Pilot Killed in Crash

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Lt. Oscar Kenney, Son of Tuskegee Physician, Was Flying P-40 Plane

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Second Lieutenant Oscar Armstrong Kenney of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, was killed instantly Friday afternoon, July 9, when the P-40 airplane he was flying crashed approximately ten miles northeast of Tuskegee.

JUL 16 1943

Lt. Kenney was on a routine training flight at the time of the crash and a board of qualified Air Force officers will be appointed to determine the exact cause in detail.

JUL 16 1943

The son of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Kenney, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Lt. Kenney attended Oberlin college in Oberlin, Ohio, from 1939 to 1941.

Recover Body Of Flyer, N. M. Hill, Missing Since June 16

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — (ANP) — The body of 2nd Lt. Nathaniel Milton Hill, missing since June 16, has been recovered from Lake Huron near Oscoda, Mich., according to a statement from Capt. Ramey, public relations officer. Next of kin have been notified.

Lt. Hill was piloting a two-seater training plane when he crashed into Lake Huron during a routine flight from the Oscoda army air field, a sub base of Selfridge Field. He was accompanied on the flight by 2nd Lt. Linson Blakeney, a weather officer, whose body was found June 17.

The army air force pilot was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joshiah Hill of Washington, D. C. His wife, Laverne, resides in the same city.

AUG 3 1943

Both flyers were attached to the 332nd fighter group.

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40 Students Rushed to Air Cadet Center

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — The first group of aviation students (air crew) to complete six weeks of study at the College Training Detachment on the campus of Tuskegee Institute, were transferred to the Tuskegee Army Air Field on May 22.

JUN 12 1943

At their new station they will commence the pre-flight training with the rank and pay of aviation cadets.

This class represents the newest method adopted by the Army Air Forces for the training and selection of aviation cadets.

Designed as 5-Month Course

The prescribed course of study at the College Training Detachment is designed for a five-month period. However, due to the immediate need of replacements at the TAAF pre-flight school, forty of the most capable trainees were released ahead of schedule.

JUN 1 1943

The executive personnel of the College Training Detachment consist of the following officers:

First Lieut. Theodore H. Randall, Indianapolis, Ind., commanding officer; Second Lieuts. Walter English of Washington, adjutant; Eugene P. White of Nashville, senior tactical officer; Eric Layne of NYC, junior tactical officer; and Capt. Roy C. Hairston of Asheville, N.C., medical officer.

Students Transferred

The aviation students transferred are:

Sgt. Henry A. Wise, Jr., Cheriton, Va.; Cpl. Buford Bailey, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Cpl. John J. Roderick, Harwich, Mass.; Pfc. George T. Brooks, NYC;

Pvts. Winston A. Adkins, Chicago; Arturo E. Alers, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; Robert D. Anderson, Indianapolis, Ind.; Rual W. Bell, Portland, Ore.; Arsene O. Boykin, Chicago; James A. Calhoun, Bridgeport, Conn.;

Pvts. Robert Chandler, Allegan, Mich.; Joseph W. Collins, Jr., Richmond, Va.; Charles W. Diggs, Roxbury, Mass.; Andrew T. Dunn, Jr., Petersburg Va., Charles W. Dunn, Sidney, N.Y.; Roger B. Gaiter, Seaside Heights, N.J.;

Pvts. Thomas L. Gay, Detroit; Joseph E. Gordon, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Alfred M. Gorham, Waukeesha, Wis.; John J. Hall, Newark, N.J.; Richard S. Harder, Brooklyn, N.Y.; William A. Harrison, NYC; Reginald W. Hayes, Holicong, Pa.;

JUN 12 1943

Pvts. David F. James, Chicago; Wilbur F. Long, New Rochelle, N.Y.; Richard D. Macon, Birmingham, Ala.; Alvin F. Mason, New Orleans; George B.

Pvts. Frank H. Moody, Los Angeles; Matthews, Los Angeles;

Hillard W. Pouncy, Clayton, Ala.; Samuel E. Rhodes, Leonia, N.J.; George A. Robnett, Jr., Chicago; Marion R. Rodgers, Macon, Ga.; Davidson V. Turner, Los Angeles;

Pvts. Shelby F. Westbrook, Toledo, Ohio; Charles L. White, St. Louis, Mo.; Cohen M. White, Detroit; Leonard R. Willette, Belleville, N.J.; Kenneth I. Williams, Los Angeles; Charles E. Wilson, Chicago.

Army Officials Say Negro Pilots "Naturals" With P-39s

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—With a smart array of new equipment, elements of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field are fast attaining their training peak, the War Department announced this week. Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Air Corps, has assumed command of the group.

Included in the new equipment are P-39s (commonly called the Airacobra), P-47s and P-40s. The P-40 will be remembered as the tough air arm that brought much recognition to Lieutenant Colonel Davis' 99th Fighter Squadron in the African campaign. The 99th Fighter Squadron is presently serving in Italy.

New camera equipment has been provided for use in firing practice to step up accuracy with the .50 calibre machine gun. The Army has also provided improved installations on the firing range at Oscoda, sub-base of Selfridge Field.

Many pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group have been referred to as "nanturals" by instructors and superiors when describing the manner in which they operate the P-39. The Airacobra, with its 1150-horsepower Allison engine mounted behind the pilot, has established an enviable reputation in combat.

There has also been a step-up in flying hours at the field. Formerly reported as between 400 and 500 hours a week, the flying time now accomplished by pilots in training totals above 2,000 hours a week.

Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., Assumes Command of 332nd Fighter Group

Guardian Boston, Mass.

Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O Davis, Jr., Air Corps, formerly commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron which presently is seeing action in Italy, has assumed command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Michigan, the War Department announced.

47

The first colored officer ever to command an Air Force combat unit, Lieutenant Colonel Davis was honored Tuesday, October 5 in the presence of 400 guests at a reception held in the Post Officer's Club at Selfridge Field. Among high ranking Army Officers in attendance was Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, father of the new group commander. Major J. P. Ramsey, Flight Surgeon at the Field, was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Lieutenant Colonel Davis returned early last month from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron, the first colored combat unit committed to action against the enemy in the North African area.

OCT 23 1943

Col. Davis Assumes Command Of the 332nd Fighter Group

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Air Corps, formerly commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, which presently is seeing action in Italy, has assumed command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge, Mich., the War Department announced today.

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Lieutenant Colonel Davis returned early last month from Sicily where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron, the first all-Negro combat unit committed to action against the enemy in the North Africa area. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, he is 30 years old.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Completes Basic Flight Training At Tuskegee

DEC 4 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Youths that are [illegible]sted in flying and have been accepted as Aviation Cadets in the Training Command of the Army Air Forces are rapidly learning the fundamentals of flying at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

The men from New York that recently completed their basic flight training at the 66th Flying Training Detachment of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and have been assigned to the basic flight class of the Tuskegee Army Air Field are: Aviation Cadets Hector D. Torres of New York City; Charles R. Hill of New York City; Elton H. Nightingale of New York City; Alva[illegible] M. Fras[illegible] Bronx, N. Y., and Vincent C. Dean of Corona, N. Y.

DEC 4 1943

Cadet Torres, son of Mrs. Paula D. Torres of 2179 8th Ave., New York City, was an employee of the New York Navy Yard, prior to entering the Aviation Cadet Corps.

Cadet Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Arnold Hill of 1945 7th Ave., New York City, attended A and T College from 1941 to 1943.

Cadet Nightingale is the son of Mrs. Agnes Nightingale of 132 West 112th St., New York City.

Cadet Fraser, son of Mr. Richard Fraser of 936 Stabbins Ave., Bronx, N. Y., attended the City College of New York from 1940 to 1943.

DEC 4 1943

Cadet Dean, son of [illegible] and Mrs. Thomas C. Dean of 10[illegible]34th Ave., Corona, N. Y., was employed by the Belt Aircraft Corporation of Flushing, N. Y., prior to entering the Aviation Cadet Corps.

47a-1943

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
June 20, 1943

Stunt Flying At Roof Tops Irks Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE, June 19.—Indignation over reckless diving of army planes to tree-top levels over and near Tuskegee mounted this week on the heels of a particularly flagrant example over a Tuskegee residential section. Several persons in the area were frightened by the low diving plane.

Witnesses stated that the pilot "cut" his motor at a moderate altitude and dived the plane almost to the tree top level before "gassing" the motor again.

A similar case was reported several weeks ago by Frank Bledsoe, business man. While on a fishing trip near Tuskegee, Mr. Bledsoe reported that a two-wing basic trainer dived on him while he was standing near his car and forced him to fall flat on the ground to avoid being struck.

When advised of the incidents this week, Lieut. Col. Noel Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskege Army Flying Field, said that army regulations forbid planes to fly lower than 500 feet except on particular training assignments. Col. Parrish stated that such assignments are not ordered over cities and towns.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Tuskegee Gets New Air Cadet Training Unit

MAR 13 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — A new branch of training in the Army Air Forces was begun this week on the campus of Tuskegee Institute, with the arrival of personnel assigned here to head the newly instigated college training program for aviation cadets.

The new program, announced recently by the War Department, will see the thousands of cadet reserves inducted immediately into colleges from coast-to-coast for academic and military courses prior to their actual training. After the program is underway the students will take a five months' course.

A limited flying program will be conducted for all students in cooperation with CAA War Training Service. MAR 13 1943

The detachment at Tuskegee Institute will be headed by 1st Lieut. Theodore H. Randall. No announcement as to the number of future wingmen to be stationed here could be made at this time, Lieut. Randall said.

The training schedule, which will be conducted without interruption to the regular college curriculum, will fall into four major groups: academic, military, physical, and flying. The purpose of the program is to prepare men better for cadet training in the AAF Flying Training Command and thereby vastly reducing costly eliminations. MAR 13 1943

Students enroll as privates but upon completion of the 5-month course will be sent to one of the Flying Training Command Classification Centers as cadets and trained as pilots, bombardiers, or navigators.

Columbia, S. C. State
June 25, 1943

Sumter Negro Pilot Commended For African Work

Washington, June 24 —(AP)—War Secretary Stimson reported today that the air forces first squadron of Negro pilots, the Ninety-ninth Fighter squadron has "weathered its first aerial combat test very credibly."

The squadron, commanded by Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a son of the first Negro general officer int he army, is in North Africa and participated—as an escort and fighter bomber outfit—in the siege of Pantelleria but had little chance to engage enemy fighters during that time. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters the latter fled.

On the afternoon of June 8, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lieut. Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

In a lively engagement, the American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

Others participating in the engagement included Second Lieut. Willie Ashley, Jr., 212 West Bartlett street, Sumter, S. C.

Negro Pilots Win First Air Fight

Ledger June 24/43
Columbus, Ga.

Six P-40's Force 10 F-W's to Flight

WASHINGTON, June 24—(AP) War Secretary Stimson reported today that the Air Force's first squadron of Negro pilots, the 99th Fighter Squadron, has "weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably."

The squadron, commanded by Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a son of the first Negro general officer in the army, is in North Africa and participated—as an escort and fighter bomber outfit—in the siege of Pantelleria, but had little chance to engage enemy fighters during that time. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters the latter fled.

On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lt. Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German F-W 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

In a lively engagement, the American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

Other participating in the engagement were First Lt. Lee Rayford, Ardwick, Md., First Lt. Sidney P. Brook, Cleveland, Ohio, Second Lt. Willie Ashley, Jr., Sumter, S. C., Second Lt. Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J., and Second Lt. Leon C. Roberts, Prichard, Ala.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Rescues Two After Big Crash

APR 3 1943

Benjamin Jennings Hero Of Air Mishap Near Lynchburg

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Benjamin Jennings, 18-year old Lynchburg youth, stands today as an outstanding hero, and two Marine officer-flyers owe their lives to his cool courage and daring.

Jennings was credited with saving the lives of the two flyers, Lt. Jack Plunkett of Lynchburg, and Lt. J. H. Wehmer, of St. Louis, Mo., when their plane crashed into the James River about 10:30 a. m. Sunday. The pair were almost drowned in struggling to release themselves from the cockpit of the plane which sank within two or three minutes. APR 3 1943

The youthful hero, who was standing on the old YMCA Island, jumped into a flat boat nearby and paddled to the rescue with an improvised oar. APR 3 1943

CONDITION NOT SERIOUS

The two fliers, who were stationed at the Marine Base at Cherry Point, N. C., were taken to Lynchburg hospital where attendants said their conditions were not serious.

Both were suffering mostly from shock and exposure, and Lt. Plunkett was cut slightly about the head. Marine authorities came to Lynchburg Sunday afternoon to conduct an investigation.

Just what official cognizance will be taken of young Jennings' heroic act, has not been indicated.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Negro Pilot Missing In RAF Raid

MAR 20 1943
MAR 20 1943

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Chicago Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON — (Censored) — The ace West Indian Negro pilot, Flying Officer H. S. Etienne, was reported missing this week after an R.A.F. offensive operating over Nazi Germany.

London's West Indian community feels great anxiety over the news that the 19-year-old had failed to return from a bombing operation. Etienne was a native of the island of St. Lucia, where he had a brilliant academic career at St. Mary's college before entering local civil service. MAR 20 1943

Shortly after the Bridish air ministry decided to recruit pilots among the colored Caribbean population, dozens of young Negroes arrived in the British Isles to undergo intensive training at Royal Air Force centers. MAR 20 1943

Among the first contingent was Etienne, who distinguished himself

After a number of flights as a Spitfire pilot against the Luftwaffe over England Etienne was assigned to a bomber squadron and participated in several attacks upon Germany and enemy-occupied territory.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal
June 24, 1943

U. S. Negro Pilots Turn Back Germans

WASHINGTON, June 24.—(AP)—War Secretary Stimson reported Thursday that the Air Forces first squadron of Negro pilots, the Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron, has weather its first aerial combat test very creditably."

The squadron, commanded by Lieut. Colonel B. O. Davis Jr., a son of the first Negro general officer in the Army, is in North Africa and participated—as an escort and fighter bomber outfit—in the siege of Pantelleria, but had little chance to engage enemy fighters during that time. The group was fired on only once and when it turned to engage the enemy fighters the latter fled.

On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by First Lieutenant Charles W. Dryden, Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

In a lively engagement, the American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

Others participating in the engagement were First Lieutnant Lee Rayford, Ardwick, Md.; First Lieutenant Sidney P. Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio; Second Lieutenant Willie Ashley Jr., Sumter, S. C.; Second Lieutenant Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J., and Second Lieutenant Leon C. Roberts, Prichard, Ala.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FIRST RACE AIR UNITS IN N. AFRICA

MAY 15 1943

Lieut. Col. Davis Heads Pursuit Squadron In Combat Zone

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Negro flying units have arrived in North Africa after little less than two weeks on the water.

A pursuit squadron, composed entirely of colored flyers and under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., is now on the battle front and ready for action in the anticipated invasion of the European continent.

While no official word is available, it is generally believed that for the first days of their participation in the campaign they will form part of the sky umbrella needed for successful Allied bombing raids in Italy and southern France.

The unit was posted at Orangeburg, N. Y., prior to its embarkation. Army regulations and censorship prohibit identification of the outfit. MAY 15 1943

Premature revelation of the departure of the unit was made inadvertently by Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton on the floor of the House two weeks ago. Since that time speculation as to the whereabouts of the flyers has been rife, though announcement in the nation's press was vigorously opposed by the War department.

Arrival of the Negro flyers in a combat area establishes a precedent. It is the first time in the history of the American flag that a unit of colored airmen has been dispatched to a battle front for participation in war. It also brings to a climax the question as to the status of the flyers trained at Tuskegee institute. MAY 15 1943

For sometime, the role of Negroes in the air corps has been a matter of debate. Protest after protest has been filed with the War department against the policy of relegating colored trainees to labor brigades.

Lt. Col. Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., ranking Negro officer in the United States army. He is a graduate of West Point

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Tuskegee Army Air Field Gets New Librarian

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 31 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 29—A welcome addition to the civilian staff at the Tuskegee Army Air Field is Miss Robbie Goodloe, who has been appointed librarian in the Post Technical Library.

Miss Goodloe, a graduate of Hampton institute, was formerly post librarian at Camp Butner, N. C. She is a native of Durham, N. C., and has had wide experience as a librarian including work at Barber-Scotia Junior college.

Assisting Miss Goodloe in the library are Pfc. Sumner G. Wiles of Jacksonville, Fla., and Pvt. Anderson Brooks of Oxford, Ohio.

Ace Race Pilots Held To Rank Of Staff Sergeants

Atlanta Daily World

APR 3 1943

Plight of Six Negro Army Flyers Revealed

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)— The plight of six Negro Army flyers, who left the Tuskegee Army Flying School for Fort Sill and who have since been restricted because of the color of their skins, was revealed Friday.

According to information, the men left Tuskegee not knowing what their mission would involve at Fort Sill. After remaining there five weeks, it was decided to train them as liaison pilots. It is understood that under great odds, including riding four miles to and from the training department four times each day, they made an outstanding record.

Among the six men was Langston Caldwell who had "washed out" 28 hours before his class received their wings on July 3. Caldwell was among the best in his class as a flyer and in the classroom. He was among the two ranking students in the class and is capable of becoming a leader in aviation as he has proved at Tuskegee and Fort Sill. Caldwell now leads the Air Observation unit at Fort Huachuca.

DUTIES OF CAPTAIN

The Air Observation Department of a Field Artillery Unit, as set down in the Table of Orgainzation, requires five Officers' Pilots and five Staff Sergeants' Pilots per Division. Caldwell, Norris and Reiney of the 93rd, plus the three pilots with the 92nd, are the only liaison pilots in the United States who are Negroes. At present they are doing the work of Officers' Pilots and holding the rating of staff sergeant They form the neucleus of Liaison flying for Negroes. Staff Sergeant Caldwell is performing the duties of a captain, while Morris and Rainey shoulder the responsibility of first lieutenants.

Caldwell, Morris and Rainey have qualifications to become service pilots in the Army Air Corps. In Waco, Texas, where they took flight checks, they were advised to have their commanding officer, who was Colonel Kimble, authorize them for the Service Pilot's Course, because they had had more experience in heavy aircraft and would be of more service to service or ferry command. The commanding officer refused to give his authorization for this work.

Returning to Fort Sill they were advised that they would receive commissions as did many of the whites. Because of their color, these men received rating as staff sergeants acting in the capacity of officers.

Caldwell and Rainey have over 400 hours in the air and in aircraft up to 650 horsepower. Morris has 300 hours in aircraft up to 450 horsepower. It was quite hard to tell which was the instructor: the difference being only in the color of the skin. With the experience in the air, they could serve their country better as navigator or bombardier, but are prevented from doing so because of their color.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Crash in Pursuit Planes

MAY 21 1943

Three Met Death In Michigan and Two at Tuskegee

MAY 21 1943

Five young flyers were killed in crashes last week, three in Michigan and two at Tuskegee. Four of the victims were U. S. Army Air Force pilots. The fifth was a cadet trainee.

Best known of the victims was Lt. Wilmeth W. Sidat-Singh of Washington, former football star at Syracuse university, New York. He was lost in Lake Huron when he parachuted from his plane which caught afire on a routine flight from Selfridge Field, Mich.

OTHER VICTIMS

The other victims were:

LT. JEROME T. EDWARDS of Steubenville, Ohio, killed when his plane crashed at Oscoda, subbase to Selfridge Field.

LT. SIDNEY J. MOSLEY JR., of Norfolk Va., killed in a routine flight near Selfridge Field.

LT. JAMES E. BROTHERS of Chicago, killed on a flight from the Tuskegee Army Flying school.

CADET ROSS STEWART JR., of Johnstown, Pa., who was riding in the plane piloted by Lt. Brothers.

MAY 21 1943

All four of the lieutenants were graduates of the Tuskegee Army Flying school. Lieuts. Sidat-Singh, Mosley and Edwards along with other Tuskegee pilots were transferred to Selfridge Field several weeks ago and were on routine advanced training flights.

ENGINE TROUBLE MAY 21 1943

Lt. Sidat-Singh, whose death was reported last week, developed engine trouble while flying over Lake Huron. He bailed out but no trace was found of his body, his plane or his parachute. Before joining the army, Lt. Sidat-Singh was a police officer in Washington, D. C., and a member of the professional basketball team, the Washington Bears. His mother lives in Washington, and his father in New York.

Lt. Mosley is the son of Mrs. S. J. Mosley of Norfolk, Va. He was married just 7 days before the fatal crash to Miss Leonora Weaver.

Lt. Edwards, 25, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards of Steubenville. He had a wife, Mrs. Lillian Virginia Edwards, and a daughter, Helen Vicki Edwards of the same city.

He was killed in a crash at Oscoda, Mich., at a sub-base 200 miles from Selfridge Field.

Lt. Brothers, who recently received his wings at Tuskegee, was an outstanding track star at the University of Wisconsin in 1939 and 1940. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dorothy Gregory of 5336 Kenwood Ave., Chicago. He was employed as a clerk in the treasury department before he joined the army.

Cadet Stewart owned a garage in Baltimore before entering the army. He leaves his mother, Mrs. Elsie W. Stewart, of Johnstown, and his wife, Mrs. Evelyn T. Stewart of Baltimore.

Lieuts. Sidat-Singh, Edwards and Mosley were members of the 100th pursuit squadron of the 332nd fighter group with headquarters at Selfridge Field.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Expands Training Program

Feb. 6, 1943

The War Department announced Saturday expansion of the program for training Negro combat fliers. A group will be formed, composed of one Squadron now being trained and two new ones which are in the process of organization.

It will be provided with all the supporting services, not only those of the Air Corps, but of other arms and services such as Signal Corps and Quartermaster Corps.

Trained At Miami

Negroes are being trained throughout virtually the entire Technical Training Command of the Air Forces, as well as at the Air Forces Officers' Training School at Miami.

The Army now has a number of large Negro units, including several Negro Infantry and Cavalry regiments; tank and tank-destroyer battalions; and important units of Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, Anti-aircraft, Engineer, Medical Corps, Chemical Warfare, Signal Corps and Quartermaster troops. In addition to the major units, there are innumerable smaller ones of great aggregate importance.

In All Branches

Substantial Negro contingents are to be found in all arms and services of the Army at home, in all major Expeditionary Forces abroad and in almost all the technical and service schools, military and civilian, run by the Army or under contract to it. Feb. 6, 1943

The role of the Negro in civilian War Department employment is also an important one. Statistics from the field installations are not available, but figures of the Departmental Administrative Services show that of a total of 47,644 civilian employees at the present time, 9,569 are Negroes.

Says 99th Is 'Best Trained'

MAY 1 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Air Force General Praises Tuskegee Airmen, Raps Washington

By ALBERT ANDERSON for ANP

WASHINGTON, April 29— Speaking of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, which has been on the "alert" for six months, awaiting assignment to a theatre of war, a top ranking air force general said recently in an off-the-record statement, "We have trained these boys all right. They are the best trained flyers in America today They are really ready for combat but the trouble is that those guys up at Washington can't make up their minds what to do with them."

MAY 1 1943

That statement was made several weeks ago and now it can be said that Washington is known to have made some important decisions that cannot be revealed for some time to come. Incidentally, a lot of pilots and ground personnel have been reported missing from Tuskegee and the group at Selfridge Field does not account for all of them.

WILL NOT MIND FIGHTING JAPANESE

Recently a man discussing the 99th Pursuit Squadron from Tuskegee wanted to know how I thought they would feel if they come to grips with Japanese Zeros and their pilots. He shared my opinion that the Negro aviators when they get their first taste of battle are going to be pitted against the little men from the land of the rising sun.

The boys from the 99th will be flying the Stars and Stripes, I told him, and whether the foe they face is a Japanese, an Italian or Hitler himself you can count on them making every effort to prove the black contingent in Uncle Sam's flying force is the best the world ever saw.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Army Dietitian

MAR 6 1943

Mrs. Arthalia Lee Royford of Salem, Va., and Norfolk, is stationed at Tuskegee Army Flying School, Tuskegee, Ala., as medical dietitian. A graduate of Dillard University, New Orleans, La., where she majored in home economics, Mrs. Royford was the first to specialize in dietetics and to finish the course in medical dietetics at Flint Goodridge Hospital. An active member of the American Dietetic Association, she has filled positions at Burrell Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, and Lincoln Hospital, Durham, N. C.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

Negro Pilot Wins Praise For Work

JUN 26 1943

Second Lt. Leon C. Roberts, of Prichard, Ala., was in the first squadron of Negro pilots to take part in a lively engagement over Pantelleria in which they damaged two of 12 attacking German fighters and forced the others to retreat, according to Secretary of War Stimson in Washington Thursday.

The Army Air Force squadron "weathered its first aerial combat test very creditably," Stimson reported.

The squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., son of the first Negro general officer in the Army, is based in North Africa and took part in the siege of Pantelleria.

As an escort and fighter bomber outfit, the squadron at first had little chance to engage enemy fighters. When it turned to engage attacking enemy, the enemy fighters fled.

On the afternoon of June 18, however, a flight of six P-40's led by 1st Lt. Charles W. Dryden, of the Bronx, N. Y., was attacked over Pantelleria by 12 German FW 190's escorting enemy bombers trying to raid the island. Ten more German fighters hovered above the bombers.

JUN 26 1943

In a lively engagement, the American Negro pilots damaged two of the German fighters and forced the remainder to retreat.

47a-1943

Lieut. Rayford's Ship Riddled As 2 Enemy Planes Are Downed

Informer
Houston, Texas

JUL 3 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

Informer, Houston Texas

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, North Africa.—Censored from Advanced Air Base Cable.—All pilots who fly ships into combat either bombers or fighters, have close calls which they refer to among themselves as "tweak sessions." Lieut. L. T. Rayford, Washington, had an extended tweak session recently over the Island of Pantelleria. He and five others from a certain fighter squadron were doing patrol duty when attacked by twelve enemy fighters. All six returned to their base safely and reported probable destruction of two enemy planes but Rayford's ship was fairly riddled. A German FW played a tune with bullets all over his plane. Rayford did not kwnow it until he landed and Crew Chief Cecil Cousins of New York began inspection. "I knew I was in a tight spot for a little while but I did not know it was that bad," said Rayford. Lieut. William Ashley, Sumter, South Carolina, pounced on an enemy ship and after blasting away followed it down close to water where it blossomed in black smoke in profusion. Another probable destruction was scored by Lieut. Sidney P. Brooks of Cleveland, Ohio, who turned into an attacking Nazi and with several quick bursts sent him downward in a crazy dive.

JUL 3 1943

JUL 3 1943

Squadron Commended

In the same mission were Lieuts. Charles Dryden, New York; Leon Roberts, Pritchard, Alasi and Clarence Jamison, Cleveland, Ohio. The whole squadron has been commended for its fine work over Pantelleria.

I saw King George of England Friday in a small African coastal town. His Majesty was inspecting allied troops who had cleaned axis forces out of Tunisia and my fighter squadron was invited to take part in a big victory parade. It was a colorful spectacle and our boys brought many cheers from the population lining flag-draped streets..

JUL 3 1943 JUL 3 1943

Efficiency of System

One reason for the success of my adopted fighter squadron is the efficient communications section which maintains a listening post 24 hours each day. Aside from being the ears of the outfit this section with a skilled crew insures ground-to-plane and plane-to-plane communication by radio. Likewise it operates telephone and teletype system. The airport control station regulates takeoffs and landings by detailed instructions. Lt. Dudley W. Stevenson, 231 R. I. avenue, N. W., Washington, is communications officer. A graduate of Virginia State, he has surrounded himself with a crew of alert young men who get the kick of their lives out of the work they do. Technical Sergeant Clopis Bordeaux of St. Louis has charge of all communications. The radio section is headed by Sergeant Morris Fisher, Atlantic City. Others include Sgt. Herbert Woodson, Atlantic City; Sgt. William Jordan, Pittsburgh, and Sgt. Herbert Nicholas, Masontown, Pa.

INFORMER, HOUSTON, TEXAS

The radio section is a popular gathering place at night news, music, and axis propaganda. The air booms with rman broadcasts in English in this area and boys have ne comparing figures from axis sources with those from allies' reports.

JUL 3 1943

Interesting personalities this week: Tech. Sgt. Robert Irving, Pontiac, Mich.; Sgt. Edward Dozier, New York; 1st Sgt. P. C. Gray, 220 N. 56th street, Philadelphia; Corporal John McHease, Washington; Cpl. Julius Searles, Washington; and Sgt. William Young, Richmond.

Lt. Col. Davis Leads Formation In Attack On Axis Stronghold

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Fighters Weather Storm Of Anti-Aircraft Fire To Return After Attack Unscathed

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
(By Cable, Delayed, Passed by Censor)
(Copyrighted. Reproduction Expressly Forbidden)

JUN 12 1943

Cable Filed, via Gibraltar, on June 3, 1943)

ADVANCED BASE NORTH AFRICA—Negro flyers of the United States Army Air Force are now fighting their country's war for the first time in history in skies above the old world whence came their ancestors. Pioneer pilots, first trained at Tuskegee, Ala., have carried out more than a half dozen sorties delivering bombs on Pantelleria, Italian Island in the Mediterranean, strong Axis fortress between Tunisia and Sicily and a protecting link in the enemy's defenses of Southern Europe.

The distinction of being the first of the race to fly American planes in combat went to First Lieutenants William A. Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., and Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind. Later the same day First Lieutenants Lemuel R. Custis of Hartford, Conn.; Clarence C. Jamieson of Cleveland, Ohio; and James Wiley, Pittsburgh, Pa., joined their air comrades in arms.

Others on combat missions in the last several days include, Lt. George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Lt. Walter I. Lawson, Newton, Va.; Lt. Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.; Lt. Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C.; First Lt. Herbert V. Clark, Little Rock, Ark.; Lt. Paul G. Mitchell, Washington, D. C.; Lt. Louis R. Purnell, Germantown, Pa.

JUN 12 1943

All planes returned safely. No Nazi interceptors challenged our fighters. The only opposition was flak—anti-aircraft fire.

LT. CAMPBELL

CAMPBELL FIRST

The honor of delivering the first Easter egg went to Lt. Campbell who won admiration for maintaining perfect formation even through thick flak on bomb run. Upon his return he explained he was "scared but determined to stay on the wing of the veteran leader even if he carried me into the front door of enemy headquarters."

YOUNG

Lt. Campbell landed safely from his first mission, but taxied his plane into a bomb crater, which was left on the field following an attack by American bombers on the airdrome while in the hands of the Germans. This was Campbell's first accident despite the fact he has most hours of any flyer in the Tuskegee-trained squadron. He was consoled by pilots and other groups. The crater is now marked by a sign.

Among pilots on successful combat missions was Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the squadron, who led a flight including First Lt. Sidney P. Brooks of Cleveland, Lt. Spann Watson of Hackensack, N. J.; and Lt. John W. Rogers of Chicago, Ill.

PRAISED BY WHITES

Most of the flyers, upon their return from their first mission to attack the enemy, admitted they were scared, but never did they hesitate in the flight toward the objective. The second and third sorties, to the flyers were more like all in a day's work. A member of the air base security unit [illegible] to this field overheard a white pilot, who flew in the attacking formation with the Negroes say 'those boys can fly like hell.'

All America can take pride in the manner these colored flyers [illegible] living up to the best traditions of the Army Air Forces which gave combat as promised by [illegible] this year. Moreover, officials are remarkably cooperative everywhere, providing equipment, assistance, and encouragement unhesitatingly.

Our squadron has been received ordially and enthusiastically erywhere in the combat area. White pilots have been helpful and iendly since our arrival.

"Nothing Too Large or Too Small" Motto Of 99th Supply Section

Norfolk, Va.
Journal and Guide

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

Cpl. Donald G. Campbell, 1080 Bruce street, Washington, Penna.

Pfc. Samuel Sams Jr., 515 Monroe street, Mandeville, La.

SQUADRON PHILOSOPHER

Sgt. Jones, at 37, the oldest enlisted man in the Squadron is the philosopher of the group. Well read, intelligent, conversant in local, national or international politics and diplomacy, he holds his own in any conversation. His specialty is giving the "low down" on the "big shots" of his native Philadelphia.

Sgt. Stocker is the expert on loading a freight car. Even Lt. Wimp doesn't interfere in that business. He simply shows Stocker the freight cars and trucks, and points out the freight to be transported and says "There you are."

Stocker is frugal, ambitious and energetic. In his spare time he does many odd jobs for the officers. With that and other earnings resulting from phenominal luck in black jack and poker he manages to send home several times his salary every month to pay for a new home he built in New Jersey before joining the Army. A steamfitter by trade, he married while in training at Tuskegee.

Cpl. Campbell believes in the old army maxim to the effect that any soldier who sees something he needs and doesn't take it isn't a good soldier. Turn him loose around a supply dump and this Fighter Squadron will never want for essentials if the clerks so much as bat an eye.

AN OLD ARMY MAN

Pvt. Sams is quiet, modest and willing. He is fast learning the tricks of his trade.

The explanation for such a capable supply section is found in its leadership. Lt. Wimp is an old Army man, and the only national guard officer in the Squadron. Some of his military inclinations must have come through association. A brother, Major Edward D. Wimp Jr., is now with the 931st Field Artillery Battalion now in training in the United States. His uncle, Lt. Col. Benote H. Lee, is professor of military science and tactics at West Virginia State College. He is in the National Guard and during the last war was a first lieutenant in the 8th Illinois Infantry.

Lt. Wimp has been a member of the Illinois National Guard for 15 years, going on active duty January 6, 1941, as a 2nd lieutenant. He had attended the field artillery school at Fort Sill, Okla., from April to July, 1941, and was with field artillery units at Fort Custer, Mich., until transferred to the Air Corps and made supply officer of the Fighter Squadron early in 1942.

STUDIED ACCOUNTING

Lt. Wimp finished Engelwood High School in 1932 and spent the next two years at the University of Illinois where he studied accounting. Before going on active duty he was a post office clerk in Chicago.

It is almost a routine operation for Lt. Wimp and his crew to move 50,000 gallons of 100-octane gasoline from a supply dump to the airfield occupied by his squadron in one day. The size of this undertaking can be appreciated when it is remembered that this movement involves almost a thousand 55-gallon drums weighing approximately 500 pounds each.

Whatever the Fighter Squadron needs, and is entitled to, it tells Lt. Wimp. Requisitions and other required papers are typed out, certified, approved, etc., and sent to the issuing agency.

NOTHING TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL

The need might be a day's rations for several hundred men, an airplane engine, a dozen pyramidal tents, camouflage materials or a gross of lead pencils.

The supply section operates on the theory that nothing is too large, and nothing too small for it to handle.

(By Air Mail Delayed. Passed by Censor.)

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AN ADVANCED ALLIED AIRFIELD IN TUNISIA—One way to defeat an army is to cut off its supplies. No method is as complete and as certain as a total massacre of all its soldiers.

When you hear military experts stressing the importance of keeping open lines of communications, they have reference principally to the routes and the means of maintaining the flow of munitions, food, equipment and supplies to the units farther to the front.

And so in the organization of a tactical unit a primary concern is finding for it a competent, resourceful, reliable supply officer, and then giving him a staff that can keep pace with his progress.

EXCELLENT ENLISTED MEN'S STAFF

If the 99th Fighter Squadron which has been in North African combat since the first of June is operating successfully—and everybody who ought to know seems to think it is—a good portion of the credit belongs to 1st Lt. Benote H. Wimp, 31, 3112 Vernon avenue, Chicago, supply officer.

In turn, Lt. Wimp is indebted to—and he readily acknowledges it—his excellent staff of enlisted men who keep the Squadron supplied under his direction and leadership.

Top non-commissioned officer on the staff is T/Sgt. Edgar N. Hart, 140 W. 177 street, New York who does most of the paper work and keeps Lt. Wimp advised on current stocks. Others are:

S/Sgt. John E. ("Jack") Jones, 221 W. Duval street, Philadelphia.

Sgt. Stanley E. Stocker, 1630 North street, Philadelphia.

JUL 31 1943

Two Bombers Christened By Alabama Negroes Wed.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

By EMORY O. JACKSON

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (SNS) — Alabama Negro citizens christened two B-24 Liberator bombers here Wednesday afternoon at the Betchel - McCone - Parsons airplane modification plant, one for Julius Ellsberry, Pearl Harbor hero, and the other for Tuskegee Institute.

In touching, dramatic and triumphant ceremonies Mrs. Florence Ellsberry, mother of Julius, The Hero, smashed a bottle of champagne to give the bomber luck in Army tradition and her son's name the immortality it deserves.

Strikingly dressed, her bold, impressive and charming features reflecting the fine qualities of her character and the excellence of the womanhood of her race, Mrs. Ellsberry, showing slight nervousness, spoke to her fellow citizens over WAPI these words: "I now christen thee the Julius Ellsberry." The name she had once given to a babe she now gave to a bomber. "I am proud I had a son to give. The many fine things that have been said and done in his name completely overshadow my grief," she said wtih solemnity and beauty.

Something special surrounded this bomber. It was a special "Revenge Bomber" with devices on it so secret that only a special order from war officials would permit its motor to start up. For that reason, the motor on the "Spiri of Tuskegee Institute" had to hum in the ceremony.

Stuart Mims, ceremony chairman and representing B-M-P, in keynoting the five-minute program pointed out that "The Negroes of Jefferson County are going to launch a bomber in the name of the first citizen of Jefferson County, a Negro and native Alabaman, to give his life for his country in this war. As far as we know this will be the second christening by Negroes of a war plane anywhere. Betchel-McCone-Parsons is indeed proud that these ceremonies can **take place today at Birmingham Modification Center."**

S. J. Bennett, chairman of the Negro Division of the Jefferson War Savings Staff, spoke briefly, then introduced A. G. Gaston, chairman of the Bomber Committee. Mr. Gaston asserted that in addition to honoring Ellsberry, that "we also honor all the fine and noble traditions that America stands for.

Others present at the ceremonies were Mrs. Minnie Gaston, Mrs. Ruth Jackson-Odum, chairman of the Beauticians Volunteer Corps; Oscar W. Adams, supreme chancellor of Knights of Pythias; Rev. W. D. Hargrove, C. J. Greene, district manager of Atlanta Life; H. D. Coke, publicity director for Smith & Gaston; L. K. Shivery, field scout executive; E. O. Jackson, World editor; Robert Durr, Weekly Review editor and Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.

A similar christening ceremony was held about an hour later in dedicating a B-24 Liberator, "Spirit of Tuskegee Institute." Ceremony Chairman Mims asserted that "Today's Liberator has been puchased by War Bonds subscribed through the most famous Negro institution in the world. We hardly need to explain that that's Tuskegee Institute.

Dr. Patterson, Alabama State chairman of Negro division of War Savings Staff, represented Tuskegee Institute with Mrs. Gaston crashing the bottle of wine according to the custom, lore, and tradition of fight craft.

In the Tuskegee party were Capt. R. P. Burton, Lt. Alexander B. Rose, Lt. Carl Taylor, T. M. Campbell, field agent U. S. Department of Agriculture; Rev. C. A. Kelly, chairman Negro Division War Savings Staff of Macon County; Harry Sims, associate administrator, War Finance Division for Alabama; N. Kellock, state agent Negro extension and V. C. Turner of the Army Air Base.

The parties toured the plant with guides explaining such activities as were not military secrets. B-M-P is the largest modification plant in the world. It has the largest floor space of any plant in the world.

A re-broadcast of the ceremonies will be made Sunday over the program sponsored by Smith and Gaston over Radio Station WSGN.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan

Stimson Praises 99th.; Others On Way Home

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

Washington, Aug. 13. (ANP)—Negro engineer, quartermaster and anti-aircraft units were warmly praised for their work in connection with the preparations for the Sicilian invasion, some of whom were actual participants, when Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson discussed his 13,500 mile inspection trip to the European and North African theaters of operations at his press conference last Thursday.

The secretary was in good spirits, and a bit jocular as he answered the questions of reporters dealing with progress of the war, his trip, and sundry other items.

During his journey he saw Negro troops in England and others in North Africa, and had occasion to personally meet Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commanding the 99th pursuit squadron, now stationed in Sicily.

Accompanied by Maj. Gen. John Lee Stimson inspected several colored units in England and found what he called an "interesting situation" in which the men were "working very vigorously and getting along well together with all other troops." He had no comment to make as to whether there had been any reports to the contrary.

In Africa he said he had seen a unit of engineers which had previously served in Liberia in the construction of the Roberts airfield, said to be the largest in the world.

"That unit performed very valuable work on the construction and repair jobs at the North African ports from which the invasion of Sicily was undertaken," he declared. "Furthermore, Negro quartermaster units did excellent work in the invasion, and some of these troops were actually with the landing forces in Sicily."

Obviously his statement of the quartermaster unit that was in the landing force was in answer to a question submitted inquiring for additional information regarding the news photo of a Negro soldier rushing up the beach at Gela.

"I personally met Col. Davis of the 99th, which is now stationed in Sicily," the secretary said. "He flew over to Tunis to meet me."

Stimson recalled his earlier statement of a few weeks ago that the squadron is doing "creditable work." He also revealed that a colored artin-aircraft unit is in Africa.

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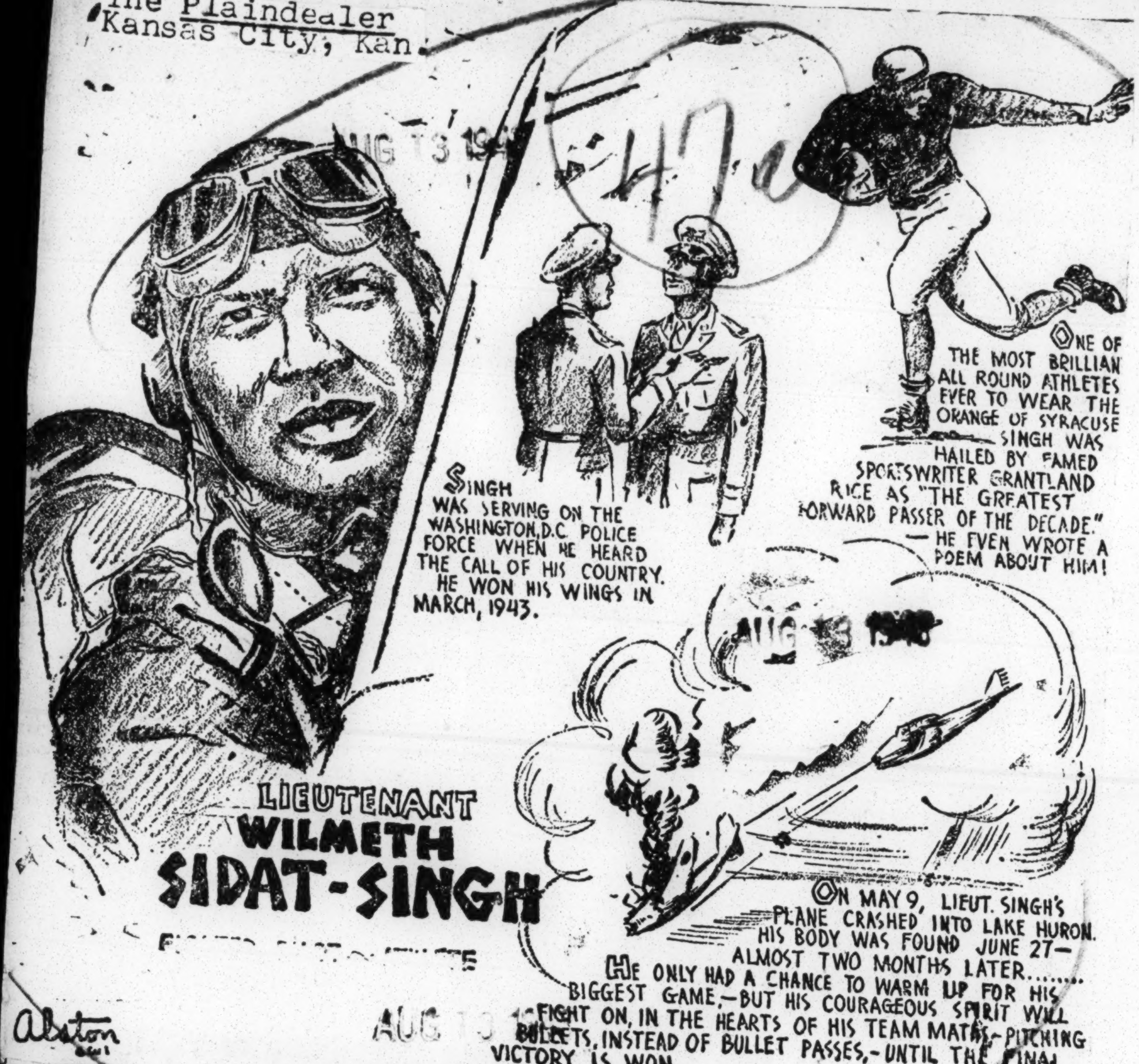
The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

AUG 13 1943


47a
LIEUTENANT
WILMETH
SIDAT-SINGH
SINGH WAS SERVING ON THE WASHINGTON, D.C. POLICE FORCE WHEN HE HEARD THE CALL OF HIS COUNTRY. HE WON HIS WINGS IN MARCH, 1943.
ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT ALL ROUND ATHLETES EVER TO WEAR THE ORANGE OF SYRACUSE SINGH WAS HAILED BY FAMED SPORTSWRITER GRANTLAND RICE AS "THE GREATEST FORWARD PASSER OF THE DECADE." — HE EVEN WROTE A POEM ABOUT HIM!
ON MAY 9, LIEUT. SINGH'S PLANE CRASHED INTO LAKE HURON. HIS BODY WAS FOUND JUNE 27— ALMOST TWO MONTHS LATER........
HE ONLY HAD A CHANCE TO WARM UP FOR HIS BIGGEST GAME,—BUT HIS COURAGEOUS SPIRIT WILL FIGHT ON, IN THE HEARTS OF HIS TEAM MATES,—PITCHING BULLETS, INSTEAD OF BULLET PASSES,—UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY IS WON.
Alston

"Naturals" With Airacobra Report Negro Pilots Are

Atlanta, Ga.
Daily World

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Michigan, — (SNS) — With a smart array of new equipment, elements of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field are fast attaining their training peak, the War Department announced this week. Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Air Corps, has assumed command of the Group.

Included in the new equipment are P-39s (commonly called the Airacobra), P-47s and P-40s. The P-40 will be remembered as the tough air arm that brought much recognition to Lieutenant Colonel Davis' 99th Fighter Squadron in the African campaign. The 99th Fighter Squadron is presently serving in Italy.

New camera equipment has been provided for use in firing practice to step up accuracy with the .50 calibre machine gun. The Army has also provided improved installation on the firing range at Oscoda, sub-base of Selfridge Field.

Many pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group have been referred to as "naturals" by instructors and superiors when describing the manner in which they operate the P-39. The Airacobra, with its 1150-horsepower Allison engine mounted behind the pilot, has established an enviable reputation in combat.

There has also been a step-up in flying hours at the Field. Formerly reported as between 400 and 500 hours a week, the flying time now accomplished by pilots in training totals above 2,000 hours a week.

Army Announces Recovery Of Body Of Sidat-Singh

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

JUL 3 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Coast Guard officials announced the finding of the body of 2nd Lieut. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, here last week, seven weeks to the day after his plane plunged into Lake Huron during a training flight on May 9.

Lt. Sidat-Singh, a native of Washington, D.C., was a graduate of Syracuse university in the class of 1939, at which school he won national fame as a football and basketball player. He completed the course at the Tuskegee Army Air school on March 27, and was assigned to Selfridge Field on May 4, as a member of the 332nd Fighter Group.

The flyer, 25 years of age, was the son of Mrs. Pauline Sidat-Singh by a first marriage to the late Elias Webb, member of a prominent Washington family.

Col. Davis, Jr. Takes Command Of 332nd Group

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 9 1943

SELFRIDGE, Mich.—Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., top ranking Negro officer in the United States Army, attended the ceremonies at Selfridge Field on Monday and had the unique experience of seeing his son, Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., assume command of the 332nd Fighter Group, replacing the former commander, Col. Robert Selway.

Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., arrived at the Selfridge Field gates at 11 a. m., and was escorted to Base headquarters where he reported to the commanding officer, Col. William L. Boyd. A reception committee, headed by Major James T. Ramsey, formerly of Philadelphia, greeted the new commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter Group. Also in the reception committee was Capt. Nelson S. Brooks, Capt. George L. Knox, Lieut. James Pugsley, Lieut. Robert B. Tresville, Lieut. Charles H. DeBow, Lieut. Edward C. Gleed, Lieut. Morris T. Johnston, Lieut. Vernon C. Punch, Lieut. James Y. Carter and Lieut. Ray B. Ware.

Following the ceremonies of the afternoon, a formal reception was held in honor of Lieut. Col. Davis at Luxberry Hall Tuesday evening. Other guests of honor were Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., Major Harriet West, Col. William L. Boyd, base commander of the post, and Col. Robert L. Selway, Jr., former group commander of the 332nd Fighter Group and his staff.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

TUSKEGEE FLIERS' COURSE ADVANCED

NOV 17 1943

WASHINGTON—The third and final step in the training of Negroes as bombardiers has been taken with the announcement by the Army Air Forces that Negro navigation cadets now in training at Hondo Army Airfield, Tex., will serve the dual function of navigator and bombardier.

Upon the successful completion of the navigation course, the cadets will be assigned to a school in the Central Training Command for bombardier training.

At the same time, the War Department announced that 12 Negro flying officers, the first Negroes to receive wings as twin-engine pilots, have been assigned to the B-25 transition school at Mather Field, Calif., where they will study the operation of B-25 [illegible] the proposed basic arm of an all-Negro medium bombardment group.

The pilots were ordered to Mather Field from Selfridge Field, Michigan, and Tuskegee Army Airfield, Ala. They began their studies at Mather Field Nov. 15.

Names and addresses of the nine second lieutenants selected from Tuskegee Army Airfield follow: Herman R. Campbell, Jr., New York; Henry F. Fletcher, San Antonio; Perry E. Hudson, Jr., Atlanta; Vincent J. Mason, Orange, N. J.; Ha[illegible] King, Jamaica, N. Y.; Jerom[illegible] Chicago; Harvey N. Pinkney, Baltimore; William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass. and Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo Calif.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Johnson Wells, ex-Tennis Champ, Killed in Air Crash

BUFFALO, N.Y.—Funeral services were held last Saturday at St Luke AMEZ Church for Second Lieut. Johnson C. Wells, son of Mrs. Bobbie Campbell, 44 Pine Street, who was killed in his army fighter plane which crashed near Selfridge Field, Mich., the previous Tuesday during a routine training flight.

Lieut. Wells was a graduate of Hutchinson Central [illegible] School and West Virginia State College. He was an athlete of national reputation, starring in tennis, basketball, and swimming.

Wells was former national junior tennis champion and midwestern intercollegiate champion while at West Virginia State. He competed in countless national ATA tournaments, always finishing in the upper bracket.

He was a member of the AME Zion Church, the Memorial Center-Urban League, Tuskegee [illegible] Michigan Avenue YMCA. He joined the army a year [illegible] 22.

OCT 16 1943

The body, reposing in a flag-draped casket, was accompanied to Buffalo by a military escort. The Rev. S. O. B. Johnson officiated at the funeral.

Survivors besides his mother are his wife, Mrs. Esther Wells, and two brothers, Marvin and Melvin.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Flier's Crash Into Power Lines Disrupts Electricity

DEC 2 1943

UNION SPRINGS, Ala.—Several thousand residents of Southeastern Alabama were without electricity for several hours Wednesday after an Army plane crashed into high tension power lines 12 miles northwest of here.

The Negro pilot of the plane, a training ship, suffered only minor injuries, reported Capt. H. C. Magoon, commanding officer of the 66th Flying Training Detachment based at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. He declined to identify the flier.

James M. Barry, vice president of the Alabama Power Company, estimated at Birmingham that 8,000 customers, including those at Dothan, Eufaula, Abbeville, Enterprise and Headland, were affected by the disruption of electric service.

Negroes in Training For Bombing Group

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y

By the U

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Training of pilots for an all-Negro bombardment group to be activated on July 1 of next year will begin within a month at either Fort Dodge, Kans., or Del Rio, Tex., the War Department announced today. One all-Negro pursuit squadron—the 99th—has already seen action in North Africa. [illegible] Negro fighter pilots are in training at Tuskegee, Ala.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

99th Pilot Reported Lost

Courier

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—(ANP)—1st Lt. Sherman Windham White Jr., 22, of Macon, Miss., is the second fighter pilot of the 99th Pursuit squadron, now on duty in Sicily, reported lost in combat. The War Department announced he has been missing since July 3 following engagements over Pantelleria.

Pilot Lands on Highway to Get Gas

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
OCT 16 1943

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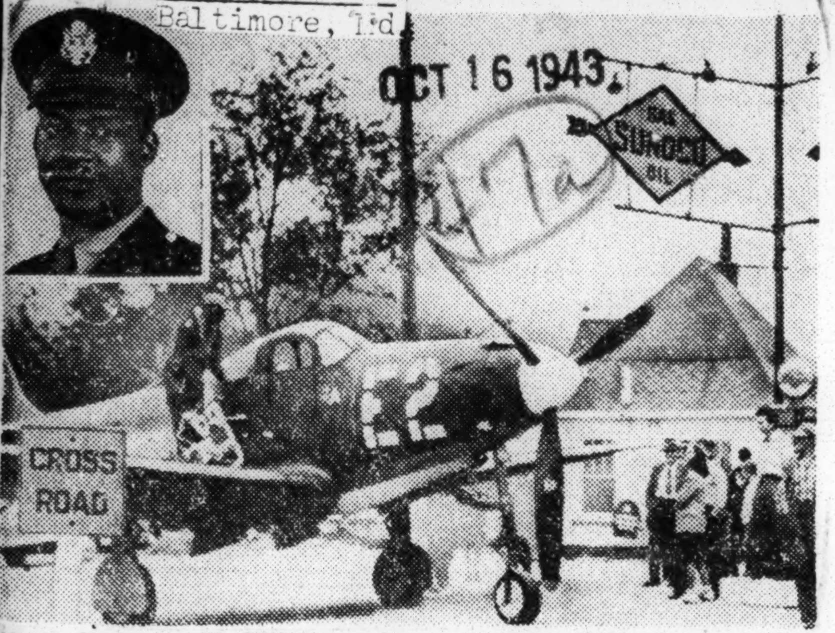

Lieut. Spurgeon N. Ellington (insert) and his P-39 plane which he landed on a Michigan highway to refuel at a gasoline station.

By DOUGLASS HALL

DETROIT, Mich.—Suburban residents were astonished last week to see an airplane land on the Northeast highway about nine miles out from town. The pilot turned out to be 2nd Lieut. Spurgeon N Ellington, of the 332nd Fighter Group, Selfridge Field. He had landed there because he was afraid that his P-39 fighter plane did not have gas enough to get back to the field.

Landing Uneventful

The army flyer, who had circled an unobstru[illegible]oad section until it became clear of automobile traffic, made a safe landing, taxied his plane up to a filling station and calmly asked for gasoline, for which he had no coupons.

Learning that the station did not have the type of gas his plane required, he phoned Selfridge Field and fuel was sent out by truck.

Also sent was Lieut. Floyd E. Lambert of Birmingham, a more seasoned pilot, who took off from the highway without mishap. He knew the way bac[illegible] the field and determined that the plane had sufficient gas after all.

Lieutenant Ellington's home is Winston-Salem, N.C.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

303rd Training Wing Commended

GREENSBORO, N. C.—(SNS)—Exceptional commendation from their commanding officers has been bestowed on the singing, swinging oldiers on the 303rd Training Wing, a new group of Negro trainees who recently started training here at Basic Training Center No. 10 of the Eastern Technical Training Command, Army Air Forces.

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SEP 11 1943

One of the distinguishing features of training centers in the Technical Training Command is that soldiers sing while they drill and the men of the 303rd Wing quickly adapted themselves to the combination of marching and music. According to their officers, the soldiers of the 303rd have proved [illegible]elves [illegible]ional on two cou[illegible]—for th[illegible]ality of their singing and their enthusiasm for drill.

Shortly after the arrival of the new group, it became traditional that when a passerby heard "Roll Out the Barrel" as it seldom had been rolled before, or the catchy "Six Pence" song of the Air Forces swung in perfect harmony, it was a certainty that the singing soldiers of the 303rd Training Wing were coming down the road. The men had quickly learned all the popular Air Force songs. They sang them with swing, with wholehearted vigor and gusto. When, with a deep throated roar, they "sounded off" with "Nothing Can Stop The Army Air Corps"—the listener re[illegible]believed it.

LEARN "MONKEY D[illegible]

The way these men have taken to drill has amazed the officers and permanent party non-coms charged with their training. They drill on their own time, at noon and in the evening after supper. Many of the men selected as acting non-coms in the trainee group have had experience in the CCC and ROTC. A crack drill team has been formed, and this group is learning "monkey drill," a fast complicated routine that only the best troops ever learn to perfection.

The trainees, coming here after passing through induction and reception centers, have been in the army only a few months. They represent every section of the country.

A comprehensive physical training program for the trainees embraces every sport played on the post. Teams have been organized for intergroup sports events in baseball, volleyball and basketball, while ping pong and horseshoe tournaments are run off between barracks. Th[illegible] plenty of boxing talent in the group, [illegible]ding boys who have fought in Golden Gloves bouts, in amateur contests and even some who have fought professionally.

There are a number of talented musicians in this group. Several are sending home for their instruments and expect to have a swing band formed soon. Cpl. McKenzie Ferguson, composer and former radio solo pianist, whose home town is Kansas City, Mo., already has formed his own entertainment unit and was given an enthusiastic reception when he appeared with a jitterbug dance act and his GI Jivers at the Officers Club of the post.

The men have expressed themselves as liking the idea of being in the Air Forces. And they are doing a good job of soldering. The officers, permanent party non-coms and trainees are unanimous in their conviction that the 303rd Wing is shaping up to one of the best outfits on the post.

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Haitian Pilot Earns Wings

SEP 13 1943

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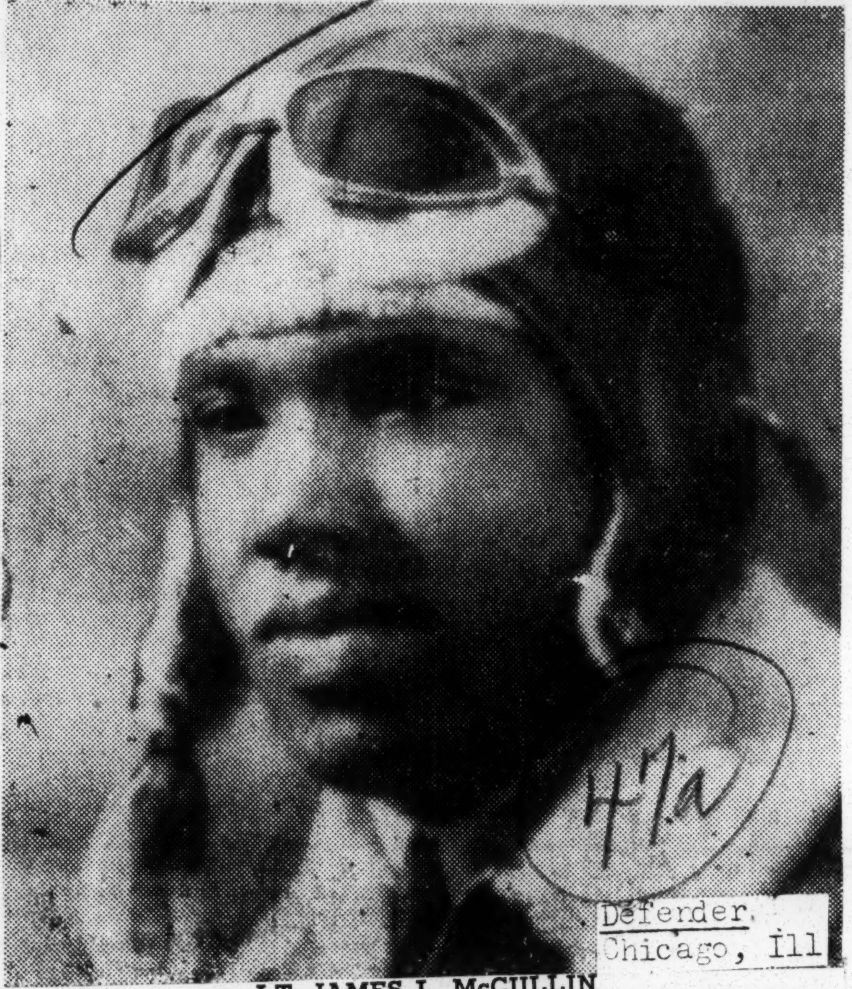
Among the members of Tuskegee's most recent graduating class was Sous-Lieutenant (2nd Lt.) Alix Pasquet (left). In the above photo Lt. Pasquet receives warm falicitations from his countryman, 2nd Lt. Ray[illegible] Cassag[illegible] who completed his flight training with an earlier Tuskegee class. These pilots, who came to Tuskegee from Port au Prince, Haiti, are members of the Haitian Air Force. (Photo by Tuskegee Army Air Field).

MISSING IN ACTION



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Defender,
Chicago, Ill

LT. JAMES L. McCULLIN

Crack flyer of the 99th Squadron stationed in North Africa who has been reported by the War Department as missing in action. This picture obtained by the Defender from Lt. McCullin's mother, Mrs. Bessie McCullin of St. Louis, Mo., is her favorite photo.

LT. MC CULLIN REPORTED LOST IN AIR BATTLE

Missouri Mother Holds Out Hope For Son In Interview

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The name of one of the two 99th Pursuit Squadron pilots "missing in action" after an aerial dogfight over Sicily was disclosed here this week.

He is Lt. James L. McCullin of St. Louis.

The Missouri flyer was lost when a superior Nazi squadron outnumbering the 99th attacked the Negro aviators on their way back from a bombing mission over Castelvetrano airfield in Sicily prior to the invasion. It was the same engagement in which Lt. Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind., shot down a Focke-Wulf 190.

Lt. Hall was promoted to captain this week for his feat.

The Germans during the battle pursued our flyers from Sicily to Pantelleria, trying to take advantage of their numerical superiority. On the squadron's return to their North African base, it was disclosed that two of the 99th's planes were missing out of the 12

In the flight, the 99th was given the No. 1 spot protecting Mitchell twin-engined bombers. They met the Germans head-on in the battle that lasted 25 minutes.

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47b-1943

31 Negroes Awarded Congressional Medal of Honor in Nation's Wars

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

DEC

In the current global war the Negro has definitely established himself in the hierarchy of distinguished soldiers.

Private George Watson, of Birmingham, received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in the Southwest Pacific on March 8, 1943.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services at Guadalcanal, on March 27, 1943, four Negro youths received the Legion of Merit. They were Private First Class Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss.; Private Jesse Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Private Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss., and Private Henry Smith, Jr., Good Pine, La.

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Sergeant Charles M. Baynes, of Chicago, was awarded the Silver Star for heroic conduct exhibited on June 26, 1943, near an Algerian air base. Another Silver Star award went to Private Mack B. Anderson, of Brenham, Ter., for bravery in India in 1942.

Many others have been honored in this war, their awards ranging from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Good Conduct Medal.

DEC 4 - 1943

Between [illegible] years [illegible] and 1926, soldiers serving in all-Negro outfits were awarded 31 Congressional Medals of Honor and 57 Distinguished Service Crosses. Since the War Department record of those honored makes no reference to race, it is presmued that there are others.

First authorized by act of Congress in 1862, the Medal of Honor, often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor because it was "presented in the name of Congress," is the highest decoration awarded by the United States Government.

The Distinguished Service Cross, the next highest honor, was instituted by executive order in January, 1918, and confirmed by Congress July 9, 1918.

First instance in history of the award of the Medal of Honor to a Negro was in 1863, when Sergeant William H. Carney, Company C, 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry, received the honor for conspicuous gallantry at Fort Wagner, South Carolina, on July 18 of that year.

The citation, stated in part, that "when the colored sergeant was shot down, the soldier grasped the flag, led the way to the parapet, and planted the colors thereon. When the troops fell back he brought off the flag, under a fierce fire in which he was twice severely wounded."

And so down through the years the number of Negroes who have won acclaim for valor has become legion. The names of the 31 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the 57 recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross follow:

AWARDS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL OF HONOR—1862 TO 1926

(Awarded for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy.)

Sgt. Edward L. Baker, Jr., 10th U. S. Cavalry, 1898, Santiago, Cuba.

Pvt. William H. Barnes, 38th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

1943

1st Sgt. Powhatan Beaty, 5th U. S. Colored Troops,, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Pvt. Dennie Bell, 10th U. S. Cavalry, 1898, Tayabacoa, Cuba.

Sgt. Thomas Boyne, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1879, Mimbres Mountains, N. Mex.

1st Sgt. James H. Bronson, 5th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Sgt. William H. Carney, 54th Mass. Colored Inf., 1863, Fort Wagner, S.C.

Sgt. John Denny, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1879, Las Animas Canyon, N. Mex.

Sgt. Decatur Dorsey, 39th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Petersburg, Va.

Sgt. Christian A. Fleetwood, 4th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Pvt. James Gardiner, 36th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va

Sgt. James H. Harris, 38th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, New Market Heights Va.

Sgt. Thomas Hawkins, 6th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Deep Bottom, Va.

Sgt. Alfred B. Hilton, 4th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Sgt. Milton M. Holland, 5th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

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Cpl. Miles J[illegible]s, 36th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, [illegible] Richmond

Sgt. Henry Johnson, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1879, Milk River, Col.

Sgt. George Jordan, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1880-1881, Fort Tulerso, N. Mex., and Carizo Canyon, N. Mex.

1st Sgt. Alexander Kelly, 6th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Pvt. Fitz Lee, 10th U. S. Cavalry, 1898, Tayabacoa, Cuba.

Sgt. William McBryar, 10th U. S. Cavalry, 1890, Arizona.

1st. Sgt. Robert Pinn, 5th U. S. Cloored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Sgt. Thomas Shaw, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1881, Carizo Canyon, N. Mex.

Sgt. Emanuel Stance, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1870, Kickapoo Springs, Tex.

Pvt. William H. Thompkins, 10th U. S. Cavalry, 1898, Tayagacoa, Cuba.

Pvt. Charles Veal, 4th U. S. Colored Troops, 1864, Near Richmond, Va.

Pvt. Augustus Walley, 9th U. S. Colored Troops, 1881, Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. Mex.

Pvt. George H. Wanton, 10th U. S. Colored Troops, 1898, Tayabacoa, Cuba.

1st Sgt. Moses Williams, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1881, Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. Mex.

Cpl. William O. Wilson, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1890, Sioux Campaign.

Sgt. Brent Woods, 9th U. S. Cavalry, 1881, New Mexico.

AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

(Awarded for extraordinary heroism in action under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 9, 1918.)

All of the foregoing awards were given in 1918.

Pfc. Robert M. Breckenridge, Co. H, 365th Inf., Ferme de Bel-Air, France.

Cpl. Russell Pollard, Co. H, 365th Inf., Bois-Frehault, France.

Pvt. George Bell, Co. E, 366th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Sgt. Roy A. Brown, Co. E, 366th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Pfc. Will Cliney, Co. F, 366th Inf., Frapelle, France.

Pvt. Alex Hammond, Co. E, 366th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Cpl. Van Horton, Co. E, 366th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Pvt. Edward L. Merrifield, Co. E 366th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Pvt. Tom Rivers, Co. G, 366th Inf., Bois-de-la-Voivrotte, France.

Pvt. Joe Williams, Co. E, 166th Inf., Lesseau, France.

Pvt. John Baker, Co. I, 368th Inf., Binarville, France.

Pfc. Thomas H. Davis, San. Det., 368th Inf., Binarville, France.

Pfc. Edward H. Handy, Co. B, 368th Inf., Binarville, France.

Pvt. Joseph James, Hq. Co., 368th Inf., Binarville, France.

Pvt. Bernard Lewis, Co. A, 368th Inf., Binarville, France.

Pfc. Lewis Watkins, Co. A, 350th M. G. Bat., Eply, France.

Sgt. William Butler, Co. L, 369th Inf., Maison-de-Champagne, France.

Cpl. Elmer Earl, Co. K, 369th Inf., Ripont Swamp, France.

Pvt. Elmer McCowin, Co. A, 369th Inf., Ripont Swamp, France.

Pvt. William Sandford, Med. Det., 369th Inf., Ripont River, France.

Sgt. Robert Barnes, Co. L, 370th Inf., Mont de Singes, France.

Pvt. William Cuff, 2nd M. G. Co., 370th Inf., Monte-de-Sanges, France.

Pvt. Leroy Davis, Co. L, 370th Inf., Mont-de-Sanges, France.

Sgt. Lester Fossie, Co. M, 370th Inf., Ferme-de-la Riviere, France.

Pvt. James Fuquay, Co. H, 370th Inf., Guillimet Farm, France.

Sgt. Ralph Gibson, Co. H, 370th Inf., Behume, France.

Pvt. Willie G. Hurdle, 3rd M. G. Co., 370th Inf., Ferme La Folie, France.

Pvt. Spirley E. Irby, Co. H, 370th Inf., Beaume, France.

Sgt. Mathew Jenkins, Co. F, 370th Inf., Vauxaillon, France.

Pvt. Arthur Johnson, Hq. Co., 370th Inf., Mont des Singes, France.

Pvt. Andy McCall, M. G. Co., 370th Inf., Ferme de la Riviere, France.

Pvt. Charles T. Monroe, Hq. Co., 370th Inf., Monte-de-Sanges, France.

Pvt. Harry L. Pearson, M. G. Co. 370th Inf., Ferme La Folie, France.

Pvt. Tom Powell, Co. H, 370th Inf., Behume, France.

Cpl. Emmett Thompson, Co. L, 370th Inf., Monte-de-Sanges, France.

Cpl. Isaac Valley, Co. M, 370th Inf., Vraincourt, France.

Pvt. Alonzo Walton, 3rd M. G. Co., 370th Inf., Rue Larcher and Pont-d'-Any, France.

Pfc. Nathaniel C. White, Co. F, 370th Inf., Vauxaillon, France.

Pfc. Alfred Williamson, Med. Det., 370th Inf., Beaume, France.

Pvt. Willie Boston, M. G. Co., 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

Pvt. Reuben Burrell, M. G. Co., 371st Inf., Champagne Sector, France.

Pvt. Charles Butler, M. G. Co., 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

Sgt. Thomas Cooper, Co. K, 371st Inf., Trieres Farm, France.

Pvt. Junius Diggs, Co. G, 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

Pvt. Burton Holmes, Co. C, 371st Inf., Near Hill 188, France.

Cpl. Sandy E. Jones, Co. C, 371st Inf., Near Champagne, France.

Sgt. Lee R. McClelland, Med. Det., 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

Pvt. Ellison Moses, Co. G, 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

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Pvt. Malley [illegible] Hq. [illegible] 371st Inf., Near Bussy Farm, France.

Pvt. Bruce Stoney, Med. Det., 371st Inf., Ardeuil, France.

Pvt. Tillman Webster, M. G. Co., 371st Inf., Addeuil, France.

Pvt. Clifford Crawford, Hq. Co., 372nd Inf., Near Bussy Farm, France.

Pvt. George Gross, Co. D, 372nd Inf., Near Sechault, France.

Pvt. Samuel H. Johns, Co. L, 372nd Inf., Near Bussy Farm, France.

Sgt. Ira M Payne, Co A, 372nd Inf., Near Sechault, France.

Pvt. Clarence R. Van Allen, Co. L, 372nd Inf., Near Bussy Farm, France.

ANOTHER NAVY HERO HONORED

DEC 25 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

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By HERMAN HILL
(Pacific Coast Bureau)

CORONA, Calif.—Add the name of Marion Green, chief cook, United States Navy, to Uncle Sam's ever-swelling list bearing the names of such stalwarts as Dorie Miller, Leonard Roy Harmon, Charles J. French, and the rest!

DEC 25 1943

Like the others, Green belongs. Presently a patient in the U.S. Naval hospital here, the 26-year-old native of McClellandville, S.C., who entered the service eight years ago, is recuperating from shrapnel wounds suffered during a stirring sea battle against Japanese forces off Guadalcanal island the nights of November 12-13, 1942.

TWO COVETED AWARDS

Green, following recommendations by his chief, Captain McGregor, and mates on the crack destroyer, "U.S.S. Aaron Ward," has been awarded the coveted Silver Star Medal by U.S. Secretary of Navy Frank Knox for superlative heroism under extreme stress and, since that time, he has also received the Purple Heart, military medal of honor, from Admiral William F. Halsey, commander of Pacific Fleet operations.

COURAGE UNDER FIRE

Green's citation was "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving aboard the U.S.S. Aaron Ward during the engagement with enemy Japanese naval forces off Guadalcanal on the nights of November 12-13, 1942. After a shell had struck and badly damaged his station in the galley, Green lifted a wounded shipmate to his back and attempted to evacuate him when a second shell struck the galley, killing the wounded man and piercing Green's body with innumerable pieces of shrapnel. Although suffering acutely, he, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, refused to leave his battle station, and remained to care for another wounded comrade."

DEC 25 1943

Green, in peace-time, did a hitch on the battleship "Maryland" and, since Pearl Harbor, has seen action off New Hebrides and the Fiji Islands, in addition to Guadalcanal and the Pacific war zone. He holds a student pilot's license, obtained in 1941 from the Metropolitan Flying school, Van Nuys, Calif., and, the same year, also passed the Army Air Corps tes and applied for transfer.

TWO MEDALS

Chief Cook Marion Green, USN, awarded both the Silver Star and Purple Heart medals for distinguished service in battle, is a patient at Corona Naval hospital, Corona, Calif., nursing shrapnel wounds suffered in South Pacific action. — Cutler

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Draft Boards Still Reject More Negroes Than Whites

Informer Houston Texas

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON. — Negroes continued to be rejected in greater proportions than whites, according to the annual report of the selective service administration, just out, with illiteracy and venereal disease as the prevalent reasons. But at the same time, however, selective service was able to furnish to the armed forces in 1942 275,059 men.

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The section of the voluminous report dealing with Negroes was written by Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, administrative assistant to Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, SSA chief.

The "most important" cause of rejections is venereal disease. While local civic communities are trying to help the situation, a remedial program is being planned. In addition to this, the report says, there must be a recognition of the "social aspects of these diseases" if there is to be any real solution.

SEP 11 1943

The bulk of those classified were in 1A and 1B. Only 3 per cent of Negro registrants were deferred on industrial grounds. Conscientious objectors were few, representing but 2.2 per cent of the total.

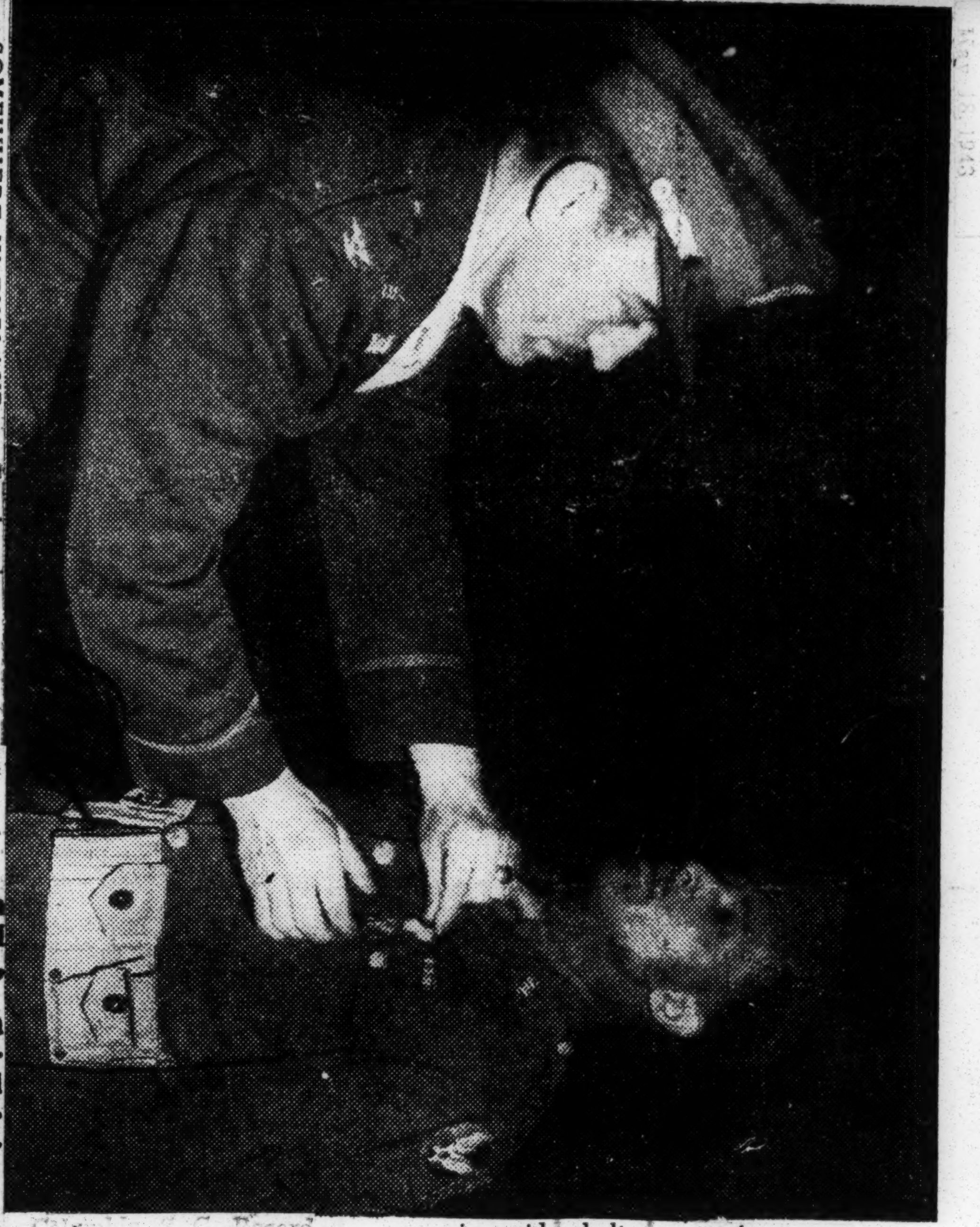
SEP 11 1943

There were "considerably less than" 100 cases of draft evasion among Negroes in 1942, and most of these were for failure to register, to return questionnaires, and giving incorrect names and addresses. One suicide because of the racial discrimination in the armed forces was recorded, in addition to one attempt at suicide. Six men refused to report to induction centers for the same reason.

47b-1943

Awarded Soldier's Medal For Brave Act

May 18, 1943



SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND — For heroism displayed in attempting to capture an armed assailant who had threatened spectators at a dance with a knife, Private James H. Burnam, 30, of 325 West Hickman Street, Winchester, Kentucky, receives the Soldier's medal from Colonel Ewart G. Plank.

The award, authorized by Major General John C. H. Lee, commanding general, Services of Supply, was made recently at a retreat ceremony.

The deed for which Private Burnam won commendation occurred at Suffolk. It was pointed out that the American soldier, member of an aviation engineer battalion, observed an individual armed with a knife and apparently ready to attack a girl at the dance. According to the citation, Private Burnam "grasped the armed assailant and, while attempting to disarm him, received a severe cut across the hand." Although the person escaped, Private Burnam was able to divert the attack and prevent injury to other spectators.

Emptied Machine Gun On Jap Zeroes, Then Used Pistol

Jan. 30, 1943

ASIATIC THEATER—A Silver Star combat decoration has been awarded to Private Mack B. Anderson, United States Army, of 211 North Austin street, Brenham, Texas, for bravery.

During a recent attack by Japanese Zero fighters on an airfield somewhere in India, Pvt. Anderson while under continuous fire from the attackers, manned a machine gun until it went out of action, then continued firing with his automatic pistol while several Japanese fighters definitely centered their attack on him.

Unit Praised

The conduct and bravery of the whole engineer unit of which Pvt. Anderson is a member was warmly praised by both Brigadier General Clayton Bissell, commander of the air forces operating in the China-Burma-India theater, and Brigadier General Caleb V. Haynes, commander of the India Task Force.

General Bissell wired Major Donald L. Jarrett, executive officer of the organization: "Reports say the conduct of the Negro troops was magnificent in their return to duty, and the damage to the airdrome was repaired almost immediately after the strafing ended. I desire you and your troops to know the performance of your duty is in the line of the best traditions of the army."

Three others praised were Sergeants Clarence T. Jackson of Washington, D. C.; Elmer Stephens of Cleveland, Ohio, and Ralph Snell of Dotham, Alabama. These men were instrumental in getting the field back into condition after the attack.

South Pacific Heroes:

MAY 29 1943

Four Privates Cited For Bravery; Braved Bombs To Save Comrades

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—Four privates of an infantry regiment have been cited in orders by their commanding officer for gallantry in action after risking their lives during an enemy air raid to evacuate several wounded soldiers from a damaged dugout.

Pvts. Henry Smith, jr, of Godbine, La.; Ben W. Pettis of Sanatobia, Mississippi; Jessie Harris of Tuskegee, Ala., and Verna C. Neal of Ruleville, Mississippi, whose regiment has seen heavy fighting in the South Pacific theater of operations, have been cited by their battalion commander. Lieut.-Colonel Julian G. Herne for going to the aid of the wounded men, after voluntarily leaving their air raid shelter, crossing open ground in spite of falling bombs, and bringing the wounded men to safety.

MAY 29 1943

AWARDED PURPLE HEART

Pvt. Neal, who while aiding the wounded men received a bomb fragment in his left arm, has been awarded the Purple Heart.

Col. Herne, in commending the men, said: "The gallantry of these men is in keeping with the fine tradition of the infantry and is an inspiration to their comrades. The entire battalion is proud of them."

[illegible] C. Record
June 14, 1943

Beaufort Negro Wins Navy Cross

WASHINGTON, June 14.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has awarded the Navy cross to William Pinckney, Negro cook, third class, for his extraordinary heroism aboard the aircraft carrier Enterprise during the battle of the Santa Cruz Islands last October.

Pinckney, 28, is the son of Renty Pinckney of Beaufort, S. C.

His citation said that Pinckney was working in the ammunition handling room when a heavy bomb struck, killing four of his five companions and knocking him unconscious. When Pinckney regained consciousness and started to escape he found a shipmate also trying to get out. The wounded man fell unconscious, however, and Pinckney "unmindful of his own danger," the Navy said, carried his comrade to safety.

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

First Lady Pins Medals On Heroes

APR 10 1943

SEATTLE, Wash. — Four Negro privates, including one from Newport News, Va., were ~~among five~~ soldiers decorated last Saturday by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President, for heroism.

The five soldiers, according to press reports, rescued 10 persons from the Frye Packing Company plant in Seattle after the building had been set afire by the crash of a big Boeing bomber, which was being tested. 31 persons lost their lives in the crash and fire.

APR 10 1943

Names of three of the men who received the medals and congratulations of Mrs. Roosevelt were listed as Lonnie Acrum of Newport News: Bruce

Singletary of Danville, Va., and Charles E. Whiteley of Smithfield, N. C. All are privates.

Never Mind The Medal Now

MAY 2[illegible] - 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgi

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MAY 2 - 1943

Staff Sergeant Dee W. Andus, Carbondale, Illinois, has a double-barrelled reason for that smile. Mail came from home while he was being decorated with the Purple Heart for wounds suffered when his camp was bombed. Sergeant Andus had just received the medal and entered the orderly room to show it to his company commander when the mail came in and Andus got his batch. "Never mind the medal, sir," he said, smiling, "Here's just what I've been looking for—mail from home."

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO SAILOR CITED FOR TOWING 15 MEN ON RAFT UNDER FIRE

MAY 19 1943

Washington, D. C., May 18 (AP).—For attempting to save 15 men adrift on a raft under enemy shell fire by swimming and towing the raft out of danger, Charles Jackson French, a Negro mess attendant has been commended by Adm. William F. Halsey Jr., commander in the South Pacific. French, 23, is from Foreman,

MAY 19 1943

His citation said the incident occurred during an engagement with the Japanese in the Solomon Islands Sept. 5. French and the men on the raft had survived the sinking of the destroyer transport Gregory.

MAY 19 1943

"After the engagement," the citation said, "a group of about 15 men were adrift on a raft which was being shelled by Japanese naval forces. French tied a line to himself and swam for more than two hours without rest, thus attempting to tow the raft. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service."

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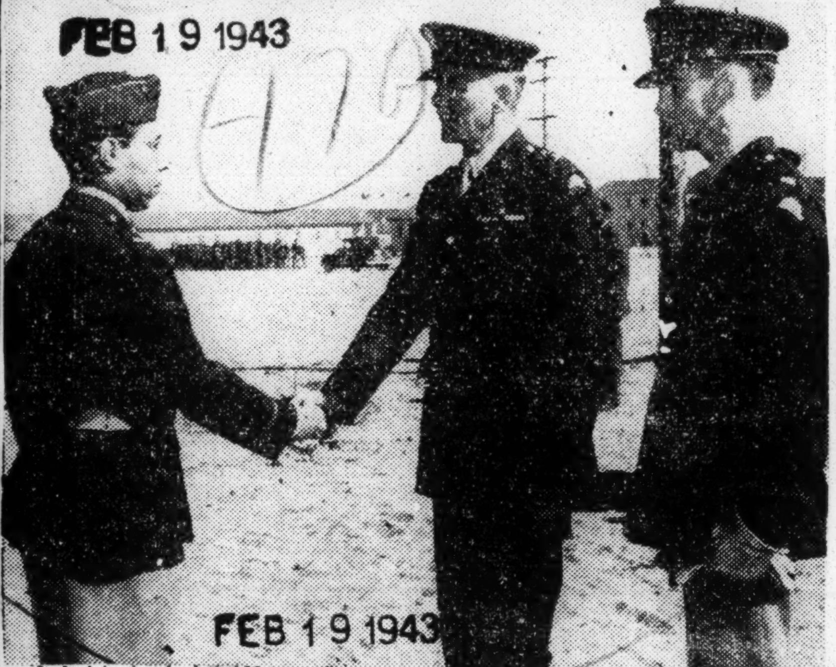
Fort Huachuca Officer Gets Medal for Bravery

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

FEB 19 1943



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FEB 19 1943

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — First Lieutenant Stanis S. Melendez, attached to the 318th Engineers Combat Battalion was decorated with the soldier's medal by Major General Miller of the 93rd Division on February 6, 1943, for an act of heroism beyond the call of duty.

FEB 19 1943

This took place during an accident, which occurred while the 318th Engineers were on maneuvers spanning the Colorado River at a point near Earp, California with a foot bridge on December 1, 1942, when an assault boat containing ten enlisted men was swept by the swift current of the Colorado River into the foot bridge, throwing four of the men into the river.

Lieutenant Melendez seeing the driven assault boat to the spot in accident proceeded in a power the river where the men were last seen and, fully clothed without regard for his own safety dived into the water in an effort to save the lives of four men.

Despite the great risk involved due to many holes in the river bed, which created strong under currents and whirlpools in the heavy sand-laden water, Lieut. Melendiz, repeated his efforts which enabled him to get a hold of one of the men, but due to the current and excited state of the drowning man he was unable to make his rescue effective. However, Lieut. Melendez persisted until he was exhausted and had to be assisted from the water.

Lt. Melendez ,an American citizen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanis Melendez of 7408 Susquehanna St. Pittsburgh, Pa., was born in 1915. He entered into active service on July 1, 1942, and was sent to the Medical Field Service School, in Carlisle, Penn. He graduated from there August 1, 1942, and was attached to the Service Station 318th Medical Battalion.

FEB 19 1943

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
June [illegible], 1943

NEGROES WIN AWARDS

Two From Mississippi Among Four Decorated for Bravery

WASHINGTON, June 3.—(AP)—The Army's Legion of Merit has been awarded to four negro enlisted men for exceptionally meritorious services on Guadalcanal, Secretary Stimson announced Thursday. They were:

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Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss., Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala., Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss., and Pvt. Henry Smith Jr., Good Pine, La.

The identical citations for the four infantrymen read:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service on March 27, 1943, at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy air raid in order to assist in evacuating casualties."

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Private Given Meritorious Award

For risking his life to save others, Pvt. Jesse Harris, Tuskegee, Ala., is one of four Negro enlisted men to be awarded the Army's Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious services on Guadalcanal, according to Secretary of War Stimson in Washington.

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JUN 1943

The citation to the infantryman, stated:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service on March 27, 1943, at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy craft, in order to assist in evacuating casualties."

Jungles Hold No Barriers

Soldiers Win Awards For Difficult Feat

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUN 26 1943

SOUTH PACIFIC, June 24—News of awards, assignments and promotions of Negro troops from the Pacific area is increasing weekly. Most recent news tells the award of the Legion of Merit to two soldiers from Alabama and Louisiana by Lieutenant General Millard F. Harmon, Commanding General of the Army Forces in the South Pacific area.

Staff Sgt. Dennis Holt, 3600 Douglas Road, Birmingham, Alabama, received his award as Chief of a Battalion Wire Section, for leading his men on wire trails, through miles of difficult jungle. They carried wire up to a mountain top observation post and frequently crossed miles of water to nearby islands in all sorts of bad weather.

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Sgt. J. P. Mays of Talula, Louisiana, as regimental wire chief, directed the field operation of installing and maintaining the wire-lines of a widely-dispersed regiment. He negotiated difficult and unexplored terrain with limited supplies, using pack horses instead of wire-laying equipment. Placed on limited duty, because of physical conditions brought about by his activities, Sergeant Mays, heedless of his condition, continued his work, which often required attention from 14 to 18 hours a day, and through his efforts, uninterrupted communications we maintained.

Three promotions in the area, in the ranks of an engineer battalion, which received its basic training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, are those of Jack Hayman, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Morris Lee, Vidalia, Louisiana, and Thurman Vaughn, Nashville, Tennessee.

JUN 26 1943

A soldier who earned the chance to become a candidate for Officers School, while serving away from home, is Sergeant P. O. Armstrong, brother of Mrs. Clavat Strains, 995 Yeager street, Knoxville, Tennessee.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Negroes Honored

PM's Bureau

JUN 1943

WASHINGTON, June 4.—The War Dept. has awarded the Legion of Merit to four Negro enlisted men for exceptionally meritorious service on Guadalcanal. They are Pvt. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss.; Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss.; and Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., Good Pine, La. All are infantrymen

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JUN 1943

47b-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

RACE COP LEFT FOR DEAD BY NIP CAPTORS

British Laud Bravery of Policeman On Secret Intelligence Job

JAN 9 - 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — The peerless bravery of a retired British Negro policeman who endured the savage brutality of Japanese captors to conceal the presence of American soldiers on Guadalcanal Island has been disclosed by the British Joint Staff mission here.

When seized by the axis power, the policeman, Sgt.-Maj. Vouze, was engaged on secret intelligence duties.

His torturers demanded that he reveal the hiding place and number of the United States troops. Sgt.-Major Vouze refused to comply and played a large part in the success of American operations in that theatre of war.

JAN 9 - 1943

Stabbed With Bayonets

The British reported that the intelligence officer was bound to a tree and stabbed in the arm, face and shoulder with bayonets in an effort to force him to tell where the troops were located.

Finally in a display of barbarous rage, the Japanese viciously jabbed the policeman in the abdomen and left him for dead.

After the Japs had gone, Sgt.-Maj. Vouze freed himself and crawled to the United States line. He refused to accept treatment at the hospital until he had made a complete report to the commanding officer.

JAN 9 - 1943

The officer is now reported to have improved and is expected to assume other dangerous missions.

According to a report of the British high commissioner concerning the heroic deed: "The Americans say no white man could have survived his wounds. I am unable to conceive of any greater bravery."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

First Negro Soldier Wins Bars in AEF

JAN 9 - 1943

JAN 9 - 1943

On the morning of October 26, 1942, Master Sergeant John T. Lyle, assumed as usual his duties of sergeant major of a Station Hospital somewhere in Africa. He arrived on time at 8 a. m., but before noon of the same day Sergeant Lyle had signed his name to the oath as a first lieutenant, Medical Administrative Corps.

JAN 9 - 1943

He is one of the first of his race to be commissioned from the ranks in the war zone. Young soldiers in the detachment were heard to remark: "'thought you had to go to West Point before you could become a commissioned officer." "Right," replied the newly made officer, "I went to West Point. I was there for sixteen years. Served at the Station Hospital as clerk to the Recruiting Officer during that time."

Lieutenant Lyle was born in Lexington, Ky., on October 5, 1894, and attended the public schools of his home town and Frankfort. After the World War he returned to Kentucky and taught school at Louisville. He first enlisted in the United States Army at Fort Thomas, Ky., on July 24, 1917, attending the Medical Training School at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and Camp Funston, Kan., 1917-18.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

BRITISH BROADCAST U. S. NEGRO VOICES

JAN 13 1943

BY NAT A. BARROWS

(Copyright, 1943, By The Chicago Daily News, Inc.)

LONDON, Jan. 12—(Special Radio)—They didn't get to see King George, but that doesn't detract from the thrill of being on the same radio program with him here in London. Yes, sir, those five colored soldiers from the United States Army are mighty thrilled about that.

JAN 13 1943

They are the first American Negro soldiers ever to broadcast through BBC microphones. They went on the Christmas program following the King's Empire message, then again on Jan. 3, singing spirituals over the force's program; Tuesday night they are going on again at the headquarters of the BBC's world-wide broadcasting outlet. And they will sing the two songs that are beginning to emerge as the soldiers' favorites of the war thus far:

"You Are My Sunshine" and "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas."

Billed as "Uncle Sam's Boys on the Air," the soldiers are Sgt. Paul L. Love, of Galveston; Sgt. Edward L. Humphries, Miami, Fla.; Cpl. Samuel Williams, Dallas, Tex.; Pfc. Bernie Williams, Bryant, Tex., and Pvt. Alfred Daniels, Los Angeles.

One of the first Clarke County service men to be decorated for bravery is a Negro. Last week The Democrat carried a notice of Sgt. Ernest Johnson, of Cunningham, having received the Soldier's Medal for helping his lieutenant rescue an injured British soldier from a building filled with explosives and fumes and in which live mines were still exploding. We didn't know at the time that he is a Negro but are nonetheless proud of him because of the fact. We are likewise gratified that his act of heroism has been duly recognized and rewarded.

Robeson to Speak At Mulzac Dinner

"P.M. Daily"
N.Y. N.Y.

Paul Robeson will be the principal speaker at the dinner tomorrow night in honor of Capt. Hugh Mulzac and the crew of the *Booker T. Washington.*

JAN 11 1943

The dinner will be given by the Greater New York Industrial Union Council, CIO, at the Commodore. Mulzac is the first Negro to command a U. S. merchant ship during this war. The ship recently completed her maiden voyage at an East Coast port.

Langston Hughes, Negro poet, will read a composition written especially for the occasion. Fred Waring's glee club will sing a new Waring song about the Merchant Marine, *A Song for the Unsung,* dedicated to Mulzac and his crew.

Other speakers will include:

Charles Poletti.
Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr.
Joseph Curran.
Anna Rosenberg.
Dorothy Funn.

JAN 11 1943

George Medal Awarded Native Who Survived Jap Torture

"The Informer" Houston, Texas

By INNES

LONDON.—(ANP) — The signal distinction of the George medal has been accorded to a fizzy-haired, six-foot Melanesian Negroid native, Sgt. Major Vouza, of the Solomon Islands constabulary, a British coloni-

al force, for having been faithful unto what in a white man would have been death—for the Maoris and Polynesians can sustain wounds which a Caucasian could not survive. Pierced through and through by Japanese bayonets, Vouza, until unconsciousness robbed him of his breath, refused to disclose the hiding place of the adjacent force of American marines on Guadalcanal. Doubtless his fidelity will be brought to the attention of the U. S. government.

JAN 16 1943

Do Not Know Meaning of Fear

Vouza is of the same sterling type as the armed constabulary village constables—many of them former cannibals — whose record in New Guinea stands so high and where they are still valuably aiding the American and Australian defenders against the invading Japanese. Fealty is their watchword, and they do not know the meaning of fear or treachery. One of them has been known to march up his file of police unarmed, owing to the order of a white officer who believed in appeasement, to certain death in the hope of supporting that officer against armed savages.

Vouza, whom an uninformed London newspaper quaintly describes as "Mister Vouza, a retired police officer," was as different from that conception as was Gunga Din from Colonel Blimp. He was sent on secret intelligence work behind the Japanese lines. The Japanese caught him and vainly questioned him. They tied him to a tree, questioned him again, and thrust bayonets into his arm and shoulder. Still he would not speak. They bayoneted him in the face and stomach, and left him for dead.

He managed to free himself and to crawl through the jungle, every inch of which he knew, to the marines' lines. His wounds were dressed, and in halting pidgin English, he made his report.

"No white man could have survived such injuries," said an army surgeon.

The daily life of Vouza, even before the war, was like that of all his fellows—the life to which the commandos are being so strenuously trained. He ran barefooted through the forest and swam rivers. His uniform was a khaki shirt of sulu, a white sash, and a Sam Brown belt which held up his waist belt of cartridges. When the British resident commissioner visited the island Vouza was in his glory, for he was the commissioner's personal bodyguard. At home, in his thatched hut, he taught his young son pidgin English, the Lingua Franca of the islands, in order that the boy might achieve an official position when the time was ripe. With a pay of four shillings a day, Vouza, aged 37, was the Croesus among his fellows.

JAN 16 1943

Comments

F. N. Ashley, former resident commissioner in the British Solomon Islands, now in London, said: "Vouza behaved just as I knew he would. He was my right-hand man—a great big fellow like Paul Robeson, but with wooly hair. I had great respect for him. When I visited his area on an inspectional visit after there had been trouble there, he cleverly picked a way through the jungle and told me all about his wife and son."

JAN 16 1943

Vouza is evidently just such another as Sgt. Barigi, formerly of the Papuan armed constabulary and right-hand man of the late G. A. W. Monckton, who as resident magistrate helped preserve the Queen's Peace in the early years of the turbulent Papua. He is not unique. The existence of such men gives lie to those who contend that the Britons have failed to win the confidence of the native races, "half devil and half child," who were cannibals yesterday and today wear the scanty but significant uniform of the white man's government.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Army Bestows Honors On Hayneville Negro

FEB 2 - 1943

Technician Fourth-Grade Caesar Brown, negro soldier from Hayneville, Lowndes County, and the honors he has won during 13 years of service in the U. S. Army, are the subject of a feature article in a recent issue of the camp paper published at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, where he is stationed.

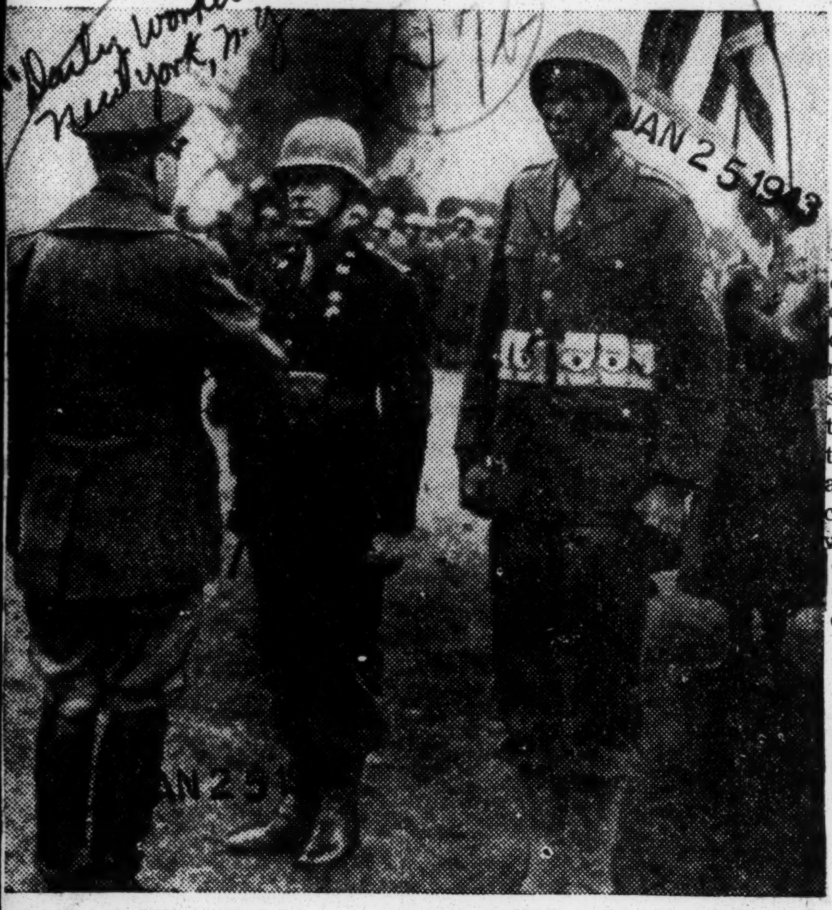
Brown, the oldest enlisted man in the 3417th Ordnance Company, has won such honors as Good Conduct Medal, Expert Rifleman, Pistol, Superior, With Hand Grenade, Expert Bayonet, Expert in Small Arms and Expert Automatic Rifleman, and most recently, first place in a marksmanship contest.

FEB 2 1943

Enlisting in 1926 at Fort Benning, Ga., at the age of 22, Brown returned to civilian life in 1939, but enlisted again when war was declared, and after special training at Mechanics' School at Hampton Institute, Va., was sent back to his old station with the 3417th Ordnance Automotive Maintenance Company at Fort Huachuca.

Win Medals for Saving Tommy

"Daily Worker" New York, N.Y.



JAN 25 1943

The Soldier's Medal is presented to Lieut. Vernon G. Adams, left, and Sgt. Ernest Johnson for heroism displayed in rescuing an injured British Tommy from a building near their camp after it was destroyed by the explosion of a land mine stored in it. Maj. Gen. John G. H. Lee, U. S. Army services of Supply boss in England, makes the award.

ittsburgh Courier
ittsburgh.PA.

British Negro Proves Valor In Aiding Allies

JAN 9 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7—(ANP)—The peerless bravery of a retired British Negro policeman, who endured the savage brutality of Japanese captors to conceal the presence of American soldiers on Gaudalcanal Island. has been disclosed by the British Joint Staff Mission here.

When seized by the Axis power, the policemen, Sergeant Major Vouze, was engaged on secret intelligence duties. His torturers demanded that he reveal the hiding place and number of the United States troops. Sergeant Major Vouze refused to comply and played a large part in the success of American operations in that theatre of war.

HORRIBLE EXPERIENCE

The British reported that the intelligence officer was bound to a tree and stabbed in the arm, shoulder and face with bayonets in an effort to force him to tell where

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Kshattryas, are considered higher than the others, Now, I am not justifying the caste system. It is an evil, and should be eliminated. But how? Caste distinctions were the result of an economic system and can be eliminated only by changing the system.

FATHER SERVED ALL

Take my own family, for example. We are Brahmins by caste. If any member of a lower caste visited our house, then everything that he had touched would have to be thoroughly washed. Under the pre-British set-up, my family had followed the traditional Brahmin profession of priesthood. But, due to economic necessity, my grandfath-

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vived his wounds. I am unable to conceive of any greater bravery."

Negro Seaman Gets Royal Bronze Medal

"Weekly Review"
Jan. 9, 1943 Birmingham Ala.

LONDON, Dec. 8—Heroic lifesaving in shark infested waters in the Caribbean has brought signal honors to colored Able Seaman Desmond Woods of the Netherlands West Indies. The tanker on which Woods was serving was dogged for four hours by an enemy U-boat in the Caribbean. The ship sought desperately to evade the sead raided, but finally four torpedoes crashed into her hull and she sank in five minutes. The colored seaman plunged into the water. Despite the darkness of a moonless night, he caught sight of the ship's Second Cook, who could not swim and gave him his own life belt. He then hurried to the assistance of the Third Officer who was on the verge of going down. After hauling the officer aboard a raft, Woods swam to the Chief Engineer, who was swimming about badly injured. He pulled the engineer aboard the raft but the engineer died ten minutes later. The colored seaman, with another crew of members, then rowed the raft 13 miles to land.

The fifteen crew members, who were lost, were the first victims of the U-boat campaign in the Carribbean. Jan. 9, 1943

Recognition of Wood's courage came last month when the Royal Humane Society of London announced that its decoration, the Ribbon of the Bronze Medal of the Society, had been awarded to Woods. The decoration is in the form of a ribbon because the Society, owing to the scarcity of metals, is not presenting actual medal until after the war. A check for 25 pounds of sterling goes with the decoration.

The Government of Curacao, Netherlands West Indies, and private quarters in Curacao have sent money and flowers to the mother of the seaman to express their admiration for his valor. Wood's mother lives on the Island of Saba, also in the Dutch West Indies.

Daily World
Atlanta. Ga.

Vouza [illegible] of the same sterling type [illegible] he armed constabulary village constables—many of them former cannibals—whose record in New Guinea stands so high and where they are still valuably aiding the American and Australian defenders against the invading Japanese. Fealty is their watch-word, and they do not know the meaning of fear or treachery. One of them has been known to march up his file of police unarmed, owing to the order of a white officer who believed in appeasement, to certain death in the hope of supporting that officer against armed savages.

TIED TO TREE JAN 11 1943

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He managed to free himself and to crawl through the jungle, every inch of which he knew, to the marines' lines. His wounds were dressed, and in halting pidgin English, he made his report.

"No white man could have survived such injuries," said an Army surgeon.

JAN 11 194

The daily life of Vouza, even before the war, was like that of all his fellows—the life to which the commandos are being so strenuously trained. He ran bare-footed through the forest and swam rivers His uniform was a khaki shirt of sulu, a white sash, and a Sam Brown belt which held up his waist belt of cartridges. When the British resident commissioner visited the island, Vouza was in his glory, for he was the commissioner's personal bodyguard. At home, in his thatched hut, he taught his young son pidgin English, the Lingua Franca of the islands, in order that the boy might achieve an official position when the time was ripe. With a pay of four shillings a day, Vouza, aged 37, was the Croesus among his fellows.

JAN 11 194

RIGHT HAND MAN

F. N. Ashley, former resident commissioner in the British Solomon Islands now in London, said: "Vouza behaved just as I knew he would. He was my right hand man—a great big fellow like Paul Robeson, but with wooly hair. I had great respect for him. When I visited his area on an inspectional visit after there had been trouble there, he cleverly picked a way through the jungle and told me all about his wife and son."

JAN 11 194

Vouza is evidently just such another as Sgt. Barigi, formerly of the Papuan armed constabulary and right-hand man of the late G. A. W. Monckton, who as resident magistrate helped preserve the Queen's Peace in the early years of the turbulent Papua. He is not unique. The existence of such men gives lie to those who contend that the Britons have failed to win the confidence of the native races, "half devil and half child," who were cannibals yesterday and today wear the scanty but significant uniform of the white man's government.

"B'ham News" B'ham, Ala.

NEGRO DECORATED

JAN 24 1943

One of the first Clarke County service men to be decorated for bravery is a Negro. Last week The Democrat carried a notice of Sgt. Ernest Johnson, of Cunningham, having received the Soldier's Medal for helping his lieutenant rescue an injured British soldier from a building filled with explosives and fumes and in which live mines were still exploding. We didn't know at the time that he is a Negro. but are nonetheless proud of him because of the fact. We are likewise gratified that his act of heroism has been duly recognized and rewarded.—Clarke County Democrat (Grove Hill).

Silver Star For Bravery Is Awarded Brenham. Texas. Hero

Atlanta Daily World
JAN 26 1943
Atlanta, Ga.
JAN 28 1943

ASIATIC THEATER. . . . A Silver Star combat decoration has been awarded to Private Mack B. Anderson, United States Army, of 211 North Austin Street, Breham, Texas, for bravery. Atlanta Daily World

During a recent attack by Japanese Zero fighters on an air field somewhere in India, Private Anderson, while under continous fire from attackers, manned a machine gun until it went out of action, then continued firing with his automatic pistol while several Japanese fighters definitely centered their attack on him. World

The conduct and bravery of the whole Engineer unit of which Private Anderson is a member was warmly praised by both Brigadier General Clayton Bissell, commander of the Air Forces operating in the China-Burmba-India theater, and Brigadier General Caleb V. Hayne, commander of the India Task Force. Atlanta Daily World JAN 26 1943

General Bissell wired Major Donald L. Jarrett, executive officer of the organization: "Reports say the conduct of the Negro troops was maginificent in their return to duty. and the damage to the airdrome was repaired almost immediately after the strafing ended. I desire you and your troops to know the performance of your duty is in line of the best traditions of the Army.

Three others praised were Sergeants Clarence Jackson of Washington, D. C.; Elmer Stephens of Cleveland, Ohio and Ralph Snell of Dothan, Alabama. These men were instrumental in getting the field back into condition after the attack.

47b-1943
Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Sergeant Cited For Valor

Medal Presented To Arthur Freeman By Gen. Royce

MAR 1 1 1943

TUSKEGEE, March 10.—For heroism displayed in rescuing an eight-year-old child from drowning in Michigan's icy Flint River, Arthur W. Freeman (right), 28-year-old Negro sergeant of the 889th Basic Training Squadron here, received the Soldier's Medal for Valor.

The medal was awarded by Maj. Gen. Ralph Royce, commanding the Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center, who flew here to make the presentation at a ceremony which massed squadrons of Negro enlisted men, aviation cadets and tactical officers.

Sergeant Freeman, at the time of the rescue on Dec. 12, was on leave to attend the funeral of his grandmother at his home, Flint, Mich., and was returning from the funeral when shouts for help called him to the banks of the frozen Flint River and to the rescue of the eight-year-old white child, Wilbur Wheatley.

The citation read here by Lieut. Maurice Scott, adjutant at the presentation, revealed that "the child had disappeared through the ice on which he had been walking about 100 feet from shore.

MAR 1 1 1943

"Attracted by the frantic cries for help by those who had witnessed the accident, Sergeant Freeman, with utter disregard of his personal safety, immediately obtained a rope from a truck parked in the vicinity . . tied the rope around his waist and slid down the hill to the river's edge and onto the ice where the child had entered the water.

"Leaving the other end of the rope in the hands of men standing on safe ice, he plunged into the cold water of the river three times and, with great difficulty, succeeded in bringing the child to the surface. He tied the rope around the child's waist and pushed him from the water onto the ice.

"When those on the bank were unable to pull both Freeman and the young Wheatley to shore, the Negro soldier abandoned the rope and allowed the boy to be pulled to safety first.

"While the child was revived by artificial respiration, Freeman, unnoticed, slipped away to a nearby basement to obtain dry clothes."

MAR 1 1 1943

But Monday, as happy reminder of what he considered a closed incident, Sergeant Freeman walked front and center to be awarded a medal by no less a personage than his commanding general and to hear these words at the conclusion of the citation:

"The heroism displayed by Sergeant Freeman on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service."

The coveted Soldier's Medal awarded by General Orders under the direction of the President is, with the exception of the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award that can come to an enlisted man outside of a combat zone.

MAR 1 1 1943

At the close of the ceremony Sergeant Freeman stood in the reviewing stand with General Royce, Col. Frederick V. H. Kimble, commanding officer of the 27th Training Wing; Lieut. Col. Noel F. Parrish, of the Tuskegee Army Flying School; Lieut. Col. John T. Hazard, executive officer; Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., executive of troops at that station; Capt. John C. Coale, commandant of cadets, and others, as columns of soldiers passed in review.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Medal To Officer Who Tried To Save Three

JAN 2 3 1943

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz., Jan. 21 — (ANP) — First Lieut. Stanis S. Melendez, medical corps officer attached to the 318th Engineer battalion, was awarded a Soldier's medal recently by the commanding general of the 93rd Infantry division, as a result of his heroic attempt to save the lives of three soldiers who were drowned in the Colorado river while their unit was on maneuvers the first part of December.

He received the Soldier's medal with a citation. Lieutenant Melendez is from Pittsburhg.

One of the four men he tried to rescue saved himself by swimming to safety. The other three men were drowned.

JAN 2 3 1943

After dragging and searching the Colorado river for three weeks, the other three men were found. One was found 70 miles down the river, one 10 miles down the river, and one at the spot where all three men went under the water.

The victims were Pvts. Teeordley Goven, Silas Stevenson and Corp. Amos Rogers, all of whom were members of Company B, 318th Engineer battalion.

JAN 2 3 1943

LEXINGTON MESSMAN GETS MEDAL

FEB 1 3 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

FEB 1 3 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—The Navy Department this week announced the awarding of the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Elwin Bell, a 20-year-old messman aboard the ill-fated Carrier Lexington, for "distinguished heroism" during the battle of the Coral Sea.

Bell, though near exhaustion after volunteer service with a fire-fighting and repair crew in an area filled with exploding gasoline vapor and ammunition, completely disregarded his personal safety to enter the most dangerous part of the ship to rescue injured members of the ship's crew who had been trapped below decks.

WINS PROMOTION

FEB 1 3 1943

As a result of this action, Bell was one of five enlisted men in the Lexington's crew who were awarded the Navy and Marine Medal, according to the Navy Department's announcement. He was also promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second class.

A former resident of Jamaica, N. Y., he lived with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th avenue. An orphan, he attended Jamaica high school for one and a half years, then served in the CCC and entered the Navy on July 18, 1941.

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U.S.S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, though emerging in an exhausted condition, unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

THRILLING ACCOUNT OF HEROIC DEED

Navy Department and OWI officials indicated that Bell was the messman who figured in such a rescue described in a cable sent to this country by Stanley Johnson, a war correspondent aboard the Lexington, shortly after its loss was announced.

Johnson's account follows:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage X.

"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face, for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: 'I'll go, sir.'

"'Sure you know how to reach them?' the commander asked.

"'Yes, sir, I know the way.'

"'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

"'Yes, sir, I do; but I would like to try just the same.'

"'Right, then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

"He went; through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more—he brought the three men with him."

The other enlisted men in the carrier's crew who received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal in the battle included: Walter S. Cochrane, phamacist's mate, second class; Douglass Moore, storekeeper, second class; Paul Meuleveld, storekeeper, third class, and Walter Stacey, seaman, first class.

Washington Tribun
Washington, D. C.

FEB 1943

NEGRO FIGHTER AWARDED SILVER STAR—P. F. C. Mack B. Anderson, Brenham, Texas, who has been awarded the Silver Star, fourth highest combat medal for his heroic action during the recent Japanese bombings in the China-Burma-India area. Several instances of exceptional courage were reported. P. F. C. Anderson stood up in the middle of an airfield firing a machine gun while a Japanese Zero fighter repeatedly swooped over him. Eventually his gun jamed and Anderson then raced across the field, leaped into a trench, whipped out his pistol, and continued.

FEB 20 1943

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

SHIPYARD WORKER WINS CERTIFICIATE

MAY 6 1943

Washington, D. C.—A West Coast shipyard worker whose suggestion increased production 400 per cent has become the first Negro war worker to win a Certificate of Individual Production Merit, the War Production Drive Headquarters announced Monday (May 3, 1943.)

MAY 6 1943

The award winner is Charles H. Fletcher, a welder in the Moore Dry Dock Company shipyards at Oakland, Cal. He worked out a device to use in welding insulation pins to deckheads, which increased production 400 per cent.

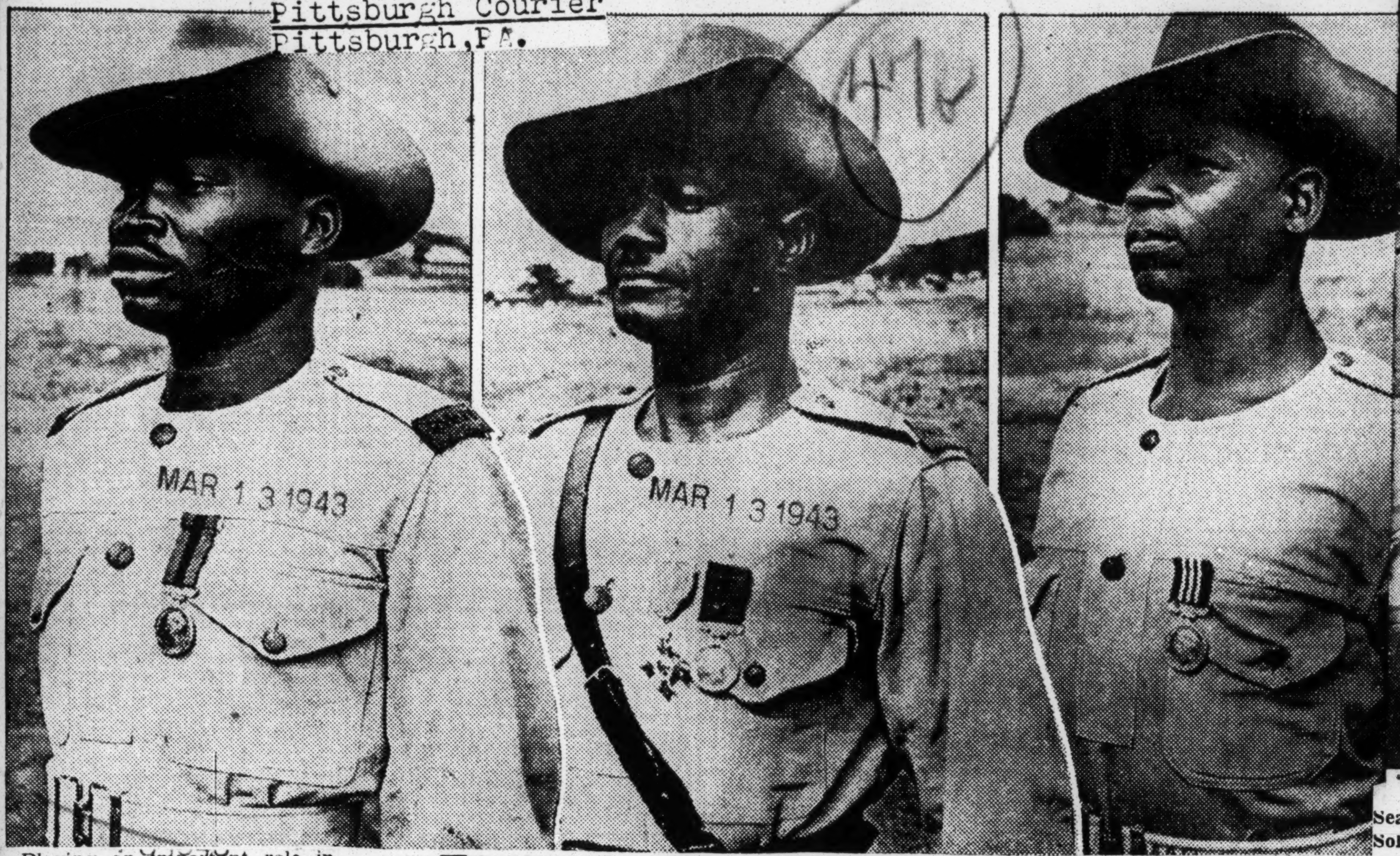
MAY 6 1943

In a simple operation, Fletcher used a welding pin extension made of copper piping in his innovation. The device was recommended by the Board of Individual Awards to merit widest possible use throughout the shipbuilding industry.

MAY 6 1943

HEROES OF ROYAL WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE RECEIVE DECORATIONS

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.



MAR 1 3 1943

MAR 1 3 1943

Playing an important role in the East African campaign, fighting men of the Royal West African Frontier Force, recently took time out for impressive ceremonies at which some of their gallant warriors were presented with awards for bravery in action.

At the left is Pvt. Bukare Frafra, Gold Coast Regiment, Royal African Frontier Force, who was awarded the Imperial Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in the East African campaign. He was wounded twice.

MAR 1 3 1943

Center photo is of Regimental Sergeant Major Llanyer Degarti of the Gold Coast Regiment. He was the first Gold Coast officer to receive the coveted M.B.E. (Member of the Order of the British Empire.) in this war. Nineteen years in the service he holds other bravery and conduct awards.

MAR 1 3 1943

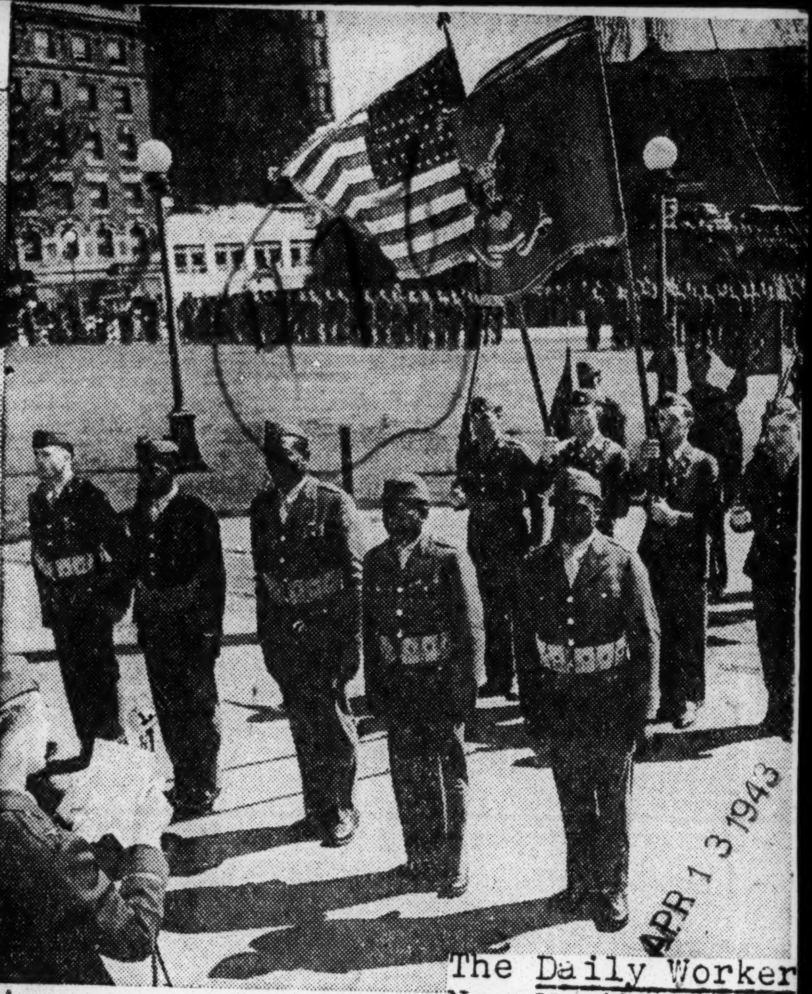
At the right is Pvt. Seidu Issalia of the famed regiment, who was also awarded a medal for bravery under fire in the East African campaign.

First Lady Decorates Heroes

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 1 3 1943

APR 1 3 1943



APR 1 3 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Pvt. Charles E. Whiteley is shown (top) being decorated on Seattle's court house lawn by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt who pinned the Soldier's Medal on his tunic. The Negro soldier had earned the reward by participating in the heroic rescue of trapped workers in the Frye Packing plant when a Boeing bomber crashed into the building with a death toll of more than thirty. Whiteley and other Negro soldiers who were passing by rushed to the rescue. Below, Col. George F. Heney reads the citation from President Roosevelt to (left to right) Corp. Kenneth J. Cristner, Pvt. Lonnie Ancorum, Pvt. Sam Morris, Pvt. Bruce Singletary and Pvt. Whiteley, who took part in the rescue. All were honored by Mrs. Roosevelt who pinned similar awards on their tunics.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Mess Attendant Awarded For Bravery in Action

FEB 1 3 1943

FEB 1 3 1943

A 20-year-old mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored from the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, Jamaica, N.Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second class.

FEB 1 3 1943

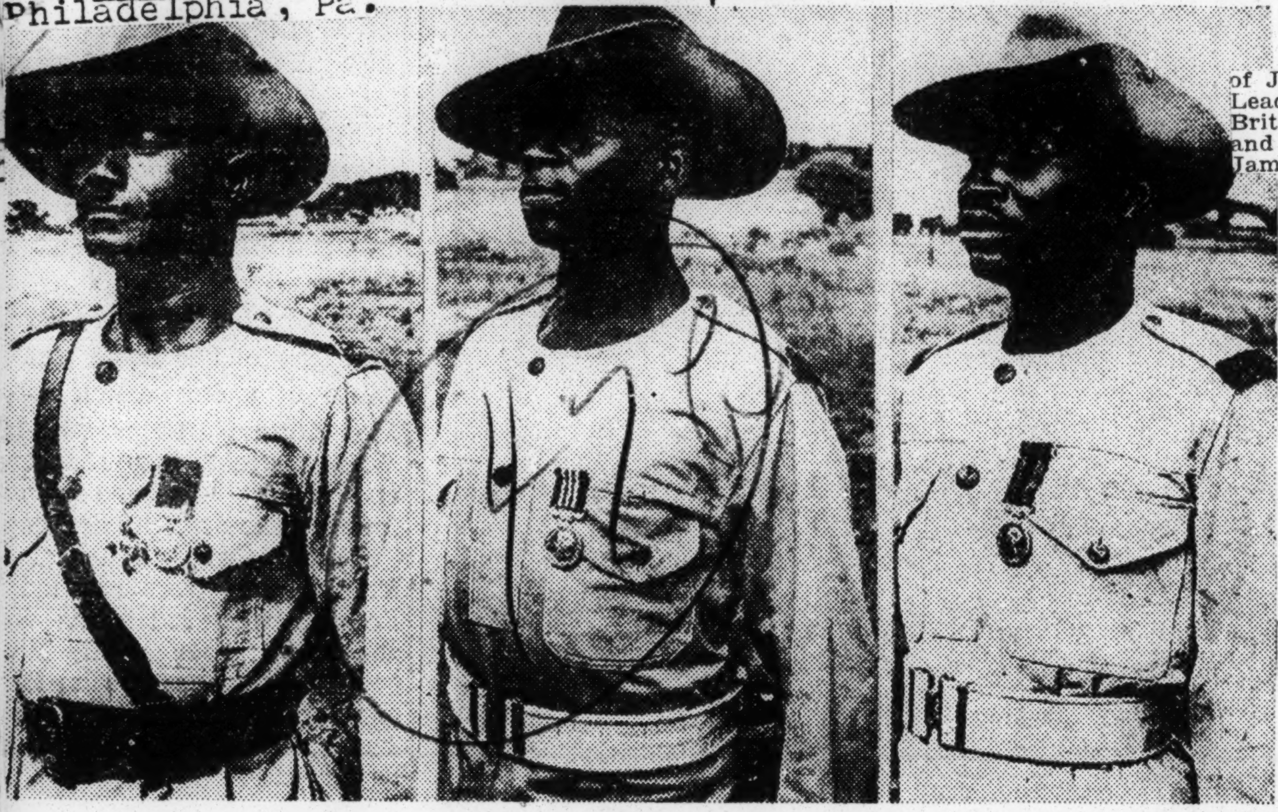
Bell, who attended Jamaica High School for one and a half years and later served in the Civilian Conserv...ion Corps, applied for enlistment in the Navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

47b-1943

Bravery Knows No Color

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

March 13, 1943



Left: Regimental Sergeant MAJOR LLANYIER DAGARTI, of the Gold Coast Regiment, Royal West African Frontier Force, was the first Gold Coast Soldier to receive the M.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) in this war, for continuous gallantry and devotion to duty while under fire in the East African campaign. His magnificent example of coolness and courage inspired his battalion. Nineteen years in the service, he holds Good Conduct and Long Service medals. March 13, 1943

Center: Private SEIDU ISSALIA, Gold Coast Regiment, Royal West African Frontier Force, has received the Military Medal for bravery in the East African campaign. While acting as a runner to his platoon commander, he was shot through the groin taking a message to company headquarters. Despite his wounds, he crawled on, delivered the message and crawled back to his platoon commander to inform him that his mission had been accomplished. He was granted an immediate award for this conspicuous act of gallantry.

Right: Private BUKARO FRAFRA, Gold Coast Regiment, Royal African Frontier Force, who has been awarded the Imperial Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in the East African campaign. As a member of a patrol sent out to find the way over a ravine and across a tank trap, he worked his Bran gun forward to within 50 yards of the tank trap, inflicting seven casualties on an enmey party working beyond it. Under very heavy fire, he was wounded, but refused to give in. He stuck to his gun until it was knocked out of action and he was wounded a second time. He is one of the first three African soldiers to receive the Imperial D. C. M. –(British Official Photos from OWI). March 13, 1943

DECORATED BY KING-GEORGE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By GEORGE PADMORE

LONDON, April 15—(Censored)—Quite a number of colored West Indian airmen serving with the Royal Air Force have already distinguished themselves in action over Germany.

The latest islander to be awarded the "Distinguished Flying Medal" for gallantry is Sergeant W. K. Hynam of Barbados.

The young flyer, whose job is to release the bombs, went to Buckingham palace to receive his medal from King George.

RECENT PROMOTIONS

The following West Indians have been promoted recently: Flight Lieutenant D. D. Barnard of St. Lucia, to Squadron Leader; Pilot Officer Ian Bourne of Trinidad, to Flying Officer. Bourne is now a prisoner of war; Cadet C. W. Branch of Antigua, to 2nd Lieutenant; Leading Aircraftsman D. DeVerteuil of Trinidad, to Pilot Officer; Leading Aircraftsman A. W. Gooding of Barbados to Pilot Officer; Leading Aircraftsman E. L. Grant of British Guiana, to Pilot Officer; Sergeant W. H. Ironside of Trinidad, to Pilot Officer; Cadet S. Knaggs of Trinidad, to Second Lieutenant; Leading Aircraftsman E. A. H. Lawrence of St. Vincent to Pilot Officer; Pilot Officer J. Maura of Bahamas, to Flying Officer; Sgt. J. A. B. Robinson of Jamaica, to Warrant Officer; Cadet P. J. C. Smith of Bermuda, to Second Lieutenant; Cadet R. A. Taylor of Bermuda, to Second Lieutenant; Corporal A. W. Wood of Jamaica for Second Lieutenant; Leading Aircraftsman G. Wood of British Guiana, to Pilot Officer, and Pilot W. A. W. Strachan of Jamaica to Flying Officer.

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2 Soldiers Decorated in North Africa

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Navy Steward's Gun Crew Gets Credit for Bringing Down Nazi Plane; They're Expert Shoppers

MAR 13 1943

By OLLIE STEWART

War Correspondent of the Afro-American Newspapers with U.S. Troops in Africa

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SOMEWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 16.—Because of wounds received as the result of enemy action, two soldiers of a quartermaster battalion near here have been awarded the Purple Heart.

Both men continued working in a warehouse during an enemy air bombardment until relieved from duty and taken to the hospital. They have now recovered and rejoined their unit.

The first colored soldiers to be decorated here since the opening of the North African campaign, they are Pvt. Russell Coleman of Linden, N.J., and Pcf. James Cornwell of Chester, S.C.

Congratulated by Chaplain

Presentation was made by the battalion commander before the assembled battalion. Chaplain L. M. Durden, only colored officer in the unit, congratulated the recipients on behalf of the hard-working outfit.

The citation reads: "Awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received as result of enemy action on the morning of December 31, 1942."

MAR 13 1943

Others on Duty

Among men likewise on duty during the air raid, but uninjured were Pfc. William S. Thomas, 218 Kater Street, Philadelphia, former AFRO-AMERICAN newsboy, and Pvt. Sidney Alexander, New York, who is proud of a letter he received from Louis Armstrong. Sidney's brother, Danny, a dancer, of the team of Danny and Edith, works with Armstrong's band.

Others include:

Technician Fifth Grade Wilbur Edwards, New York, who pines for letters from Miss Beatrice Anderson, 255 W. 114th Street; Cpl. Charles Hicks, Long Island, who wants word from Miss Beatrice Massey; Staff Sgt. Gid Alston, Norfolk, Va.; Pfc. Harold Turner, New York; Pvt. William McGrew, Chicago;

Cpl. George Greenfield, Brooklyn; Pvt. Charles Parks, New York; Pfc. Waymon Robinson, Stamford, Conn.; Pvt. Richard Cutler, Wilmington, N.C., and Pvt. Robley McFarlane, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, who has lived many years in New York.

Staged Variety Show

Two days before presentation of the awards, the unit was entertained at a variety show featuring St. Ralph Billingslea, emcee, former singer with Chicago Playboys' Orchestra. Tap dancers were Cpl. Lonnie Howard, New York, whose father, Lionel Howard, now has a band, and Pfc. Chuddy Johnson, Albany, New York, professional dancer before induction.

A novelty trio included Private First Class Johnson, Sgt. Harry F. Jones, Pittsburgh, and Cpl. William Miller of Texas. Staff Sgt. Charles Verra of Boston was soloist.

Navy Stewards Good Shoppers

Three interesting navy men visited me this week. They are Chief Steward Bonney Montgomery, New York, with twenty-four years of service to his credit; First Class Steward William Taylor, 813 Avenue A, Norfolk, Va., and First Class Steward Ralph C. Cooper, 2025 Pine Street, Portsmouth, Va.

One of their jobs is buying of food for officers of their ships and on shopping excursion with them I was amazed at the manner in which they selected and bargained for the best foods in markets where no English is spoken. But they speak several languages as result of their travels all over the world.

Credited with One Plane

In air raids they take battle stations at anti-aircraft guns with the rest of ship's crew. Taylor's gun crew is credited with shooting at least one German plane out of the sky. MAR 13 1943

Other seamen met recently are: James Walker, Louisville, Ky.; Archie L. Rainey, former AFRO-AMERICAN newsboy, St. Petersburg, Fla.; John H. Stewart, Augusta, Ga.; Edward and R. L. Franklin, McCormick, S.C.; H. C. Brankley, Jackson, Tenn.;

Richard Bell, Orange, N.J.; Theodore N. Brown, Savannah, Ga.; Johnny Carter, Houston, Texas; Jesse Bowie and Wilbert Hankton, Birmingham; Albert Redden, Columbia, S.C.; James Buford, and Joseph Carson, Bowling Green, Ky.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Four Negro Soldiers Get High Award

JUN 28 1943

Four Negro Infantrymen have been awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious services at Guadalcanal, March 27, 1943, during a bombing attack by enemy planes.

The men who received the decorations are Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss., Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala., Pvt. Verne O. Neal, Ruleville, Miss., and Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., Good Pine, La.

The citation stated that the four soldiers left the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advanced some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy air raid, in order to assist in evacuating casualties. This undertaking was accomplished although enemy action continued causing impenetrable dust and confusion prevailed. Exceptional coolness and efficiency during exposure to danger were displayed while evacuating the wounded.

Awarded Silver Star

Jan 30, 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

Private First Class MACK B. ANDERSON, Engineers, of 211 North Austin street, Brenham, Texas, who manned a machine gun against Japanese planes attacking an airfield in the Asiatic war theatre. His gun was in open terrain since the firing pit had not been completed. Under continuous fire from the attacking airplanes, he shot his gun in return until it went out of action, then he continued firing with his automatic pistol while several Japanese fighters definitely centered their attack on him. He was awarded the Silver Star.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo).

Jan 30, 1943

1-30-43

Receives Soldier's Medal For His Heroism

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

WINS SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Private James H. Burnam, 325 West Hickman Street, Winchester, Kentucky, is shown receiving soldier's medal from his commanding officer, Colonel Ewart G. Plank, of Washington, D. C., at ceremonies conducted in England.

Messman Wins Navy Medal for Heroism

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

FEB 13 1943

WASHINGTON

Elvin Bell, 20-year-old mess attendant, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism displayed during the Coral Sea Battle, the Navy Department announced this week.

Bell, who was one of the five enlisted men on the U.S.S. Lexington similarly honored, unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks.

FEB 13 1943

Home in Jamaica

Before enlisting in the navy on July 18, 1941, Bell, an orphan resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th Avenue, Jamaica, N.Y. His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U.S.S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942.

"Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks.

FEB 13 1943

Reporter Witnessed Rescue

"His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

An eyewitness account of Bell's feat was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnston, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the U.S.S. Lexington was announced.

The other men receiving awards were white.

FEB 13 1943

Coral Sea Hero

FEB 13 1943

ELVIN BELL,

20-year-old mess attendant of Jamacia, N.Y., who has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for distinguished heroism during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. According to his citation, Bell unhesitating entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier USS Lexington and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks.

Another Messman Gets Navy Medal

Informer

Feb 13, 1943

A 20-year-old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, U. S. S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored form the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th Avenue, Jamaica, N. Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second class.

Feb. 13, 1943

Enlisted In '41

Bell, who attended Jamaica High School for one and a half years and later served in the Civilian Conservation Corps, applied for enlistment in the Navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

Informer

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U. S. S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

An eyewitness account of such a rescue was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnston, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the U. S. S. Lexington was announced. Johnson's account declared:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage X.'

"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: 'I'll go, Sir.'

I Know The Way

"'Sure you know how to reach them?' the Commander asked.

"'Yes, Sir. I know the way.'

"'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

"'Yes, Sir. I do. But I would like to try just the same.'

Texas

"Right then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

Feb. 13, 1943

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back what's more—he brought the three men with him."

Other enlisted men receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroic action aboard the U. S. S. Lexington included Walter S. Cochrane, pharmacist's mate, (2 c); Douglass Moore, storekeeper, (2 c), Paul Meuleveld, store keeper (3 c) and Walter L. Stacy, seaman (1 c).

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

TUSKEGEE MAN IS CITED FOR BRAVERY

WASHINGTON, June 3—(AP)—The Army's Legion of Merit has been awarded to four Negro enlisted men for exceptionally meritorious services on Guadalcanal, Secretary Stimson announced Thursday. They were:

Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia Miss.; Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss., and Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., of Good Pine, La.

JUN 4 1943

The identical citations for the four infantry men read:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service on March 27, 1934, at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy airplane in order to assist in evacuating casualties."

GUADALCANAL HEROES GET MERIT AWARDS

Pittsburgh, Pa
Courier

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 10—Calling especial attention at his press conference to the award of the Legion of Merit to four Negro enlisted men for exceptionally meritorious service at Guadalcanal in the Pacific theatre of war, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson stated last week that these awards "served to show that our Negro troops are fighting in combat in one of the most difficult of our fighting terrains."

JUN 1943

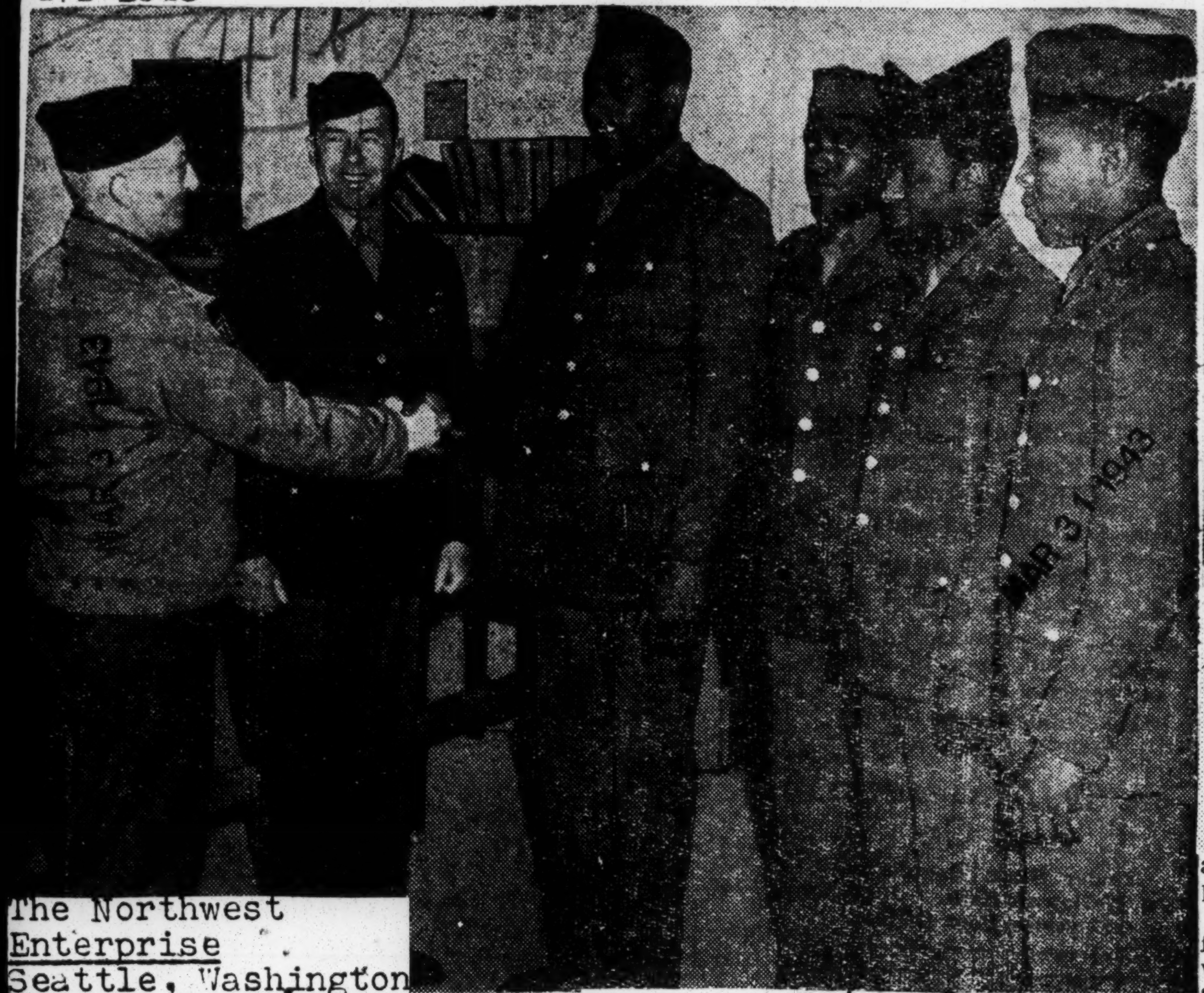
The men who received the awards said Secretary Stimson were Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, infantry, of Sonatobia, Miss.; Pvt. Jess Harris, infantry of Tuskegee, Alabama; Pvt. Verna C. Neal, infantry of Ruleville, Miss. and Pvt. Henry Smith Jr., infantry of Good Pine, Louisiana.

CITATION

The citation describing the heroic action of these Negro soldiers read:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services on March 27, 1943 at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy air raid, in order to assist in evacuating casualties. This undertaking was accomplished, although enemy action continued, causing impenetrable dust, and confusion prevailed. Exceptional coolness and efficiency during exposure to danger were displayed while evacuating the wounded."

47b-1943


MAR 3 1 1943

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

HEROISM RECOGNIZED—Col. C. M. S. Skene congratulating five soldiers who are to reeciva the Soldier's Medal for saving ten lives in the Frye plant disaster. The soldiers, from left to right, are Corporal Kenneth J. Cristner and Privates Sam Morris, Charles E. Whiteley, Bruce Singletary and Lonnie Ancrum.

—(Picture by Post-Intelligencer Staff Photographer.)

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Texan Lad Awarded Silver Star For Heroism During Japanese Zero Attack

FEB 6 1943

ASIATIC THEATER. — A Silver Star combat decoration has been awarded to Private Mack B. Anderson, United States Army, of 211 North Austin street, Brenham, Texas, for bravery.

During a recent attack by Japanese Zero fighters on an airfield somewhere in India, Private Anderson, while under continuous fire from the attackers, manned a machine gun until it went out of action, then continued firing with his automa ic pistol while several Japanese fighters definitely centered their attack on him.

The conduct and bravery of the whole Engineer unit of which Private Anderson is a member, was warmly praised by both Brigadier General Clayton Bissell, commander of the Air Forces operating in the China-Burma-India theater, and Brigadier General Caleb V. Haynes, commander of the India Task Force.

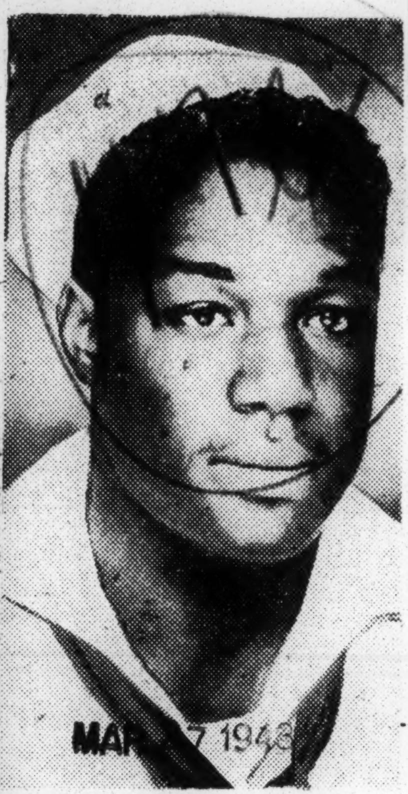
FEB 6 1943

General Bissell wired Major Donald L. Jarrett, executive officer of the organization: "Reports say the conduct of the Negro troops was magnificent in their return to duty, and the damage to the airdrome was repaired almost immediately after the strafing ended. I desire you and your troops to know the performance of your duty is in line of the best traditions of the Army."

Three others praised were Sergeants Clarence T. Jackson of Washington, D. C.; Elmer Stephens of Cleveland, Ohio, and Ralph Snell of Dotham, Alabama. These men were instrumental in getting the field back into condition after the attack.

FEB 6 1943

Downed 4


MAR 27 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

DORIE MILLER,

who was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism at Pearl Harbor when he manned a machine gun on the battleship Arizona after members of the gun crew had been put out of action, is officially credited by the Navy Department this week with having brought down four Jap planes.

In addition, "Miller swam to shore and helped in a flying field operation," the department reveals. This is the first official account which credits Miller with actually bringing down planes.

MAR 27 1943

All previous accounts have referred only to his carrying his wounded captain to a place of safety and his manning the gun.

For this heroism, Miller received only promotion from second class to first class mess attendant and an increase in pay from $60 to $66 a month.

Medal to Kansas Citian

The Call
Kansas City Mo

Elbert Phillips One of Nine to Qualify at Iowa

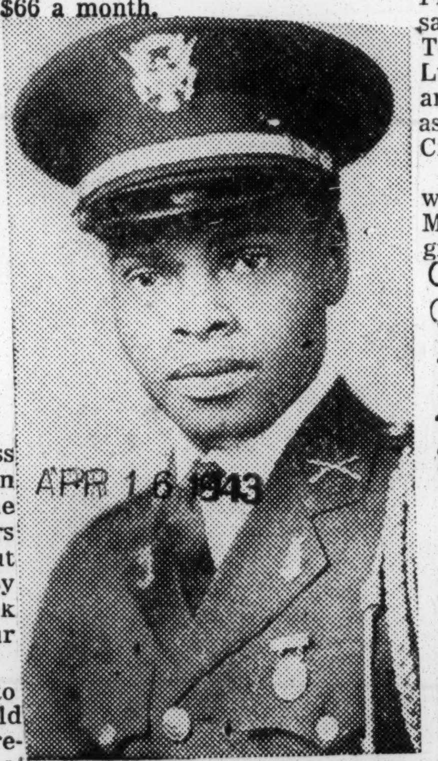
Elbert Phillips Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Phillips Sr., 411 W. 43rd St., has recently been admitted to the "Pershing Rifles," at the University of Iowa, where he is a freshman. Elbert was the first Negro ever to become a member, second in the Big Ten since the organization first began in 1814.

APR 1 6 1943

this organization but he won the Expert Manual of Arms Medal in the open competition among freshmen and sophomore R. O. T. C. cadets. His recommendation has been sent in for a commission as sergeant but as yet no official notice has been posted.

Mrs. Phillips, his mother, is the former Miss Trohelious Oliphant of Waxahachie, Texas, and is a product of Wiley college, Marshall, Texas. She has been in Kansas City for 18 years. Mrs. Phillips is president of the Kansas City Council of Parents and Teachers, a member of the St. Luke A. M. E. church, Westport and has been employed one year as a machine operator at the Lake City ordnance plant.

She has another son, Basil, 12, who is a student at Penn school. Mrs. Ollie Oliver is Elbert's grandmother.


APR 1 6 1943

ELBERT PHILLIPS JR.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Farmer Who Saved Army Flyers Gets Citation Award

MAY 1 6 1943

AUGUSTA, Ga., May 13.—Robert Clayton Moss, 25-year-old farmer, who pulled two white cadets from a flaming plane at the risk of his own life, has been cited for heroism by the army and given a cash award of more than $100.

MAY 1 6 1943

The cadets were saved from the burning ship by Moss when it crashed into flames near Matthews, Ga. The cadets were from the Georgia Aero Tech school, and were listed as Paul Hite and John Francis Hogan.

In his citation of Moss Lt.-Col. Henry C. Huglin, school commandant, declared: "By your prompt and fearless actions in the face of possible serious gasoline explosion, you saved both cadets from serious injury and probably saved their lives. . . . On behalf of the United States army, I want to thank you for your splendid action and commend you for your heroism and courage."

MAY 1 6 1943

Augusta residents raised a fund of $137 for Moss and in addition students at the school presented him with an unannounced sum.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
June 4, 1943

TUSKEGEE MAN IS CITED FOR BRAVERY

WASHINGTON, June 3—(AP)—The Army's Legion of Merit has been awarded to four Negro enlisted men for exceptionally meritorious services on Guadalcanal, Secretary Stimson announced Thursday. They were:

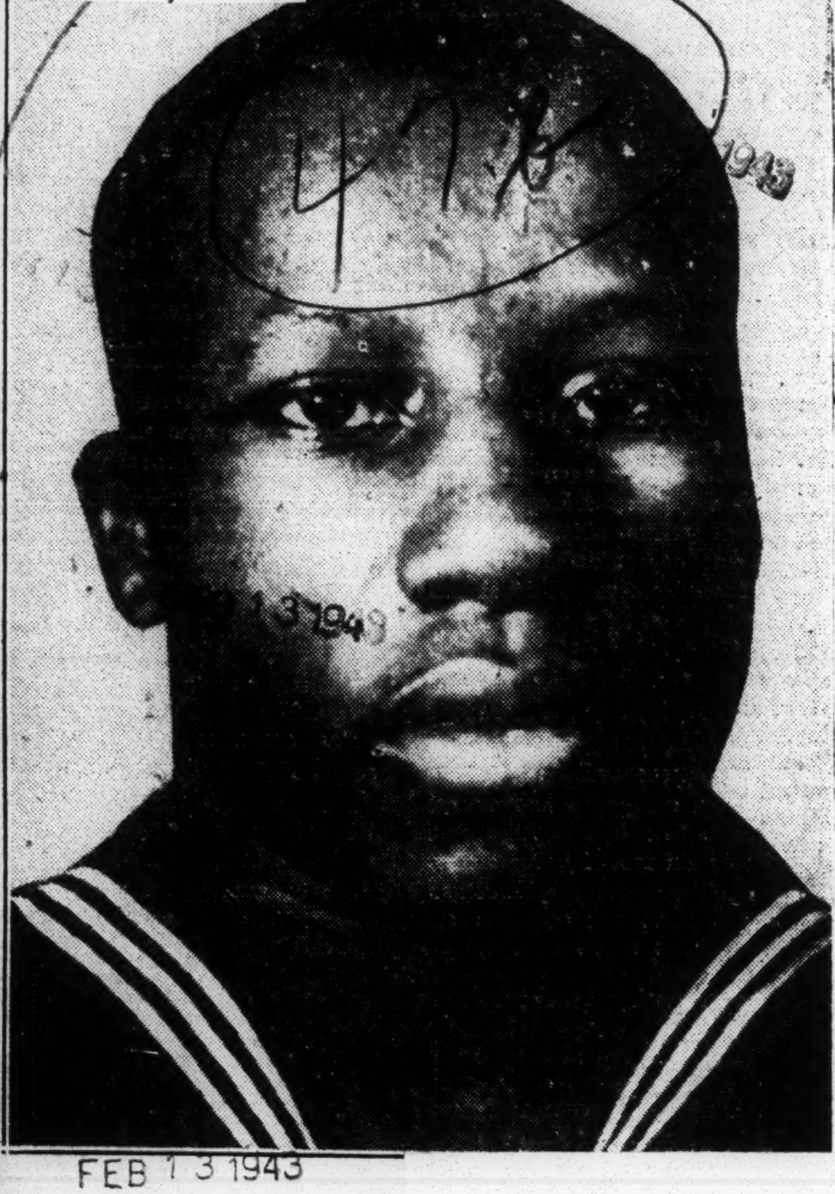
Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss.; Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Buleville, Miss., and Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., of Good Pine, La.

The identical citations for the four infantry men read:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service on March 27, 1934, at Guadalcanal, by leaving the comparative safety afforded by a slit trench and advancing some 250 yards over open terrain, exposed to bombing from an enemy airplane in order to assist in evacuating casualties."

Awarded The Navy And Marine Corps Medal

New York Age
New York, N. Y.



FEB 1 3 1943

Heroic Elvin Bell, 20-year-old Negro mess attendant, of Jamaica, L. I., who has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, for his heroism aboard the stricken aircraft carrier, U. S. S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea.

20-Year-Old Negro Mess Attendant Awarded Navy And Marine Corps Medal For Heroism

FEB 1 3 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A 20-year old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, U. S. S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored from the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th Avenue, Jamaica, N. Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second lcass.

Bell, who attended Jamaica High School for one and a half years and later served in the Civilian Conservation Corps, applied for enlistment in the Navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U. S. S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

An eyewitness account of such a rescue was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnson, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the U. S. S. Lexington was announced. Johnson's account declared:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So—. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage X.'

"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: 'I'll go, Sir.'

"'Sure you know how to reach them?' the Commander asked.

"'Yes, Sir. I know the way.'

"'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

"'Yes, Sir. I do. But I would like to try just the same.'

"Right then.' On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more — he brought the three men with him."

Other enlisted men receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroic action aboard the U. S. S. Lexington included Walter S. Cochrane, pharmacist's mate, (2|c); Douglass Moore, storekeeper, (2|c), Paul Meuleveld, storekeeper (3|c) and Walter L. Stacy, seaman (1|c).

Army Heroes Are Decorated

Daily World.
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 1 4 1943

CAMP CAMBELL, Ky.—(SNS)—General Eberle is shown planning the Soldier's Medal on Lt. Murray G. Gordon, Edgewood, Rhode Island, while Pfc. Cleo T. Coleman of Fitzgerald, Ga., awaits his decoration for heroism displayed when both jumped into a stream and rescued a soldier from drowning.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Negro Farmer Given Citation For Heroism

MAY 4 - 1943

AUGUSTA, Ga.—(AP)—A 25-year-old Negro farmer who pulled two cadets from a flaming plane at the risk of his own life has been cited for heroism by the Army and given a cash award of more than $100.

The cadets were saved from the burning ship by Robert Clayton Moss when it crashed in flames April 9 on a farm near Matthews, Ga. The cadets were from the Georgia Aero Tech School, and were listed as Paul Hite and John Frances Hogan.

Lt. Col. Henry C. Huglin, school commandant, in his citation of the Negro, declared "By your prompt and fearless actions in the face of a possible serious gasoline explosion you saved both cadets from serious injury and probably saved their lives. . . . On behalf of the United States Army I want to thank you for your splendid action and commend you for your heroism and courage."

Local residents raised a fund of $137 for Moss and in addition students of the school presented him with an unannounced sum.

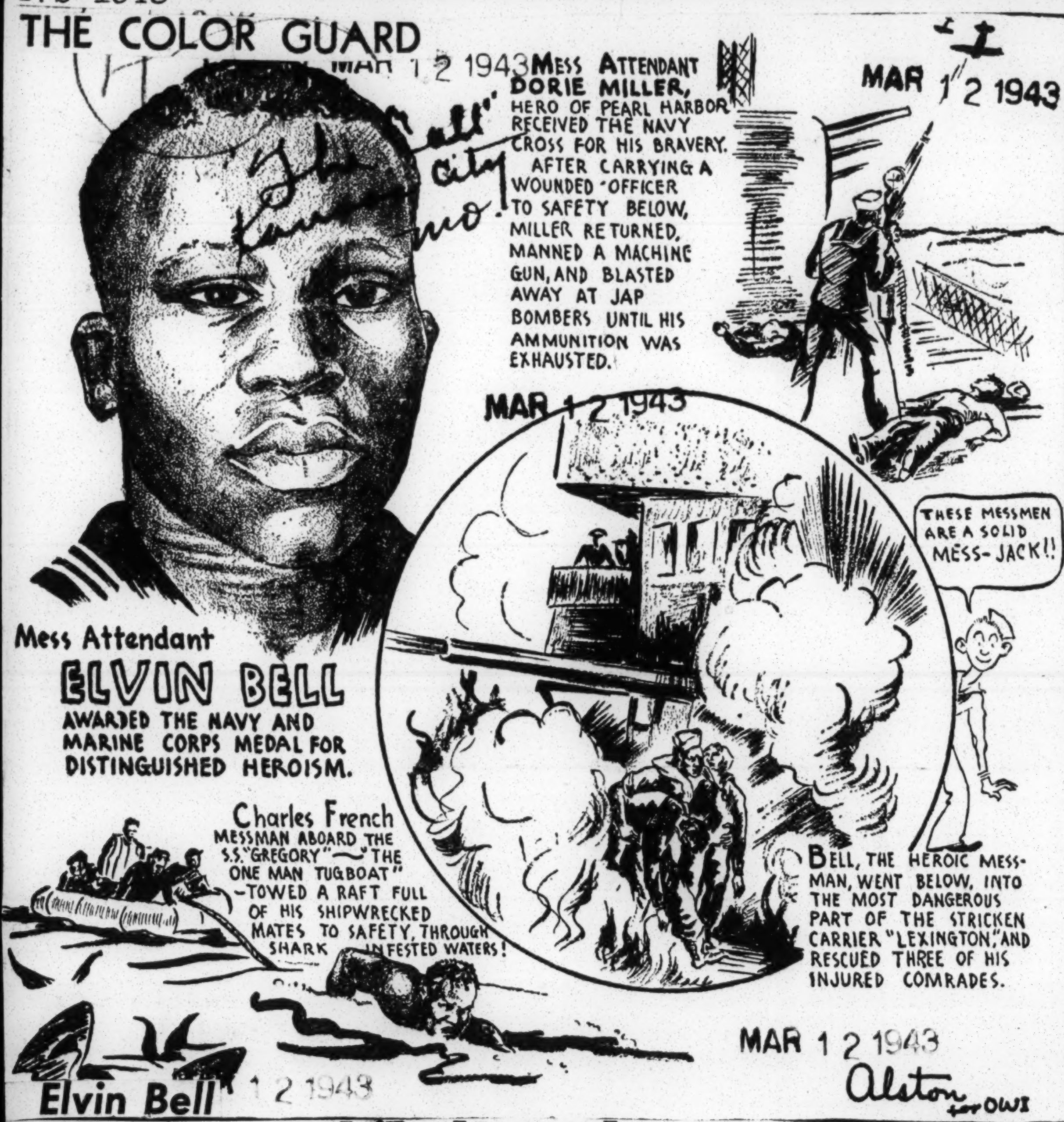
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Negro Soldier Gets Medal for Saving Drowning Pal

JUN 9 1943

LONDON, June 9 [Wednesday]—(AP).—The soldier's medal has been awarded to Pvt. William R. Preston of 438 Frederick street, Detroit, Mich., member of a Negro unit, the headquarters of the European theater of operations of the United States army announced today. Preston, the citation said, plunged into the sea, tied himself to a floundering soldier and kept him afloat until those on shore rescued both.

47b-1943


THE COLOR GUARD
The Call Kansas City Mo.
MESS ATTENDANT DORIE MILLER, HERO OF PEARL HARBOR RECEIVED THE NAVY CROSS FOR HIS BRAVERY. AFTER CARRYING A WOUNDED OFFICER TO SAFETY BELOW, MILLER RETURNED, MANNED A MACHINE GUN, AND BLASTED AWAY AT JAP BOMBERS UNTIL HIS AMMUNITION WAS EXHAUSTED.
Mess Attendant ELVIN BELL AWARDED THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED HEROISM.
THESE MESSMEN ARE A SOLID MESS-JACK!!
Charles French MESSMAN ABOARD THE S.S."GREGORY" — "THE ONE MAN TUGBOAT" — TOWED A RAFT FULL OF HIS SHIPWRECKED MATES TO SAFETY, THROUGH SHARK INFESTED WATERS!
BELL, THE HEROIC MESSMAN, WENT BELOW, INTO THE MOST DANGEROUS PART OF THE STRICKEN CARRIER "LEXINGTON," AND RESCUED THREE OF HIS INJURED COMRADES.
Alston for OWI
Elvin Bell
MAR 12 1943

Officer and Enlisted Man Save a Drowning Camp Campbell Soldier

Kansas City Call

Pfc. Cleo T. Coleman Swam to Rescue Of Soldier Who Nearly Drowned When His Jeep Overturned Into Red River

Kansas City, Mo.

CAMP CAMPBELL, Ky. — (Spl.) — Soldier's Medals were awarded an officer and an enlisted man in a formal ceremony here last Wednesday afternoon.

Lt. Murray G. Cordin and Pfc. Cleo T. Coleman, both of the 365th Engineer General Service Regiment received the citations before the entire regiment. The troops were massed in formation on the Second Army parade grounds at the post.

Brig. Gen. George L. Elberle, assistant commanding general of the 98th Division presented the medals in the name of the President of the United States and of Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, commanding general of the second army.

Lt. Col. Frank A. Pettit, commanding officer of the 365th Engineers, accompanied the general on the formal inspection of troops which preceded the presentation. It was through his efforts that the men received the awards.

After the troops had passed in review before the officers and the decorated men, General Eberle left by car for his headquarters at Camp Breckinridge.

The citation reads, "For heroism displayed in rescuing a soldier from drowning in a stream near Camp Campbell, Ky., on December 28, 1942."

"The heroism displayed by Lt Cordin and by Pfc. Coleman reflects great credit upon them selves and the military service," the citation coments.

Prompting the awards was the rescue of Pvt. William D. Jackson, 40th signal construction battalion, who was nearly drowned when his jeep overturned into the swirling waters of the Red River near Camp Campbell.

Pfc. Coleman, who was standing on the bank, immediately jumped in and swam to the entirely submerged vehicle. Pvt. Jackson could not swim and was floundering helplessly in the middle of the stream until the rescuer reached him.

At the same time Lt. Cordin had jumped into the water from upstream and had swum quite a distance to help. The bank was too steep and high to permit crawling out, and the rescuers had to cling to overhanging branches until a boat arrived to pick them up.

Except for the ducking, no one was injured. The jeep remained completely covered by water for almost another day before it could be removed.

Both men were fully clothed when they made the rescue. Pfc. Coleman had to dive several times before finally bringing Jackson to the surface, the citation remarks.

Lt. Cordin is originally from Edgewood R. I., but now makes his home with his mother in Philadelphia.

Pfc. Coleman is from Fitzgerald. Ga. Pvt. Jackson's home is at 1103 Laurel Street, Texarkana Ark.

BEAUFORT NEGRO GETS NAVY CROSS

Augusta, Ga. Herald
June 12, 1943

WASHINGTON, June 12—(AP)—President Roosevelt has awarded the Navy Cross to William Pinckney, Negro cook, third class, for his extraordinary heroism aboard the Aircraft Carrier Enterprise during the battle of the Santa Cruse islands last October.

Pinckney, 28, is the son of Renty Pinckney, of Beaufort, S. C., (no street address given).

His citation said that Pinckney was working in the ammunition handling room when a heavy bomb struck, killing four of his five companions and knocking him unconscious. When Pinckney regained consciousness and started to escape he found a shipmate also trying to get out. The wounded man fell unconscious, however, and Pinckney "unmindful of his own danger," the Navy said, carried his comrade to safety.

Commends Three Negro Soldiers for Their "Courageous Action"

Augusta Ga. Her
May 5, 1943

Three Negro soldiers of Daniel Field have been commended by Col. Cornelius E. O'Connor, commanding officer of the airbase, for their courageous action "beyond the call of duty" in attempting to rescue the members of a bomber crew trapped in their flaming plane following a crash recently.

The men commended are Cpls. Melvin Cook and Charles L. Craig, of the 7th Aviation Squadron, and Pvt. John D. Hilson, of the 1954th Ordnance Company.

At a formal retreat parade last week, the three were called to the front of all Daniel Field troops massed in formation, and the letters of commendation read. The commendations become part of the soldiers' individual records.

The crash, in which the three men braved flames and disregarded "imminent danger of exploding ammunition and fuel tanks," occurred on April 13, about a mile south of Daniel Field. The seven members of the crew were injured fatally.

In his commendation of Corporal Craig, who was first of the three to arrive on the scene, Colonel O'Connor said: "The complete disregard of your own personal safety in approaching the airplane to assist an injured crew member to safety, even though you realized that there was imminent danger of explosion and had also been burned about your hand, reflects great credit upon you, the Army and the Army Air Corps of which you are a member."

Of Corporal Cook, who was at the scene seconds after Craig Colonel O'Connor said: "Regardless of the fact that the accident proved fatal to the aircraft's entire crew, you displayed unusual initiative in proceeding to the other side of the burning aircraft in order to locate trapped crew members and direct rescue squads to their location . . . Your alertness and prompt action . . . is commendable."

Hilton was cited for his action in moving up to the flaming plane and with rope and grappling hook, extricating several of the crew. In the citation to Hilton, Colonel O'Connor stated "You demonstrated outstanding courage in removing the bodies of five members of the crew from the burning wreckage. Your conduct is all the more meritorious when the fact is considered that men trained to work in that type of danger were not able to approach the flames to extricate these bodies. Your performance at this disaster was far above and beyond the call of duty and clearly demonstrates a spirit of outstanding self-sacrifice and courage."

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Negro Soldier Honored For Saving Comrade

London, June 9 (Wednesday) (AP)—The Soldier's Medal has been awarded to Pvt. William R. Preston, Detroit, member of a Negro unit. for heroic conduct. the headquarters of the European theater of operations of the U. S. Army announced today.

Preston, citation said, plunged into the sea, tied himself to a floundering fellow soldier who had been knocked into the water and kept him afloat until those on shore were able to pull both to safety.

MAR 12 1943
MAR 5 1943
JUN 9 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

European photo

HEROES IN NEW GUINEA—Corp. Harvey Crandle (right), who swam thru burning gasoline and exploding ammunition to drag a pilot from a plane that had crashed in a river, and Pfc. Julius Franklin, who waded in to help bring the flyer ashore, wearing the medals awarded them.

Won 3 Medals at 15; Ready to Fight at 40

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

MAY 7 1943

FORT SILL, Okla. — M. Sgt. William A. Johnson, sergeant-major of the 100th Ordnance Battalion, is not the only Negro soldier to have received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre, and the Purple Heart in World War 1, but he is probably the only soldier to have received those awards at the age of 15.

Enlisting in Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 5, 1918, shortly after reaching his 15th birthday, Pvt. Johnson, who claimed to be 18, received his basic training at Camp Logan, Texas, and at Camp Stuart, Va., and was sent overseas immediately, arriving in France, March 27, with the 370th Infantry, where he saw action in St. Mihiel at Oise and at Aisne and was then stationed in the defensive sector.

On Oct. 9, 1918, Pvt. Johnson and two comrades were carrying ammunition and signal rockets to the front line, during which Pvt Johnson's legging became untied He called to his two companions to proceed while he re-wrapped his legging, adding that he would catch up with them as soon as he had finished.

Barely were the words out of his mouth when a German 88 shell exploded between him and his two companions, seriously wounding the two others but leaving him unscathed.

Relaying the carrying of the two men to the rear, Johnson was almost out of the danger zone when he was struck in his right shoulder by a piece of shrapnel while still carrying one of the wounded men. He was wounded a second time in the leg by a machine gun bullet. Despite the two wounds, he reached safety with his two comrades.

In recognition of his action, Pvt. Johnson was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the American government and the Croix de Guerre by the French government. He was later awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for having been wounded in action.

MAY 7 1943

Johnson, then a private first class, remained in the hospital in France until April 4, then returned to New York. Reenlisting immediately for one year, Pfc. Johnson was sent to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where he was assigned to the 10th Cavalry. He left the service upon the completion of the one year enlistment and became an embalmer.

He reenlisted in the army, April 30, 1942, and was assigned to Camp Sutton, N. C., for training, arriving at Fort Sill, August 19, where he was advanced to his present rank.

I'm ready to go across any time," he says, and "I hope it'll be soon."

MAY 7 1943

Risked Lives In Crash of Bomber, Trio Commended

MAY 9 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Formal Retreat Parade Held In Heroes' Honor

AUGUSTA, Ga. (SNS)—Three colored soldiers of Daniel Field, Augusta, have been commended by Col. Cornelius E. O'Connor, Commanding Officer of that Air Base, for their courageous action "beyond the call of duty" in attempting to rescue the members of a bomber crew trapped in their flaming plane following a crash recently.

The men commended are Cpls. Melvin Cook and Charles L. Craig of the 7th Aviation Squadron, and Pvt. John D. Hilton of the 95th Ordnance Company. At a Formal Retreat Parade Friday, the men were called to the front of Daniel Field troops massed in formation, and the letters of commendation read. The commendations became part of the soldiers' individual records.

CREW IS KILLED

MAY 9 1943

The crash, in which the three braved flames and disregarded "imminent danger of exploding ammunition and fuel tanks" occured on April 13. about a mile south of Daniel Field. The seven members of the crew were injured fatally.

In his commendation of Cpl. Craig, who was first of the three to arrive on the scene, Col. O'Connor said: "The complete disregard of your own personal safety in approaching the airplane to assist an injured crew member to safety, even though you realized that there was imminent danger of explosion and had also been burned about your hand, reflects great credit upon you, the Army and the Army Air Corps of which you are a member."

Of Cpl. Cook, who was at the scene seconds after Craig, Col. O'Connor said "Regardless of the fact that the accident proved fatal to the aircraft's entire crew you displayed unusual initiative in proceeding to the other side of the burning aircraft in order to locate trapped crew members and direct rescue squads to their location.... Your alertness and prompt action ...is commendable.."

CITED FOR COURAGE

MAY 9 1943

Hilton was cited for his action in moving up to the flaming plane and with rope and grappling hook, extricating several of the crew. In the citation to Hilton, Col. O'Connor stated "You demonstrated outstanding courage in removing the bodies of five members of the crew from the burning wreckage. Your conduct is all the more meritorious when the fact is considerede that men trained to work in that type of danger were not able to approach the flames to extricate these bodies. Your performance at this disaster was far above and beyond yond the call of duty and clearly demonstrates a spirit of outstanding self-sacrifice and courage."

Craig, 26 is the son of Mrs. Carrie Craig 362 Glenn Avenue, Bloomineburg, Pa. He has been in the Army since July, 1941.

Cook, 21, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Cook, 4279 Wallace St. Philadelphia, Pa. He was inducted into the Army on Sept. 15, 1942. Hilton, 32, farmed at Bolivar, West Virginia before entering the Army in November last year. His mother is Mrs. Lizzie Landis 1014 Carpenter St., Camden, N. J.

Soldiers Medal Awarded Heroes Of Bomber Crash

APR 10 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SEATTLE, Wash. — Four colored soldiers and a white enlisted man were this week awarded the Soldier's Medal for their heroic efforts in the February 18 fire at the Frye Packing Plant.

APR 10 1943

The fire, which occurred when a four-motored Boeing bomber crashed into the main building, claimed 32 lives. Ten persons were rescued by the five army men, each of whom made several trips into the burning building to extricate victeims. The recommendation was made by Lieut. General John L. DeWitt, commanding general of the Western Defense Command.

Named for the awards were: Lonnie Anscrum, Greensburg, N. C.; Bruce Singletary, Mullins, S. C.; Charles Whiteley, Smithfield, N. C.; Sam Morris, Chicago, Ill., all privates, and Corp. Kenneth J. Christner, white, of Port Huron, Mich.

Recommendations said the men were being considered by General DeWitt for their "heroism" and for their "utter disregard for personal safety." The men were notified through Col. C. M. Skene, under whom they serve as an antiaircraft detail.

APR 10 1943

The Soldier's Medal is awarded men who have performed outstanding acts of bravery not on the actual field of battle.

Southern Negro Mother of 4 Sons In Army Awarded 'Medal of Honor'

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 14.—First Negro mother in the South to receive a "Medal of Honor" is Mrs. Theresa Stockard, who has given four sons to her country's armed forces.

The medal was awarded by the Emblem of Honor Association of New York, and was presented to her at Nashville's City Hall here by Mayor Thomas L. Cummings.

Mayor Cummings told Mrs. Stockard in the presentation ceremony that he hoped her boys would return safely "when the victory has been won."

"I congratulate you and fully appreciate your fine contribution to the cause of human freedom," he said.

MAY 15 1943

Mrs. Stockard's eldest son, Henry, 27, is a corporal in an engineering detachment which has just taken part in the victorious rescue of North Africa from the Axis.

The three other sons, all privates, are still training in this country. Thomas, 24, is a military policeman at Keesler Field, Miss.; William, 22, is an ambulance driver at the Salt Lake City, Utah, air base; and Edward, 20, now at Camp Clark, Texas, is to be transferred soon and trained as a radio technician.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Negroes Honored

The War Dept. has announced the award of the Legion of Merit to Pfc. Ben W. Pettie, Senatobia, Miss., Pvt. Jessie Harris, Tuskegee, Ala., Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss. Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., Good Pine, La. The awards were for exceptionally meritorious service on Guadalcanal. All are Negroes.

47b-1943

While Rioting Sweeps Nation U.S. Honored These Black Heroes

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUN 26 1943

May 22—Charles Jackson French, mess attendant, commended for heroism in saving 15 mates aboard raft off the Solomon Islands. . . . Cpl. James B. Stewart, Sgt. Francis D. Bland, Pvt. Frank Johnson, awarded Purple Heart in Tunisian campaign. . . . Robert Clayton Moss, Georgia farmer, cited for saving white army cadet from burning plane. . . . Pvt. James H. Murnam received Soldier's Medal for heroism in England.

May 29—Navy names Destroyer Escort vessel for Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, awarded Navy Cross for "extraordinary heroism."

June 5—President Roosevelt commends Negro support of war effort in greetings to NAACP conference. . . . Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Pvt. Jess Harris, Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., infantrymen, awarded Legion of Merit by Secretary Stimson for heroism on Guadalcanal.

June 12—Harry Alexander Seymour, Jr., seaman, and Marion Green, officer's cook, awarded Silver Star by Navy for conspicuous bravery. . . . Lester Everett Pullian, chief boatswain mate, awarded Purple Heart by Navy. . . . George McElroy, mess attendant, Purple Heart for action at Guadalcanal.

June 19—William Pinckney, awarded Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for "extraordinary heroism" in battle of Santa Cruz. . . . Pvt. William R. Preston, awarded Soldier's Medal in England. . . . Pvt. Edmund W. Collins, wins Purple Heart in South Pacific. . . . First race fliers see action in battle of Pantelleria.

June 26—Joseph Cross, mess attendant, gets Navy and Marine Corps Medal as 'best Japanese spotter" on submarine in Pacific. . . . Staff Sgt. Dennis Holt and Sgt. J. P. Mays awarded Legion of Merit in South Pacific. . . . Sgt. Hannibal H. Moore and Pvt. Henry Jackson win Soldier's Medal on maneuvers with Third Army in Louisiana.

JUN 26 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Cited For Rescue Of White Soldier

AUG 7 1943

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP)—Pfc. Hezekiah Lyons, a mess cadreman attached to the fifth company, third student training regiment was cited last week by Maj. Gen. Leven C. Allen, commandant of the infantry school for "meritorous conduct beyond the lne of duty."

The mess attendant was credited with saving the life of Pvt. Calvin W. Rayburn, a white soldier attached to Co. B, 176th infantry, who was swimming in the swift currents of the Chattahoochee river while the fifth company was on its recent bivouac there.

Pfc. Lyons has been in the army since January 20, 1942, and completed his basic training at Camp McClellan, Ala. For the past 15 months he has been attached to the fifth company and has maintained an excellent record. The youth is 24 years old and is a native of Pittsburgh, but his family now lives in Sarasota, Fla. Before entering the army he worked as a chef.

Although Lyons, a modest fellow, refuses to talk about his heroism Captain John D. Austin, executive officer of the fifth company, has recommended that he be cited for his rescue of Rayburn,

AUG 7 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Cited For Bravery

Elias Corbin, who has worked at the Charleston, South Carolina Ordnance Depot since 1919, treasures an official commendation for his brave conduct during an explosion 18 years ago, in which he was the only laborer who did not immediately flee the magazine. Corbin remained at his post of duty, in danger of his life

JUN 5 1943

and removed ammunition from the smouldering source of the explosion.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Accurate Sight Leads To Sinking Of Enemy Ships

ABOARD A SUBMARINE IN THE PACIFIC — (ANP) — Rear Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, commander of submarines in the Pacific, Friday pinned a ribbon emblematic of the navy and marine corps medal on Joseph Cross, 21, for sighting enemy ships leading to sinkings both by day and night.

JUN 17 1943

Cross is believed to be the first Negro lookout ever to be awarded the medal. He, along with D. J. Snyder, 22, white, now torpedoman's mate, 3rd class, of Pittsburgh are among the very few lookouts decorated. Both received the navy and marine medal Friday. Both sighted enemy ships leading to sinkings both by day and night, and each won the lookout's contest for which officers of their ship gave $75 each.

Adm. Lockwood, in presenting the awards, said:

"I am glad to see lookouts are getting medals. They are the eyes of our submarines. The lookout is a very important man in your organization.

"Some ships give lookouts prizes. They feel that perks up lookouts and is very good insurance for the ship."

JUN 17 1943

Lt. Commander Phillip S. Ross, 37, Tucson, Ariz., and Annapolis, the submarine's captain, said that Cross "seems to see as well nights as days. He's our best Jap spotter."

Cross, a year ago, worked in a photographic studio at New Orleans. When he decided to enlist, submarines had the greatest appeal. He went to boot camp and then into submarine service.

JUN 17 1943

Submarine "Lookout" Gets Marine Medal

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Picture on Page 11

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SOLDIER GETS HERO'S MEDAL

Defender
Chicago, Ill.—

ORLANDO, Fla.—Sgt. Willie B Goodson, Fairfield, Ala., who is stationed at the army air forces school of applied tactics, will soon be awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism for risking his life to save that of an officer.

Sgt. Goodson, whose mother is Rosie Lee Taylor, Oneonta, Ala., is being awarded Soldier's Medal for rushing into telegraph poles falling from a railroad flatcar and dragging Lt. Donald P. Rush, Boston, construction officer of Goodson's unit, from beneath the pile where he was trapped.

Lt. Rush had climbed to the top of the flatcar to release the brakes holding the poles in order to unload them.

In leaping from the car, the lieutenant slipped, was struck by a pole and suffered a broken ankle.

Before he could drag himself free, other falling poles began to pile up on him.

At great personal risk, Sergeant Goodson ran to the lieutenant's side, secured him beneath the arms and dragged him to safety.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

2 Win Soldier's Medal For Heroism In British Blast

FEB 6 1943

LONDON.—In an impressive ceremony, held amid the crackling of nearby anti-aircraft guns, Lt. Vernon G. Adams, Kittanning, Pa., and Sgt. Ernest Johnson, Cunningham, Ala., a Negro, and both members of an American engineer unit stationed in England, were decorated with the Soldier's Medal by Major General John C. H. Lee, commanding Services of Supply, European Theatre of Operations.

The officer and enlisted man received the awards for heroism displayed on September 8, 1942, when a small brick building located near their camp was partially destroyed by an explosition of land mines stored within. Three British soldiers working in the building were injured. As two of the injured staggered from the building, thick with explosive fumes and full of unexploded land mines, Lt. Adams and Sgt. Johnson with no regard for their own safety rushed into the structure and succeeded in removing the remaining injured men.

In praising both men for their "distinguished and heroic service," Maj. Gen. Lee pointed out that the names, Adams and Johnson, were rich in the tradition of American history. "Here we are together," he said, "the Adams and the Johnsons side by side with the British. There will be times when we again will be able to help them, and they to help up. Together we will go on to win."

FEB 6 1943

Mother Receives Medal For Son

Pittsburgh Pa.
Courier

APR 3 1943

CUERO, Tex., April 1—A proud Gold Star mother, with tear-dimmed eyes and a heart burdened with deep sorrow, was signally honored last week when she received a commendation from the President of the United States and a Navy Cross, posthumously awarded her son for distinguished service in the battle of Guadalcanal.

CARED FOR WOUNDED

The mother, Mrs. W. D. Carroll, received the citation for her son, Leonard R. Harmon, mess attendant, first-class, who was killed in action after displaying "extraordinary heroism" aboard the U.S.S. San Francisco in the Solomon Islands during an engagement with the Japanese navy on November 12 and 13, 1942. The citation came in the form of a letter from Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy.

The citation specifically pointed out that the youth's extarordinary heroism was during action against enemy Japanese forces with 'persistent disregard for his own personal safety.' Under these conditions, it was revealed, Harmon rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and in evacuating them to a dressing station.

KILLED RESCUING OTHERS

Harmon, in addition to manifesting loyalty in behalf of an injured executive officer, 'deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire in order to protect a shipmate, and as a result of the courageous action, lost his own life in action, the citation also disclosed.

The Knox letter, submitted for President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, asserted that Harmon's "heroic spirit of self-sacrifice; maintained above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States naval service." The Cuero mayor has also designated Apr 11 as a day set aside for exercis honoring Harmon, a letter from the boy's mother states.

Leonard Roy Harmon was 25 years old. He was born in De Witt county, January 21, 1917, the second son of Jaunita Harmon Carroll. His father died in 1922, four small children surviving him. Leonard was four years of age at the time. When Leonard was of high school age, his mother married W. D. Carroll, coach and instructor at Daule High school here, where the dead naval hero starred in basketball and baseball, was a member of the glee club and sang 'lead' in the quartet. Leonard was graduated from Daule

VOLUNTEERED FOR NAVY

Harmon's first attempt to get in the United States Navy, for which he volunteered, was unsuccessful, his mother revealed. She said the handicap was a minor heart ailment—and Leonard was bitterly disappointed. Later, it was stated, Dr. G. A. King, a competent physician, was engaged and the physician enabled the boy to qualify.

Surviving the departed hero other than his mother and step-father are a grandmother, more than 80 years old; a brother Cornelius Sr., in the U. S. Civil Service at the Navy Air Base in Corpus Christi; an older sister, Pauline, who is a mechanical helper at Duncan Field in San Antonio; and a younger sister, Mrs. Constance Harmon-Edwards, who is teaching in the county system in El Paso. His step-father is now principal of Alice Wilkins school in Port Lavaca, but his mother retired from the teaching profession two years ago to nurse her own invalid mother who died last July.

Navy Cross Won By Third Negro For Rescuing Mate

Chicago, Ill. Defender

WASHINGTON — William Pinckney, 20-year-old third class cook from Beaufort, S. C., this week became the third Negro to win the Navy Cross in World War II.

Following the footsteps of Dorie Miller, whose heroism at Pearl Harbor won him the award, Pinckney was given the coveted medal by President Roosevelt this week. Second winner of the Navy Cross was the late Leonard Royd Harmon, who lost his life on the U.S.S. San Francisco.

Pinckney's courage in saving a shipmate during a battle with strong Japanese naval forces near the Santa Cruz Islands in the South Pacific brought him the Navy Cross.

Serving on the aircraft carrier Enterprise, which has earned the name "Old Lady of Mars" through its fight against the Nipponese, Pinckney was knocked unconscious when a heavy bomb exploded nearby during the Battle of Santa Cruz on October 26.

Pinckney had been working at his battle station in the ammunition handling room when the explosion hit. Four of his five companions were killed and Pinckney flattened by the impact.

Pinckney regained consciousness and started groping his way through burning entangled wreckage to an open hangar deck hatch. He was just about to escape when he saw a shipmate, the only other survivor of his party, struggling up through the hatch.

The man suddenly fell unconscious either from the smoke or fumes or from his wounds.

The Beaufort cook, unmindful of his own danger, lifted his comrade through the hatch to safety before he battled his way out of the burning, smoke-filled compartment.

In announcing the award for Pinckney, the citation by the Navy Department said:

"By his dauntless courage in saving his comrade's life at great risk to his own, Pinckney upheld the highest traditions of the U. S. Naval Service."

Secretary of Navy Frank Knox also announced this week that the sponsor for the first Navy vessel to be named after a Negro will be the mother of Seaman Harmon. She is Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cureo, Tex., who will join in the ceremonies at the launching of the destroyer escort vessel, U. S. S. Harmon, named for her son.

Harmon was a mess attendant whose "extraordinary heroism" won him the Navy Cross posthumously.

Harmon, who was 26 years of age, lost his life during action against enemy Japenese forces in the battle of Guadalcanal, November 12 and 13, 1942. Throughout the engagement, he assisted in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to dressing stations aboard the ship, and, according to the citation accompanying the Navy Cross award, displayed "unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured executive officer." He was killed when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gun fire to protect his shipmates.

The U.S.S. Harmon is under construction at the plant of the Bethlehem Steel company, Hingham, Mass., and is expected to be launched some time this summer.

JUN 26 1943

"I'm No Hero," Local Boy Who Faced Jap Fire Tells Informer

Houston, Texas Informer

HOUSTON.—"Don't get me wrong, I am no hero; what happened to me could have happened to anybody," stated George McElroy, the mild mannered and very modest Houstonian, who recently was awarded the Navy's Purple Heart award for his meritorious service while on duty with the fleet in the Southwestern Pacific, in an exculsive intreview with the Informer.

McElroy declined to accept any glory for the part he played or the experiences that he went through in this great struggle of America's fight for freedom, not wanting to take any of the limelight from the countless other Negro Americans, who are daily proving to the world that they are a great fighting machine if given the opportunity. But despite the youth's endeavor to shun the spotlight, the service that he has rendered and the part he has played in this global war cannot go unnoticed.

Under Constant Attack

It was while on duty in the Southwest Pacific theatre of war that McElroy's ship was sunk, and he had to drift for days in the vast waters of the Pacific on a life raft. His ship had previously been stalked by a Jap submarine for a couple of days and for those days they were under constant attack. McElroy, the only Negro on the warship, left his post of ship's cook and went on deck to take his battle station.

During the height of the battle, with McElroy at his battle station, a 22 mm gun aboard the ship was displaced by an enemy shell and the gun fell across McElroy's back causing a partial paralysis. Other members of the crew lifted the gun off McElroy. After fighting off most of the attacking Jap ships and planes, McElroy's ship was finally torpedoed and all were forced to abandon.

Wounded, the local lad got on a raft and the days of drifting followed. For three days McElroy was aboard the raft with no water or food. The only moisture he received while on the raft was that which he sucked from a wound on his wrist. A Jap plane saw the raft and machine-gunned the wounded and defenseless men aboard. It was only by the Grace of God that the men survived the ruthless machine gun attack of the blood thirsty Japs.

McElroy was rescued by an American vessel near Guadalcanal and taken to the island for medical treatment. Later ships and planes were employed to return to the gallant Americans to the naval hospital at San Diego.

Besides the Purple Heart award, the Houstonian has six campaign bars for active service before Pearl Harbor; action in the Southwestern Pacific; action in the European theatre of war; service in the American defense area; and veteran of Foreign Wars.

McElroy enlisted in the Navy in July of 1940 and received his training at the navy's midshipman school in New York. He saw service with the Atlantic patrol and worked on the lend lease destroyers sent to England by the United States. In December of 1941 McElroy was transferred to the Navy recruiting office as a recruiting officer, the first Negro ever to hold such a post here. When the Japs made the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, McElroy was at his post here. But soon afterwards he was transferred to the West Coast, where he went into immediate action.

Although the injuries he received in action have caused the Navy to give him an honorary discharge from service, McElroy's urge to take another crack at the Axis rats still burns like a flaming torch. Recently he tried to enter the Army Air Corps but was turned down because of his physical disabilities. McElroy's determination to do something else in the great struggle of the democracies was undaunted by his inability to get in the service, and he now has secured a defense job where he can make them so others can use them.

McElroy, a former Informer newsboy and writer, is a graduate of St. Nicholas school of this city and is a popular member of the younger set. His brother, Hugh McElroy, Jr., is also in the navy and is now on active duty somewhere in the South Pacific theatre of war.

McElroy showed members of the Informer staff some Japanese occupational money used in the Philippine Islands. He stated that the Japs have on hand occupational money that they expect to use in this country. The bills that he showed were of one shilling valuation.

JUN 12 1943

GEORGE McELROY, former Informer news boy and reporter, who was presented the navy's Purple Heart award for his heroic service in the line of duty.

Louis "Pinch Hits" for Hero at Fort Ceremony

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.—Sergeant Joe Louis Barrow, world's heavyweight boxing champion, received the Soldier's Medal on behalf of Private Boyd S. Ivey, hero of a drowning rescue attempt at Fort Leonard Wood on July 14, 1943, recently, when he came to the Fort for an exhibition bout.

Private Ivey, a former member of the 33rd Engineer Training Battalion, is now convalescing in a Michigan hospital and will receive his medal from Louis. His award was in recognition of a "valiant attempt to save the life of a drowning soldier at Fort Leonard Wood in July."

A few weeks after the incident to which reference was made in the War Department award, Private Ivey was the victim of another accident which later resulted in the amputation of a leg. He was recently moved from O'Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Mo., to the medical rehabilitation center at Battle Creek, Mich.

Corporal is Also Commended

At the review which was held on the 28th Training Battalion's drill field, Corporal George L. Sims of the 35th Engineer Training Battalion was also commended. He received a citation for his prompt action and demonstration of other soldierly qualities in bringing about the recapture of a prisoner who escaped from a train while being returned to Fort Leonard Wood from Muskogee, Okla., the night of September 18, 1943.

Both the coveted Soldier's Medal and the commendation were presented by Brigadier General Creswell Garlington, Commanding Officer of the Engineer Reception Training Center.

Columbia Negro Is Decorated For Heroism

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Oct. 24—(Special)—Sgt. Robert Hayes, 28, of Columbia, S. C., member of a Negro detachment of the Corps of Engineers at a remote army post, has been awarded the Soldier's medal for heroism.

Without thought of their own lives he and another soldier, heavily encumbered by equipment, plunged into icy water of an Arctic-bound stream to rescue an officer who had slipped from a wharf.

A special ceremony was held for the award of medals to the two heroes and the presentation was made by Brig. Gen. L. D. Worsham of the Northwest division. He flew many miles to be present as the engineering detachment is located far from the nearest railhead.

Nearly all non-military spectators were Hudson's Bay post Indians.

47b-1943

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 15, 1943

CROSS PRESENTED—Maj. Gen. Harry F. Hazlett (left above), commanding general of Replacement and School Command of the Army Ground Forces in Birmingham, presents the Distinguished Service Cross to Emma Gaines (right), awarded posthumously to her grandson, Pvt. George Watson, for extraordinary heroism in the South Pacific in giving his life to save several of his comrades.

Pvt. Watson, Negro Soldier, Is Given DSC Posthumously

He could have saved himself but he chose to save others, and for his heroic action, Pvt. George Watson, a young Negro soldier of Birmingham, was awarded posthumously the Distinguished Service Cross. The award was made Saturday by Maj. Gen. Harry F. Hazlett, commanding officer of Army Ground Forces Replacement School Command in Birmingham, to the soldier's aged grandmother who had raised him since birth.

Emma Gaines, in her small but neat little home at 1085 North Brittain Street, received the award as she lay bedridden from a recent illness.

"He was a fine boy," she said between soft sobs. "I brought him up ever since he was a small baby, for his mother and father both died soon after he was born."

In solemn words, Gen. Hazlett told the grandmother and the small group of friends and neighbors who had gathered: "To us of the Army, the Distinguished Service Cross is a priceless treasure. It is awarded only to persons who distinguish themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy."

Pvt. Watson was awarded the medal for heroism in action near Porlock Harbor, New Guinea, on March 8, 1943, when the ship on which he was aboard was attacked by enemy bombers. When the ship was abandoned, Pvt. Watson, instead of seeking to save himself, remained in the water assisting several of his comrades. Weakened by his exertions, he was dragged down by the suction of the ship and was drowned.

Gen. Hazlett said further: "The president has directed that this Distinguished Service Cross be presented to Emma Gaines, the hero's grandmother. I consider it an honor and a privilege to do so.

"George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter unselfishness," he continued, "true to the best traditions of the American soldier, an inspiration to every real American."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Unsung Pearl Harbor Navy

Hero Is Found

Helped Rescue Survivors In Bombed Ship

JUN 1 1943

By "SCOOP" JONES
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—(A N P)—Rambling around this island looking for unusual news material I really found something to print—an unsung Pearl Harbor navy hero, unknown to most of us. He's Cpl. Fred W. Taylor, whom the commander-in-chief of the U. S. Pacific fleet cited for bravery in the rescue of part of th[illegible] S. S. Oklahoma after it had capsized at Pearl Harbor.

JUN 8 1943

It appears that the battleship was put out of commission in the waters of the harbor while Jap Zeroes swarmed the sky. Bombs were exploding everywhere. Cpl. Taylor, along with a group of white drillers launched a small boat and set out to free, from their trapped position in the hull of the ship, what was left of its survivors. The rescue lasted for several hours and through the entire procedure the men were exposed to the hazards of the aerial attack.

The citation commanding Cpl. Taylor reads: "For heroic and most efficient work with utter disregard of his own personal safety in assisting in the rescue of 32 members of the U. S. S. Oklahoma, which had capsized during the attack on the fleet in Pearl Harbor, territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on Dec. 7, 1941. It was due to his untiring efforts in face of great hazards that the rescue work was continued until all known survivors had been released from the hull of that Ship."

Cpl. Taylor spent eight months in Hawaii as one of the only two colored first class drillers (a civil service appointment) in Uncle Sam's naval shipyard. Five of these months were spent prior to the Nips' surprise attack. He has had an interesting taste of this war. He became ill shortly after the Pearl Harbor affair and was honorably discharged from the Pacific branch of the navy with a possibility of transfer to the Philadelphia shipyard. He return- to America in March of '42, slightly "bomb happy," for a much needed rest and to await action on his pending transfer. However as luck would have it the draft board stepped in to the picture.. classified him as I-A....and inducted him into the army in June, 1942. Fourteen days after his induction he received official confirmation of his transfer—but too late.

While at Fort Belvoir, Va., receiving his basic training for the engineer corps, he was promoted to the rank of corporal, which is an unusual procedure for army train- centers. Then in January, '43, he was shipped to foreign service duty. Arrived in Australia and was sent up to New Guinea with other casualty replacements in April just in time to get a dose of one of the Japanese biggest air raid on this area.

Honor 'Yank' Who Shot a Nazi Airplane

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Lieut. Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind., the Negro flyer who shot down a Nazi Folke-Wulf 190 plane in the battle of Sicily, was honored as the "Yank of the Week" on the Blondie radio program over the CBS network Monday night.

JUL 23 1943

In honor of Lieut. Hall's feat, 400,000 cigarettes are being sent to the soldiers in North Africa. Each week the program honors a "Yank" and sends cigarettes to his theater of war.

Lieut. Hall, a member of a famous Negro pursuit squadron trained at Tuskegee, was the first Negro flyer to down a Nazi plane.

Displayed Unusual Courage In Fight

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Courier War Correspondent)

LONDON, June 10 — (Via Cable) — King George posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, highest British military honor, to a colored officer, Second Lieut. Koana Niuakiwa Ngarimu, native New Zealander of the Maori tribe, for outstanding gallantry and leadership during fighting against the Axis in Tunisia.

Hurling stones at Germans and Italians when his ammunition was exhausted, the Maori was found dead across the bodies of enemies he had killed and crippled before they got him.

EPOCHAL COURAGE

Describing Ngarimu's bravery, the War Office disclosed that the lieutenant, commanding a platoon, was given the task of attacking and capturing vital hill positions held in considerable strength by the enemy. Ngarimu led his men with great determination, displaying courage and leadership of the highest order. He was himself first on the hill top, personally annihilating at least two enemy machine-gun posts. The remainder of the enemy fled. Under cover of a most intensive mortar barrage, the enemy counter-attacked and Ngarimu ordered his men to stand up and engage the enemy man-for-man. This time, they did with such telling effect that attackers were literally mowed down. Ngarimu personally killed several, was twice wounded—once by [illegible] fire and later by shrapnel in the leg, but he refused to leave his men. Darkness found Ngarimu and his depleted platoon on the rock face of the forward slope of the hill with the enemy in a similar position on the reverse slope for a 20 yards distance.

Throughout the night, the enemy repeatedly launched fierce attacks but each attack was beaten off entirely by Ngarimu's inspired leadership. Morning found Ngarimu still in possession of the hill, but only he—with two unwounded men—remained. Reinforcements were sent. The enemy again counter-attacked during which charge Ngarimu was killed, defiantly facing the enemy with his tommy gun at his side. As Ngarimu fell his body rested almost on top of Germans he himself had killed. Some of the wounded enemy testified to Ngarimu's outstanding courage and fortitude.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Medal For Heroism Awarded Soldier

CAMP LOCKETT, Calif. — Pvt. Charles E. Burton, colored cavalryman from Coatesville, Pa., this week was awarded the Soldier's Medal for Heroism for risking his life to save a fellow soldier.

The two men were riding on an automatic railroad car, when suddenly Burton saw a train bearing down on them from the opposite direction. Burton pushed his companion from the car, then jumped himself when the train was only 30 feet away.

APR 24 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Launch 1st U. S. Warship Named for Negro Hero

Quincy, Mass., July 26 [Special].—The first American warship to be named for a Negro was launched yesterday at the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Steel company. The vessel, the destroyer Harmon, honored the memory of Hero Navy Mess Attendant Leonard Roy Harmon, who gave his life aboard the U. S. S. San Francisco during the battle of Guadalcanal. Sponsor of the ship was his mother, Mrs. N[illegible] Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Tex. Harmon was awarded the navy cross posthumously for extraordinary heroism.

JUL 27 1943

NAVY MEN GET PURPLE HEART, SILVER STARS

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

JUN 7 1943

SAN DIEGO, Cal., June 10—Conspicuous bravery and wounds incurred in action against the enemy won Silver Star medals and the Purple Heart for three Navy enlisted men in ceremonies recently at the U. S. Naval hospital, Corona, Calif.

Capt. H. L. Jenson (MC), USN., commanding officer of the hospital, made the presentations before assembled staff officers and enlisted personnel and patients.

Silver Star medals were awarded to Harry Alexander Seymour Jr., seaman first-class, USN, of Phoenix, Ariz., and Marion Green, officer's chief cook, USN., of McClellansville, S. C., who is still confined to a wheelchair.

The Purple Heart, for wounds received during the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, went to Lester Everett Pullian, chief boatswain's mate, USN., of South Gate, Calif.

Six M. P.'s Cited For Bravery In Riot

Informer
Houston, Texas

SHENANGO, Ga.—(ANP)— For their part in helping quell a riot Sunday night between white and colored soldiers, in which one Negro was slain and six wounded, six Negro military police were Wednesday cited for bravery by Col. Zim E. Lawhon, post commander.

The citation read:

"In the face of grave danger to themselves, when men around them had become excited and lost their self-control, these men remained at their posts of duty the night of July 11-12. This high sense of duty is most gratifying and should serve as an inspiration to the whole command.

JUL 24 1943

Heroism Brings Soldier's Medal

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By RANDY DIXON
(Courier War Correspondent)

LONDON, June 17 (Via Cable) —Pfc. William Preston of Detroit was, this week, awarded the Sol

...er's medal as additional recognition for his act of saving a companion from almost certain drowning. As already reported by this correspondent, Preston previously received recognition for his act of heroism in the form of a commendation on a parchment scroll from the Royal Humane society.

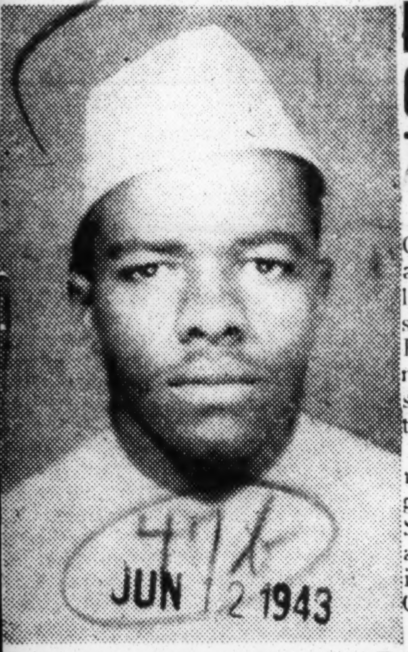
According to the citation from the U. S. forces, Preston, "without hesitation and at great risk to his own life, plunged into the icy waters, secured a rope and tied it around the drowning soldier and himself, thereby enabling those on shore to pull them both to safety.

Colonel Henry Wingate, depot commander, presented the award, which was delayed because General Dwight Eisenhower, the issuing authority, was assigned to the North African theatre of operations and could not act on the matter immediately. The rescue took place last August.

JUN 9 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Purple Heart



JUN 12 1943

Staff Sergeant Francis D. Bland, 23, of 116 Fifth avenue, Macon, Ga., has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in fighting around Sidi Bou Zid on April 6. The award was made by the Northwest African Air Service. Sgt. Bland is a member of an air base security battalion. Also decorated was Pfc., Frank Johnson of Miami, Fla., and James B. Stewart, white, of Enterprise, Ala., for wounds received at the same time.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Negro Who Saved Life Of Soldier Cited In England

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND — For heroic action in saving a soldier from drowning, Pfc. William R. Preston of Detroit, Mich. was awarded the soldiers' medal here Tuesday. The heroic incident occurred in August, 1942, when the victim was hurled into the water between the pier and the boat.

According to the citation, Preston, without hesitation and at great risk to himself, plunged into the icy water, fastened a rope around the drowning soldier and himself, thus enabling those on shore o pull both to safety.

Colonel Henry Wingate, Depot Commander, presented the award. The presentation was delayed because General Eisenhower, the issuing authority, was assigned to the Noroth African theatre of operations at the time.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

MESS ATTENDANT CITED FOR EFFORT TO SAVE 15 MEN

Washington, May 27—(ANP)—Charles Jackson French, 23, mess attendant, was highly commended last week by Adm. William F. Halsey, Jr., commander in the South Pacific, for attempting to save 15 men adrift on a raft under enemy shell fire by swimming and towing the raft out of danger.

According to the citation in the incident occurred during an engagement with the Japanese in the Solomon Islands, Sept. 5. French and his men had survived the sinking of the destroyer transport Gregory.

The citation stated: "After the engagement, a group of about 15 men were adrift on a raft which was being shelled by Japanese naval forces. French tied a line to himself and swam for more than two hours without rest, thus attempting to tow the raft. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service.

JUN 4 1943

Another Messman Hero

The Union

A commendation has been awarded Charles Jackson French, a Negro Mess Attendant, for his courage in attempting to save a group of his shipmates on the U.S.S. GREGORY from shelling by Japanese naval forces following the sinking of that ship.

Cincinnati, Ohio

After the engagement, a group of about fifteen men were adrift on a raft which was being deliberately shelled by Japanese naval forces French tied a line to himself and swam for more than two hours without rest, thus attempting to tow the raft. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service.

French, Mess Attendant, Second Class, U.S.N., is 23 years olds, from Foreman, Ark.

MAY 27 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Six M. P.'s Who Quelled Riot Cited for 'Courage'

SHENANGO, Pa. — (ANP) —For their part in helping quell a riot Sunday night, between white and colored soldiers in which one Negro was slain and six wounded, six Negro military police were Wednesday cited for bravery by Col. Zim E. Lawhon, post commander.

The citation read:

"In the face of grave danger to themselves, when men around them had become excited and lost their self control these men remained at their posts of duty the night of July 11-12. This high sense of duty is most gratifying and should serve as an inspiration to the whole command."

JUL 23 1943

THANKS FOR RESCUE

Chicago Ill Defender

JUN 12 1943

471

Lieut. Benjamin Craig of Fayetteville, W. Va. (left) and Sgt. Hannibal Moore of Long Branch, N. J., talk over the narrow escape Lieut. Craig had from drowning during a river crossing while on maneuvers in Louisiana. Sgt. Moore came to the aid of the lieutenant when the swift moving current of the river got the best of him.

LOSS OF HAND NO HANDICAP

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

APR 10 1943

Undaunted by his experiences and loss of a hand while serving his country in combat duty in the Solomon Islands recently, Quincy Tillman, 24-year-old seaman, recently honorably discharged from the service because of his injury, went to work for Uncle Sam as a draftsman at a California shipbuilding company.

Negro Soldier to Be Awarded For Saving Officer's Life

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Not all heroes are born in battle.

Sergeant Willie B. Goodson, Negro, Fairfield, Ala., who is stationed at the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, Orlando, Fla., will soon be awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism by Brig. Gen. Hume Peabody, commandant of AAFSAT, for risking his life to save that of an officer.

Sergeant Goodson, whose mother is Mrs. Rosie Lee Taylor, Oneonta, Ala., is being awarded Soldier's Medal for rushing into telegraph poles falling from a railroad flatcar and dragging Lt. Donald P. Rush, Boston, construction officer of Goodson's unit, from beneath the pile where he was trapped.

Lt. Rush had climbed to the top of the flatcar to release the braces holding the poles in order to unload them.

In leaping from the car, the lieutenant slipped, was struck by a pole and suffered a broken ankle.

Before he could drag himself free, other falling poles began to pile up on him.

At great personal risk, Sergeant Goodson ran to the lieutenant's side, secured him beneath the arms and dragged him to safety.

Birmingham, Ala., News
October 4, 1943

Negro Commended For Rescuing Flier

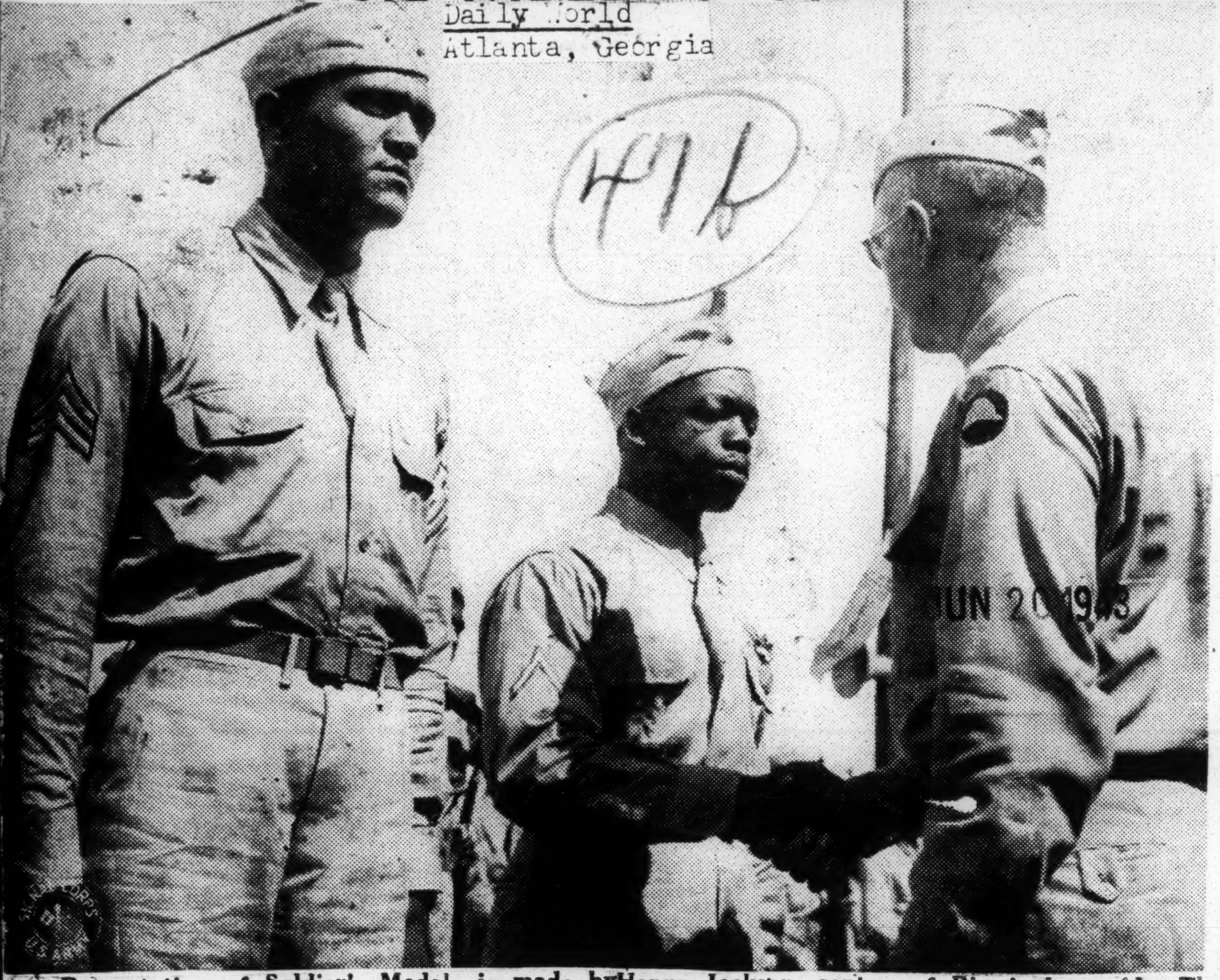
TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(AP)—Maj. Gen. T. J. Hanley, Jr., commanding general of the Eastern Flying Training Command, Sunday commended R. C. Daniels, Negro civilian worker at the Army Airfield here, for saving the life of a Negro pilot trapped in a burning plane.

Gen. Hanley said Daniels acted "in keeping with the best traditions of the American spirit of unselfish sacrifice" in rescuing the pilot, identified as Lt. Andrew H. Doswell.

47b-1943

Given Soldiers' Medals For Heroic Conduct

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia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JUN 20 1943

Presentation of Soldier's Medals is made by Brig. Gen. Joseph Lehman, right, to Sgt. Hannibal Moore of Long Branch, N. J., left, and Pvt. Henry Jackson, center, of Birmingham, Ala. The medals were awarded for heroic conduct during the Third Army maneuvers in Louisian

JUN 20 1943

Boy Hero Of World War 1 Is Again On Active Duty

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FORT SILL, Okla., March 25—Master Sergeant William A. Johnson, sergeant-major of the 100th Ordnance Battalion, is not the only Negro soldier to have received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre, and the Purple Heart in World War I, but he is probably the only soldier to have received those awards at the age of 15.

Enlisting in Toledo, Ohio, January 5, 1918, shortly after reaching his 15th birthday, Private Johnson, who claimed to be 18, received his basic training at Camp Logan, Texas, and at Camp Stuart, Va., and was sent overseas immediately, arriving in France, March 2, 1918, with the 370th Infantry, wher he saw action in St. Mihiel at Oise and at Aisne and was then stationed in the defensive sector.

CARRIED WOUNDED PALS TO THE REAR

On October 9, 1918, Private Johnson and two comrades were carrying ammunition and signal rockets to the front line, during which time Private Johnson's legging became untied. He called to his two companions to proceed while he re-wrapped his legging, adding that he would catch up with them as soon as he had finished.

Barely were the words out of his mouth, when a German 88 shell exploded between him and his companions, seriously wonding the two others, but leaving him untouched.

Relaying the carrying of the two men to the rear, Johnson was almost out of the danger zone when he was struck in the right shoulder by a piece of shrapnel while still carrying one of the wounded men. He was wounded a second time in the leg by a machine gun bullet. Despite the two wounds, he reached safety with his two comrades.

GETS THREE MEDALS

In recognition of his action, Private Johnson was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the American government and the Croix de Guerre by the French government. He was later awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for having been wounded in action.

Johnson, then a private first class, remained in a hospital in France until April 4, then returned to New York. Reenlisting immediately for one year, Private First Class Johnson was sent to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, where he was assigned to the 10th Cavalry. He left the service upon the completion of the one year enlistment and became an embalmer.

He reenlisted in the Army in 1942, and, after training at Camp Sutton, he was assigned to Fort Sill, where he has advanced to his present rank.

"I'm ready to go across any time," he says, "and I hope it'll be soon."

MAR 27 1943

MAR 27 1943

SWIM THRU FLAMES TO SAVE FLYERS

St. Louis Argus St. Louis
St. Louis, Mo.

Bravery Wins Three In New Guinea Decorations For Valo

Three Negro heroes of a U. S. Army Engineers unit were accorded high military honors recently and decorated by an American Brigadier General for gallantry in the New Guinea area, an Office of War Information outpost reported this week.

JUN 25 1943

The heroes, given Soldiers' Medals for an action which took place several months ago, were Pfc. Julius P. Franklin, Pfc. Harvey Crandle and Pvt. James Scott.

The soldiers distinguished themselves when a fighter plane crashed into a log while taking off from an aerodrome to intercept enemy fighters overhead. The plane plunged into a river near the airstrip and its petrol and ammunition were ignited. Pfc. Franklin jumped into the river, swam through the flames and pulled the pilot clear. Pfc. Crandle and Pvt. Scott waded into the river and helped Franklin drag the pilot ashore at the risk of their lives.

The entire organization of Negro engineers staged full dress parade for the ceremony which took place in a clearing the unit had carved out of thick scrub for the air forces. It was the unit's first full dress parade with its own band since April, 1942, for the Engineers had been in action in hazard missions during that period.

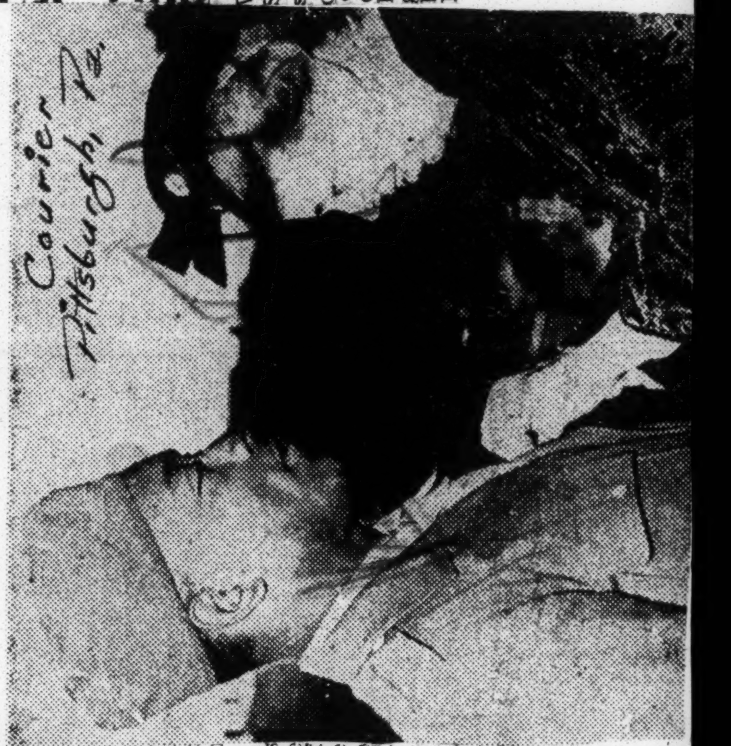
The Negro organization had suffered some casualties, but its members fulfilled the orders of the American High Command and were praised by General Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters.

JUN 26 1943

The ceremony marked the first time that Negro troops had been so honored in the Australian theatre of war.

"FIRST LADY" DECORATES A HERO

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Pvt. Sam Morris of Seattle, Washington, was awarded the Soldiers' Medal for helping to save 10 people when a bomber crashed into the Fry Packing company plant in Seattle several days' ago. Morris, a former heavyweight fighter from Chicago received a double honor by having his award pinned on by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

APR 17 1943

FDR Awards Youth Navy Cross Medal

NEW YORK Amsterdam NEWS
NEW YORK N.Y.

WASHINGTON — President Roosevelt has awarded the Navy Cross to William Pinckney, Negro cook, third class, who carried an unconscious shipmate from a smoke-filled compartment to the safety of the Hangar Deck of the Carrier Enterprise, the Navy Department announced on Saturday. The citation reads:

JUN 26 1943

"For extraordinary heroism while serving aboard the USS Enterprise during an engagement with enemy Japanese forces near the Santa Cruz Islands in the South Pacific last Oct. 26. When a heavy bomb exploded in the near vicinity, Pinckney, standing at his battle station in the ammunition handling room, was knocked unconscious when an explosion hit the ship. Four of five of his companions were killed.

"Pinckney, regaining consciousness, groped his way through burning entangled wreckage to a point under an open hangar deck hatch. Just as he was about to escape, he found a shipmate, the only other survivor of his party, struggling up through the hatch.

"When the man fell unconscious either from wounds or from smoke and fumes, Pinckney, unmindful of his own danger, lifted his comrade through the hatch to safety before he himself battled his way out of the burning smoke-filled compartment. By his dauntless courage in saving his comrade's life at great risk to his own, Pinckney upheld the highest traditions of the U. S. Naval Service."

JUN 26 1943

Pinckney is 20 years of age and is the son of Ritney Pinckney of Beaufort, S. C.

Good Conduct Pays

130 Soldiers Rewarded For Splendid Behavior

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

JUL 10 1943

FORT WASHINGTON, Md., July 8—Good Conduct ribbons for "exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity" were awarded to 130 enlisted men of the Service company (colored) of the Service Battalion, Adjutant General's school at a presentation review last week.

The awards were made by Brig. Gen. Herbert C. Holdridge, commandant, in the presence of all troops stationed at Fort Washington drawn up in parade formation. After the ceremony the troops passed in review.

The ribbon represents an unblemished record during at least a year's service and is made a part of each man's permanent service record.

The names and addresses of the members of the Service company receiving the ribbons follow:

OKLAHOMA

Sgt. Bocker T. Banner, Langston.

TEXAS

Sgt. Samuel Farmer, Gainesville.

FLORIDA

Sgt. Charles Long, Jacksonville.
Pvt. Walter E. Jackson, Pensacola.

PENNSYLVANIA

T/5 Guy D. Neal, Grove City.
Pvt. David E. Jones, Duquesne.

NEW YORK

S/Sgt. Elwood [illegible], Buffalo.

NEW JERSEY

Pvt. Walter F. Downs, Camden.

OHIO

Sgt. Sylvester Walker, Mansfield.

MINNESOTA

Sgt. Fowell B. Fulbright, Hugo.

ARKANSAS

Sgt. D. C. White, Texarkana.
Pvt. James Walker, Cotton Plant.
Pvt. Roger Williams, Grady.

WEST VIRGINIA

Pvt. Jesse Turk, Clarksburg.

VIRGINIA

T/Sgt. Cleveland Woodson, Richmond.
Sgt. Thomas M. Walker, Phenix.

NORTH CAROLINA

Sgt. Lee E. McClinton, Greensboro.
Cpl. Warren H. Greenfield, Seven Springs.
Cpl. Edward S. Harris, Jr., Raleigh.
Cpl. Charles R. Marbley, Morehead City.
Pfc. McNair Covington, Durham.
Pfc. Edgar W. P. Murphy, Lexington.
Pfc. Clarence Oliver, Thomasville.
Pfc. Leroy H. Thompson, Fairmont.
Pvt. Joseph Ballard, Gates.
Pvt. Milford Barnes, Goldsboro.
Pvt. Harding H. Carr, Warsaw.
Pvt. Clarence A. Coleman, Wise.
Pvt. James B. Evans, Rocky Mount.
Pvt. Leroy Forbes, Mt. Olive.
Pvt. Percy A. Harrell, Corapeake.
Pvt. Herbert Holmes, Goldsboro.
Pvt. Samuel Hoskie, Como.
Pvt. William Leggett, Lumberton.
Pvt. James E. Pickett, Morehead City.
Pvt. Eugene Porter, Armour.
Pvt. Lucian H. Rhodes, Rose Hill.
Pvt. Roger B. Roberts, Lexington.
Pvt. David J. Sharpless, Chinquapin.
Pvt. David Stokes, Teachey.
Pvt. Elwood Thomas, Beaufort.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Pvt. Leroy Caughman, Columbia.
Pvt. Moses Jenkins, Rembert.
Pvt. Otis Moore, Sumter.

GEORGIA

Cpl. Malcolm R. Chaires, Atlanta.
Pfc. Johnnie C. Hector, Athens.
Pvt. Elick L. Anderson, Bainbridge.
Pvt. Alfred Brown, Savannah.
Pvt. John W. Bryant, Savannah.
Pvt. Marion A. Hill, Athens.
Pvt. James Nealy, Richland.
Pvt. Theodore R. Small, Quitman.
Pvt. Willie S. Williams, Atlanta.
Pvt. Eugene B. Young, Jr., Athens.

TENNESSEE

Sgt. Homer E. Purdy, Pinson.
Cpl. Jesse W. Scott, Nashville.
Pfc. Clarence Johnson, Rockwood.
Pfc. Lushous Kelly, Chattanooga.
Pfc. Charles Larry, Memphis.
Pfc. [illegible], Elizabethton.
Pfc. Ephraim S. Sweat[illegible], [illegible]ertown.
Pvt. Henry D. Anderson, Elkton.
Pvt. Albert N. Bradley, Rogersville.
Pvt. John Gentry, Brentwood.
Pvt. Joe J. McCray, Nashville.
Pvt. Earl L. Moraney, Chattanooga.
Pvt. Nathaniel H. Proctor, Lebanon.
Pvt. William A. Smith, Nashville.
Pvt. Ivory M. Stegall, Jackson.

LOUISIANA

Pfc. James Jones, Pfc. Albert C. Kelly, Pfc. Frank Marshall, Pfc. Earl Moon, Pfc. Clifford L. Pavageau, Pfc. Julius J. Toval, Pfc. Albert Williams, Pvt. Alvin U. Angrum, Pvt. Nelson J. Gaspard, Pvt. Lawrence A. Grandpre, Pvt. Aaron Handy, Pvt. Woodrow W. Harris, Pvt. James J. Herbert, Jr., Pvt. Ambrose M. Johnson, Pvt. David E. Jones, Pvt. Robert B. Logwood, Pvt. Wm. Moore, Pvt. Charles J. Porter, Pvt. Sidney J. Smith, Jr., Pvt. Charles Strader, Jr., Pvt. Lawrence Thiel, Jr., Pvt. Harvey Tilton, Pvt. Edward Wilcox, Pvt. Eldridge Williams, Pvt. Clarence T. Wilson, all for New Orleans.

Cpl. George E. Stephens, Gretna.
Pfc. Charles E. Weber, Thibadant.
Pvt. Melvin J. Andry, Triumph.
Pvt. Captain Brown, Westlake.
Pvt. Henry Charles, Rayne.
Pvt. Leo J. Green, Zachary.
Pvt. Louis Jones, Gretna.

MISSISSIPPI

T/4 Henry L. Coree, Shannon.
Cpl. Joseph E. Johnson, Little Rock.
T/5 Henry C. Conerway, Armory.
Pfc. Willie M. Cook, Oxford.
Pfc. Fred A. Crocektte, Oxford.
Pfc. John T. Grady, Jackson.
Pfc. Webster T. Herron, Piney Wood.
Pfc. Norman Jack, Shaw.
Pfc. Claud Sparkman, Vicksburg.
Pvt. Willie B. Bankhead, Corinth.
Pvt. John Brandon, Okolona.
Pvt. Victorie Buchanan, Phil[illegible]
Pvt. O. Q. Gillespie, [illegible]
Pvt. Willie [illegible] Graham, Corinth.
Pvt. Benajmin F. Henderson, Raymond.
Pvt. Henry Jackson, Ergemont.
Pvt. James W. Jackson, Hermanville.
Pvt. John H. Morris, Scott.
Pvt. Ralph A. Newman, Bovina.
Pvt. Leslie Oliver, Oxford.
Pvt. John C. Pegues, Oxford.
Pvt. Henry L. Smith, Toomsuba.

ALABAMA

Cpl. Roscoe C. Gaillard, Pritchard.
Pvt. Lovell Truss, Renfroe.
Pfc. Lowon Worthy, Birmingham.
Pvt. Calvin Heard, Malone.

JUL 10 1943

JUL 10 1943

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NON-COM RESCUES DROWNING OFFICER

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

SOMEWHERE IN LOUISIANA, June 10—Sgt. Hannibal Moore, Long Branch, N. J., was commended by his regimental commander last week for heroism in rescuing Lt. Benjamin Craig, Fayetteville, West Va., from drowning.

Col. Everett Yon, commander of the Infantry Regiment of which Sgt. Moore and Lieutenant Craig are members, commanded the sergeant for his quick thinking, skillful swimming and courage.

EXPERT SWIMMER

Sergeant Moore is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sewell J. Moore of 233 Potter avenue, Long Branch. He is transportation sergeant of his unit. A highly competent swimmer, he has swam distances as great as seven miles.

Lieutenant Craig, a graduate of the Infantry Officer Candidate school, Fort Benning, Ga. He is intelligence officer of his battalion. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Craig, reside in Fayetteville.

JUN 12 1943

SUBMARINE MEN DECORATED

47k

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

JUN 26 1943

This U. S. submarine lookout "team" today has been credited with contributing "in a large measure to the success" of their ship on war patrols. Donald J. Snyder, torpedoman's mate third class, USN, left, and Jos. Cross, steward's mate first class USN, are shown in this photograph shortly after they had been decorated with the Navy and Marine Corps medal by Rear Admiral C. A. Lockwood Jr., Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet. Snyder's home is 5935 Rodgers street, Lincoln Place, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Cross' home 2510 Thaliam street, New Orleans, La.—Int. News Photo.

JUN 26 1943

93rd Sergeant Rescues Officer From Drowning

JUN 12 1943 Chicago Ill. Defender

SOMEWHERE IN LOUISIANA — Sergeant Hannibal Moore of Long Branch, N. J., was commended by his regimental commander this week for heroism shown in rescuing Liutenant Benjamin Craig of Fayetteville, West Va., from drowning.

During a difficult river crossing problem, Lieutenant Craig was swimming in a swiftly moving current, he lost the fight to the current, and called for help. Sergeant Moore, who was swimming nearby came to his aid and pulled him to shore, where other soldiers lifted the exhausted pair from the river.

Colonel Everett Yon, commander of the infantry regiment of which Sergeant Moore and Lieutnant Craig are members, commended the sergeant for his quick thinking, skillful swimming, and courage. All that Lieutenant Craig has to say, is, "if it hadn't been for Sergeant Moore, whew."

JUN 12 1943

Sergeant Moore is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sewall J. Moore of 233 Potter avenue, Long Branch, N.J. He entered the army August 18, 1941, and is transportation sergeant of his unit. Prior to entering the armed service he studied voice at the Weigster Studios, New York City. A highly competent swimmer, he has swum distances as great as seven miles.

JUN 12 1943

Lieutenant Craig, a graduate of Infantry Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, Ga., entered the army February 17, 1941, and received his commission in August, 1942. He is intelligence officer of his battalion. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Craig reside in Fayetteville.

The rescue came in the midst of strenuous field training in the Third army maneuver area, climaxing nearly two months of battle conditioning.

HEROISM ON THE HOME FRONT

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

MAR 20 1943

For heroism displayed in rescuing an eight-year-old child from drowning in Michigan's icy Flint River last December, Arthur W. Freeman, 28-year-old Negro sergeant of the 889th Basic Training Squadron of Tuskegee Army Flying School, received the Soldier's Medal for valor at a ceremony before massed squadrons of Negro enlisted men, aviation cadets and tactical officers. Major Gen. Ralph Royce, commanding Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center, is shown awarding the medal to Sgt. Freeman.—International News photo.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 5, 1943

ARMY MAN LAUDS TUSKEGEE NEGRO

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Oct. 4—(AP)—Commendation from a high Army officer has come to R. C. Daniels, Negro civilian worker at Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Maj. Gen. T. J. Hanley, Jr., commanding general of the Eastern Flying Training Command, cited Daniels for saving the life of a Negro pilot from a burning plane.

Gen. Hanley said Daniels risked his life to rescue the pilot, Lt. Andrew H. Doswell, "in keeping with the best traditions of the American spirit of unselfish sacrifice."

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Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Mississippian Awarded The Legion of Merit

Staff Sergeant Isaac McGrew Jr., member of an infantry regiment operating in the South Pacific Area, has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the War Department announced this week He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac McGrew, Sr., Route 5, Yazoo City, Miss.

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47b-1943

Award 2 Soldiers Legion Of Merit

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Announce Assignments, Promotions Of Soldiers In South Pacific Area

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC—SNS—News of awards, assignments and promotions of Negro troops from the Pacific area are increasing weekly. Most recent news tells of the award of the Legion of Merit to two soldiers from Alabama and Louisiana by Lieutenant Millard F. Harmon, Commanding General of the Army Forces in the South Pacific area.

JUN 2 1943

Staff Sergeant Dennis Holt, 3600 Douglas Road, Birmingham, Alabama, received his award as chief of a Battalion Wire Section, for leading his men to wire trails, through miles of difficult jungle. They carried wire up to a mountain top observation post and frequently crossed miles of water to nearby islands in alls orts of bad weather.

Sergeant J. P. Mays of Tullulah, Louisiana, as regimental wire chief, directed the field operation of installing and maintaining the wire-lines of widely-dispersed regiment. He negotiated difficult and unexpelled terrain with limited supplies, using pack horses instead of wire-laying equipment. Placed on limited duty, because of physical conditions brought about by his activities, Sergeant Mays, heedless of his condition, continued his work which ofen required attention from 14 to 18 hours a day, and through his efforts, uninterrupted communications were maintained.

PROMOTIONS

Three promotions in the Area in the ranks of an Engineer Battalion, which received its basic training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, are those of Jack Hayman, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Morris Lee, Vidalia, Louisiana, and Thurman Vaughn, Nahville, Tennessee.

Hayman was promoted from Sergeant to Staff Sergeant. Before the Army, he had been a First Sergeant in the Civilian Conservation Corps stationed at Westport, Pennsylvania, after which he had worked in the Department of Agriculture in that state. The Sergeant is now in the Medical Detachment of his Battalion, where he is proving invaluable as a surgical assistant.

Morris Lee was promoted to Sergeant. He is a graduate of Southern University, Scotlandville, La., where he obtained a B. S. degree, and majored in Agriculture and woodwork. He later taught these subjects before joining the Army.

Thurman Vaughn was promoted to Technician 4th Grade. He is a first cook and is known as one of the best men in his line in the regime. His specialty is layer cake, which is in much demand whenever he can get the making to produce one.

ASSIGNMENTS

A soldier who earned the chance to beccome a candidate for Officers School, while serving far away from home is Sergeant E. O. Armstrong, brother of Mrs. Clavant Strains, 995 Yearger Street, Knoxville, Tennessee.

JUN 2 1943

A former student of Knoxville College, he joined the Army in February, 1942. After completing his basic training at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, he reported to an Engineer Battalion at Elgin Field, Florida, and was later transferred to his present unit, where he rose to the rank of Corporal within a few weeks.

In October, 1942, the unit embarked for the South Pacific Area, where it is now stationed.

Helped To Rescue 32 From Bombed Ship

Courier

Unsung Pearl Harbor Naval Hero, Now In Army, Found In New Guinea

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

By "SCOOP" JONES

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, June 24—(ANP)—Rambling around this island looking for unusual news material, I really found something to print—an unsung Pearl Harbor Navy hero, unknown to most of us. He's Cpl. Fred W. Taylor, whom the commander-in-chief of the U. S. Pacific fleet cited for bravery in the rescue of part of the crew of the U.S.S. Oklahoma after it had capsized at Pearl Harbor.

JUN 26 1943

It appears that the battleship was put out of commission in the waters of the harbor while the Japanese Zeros swarmed the sky. Bombs were exploding everywhere. Cpl. Taylor, along with a group of white drillers, launched a small boat and set out to free, from their trapped position in the hull of the ship, what was left of its survivors. The rescue lasted for several hours and through the entire procedure the men were exposed to the hazards of the aerial attack.

GIVEN CITATION

The citation commending Cpl. Taylor reads. "For heroic and most efficient work, with utter disregard of his own personal safety, in assisting in the rescue of 32 members of the U.S.S. Oklahoma, which had capsized during the attack on the fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on Dec. 7, 1941. It was due to his untiring efforts in face of great hazards that the rescue work was continued until all known survivors had been released from the hull of that ship."

FAILED TO GET TRANSFER

Cpl. Taylor spent eight months in Hawaii as one of the only two colored first class drillers (a Civil Service appointment) in Uncle Sam's naval shipyard. Five of these months were spent prior to the Nips' surprise attack. He has had an interesting taste of this war. He became ill shortly after the Pearl Harbor affair and was honorably discharged from the Pacific branch of the Navy, with a possibility of transfer to the Philadelphia shipyard. He returned to America in March of '42, slightly "bomb happy," for a much-needed rest and to await action on his pending transfer. However, as luck would have it, the draft board stepped into the picture . . classified him as A-1 . . and inducted him into the Army in June, 1942. Fourteen days after his induction he received official confirmation of his transfer—but too late.

JUN 26 1943

While at Fort Belvoir, Va., receiving his basic training for the engineer corps, he was promoted to the rank of corporal, which is an unusual procedure for Army training centers. Then in January, 1943, he was shipped to foreign service duty. Arrived in Australia and was sent up to New Guinea with other casualty replacements in April, just in time to get a dose of one of the Japanese biggest air raids on this area.

JUN 26 1943

Lookout "Team"

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

This U. S. Submarine lookout "team" today has been credited with contributing "in a large measure to the success" of their ship on war patrols. Donald J. Snyder, torpedoman's mate third class, USN, left and Joseph Cross, steward's mate first class, USNR, are shown in this photograph shortly after they had been decorated with the Navy and Marine Corps Medal by Rear Admiral C. A. Lockwood, Jr., Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet. Snyder's home is 5935 Rodgers street, Lincoln Place, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Cross' home, 2510 Thaliam street, New Orleans, La.

JUN 26 1943

Two Who Risked Lives To Save Officers, Given Medals

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Southern Boys Plunge Into Artic-Bound Stream To Effect Rescue

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, Canada—(SNS)—In a far-north setting that macked of a Robert Service ballad, two members of a U. S. Engineer combat unit were awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism. The War Department announced this week.

Without thought of their own lives, they had gone plunging into an Arcticbound stream to rescue an officer who had slipped from a wharf.

The soldiers were Sergeant Robert Hayes, 27, Columbia, South Carolina, and Technician Fifth Grade Hubert Massie, 23, of Waynesboro, Virginia. Brigadier General Ludson D Worsham of the Corps of Engineers, now directing the Northwest Division, was the awarding officer.

Aside from the heroism involved

and the Army's recognition of it several factors were contingent with that ceremony which resulted perhaps in broader scope, toward acknowledgement of the fine spirit-at-large displayed not only by Hayes and Massie, but by all the fellow soldiers of their outfit.

WILL BE TOLD LATER

At a later date, Army officials now point out, the name and number of this unit can be written with pride into the open book. Today, however, such facts must be kept veiled for reasons of security.

The salient the (when details of the work of this unit are revealed) will probably deal with a story how young men from the Gulf State cotton-fields, from one-mule fields of the Carolinas, from tobacco-sheds of the Virginias and a few from the midwest mills, all were drawn together in common cause and then went into one of the strangest toughest battles ever fought by human beings.

It was a battle against the elements of nature; it was one for survival of the fittest.

It was a strange battle, because those same young men (brought up to the friendly sun) had been chosen by virtue of their pre-Army work to do an important job in this far-northern spot in Canada. But it was a cold Canada they arrived in, fiercely so; meaner than they ever dreamed of back where the catfish bite and the jasmine grows.

BUILT OWN CAMP

It was a tough battle because they had to fend for themselves. No one put their camp there for them; they cut the logs and built the structures with their own hands. They fought solitude; for the place was only a Hudson's Bay post to begin with. They fought homesickness; for home far to the friendlier south.

According to Army observers, the point that all-out historians will stress is this:

The record of this Combat Engineer unit will show that Negro troops of the U. S. Armed Forces are probably the most adaptable men on earth. They can do a job anywhere under the sun—and in the far north where there is no sun. They can take it, and they can do with staunch American loyalty, and without question.

Indeed, the men of this now-unnamed group were hand-picked with careful designation—and for one of the toughest jobs of all. This in itself would seem to be an obvious indication of a streamlined Army's keen eye toward picking the right men at the right job—and this job called for all-around specialists with staying-power.

The camp is well-rovisioned, and the food is good. For recreation, and the boys like fun despite the pressure of their labors, facilities of the American Red Cross shows to fine advantage.

Four church services are available each Sunday including two at J. A. Clement was pastor of an a Roman Catholic Mission which has gained fine reputation for its work among the Eskimo people. Chaplain (Captain) influential church in Boston before the war. His choir can hold its own anywhere.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October [illegible], 1943

MISSISSIPPIAN WINS AWARD FOR VALOR

WASHINGTON — St. Sgt. Isaac McGrew, Jr., Negro member of an infantry regiment operating in the South Pacific area, has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the War Department announced this week. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac McGrew, Sr., Route 5, Yazoo City, Miss.

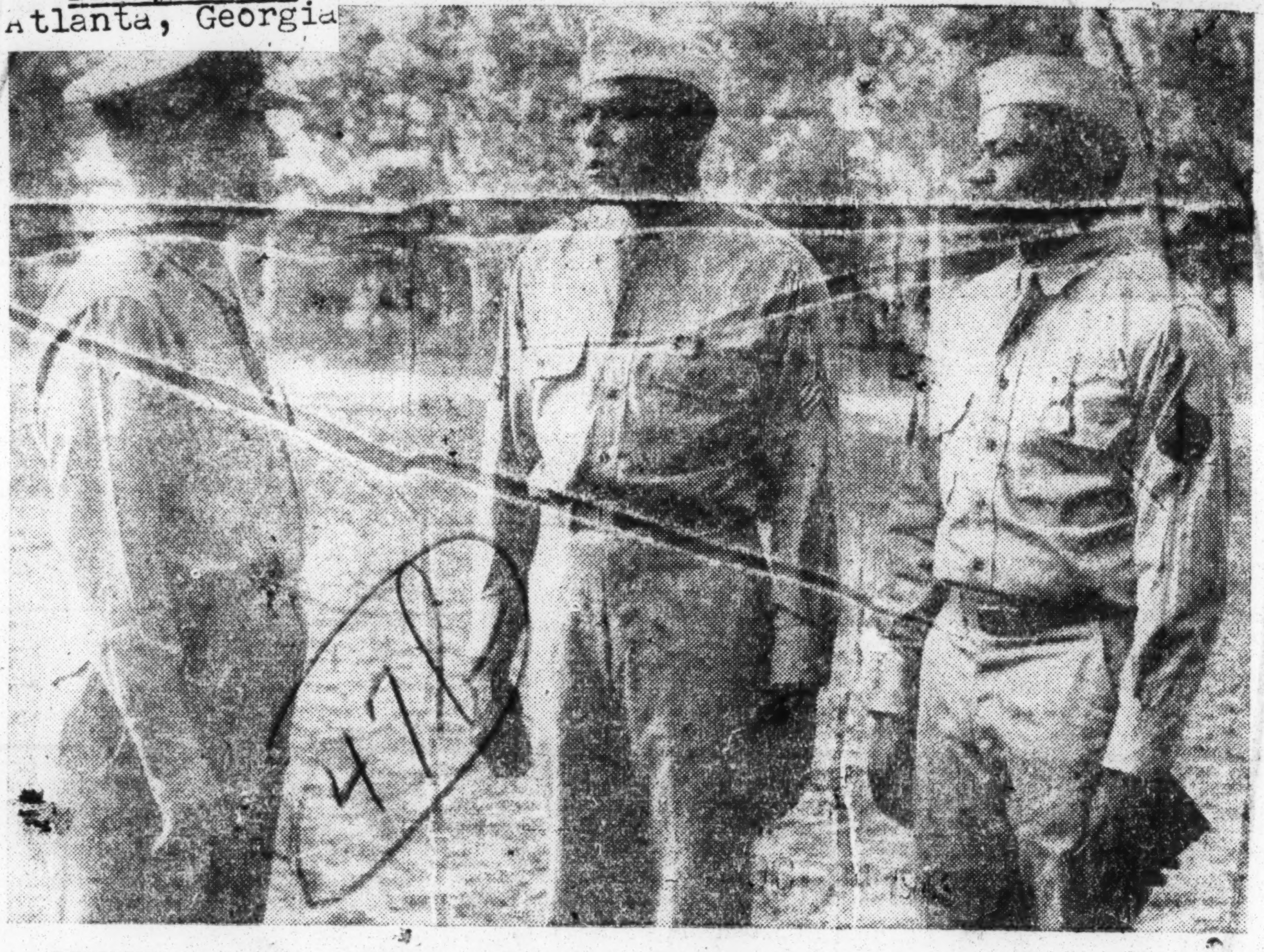
The citation, dated Aug. 25, 1943, is as follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services of merit in the South Pacific area, from May 15, 1942, to Feb. 20, 1943. During this entire period Sgt. McGrew was primarily responsible for the successful installation and maintenance of 300 miles of wire under the most rigorous of tropical, climatic and terrain conditions.

"Equipped with only infantry tables of basic allowance equipment, Sgt. McGrew improvised methods for overcoming numerous obstacles of nature and never failed to accomplish an assigned mission. By long hours, ingenuity and perserverance he performed remarkable feats of accomplishment."

Get Soldiers' Medals For Rescue Of Officer

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



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SOMEWHERE IN CANADA — Brigadier General Ludson D. Worsham of the Corps of Engineers is pictured here with Sergeant [illegible]ert Hayes, left, and Technician [illegible]bert Massie, shortly after he p[illegible]'s Medal to the two for heroism displayed when they rescued an officer from a river in Canada. The scene of the award is an undisclosed camp in Northern Canada.—(U. S. Army Photo)

Hero And Officer He Saved

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47R

ORLANDO, Fla. — (SNS) — Not all heroes are born in battle. Sergeant Willie B. Goodson, Negro, Fairfield, Ala., who is stationed at the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, Orlando, Fla., will soon be awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism by Brig. Gen. Hume Peabody, commandant of AAFSAT, for risking his life to save that of an officer.

Sergeant Goodson, whose mother is Rosie Lee Taylor, Oneonta, Ala., is being awarded Soldier's Medal for rushing into telegraph poles falling from a railroad flatcar and dragging Lt. Donald P. Rush, construction officer of Goodson's unit, from beneath the pile where he was trapped.

Lt. Rush had climbed to the top of the flatcar to release the braces holding the poles in order to unload them.

In leaping from the car, the lieutenant slipped, was struck by a pole and suffered a broken ankle. other falling poles began to pile up on him.

At great personal risk, Sergeant Goodson ran to the lieutenant's side, secured him beneath the arms and dragged him to safety.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Wins Merit Awad

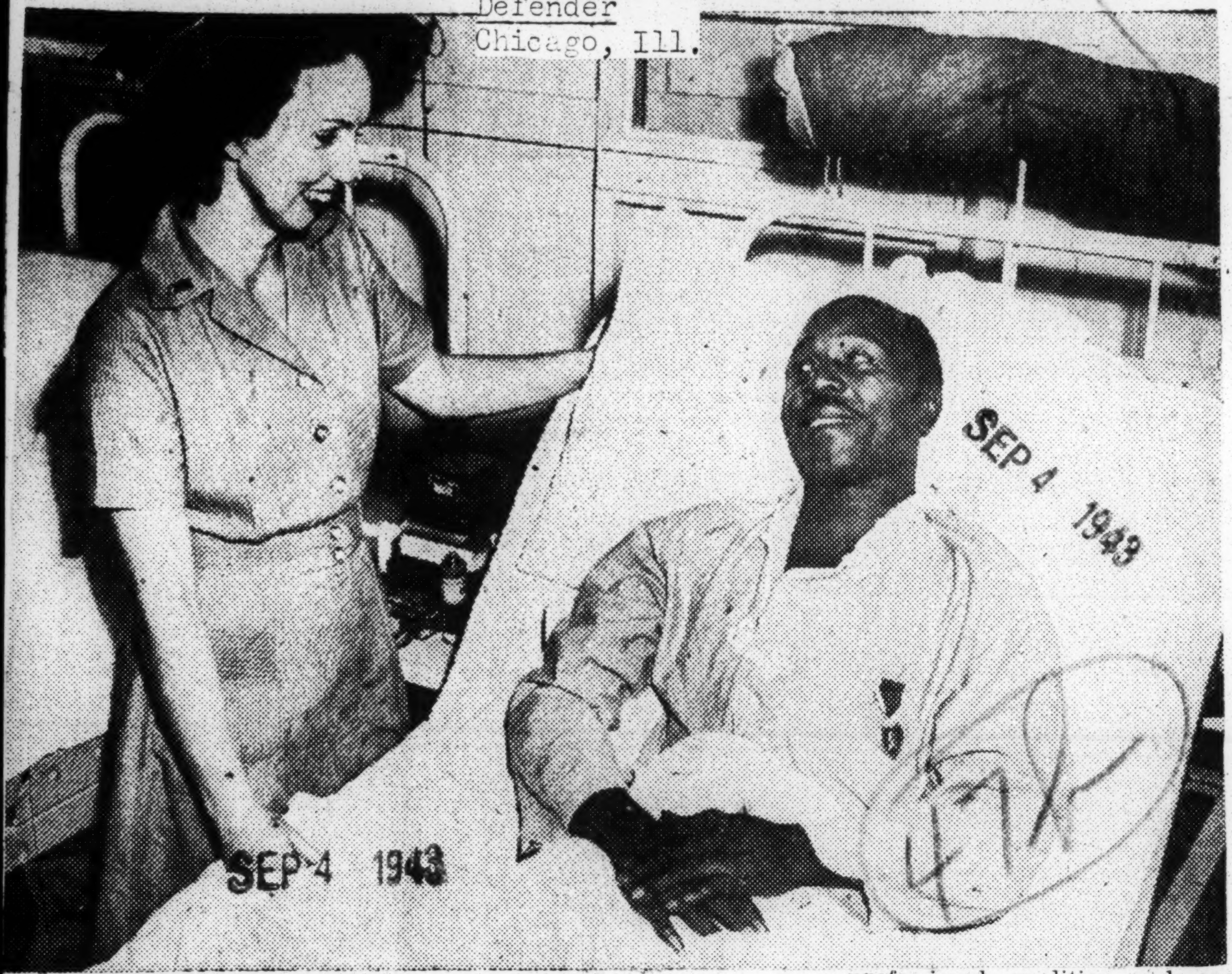
DEC 1943

THE LEGION OF MERIT for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as first sergeant of Company H, 25th Infantry," went October 30, 1943 to First Sergeant Samuel M. Baker, Detachment M. C., Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Sergeant Baker also holds the Soldier's Medal. His native home is Nashville, Tenn.—Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.

47b-1943

WINS PURPLE HEART IN SOUTH PACIFIC

Defender
Chicago, Ill.


SEP 4 1943

Pvt. James Barker, assigned to an Engineer unit in the South Pacific, receives the congratulations of Lieut. H. E. Bebble, nurse, at an advanced base army hospital. He was recently awarded the Purple Heart, was wounded in action on a South Pacific island. Private Barker's sister, Julia, lives at 110 West 126th street, New York City.

Yazoo Negro Awarded Legion of Merit in Pacific

Yazoo City, Miss., Herald
October 15, 1943

Sgt. Isaac McGrew, Whose Mother Lives on Rt. 5, Receives High Award for Service

A dispatch from the United States Army Headquarters in the South Pacific announces that under the direction of the President, Staff Sergeant Isaac McGrew, Infantry, has been awarded the Legion of Merit award by Lt. General Millard F. Harmon, commanding United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area.

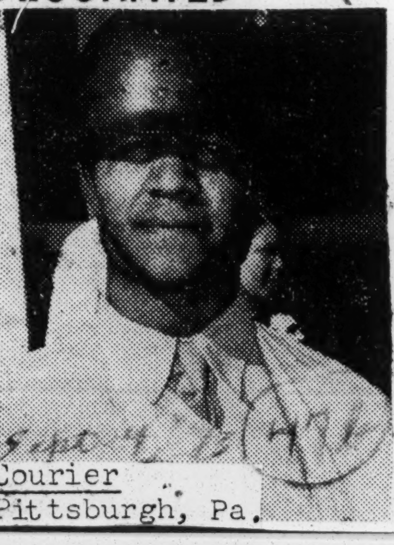
Sgt. McGrew, negro, is the son of Leanna McGrew, who resides on Route 5.

The dispatch read: "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services of merit in the South Pacific area, from May 15, 1942, to February 20, 1943. During this entire period Sergeant McGrew was primarily responsible for the successful installation and maintenance of three hundred miles of wire under the most rigorous of tropical, climatic, and terrain conditions. Equipped with only Infantry battalion T/BA equipment, Sergeant McGrew improvised methods of overcoming numerous obstacles of nature and never failed to accomplish an assigned mission. By long hours, ingenuity and perseverance he performed remarkable feats of accomplishment. He was throughout these arduous months invariably pleasant, attentive to detail, and considerate of others. His enthusiasm, ability, professional qualities and exceptionally faithful service over an extended period of time set an example of unselfish devotion to duty to all who came into contact with him."

Sergeant McGrew enlisted in the Army about two years ago and saw service in Army camps in the States before being shipped to foreign service in April of last year. Congratulations are extended to him on the honor that has been placed upon him.

47b

DECORATED


Sept 4 '43

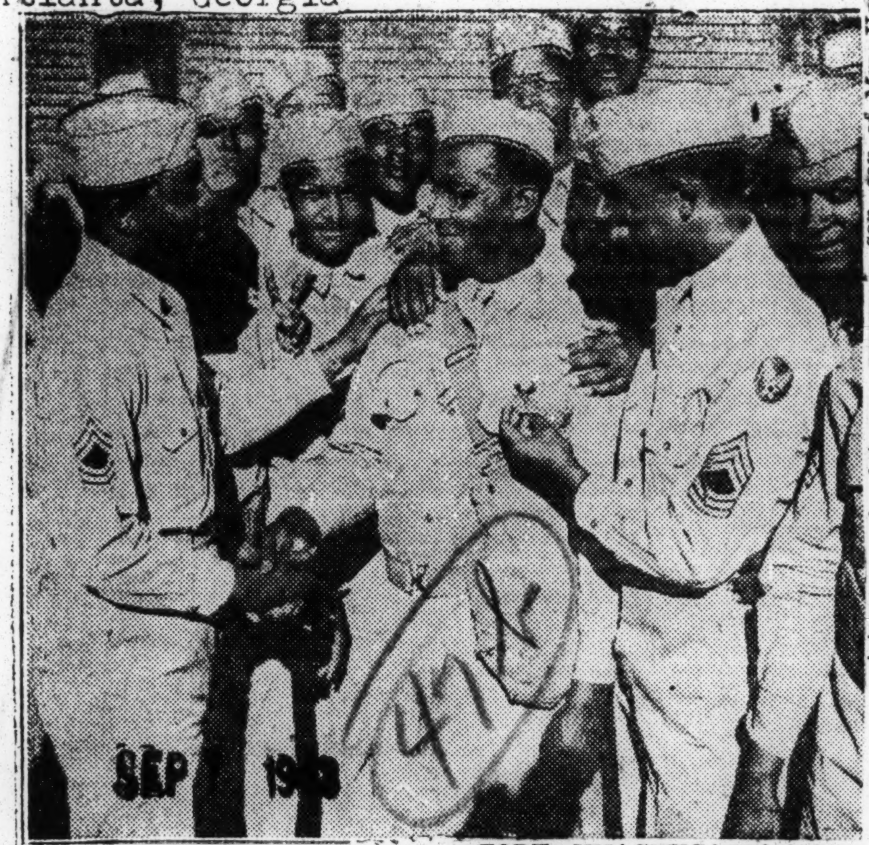
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Saluted by the entire First Regiment for his calm courage, 1st Sgt. Theodore R. Roach of Cleveland, Ohio, received the Legion of Merit Medal for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service." The medal was pinned on by Brig. Gen. Wallace C. Philoon, commanding general of IRTC at an impressive ceremony at Fort McClellan, Alabama. Sergeant Roach saved many of his comrades from injury and death by his coolness after being hit by a shell in maneuvers.

SEP 4 1943

Congratulate The New Hero

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia


SEP 7 1943

ROME ARMY AIR FIELD, N. Y.—First Sergeant Horace J. Porter of New York City congratulates Corporal John D. Hilton a few minutes after Corporal Hilton was awarded the Soldier's Medal today for heroism. Admiring the Medal is Master Sergeant Arthur Giron of Opelousas, Louiisana. Corporal Hilton was awarded the Soldier's Medal at a Review of the Rome Army Air Field, Rome, New York, by Brigadier General C. P. Kane, Commanding General, Rome Air Service Command. Corporal Hilton, of Bolivar, West Virginia, is one of Air Service Command's ground crew members whose job it is to "Keep 'em Flying."

SEP 7 1943

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Soldier Achieves Honor At School For His Unit

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona — Technician Fourth Grade Leroy A. Patton of Greenville, Ala., Battery clerk of Headquarters Battalion Artillery, won laurels for his unit and the Division during a recent period of study at the Army Administration School for Enlisted Men at Atlanta, Georgia," says the "Buffalo," camp paper of the 92nd Division.

Because of proficiency in the course which teaches administrative duties, he was given an efficiency rating in soldier psychology, clerical habits, mess accounting, filing, general property accounting authorized abbreviations, typing,, organizational property and types and other supplementary clerical subjects.

Sergeant Patton attended Lomax-Hannon College at Greenville where he was a basketball letter man.

AUG 14 1943

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13 Purple Heart Awards In Pacific

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
1943

By "SCOOP" JONES

WITH AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES IN NEW GUINEA—(A N P)—Among latest developments of the week, 13 men were decorated as a result of receiving wounds doing a Jap air attack, while working at a New Guinea port. All men are valuable truck drivers, who haul tons of supplies daily to and from the docks.

SEP 6 1943

They are: Pvts. Lester L. Butler, 252 Fair St., Savannah, Ga.; Arthur S. Watson, 260 E. 142nd St., New York; Gilbert H. Morris, 122 Crawford St., Duquonne, Pa., son of Mrs. Estelle Morris; Izear Jackson, son of Mrs. Hattie Pless, Rayville, La.; William L. Thorne, son of Mrs. Sarah Ashay, 5 Momie Place, Charleston, S. C.; Booker T. Evans Jr., son of Mr. Booker T. Evans, Sr., Houston, Miss.; Robert T. Crews, Jr., son of Mrs. Annie Crews, 160 Minus St., Greenville, S. C.; Abron Irwin, son of Mrs. Cora Irwin, Box 116, Monud Bayou, Miss.; James E. Guilford, son of Mrs. Nancy B. Guilford, 115 Hassison St., Boston; Albert H. Latourse, 26 Dean St., Glentock, N. J.; Wilson Lee Jr., 1009 Avenue S., Pratt City, Ala.; Joe Hardy, son of Mrs. Janie Hardy, 136 Vine St., Roanoke, N. C., and Alfonzo Smith, son of Mrs. Lula Smith, New York.

The citation for the awards, which was by order of Col. Geoffrey Galwey, an advance base commander, read: "For wounds received in action near....March 8, 1943. The formal presentation of awards was last week.

Among the 18 men receiving promotions were Staff Sgts. Harold J. Morris, Jackson, Miss., and Gaston E. Jernigan, Whiteville, N. C., from the rank of sergeant. S-Sgt. Morris' promotion also carries with it the title of company transportation sergeant. His job is to supervise traffic and maintenance of vehicles and heavy motorized equipment [illegible] his outfit. S-Sgt. Jernigan becomes his company's construction foreman. His promotion came as result of outstanding carpentry work in erecting one of the largest hospitals on this base.

SEP 6 1943

SEP 5 1943

Others receiving promotions were: (promoted to Sgt. from Pfc.) James Smith, Plaquemine, La., (promoted to Cpl.) Thomas H. Wiggins, Natchez, Miss., William W. Jones, Charles City, Va., Sexton E. Caldwell, Bethany, La., George W. Walker, Fountain Inn, S. C., Blano Spearman, [illegible]ensville, Miss., Harold Spotts[illegible] Shelby, Va., Elvin L. Cooper, Baton Rouge, La., Benjamin J. Jackson, Glenn, Ga., Bennie Lewis, Midville, Ga., Willie Rogers, Shreveport, La., Preston Tassin, Garyville, La., Cleo Moore, Sumrall, Miss., Wolfred J. DeSilva, New Orleans, Johnnie A. Jones, Tallulah, La., and Overton Thacker, Nashville.

A HERO AND TWO LOVELIES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 18 1943

Steward Second-Class James Pettaway of the U.S. Navy is the object of much admiration and interest since his return from action in the current conflict against the Axis in which he earned the distinguished "Purple Heart" award. Above he is shown receiving the admiration of two lovely hostesses, Jerry Woods, left, and Eunice Farris, of the Fremery USO club. Miss Farris is inspecting the hero's medal.—Joseph photo.

SEP 18 1943

World War 1 Soldier Gets Purple Heart After 19 Years

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

CAMP LEE, Va. — (SNS) — In a Veterans' hospital in 1933, Cpl. Thomas Robinson, now of Company D, 11th Quartermaster Training Regiment, was informed by a doctor that a Purple Heart award was being held for him by the War Department in Washington.

AUG 25 1943

Robinson roved the country with the Pullman Car Company after his discharge, which prevented the Government catching up with him to pin on his decoration won in France with the 92nd Division.

Inducted into the service at his native Chicago, he was sent to France from Camp Upton, L. I., N. Y. Among the battles in which he saw action were Motz and Meuse-Argonne.

It was at the front in 1918 that Robinson realized that he had been gassed. He was moved back from hospital to hospital, finally reac[illegible]se where he spent months. [illegible] recovering he left the hospital without permission in an endeavor to reach his outfit. Awaking in a hotel near Paris he inquired what the shouting was for which he heard out side. "The war is over," someone said.

Robinson returned to the states in 1919. He left Chicago immediately after his return to America leaving no address, a fact which required the War Department 19 years to track him.

gation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of a com[illegible] field by Carter's employer at the sawmill. The case was presented to the Grand Jury by Albert J. Tully, U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama.

AUG 25 1943

Our Boys In Pacific Area Knock Out All Obstacles

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Several Are Awarded Purple Heart, Soldier's Medal; Distinguished Service Cross Goes to Private of Quartermaster Regiment.

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, Sept. 16—Through virgin jungles and across unconquered mountains, Negro engineers in the Southwest Pacific have swept all obstacles before them in their zeal to "make a way" for the spearhead of warfare in this theatre. Like some genie with a magic wand, they have spun a network of roads, whipped out steel carpets for landing fields, raised airdromes and built docks where none had appeared before.

Negro engineer troops constitute a substantial number of engineers in this theatre. Their performance has been most creditable, both as units engaged in important engineer activities and as individual soldiers in discharge of their duties.

IN MOST FORWARD AREAS

These Negro engineers were among the troops in the most forward areas and were subject to many air attacks during the land and a[illegible] campaigns in Papua and New Guinea. [illegible]rated both behind the lines and in the forward areas. Of the Engineer Service Troops cited by the War Department General Orders for outstanding performance of duty with honor and distinction, the following units were commended:

- 2 Engineer General Service units.
- 1 Engineer dump truck unit.
- 1 Ordnance ammunition unit.
- 1 Port unit.
- 1 Quartermaster truck unit.
- 1 Company of Quartermaster truck unit.
- 1 Detachment chemical decontamination unit.
- 1 Quartermaster railhead unit.

SEP 18 1943

LIST INDIVIDUAL DECORATIONS

The Distinguished Service Cross

GEORGE WATSON, Private — Quartermaster Regiment. For extraordinary heroism—on March 8, 1943. Next of kin: Mrs. Cora Jackson (sister), 2703 Washington avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

Award of Soldier's Medal

JULIUS S. FRANKLIN, Private First Class — Engineer Battalion. For heroism displayed on June 25, 1942, near an airdrome, New Guinea. Charleston, S. C.

HARV[illegible] CRANDLE, Private First Class—Engineer Battalion. For heroism displayed on June 25, 1942, near an airdrome, New Guinea. Greenville, N. C.

JAMES SCOTT, Private — Engineer Battalion. For heroism displayed June 25, 1942, near an airdrome in New Guinea. Montgomery, Ala.

JOSEPH KUKENDALL, Corporal—Quartermaster Truck Regiment. For heroism—on July 8, 1942. San Antonio, Texas.

WASH MURDOCK, Sergeant — Ordnance Company (Am). For heroism displayed near Port Moresby, New Guinea, on September 15, 1942. Detroit, Mich.

Award of the Purple Heart

HE[illegible]AN JACKSON, Private First [illegible] Medical Detachment

Engineer Regiment. For wounds received as a result of an enemy air attack in New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Pittsburgh, Pa.

18 1943

LEWIS JOHNSON, Private—Engineer Regiment. For wounds received as a result of an enemy attack in the vicinity—New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Chicago, Ill.

NATHANIEL McCALL, Private—Engineer Regiment. For wounds received as a result of an enemy air attack in New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Wildwood, Fla.

CHARLES KYLES, Private First Class — Engineer Regiment. For wounds received in an enemy bombing raid on camp area, January 27, 1943. Carbondale, Ill.

ALBERT V. DUKE, Private — Ordnance Company, (Am). For wounds received in action near Port Moresby, New Guinea, January 27, 1943. Chicago, Il.

OTIS RICHARDS, Private First Class—Quartermaster. For wounds received in action at Port Moresby, New Guinea, on September 5, 1942. Los Angeles, Calif.

ROBERT R. JUSTICE, Sergeant—Engineers. For wounds received as a result of enemy action, during a bombing raid at New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Chicago, Ill.

WILLIE WILLIAMS, Private First Class—Engineers. For wounds received as a result of enemy action during a bombing raid, New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Fayetteville, N. C.

GEORGE L. HARVEY, Private—Engineers. For wounds received as a result of enemy action during a bombing raid at New Guinea, May 14, 1943. Yates, Mo.

CRESS PATTERSON, Private—Engineers. For wounds received as a result of enemy action during a b[illegible] raid, May 14, 1943. Tampa, F[illegible]

WOODROW W[illegible], Private—Engineers. For w[illegible] received as a result of enemy action during a bombing raid at New Guinea, May 14, 1943. State Line, Miss.

JOSEPH SINGLETON, Private. Engineer Regiment. For wounds received in action near Buna, New Guinea, on December 17, 1942. Bains, La.

SEP 18 1943

Choicagoan Wins Soldiers' Medal For Brave Rescue

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

LONDON.—The Soldier's Medal was this week bestowed upon Private First Class William R. Preston, 4646 South Wabash avenue, Chicago, Ill., a member of a Quartermaster Unit.

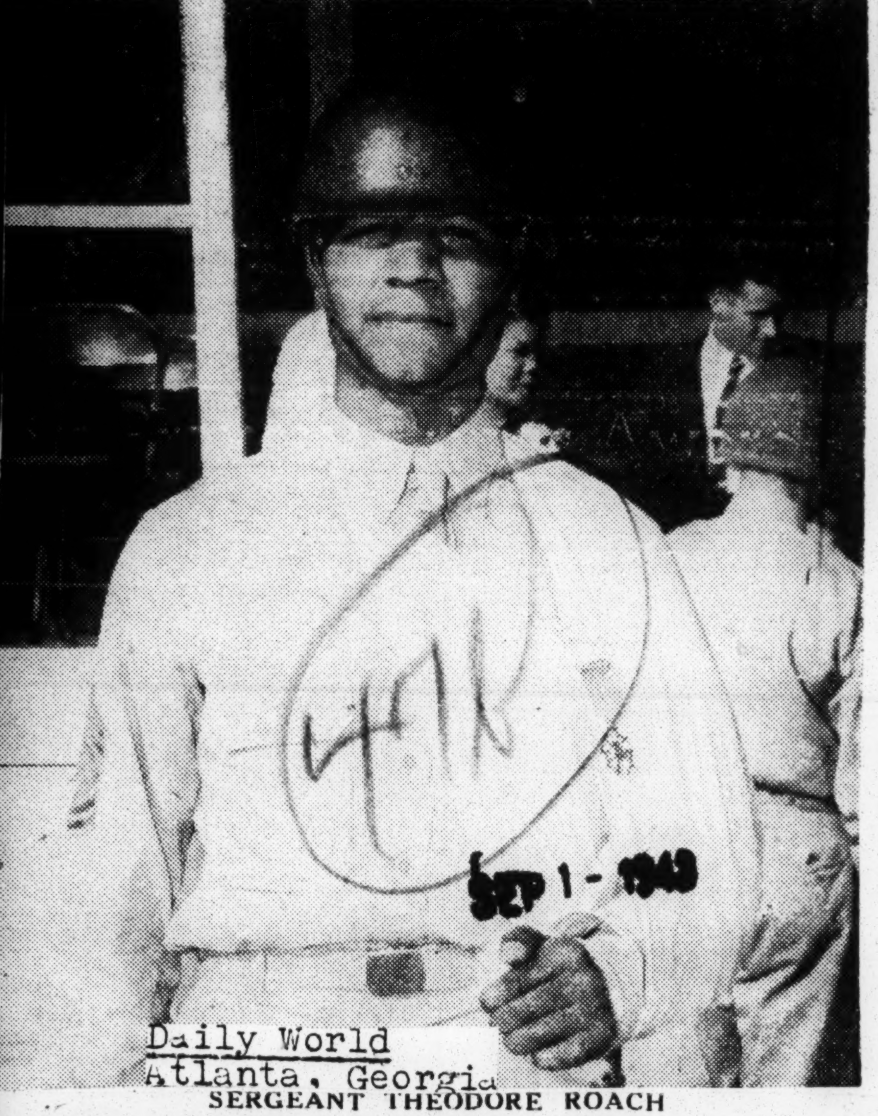
He earned the medal by saving the life of one of the men in a port battalion, of which he was then a member, who was struck by a load of steel swinging from a crane and knocked into the water between pier and ship.

The award was made by Colonel Henry A. Wingate of Washington, D.C., Depot Commander, and the citation read: "Private Preston, without hesitation and at great risk of his own life, plunged into the icy waters, secured a rope and tied it around the drowning soldier and himself, thereby enabling those on shore to pull them both to safety."

JUL 3 1943

47b-1943

His Bravery Brings Award



SEP 1 - 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SERGEANT THEODORE ROACH

FORT McCLELLAN, Ala.—(SNS) — While the entire First Regiment saluted him for his calm courage, First Sergeant Theodore M. Roach, 25, from Cleveland, received the Legion of Merit Medal in ceremonies at the Infantry Replacement Training Center here and was cited by the War Department for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services."

Legion Of Merit Medal

Awarded Sergeant At Fort Mc Clellan

SEP 1 - 1943

FORT McCLELLAN, Ala. -- (SNS) — While the entire First Regiment saluted him for his calm courage, First Sergeant Theodore R. Roach, 25, from Cleveland, Ohio, received the Legion of Merit Medal in ceremonies at the Infantry Replacement Training Center here and was cited by the War Department for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service."

Sergeant Roach is the son of Richard M. Roach, 2244 East 87th Street, Cleveland, and lived there before joining the Army almost seven years ago.

The medal was pinned on Sergeant Roach by Brig. Gen. Wallace C. Philoon, commanding general of the IRTC, at a retreat parade in which the First Regiment, Negro training unit at Fort McClellan passed in review to honor the sergeant.

The act of courage for which he was decorated occurred while he was leading the rookie soldiers of his company through one of IRTC's infiltration and mental conditioning courses several weeks ago.

The infiltration course is a no-man's land of tree stumps, brambles, ditches, shell holes, and barbed wire through which Infantry trainees must crawl with rifles and fixed bayonets while machine guns lay a blanket of zipping slugs 36 inches over them.

Despite all possible safety precautions, and through no fault of his own, Sergeant Roach was hit in the left arm. The bullet shattered the forearm and elbow, a painful and bleeding wound.

Cognizant that an outcry or show of fear from him might panic the young soldiers all about him and cause them to rise up into the deadly machine gun fire, Sergeant Roach quietly passed a "cease firing" signal to the control officer.

"His coolness in this emergency," said the War Department citation, 'has been an inspiration to all the trainees in his company and reflects credit on the military forces of the United States."

"Leadership starts with example," General Philoon told the men of the regiment and several hundred spectators as he awarded the medal, "and First Sergeant Roach has demonstrated the finest type of leadership — by example. His action was an inspiration to us all, an example which stimulates us all to greater efforts."

Pointing out that the greatest casualties in battle are among the poorly trained, General Philoon said it was the job of the IRTC to so train men that good habits formed here will go with them into combat.

"The war of the Infantry soldier is a rough, tough, dangerous game," he said. "We must accustom soldiers to battle conditions — its sounds, its hardships and dangers. We must have infiltration courses, village fighting courses and combat firing. We may feel certain that battle training here saves hundreds of lives overseas.

"Planes may bomb and tanks may roar through the lines, but it is the job of the Doughboy to fight on, pressing ever forward, on foot, tired, hungry, thirsty, even wounded, knowing full well that the battle is being won only if he and his buddies are going forward to kill or capture the enemy.

"There is no service less glamorous, none more glorious."

Sergeant Roach entered the Army soon after finishing high school at Ironton, Ohio. His wife and their daughter live in nearby Anniston.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

13 Privates Win Purple Hearts In New Guinea

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—At a special formation last week, 13 privates, members of one of the two famous quartermaster regiments which made history in establishing a motor transport service between Mt Isa and Birdum in Australia last year, were awarded Purple Hearts in recognition of wounds suffered by them as a result of enemy action near Porlock Harbor on March 8.

SEP 11 1943

The men were designated as recipients of the award in a general order issued August 15 by Col. Chanucey Galwey, commanding advanced base D.

Witnessing the presentation of the awards was Col. Miller, regimental commander and his official staff and the unit stationed in this area.

Soldiers honored at the ceremony were Pvts. Lester L. Butler, Savannah, Ga.; Arthur S. Watson, New York City; Gilbert H. Morris, Duquesne, Pa.; Izear Jackson, Rayville, La.; William L. Thorne, Charleston, S. C.; Booker T. Evans Jr., Houston, Miss.; Robert T. Crews Jr., Greenville, S. C.; Abron Irwin, Mound Bayou, Miss.; James E. Guilford, Boston, Mass.; Albert H. Latourse, Glentock, N. J.; Wilson Lee Jr., Pratt City, Ala.; Joe Jardy, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.; and Alfonze Smith, Buffalo, N. Y.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

Army Honors Heroic Negro

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Nov. 7 (U.P.)—Corp. Mark R. Sloan Jr. of Pittsburgh, Pa., a Negro soldier in the Fifty-fourth Aviation Squadron, stationed at Mather Field, has received the Soldier's Medal for heroism in rescuing another member of the squadron from drowning.

NOV 8 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

SOLDIER A HERO IN FIRE

Brooklyn Man Wins Medal for Saving a Woman in Britain

LONDON, Saturday, Aug. 7 (AP)—The Soldier's Medal has been awarded to Corp. Jerome L. Collier, Negro, of 369A Madison Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., for saving the life of a British woman trapped by fire on the second floor of her home last May 14, United States Army Headquarters announces.

Corporal Collier, a member of an engineering unit, removed the woman by a window and lowered her to Corp. Charles Robinson of 828 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City.

Corps. Richard H. Hill of 36 eBthel Avenue, Morristown, N. J., and James Smith of Conagrove, S. C., and Corporal Robinson formed a bucket brigade until firemen arrived on the scene.

AUG 7 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

For Bravery Beyond The Call of Duty, Soldier Wins Distinguished Service Cross

AUG 28 1943

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 26—"For conspicuous bravery above and beyond the call of duty," a hero of the New Guinea campaign was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service cross. The award was received last Saturday by Mrs. Emma Gaines, grandmother of Pvt. George Watson, who, in an extraordinary display of heroism gave his life to save several of his comrades in the South Pacific.

Pvt. Watson

The award was made by Major General Harry F. Hazlett, commanding general of Replacement and School Command of the Army Ground Forces in Birmingham, to the soldier's aged grandmother as she lay bedridden from a recent illness. The ceremonies were held in Mrs. Gaines' home at 1085 North Brittain street, before a group of neighbors who had gathered for the occasion.

JAPANESE BOMBERS SINK SHIP

Private Watson was awarded the medal for bravery in action near Portlock Harbor, New Guinea, on March 8, 1943, when the ship he was aboard was attacked by Japanese bombers. When orders were issued to abandon the ship, Pvt. Watson, without a thought of saving him[illegible] the water to assist [illegible] of his comrades to safety.

Weakened by this exertion, he was dragged down by the suction of the ship and was drowned.

General Hazlett told the grandmother and a small group of friends: "To us of the Army, the Distinguished Service cross is an priceless treasure. It is awarded only to persons who distinguish themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy.

PRAISES WATSON

"The President has directed that the Distinguished Service cross be presented to Mrs. Emma Gaines, the hero's grandmother. I consider it an honor and a privilege to do so.

"George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter selfishness, true to the best traditions of the American soldier, an inspiration to every real American."

(Editor's note: The Distinguished Service cross is the second highest award in the armed services, only rated above it is the Congressional Medal of Honor. Pvt. Watson is the first Negro to win this medal in World War II.

"He was a fine boy," said Mrs. Gaines between soft sobs from her neat little bed. "I brought him up ever since he was a small baby, for his mother and father both died soon after he was born."

One of the witnesses at the ceremony was Grover Gillins, white, employer of Watson before he voluntarily joined the service in 1941. Watson was a graduate of Parker High school and has a brother Johnny Hill Watson, in the Navy.

AUG 28 1943

HONOR MAN HONORED

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
SEP 10 1943

478

Mrs. Joe Louis, wife of the world's heavyweight boxing champion, presents honor man certificate to Bluejacket Ellis Newton of 2433 Flora avenue, Kansas City, Mo., at recent recruit graduation exercises at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. Mrs. Louis was introduced to the nearly 1,000 men who were on the field by Lt. D. O. Van Ness (center), commanding officer of Camp Robert Smalls, one of the three Negro training camps at Great Lakes. — U. S. Navy photo from OWI.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

IT HAPPENED IN ALABAMA

AUG 20 1943

Last week a Major General of the United States Army entered a small house in Birmingham, and there awarded to a bedridden old colored woman the Distinguished Service Cross, a posthumous award for bravery in action on the part of her grandson, a young negro soldier, Pvt. George Watson.

Pvt. Watson earned this medal for extraordinary heroism near Porlock Harbor New Guinea, last March, when an American ship was attacked by enemy bombers. The ship was abandoned, and Watson, instead of seeking to save himself, remained in the water assisting his comrades, until, weakened by his exertion, he was dragged down by the suction of the ship and drowned.

General Hazlett, in making the award, said, "George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter unselfishness, true to the best traditions of the American soldier, an inspiration to every real American."

Other Alabama negroes [illegible] die in various parts of the world as this conflict runs its course, and many more will experience new disciplines and learn new skills in Uncle Sam's great Army. They will return to Alabama better equipped to serve themselves and their communities.

Meanwhile, all of us can share with the negro community its pride in the heroism of Pvt. Watson.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

AMERICAN INSPIRATION

AUG 20 1943

To an aged, bedridden Negro woman Saturday came one of the highest awards that Uncle Sam can bestow. Emma Gaines, Birmingham Negress, received from the hands of an Army dignitary the Distinguished Service Cross won by her grandson, Pvt. George Watson, who died as a hero in the South Pacific.

"He could have saved himself, but he chose to save others." These words began the story of the presentation as told in the Birmingham paper. "Pvt. Watson was awarded the medal for heroism in action near Porlock Harbor, New Guinea, on March 8, 1943, when the ship which he was aboard was attacked by enemy bombers. When the ship was abandoned, Pvt. Watson, instead of seeking to save himself, remained in the water assisting several of his comrades. Weakened by his exertions, he was dragged down by the suction of the ship and was drowned."

It is not difficult to imagine the emotions of this woman as she received the cross which the child she raised from infancy won. The Birmingham News reporter states that she was sobbing softly during the ceremonies.

Here is a story that will evoke emotions everywhere it is told. It is a story that will make a catch come to the throat of even the hardest man. For Maj. Gen. Harry Hazlett, commanding officer of the Army Ground Forces Replacement School Command in Birmingham, told Emma Gaines: "George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter unselfishness, true to the best traditions of the American soldier, an inspiration to every real American."—Anniston Star.

"ABOVE THE CALL OF DUTY"

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 28 1943

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Brig. Gen. C. P. Kane, commanding general of Rome Air Service Command, pinning the Soldier's Medal on Cpl. John D. Hilton, of Bolivar, W. Va. Corporal Hilton received the medal for bravery last April when single-handed, he removed the bodies of six men from an Army bomber which crashed near Daniel Field, Ga. A member of Air Service Command's 1954th Ordnance Depot company, Hilton will serve with one of Air Service Command's "Keep 'Em Flying" ground crews.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Pvt. Watson, Negro Soldier, Is Given DSC Posthumously

AUG 5 1943

He could have saved himself but he chose to save others, and for his heroic action, Pvt. George Watson, a young Negro soldier of Birmingham, was awarded posthumously the Distinguished Service Cross. The award was made Saturday by Maj. Gen. Harry F. Hazlett, commanding officer of Army Ground Forces Replacement School Command in Birmingham, to the soldier's aged grandmother who had raised him since birth.

Emma Gaines, in her small but neat little home at 1085 North Brittain Street, received the award as she lay bedridden from a recent illness.

"He was a fine boy," she said between soft sobs. "I brought him up ever since he was a small baby, for his mother and father both died soon after he was born."

In solemn words, Gen. Hazlett told the grandmother and the small group of friends and neighbors who had gathered: "To us of the Army, the Distinguished Service Cross is a priceless treasure. It is awarded only to persons who distinguish themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy."

Pvt. Watson was awarded the medal for heroism in action near Porlock Harbor, New Guinea, on March 8, 1943, when the ship on which he was aboard was attacked by enemy bombers. When the ship was abandoned, Pvt. Watson, instead of seeking to save himself, remained in the water assisting several of his comrades. Weakened by his exertions, he was dragged down by the suction of the ship and was drowned.

Gen. Hazlett said further: "The president has directed that this Distinguished Service Cross be presented to Emma Gaines, the hero's grandmother. I consider it an honor and a privilege to do so.

"George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter unselfishness," he continued, "true to the best traditions of the American soldier, an inspiration to every real American."

47b-1943

Natives Remove Victims From Burning Plane

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 23 1943

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

LONDON—(ANP)—When the chronicles of World War II are written, historians will have a great deal to say about the bravery of African soldiers and civilians alike. Africa's soldier sons are brave in the face of danger and quick and intelligent in action. When faced with difficult problems they solve them in the speediest and simplest manner. Their bravery is innate.

Now here is a tale of four of Africa's civilians who showed resource and intrepid courage. In the most remote regions of Africa, as in the quiet farmlands of Britain, people know that when a bomber comes down in flames that there is peril — for the rescuer as much as for the pilot trapped in the wreckage. In Africa, as in Britain, there are men to act.

Prompt and courageous action by four natives — their names are Chemweno Arap Chepkoiyou, Cheboi Arap Chepkuri, Kiverange Wa Maharia and Kimngech Arap Kigen — was responsible for saving the lives of the survivors of a Royal Air Force plane which recently crashed near Elderet, Kenya.

DARED BLAZE

All four were working on the Eureka estates at the time of the accident. Although the aircraft caught fire immediately it struck the ground, the natives climbed in, without hesitation, amid burning wreckage and exploding ammunition, to extricate the crew.

For this valorous deed the four men have been awarded the George medal, second-highest of Britain's awards for civilian bravery, by King George IV.

Chemweno Arap Chepkoiyou told the story afterwards.

"I am a squatter (small farmer) on the Eureka estates, where I look after my own cattle. I was herding my stock near the trees on the right hand side of the road that leads to the Wheat Shamba, when at about ten o'clock in the morning I saw an aeroplane pass over the farm.

"It was not very high in the air and was going in the direction of Sergoit rock. It turned above the rock, then left the forest, and, losing altitude, crashed in the Wheat Shamba.

"As soon as I realized it was going to crash, I went quickly toward it. As I ran, the aircraft, which was skidding along the ground, struck some rough place and turned over and over until it finally came to rest.

"I found one European lying on the ground by the tip of the left wing and from him, I gathered that help was wanted by the others in the plane. At that time the left wing was on fire from underneath. This later caused a grass fire.

ALL CLIMBED IN

"At the same time as I arrived, Cheboi, Arap Chepkuri reached the scene. We left the injured men lying outside the aircraft and went to the nose to investigate. Kiberenge Wa Machiria came hurrying up to help. We went round to the right hand side of the nose, climbed in and lifted out a man with a broken leg. His legs were pinned by a piece of metal and we had to free them Then we were joined by Kimngoch Arap Kigen. We laid the injured man from the aircraft on the wheat stubble.

"By this time ammunition had begun to explode all around us. We returned to the aircraft and carried the man lying by the tip of the left wing to the Wheat Shamba, as the grass was taking a big hold.

"By this time the ammunition was exploding badly and we were rather frightened, but we returned again to remove from under the wreckage the body of the third man, vmfOma ETAOIN ETAOI who had been killed in the crash."

All four men are quite cool about it. It was not a nice experience — but they knew their job, and they did it well.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Camp Honors Hero Who Saved 6 In Plane Crash

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Rome honored Johnny Hilton last week. It was Rome Army Airfield in New York, not Rome, Italy.

The soldiers of Rome Army Airfield turned out in full to do Hilton honor. The band played just for him, and Brig. Gen. C. P. Kane, commanding general of the Rome Air Service Command, pinned the Soldier's Medal for valor on his chest. Hilton is 33 years old and a Technician Fifth Grade in an Ordnance Depot company. As an Air Service Command soldier, he is part of the vast Army of ground crew men who "Keep 'em Flying." He is quiet and bespectacled. Six months ago he was a farmer in Bolivar, W. Va.

Last April 13, he displayed "courage far and above the call of duty," which would have done credit to any veteran of Guadalcanal, when he dragged six bodies from a blazing plane, which had crashed near Daniel Field, Ga.

Here is Hilton's own story, as he modestly tells it:

"I was leaving the mess hall about 5 p.m., when I heard a crash like two locomotives colliding, and I saw a cloud of smoke about three quarters of a mile away. I ran to the scene of the accident and saw the blazing bomber. It was burning so hot that the surrounding grass had caught fire, and the firemen had to put out the fire in the grass before they could reach the plane.

"I saw one of the bodies lying face up, partly out of the plane, and pinned between the landing gears. I ran to the plane, slipped a rope around him, and pulled him clear.

"Alongside him was another man, badly twisted and burned, and I had to remove part of the red hot fuselage and the magazine of a .50 caliber machine gun to get him out, he was buried so deep in the flames. He was still burning when I pulled him to the grass."

According to witnesses, Hilton then "returned repeatedly to the blazing wreckage against the advice of everyone present, to pull the victims to safety." The heat was so intense that firemen had to play water on him as he worked. Hilton continued:

"I don't know how many bodies I pulled out, but they told me later there were six. My only concern was to get the bodies out of the burning wreckage. I felt this my first duty as a soldier and performed it to the best of my ability."

In making the award, Brig. Gen. Kane said: "We of the Air Service Command, are proud to have soldiers of your calibre within the command. The officers and men and civilian employes of the Rome Air Service Command, and especially your fellow soldiers in the Ordnance Depot company, are proud of you.

"As Commanding General of the Rome Air Service Command, I have been chosen to make this award, and I should like to assure you that we, at the Rome Army Air Field, are grateful that we have been privileged to have a small part in paying tribute to a brave American."

Hilton then stood with the General as the latter reviewed the Rome Army Air Field troops as they marched by in review and saluted.

According to Lieut. Edward J. Kwak, commanding officer of the Ordnance Depot company, Hilton was amazed that so much fuss should be made over what he considered a trivial matter. Lt. Kwak said:

"I told him to take the day off, but he wouldn't do it. He said he was needed on duty and he would prefer to work. He even refused a three-day pass because he believed it would be letting his buddies down."

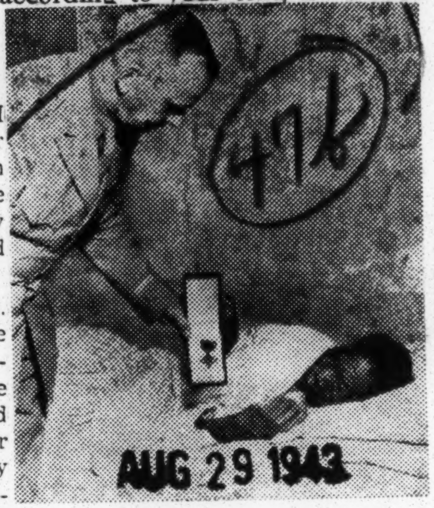
PM
New York, N. Y.

For Hero's Grandmother

Dear Editor:

Your picture of Maj. Gen. Hazlett presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Mrs. Emma Gaines for her grandson, Pvt. George Watson, "who died rescuing comrades when their ship was bombed off New Guinea," calls for action.

Enclosed please find check for $25. Perhaps many other PM readers, who feel as we do about the magnificent services rendered by our Negro compatriots, also feel it a privilege to do something concrete for this grandmother who, according to your text, is "bedridden in her humble Birmingham, Ala., home."



47b

AUG 29 1943

New York Marion and Irene

The check has been sent to Maj. Gen. Harry F. Hazlett, Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Replacement and School Command, Army Ground Forces, Birmingham, Ala., to be forwarded to Mrs. Gaines.

Georgia Seaman, 17, Hero In Recent Sicilian Drama

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WITH U. S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES, Aug. 19—When 16-year-old Arthur James Goodwin of Dasher High school, Valdosta, Ga., used to spend his time in the library poring over periodicals and books about military aviation and used to take his pennies—earned on a job with a dry cleaner—to buy plane [illegible] and build models, it is almost [illegible] that the youth had no idea that some day, off the war-torn shores of Sicily, he would help the United States in averting devastating attacks by German airplanes.

Detailed at first as a messboy aboard an assault transport, Goodwin, on the way across the Mediterranean on the unknown destination, which, ultimately, was to prove the invasion of Sicily, was made a member of the gun crew. He heard lectures and read text on plane identification and so pronounced was his knowledge of planes that his instructors were immediately electrified, whereupon the youth was moved from an aft gun to a gun on the bridge, where his great sight could be utilized.

In his new role, Goodwin, only 17 now, proved so indispensable in identifying enemy and friendly planes that he never was removed from the bridge until recently, pulling the long sighting shifts on sandwiches and coffee in between catnaps sandwiched between air raids.

Correct and unfailing identification is no easy task, because enemy and Allied planes get mixed up, especially during action at sea, but this difficulty did not phase the Georgia boy. He accurately "spotted" the first German Focke-Wulf 190's which bombed Allied landing beaches. When Allied Spitfires attacked this enemy aircraft, Goodwin prevented Americans from firing upon them. He was the first person on ship to identify a trio of German JU 88's which sizzled in to attack the U.S. convoy. The Americans were ready. Later, Goodwin prevented his mates firing upon Allied Mustangs, friendly planes.

Goodwin has been promoted to steward's mate second-class—but his only plane ride, so far, was at a county fair in his native home—Valdosta.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Naval Vet At 23, Youth Is Recipient Of Purple Heart

OAKLAND, Cal. — The United States navy, through Personnel Chief Randall Jacobs, bestowed the Purple Heart citation upon Officers' Steward 2nd Class James Pettaway, here last week.

Although Pettaway is only 23 years of age, he now holds an honorable discharge from the navy after five years of service, during which he saw action in three major battles. It was in one of these, the action around Guadalcanal, that Pettaway suffered the wounds which won him his discharge. It was also here that he performed the feat which won him the Purple Heart award.

It was early morning of August 9, 1942, when the skipper called all the men on deck and told them they were about to enter their toughest fight. "Just do the best you can," he said, "and may God bless you all."

Japanese planes came in from every direction. Pettaway recalls, and several were hit before one got in a good hit. Enemy straffing had put a large number of the crew out of action and Pettaway had just turned to lend a hand to a fellow-seaman, B. E. Randolph, of St. Louis, when a Jap shell fragment felled him.

Regaining consciousness sometime later, Pettaway is said to have heard his name being called and Randolph's pleas not to leave him. After a lengthy search in the dark, he obtained two life jackets, put one on himself and the other on his companion, and jumped into the water.

They had barely left the deck of the ship before it settled and sank beneath the waves. At daybreak the men sighted a life-raft and climbed aboard. Later a U.S. destroyer picked them up and kept them until transfer to a hospital ship could be effected.

Taken to a naval hospital, the shrapnel was removed from Pettaway's chest and shoulder, after which he was returned to this country and placed in a base hospital. On his release from bed, he returned to this city and sought a job as guard at the naval depot here, convinced that he can aid his country.

SEP 18 1943

Pettaway enlisted in the navy in 1938, and during the ensuing years has seen service in Panama, South America, Iceland, the West Indies and Greenland. The three service stars he possesses represent the part he played in the actions of the Coral Sea, Midway and Guadalcanal.

Pettaway has three sisters in addition to his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Pettaway, the former pastor of the First Baptist church in Okmulgee, Okla.

WINS PURPLE HEART

SEP 18 1943

Miss Jerry Woods is an interested admirer of James Pettaway's "Purple Heart." Jerry is a war worker and spends her spare time at the De Fremery USO club in Oakland, Calif., where she is a popular addition to many parties.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Georgia Messman Is Hero Of Big Sicily Invasion

WITH U. S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES. — (ANP) — Because the navy does not have a rating for plane spotters, an unsung messman on an assault transport active in the invasion of Sicily will have to continue his menial task for the duration.

He is Arthur James Goodwin, a 17-year-old enlisted man from Valdosta, Ga.

Goodwin proved his mettle when the push for the beaches began. Dropping his plates he took a position on the bridge and with keen eyes glued to the sky, identified enemy aircraft for the gun crew long before they had a chance to drop their bundles of death.

The young seaman was so indispensable that he was ordered to remain at his post from Friday to Monday night without relief. Only catnaus, coffee, sandwiches, and the burning patriotism in his fighting heart were able to see him through the trying assignment.

With an alacrity and accuracy that amazed the captain and crew alike Goodwin picked out Focke-Wulf 190s, German Ju 88s and directed fire toward them. Never once did he fail to recognize our aircraft, the Mustangs, the Spitfires, and the Beaufighters.

The difficulty of Goodwin's job is emphasized because during the fierce attacks American planes became mixed with enemy fighters. Although it required the highest brilliance in observation, the messman was equal to the task. Asked how he recognized a Mustang, Goodwin laconically replied:

"I know 'em by their square wingtips"

There was only one instance when the young seaman admitted fright and that was when enemy planes dropped explosives 100 feet away from his ship. The big boat quivered and reeled but escaped damage.

Shortly after coming aboard ship Goodwin was moved up to a gun crew and required to attend plane identification classes. His ready knowledge of planes caught the imagination of instructors and he was elevated to a gun on the bridge, a job calling for a steward's mate and second class rating.

The youth's familiarity with the planes dates back to his school days in Valdosta when he spent his spare moments reading through books on military aviation in the library. Later, with pennies he earned from work with a dry cleaner, he bought plane parts and constructed model airships. He little knew then how valuable these efforts would be now to his Uncle Samuel.

Goodwin's only trip in an airplane was taken at a county fair in Valdosta before he joined the navy. And he can't remember the type of ship it was!

WINS SOLDIERS MEDAL FOR REMOVING BODIES FROM BURNING BOMBER

AUG 18 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By ERNEST JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — For extracting the bodies of five soldiers from a burning medium bomber, and at the risk of himself becoming engulfed in the flames, or being caught in the tank explosion, T-Sgt. John . Hilton, of Bolivar, W. Va., has been awarded the soldiers medal for heroism, the War Department disclosed Thursday.

At the time of the incident, Sgt. Hilton was assigned to the aviation squadron at Daniel Field, Augusta, Ga. Recommendation for the citation was made by Cornelius E. O'Connor, company air corps, commanding Daniel Field, and early this month, the medal was pinned on Hilton by Brig. Gen. C. P. Kane, commanding officer at the Rome Air Field, Rome, N. Y., where the hero is stationed.

AUG 18 1943

It was [illegible] April [illegible] a B-26 medium bomber flew over the Daniel Field carrying its human cargo. "I was leaving the mess hall about 5 p. m. when I heard a crash like two locomotives colliding, and I saw a cloud of smoke about three-quarters of a mile away," Sgt. Hilton said, in describing the deed.

"I ran to the scene of action and saw the blazing bomber. It was burning so hotly that the surrounding grass had caught fire, and the firemen had to put out the grass before they could reach the plane.

"I saw one of the bodies lying face up, partly out of the plane, and pinned between the landing gears. I ran to the plane, slipped a rope around him and pulled him clear."

With similar coolness and courage, St. Kane Hilton succeeded in dragging the other men from the plane, although they later succumbed. Hilton's action however, saved the bodies from being burned beyond recognition.

AUG 18 1943

The men of his new company paraded out and the band played on the day the medal was presented to him. In making the award, Gen. Kane said: "The officers, men and civilian employes of the Rome Air Service command, and especially your fellow soldiers in the ordnance depot company, are proud of you.

"As commanding general of the command, I have been chosen to make this award and I should like to assure you that we, at the Rome Army Air Field, are grateful that we have privileged to have a small part in paying tribute to a brave American."

AUG 18 1943

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Carries On Despite Discharge

SEP 18 1943

Injured Seaman Saved Mate; Gets Purple Heart Award

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OAKLAND, Calif., Sept. 16—A veteran of three great sea battles at 23, recipient of the Purple Heart, and now honorably discharged from the Navy, James Pettaway, officers' steward 2nd class, is now doing his part for victory by serving as guard at the Naval Depot here in Oakland. Pettaway, injured at Guadalcanal aboard the U.S.S. Vincennes, a cruiser, survived shrapnel wounds and was able to help save a fellow seaman, B. E. Randolph. It was for this that he received the Purple Heart award.

The youngster enlisted in the Navy on October 11, 1938, in Birmingham, Ala. Prior to Guadacanal, se saw action in the great Coral Sea battle and at Midway. He describes the action at Guadacanal vividly. He tells how he saw many Jap planes downed by gunfire from the Vincennes before it was finally hit.

EVERYTHING WENT BLACK

SEP 18 1943

Shortly before the ship went down he heard his name called and turned around to see Randolph, a seaman from St. Louis, struggling toward him, injured. He went to his mate's assistance and as he struggled toward a cabin he heard two shell-bursts and then everything went black for him.

He regained consciousness when he heard Randolph calling: "Pettaway, Pettaway, don't leave me." Groping in the dark for several minutes, Pettaway managed to secure life-jackets for them and together they jumped into the water. That was at 2 a. m., August 9. It wasn't until day-break that they found a life-raft.

At about 9 a. m. the two men were picked up by a destroyer. There were 27 colored men on the Vincennes, 18 were saved, 9 were lost. The injured men were put on a hospital ship and taken to a naval hospital. Pettaway had received shrapnel wounds in his left side and shoulder.

SAW SERVICE IN MANY SHIPS

When finally reutrned to the States, Pettaway was well on his way to recovery and hoped for another shot at the enemy. In spite of his anxiety to return to action, the Navy saw fit to give him his discharge. He secured the job at the Naval depot, feeling that through this medium he would be still taking a part in the war effort.

In his four years and 10 months of service, he has been in Panama, South America, Iceland, West Indies and Greenland. His family, which is justly proud of its only boy, live in Okmulgee, Okla. Pettaway has twin sisters and another sister besides his mother and father, Rev. and Mrs. [illegible] Pettaway. Reverend Pettaway is pastor of the First Baptist church in Okmulgee. Pettaway speaks of the treatment he received in the various hospitals as "tops."

SEP 18 1943

Receives Purple Heart

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

SEP 4 1943

Private James Barker, assigned to an engineer unit in the South Pacific, receives the congratulations of Lieut. H. E. Bebble, nurse, at an advanced base army hospital. He was recently awarded the Purple Heart, and was wounded in action on a South Pacific island. Private Barker's sister, Julia, lives in New York City.

Soldier Wins Medal For Rescuing Woman

AUG 14 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By RANDY DIXON
(Accredited U. S. War Correspondent)

LONDON, Aug. 12—(Via Cable)—The third colored American soldier within three months was decorated when Cpl. Jerome L. Collier, Wednesday, received the Soldier's Medal for valor in saving a British woman from almost certain death, May 15. Ceremonies held at a South Anglian base featured the decoration with drum and bugle corps, and several companies participating as Colonel Thrasher, commanding officer of the SOS, pinned on the medal and inspected troops.

Thrasher said, "We have honored a brave man who risked his life to save another's. I'm proud of such men in the army to get recognition, one must deserve it. I'm proud of this man; I'm proud of his unit; I'm proud to be its commanding officer."

SOLDIER'S FEAT DESCRIBED

The official citation read, "For heroism displayed May 15 when he rescued a British woman from almost certain death during a fire in a church at Hampstead, without regard for his personal safety, Corporal Collier obtained a ladder and entered the room of the second-story burning building and rescued the woman hopelessly trapped. Collier's prompt heroic action saved the woman's life. The heroism displayed by Collier on this occasion reflected great credit upon himself and upon the military service."

AUG 14 1943

Collier, 20, who resides at 369-A Madison street, Brooklyn, N.Y., explained that, when passing the building, he detected the fire, secured a ladder and passed the woman out to T/5 Charles Robinson, 829 St. Nicholas avenue, New York City, while T/5 Richard Hill, 36 Bethel avenue, Moorestown, N.J., and James Smith, China Grove, N.C., bucket-brigaded, extinguishing the fire before firemen arrived.

FATHER IN SERVICE TOO

Collier's father, Frank Collier, a U.S. Navy veteran recalled at the outbreak of the war, is now in active service as a steward. His mother, Mrs. Fannie Collier, and sister, Winifred, reside in Brooklyn. His sister is a government parachute maker. Captain Boyle of Newark, N.J., Collier's company commander, expressed pride in the achievement of "his soldier."

AUG 14 1943

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13 Heroes in S. Pacific Get Purple Heart

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By SCOOP JONES

NEW GUINEA—(ANP)—Thirteen men were decorated last week with the Purple Heart for wounds received here during a Jap air attack on an airport last March.

[illegible] are:

Pvts. Lester L. Butler, Savannah, Ga.; Arthur S. Watson, New York; Gilbert H. Morris, Duquenne, Pa.; Izear Jackson, Rayville, La.; William L. Thorne, Charleston, S.C.; Booker T. Evans, Jr., Houston, Miss.; Robert T. Crews, Jr., Greenville, S.C.; Abron Irwin, Mound Bayou, Miss.; James E. Guilford, Boston; Albert H. Latourse, New Jersey; Wilson Lee, Jr., Pratt City, Ala.; Joe Hardy, Roanoke, N.C., and Alfonzo Smith, New York City.

SEP 11 194

Promoted men include:

S/Sgts. Harold J. Morris, Jackson, Mich., and Gaston E. Jernigan, Whiteville, N.C., from sergeant; Sgt. James Smith, Plaquemine, La., from private first class; Thomas H. Wiggins, Natchez, Miss.; William W. Jones, Charles City, Va.; Sexton E. Caldwell, Bethany, La.; George W. Walker, Fountain Inn, S.C.; Blane Spearman, Greensville, Miss.; Harold Spottswood, Shelby, Va.; Elvin L. Cooper, Baton Rouge, La.; Benjamin J. Jackson, Glenn, Ga.; Bennie Lewis, Midville, Ga.; Willie Rogers, Shreveport, La.; Preston Tassin, Garyville, La.; Cleo Moore, Sumrall, Miss.; Wolfred J. DeSilva, New Orleans; Johnnie A. Jones, Tallulah, La., and Overton Thacker, Nashville, Tenn., all to the rank of corporal.

Gets Purple Heart

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WALTER DAVIS, 26, cook second class, USN, of 3616 Hale Avenue, Birmingham, Ala., who was presented the Purple Heart Medal on Friday for wounds received while serving as a member of an anti-aircraft gun crew aboard the battleship South Dakota in a battle off the Solomon Islands last year. Captain J. W. Allen, commanding officer of the Philadelphia Naval Hospital, made the presentation during ceremonies held at the hospital.

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2 Get Medals for Heroism in Italy

Afro-American

DEC 4 1943

By OLLIE STE[illegible]
Baltimore, Md.
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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DEC 4 1943

ALLIED AIR BASE, Italy. — (By Cable)—Posthumous award of the Soldier's Medal for Heroism was made July 27 to T/Sgt. Edsel A. Jett, 505 Burkett Street, Taylor, Texas.

Jett, swimming with a group of fellow soldiers from the fighter squadron at a beach in Sicily, noticed Pvt. James Lockhart, New York City, a non-swimmer, being carried out to sea by a strong undertow. A good swimmer, Jett attempted a rescue, but the rough sea pulled him under and he lost his own life in the attempt.

His "gallantry and utter disregard of self reflects great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

His mother, Mrs. Eva B. Jett, survives.

New Yorker Given Medal

DEC 4 1943

Award of the Soldier's Medal for Heroism in the same episode went to Sgt. Henry Laguna of New York City. Laguna was in the group wher. Jett lost his life attempting to rescue Lockhart.

Despite the undertow and rough sea, Laguna managed to reach Lockhart and brought him to shore. Lockhart was as good as new the next day, and Lagune was none the worse for his gallant performance. Jett was one of the best liked and efficient men in the squadron.

DEC 4 - 1943

The octagonal soldier's medal, authorized by Congress, July 2, 1926, is presented to persons who "while serving in any capacity with the army of the United States shall hereafter distinguish themselves for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Russia Honors Colored Flyer

By CHATWOOD HALL

MOSCOW. — Via Wireless — Sultan Ahmet-Khan, brown-skinned Tartar (in U.S. he would be a colored man) and one of the aces in the Soviet Air Force, was among leading flyers in the Red air fleet recently awarded the title "Hero, Soviet Union Order of Lenin" and the Gold Star.

This swarthy Soviet air ace has sent many Fascist Junkers, Fock Wulfes, Heinkels and Messerschmidts dashing to earth in flames over the Russian steppes. He is not only respected by the Red air fleet, but by the Fascist air vultures who carefully avoid contact with him.

SEP 11 1943

The fact that this man, who in America would be considered colored, recalls a statement made recently by Premier Joseph Stalin, who declared:

"They (the Germans) formerly called all our flyers Russians, but they have seen that our fighters—and with all good fighters—are not only Russians but Turcomans, Kazakhns, Uzbekhs, Azerbaldhans and others."

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WINS SOLDIER MEDAL FOR PLANE RESCUE

AUG 28 1943

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26 (ANP) —For extracting the bodies of five soldiers from a burning medium bomber, and at the risk of himself becoming engulfed in the flames, or being caught in the tank explosion, T. Sgt. John D. Hilton, of Bolivar, W. Va., has been awarded the soldiers medal for heroism, the War Department disclosed on Thursday.

Formal Review Marks Awarding Of Medalsat Huachuca

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 4 1943

Attending a formal review recently at Fort Huachuca (Arizona) were, left to right: Major General D[illegible] McCoa[illegible]ommanding General Ninth Service Command, Mrs. [illegible] E. Springle, Sgt. Samuel M. Baker, and Colonel E. N. Hardy, Post Commander. The occasion marked the aw[illegible] two medals, the Distinguished Service Cross to Mr. Sprinkle for [illegible]son an[illegible]gion of Merit, to Sgt. Baker.

Soldier Saves Three Sailors

AUG 27 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC WAR [illegible], Aug. 19—Private Jesse Evans [illegible] N. J., has received the commendations of his superior officers for his work in the rescue of three sailors from the waters adjoining a United States island base.

Evans, a former machinist in Dover, N. J., plunged 40 feet over the side of a boat on which he was working to aid the three men when he saw a small home-made sailing boat capsize in the rough waters. He helped one of the trio keep another of the sailors afloat until they were able to be pulled ashore and [illegible] jumped back into the water to [illegible] the [illegible] to another of the victims wh[illegible] partially conscious.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Negro From Louisville Wins Purple Heart

SEP 1 1943

Award of the Purple Heart medal to John Guy Rhea, 2509 W. Madison, steward, second class, in the U. S. Navy, for wounds received as result of enemy action in the South Pacific Area June 30, [illegible], was announc[illegible] a communication by Admiral William F. Halsey received yesterday by his wife, Mrs. Jewell McNari Rhea.

Rhea, who visited Louisville on furlough last December [illegible] taking part [illegible] invas[illegible] of North Africa [illegible] believed to be the first Louisville Negro decorated in this war. He has been in the Navy nine years and serves as gunner of a 20-mm. gun as well as being steward.

Defender.
Chicago, Ill.

DEC 4 1943

Cited For Rescue Of British Girl

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON.—For the heroism he displayed while saving the life of an English girl trapped by fire in her house, Corporal Jerome Collier, of Brooklyn, N. Y., was presented the soldier's medal in special ceremonies here last week.

Presentation was made by Col. Charles Thresher, commander of the Southern base engineers, and the order was read to the assembled troops by Capt. Michael Boyle, company commander.

Collier, a former Boy Scout leader and church custodian, rescued the girl from the second story of her home last May. Aiding in the rescue were Cpls. Charles Robinson of New York, Richard Hill of Morristown, N. J., and James Smith of China Grove, N. C.

After discovering the fire and warning the occupants, the soldiers were told a girl was sleeping on the second floor. Collier went up a ladder, kicked the glass from a windon, lifted the girl and handed her groundwards safely.

The four men then organized a bucket-brigade and fought the flames until firemen arrived.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NOV 27 1943

PETTY NAVY REWARDS FOR HEROES

The Navy has given us two more heroes to rank with Dorie Miller, who distinguished himself at Pearl Harbor.

Christopher Columbus Sheppard of Norfolk, and Ernest Gardner of Baltimore, a steward's mate, second class, manned a four-inch gun on the destroye[illegible] which on a dark night battled it out with two German submarines until both were sunk.

Neither of the men is a regular gunner. They are messmen, and in battle they serve as loaders to pass the shells up to the guns. They got a chance to fire the big guns themselves when the regular crew was blinded by smoke.

There will be promotion and a citation of sorts for both men for outstanding valor and seamanship. But these are petty rewards for bravery.

If the Navy wants properly to repay these men and others like them, willing to risk their lives for our country's safety, it will repeal the regulations that "prohibit mixed crews on fighting ships."

NOV 27 1943

It will be ashamed of last week's announcement of Secretary Knox that we can employ colored seamen only on small shore and harbor craft and things of that sort and for shore duty.

It will disavow the statement of Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of navy personnel, who last week told the Publishers' Association, "We expect to commission a few colored men."

The reward that heroes like Sheppard and Gardner deserve is the opportunity to serve in any branch of the service for which they can qualify and the chance to be promoted on the basis of merit only.

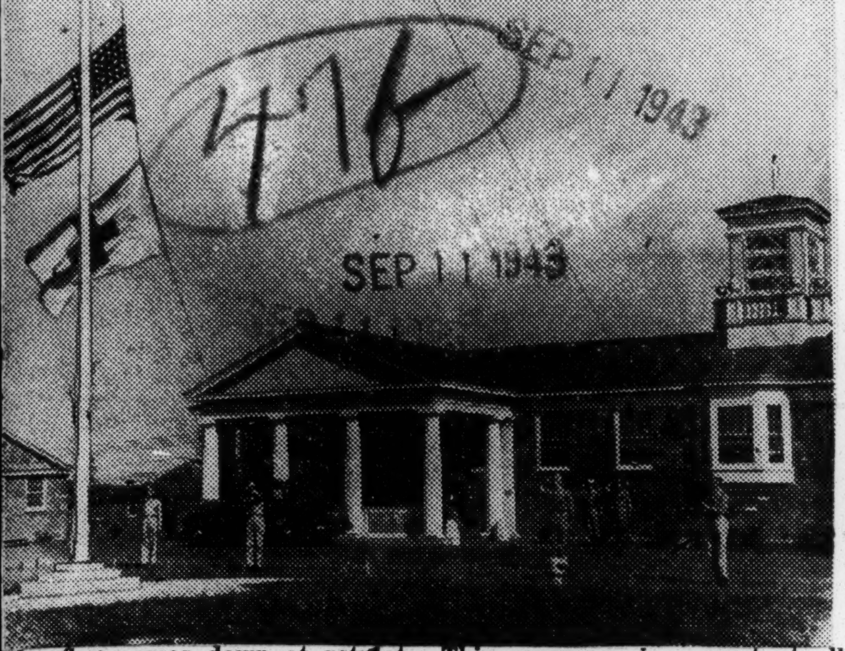
47b-1943

The Democratic Way of Life Is More Than a Theory with Patients at Army Hospital in Virginia

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

That story must have been a good one, judging by the smiles of these soldier-patients at the Woodrow Wilson General Hospital at Staunton, Va. Left to right: William B. Ward of Abbeville, Ala., Cpl. Joseph Lesnick of Bridgeport, Conn., and Sgt. Robert W. Maley Boston, Mass.

A bed's as good as any other place for a whist game. Left to right (clockwise): Pfc. Servele Kelly of Columbia, La., Pvt. John T. Kleinbach of Wellesville, N.Y., Pvt. Custer L. Shelton, Jr., of Fairmount, W.Va., Pvt. John S. Ware of St. Louis, Mo., and Pvt. Benjamin H. Osickey of Cleveland, Ohio.



The flag comes down at retreat. This ceremony is a must at all army posts.

Pvt. Severle Kelly of Columbia, La., checks up on his weight in the post exchange at the Woodrow Wilson General Hospital in Staunton, Va., while Pvt. Everett Rollins of Boston (center) and Pvt. James W. Dobbins of Columbia, Tenn., look on.

Democracy in Action Found in Virginia at U.S. Hospital for Wounded Soldiers

Treated as Equals, Men Play, Chat, Read with No Thought of Race

By O. S. McCOLLUM

Editor, Richmond AFRO-AMERICAN

STAUNTON, Va.—If you are looking for a place where you'll find the democratic idea in action, try visiting the Woodrow Wilson General Hospital here.

Woodrow Wilson is the big new army hospital, where wounded, sick and other injured soldiers are fighting their way back to health.

The hospital is five miles from Staunton, a short distance from Fishersville.

Nestled in the Shenandoah, its one-story red brick buildings sprawl over the valley.

Many from North Africa

A few months ago the first trainload of men from North Africa was brought in.

More have come since, and there are hundreds now at the hospital receiving all the care and sympathetic treatment men suffering from shock, wounds and disease could desire.

Because a small percentage of colored men were used in combat duty in Africa, there are comparatively few colored patients in the hospital.

They are treated just like every other patient, and that means that everything possible to make them happy and to help them to recover is being done for them.

They are not segregated, and they enjoy the same comradeship and every facility extended to others.

If you go through a ward you are likely to see those who are able to get about playing cards, reading or chatting without any thought of race.

In the post exchange, which is one of the most popular spots at the hospital, and in the mess halls it is the same.

No Bitterness, No Self-Pity

In addition to democracy, you'll find another desirable quality at the hospital and that is the cheerfulness of the patients.

The shock from bursting bombs, the pain from wounds caused by land mines, and the diseases that fell some men have not made these colored and white soldiers bitter or self-pitying.

Lieut. Col. C. K. Titus, who is chaplain, morale officer, public relations officer and a few more things thrown in, can tell you plenty of jokes told by the men about how they were wounded.

Most of the men who don't smile easily are on the more serious side of suffering.

Chaplain Titus Lauded

Chaplain Titus, a tall, hearty Community Church minister from Missouri, has done a big job in keeping morale high.

He walks more than once each of corridors connecting the buildings.

You'll find him popping in and out of wards, library and recreation rooms almost any minute, and all the men have a cheery smile and greeting for him.

All of the soldiers here as patients did not have the opportunity for foreign service. Some have become seriously ill in camps. Some have been injured in accidents in camps or on maneuvers.

Many Ailments Common

While many of those returned from North Africa are suffering from wounds, numbers are recovering from such ailments as high blood pressure, asthma and arthritis.

Pvt. William B. Ward of Abbeville, Ala., who served in North Africa, is being treated for high blood pressure.

In the army nineteen months, he was abroad for six and a-half months.

A member of a quartermaster outfit, he underwent many bombings after the invasion. His outfit served near Casa Blanca.

Ex-Teacher. Ala. A. & M. Grad

Pvt. Ward is a former teacher, and a graduate of Alabama A. and M. College. He was a supply clerk while in active duty.

Sgt. Robert W. Maley of Boston served with a port battalion. He was bombed in England as well as in Africa.

In directing unloading of ships in North Africa, he narrowly escaped death on occasions, but is in the hospital because a heavy crane hook struck him on the head at Oran.

Former Shop Steward

He formerly was a shop steward while with the United Fruit Company.

Corp. David Montgomery of Atlanta served with a port battalion also, and was hurt in an explosion.

Pvt. James W. Dobbins of Columbia, Tenn., who was with the engineers, served in Africa for five months. He has been a soldier for sixteen months.

Served in Africa, Ireland

Pfc. Servele Kelly of Columbia, La., who entered Africa with the Allied invasion forces, landed at Oran, where the shooting was rough. He also served in North Ireland.

With a quartermaster outfit, and subjected to plenty of danger, he came back for medical treatment rather than surgical.

He was a musician and teacher before entering the army.

White soldiers here point out that not only were the colored ones a big factor in transportation, engineering and in stevedore work, but they also were a

blessing in artillery.

The 240-millimeter howitzer, just about the biggest thing that rolls on wheels and shoots, provided a welcome barrage for white infantrymen advancing on the Axis forces in the Tunisian campaign, they say.

Performed Like Veterans

Two of the wounded soldiers said that colored artillerymen handled these big guns as if they had been doing so for years.

The hospital here, commanded by Col. Sidney L. Chappell, has army nurses and doctors who are assisted in caring for the patients by enlisted men of the medical corps.

SEP 1 1943

Soldiers, along with civilians, do clerical work, and they are occupied with the hundred-and-one jobs of supply and maintenance.

Civilians operate the laundry, cook and serve the food and work as maids and in other capacities.

Some employees are from far away states, but many local people have jobs.

The nearby mountain communities and valley towns have furnished many white women for jobs in the laundry and mess halls as well as in the offices.

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4 Win Medals

Journal and Guide

Awarded By King George IV

Norfolk. Virginia

Extricate Flyers From Wreckage In Remote Region

By **RUDOLPH DUNBAR**

LONDON —(ANP)—When the chronicles of World War II are written, historians will have a great deal to say about the bravery of African soldiers and civilians alike. Africa's soldier sons are brave in the face of danger and quick and intelligent in action. When faced with difficult problems they solve them in the speediest and simplest manner. Their bravery is innate.

Now here is a tale of four of Africa's civilians who showed resource and intrepid courage. In the most remote regions of Africa, as in the quiet farmlands of Britain, people know [illegible] when a bomber comes down in flames that there is peril—for the rescuer as much as for the pilot trapped in the wreckage. In Africa, as in Britain, there are men to act.

Prompt and courageous action by four natives—their names are Chemweno Arap Chepkoiyou, Cheboi Arap Chephuri, Kiverange Wa Macharia and Kimnegch Arap Kigen—was responsbile for saving the lives of the survivors of a Royal Air Force plane which recently crashed near Eldoret, Kenya.

EXTRICATE CREW

All four were working on the Eureka estates at the time of the accident. Although the aircraft caught fire immediately it struck the ground, the natives climbed in, without hesitation, amid burning wreckage and exploding ammunition, to extricate the crew.

For this valorous deed the four men have been awarded the George medal, second highest of Britian's awards for civilian bravery, by King George IV.

Chemwene Arap Chepkoiyou told the story afterwards.

"I am a squatter (small farmer) on the Eureka estates where I look after my own cattle. I was herding my stock near the trees on the right hand side of the road that leads to the Wheat Shamba, when at about ten o'clock in the morning, I saw an aeroplane pass over the farm.

"It was not very high in the air, and was going in the direction of Sergoit rock. It turned above the rock, then left the forest, and, losing altitude, crashed in the Wheat Shamba.

RAN TOWARD PLANE

"As soon as I realized it was going to crash I went quickly toward it. As I ran, the aircraft, which was skidding along the ground, struck some rough place and turned over and over until it finally came to rest.

"I found one European lying on the ground by the tip of the left wing and from him I gathered that help was wanted by the others in the plane. At that time the left wing was on fire from underneath. This later caused a grass fire.

"At the same time as I arrived, Cheboi Arap Chepkuri reached the scene. We left the injured man lying outside the aircraft and went to the nose to investigate. Kiberenge Wa Macharia came hurrying up to help. We went round to the right hand side of the nose, climbed in, and lifted out a man with a broken leg. His legs were pinned by a piece of metal and we had to free them. Then we were joined by Kimngech Arap Kigen. We laid the injured man from the aircraft on the wheat stubble.

AMMUNITION EXPLODES

"By this time ammunition had begun to explode all around us. We returned to the aircraft and carried the man lying by the tip of the left wing to the Wheat Shamba, as the grass fire was taking a big hold.

"By this time the ammunition was exploding badly and we were rather frightened, but we returned again to remove from under the wreckage the body of the third man, who had been killed in the crash."

All four men are quite cool about it. It was not a nice experience—but they knew their job, and they did it well.

Gets Medal

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 21 1943

Jerome L. Collier of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been awarded a soldier's medal by the commander of the Base Section of the American Army in England for saving the life of an Englishwoman trapped in her home.

Brooklyn Soldier Gets Soldier's Medal In England

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Corporal Jerome L. Collier, 23, of 369A Madison street, Brooklyn, has been awarded the soldier's medal in England for saving the life of a British woman trapped in her home.

Cpl. Collier was given his medal by the commander of the Base Section of the American Army. Afterwards Collier stood with the commander to take the salute as several detachments of colored soldiers marched past.

FATHER IN NAVY

The soldier entered the service in June, 1942, and has been overseas since September. Frank L. Collier, his father, is in active service with the United States Navy, having been called out of retirement in June, 1942, to resume his post as an officers steward first class.

He has two sisters working in war industries and a brother, who works in the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard. His mother, Mrs. Fannie Collier, resides in Brooklyn.

Cpl. Collier was active in Boy Scout activities. After his early training as a scout cub, he was a leader in Troop 198. He is a member of the Concord Baptist Church and sang in the junior choir.

Awarded D.S. Cross

Journal & Guide

Posthumously

Norfolk. Va

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—The coveted Distinguished Service Cross was awarded here posthumously Wednesday to Pvt. George Watson for "courage and bravery far beyond the call of duty."

AUG 28 1943

The presentation was made by Major Gen. Harry F. Hazlett, commanding officer, replacement and school command, Birmingham, to Mrs. Emma Gaines, indigent and bedridden grandmother of the youthful hero.

Circumstances surrounding Pvt. Watson's act of bravery which cost him his life were not disclosed by the Army. Citing that Watson "could have saved himself, but chose to save others," Gen. Hazlett in his presentation statement said, "George Watson died in the shining splendor of high courage and utter unselfishness, true to [illegible] tradition of the American soldier. His act is an inspiration to every real American."

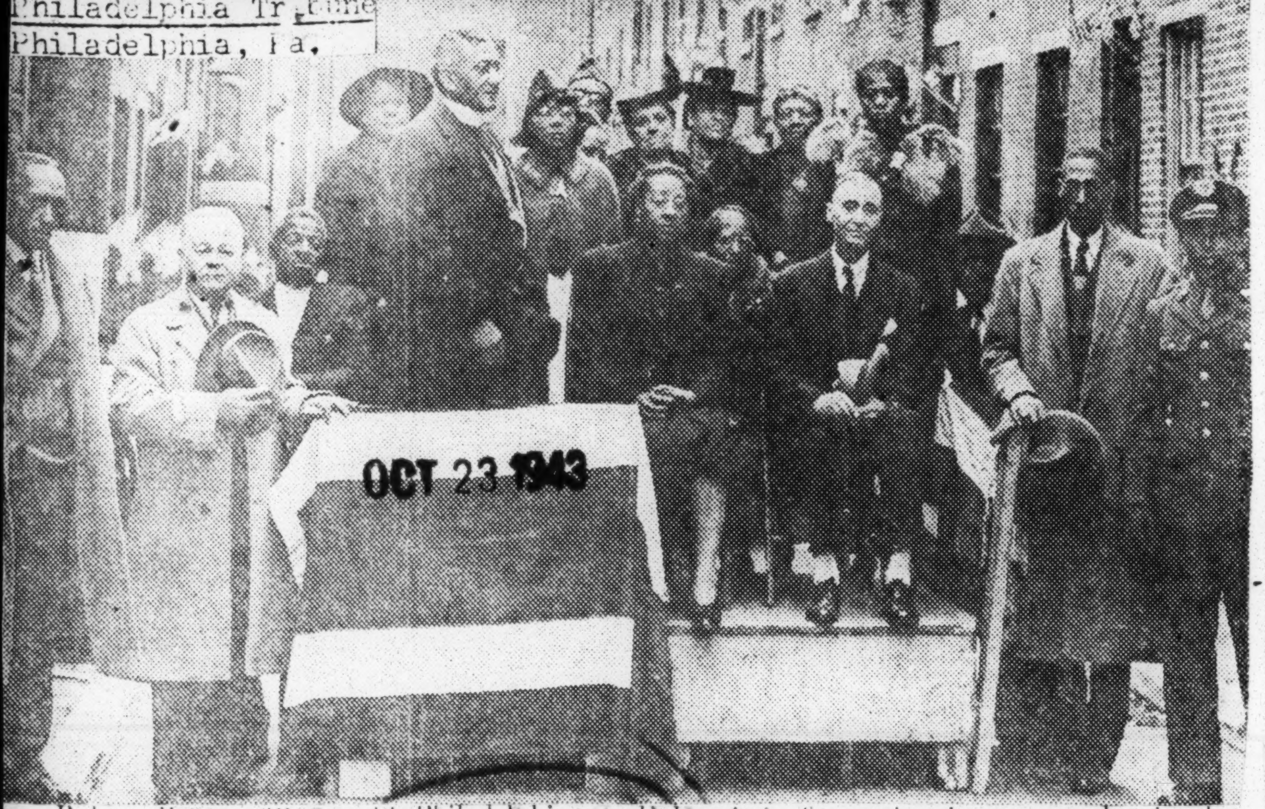
AUG 28 1943

The ceremony was held at Mrs. Gaines' residence and was witness by Grover Gillins, white, for whom Watson worked before his voluntary enlistment in 1941. A graduate of Parker High School he has a brother, Johnny **Hill Watson, in the Navy.**

47b-1943

War Hero Honored

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



OCT 23 1943

Robert Brown, 19-year-old Philadelphian and the city's first colored war casualty in the Pacific, was honored last Sunday at a flag raising in the 1600 block Naudain street. Reading, left to right, front, are: George Thompson, civilian aide in the local [illegible] recruiting office; Ernest Copeland, Rev. Robert H. Tabb (standing on platform), Mr. and Mrs. Brown, the hero's parents; and State Representative Lewis Mintess, with his arm around a servicemans' shoulder.

OCT 3 1943

War Hero Honored At Flag Raising

Tribune.
Philadelphia, Pa.

OCT 23 1943

Robert Brown, 19, of 1731 Naudain street, Philadelphia's first war casualty of the Pacific, was honored last Sunday at the unfolding of a service flag in the 1700 block of Naudain street.

The flag carried 44 blue stars and one gold star, which represented boys in service that came from the 1700 blocks of Waverly, Lombard, Rodman and South streets.

The Rev. Robert Tabbs gave the in[illegible] Mintess, Charles H. Hopkins, Lt. Shipps Post V. F. W.; Dr. Adolphus Anderson, president of Pennsylvania Elks, Attorney David Asbury and George Thompson of the War Department were guest speakers.

Other participants were: Clifton Kelly who sang the Drum and Bugle Corps of Lincoln Post 89, and Ernest Copeland, master of ceremonies.

The Rev. Tabbs dedicated the flag and also made the presentation of the gold pin to Mrs. Edna Brown and the blue Star pin to the o[illegible]

The committee [illegible]mbers were: Mrs. Minnie Boddie, Mrs. Resa Norris, Mrs. Edna Brown, Mrs. Sarah Mack, Stella King, Agnes Monroe, Jessie Brown, Bessie Saunders, and Moore, Annie Green, Catharine Laura Hayes.

Relatives of the honored servicemen were Dora Carpenter, Eudene Bryant, Enoch Taylor, Irene Royster, Julian Freeman, Minnie Boddie, Mildred Green, Wilbright Slappy, Alberta Spellman, Christina Houston, Mary Cofield, Charles Pratt; Elizabeth Moore, Velma Johnson, Georgie Byrd, Louise Hughes, Laura Cooper, Eddie Wooden, Elise Williams, Marie Molore, Sallie Quartelbaum, Catharine Cuiggs, Esther Munson, Annie Clash, Lula Thomas, [illegible] Dorothy Evans, Ada Carter, Adell Harper and Pearl Pratt.

Soldier Gets Medal; Saved 5 From Death

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

WASHINGTON, (ANP)— For extracting the bodies of five soldiers from a burning medium bomber, and at the risk of becoming himself engulfed in the flames or being caught in the tank explosion T-Sgt. John D. Hilton of Bolivar, West Va., has been awarded the soldiers medal for heroism, the war department disclosed Thursday.

At the time of the incident, Sgt. Hilton was assigned to the aviation squadron at Daniel field, Augusta, Ga. Recommendation for the citation was made by Cornelius E. O'Connor, company air corps, commanding Daniel field, and early this month the medal was pinned on Hilton by Brig. General C. P. Kain, commanding officer at the Rome Air field, Rome, N. Y., where the hero is stationed.

Earn[illegible] Distinction

NOV 20 1943

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

First [illegible] BAKER, already holder of the Soldier's Medal, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as first sergeant of Company H, 25th Infantry." Sergeant Baker, whose home is in Nashville, Tenn., is attached to Detachment, M. C., Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. —U. S. Army Signal Corps photo.

Risk Fire To Pull Out Plane Crew

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Four Civilians Are Awarded the George IV Medal

AUG 27 1943

By RUDOLP[illegible]UNBAR

LO[illegible]N— (ANP) — When the chronicles of World War II are written, historians will have a great deal to say about the bravery of African soldiers and civilians alike. Africa's soldier sons are brave in the face of danger and quick and intelligent in action. When faced with difficult problems they solve them in the speediest and simplest manner. Their bravery is innate.

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Awarded Medal

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For this valorous deed the four men have been [illegible]ded the George me[illegible] second highest of Britain's awards for civilian bravery, by King George IV.

Tells the Story

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"I am a squatter (small farmer) on the Eureka estates, where I look after my own cattle. I was herding my stock near the trees on the right hand side of the road that leads to the Wheat Shamba, when at about ten o'clock in the morning, I saw an aeroplane pass over the farm.

"It was not very high in the air, and was going in the direction of Sergoit rock. It turned above the rock, then left the forest, and losing altitude, crashed in the Wheat Shamba.

"As soon as I realized it was going to crash I [illegible] quickly toward it. As I ran, the aircraft, which [illegible] skidding along the ground, struck some rough place and turned over and over until it finally came to rest.

After the Crash

"I found one European lying on the ground by the tip of the left wing, and from him I gathered that help was wanted by the others in the plane. At that time the left wing was on fire from underneath. This later caused a grass fire.

"At the same time as I arrived, Cheboi, Arap Chepkuri reached the scene . We left the injured man lying outside the aircraft and went to the nose to investigate. Kiberenge Wa Macharia came hurrying up to help. We went round to the right hand side of the nose, climbed in, and lifted out a man with a broken leg. His legs were pinned by a piece of metal and we had to free them. Then we were joined by Kimnech Arap Kigen. We laid the injured man from the aircraft on the wheat stubble.

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All four men are quite cool about it. It was not a nice experience — but they knew their job, and they did it well.

SEP 18 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

D.C. OFFICER AMONG PRIZE WINNERS—Second Lieutenant James J. Johns, representing the Basic Flying Training Squadron at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, is shown above receiving the award of a $100 check for his squadron whose efforts resulted in winning the "Area Beautification" contest. Awarded the prize is Commanding Officer Noel F. Parrish, Corpus Christi, Texas. From left to right are seen 1st Lieut. Frank L. Drye, of Tuskegee, bandleader of the 313th AAF Band at TAAF; 2nd Lieut. [illegible], of Alliance, Ohio, and 2nd Lieut. Emory Smith, of Washington, D.C., representing the Advanced Flying Squadron (3rd place winner) at Tuskegee.—Tuskegee Army Air Field Photo.

DEC 30 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

Seaman John R. Robinson of Rochester, N. Y., is congratulated by Rear Adm. Lyal A. Davidson, who presented him with the Purple Heart. Robinson was wounded during the bombing of the U.S.S. Savannah in the invasion of Salerno.

WINS PURPLE HEART FOR HEROISM IN ITALY

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 19 1943

By JAMES A. SANDERS
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—(ANP)—Private Thurman D. Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ramsey, 416 E. 51st Street, Chicago has been awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received as the result of enemy action. Private Ramsey was wounded by shrapnel during an air raid while posted as a sentinel over a vital military installation.

The 23 year old engineer was born in Nashville, attended Wendell Phillips high school in Chicago and at one time of his inducton was assistant manager of the Johnson Florist Shop in Detroit. Ramsey is the first enlisted man of his outfit to be decorated. An award of the Purple Heart to Lt. Norman E. Andrews, white, Orangeburg, S. C., of the same regiment preceded Ramsey's by a week.

Asked how he felt about his conduct during those trying moments Ramsey said, "Shucks, any one ofthese guys would have done the same thing. When a fellow is posted as a guard, he doesn't quit his post until properly relieved, does he? Ah! It was nothing. Got a match?"

Pvt. Ramsey's conduct under fire is typical of thousands of Negro youth who are giving their last full ounce of devotion to this global [illegible] his comrades [illegible]s theater has most deeply impressed upon him what sort of a place America would be to live in if the swastika were to reach across the Atlantic.

Mississippian Awarded The Legion Of Merit

Age
New York, N. Y.

NOV 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Staff Sergeant Isaac McGrew, jr., member of an Infantry regiment operating in the South Pacific Area, has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the War Department announced this week. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac McGrew, sr., Route 5, Yazoo City, Mississippi.

The citation, dated August 25, 1943, is as follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services of merit in the South Pacific area, from May 15, 1942 to February 20, 1943. During this entire period Sergeant McGrew was primarily responsible for the successful installation and maintenance of three hundred miles of wire under the most rigorous of tropical,, climatic and terrain conditions.

"Equipped with only Infantry Tables of Basic Allowance equipment, Sergeant McGrew improvised methods for overcoming numerous obstacles of nature and never failed to accomplish an assigned mission. By long hours, ingenuity and perseverance, he performed remarkable feats of accomplishment."

Age
New York, N. Y.

2 Soldiers Of Engineer Combat Unit Awarded Soldier's Medal For Heroism In Far Northern Outpost

NOV 20 1943

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, Canada.—In a far-north setting that smacked of a Robert Service ballad, two members of a U. S. Engineer combat unit were awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism, the War Department announced this week.

Without thought of their own lives, they had gone plunging into an Arctic-bound stream to rescue an officer who had [illegible] from a wharf.

The soldiers were Sergeant Robert Hayes, 27, Columbia, South Carolina, and Technician - fifth grade Hubert Massie, 23, of Waynesboro, Virginia. Brigadier General Ludson D. Worsham of the Corps of Engineers, now directing the Northwest Division, was the awarding officer.

Aside from the heroism involved, and the Army's recognition of it, several factors were contingent with that ceremony which resulted perhaps, in broader scope, toward acknowledgment of the fine spirit-at-large displayed not only by Hayes and Massie, but by all the fellow-soldiers of their outfit.

At a later date, Army officials now point out, the name and number of this unit can be written with pride into the open book. Today, however, such facts must be kept veiled for reasons of security.

The salient theme (when details of the work of this unit are revealed) will probably deal with a story how young men from the Gulf State cotton-fields, from one-mule fields of the Carolinas, from tobacco-sheds of the Virginias and a few from the midwest mills, all were drawn together in common cause and then went into one of the strangest, toughest battles ever fought by human beings.

Battle Against Nature

It was a battle against the elements of nature; it was one for survival of the fittest.

It was a strange battle, because those same young men (brought up to the friendly sun) had been chosen by virtue of their pre-Army work to do an important job in this far-northern spot in Canada. But it was a cold Canada they arrived in, fiercely so; meaner than they ever dreamed of back where the catfish bite and the jasmine grows.

It was a tough battle because they had to fend for themselves. No one put their camp there for them; they cut the logs and built the structures with their own hands. They fought solitude; for the place was only a Hudson's Bay post to begin with. They fought homesickness; for home was far to the friendlier south.

According to Army observers, the point that all-out historians will stress is this:

The record of this Combat Engineer unit will show that Negro troops of the U. S. Armed Forces are probably the most adaptable men on earth. They can do a job anywhere under the sun—and in the far north where there is no sun. They can take it, and they can dish it out. All this they can do with staunch American loyalty, and without question.

Indeed, the men of this now-unnamed group were hand-picked with careful designation—and for one of the toughest jobs of all. This in itself would seem to be an obvious indication of a streamlined Army's keen eye toward picking the right men, at the right time, for the right job—and this job called for all-around specialists with staying-power.

The camp is well-provisioned, and the food is good. For recreation, and the boys like the fun, despite the pressure of their labors, facilities of the American Red Cross shows to fine advantage. There is also a baseball field where a score board shows that at some undetermined date, the "Galloping Domino" team had defeated its visitors 7—0.

In [illegible] with sportsmanship, one baseball team came right out in the camp newspaper and admitted defeat because the winning team had outplayed them at every turn.

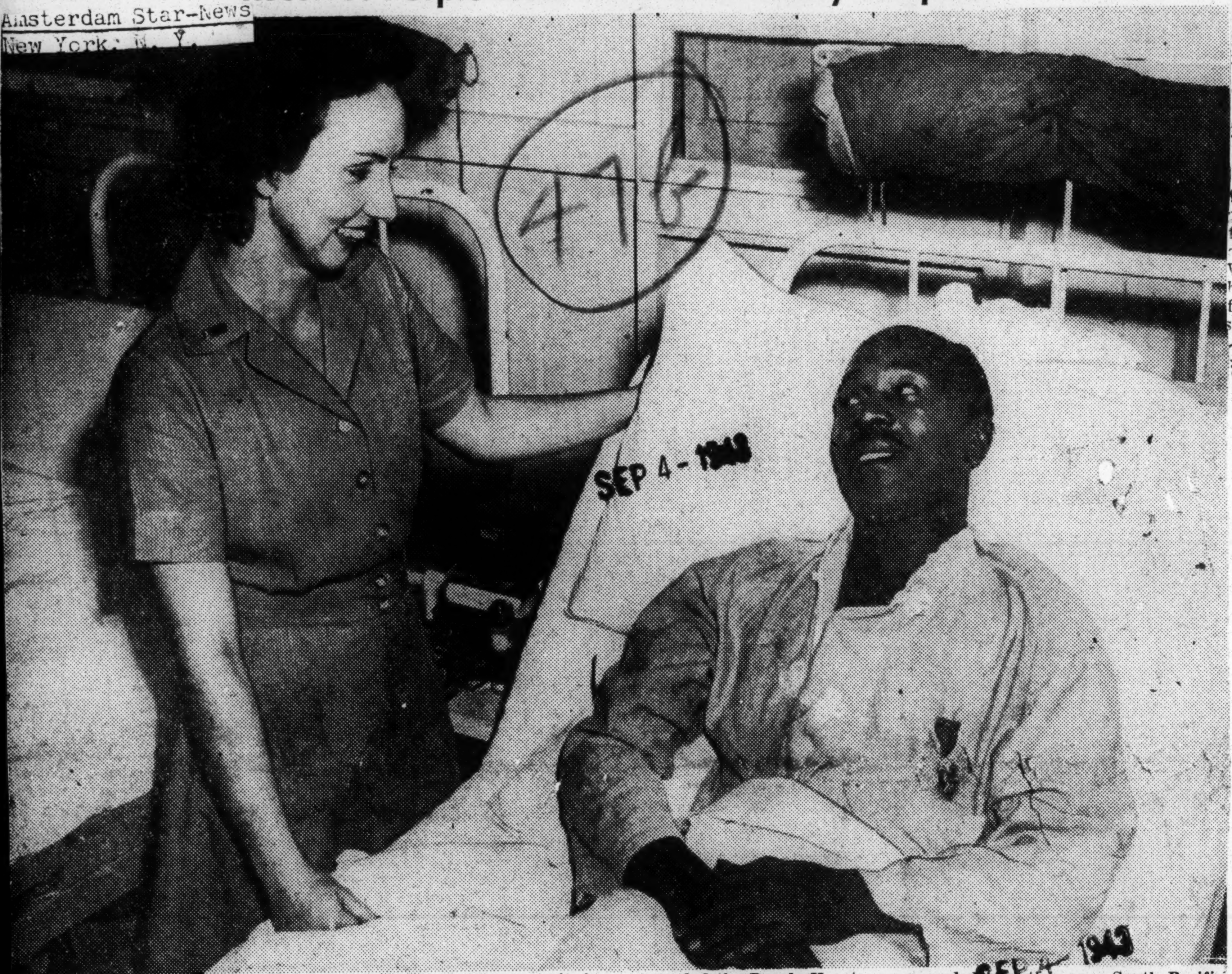
Four church services are available each Sunday, including two at a Roman Catholic mission which

has ga enfni ufilHRD RA RA A is expressed about the camp band are proud of their men—and earned
has gained fine reputation for its Music-minded soldiers with an eyepride on a reciprocal basis is one
work among the Eskimo people. for all-out balan[illegible] it will be of the best fighting assets in any
Chaplain (Captain) J. A. Clement lop-sided unt[illegible]get about eightman's army.
was pastor of an influential church bass h[illegible]others agree that the
in Boston, Massachusetts before the band is a corker.
war. His choir can hold its own Life goes on here at a great pace.
anywhere. and it goes cheerfully. A group of
Varying opinion (perhaps accord- understanding officers take pains to
ing to the mood of the moment) see that it does. Certainly, they

47b-1943

Receives Purple Heart Award At Army Hospital

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.



SEP 4 - 1943

PRIVATE JAMES BARKER, ASSIGNED to an engineer unit in the South Pacific, receives the congratulations of Lieutenant H. E. Bebb[illegible], nurse, at an advanced base Army hospital. He was recently awarded the Purple Heart, was wounded in action on a South Pacific Island. Private Barker's sister, Julia lives at 110 W. 126 St., New York City. —U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

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The "Gallant Colored Soldier" Of U. S. Further In Ranks Of Heroes

Argus

Have Received 31 Congressional Medals, 57 Distinguished Service Crosses In Wars

St. Louis, Missouri

(By War Department B P R)

In the current global war the Negro has definitely established himself in the hierarchy of distinguished soldiers.

Citations In 1943

Private George Watson, of Birmingham, Alabama, received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in the Southwest Pacific on March 8, 1943.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services at Guadalcanal, on March 27, 1943, four Negro youths received the Legion of Merit. They were Private First Class Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss.; Private Jesse Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Private Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss.; and Private Henry Smith, Jr. Good Pine, La.

Sergeant Charles M. Baynes, of Chicago, Illinois, was awarded the Silver Star for heroic conduct exhibited on June 26, 1943, near an American air base. Another Silver Star award went to Private Mack B. Anderson, of Brenham, Texas for bravery in India in 1942.

Many others have been honored in this war, their awards ranging from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Good Conduct Medal.

Between the years 1[illegible]2 and 1926, soldiers serving all-Negro outfits were awarded 31 Congressional Medals of Honor and 57 Distinguished Service Crosses. Since the War Department record of those honored makes no reference to race, it is presumed that there are others.

First authorized by act of Congress in 1862, the Medal of Honor, often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor because it was "presented in the name of Congress," is the highest decoration awarded by the United States Government.

Saved "Old Glory"

The Distinguished Service Cross, the next highest honor, was instituted by executive order in January, 1918, and confirmed by Congress July 9, 1918.

First instance in history of the award of the Medal of Honor to a Negro was in 1863 when Sergeant William H. Carney, Company C. 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry, received the Honor for conspicuous gallantry at Fort Wagner, South Carolina, on July 18 of that year.

The citation stated, in part, that "when the color sergeant was shot down, the soldier grasped the flag, led the way to the parapet, and planted the colors thereon: When the troops fell back he brought off the flag, under a fierce fire in which he was twice severely wounded."

DEC 3 - 1943

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

COLORED SOLDIER AWARDED "PURPLE HEART" BY ARMY

By James A. Sanders
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY, Dec. 23 (ANP)—Pvt. Thurman D. Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ramsey, 416 E. 31st street, Chicago, has been awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received as the result of enemy action. Pvt. Ramsey was wounded by shrapnel during an air raid while posted as a sentinel over a vital military installation.

The 23 year old engineer was born in Nashville, attended Wendell Phillips high school in Chicago, and at the time of his induction was assistant manager of the Johnson Florist shop in Detroit. Ramsey is the first enlisted man of his outfit to be decorated. An award of the Purple Heart to Lt. Norman E. Andrews, white, Orangeburg, S. C. of the same regiment preceded Ramsey's by a week.

Asked how he felt about his conduct during the trying moments, Ramsey said, "Shucks, any one of these guys would have done the same thing. When a fellow is posted as a guard, he doesn't quit his post until properly relieved, does he? Ah, it was nothing. Get a match?"

Pvt. Ramsey's conduct under fire is typical of thousands of Negro youth who are giving their last full ounce of devotion to this global war. What he and his comrades have seen in this theater has most deeply impressed upon him what sort of a place America would be to live in if the swastika were to reach across the Atlantic.

DEC 24 1943

Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

WINS LEGION OF MERIT IN NORTH AFRICA AREA

Sgt. McDade Performs Outstanding Work

CASABLANCA, Morocco —1st Sergeant Claude McDade, Bordentown, New Jersey, now serving with a Quartermaster Truck Regiment of the Fifth American Army in North Africa, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services.

His citation reads in part: "As First Sergeant of Company D and later of Company H. he has been one of the outstanding non-commissioned officers of the regiment. He has been an excellent example to the enlisted men of the regiment and his persistently maintained a high state of discipline among subordinates. Upon the activation of Comany H. he was of the greatest assistance in selecting, assigned and training personnel. At all times he has maintained a soldierly bearing.

SEP 3 - 1943

exhibited unusual qaulities of leadership and superior initiative."

Sergeant McDade was gradated from Tuskegee Institute, Alabama in 1935. He served for [illegible] years in the ROTC and was a student-major. Following graduation he immediately entered the Army, serving 4 years with an Infantry regiment at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

SEP 3 - 19

Age
New York, N. Y.

Camp Robert Smalls Given Navy "E" For General Excellence

SEP 18 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — There is a new flag flying below the national colors on the Camp Robert Smalls' flagpole at the U. S. Naval Training Station here — the Navy "E" award for general excellence.

Camp Smalls was presented the award recently by Captain J. S. Freeman, executive officer of the Training Station, under a new program of inter-regimental competition between Great Lakes' three Negro regiments. The camp was judged the most proficient of the three in its training activities during a three-week period

The first winner in the program, Camp Smalls will not be able to rest on its laurels during the current three-week period. Men of Camp Lawrence and Camp Moffet are both determined to capture the second contest and see the flag flying in their respective camps before the [illegible] of the month.

SEP 18 1943

Inaugurated by Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, assistant recruit training officer in charge of Negro training, the new program calls for judging of the regiments on the basis of professional duties, infantry drill, inspection, swimming, physical training and rifle range drill.

Mother Of Naval Hero

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

AUG 7 - 1943

Invitation to Achievement

Last week the first United States war ship to be named in honor of a Negro member of the Naval forces was launched at the Bethlehem Steel Company's Fore River Yard at Quincy, Mass. The Destroyer Escort, U. S. S. Harmon, named for Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, killed in action November 13, 1942, is a concrete and positive answer to those die-hard critics who claim that the Negro's progress has been hampered, even cut off by this war. The naming of the Harmon is proof that the failure is not a "blackout" in recognition and honor for the Negro.

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The U. S. S. Harmon is a monument to a new kind of progress and achievement that this nation hardly dreamed of two years ago. It is significant that the U. S. S. Harmon and the Liberty Ships — Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, George Washington Carver and John Merrick — named for prominent Negro civilians, all came under the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the most criticized American President since Abraham Lincoln. It is significant that most of the national progress the Negro in recent years has made, has been born since the war started. This progress is the symbol of a higher recognition of the achievements our race is making despite all odds.

AUG 7 - 1943

At the same time, we are not unmindful of the fact that Negroes have crashed the gate and gained the right to serve in the Navy, hitherto lilywhite. And we are not unmindful of the fact that Negroes cannot become commissioned officers in this same Navy that includes today in its fleet a Destroyer Escort ship named for a Negro, who had lived, might never have advanced in the Navy's ranks.

AUG 7 - 1943

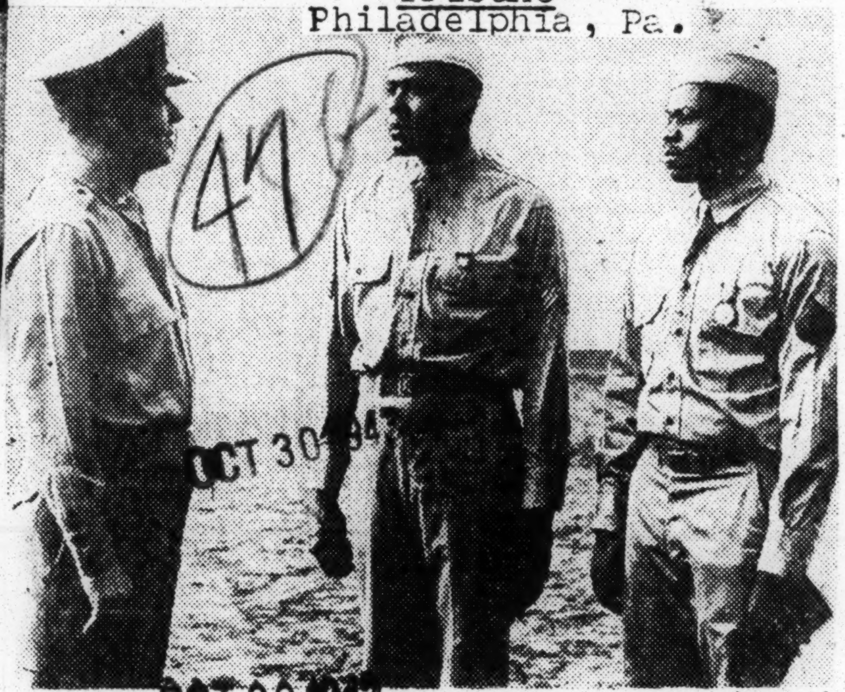
The case of Leonard Harmon and the U. S. S. Harmon for which his mother was brought all the way from Texas to christen, did not come through ballyhoo; through whining that it cannot be done; that the door is closed tightly against us; that because we are colored, we will never get anywhere. It comes through achievement; the sacrifice of blood and life; the sweat of the brow and the tears and prayers of millions, both white and black, who believe the future will not be dark and who demonstrate that the present can be made as rosy as tomorrow through their perseverance and hard work.

If Harmon had not exposed himself to enemy bullets to save a wounded comrade, the race would not be honored by having one of its members elevated to the role of national recognition as was Leonard Harmon. If achievement was not the means whereby we can be sure of what we gain, the Navy's doors would not have been opened to us, war or no war, as they are today. Negroes in the Coast Guard, Negroes in the Marines, Negroes in the Air Corps, even though Jim Crow, represent the trend of times, and possibly, the new tomorrow which we all should strive to achieve and bring into reality.

AUG 7 - 1943

Heroes Get Medal

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



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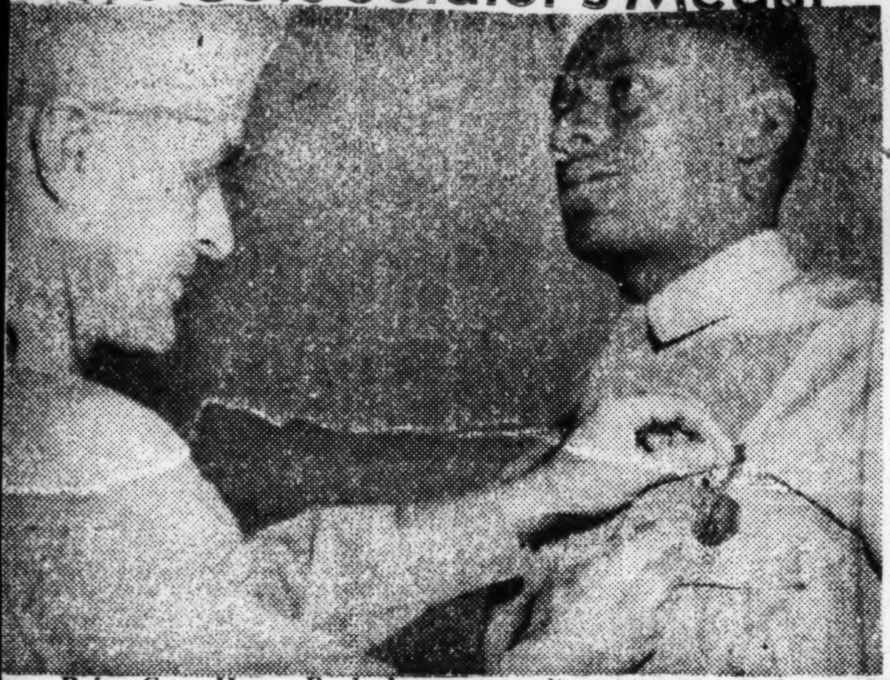
OCT 30 1943

Brigadier General [illegible]dson D. Worsham of the Corps of Engineers, is seen with Sgt. Robert Mays (left) and T 5th Grade Hubert Massie, after presenting them the Soldier's Medal for heroism displayed in rescuing an officer from a Canadian river. The award was made at an undisclosed camp in Northern Canada.—U. S. Army Photo.

47b-1943

Hero Gets Soldier's Medal



Brig. Gen. Hume Peabody, commanding general of the Army Air Forces Tactical Center, Orlando, Fla., pins the Soldier's Medal on Sgt. Willie B. Goodson, Negro, for heroism after he had risked his life to save an officer who had fallen beneath telegraph poles falling from a railroad flatcar being unloaded.

Ala. Soldier Gets Medal For Bravery

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
NOV 27 1943

ORLANDO, Fla.—(S N S)—Brig. Gen. Hume Peabody, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces Tactical Center here, presented the Soldier's Medal for heroism to Sgt. Willie B. Goodson, Negro, Fairfield, Ala., recently at a formal retreat ceremony, for his quick action in saving the life of an officer by rushing into logs falling from a rail car to pull him to safety.

Sgt. Goodson, who is a member of a Signal Construction Battalion at the Tactical Center, was aiding in unloading telegraph poles from a railway flat-car when Lt. Donald L. Rush, Boston, Construction Officer for the battalion, climbed to the top of the poles to release braces holding them in place.

As the poles began to slide from the car, the lieutenant leaped down, but turned his ankle in jumping from the car and before he could drag himself to safety other poles began piling on his body.

At great personal risk, Sgt. Goodson ran to the officer's side, secured him beneath the arms, and pulled him to safety.

Goodson is the son of Rosie Lee Taylor, Oneonta, Ala.

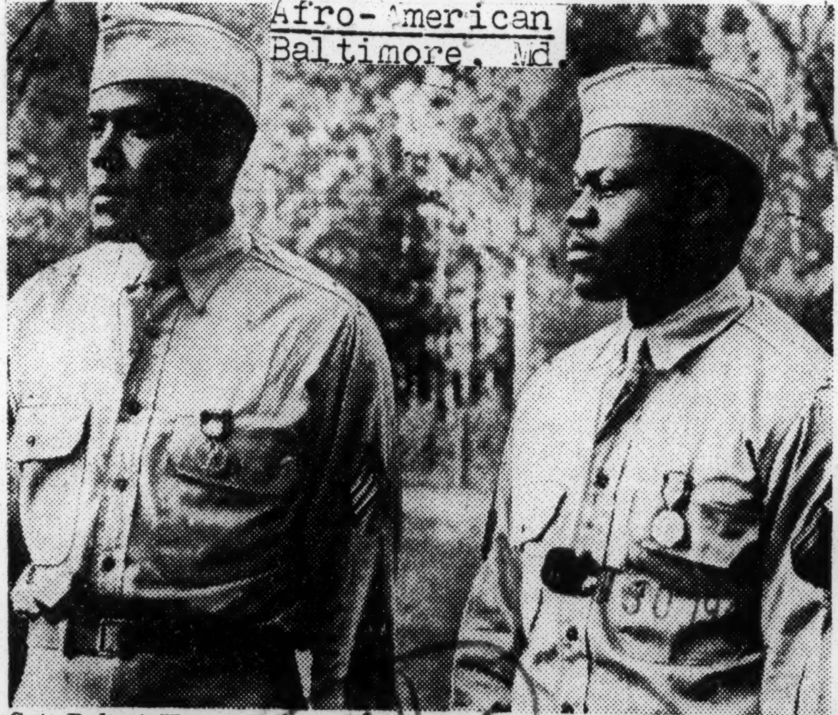
WEST VIRGINIAN DECORATED

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

First Sergeant Horace J. Porter, of New York City, congratulates Cpl. John D. Hilton, a few minutes after Corporal Hilton was awarded the Soldier's Medal recently for heroism at Rome Air Field, New York. Admiring the medal is Master Sergeant Arthur Giron, of Opelousas, La. Corporal Hilton was awarded the Soldier's Medal at a review at the Rome Army Air Field, Rome, N. Y., by Brigadier General C. P. Kane, commanding general Rome Air Service command. Corporal Hilton of Bolivar, W. Va., is one of the Air Service command's ground crew members whose job it is to "Keep 'em Flying."

Get Medals for Heroism

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



Sgt. Robert Hayes, left, and Technician Fifth Grade Hubert Massie, shortly after they were awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism displayed when they rescued an officer from a river in Canada. The scene of the award is an undisclosed camp in Northern Canada.

OCT 30 1943

Make Thirteen Purple Heart Awards; Eighteen Promotions In New Guinea

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
SEP 1943

WITH AEF IN NEW GUINEA, Sept. 9—(ANP)—Among latest developments of the week, 13 men were decorated as a result of receiving wounds during a Japanese air attack, while working at a New Guinea port. All men are valuable truck drivers, who haul tons of supplies daily to and from the docks. They are Pvts. Lester L. Butler, Savannah, Ga.; Arthur S. Watson, New York; Gilbert H. Morris, Dequesne, Pa.; Isaiah Jackson, Rayville, La.; William L. Thorne, Charleston, S. C.; Booker T. Evans, Jr., Houston, Miss.; Robert T. Crews, Jr., Greenville, S. C.; Abron Irwin, Mound Bayou, Miss.; James E. Guilford, Boston; Albert H. Latourse, Glentock, N. J.; Wilson Lee, Jr., Pratt City, Ala.; Joe Hardy, Roanoke, N. C.; and Alfonzo Smith, New York.

The citation for the awards, which was by order of Col. Geoffrey Galwey, an advance base commander, read: "For wounds received in action near . . . . . March 8, 1943." The formal presentation of awards was made last week.

PROMOTIONS MADE

Among the 18 men receiving promotions were Staff Sgts. Harold J. Morris, Jackson, Mich., and Gaston E. Jernagin, Whiteville, N. C., from the rank of sergeant. S/Sgt. Morris' promotion also carries with it the title of company transportation sergeant. His job is to supervise traffic and maintenance of vehicles and heavy motorized equipment of his outfit. S/Sgt. Jernigan becomes his company's construction foreman. His promotion came as a result of outstanding carpentry work in erecting one of the larges hospitals on this base.

Others receiving promotions were (promoted to sergeant from private first class) James Smith, Plaquemine, La. (promoted to corporal); Thomas H. Wiggins, Natchez, Miss., William W. Jones, Charles City, Va.; Sexton E. Caldwell, Bethany, La.; George W. Walker, Fountain Inn, S. C.; Blane Spearman, Greenville, Miss.; Harold Spottswood, Shelby, Va.; Elvin L. Cooper, Baton Rouge, La.; Benjamin J. Jackson, Glenn, Ga.; Bennie Lewis, Midville, Ga.; Willie Rogers, Shreveport, La.; Preston Tassin, Garyville, La.; Cleo Moore, Sumrall, Miss.; Wolfred J. DeSilva, New Orleans; Johnnie A. Jones, Tallulah, La., and Overton Thacker, Nashville.

IONORED IN MUSKEGON

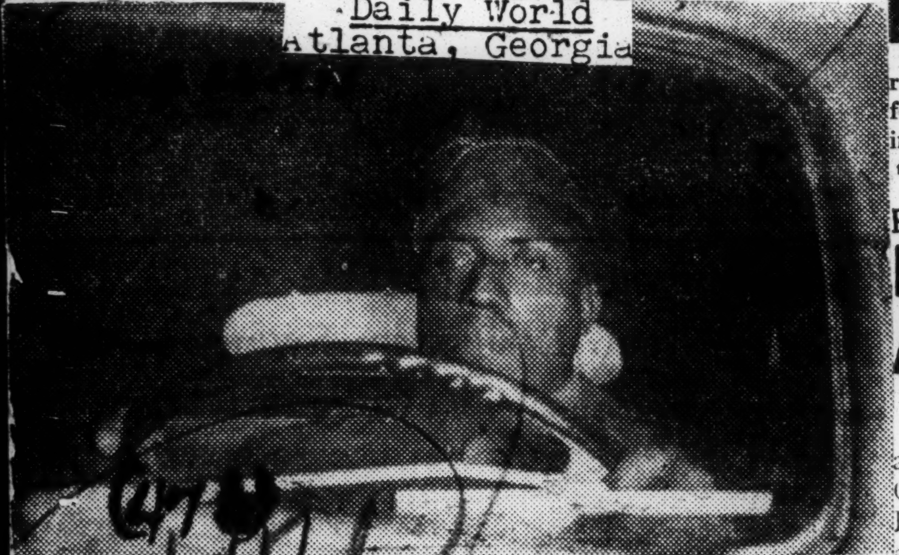
Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Sept 14, 1943

John L Frazier, 31, of 81 East Muskegon avenue, Muskegon, Mich., president of the International Molder and Foundry workers union, receiving the Army-Navy "E" award. Frazier, a graduate of Bishop college, Marshall, Texas in 1937 has for the past six years resided in Muskegon, where he has taken a very active part in all civic and community affairs. He is president of the local N.A. A.C.P. The West Michigan Steel Foundry where Frazier is president of the union hires approximately 600 workers; about 100 of that number are Negroes.

Saves A Life, Promoted

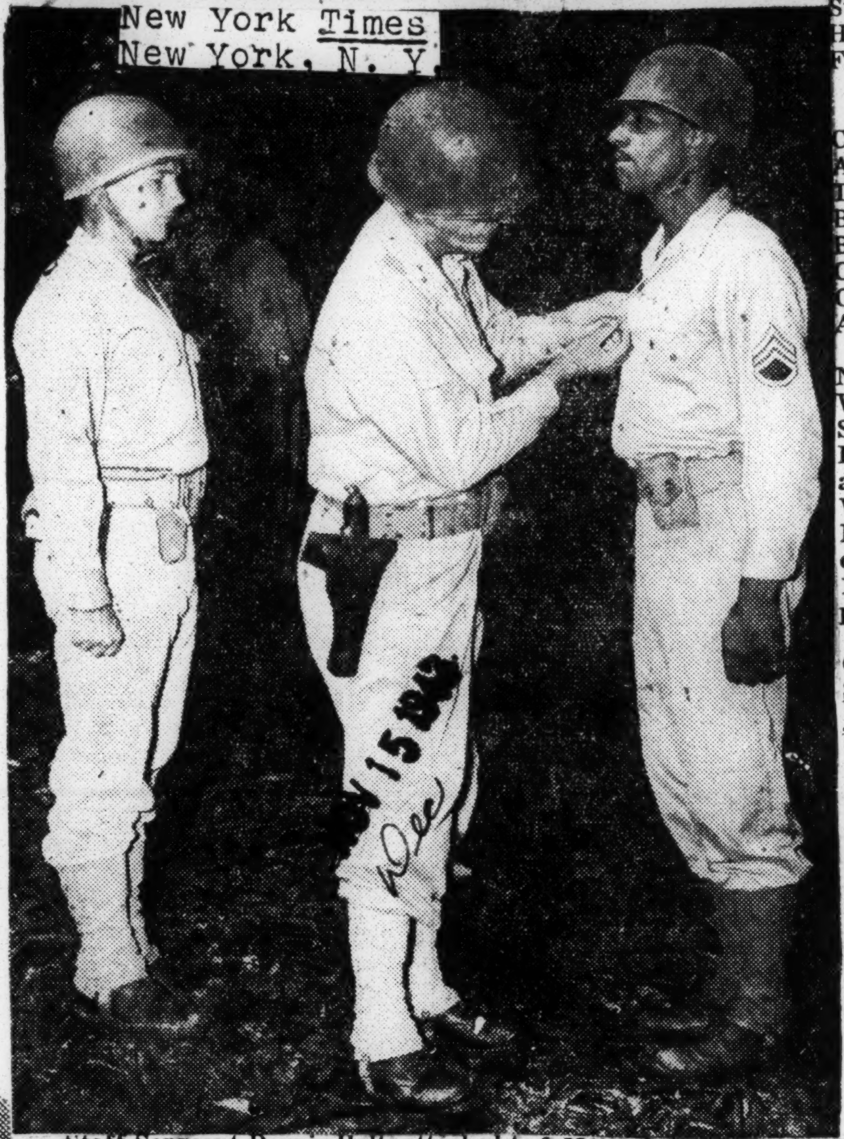
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



....Quick thinking on the part of Pvt. Rainous Danzy, Quartermaster Detachment, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., truck driver, recently saved a life in Baltimore. A woman stepped in front of the truck Pvt. Danzy was driving and only the quickest thinking enabled him to apply the brakes as fast as he did, stopping on a split second with the woman leaning on the front fender of his truck. In recognition of his meritorious performance, Danzy received a Pfc rating although he had been in the detachment only one week —(ANP Photo.) ....

A HERO DECORATED IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

New York Times
New York, N. Y.



NOV 15 1943

Staff Sergeant Dennis Holt, attached to a Negro infantry regiment, receives from Maj. Gen. Oscar W. Griswold the Legion of Merit award for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service." Lt. Col. James B. Wells, battalion commander, stands at the left.

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps)

NOV 15 1943

Capts. Lemuel Curtis, 67 Pliney Street, Hartford, Conn.; Charles Hall, Brazil, Ind.; George Roberts, Fairmont, W.Va.;

Nineteen First Lieutenants

First Lieuts. Sidney Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio; Herbert Carter, Amary, Miss.; William Campbell, Tuskegee; Herbert Clark, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Charles Dryden, Bronx, N.Y.; Clarence Jamison, Cleveland; James Knighten Tulsa, Okla.; Allen Lane, Demopolis, Ala.; Erwin Lawrence, Cleveland;

Lee Rayford, 1822 Ninth Street, Northwest, Washington; James Wiley, Pittsburgh; Willie Ashley, Sumter, S.C.; George Bolling, Pheobus, Va.; Samuel Bruce, Seattle; Willie Fuller, Tarboro, N.C.; Walter Lawson, Newton, Va.; Paul Mitchell, 908 Howard Road, Southeast, Washington; Louis Purnell 181 W. Weaver Street, Philadelphia; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N.C

Second Lieuts. John Rogers, Chicago; Spann Watson, 122 Hohn Street, Hackensack, N.J.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

[illegible] Medal to New Jersey Private

NOV 27 1943

U.S. [illegible] Headquarters, South Pacific—The award of the Soldier's Medal to Private Jesse E. Evans, son of Mrs. Mamie Evans, 37 Flagler Street, Morristown, N.J., has been announced by the War Department.

The citation states that Private Evans in "disregarding his personal safety, dived from the deck of a vessel to the rescue of two men who had been thrown into the water when a small boat capsized in a strong current."

NOV 27 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster Awarded Dead Air Hero

DEC 11 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The award of the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to First Lieutenant Paul G. Mitchell, 808 Howard Road, S. E., Washington, D. C., has been announced by the War Department.

Lieutenant Mitchell, who was assigned to the 99th Fighter Squadron, was reported killed in action in the North Africa area on August 11, 1943.

DEC 11 1943

The Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster was given for "meritorious achievement while participating in 10 sorties against the enemy."

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25 of 99th Flyers Given Air Medal

Baltimore, Md
Afro-American

By OLLIE STEWART

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WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN SICILY—(By [illegible] Censored)—The Air Medal was awarded to the following members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, August 30, for meritorious achievement while participating in ten sorties against the enemy:

Lieut. Col. Benjamin Davis, 1421 S Street, Northwest, Washington;

47b-1943

Plaque for Service Men

SEP 11 1943

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Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

MRS. VERA GANDY views the plaque unveiled at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture agency, where her husband, Charles Gandy, was honored with other former employees of the company now in the armed services. Families of all soldiers of both races attended the ceremonies.

Given Medal

AUG 21 1943

Amsterdam Star-Ne
New York, N. Y.

CORPORAL JEROME L. Collier, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Collier, of 369A Madison St., Brooklyn, was awarded the Soldier's Medal in England for saving the life of a British woman who was [illegible]ed in a fire in her home. Cpl. Collier, a m[illegible] of the Engineering Unit, removed the woman through a window and lowered her to Cpl. Charles Robinson, who stood below. Robinson is a New Yorker and resides at 828 St. Nicholas Ave.

AUG 21 1943

Many Have Been Honored In This War For Bravery

DEC 4 1943

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Do not [illegible]

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In the current global war the Negro has definitely established himself in the hierarchy of distinguished soldiers. Pvt. George Watson, of Birmingham, Ala., received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in the Southwest Pacific on March 8, 1943.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services at Guadalcanal on March 27, 1943, four Negro youths received the Legion of Merit. They were Pfc. Ben W. Pettis, Senatobia, Miss.; Pvt. Jesse Harris, Tuskegee, Ala.; Pvt. Verna C. Neal, Ruleville, Miss., and Pvt. Henry Smith, Jr., Good Pine, La.

AWARDED SILVER STAR

Sgt. Charles M. Baynes, of Chicago, was awarded the Silver Star for heroic conduct exhibited on June 26, 1943, near an Algerian air base. Another Silver Star award went to Pvt. Mack B. Anderson, of Brenham, Texas, for bravery in India in [illegible]

DEC 4 1943

Many others have been honored in this war, their awards ranging from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Good Conduct Medal.

Between the years 1862 and 1926, soldiers serving in all-Negro outfits were awarded 31 Congressional Medals of Honor and 57 Distinguished Service Crosses. Since the War Department record of those honored makes no reference to race, it is presumed that there are others.

First authorized by act of Congress in 1862, the Medal of Honor, often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor because it was "presented in the name of Congress," is the highest decoration awarded by the United States Government.

The Distinguished Service Cross, the next highest honor, was instituted by executive order in January, 1918, and confirmed by Congress July 9, 1918.

First instance in history of the award of the Medal of Honor to a Negro was in 1863 when Sgt. William H. Carney, Company C, 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry, received the honor for conspicuous gallantry at Fort Wagner, South Carolina, on July 18 of that year.

DEC 4 1943

HEROIC SOLDIER

The citation stated, in part, that "when the sergeant was shot down, the soldier grasped the flag, led the way to the parapet, and planted the colors thereon. When the troops fell back he brought off the flag, under a fierce fire in which he was twice severely wounded."

And so down through the years the number of Negroes who have won acclaim for valor has become legion.

* * *

AWARDS OF CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR—1862 TO 1926

(Awarded for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy.)

NAME	ORGANIZATION	YEAR	Place Achievement
Sgt. E. L. Baker, Jr.	10th U.S. Cavalry	1898	Santiago, Cuba
Pvt. Wm. H. Barnes	38th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
1st Sgt. P. Beaty	5th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Pvt. Dennis Bell	10th U.S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Sgt. Thomas Boyne	9th U.S. Cavalry	1879	Nimbres Mts, N.M.
1st Sgt. J. Bronson	5th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Sgt. W. H. Carney	54th Mass. Colored Inf.	1863	Fort Wagner, S. C.
Sgt. John Denny	9th U.S. Cavalry	1879	Las Ani. Can., N.M.
Sgt. Decatur Dorsey	39th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Petersburg, Va.
Sgt. C. A. Fleetwood	4th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Pvt. Jas. Gardiner	36th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Sgt. J. H. Harris	38th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	New Mkt. Hts., Va.
Sgt. Thos. Hawkins	6th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Deep Bottom, Va.
Sgt A. B. Hilton	4th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Sgt M. M. Holland	5th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Cpl. Miles James	36th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Sgt. H. Johnson	9th U.S. Cavalry	1879	Milk River, Colo.
Sgt. Geo. Jordan	9th U.S. Cavalry	1880-1881	Ft. Tulerso, N.M., & Carizo Canyon N.M
1st Sgt. Alex Kelly	6th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va
Pvt. Fitz Lee	10th U.S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Sgt. Wm. McBryar	10th U.S. Cavalry	1890	Arizona
1st Sgt. Rbt. Pinn	5th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Sgt. Thomas Shaw	[illegible] U.S. Cavalry	1881	Carizo Can. N. M.
Sgt. E. Stance	9th U.S. Cavalry	1870	Kickapoo Spr., Tex
Pvt. W. Thompkins	10th U.S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Pvt. Charles Veal	4th U.S. Colored Troops	1864	Nr. Richmond, Va.
Pvt. Aug. Walley	9th U.S. Colored Troops	1881	Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. Mex
Pvt. G. H. Wanton	10th U.S. Colored Troops	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
1st Sgt. M. Williams	9th U.S. Cavalry	1881	Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. M.
Cpl. W. O. Wilson	9th U.S. Cavalry	1890	Sioux Campaign
Sgt. Brent Woods	9th U.S. Cavalry	1881	New Mexico

DEC 4 1943

AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

(Awarded for extraordinary heroism in action under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9, 1918)

ALL OF THE FOREGOINGG AWARDS WERE GIVEN IN 1918

NAME	ORGANIZATION	Place Achievement
Pfc. R.Breckenridge	Co. H 365th Inf.	Ferme de Bel-Air, F
Cpl. Russell Pollard	Co. H 365th Inf.	Bois-Frehault, Fr.
Pvt. George Bell	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Sgt. Roy A. Brown	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pfc. Will Clincy	Co. F. 366th Inf.	Frapelle, France
Pvt. Alex Hammond	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Cpl. Van Horton	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt. E. L. Merrifield	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt. Tom Rivers	Co. G. 366th Inf.	Bois-de-la-Voivrotte France
Pvt. Joe Williams	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt. John Baker	Co. I. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. T. H. Davis	San. Det. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. E. H. Handy	Co. B. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pvt. Joseph James	Hq. Co. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pvt. Bernard Lewis	Co. A. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. Lewis Watkins	Co. A. 350th M. G. Bat.	Eply, France
Sgt. Wm. Butler	Co. L. 369th Inf.	Maison-de-Champagne, France
Cpl. Elmer Earl	Co. K. 369th Inf.	Ripont Swamp, Fr
Pvt. E. McCowin	[illegible] K. 369th Inf.	Ripont Swamp, Fr
Pvt. Wm. Sandford	Med. Det. 369th Inf.	Ripont River, Fr.

Sgt.	Robert Barnes	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont de Sanges, Fr
Pvt.	William Cuff	2nd M.G. Co., 370th Inf.	Mont de Sanges, Fr
Pvt.	Leroy Davis	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont de Sanges, Fr
Sgt.	Lester Fossie	Co. M. 370th Inf.	F'me-de-la R'v'e, Fr
Pvt.	James Fuquay	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Guillimet F'm., Fr.
Sgt.	Ralph Gibson	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Pvt.	W. G. Hurdle	3rd M.G. Co. 370th Inf.	Ferme La Folie, Fr
Pvt.	Spirley E. Irby	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Sgt.	Mat. Jenkins	Co. F. 370th Inf.	Vauxaillon, France
Pvt.	A. Johnson	Hq. Co. 370th Inf.	Mont des S'n'es, Fr
Pvt	Andy McCall	M.G. Co.. 370th Inf.	F'me de la Riv., Fr
Pvt.	C. T. Monroe	Hq. Co. 370th Inf.	Mont-de Sanges, Fr
Pvt.	H. L. Pearson	M.G. Co. 370th Inf.	Ferme La Folie, Fr
Pvt.	Tom Powell	Co. H 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Cpl.	E. Thompson	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont-de-Sanges, Fr
Cpl.	Isaac Valley	Co. M. 370th Inf.	Vraincourt, France
Pvt.	Alonzo Walton	3rd M.G. Co. 370th Inf.	Rue Larcher and Pont-d'Any, Fr.
Pfc.	N. C. White	Co. F. 370th Inf.	Vauxaillon, France
Pfc.	Alf. Williamson	Med. Det. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Pvt.	Willie Boston	M.G. Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	Reuben Burrell	M.G. Co. 371st Inf.	Cham. sect., France
Pvt.	Charles Butler	M.G Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Sgt.	Thomas Cooper	Co. K. 371st Inf.	Trieres Farm. Fr.
Pvt.	Junius Diggs	Co. G. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	Burton Holmes	Co. C. 371st Inf.	Nr. Hill 188, Fr.
Cpl.	Sandy E. Jones	Co. C. 371st Inf.	Nr. Champ., Fr.
Sgt.	L. McClelland	Med. Det. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	Ellison Moses	Co. G. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	Walley Stewart	Hd. Co. 371st Inf.	Nr. Bussy Frm., Fr.
Pvt.	Bruce Stoney	Med. Det. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	T. Webster	M.G. Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt.	C. Crawford	Hq. Co. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Bussy Frm., Fr.
Pvt.	George Gross	Co. D. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Sechault, Fr.
Pvt.	S. H. Johns	Co. L. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Bussy Frm., Fr.
Pvt.	C. Merrimon	Co. L. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Bussy Frm., Fr.
Sgt.	Ira M. Payne	Co. A. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Sechault, Fr.
Pvt.	C. R. Van Allen	Co. L. 372nd Inf.	Nr. Bussy Frm., Fr.

DEC 4-1943

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

WINS PURPLE HEART FOR HEROISM IN ITALY

DEC 24 1943

By James A. Sanders

Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

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Somewhere In Italy, Dec. 24.—(ANP)—Private Thurman D. Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ramsey, 416 E. 31st street, Chicago, has been awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received as the result of enemy action. Pvt. Ramsey was wounded by shrapnel during an air raid while posted as a sentinel over a vital military installation.

DEC 24 1943

The 23 year old engineer was born in Nashville, attenden Wendell Phillips high school in Chicago, and at the time of his induction was assistant manager of the Johnson Florist shop in Detroit. Ramsey is the first enlisted man in his outfit to be decorated. An award of the Purple Heart to Lt. Norman E. Andrews, white, Orangeburg, S. C., of the same regiment preceeded Ramsey's by a week.

Asked how he felt about his conduct during those trying moments, Ramsey said, "Shucks, any one of those guys would have done the same thing. When a fellow is posted as a guard, he doesn't quit his post until properly relieved, does he? Ah! It was nothing. Got a match?"

Pvt. Ramsey's conduct under fire is typical of thousands of Negro youth who are giving their last full ounce of devotion to this global war. What he and his comrades have seen in this theater has most deeply impressed upon him what sort of a place America would be to live in if the swastika were to reach across the Atlantic.

Dorie Miller Is Given Tribute By Sec. Of Treasury

Informer
Houston,
Texas

SEP 4 1943

476

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., paid a glowing tribute to the heroism of Dorie Miller, Negro messman, first class, USN, in an address before the forty-third annual meeting of the National Negro Business league, at Bethel AME church, Baltimore, Maryland, on Wednesday night, August 25.

"Many of us would gladly pay our last dollar if we could wear the Navy Cross which was won by Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor, the Secretary declared.

Miller's citation erad:

"For distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard of his own personal safety. While at the side of his captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing, and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed on enemy Japanese attacking aircraft, until ordered to leave the bridge."

SEP 4 1943

Appealing for support of the third War Loan drive, which opens September 9, Mr. Morgenthau said:

"In this war we can't all join up but we can all help . . . Our boys are willing to fight day and night and give their lives; and they are eager to turn over every available cent to buy bonds to help them do a still better job. We here at home who are only asked to lend our money, certainly ought to do at least as well in buying bonds as our men on the battle fronts."

SEP 4 1943

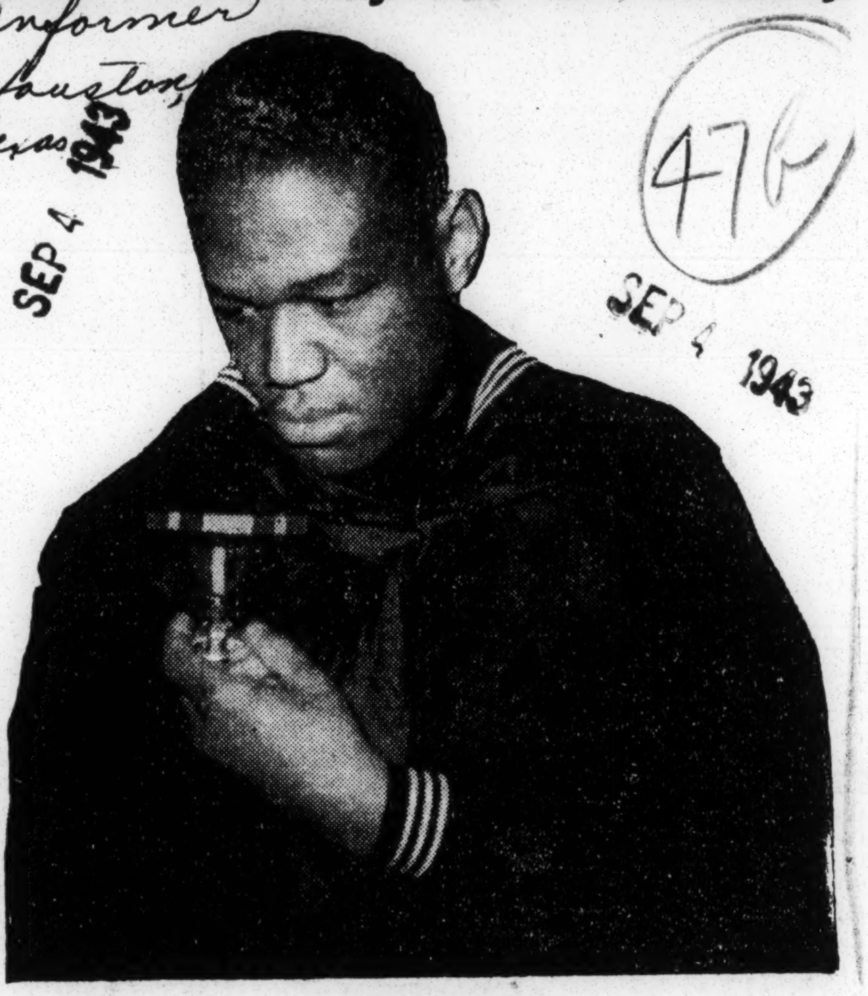
The treasury secretary was introduced by Mayor Theodore McKeldin of Baltimore.

Addresses also were made by Willard W. Allen and William Pickens [illegible] staff.

Representatives of Negro insurance companies attending the convention pledged to buy two million dollars worth of bonds in the Third War Loan drive. They have already invested four million dollars in war bonds. Several other business groups attending the meeting made pledges of large purchases in the forthcoming bond drive.

SEP 4 1943

Dr. J. E. Walker of Memphis, Tennessee, president of the league, presided.



DORIS MILLER

SEP 4 1943

476

47c-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

Induction Was Unfair, Dixie Editor Charges

JAN 30 1943

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—Emory O. Jackson, managing editor of the Birmingham World, is seeking release from the army, blaming his induction on January 11 on prejudice of the all-white Dothan, Ala., draft board.

C. A. Scott, general manager of the chain to which Jackson's paper belongs, is supporting his efforts on the grounds that the latter's position entitled him to deferment.

JAN 30 1943

Appeals Futile

Jackson was teaching in Dothan when he registered in 1940. He became managing editor of the World in July, 1941. The Dothan board refused to transfer his registration here and allegedly ignored his request for reclassification.

The State appeal board rejected a similar request last month, although Selective Service headquarters in Washington considers newspaper managing editors among essential employees of communications industries.

JAN 30 1943

CHAPLAIN'S AIDE

Chaplain's Aide at Fort Bragg, N.C., is Corporal Velton Randall of Dallas, Tex.

NAACP Addresses Query To Manpower Head After Voluntary Enlistments Are Ordered Stopped By President

NEW YORK CITY—Urging that Negro Americans be accorded the right to share fully in the duties and responsibilities of the war crisis, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People addressed this week to Paul McNutt, director of the War Manpower Commission, a group of questions bearing upon the effective utilization of Negro manpower and womanpower in the armed forces and in industry.

The NAACP reminded McNutt of his recent statement that drafted men would be allowed to state their preference concerning the branch of the army, navy, marine or coast guard in which they wished to serve since the Selective Service System has been placed under WMC and will be administered through the WMC chairman.

Will Negroes Have Choice?

The NAACP asked if this statement meant that the preference of draftees to serve in the navy, coast guard and marine corps will be respected without regard to race, creed, color or national origin. The association further asked if the present practice of excluding Negroes from serving at commissioned officer level in each of these services would be abandoned.

JAN 2 1943

Pointing to McNutt's authority to issue regulations with reference to the training program for the armed forces, including reserve components and women's auxiliary groups, in non-federal educational institutions the NAACP asked if McNutt intended to issue an order that "all such facilities be open and available to qualified persons without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

Union Situation Cited

2 - 1943

The NAACP communication also reiterated that the president's order which conferred additional authority on the WMC had been slanted for the most effective mobilization of manpower and womanpower and the elimination of waste due to disruptive recruitment and asked exactly what steps the WMC would make to rectify the continuance of situations in which employers and unions refused to accept qualified Negro workers because they are Negroes.

McNutt was also asked if in the event of his establishing an advisory committee composed of government or private groups, Negroes would be appointed to such a committee.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Married Men Are Furnishing Alabama's March Draft Quota

Seventy-five per cent of Alabama's draft boards have tto dip heavily into their registrations of married men to fill thier March draft calls, State Selective Director Gen. B. Smith announced Thursday.

But single men will take care of the April and May calls if those becoming of age fill the present selective service expectancy, Gen. Smith said.

MAR 4 - 1943

In June and July the state boards expect to dip back into their married listings again and if requirements of the armed forces continue as heavy in the late Summer and early Fall, the boards will have to call on married men with one child.

The young men becoming of age, supplemented by men with collateral dependents, will well take care of the April and May requirements, Gen. Smith explained, but stated that all figures and plans were based on estimates of present needs and plans were not certainties.

The selective service director said that Alabama had only drafted about 10 per cent of its available manpower and that draft requirements had only taken 11 per cent of farm labor. Heavy losses, as high as 33 per cent in some sections, he said was due more to men being attracted to high paying industrial jobs than to levies by the armed forces.

MAR 4 - 1943

Drafting of white and Negro manpower is proceeding on the basis of population distribution, approximately 65 per cent of the draftees being white and 35 per cent Negro. Many Negroes, once deferred because of illiteracy and social diseases, are now being taken into the service with the armed forces providing proper educational and health control measures to fit them for active duty, the director said.

Gen. Smith praised the cooperative and efficiency of the draft boards throughout the state and emphasized their giving each draft case the closest scrutiny before issuing a call to service.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

McNutt Wants Negro Draft Quota Raised

MAR 13 1943

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11 (ANP)—Draft more Negroes for the Army, regardless of the past rulings and considerations of percentages, is the plea of Paul V. McNutt, who sees in this step the elimination of the necessity for drafting whites in other classifications. McNutt has pointed out that the percentage system has kept more Negroes out of the Army than any other method. By eliminating this method of calling draftees for the Army and by taking Negroes in all branches of services, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, without regard for the percentage quota, an easement on the number of whites being called will be effected.

MAR 13 1943

NO COMMENT FROM WAR DEPARTMENT

McNutt did not clarify his statement nor elaborate on it when made to his press conference, last week, however, his statement was clear enough to be understood.

War Department officials had no comment to make on the elimination of their percentage calling system.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
February 28, 1943

Army Negro Personnel Totals 450,000 Men

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Negro personnel in the Army now totals more than 450,000, with men in every branch of the service, the War Department reported today.

More than 60,000 are serving outside the United States. They include more than 25,000 in the Pacific and about 10,000 in North Africa.

In addition, the department said, "a completely organized and well-trained Army Air Force Pursuit Squadron composed of Negro personnel will be committed to combat soon."

PM
New York, N. Y

McDermott Indicates Increased Draft of Negroes

MAY 11 1943

Col. Arthur V. McDermott, New York Selective Service chief, indicated today that Negroes are now going to be given more opportunity to get into the Army.

He said Negroes would make up 20 per cent of the June draft quota.

Previously, because of the Army's rule that no more than 10 per cent of the Nation's males in the Army can be Negroes, many of them here have not been called for induction despite 1-A classification. As a result, they have found it difficult to get jobs.

MAY 11 1943

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

125 Negroes From Washington Take Places in Armed Forces

Seventy-eight Washington soldiers, 43 sailors and 4 marines, all Negroes, inducted into the armed forces May 7, will report for active duty tomorrow.

MAY 13 1943

To the Army go:

James B. Allen, John R. Taylor, William Reynolds, John D. Hill, Willie McWilliams, Russell Hawkins, Wilbert J. Washington, Hayes B. English, Clyde W. Looper, Edward W. McDowell, jr., Cornell Hailey, Hayes W. Blake, Floyd White, Eugene M. Wilson, Cleophus Jasper, William A. Maedel, James E. Stanley, Carrol T. Stephney, Wortha E. Lyles, Ernest Harris, jr., Philip A. Wright, Clarke P. Gordon, Calvin C. Campbell, Thomas E. Pinkert, Allen E. Johnson, Arthur J. Clement, jr.

John H. Safrit, Seaborn Walker, William J. Cook, Calvin L. Harris, Maurice O. Hawkins, James E. Phelps, James W. Thomas, Ezra R. Greer, Gordon E. Lee, Robert E. Nelson, Leroy A. Winston, Fitzhugh R. Murfree, Carl Buckner, Alfred E. Spencer, Edward Stevenson, Calvin I. Edwards, Robert B. Quillings, Reginald A. Lowe, Solomon W. Mayo, John N. Maddox, Julian C. ass, Artis T. Wilson, Richard M. Marshall, jr. Ralph Rose, Thomas J. McElrath, Samuel Fitzgerald.

Edward Howard, jr., Clarence N. Lewis, Edward E. Henderson, Charles A. Tyler, Thompson, James H. Kelley, jr., Howard J. Buccey, Theodore S. Jackson, James B. Streator, Arthur L. Givand, ergil W. Speare, Richard J. Simon, John B. Porter, Herbert M. Jasper, Leroy Cobb, Reuben C. Jenkins, Joseph Battle, James H. Kennedy, jr., James L. Jones, jr., Joseph Dawkins, Robert L. Scroggins, James S. Harris, Herbert H. Thomas, Russell W. Bowler, jr., George W. Lanham, William J. Rice.

MAY 13 1943

To the Navy go:

Jessie Jones, Adam Savage, Carl Fornesberg, Milton K. Alexander, Pery Haywood, Miller R. Smith, William C. Taylor, Oscar Jones, Alexander Truesdale, Nathaniel Washington, Raymond L. Davis, Arthur W. Johnson, Guy West, James D. Payne, Joseph Robinson, Gordon E. Glass, George E. Knight, James E. Henson, Justin W. Day, Ervin Goodman, Jerry Bassett, George E. Jackson, Nelson L. Anderson, Melvin J. Colston, Luther Henry, William F. Jeter, Joseph Montgomery, Thommel Minnick, Arthur Jackson, Fred O. Tolliferreo, Walter J. Young, James W. Boyd, John H. Clark, Charles T. Smith, Joseph Harper, Frederick W. Nelson, Lee G. Skipper, John H. Harrison, Roman Taylor, Jake S. Dailey, Otis C. Fuller, Roy Meredith, Herbert Taylor.

To the Marine Corps go:

Wardell Andrews, Lacy E. Anderson, Venston K. Kirkley, Dunbar H. Stewart.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

City Draft Quota 20 P. C. Negroes

MAY 10 1943

Twenty per cent of all men to be inducted into the armed forces in this city during next month will be Negroes, Col. Arthur B. McDermott, New York City Director of Selective Service, said today.

MAY 10 1943

"It can be assumed," he stated, "that the army now is ready to equip and establish a number of Negro regiments."

The percentage of Negroes inducted heretofore has been at the rate of about 7 per cent here. The percentage is to be increased radically because there is a large group of Negroes classified 1-A unable to get jobs because of their classification.

MAY 10 1943

Colonel McDermott clarified "a widespread misapprehension" that all registrants with dependency deferments must obtain jobs in war production plants or risk loss of the dependency status. That impression, he said, is erroneous.

"If every registrant in the city," he said, "were to leave his present occupation to obtain work in an airplane factory or a shipyard or a munitions factory or the like, the results would be disastrous to the welfare of the community."

Nation
New York, N. Y.

Race and the Draft

Dear Sirs: I have recently returned from Fort Huachuca, Arizona, where I served as Assistant Field Director, American Red Cross, with the 93rd Division, which is 100 per cent Negro. My experience there opened my eyes as never before to the conditions that exist among the Negroes, and I want to pass on to you a few of the facts that I learned while on duty with the Negro troops.

It is indisputable that the Southern draft boards have shown great prejudice in their selection of draftees. This statement was made to me by both white and colored officers. Out of a division of 15,000 to 18,000 men, approximately 2,000 are being discharged for physical disability. Many men obviously unfit for army service were inducted. During one period men were being discharged at the rate of 60 to 70 a day. I can understand how the local draft boards took these men, but I cannot understand how they passed the medical examination at army induction centers if these were conducted with any degree of honesty. MAY 29 1943

Hundreds of these misfits are being weeded out at Fort Huachuca. They are placed in casual companies, deprived of all extra clothing, mess-kits, and personal equipment, and have not been paid for months. Whether this is due to inefficiency or plan, I do not know. I do know that dozens of these poor devils came to our office asking for small comfort loans so they could purchase razor blades, toilet articles, and other necessities. I do not know whether similar conditions exist in other camps or not.

MAY 29 1943

Other phases of the situation I cannot discuss because it would be revealing military information. It is unnecessary for me to write about the social conditions revealed to me by my case work with the Negro soldiers. All that is an old story to you. But the convictions I held when I came to Huachuca were deepened by my experience there, short as it was.

MAY 29 1943

Morale work among the Negro troops is futile and absurd. Actually, these men have nothing to fight for; yet only one man of the hundreds I interviewed at Huachuca expressed his sense of injustice bitterly. He did so with tears in his eyes because he is a young husband and father who was drafted from Mississippi and is afraid that his house will be sold out from under him in his absence. This leads me to my last point, which is that a majority of the draftees at Huachuca seem to be married and many of them are fathers. Evidently it has been the practice of the Southern boards to draft married Negroes and family men before similar classes of whites were called.

ROBERT WORMSER

Santa Barbara, Cal., April 14

Draft Board Induction Decreed For Students Not Already In R.O.T.C

Alabama Colleges Are Designated To Conduct Army Training Courses

ATLANTA—(AP)—Fourth Service Command officers have announced that college students not already enlisted in the Army Reserve Corps will be able to get in only after draft induction and 13 weeks of Army basic training.

The announcement was made Thursday in connection with the disclosure that students already in the reserve corps will be called to active duty within two weeks after completing the first academic term ending after Dec. 31, 1942.

Under separate arrangement, students enrolled in special fields such as officer training, medicine and engineering are exempt from this provision, but will definitely be called.

The enlisted reserve corps in U. S. colleges will be open to soldiers between 18 and 21 who have completed basic training, who are accredited high school graduates and have a score in the Army general classification test of 110 or better.

Fourth Service Command headquarters pointed out that members of the enlisted reserve corps will be in uniform, part of the Army, and will draw $50 a month, regular Army pay. They will be under command of Army officers, receive academic instruction from civilian school authorities but will be subject to regular army discipline.

The Army is not "taking over" schools, but is contracting for use of part of their facilities, the remaining facilities being used for instruction of civilian students.

The rule on medical (including veterinary and dental) and technical engineering students allows them to complete the current school quarter, semester, or other academic period, beginning in January, 1943, before being called to active duty, and detailed to continue their medical studies under contracts with medical schools made by the War Department.

Commissioned medical students in the administrative medical corps may resign their commissions at the beginning of the program, be inducted as privates and be detailed enlisted reserve medical students.

Enlisted reserve corps students taking technical engineering courses will remain in an inactive status until completion of the academic term which begins in 1943.

Advanced R. O. T. C. students, in their second year of advanced training, will remain in school until graduation, providing graduation occurs before June 30, 1943.

The following schools in the Fourth Service Command area were among those selected for engineer training:

University of Alabama, Auburn, Georgia Tech, Mississippi State College.

Colleges selected by the Army for the Army specialized program include Tuskegee Institute.

Colleges selected by the Army for aviation cadet training include:

Alabama — Birmingham-Southern College, University of Alabama and Tuskegee Institute.

Mississippi—Mississippi State College.

Bibb Selective Service Sends 141 Negro Men

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
June 4, 1943

Names of 141 Bibb county Negroes, who reported this week at Fort Benning for induction ineo the Army, were released yesterday bl local boards 1 and 2 of the selective service system. The list includes 92 from board 1 and 49 from board 2.

From Board 1: J. C. Vickers, Hezzie Green, Dennie Holt, J. L. Brisley, Eugene Evans, Willie, McKinney, Fred James Canady, Andrew Lee Burney, Willie Bob Mitchell, Willie Albert Cofer, Eugene Clark, Jack Cicero, Joseph Theodore Stokes, Ernest McGruder, Robert Cecil Powell, Herbert Grier, Green Wilder, Frank Randall, Jessie Mims, James Walk, Oscar Booker, Arthur Cats, Alex Howard, John Wesley Woodson, Rawlings Carswell, Eddie Jackson, Pelmon Harris.

Eddie Hill, William Walker, Gus Penn Jr., Arthur Edge, Cornelius David Henry, T. J. Causey, Henderson Crutchen, Joseph Ciaro Thomas, Wilson Beckham, Eugene Casgile, Leonard Morgan, Robert Lee Morris, Jessie Charlie Williams, Jessie Hatcher, Dorseltia Bryant, Willie Ross, Walter Andrews Jr., M. C. Collier, Albert Jones Rhiner, Joseph White, Robert Basley, Phenix Smith, Alonzo W. Odum, J. C. Johnson, Bonner Dallas Murry, George Thomas, Collie Woodson, Orrin Gabriel Bonner, Ruby Johnson Burney, George Burns Johnson, Willie Tyler, Arnedy Dukes, James Hopkins, Harry Lee Davis, Mads Nelson, Azariah Chambliss, Bill Watters, Willie Walter Thomas, Charlie Lee Hillmon, Joe Frank Bell, Rudolph Spencer, Robert Hicks, Chester Arthur Wheeler, Morris Haygood, Herman Rozier, John Westley Hollingshed.

Willie Peyton Reynolds, Ray James Conoway, Cornelius Williams, Emmett Wesley Williams Jr., William Leonard Adams Jr., James Davis Jr., Brooks Brown, Thomas Adosijah Shipman, Tommy Lee Edwards, George Jackson, Horace Elder, Cleveland White, Lewis Linder, Helrose Brooks, Otis Lee Harrell, James Jack Orr Jr., Lewis Herman Howard, Ananies Meadows, and Early Mays.

From Board 2: T. C. Sims, Robert Goodman, Johnnie Lee Hall, Sing Lee Gladdin, Carroll Everett May, John Henry Turk, Paul Felts, Lee Harper, Cornelius Johnson, Top Ernest Pitts, Alex James, Alfred Dewitt Green, Henry Stubbs Jr., Willie Howard, Will Davis, Robert Lee Sutton, Willis O'Neal, Willie C. Ingram, Quillie Gigger, David Otis Pitts, Willie Howard, Solomon Wilburn, Stephen Lawson Jr., Freddie Renfroe, Leon Lockett, Roy Jackson Scott, Ned Ed Buckles, James Benn, Marion Green Johnson, Richard Williams, Noah Grimes, Robert Irving Jewell, Jonnie Lee Glover, John Barion Standifer, Adolphus Rhines, Wilma Parker, Richard Gerald Lain, Atis Clay Lawson, James David Ford, Willie Leonard Willims.

Sidney Reginald Irving Jr., Ulysses Adkins Jr., Willie Robert Dixon, Sims Green Jr., Freddie Grier, Robert Lee Burden, Roland Basil Colbert, Willie Davis, and Charlie James Rhodes.

Army To Get 125,000 Dads In Alabama

Selective Service Head Says Call For Fathers Will Begin In August

—v—

Montgomery, Ala. — Approximately 125,000 fathers in Alabama face military service, according to unofficial calculations, and **their drafting, Adj. Gen. Ben** Smith, state director of Selective Service, said Tuesday, will begin in August.

Actual breakdown of classifications by various state draft headquarters is not authorized by Washington.

However, since Alabama's averages in the past have followed closely the national scale, "round figure" comparisons on a population basis of the new draft classifications for Alabama show:

210,000 men in the 18-37 age classification of whom 14 of 16 of the physically fit Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt **predicted would be in uniform by the end of the year.**

185,000 married men of 18 through 37.

125,000 of these are fathers.

Between 1600 and 2000 reach their 18th birthday monthly and from this group replacements will be drawn.

General Smith said fathers, as defined by new Selective Service regulations, are those whose child was not born later than June of last year.

An estimated 140,000 are now in 3-A in the state, but reclassification will shift many of these.

General Smith declared that contrary to a generally accepted opinion, Negroes are being called up for induction in Alabama on a population ratio; about 35 Negroes to every 65 whites.

He admitted, however, that a greater number of Negroes are rejected for physical disability—principally syphillis—so that actually a greater ration of whites are going into military service.

An opinion has persisted in Alabama that Negroes were being inducted on a national population average basis, rather than on a state basis.

General Smith said the "OVC" had been abolished. This was a former branch of service—Officers Volunteer Corps — where those of 3-A classification could take an officer's course. Should they fail in examinations, they could, upon application, return to civilian life. With induction of 3-A's imminent, the special class was no longer advisable.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
July 26, 1943

SELECTEES REJECTED.

LOUISVILLE, Ga., July 25.— Out of 43 Negro selectees sent on the July quota from Jefferson county — which was the entire quota for that race—only 12 of them "stuck," the others being rejected. This is a little more than 25 per cent of the Negroes showing up as fit.

ASK PROBE OF BOARD DRAFTING EDITOR

Pittsburgh Courier

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 5—(ANP) —Col. James N. Keelin, Jr., director of Selective Service of Georgia, has been called upon to investigate Albany (Georgia) Draft Board No. 1, which, it is charged, showed prejudice in the Army induction of Editor A. C. Searles, of the Southwest Georgian, an Albany weekly newspaper. The request for investigation came from C. A. Scott, Southern vice president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' association and general manager of the Atlanta Daily World.

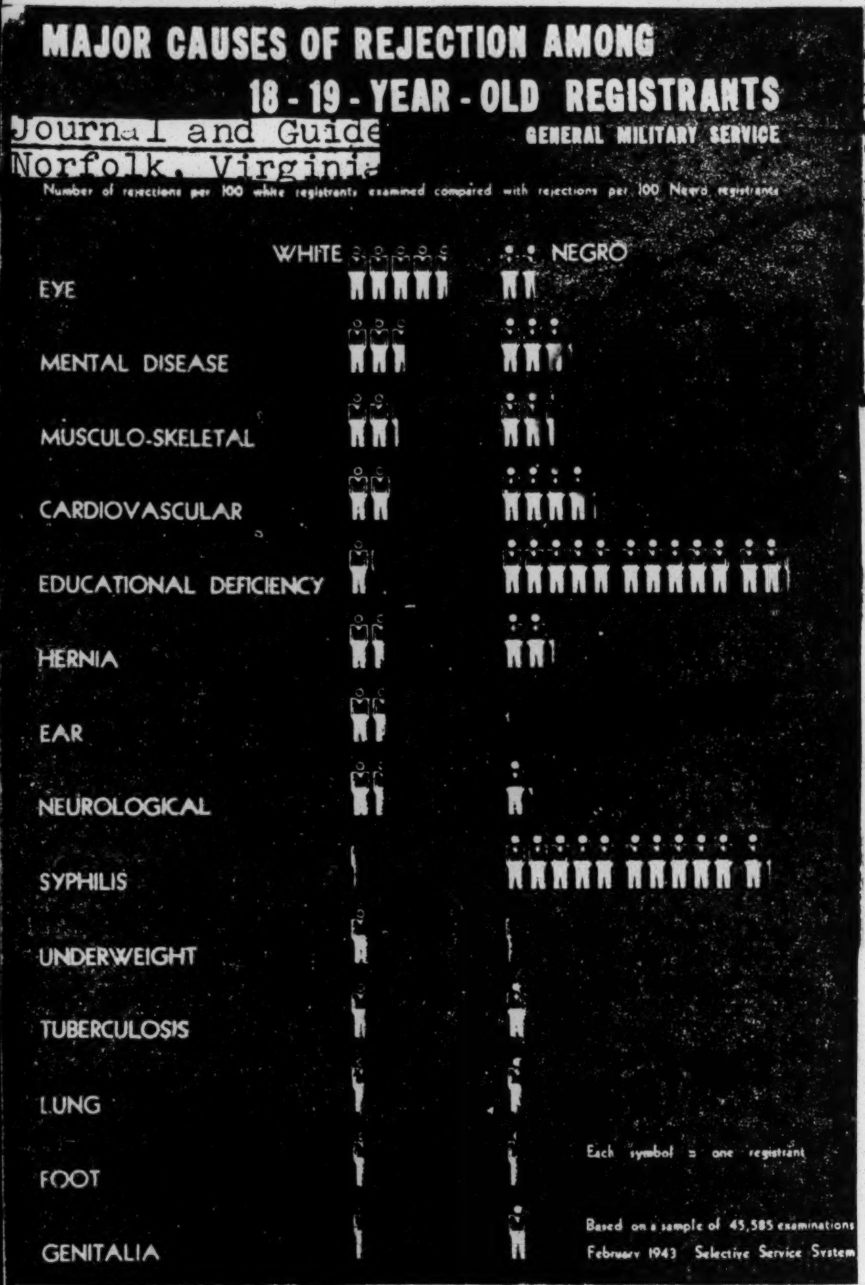
Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
September 15, 1943

158 Negroes Called By Draft Board No. 16

Selective service board No. 16, Mount Pleasant street, has ordered a total of 158 negro men to report for induction into the armed forces. Eighty-three will report tomorrow and the others on Friday

47c-1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

OCT 30 1943

Miss Orieanna Collins

Mrs. Pauline B. Butler

RECRUITING FOR U. S. CADET NURSE CORPS

Miss Orieanna Collins, R. N., and Mrs. Pauline B. Butler, R. N., who are touring Negro colleges as a part of a Nation-wide endeavor to recruit 65,000 new student nurses this year to meet growing war needs. They explain career opportunities open to the college woman by the new U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps. The Corps is under the supervision of the Division of Nurse Education, U. S. Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency. Both nurses are graduates of Harlem Hospital School of Nursing in New York City and have done advanced work in public health nursing.

—U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps Photo from OWI

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

The Watchtower

By Roy Wilkins

AUG 7 1943

THE WAR and the Selective Service system are revealing one of the greatest crimes committed against Negroes in this country: the failure of the states in the South to give them an education which will make them functioning, useful members of society.

Mr. Wilkins

Negroes have always known about these educational disadvantages, but we have been alone in our complaints except for the small minority of whites which recognized the problem. The great mass of white people was ignorant of the extent of unequal schooling.

Now the draft of men for the armed services has brought the facts out to public view. A sub-committee of the Senate Education and Labor Committee has just made a report revealing that 28 men out of every 1,000 have been rejected by Selective Service because they did not have a fourth grade education. Otherwise these men were qualified for military service.

There were no rejections for illiteracy in Wyoming, but Georgia had the highest rate (including both whites and Negroes) of 136.32 per 1,000. This means that 13½ per cent of the men called in Georgia did not have a fourth grade education.

But the Negro rate in Georgia was much worse, 256.29 per 1,000. This means that more than one-fourth the Negroes called up were rejected.

For us it has the ominous meaning that one-fourth of our men in Georgia between the ages of 18 and 38 do not have as much as a fourth grade education. How can they take their place in society as useful citizens?

A Sad Plight

This means they cannot get good jobs. They cannot earn much money. They cannot buy decent homes. They cannot afford to rear their own children properly. They cannot get a decent education for their own children. And so it goes in a vicious circle.

Southern white peopel, closing their eyes to the records made by Negroes in [illegible] where education is available, [illegible] Negroes cannot learn and therefore must be kept in an inferior status. First they deprive us of a chance to learn and then use the ignorance they have created as a reason for depriving us of citizenship rights.

In passing, also, we must pay our respects to that old lie of southern white people that "white people pay the taxes so Negroes should be glad to get any schooling they can." This is not true. Everyone who works and spends pays taxes. The poor Negro sharecropper may not own any land or any taxable personal property, but he pays taxes in the goods he creates with his labor for the plantation boss. No one except a Main Street economist from Waycross, Ga., or some similar place in Dixie would voice such nonsense, but it only demonstrates once more the bankruptcy in brains and morals (in the broad sense) of a good part of the white South.

A Foolish Fear

The South, of course, fears the Negro. It is afraid to let him get an education, so it says over and over again that he cannot learn—and it proves it by depriving him of even a fourth grade education.

There are a few signs, here and there, that some white southerners are being recruited—by the war—to the cause of better education for the Negro. They are moving in sheer self-defense, for they see groups of Negro men being left at home while their sons are being called to fight, and perhaps to die. It is a great pity that this should be the motivation, but anything that helps the Negro to more education is welcome, and will benefit both whites and Negroes in the long pull ahead.

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
December 10, 1943

Most Guilty

Having disposed of nine negroes found guilty of refusing to obey Selective Service summons for physical examination, a Federal court jury at Jackson finally got around to the most guilty of the group, a minister who had so ill-advised the members of his flock, and convicted him of violating the Selective Service Act, too.

His offense lay in the bad advice he gave the others and his admonition to them not to have anything to do with war. In fact, he admitted that one of his congregation who had "taken up" with war lost his membership. In the cases of the nine errant members who will spend the next three years in prison instead of doing something helpful for their country, the Government was willing to concede their status as conscientious objectors, but rightfully refused to recognize existence of any right to interpret the law for themselves.

Very wisely, too, it hit at the real source of obstructionism by getting the man who preached it. Of the 10 sinners his was the greatest sin. Having been so zealous a shepherd it is only meet and proper that he should not be separated from his flock and that all should lie down together in the same pen.

There's an obvious moral in this incident for all who think that personal philosophies transcend the law of the land in war or any other time.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan

DEC 17 1943

Pvt. Swigler, Drafted Editor, In Public Relations Branch

Fort Benning, Ga., Dec. 17. (ANP).—Pvt. Lewis O. Swingler, managing editor (on leave) of the Memphis World, and one of the few Negroes of the country holding a journalism certificate this week was assigned to the public relations office, Fort Benning, Maj. R. J. Hammergren, director, announced.

Attached to the special service office, Fort Benning's Reception center, Pvt. Swingler is expected to cover the many news sources of the reception center relating to the Negro service men as they get their first taste of military life.

Graduating from Nebraska university in 1931, Swingler was awarded the A. B. degree and journalism certificate. He came to Memphis a month later to take over the editorial department of the then two-week-old Memphis World and over a period of 12 years helped to build this publication into one of the best known Negro papers of the country. The Memphis World now has a circulation [illegible] extends to readers of

North Mississippi ,East Arkansas, and scores of out-of1state communities of West Tennessee. A member of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate, it is the only Negro semi-weekly in the midsouth.

Fort Bennings new public relations man also served as editor-in-chief of the Sphinx, official organ of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, for a period of eight years. He was still head of this nationally circulated magazine at the time he reported for service last month.

DEC 17 1943

Omega Psi Phi fraternity, another national Negro Greek letter society, awarded the Omega trophy to Swingler for his outstanding contribution in the newspaper field in 1938. This award is presented annually to non-members of the fraternity for achievements in special fields of useful endeavors.

DEC 17 1943

Pvt. Swingler, in 1939, was invited by LeMoyne college, Memphis, to set up a course in journalism, which he taught for three years thereafter. It is one of the few Negro colleges to introduce journalism into its curriculum. Many of Swingler's students have decided upon journalism as a life vocation.

WORLD VIEW

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By JOHN ROBERT BADGER

OCT 9 1943

Jim Crow In The Armed Forces

SOREST POINT in the domestic situation for Negro-Americans is the way we have to fight in order to fight. This fact was demonstrated at the recent race relations conference at Hunter college in New York City.

Called to formulate a program to prevent repetition of the outbreak which recently raged in Harlem, the conference brought together people of many occupations and social strata. Significantly, the discussion on Jim Crow in the armed forces formed one of the largest panels.

A correct orientation was given the discussion at the outset. Several speakers emphasized the necessity of viewing the whole problem in its international context. That is to say, the tendency to regard the question as the government versus the Negro was disavowed, and the discussion regarded the problem as essentially a problem of United States military efficiency in the war to destroy Hitlerism.

The advantage of this orientation is evident. It places all champions of Jim Crow in the armed services in the category not simply of enemies of the Negro people, but of enemies of the nation as well.

That this orientation was accepted at the beginning of the discussion is a tribute to the clarity with which Negro leadership has learned to cope with the problems of the struggle for first-class citizenship.

Proposals And Comment

OTHER IMPLICATIONS of this orientation will become increasingly important as the war continues, but first it is worthwhile to comment on some of the proposals by the delegates.

One proposal on which agreement seemed immediate was for adoption of the principle of mixed divisions by the Army. This is not a new proposal. But it retains all the force of an innovation, principally in view of the support given it by the experience of Negro troops in the field. Though no unit of Negroes, with exception of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, has seen combat service to date, the experience and training of Negroes in action close to the firing lines and in the auxiliary services is a strong argument for abrogating the principle of segregation.

OCT 9 1943

The responsibility for making this change was shown to rest squarely with the War Department. One speaker cited a recent Oklahoma case in which the authority of the army was sustained in a test with local customs. An officers' club was upheld in its right to serve liquor in a territory which state law decreed should be dry.

The point established by this ruling was deemed applicable not only to the central question of segregation within the armed forces, but also to all situations in which local authorities are permitted to violate the rights of any person in the uniform of the United States. At this point, another proposal demanded that Attorney General Francis Biddle exercise his authority and fulfill his duty by prosecuting all local officials and individuals charged with violating the rights of Negro servicemen.

OCT 9 1943

Other proposals included: (1) a move to censure Navy Secretary Frank Knox for his reiteration of the principle of segregation for the WAVES; (2) a demand that the armed services begin a systematic campaign for education on the problems of race relations; (3) a call for an intensive pressure campaign on the War and Navy Departments immediately, since, according to several informed speakers, the opportunity for achieving some success by pressure is especially favorable now.

Other Implications

THE TIME FACTOR acquires special significance in view of the recent Quebec conference and its decisions regarding the war against Japan. From all available information, the fulfillment of these decisions is under way and a mighty Allied blow at Burma is in the making. Your columnist has also learned that the bulk of Negro troops in this country may be used in the Pacific theater—another factor complicating the situation.

It is a commonplace that issues and forces in the Pacific theater have projected the problems of racial relations to the fore. Japan's main ideolagical weapon is the race-war doctrine, by which she hopes to enlist native peoples into a crusade against the so-called "white" nations.

In view of this Nipponese strategy, it is entirely understandable why United States strategists should wish to use Negro troops for the re-conquest of Asiatic lands and peoples. But if this may deceive the natives, unless it is accompanied by the democratization of the armed forces, it will not deceive the Negro troops. Therein lies a danger which must be faced and removed. Uncle Sam must imperatively look to the morale of his Negro troops, lest they be unable to fulfill their high mission in Asia, and squander their lives in vain.

OCT 9 1943

More than that, our victory in the Pacific will be soon or late, cheap or precious, in accordance with the way we deal with the problem of race.

4

47c-1943

WAR TRAINING BLANKS FOR NEGROES READY

Newport [illegible] Press
March 29, 1943

Application blanks for the qualifying tests to be given Firday for the army specialized training program, for Negro youths, are now available and may be had by application to the dean's office at Virginia Union university, Richmond according to announcement yesterday by Dean Thomas H. Henderson.

Properly filled out, these applications will admit qualified high school seniors or recent graduates to the tests. Each applicant may indicate on his blank whether he prefers the army or the navy, which includes the marine corps and coast guard.

From those who successfully complete the tests candidates for the army specialized training program will be selected to attend colleges under contract to the respective services. Students selected for the army program must undergo further screening during 13 weeks of basic military training before they are finally qualified for college attendance.

Students chosen for the navy program, after selection by the office of naval procurement, will be detailed directly to college. Students who attend college under either of the programs will be under military discipline on active duty in uniform with pay. All expenses, including tuition, food, housing, books and uniforms, will be paid by the army and navy.

C. W. Florence, professor of education, and Dr. Arthur P. Davis professor of English at the university, will serve as supervisors for the qualifying examinations. Since Virginia Union university will be the only place designated for Negro youths, those who are interested must obtain applications at once.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Continue Fight On Draft Quota

NEW YORK — (ANP) — A decision to challenge further the constitutionality of draft quotas based on color by appealing from the refusal of the Brooklyn Federal Court this month to grant a writ of habeas corpus to Winfred Lynn, Negro draftee of New York City, was announced by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The court's denial of the writ was based on the contention that Lynn had suffered no damage because of color in being called as one in a group of 50 Negroes requested of his draft board by the Army last September, rather than in numerical order.

PLAINTIFF'S CONTENTION

In answer, Arthur Garfield Hays, A. C. L. U., council representing Lynn, charges that "since the theory of the government is that to serve is a privilege, it is definitely discriminatory to choose men out of turn when such selection depends in part upon the color of the inductee." Hays cited the provision of the Selective Service act that "in the selection and training of men for service there shall be no discrimination on account of race or color." 2-13-43

47c

Lynn's appeal to the federal court will be the third court contest of his induction on ground of discrimination. Shortly after his board first called him, he sought a writ in the Brooklyn federal court which the judge denied, holding that an induction order cannot be challenged until the draftee has submitted to it.

Following the court's decision, Lynn then offered himself for induction and sought release from the Army on another writ. Denial of this second writ on the ground of "no damage" is the basis for the union's scheduled appeal.

Officer Studies Rejections In Negro Draft

Columbus. Ga., Enquirer-

Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of selective service, national headquarters, Washington, was a visitor to Fort Benning this week on a tour of colored reception and induction centers in the southeast.

Of special interest to Colonel Johnson is the high rate of rejections among colored youths in this section because of failure to meet minimum intelligence standards. September 9, 1943

Studying the situation from all angles, Colonel Johnson is trying to determine the cause of this shortcoming, whether due to lack of opportunity, lack of application or whether the standards set are too high to reach the mental developments of colored youths of a corresponding age to white. Colonel Johnson hopes to find the reason and work toward correction.

His visit to the special training regiments at the reception center were gratifying in that he could see positive results in the training program, he declared.

A native of Washington, D. C., and the son of a minister, Colonel Johnson is a graduate of Howard College, Washington, and practiced law in the District and also in North Carolina before being called to active duty in 1940.

Colonel Johnson served in World War I as a captain in the field artillerq.

Before returning to Washington he will visit Camp Bragg, N. C.; Fort Jackson, S. C.; New Orleans, La.; LaFayette, La., and Camp Shelby ,Miss.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

108 Men Report Tomorrow

JUN 18 1943

Thirty-one Washingtonians, inducted into the naval forces June 12, and Arnold M. Deerfield, inducted into the Army June 5, will report for active duty tomorrow.

To the Navy go:

Paul A. Jackson, jr., Arthur F. Winterfeldt, George E. Downey, Frank L. Strachan, Wallace B. Swetland, Richard D. Jackson, Covie S. McPeak, William R. Layner, James R. Mizell, Norman C. Sweeney, jr., Vincent D. Manni, George L. Biggs, James K. Crockett, Bernard C. Goodwin, Kenneth R. Deane, Benjamin L. Steerman, Edward C. Kelly, Nathan G. Weiss, Eldred M. Johnson, George V. Schaeffer, Glenn C. Satterfield, Vernon P. Robey, Henry R. Fisher, William J. Campbell, Frederick Baxter, William Swann, Manuel S. Keyser and Garth L. Divelbiss.

To the Marine Corps go:

Robert L. Beaton, Paul M. Deaner and Francis B. Raffo.

Seventy-six Washington Negroes, inducted into the Army June 5, will also report for active duty tomorrow. They are:

William F. Magruder, Lawrence E. Day, Lindsey C. Murray, Carlisle F. Cherry, Joseph L. Owens, Howard R. Foster, Jesse B. Chase, William A. Barnes, Franklin T. Hill, Louis M. Briscoe, James A. Hawkins, Nathaniel L. Tonkins, Lee Eaddy, Doras L. Hoyle, Porter M. Petaway, Clarence Young, Samuel G. Durham, Gordon L. Davis, Nathaniel Jones, Thornton L. Giles, Edward McCauley, Samuel R. Fortune, Elmer J. Herndon, Alexander Hawkins, Moses A. Brown, James O. Hunter, Bernard L. London, Frank W. Robinson.

Joseph J. Hamilton, Melvin Newman, James Posey, John H. James, Moses Beckham, Luther Harriss, Levi M. Jenkins, Charles J. Stroman, Ernest Hall, jr., Daniel Haggins, Walter J. Segers, Filbert H. Rowley, jr., Orris Toney, Cuthbert M. Patrick, Earl N. Ward, Arthur S. Sharpe, Edward L. Williams, Katto Wright, jr., Earl Simms, Everett C. King, Grover Coleman, John B. Brooks, Henry O. Campbell, Charles G. Warner, Floyd Rogers, George V. Brown, Richard A. Wheaton, Leslie J. Williams.

David G. Smith, Walter E. Williams, Louis J. Street, Harold M. Brooks, Robert L. Collins, Lorenzo H. Powell, Edward P. Medley, James Agurs, Howard Smith, Henry H. Carmon, James Lewis, James L. White, Thomas C. Jenkins, Levi G. Williams, James C. Washington, Allen G. Gibson, Sylvester B. Whiting, Thomas L. Gray, Albert O. Davis and John E. Briscoe.

JUN 18 1943

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

65 Army, 25 Navy

90 Negroes From D. C. Join Colors

JUL 7 1943

Sixty-five Washington Negroes, inducted into the Army June 24, will report for active duty tomorrow. At the same time, 25 Negro men will report for service with the Navy.

To the Army go:

JUL 7 1943

Samuel L. Rue, Lafayette Ballard, John D. Jones, Lawrence B. Lanier, Joseph D. Sindab, Lorenzo M. Forbes, jr., Andrew S. Goffney, Clifton Hall, James Greene, Charles Coleman, Melvin H. Hatton, Robert F. Twitty, John C. Martin, Wilbert C. Jones, Johnnie A. Hunter, Herman Pearsall, Markley G. Hendricks, Lucius McKoy, Willie E. Cannon, Leroy Harvey, Francis X. Fauntleroy, Albert H. Mills, James Lee.

George Farmer, Joseph Saunders, George W. Caldwell, William H. Hatcher, jr., Thomas M. Murphy, James H. Johnson, Robert H. Roberts, Albert Upshur, Joseph T. Taylor, Duvall A. Tyler, George Precia, Richard D. Kennedy, Edward White, Gene E. George, Lathan W. Stringfellow, Richard W. Poole, James Bailey, William D. Quander, William J. Saunders., Wardell C. Rich, Charles H. Morris.

Claude Tolliver, Nathaniel D. Lewis, Blayton P. Taylor, Harry E. Gough, Rufino R. Garrido, Oliver W. R. Jackson, Carl N. Henson, David Jones, Frederick W. Barnes, Walter Spriggs, Plato T. Jones, Henry A. Harris, Andrew J. Jefferson, Clifton B. Smith, George W. Fuller, jr., James W. Caldwell, William H. B. Budd, John B. Taylor, Paul E. Banks, Wilbert W. Baylor, John D. Kelly.

The following Negroes, inducted into the naval forces July 1, will report for active duty on Thursday, July 8.

JUL 7 1943

To the Navy go:

Leroy R. Gravette, Linwood Brooks, Willie A. Lovett, Charlie F. Watson, Joseph C. Panell, Robert C. Minor, John C. Burnhart, Leslie James, George B. Reid, Byron A. Waters, Eddie L. Washington, Leroy P. Stewart, James O. Ferguson, Demosthenes McDow, Howard Woods, David Rose, Claude L. Hines, Warner G. Walker, Albert A. Jackson, Arthur A. Jackson, Arthur King, jr., Joseph A. Scott.

To the Marine Corps go:

Oliver A. Barnes, John B. Limpkin, Thomas F. Spears, jr., Roger I. Thomas.

Robert V. Herbst also will report to the Army tomorrow.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

99 Inductees To Report Here Tomorrow

Ninety-nine inductees from Washington will report for training tomorrow. Thirty-seven will serve in the Navy and Marine Corps while 62 will train for the Army.

JUN 1943

Those reporting for the Navy and Marine Corps are:

Navy (white):

Kenneth J. Bowie, Merritt, C. Cordon, John N. Layman, jr., Bernard C. Tierney, Vaughan A. Morrison, Alfred L. Leftwich, Joseph L. Toland, William H. Lanahan, Clyde E. Arpette, Ricie E. Duggin, Elmer T. Patton, Charles A. DeBaecke, Irving Budman, Charles P. McIntosh, jr., Keith Sutphin, Francis E. Walker, Louis J. Gabriel, William H. McDonald, Joseph P. Graziano, John J. Riordan, Russell O. Leigh, jr., Darrell J. Gass, Edward Rysdyk, Frank A. Constantino, Lawrence R. Matthews, Albert L. Powell, jr., Elmer F. Wolfrey, Louis O. LaJoise, Robert S. Thrift, George L. Booze, John E. Tafer, Arthur G. Anderson, Harrison M. Danielson, Charles F. Rotchford.

Navy (colored):

Wilbur Clifton Wallace.

Marine Corps (White):

Mills E. Bell, Raynard E. White, jr.

Those reporting for Army duty are:

Army (white):

John J. Wilson, jr., Frank E. Winingder, Chester F. Surba, Wilford G. King, Walter L. McCabe, Floyd M. Drury, Carl M. Hudson, Joseph W. Otutt, Richard A. Belfield, jr., Charles N. Chase, William E. Goodrick, James E. Gordon, William L. Arrington, John B. Croft, Wesley W. Jones, Albert A. Cohen, Milford M. McGuire, Thomas E. Hill, Francis X. Gooding, Charles F. Pentz, Joseph S. Keegan, William M. Burdette, jr., Ira H. Hansen, Thomas E. Collins, Solly Fort, Albert D. McCoy, Edward F. Fallon, Alec Cramer, Aubrey E. Shoemaker, John M. Williams, Charles D. Gersten, Josiah S. Pender, Joseph Brettschneider, Alfred J. Hobbs, Claude H. Keyes, Russell A. Biggs, Russell T. Nichols, Harry J. Macon, Edgar L. Baysinger, John Chevalier, jr., George H. Sedgley, Robert C. Sagliano, Francis J. McGrath, John C. Gavin, Richard A. Schlademan, David W. Gregory, John H. Earle, Robert O. Kinsey, Leon Goldberg, Guy R. Williams, Oliver N. Tucker, jr., Weston C. Jackson, Charles W. Miller, Crafton H. Jenkins, Daniel J. King, Felix B. Bustle, Leighton W. McFarland.

JUN 1943

Army (colored):

Isiah B. Williams, George E. Barnes, Earl T. Payne, Judson Malone, Charles H. Jackson.

Washington Post
Washington,

99 Inductees to Report

JUN 1943

Twenty-five Washingtonians, inducted into the naval forces June 14, and Edgar M. Hickman, inducted on the same day into the Army, will report for active duty Monday, the District Selective Service headquarters announced yesterday.

To the Navy go:

Stanford L. Chilcoat, Francis W. Miller, Anthony A. Tassa, Albert D. Schmutzer, Robert E. Flood, John G. Bing, David H. Hardester, Jesse L. Ward, Martin Slafkes, Harold G. Kreamer, Herman D. Chesivoir, Roy H. Barbee, Richard L. Charles, Estes C. Winebarger, Albert Feldman.

George W. Maske, Gray M. Nottingham, Earl W. Faircloth, George H. Kelley, Howard M. Wipf, Morton Beroza, Lloyd P. Coblentz, Bert R. Day.

To the Marine Corps go:

James G. Birney, Walter N. Jacobus.

Seventy-three District Negroes, inducted into the Army June 7, also will report for active duty Monday. They are:

alter R. Ingram, Ossie A. Freeman, nas J. Johnson, Edward A. Williams, us C. Wilson, Fred B. Smith, Benjamin Dixon, Leroy Chapman, Walter Drew, nry W. Bolden, William Miles, Elmer E. pencer.

Theadore T. Little, David Jefferson, Utah Windon, Walter E. Grigsby, Victor E. Travers, John T. Ballinger, Russell K. Butler, Charles B. Sears, William J. Addison, George W. Brown, Marvin T. Coley, Henry Williams, Highland Warner, William S. Simmons, jr., Charlie T. Fuller.

Mack D. Hamilton, Leonard T. Williams, Clark J. Smith, John A. Mosby, Oscar M. Granger, Albert S. Woods, George L. Ausbrooks, Paul A. Corbin, Howard O. Jackson, muel W. Anderson, Atlee Prince, L

C. Day, Johnny Kendell, Rudolph Payne, Arley A. Sanford.

Ellsworth May, Kermit W. Hawkins, Pernell Amaker, George T. Jordon, James R.

Downes, Robert B. Walker, Raymond A. Harrison, Alpheus A. Carroll, Joseph B. McCormick, James King, Howard A. Payne, William R. Foreman.

Douglass L. Miller, Paul A. Blackwell, Charles L. Timbers, Carrington C. Tolliver, Albert S. Richardson, James W. Brown, Asahel C. Abrams, McCoy M. Gibson, jr., Andrew Jackson, ethel D. Wiley, jr., John T. Hunter, Harold H. Sims, Joseph N. Swann, George B. Brooks.

Joseph M. Black, Arthur L. Dunican, Robert Jones, Leonard A. Scott, Oliver W. Dandridge.

Retaliation Against The Pen

JUN 23 1943

A. C. Searles, editor and publisher of The Southwest Georgian, is in the army now. Editor Searles feels very strongly that the exposure by his newspaper of the midnight abduction and lynching in January of Robert (Bobby) Hall at Newton, Georgia, had much to do with his induction.

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

47c

One thing is true, the circumstances surrounding his case, the speed with which he was assigned reclassification following the exposure, together with the complete ignoring of an Occupational Deferment status to which he undoubtedly was entitled, lend strength to his contentions.

Now is is possible the lynching report published in the Southwest Georgian had no bearing on the fact that Editor Searles is now in the Army. But the facts at hand indicate otherwise. If this story had no influence on the editor's induction, why did Draft Board Number One at Albany on February 8, exactly two days after the appearance of the lynching story, notify Searles to report for a physical examination? And Searles charges that he was never permitted to appear before the Local Board nor send his case to the Appeal Board.

Editor Searles' case emphasizes more perhaps than any previous occurrence of the necessity of Negroes being on the Local Draft Boards. We have contended in these columns several times previously that as a protection against the misuse of the draft power we must have representation on the boards. In other sections and even two other southern states we have a voice in the operation of the Selective Service law.

JUN 23 1943

We believe that his draft board might have with profit, measured the worth and merit of such a useful man on the homefront over against what he might mean on the battle front.

He is needed to help build and strengthen morale on the home front with his newspaper. Moreover, the Negro Newspaper Publishers, meeting last week in Louisville, Ky., not only went on record as opposing the manner and method of discrimination in Searles' case but pledged in addition to conduct an investigation with recommendations to the War Department. We believe there is strong merit in Searles' contentions.

Draftee Won't Enter J.C. Line

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

47c

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Determination not to enter a jim-crow line at the army induction center here was expressed last week in a letter to his draft board by Alfred A. Duckett, feature writer and special correspondent for the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

JUN 12 1943

Duckett, whose induction was scheduled for June 7, referred to the reported practice of placing colored draftees in separate lines from the whites and making them wait until all the latter were disposed of.

"I am willing to fight and give my life for the preservation of the democratic ideals on which this nation was founded," he told the chairman of Draft Board No. 15

Demands Fruits of Democracy

"I am unwilling to subject myself to a system of segregation and discrimination at the very beginning of my army career and in a city which is supposed to observe the standards of democratic rights."

Commenting on the likelihood of his being sent to a southern camp where racial abuses are common, Duckett continued:

JUN 12 1943

"I intend then and now to get every iota of the democratic rights that it is possible for me to get. I do not propose to offer my life in defense of democracy abroad and not realize its fruits at home.

"If it is treason to defend, by word and deed, the things we are supposed to be defending with our lives, and then make the most of it."

Negro Rejectments

Winnsboro, S. C. News & Herald

47c

Senator Maybank is right, the high rejection of Negroes eligible for military service is a serious matter, much more serious than appears on the surface. Illiteracy is the main cause.

The senator is quoted as saying that the rejections are about 50 per cent of the eligibles among the Negroes. This is frightful. It means that if 50 per cent of the Negro eligibles are unfit for any form of military service they are largely unfit for most civil life. This means a dead load of paralyzed limbs for the body politic to carry. It is a fearful load. And no State can hope to be happy and prosperous and carry such a load. The low value, and inefficiency of ignorant labor, and the cost of supervision are great.

August 5, 1943

Not only this but there is injustice in taking married white men to fill the places made vacant by these ignorant Negroes. And this must be done to make up the State's quota.

We believe Senator Maybank's protest to Major General Hershey, director of Selective Service, is justified. We can but believe that the military authorities have been too exacting. Some place, it seems, could be found for many of these rejections. They, when so used, would save the lives of many married white men, and themselves would be fitted for better lives of usefulness when the war is over.

Who is responsible for such a condition? The Society for the Advancement of Colored People says that it is because the State has not supplied the educational facilities for these Negroes. There is some weight to this. It has been a serious omission on the part of the State, and it seems, if married white men are to supply the vacancies, right dearly is the State to pay for it. It is an omission that should be corrected, and full justice should be done the Negro race in education.

But that is not the whole trouble. There is need for self examination on the part of the Negro race itself. If there had been proper ambition many of the illiterates could have secured education despite the handicaps. Self-help must be instilled before any race or people may hope to find a place in the sun.

As the charming Madam Chiang, supported by Holy Writ, said to President Roosevelt, "God helps those who help themselves."

There are serious lessons for both whites and Negroes to learn from this condition.

There are enough educated Negroes in South Carolina to drive illiteracy out of their race by determined, cooperative effort. Those eligible Negroes for military draft, with intensive training, may be moved out of the illiterate class, by members of their own race, if there is determined effort to do so. It is up to the educated Negroes to prove their worth.

There is no better place to start than in Fairfield. Let the educated Negroes of Fairfield set an example to the world. Le them get to work and drive out illiteracy.

Race pride should prompt such action. And such action will warrant race pride.

• EDITORIAL COMMENT

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
September 15, 1943

A BAD SHOWING

(Greenwood Index-Journal)

47c

Forty-one per cent of all Negroes in South Carolina examined for induction into the armed forces have been rejected.

Thirty-one per cent of all whites in South Carolina examined for induction into the armed forces have been rejected.

Both percentages are the highest in the United States, a report from Washington says.

If there is anything in that showing to shout about we fail to get it.

Negro Fathers Will Leave This Month

Talladega, Ala., Mountain Home
October [illegible] 1943

47c

A group of Negro pre-Pearl Harbor fathers will leave from Talladega the later part of the month, Otis R. Burton, head of the local draft board, said Wednesday.

He said it was necessary to call the Negroes because of the large Negro quota set for October.

White fathers probably will be included in the November call, Mr. Burton said.

Clayton, Ala., Record
October 15, 1943

COLORED SELECTEES LEAVE FOR EXAMINATION AT FT. BENNING

Wednesday, October 13, a number of selectees left Clayton for Ft. Benning, Ga., for examination. One, who had already been examined, was sent for induction.

Those leaving for examination were:

William Dace, Clayton.
James Lee Lynn, Route 2 Louisville.
C. L. McInnis, Route 2, Louisville.
Bennie Walter Gordon, Clayton.
Warren Douglas Daniels, Rt 1, Comer.
Laimon Jackson, Route 2 Clayton.
Jaree Pugh, Route 3, Louisville.
Eddie Martin, Clayton.
Walter Nobles, Louisville.

For Induction into Army:
Braxton B. Anderson, Mt Andrew.

47c-1943

Argus

St. Louis. Missouri

About 400,000 Negroes Have Been Inducted Into Service; 38.4 of La. Selectees

JAN 1 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 —Negroes are being inducted into the Army through Selective Service in the same proportion that Negro registrants bear to total registration, and Negro soldiers are now on duty in most of the overseas theatres where other American troops are stationed, the Office War Information announced today.

JAN 1 - 1943

The OWI cited official records of the Bureau of Selective Service, War Manpower Commision, which reveal the following facts about Negroes in the armed services.

(1) Although Negroes constituted 9.8 percent of the total population in the last census, Negro selectees and volunteers constituted 10.1 percent of all persons inducted into the Army through Selective Service by October 31, 1942 which would mean about 400,000.

(2) In 9 out of 14 southern and border states, the percentage of Negroes inducted into the Army through Selective Service exceeded the percentage of Negroes registered in those states.

(3) During the 1940-41 period Negroes constituted 16.1 percent of the total number of volunteers entering the Army through the Selective Service System.

OWI pointed out that there are Negro units in Great Britian, Ireland, North and West Africa (including Liberia), Australia, New Guinea, Hawaii, Alaska and the West Indies.

Rumors that Negroes were not being inducted into the Army in comparable percentages have been circulated in various sections of the country, OWI declared.

Bureau of Selective Service statistic reveal that in southern states on Oct. 31, 1942, Negroes constituted 38.4 of all Selective Service inductions in Louiasana; 34.5 percent of all similar inductions in Florida, 34, percent in Alabama, 27.8 percent in North Carolina, 27.2 percent in Virginia 9.4 percent in Texas, 19.1 in Maryland, 9.1 percent in Kentucky ad 7.2 percent in West Virginia. In each of these states the percentage of Negroes inducted exceeded the percentage of Negroes registered under Selective Service.

JAN 1 - 1943

In four states the percentage of Negro inductions either equalled the percentage of Negro registrations or closely approximated the proportion. Negroes constituted 44.2 percent of all Selective Service inductions in Mississippi, 34.0 percent of all similar inductions in South Carolina, 32.5 percent in Georgia, 21.3 percent in Arkansas, and 18.5 percent in Tennessee.

47c

Daily World

Atlanta. Ga.

Negroes In Armed ForcesEstimated At 530,000

Great Drain On Manpower Is Being Felt First Time By Race

By AL WHITE

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The terrific drain on the manpower of the nation necessary to supply the needs of the three great movements now afoot will soon bring about changes in the manner of handling the situation. Everyone knows it is absolutely mandatory that the military and armed forces are supplied with manpower; they know it is equally obligatory to staff factories to keep the armed forces rolling; they know it is a positive fact that the great agricultural needs for manpower must also be met. Therefore the serious problem. With the manpower resources dwindling, it is well to consider the situation as far as the Negro is concerned.

47c

Looking back Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, aide to Brig. Gen. Lewis Hersey in the selective service system, recently stated that the percentage of Negroes in the armed forces had reached the objective of 10.6 per cent. Taking figures from a press conference held by Sec. of War Stimson, in which it was said there were now 5,600,000 men in the armed forces, this gives the Negro approximately 530,000 men in service.

QUOTAS MAY RULE

JAN 24 1943

Under the new plans for manpower which eliminated voluntary enlistments from the navy and marine corps, placing their needs under the Manpower commission it is highly probable that the same rules will be applied to these two branches of the service, that is the percentage quota. Through such an arrangement, the two branches would profit greatly. The type of recruit they would get would be far above those they have accepted from the Negro race in the past.

No definite plan has been worked out on this score as yet but it is giving the naval and marine authorities plenty to think about.

In the industrial field, most of the men are being replaced in certain types of factory work by women. In some plants, women do all but the most laborious work. As far as the Negro is concerned the males have almost reached the saturation point as far as being absorbed in industry is concerned. It is with the female Negro workers that difficulties, are now arising.

JAN 24 1943

GAIN IN EMPLOYMENT

Negroes have made great gains in employment in certain industries an outstanding example of which is the aviation field. In 1940, there were only 4,940 persons engaged in this work in the entire United States with no Negroes employed at all, except in menial posts. By 1941, the figure had grown to 360,000, with a mere 250 Negroes working at skilled and semi-skilled tasks. In September, 1942, an estimated 40,000 Negroes were employed in the field, a teriffic increase over 1940. They are said to now represent .3 percent of the total employment in the aircraft industry.

It is pointed out that the greatest employment of Negroes in aircraft industries is on the west coast with Lockheed, Consolidated, Douglas, North American and Vultee showing the way.

Over in the east, where one of the great industrial centers lies, some 1,000 Negroes are employed in aircraft factories, with one employer alone using this number and crying for 600 additional. His chances for getting them apparently are very slender, it is reported.

SOUTH STILL ADAMANT

Negroes have made consistent gain in the ship-building industry with the west coast and the busy yards of the east giving employment to thousands of colored workers. In the south, despite claims that there would be 10,000 jobs opened for Negroes following the Birmingham hearings, little has been accomplished except in the non-defense plants, the heavy industries and in one or two shipsyards. In this section there is little importance attached to the training of Negroes for work in defense plants. In some instances, Negroes have been upgraded and given additional pay in shipyards which are under union domination.

In the midwest, especially in Detroit area, there may be some 2,000 or 3,000 Negroes males unemployed. This is due to their own failure to try to get work. Most of the trouble in Detroit is due to the failure of manufacturers to hire Negro women. Thousands of white women are being hired, but Negroes are being given the go-by. This has led to the ordering of a public hearing by FEPC in this section, with certain companies being cited to the FEPC for failing to adhere to President Roosevelt's non-discriminatory order.

In New England, the work shortage has been partially solved by the sudden influx of Negroes from Harlem, who week-end at home after a full week in the defense plants. It is only in the smaller towns, it is reported, that difficuly occurs and this is chiefly in the employment of women.

Tribune

Philadelphia Pa.

Inducting More Negroes Than Whites For Combat

JAN 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Reports that Negroes were not being inducted in a comparable percentage to whites were nullified Friday when the Office of War Information released figures proving that they are entering the Army in the same proportion which Negro draft registrants bear to total registration.

47

Using official records, the OWI disclosed these facts:

JAN 2 1943

Although Negroes constitute 9.8 per cent of the population, they have furnished 10.1 per cent of all persons inducted up to October 31. The figure includes volunteers and selectees.

Negroes made up 16.1 per cent of the total number of volunteers entering the Army through Selective Service during 1940-41.

The percentage of Negroes inducted in nine of the 14 Southern and border states exceeded the percentage registered.

In most of the overseas war areas where other American troops are stationed, Negro soldiers are on active duty.

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ournal and Guide

orfolk, Virginia

Registrant Hits Snag In Claim Of Selective Service Jim Crow

JAN 16 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—In a second attempt to test the legality of segregation in the United States Army, Wilfred Lynn, Jamaica, L. I., gardner, struck a snag when his motion for a habeas corpus writ was dismissed.

47c

Following a hearing in Brooklyn Federal Court last Wednesday during which Colonel Arthur V. McDermott, New York City Selective Service director, described the "quota system" used for inducting selectees, Judge Marcus B. Campbell dismissed Lynn's request for a writ.

JAN 16 1943

Recently imprisoned because of his refusal to respond to a draft call into a segregrated Army unit, Lynn was told by Federal Judge Byers that he could not legally contest the Army's induction procedure until after he had submitted to induction.

BROTHER DEFENDS

Acting through his attorneys. Conrad Lynn, his brother, and Arthur Garfield Hays of the American Civil Liberties Union, Lynn submitted to induction and immediately sought to take the case back into court, renewing his contention that the Selective Service "quota system" not only violates Selective Service law which provides for no discrimination, but is further in violation of the Constitutional rights of Americans.

Judge Campbell ruled however that it had not been shown that Lynn had been inducted either earlier or later than he would have been had there been no quota system. The American Civil Liberties Union announced that the ruling will be appealed.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Draftees Return Because of Diseases

FEB 5 1943

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.

SPARTA, Ga., Feb. 4.—A large percentage of the Negro draftees being sent from here to Fort Benning for induction into the Army are being returned because of diseases. Some of them are given treatment at the Hancock Health Clinic when they return from the fort and a few months later are included again in the list. Some of them have been inducted after a second or third trip but many more of the Negroes are returned than the white draftees who are sent to Fort McPherson.

Only enforced treatment will remedy the situation, it is said.

FEB 5 1943

Camden S. C. Chronicle
January 22, 1943

COLORED SELECTEES ORDERED REPORT AT FORT JACKSON

The following list of colored selective service men were ordered to report to Fort Jackson on January 12:

Arthur Williams James Chestnut, Minion Duren, Jacob Cornelius Laney, Roosevelt Gripper, Johnnie Brevard, Jr., Willie Moses Gripper, Willie James Kershaw, Jimmie Lee Murphy, John Murphy, Johnnie Adams Butler, Heyward Lee, Gilbert Taylor, John Miller, Grover Alexander, John Wesley Knox, James Shropshire, Charlie Shelley Huckabee, James Jimmie Deas, Robert Thomas Murphy, John Moses Jackson, Frank Brevard, George Nelson, James Belton, David Lee Jackson, Willie Davis, Ira Evans Williams, Robert Harriott, Lewis Murphy, George Alexander, Joseph Jackson, Henry Johnson, Eddie Lee Jackson, Willie Johnson Drakeford.

47C

Also, Amon Reynolds Collins, Jr., Theodore James Whitaker, Sam Furman, James Joe, Eugene Anderson, Dick Thomas Holiday, James Carter, Ezell Royal. Herbert McLaughlin Duren, Mitchell Woods, Dan Williams, James Pogue. Robert Kershaw, Leroy Bobbie Nelson, Isaac Leonard Boyd, John Tucker, Jr., George Washington Rainey, Jr., Frank Fortune, Willie J. Truesdale, James Edward Tucker, James Enoch Clyburn, Vanie Drakeford, Lester Belton, Eddie Robinson, Theodore George Thomas, Minford Adamson, Oliver Williams, Henry James, Steve Harriott, Elmore Salmon, Stephen Bradford, Moses Drakeford.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Curiosity Costly for Draft Dodger

JAN 12 1943

NEW YORK.—The curiosity of Leon Collins caused him to be among seventy-one draft violators arrested by FBI agents here last week.

Collins sat on the running board of the agents' car and watched while they were seizing a suspect in Harlem. After the agents returned with a man named Mitchell Hunter they also arrested Collins when he was unable to produce a classification card.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Charge Prejudice To Alabama Draft Board

JAN 21 1943

Publisher Lays Racial Bias To Dothan Draft Board In Taking Of Managing Editor; To Seek Release

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)—

Emory O. Jackson, managing editor of the Birmingham World has been inducted into the Army over the protest of C. A. Scott, Administrator of the Estate of W. A. Scott which owns and publishes the paper. The Estate also owns and publishes the Atlanta Daily World and the Memphis World.

Jackson, who has been connected with the editorial department for several years and since July, 1941 has performed the duties of managing editor, was ordered for induction January 11th, and after a seven-day furlough returned to the Army Monday, January 18th.

47C

In commenting on Jackson's induction, C. A. Scott, who is also general manager of the Scott papers, said, "This is a clear case where a man was inducted into the Army because of racial prejudice. Jackson feels this way about it and so do I."

JAN 21 1943

After conferring with Negro leaders in Birmingham, Publisher Scott said he would seek Jackson's release from the Army because he actually feels Jackson could do more to win the war for democracy and freedom in civilian life as editor than he could in the Army.

JAN 21 1943

Last October the National Headquarters of Selective Service issued a bulletin in which managing editors and many other newspaper employes were classed as civilians holding jobs essential to the war effort and therefore should be considered for occupational deferment. It is on this ground that Jackson's release will be sought.

TRANSFER REFUSED

JAN 21 1943

Jackson was ordered for induction December 2, 1942, originally by Draft Board Number One at Dothan, Ala., where he was teaching in 1940 at the time of the first registration. When he returned to Birmingham, his home, to begin full time employment with the World as editor, Jackson requested the transfer of his registration to a Birmingham board but the Dothan board refused the request.

On December the first, the Dothan board having refused to grant the publisher of the World a deferment for him, Jackson requested the board to transfer his induction to a Birmingham board. The transfer of INDUCTION was granted whereas a transfer of registration had been refused.

When teaching in Dothan, Jackson was very active in civic and educational movements.

Jackson and Scott visited the State Headquarters of Selective Service on December the 2nd at Montgomery in an effort to get a deferment for Jackson because of his importance to the welfare of the Birmingham World, the state's oldest and only semi-weekly which is widely read.

JAN 21 1943

After the conference with Lt. Col. C. O. Jarrell, Assistant State Director of Selective Service, the two newspapermen left Montgomery feeling favorable consideration would be given their case.

LETTER TO COL. JARRELL

In a letter to Col. Jarrell dated December 4, Publisher Scott wrote in part:

"As previously stated the induction of Jackson will make it just about necessary for the suspension of the paper because we do not have in mind a man who could carry on the work. Even in normal times there is a shortage of trained newspaper men and women in our race. So under the war condition a competent editor is hardly to be found.

47C

"Also as I stated the policy of the paper is definitely an aid to our war efforts. We have received communications from a number of government agencies acknowledging the support we have given. We have received letters of appreciation from the Navy, Marine Corps, U. S. Employment Service, the Treasury Department, War Production, Department, War Production Board, Selective Service in Washington Department of Agriculture and several other government agencies."

JARRELL REPLIES

In a communication dated December 11, Col. Jarrell replied: "Further investigation of this case has revealed that the registrant was employed in Birmingham as distribution agent for your newspaper and that paper actually was printed in Atlanta. In view of these facts, and further consideration of the fact that the registrant was delinquent, after being ordered to report for induction, the Local Board was instructed to proceed with his induction."

In answer to Col. Jarrell's letter of December 11th, C. A. Scott wrote:

JAN 21 1943

"I must say that your letter dated December 11 in reference to our request for deferment of E. O. Jackson, Managing Editor of the Birmingham World, is both surprising and disappointing.

"The following statement in your letter 'Further investigation of this case has revealed that the registrant was employed in Birmingham as distribution agent for your newspaper and that the paper actually was printed in Atlanta' lends us to believe tha you do not have a correct understanding of Jackson's status in our organization. The Birmingham World is owned by the Estate of W. A. Scott but the paper is edited and published in Birmingham. Jackson's position is not a distributor for the paper but managing editor. It is our understanding that Selective Service Headquarters in Washington have ruled that newspaper managing editors are considered as persons holding essential civilian jobs. Then, of course, on this basis, we contend that Jackson is entitled to a deferment. We hope you will grant this.

"However, if you do not plan to give further and favorable consideration to Jackson's deferment, please advise us by telegram collect the next step we can make in the matter of an appeal."

Contrary to what Col. Jarrell stated in his letter of December 11, Jackson was not delinquent in reporting for induction because on December 1 the Dothan Board has granted him a transfer of induction to a Birmingham Board which was to set another date for his induction.

Dated December 15, C. A. Scott received collect the following telegram:

JAN 2

"Replying to your letter December 14, this Headquarters will take no further action in the case of E. O. Jackson under jurisdiction Local Board One, Houston County. No appeal is allowable. Registrant must follow instructions of Local Board for induction."

Signed: Smith, Alabama State Director Selective Service"

Feeling that he did have the right to appeal the case to higher authority because of its merits C. A. Scott wrote Lt. Col. Campbell, C. Johnson, Assistant Director of National Selective Service Headquarters at Washington. D. C. but this office finally decided not to intervene and grant Jackson a deferment.

In a case similar to Jackson's last year the National Headquarters overruled a Texas Board and the Texas State Director of Selective Service in granting a six months deferment to James Andrews, editor of a Texas weekly on the grounds that "Negro Journalists are needed to keep up Negro morale in war time." But there was a repercussion from the ruling because one of the members of the Local Board resigned in protest.

Five former employes of the Atlanta Daily World are now serving in the armed forces.

47c-1943

Negroes in the Army

New Republic New York, N. Y.

THE SEGREGATION of colored troops in our armed forces is producing [illegible]onical situations in the mechanics of the draft. The Navy, Air Corps, Marines and variously specialized branches of our military establishment can only use a limited number of Negroes. That has the inevitable effect of slowing up the rate at which the latter are inducted, and, conversely, of accelerating the rate at which white selectees are being called up. This is markedly evident in the South.

The other day, Rep. Charles E. McKenzie, of Louisiana, spoke up in deep anguish against this state of affairs. The local boards, he pointed out, can do nothing about the situation. Their hands are tied. The fault is in Washington, which is deliberately keeping Negroes out of the draft; while white men, pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, mind you, are compelled to go. "Has it come to pass," Mr. McKenzie asks, "that the color of a man's skin is the basis for his being deferred even if he is single and has no dependents?" To buttress his argument, he quoted a remarkable editorial from The Morehouse Enterprise, Bastrop, Louisiana.

It would seem that the first batch of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers has left Morehouse parish; and that there are 267 colored men in 1-A who are kept at home because there has been no "colored call." It just isn't fair. The editorial goes on to say with charming ingenuousness: "Simply because the government doesn't seem to want Negroes in the armed service is no excuse. It is race discrimination and the colored men in Morehouse Parish feel that it is putting them in an inferior classification."

Representative McKenzie has not yet perfected any plan which makes it possible for his constituents to eat their cake and have it too. He is certain, however, that "such discrimination is detrimental to the morale of the nation." We may not be talking about the same thing, but you aren't kidding, Mr. McKenzie!

Navy Station Discrimination Upheld By Knox

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Knox [illegible]

Difference In

Chevron Ratings

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS) — In a letter to the NAACP, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox in effect approves of jim crow within the limits of naval stations.

On November 19 the NAACP wrote Knox reporting complaints from the Norfolk, Va. Naval Air Station that buses running within the station for the convenience of Navy personnel compelled Negroes to sit in the rear and whites in the front. With respect to this complaint Knox has replied under date of December 17:

UPHOLDS CUSTOM

"With regard to the matter of alleged segregation on buses at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, the Navy Department is making every effort to handle matters pertaining to enlisted personnel so that there will be a minimum of embarrassment to [illegible] Negro. In all cases, however, the procedure which will best further the interests of the Navy is of primary importance, and the administration of personnel will always be handled with this primary objective in mind."

Secretary Knox also admitted that he had received several complaints on the ins[illegible] for chief cooks and stewards, [illegible] either Negro or Filipino. This insignia, which heretofore has been the same as other chief petty officers in the Navy, has been changed so that men in these ratings are wearing a small "c" on sleeve[illegible] short straight bars underneath.

The regular chief petty officers of the Navy have three chevrons and an eagle. Secretary Knox declares: "Obviously the purpose has not been to differentiate between white and Negro Chief Petty Officers as there are many Negro Chief Petty Officers in various ratings other than Chief Cooks and Chief Stewards, all of whom wear the Chief Petty Officer uniform."

NO COMMISSIONS

Secretary Knox, in addition, makes the following astonishing statement: "In addition, Negroes are eligible for advancement in any of the many ratings in the Navy and all those who reach [illegible] status of Chief Petty Officer will wear the uniform of their rating."

It is well known that Negroes have been barred from commissions in the Navy.

Negro Rejects 4 Times That Of White Men

Journal & Guide

Selective Service Statistics Reveal Sharp Disparity

Norfolk. Va.

(See Editorial, Page 8)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The rate of rejection of registrants for service in the armed forces under the Selective Service System is four times as great among colored registrants as it is among white registrants, according to the second report of Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service.

Statistics on the cause of rejection at local board and induction stations show that 2,170 white registrants were rejected in the months of April, May and June, 1942. The rate of rejection was 27.8 per 1,000 for white registrants.

The rate of rejection was 112 per thousand for colored registrants. The combined rate of rejection per 1,000 registrants was 38.2

MANY ILLITERATES

In the same period, a total of 1,228 colored registrants were rejected for illiteracy.

There were 245,038 registrants in the two registrations prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, who made their mark on their registration cards because they could not write their names. A little more than 125,000 were white and 220,052 were colored.

375,059 INDUCTED

"This disparity," says General Hershey in his report, "is greater when we remember there are 10 times as many white persons as Negroes in the United States."

In the period from November, 1940, to December, 1942, inclusive, there [illegible] total of 476,728 colored registrants called for military duty. Of that number 375,059 were inducted.

They constituted a part of the manpower pool of 3,015,550 colored men who represent 10.4 per cent of the 29,029,125 registrants between the ages of 18 and 45.

Globe & Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

DADDY OF 12, NOW IN ARMY, DRAWS CHECK FOR $328

Mississippian Had Been Getting Only $12 A Week "Before The Duration"

JACKSON, Miss., [illegible]—(ANP)—P[illegible] Booker's salary sudden[illegible] zoomed from $12 a week to $328 a month, when the U. S. government considered the fact that its recent inductee into the army at Camp Shelby is the father of 12 children.

Booker, a porter, his wife and 12 children all reside together. Figuring that his wife will receive $50 a month, the first child $30, and each remaining child $20, Booker's check reached the grand total of $328, a monthly stipulation. The children range in age from 14 to two months, the first three being by a previous wife.

Named Treasury Department Aide

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 10 —The Treasurer Department announces the appointment of J. Finley Wilson, noted fraternal leader, as a consultant to the Inter-racial Section of the national organization [illegible] of the War Finance Staff. Mr. Wilson will help promote the Third [illegible] War Loan drive, which opens September 9, among Negro fraternal groups. He has already begun his new duties.

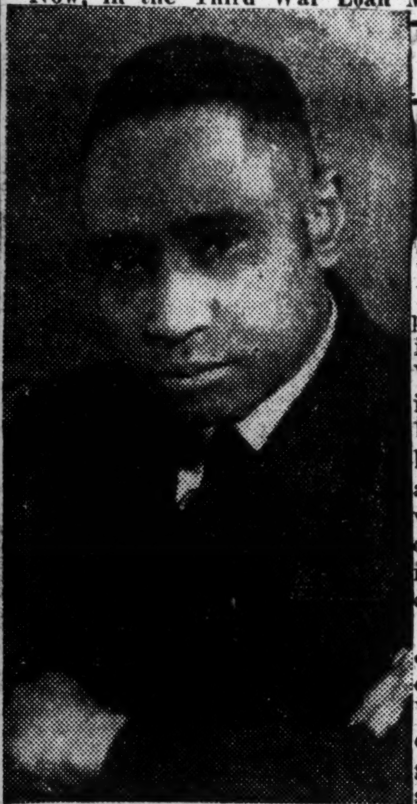
Mr. Wilson has been Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World for more than 21 years. This organization has local lodges in almost every city and town in the United States as well as affiliated lodges in [illegible], Panama, the British West Indies and in several South American countries. It has the largest membership of any Negro organization in the world. He was born in Nashville, Tenn., in 1881, the son of a minister.

"THE SPIRIT OF BEALE STREET"

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Here is the bomber that Negro citizens of Memphis, Tenn., paid for in War Bonds of the Second War Loan last Spring, and named after their famous street "where the blues began". It is a four-motored Consolidated Liberator, and $303,000 was raised for it.

Now, in the Third War Loan Memphis Negroes have set a goal of over two million dollars to have a Flying Fortress dedicated to the street "which is representative of the civic life of the Memphis Negro", according to Chairman George W. Lee, of the Negro Division of the Memphis War Finance Committee.



Lt. Geo. W. Lee, Memphis, Tenn., author, business man, and civic leader, who, as National Chairman of the Elks War Bond Committee, has set the Fraternity's Third War Loan goal at $5,000,000; and reports steady progress through his six regional chairmen.

The Lynn Case — A Civil Liberties Test of a Jim Crow Army

New Leader
N. Y.

From
DWIGHT MACDONALD

To the Editor:

So far there has been very little publicity given to an extremely important civil liberties case: the Winfred Lynn case. Since the case is expected to come up before the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals here in New York on December 8, and since it squarely raises the whole issue of the Jimcrow policies of the Army, your readers may be interested in a brief account.

The Lynn Case is a habeas corpus action, brought by a Negro draftee now in training on the West Coast. Lynn is asking to be discharged from the Army on the grounds that he was selected in a segregated Jimrow quota (all-Negro) and that this method of selection is specifically forbidden by the Draft Act of 1940, Section 4a, of which states that "in the selection and training of men under this Act . . . there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color."

Winfred Lynn feels so strongly about Army Jimcrow that when he was originally drafted, he wrote a letter to his draft board—he was a Long Island landscape gardener in civil life—offering to serve in a democratically organized army but refusing to enter the present Jimcrow army.

After a period in jail, Lynn was finally induced to submit to induction in order to make a test case, the courts refusing even to hear the case unless he first obeyed the law. All of us who love justice are fortunate that Winfred Lynn is willing to make a stand for his convictions.

Arthur Garfield Hays, acting for the American Civil Liberties Union, has argued Lynn's case in a lower court already and will again appear before the Circuit Court of Appeals. I am told that this is the court on which Jerome Frank and Learned Hand sit, and so we may expect a relatively liberal attitude on the part of the bench. It seems highly unlikely, however, putting it mildly, that the court will decide for Lynn.

Hays and the A.C.L.U. are prepared to carry the case directly to the Supreme Court. It will raise not only the great issue of the Army's discriminatory treatment of colored draftees—an issue, incidentally, which no other case in this war has raised—but also the question of anti-Negro discrimination practiced not by some Southern state but by an agency of the Federal Government itself.

A National Citizens Committee for Winfred Lynn has been formed to raise funds for the case and to give it some publicity. Among its sponsors are Alex Rose, Broadus Mitchell, John Haynes Holmes, A. Philip Randolph, George Schuyler, Willard Townsend, and Algernon Black. It has just issued a leaflet describing the case in detail, which may be obtained by writing the committee at 1 West 125th St., New York 27, N. Y.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Remove Jimcrow Signs At West Point Hospital

WEST POINT, N. Y. — At West Point Military Camp, New York, segregation signs appeared on hospital and lavatory doors. The signs read: "Colorod Enlisted Men," and "White Enlisted Men."

The NAACP made representations to the War Department concerning this matter, and it has been advised by Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, that all segregation signs at West Point have been removed.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Dr. Robert Weaver Given Occupational Deferrment

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, 35, chief of the minorities group section of the special placement bureau, War Manpower Commission, was given an occupational deferrment by the Selective Service Board of Appeals, it was announced this week.

Classified in 1-A by his local Board, Dr. Weaver appealed from his Board's decision, on the ground that his work was essential to the promotion of the war.

Selective Service Rejections: A Lesson

Journal & Guide

THERE is food for sober thought in the facts disclosed in the second report by Selective Service on the rejection rate for men called for military service. According to General Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, the rate of rejection of Negroes is four times that of white registrants. For the former the rate is 112 per one thousand, and for the latter 27.8 per one thousand. The combined rate of rejection was 38.2 per thousand.

Norfolk, Va

Among the reasons for rejections are physical or moral unfitness and illiteracy. In the latter category there were 1,228 colored men rejected during the three month period of April, May, and June, 1942.

The rates of rejection are not surprising if one is familiar with the environmental conditions in which the two races live. On the matter of illiteracy, the facts concerning the unequal educational provisions made for the two races, particularly in the deeper South and in the rural areas in all of the dual-system states, plus the virtual non-enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws where Negroes are concerned, make impossible any other results than the shocking rejection rate. The facilities provided, the per-student expenditures, the drawback of salary differentials are taking their toll.

One perhaps overlooked by-product of this situaiton is that, since the draft boards will continue to call other eligible selectees until the colored quotas are filled, a higher percentage of the physically and morally fit and educated Negroes will be called into the armed services than from the white group. Assuming an equality of casualties and disabled men, a larger proportion of the flower of the race among Negroes will be lost than from other racial groups. That is not a prospect to be faced without misgivings.

Similiarly, on the score of physical unfitness and other reasons for rejections, America has only itself to blame. It has definitely proscribed the Negro group to the underfed, poorly housed, and underpaid Forgotten Man category. Squalid living, unavoidable under a vicious social system, is not a factor making for good health.

The Negro has not had adequate general hospital facilities, he has a disproportionate share of the welfare centers and tuberculosis sanatoriums, he has makeshift or no public parks and playgrounds, nor municipal recreation centers and swimming pools.

His public schools are not equipped for physical training courses in too many cases, often where the state laws require them in high

But the Negro's actual and relative disqualification for military service is a drain on American man-power that ought not to exist. If America is to build for a more secure future, it will take to heart the findings of the Selective Service officials and begin to spread the benefits of democracy to all the people in equal measure.

47c-1943

Army Is Still Rejecting More Negro Than White

AUG 1 8 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47c

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) — Negroes continued to be rejected in greater proportions than whites, according to the annual report of the selective service administration, just out, with illiteracy and venereal disease as the prevalent reasons. But at the same time, however, selective service was oble to furnish to the armed forces in 1942, 275,059 men.

The section of the voluminous report dealing with Negroes was written by Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, administrative assistant to Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, SSA chief.

Negroes represented 18.7 of all persons that had been classifed as 4-F in 1942, as a result of which the calls for Negroes to meet quotas had to be hiked up considerably.

"The high rejection rate for educational deficiency remains one of the unsoved problems among Negro registrants," the report said. According to a four-month study of problem, it is five times that among whites. Up to the end of the year, no program had been worked out to remedy the problem. The unequal educational facilities of the south are blamed for this condition, and the inclusion of Negro educators in conferences on the subject is recommended.

But the "most important" cause of rejections is venereal disease. While local civic communities are trying to help the situation, a remedial program is being planned. In addition to this, the report says there must be a recognition of the "social aspects of these diseases," if there is to be any real solution.

Registration figures reveal that Negroes represented 10.4 per cent of the nation's manpower total between the ages of 18 and 45. Some 476,728 were called up to the end of the year, while 375,059 were inducted. Beginning the middle of last year calls for Negroes were stepped up. In July 50,000 or 14.4 per cent received greetings, and throughout the year the figure was always above 40,000.

The bulk of those classified were in 1A and 1B. Only 3 per cent of Negro registrants were deferred on industrial grounds. Conscientious objectors were few representing but 2.2 per cent of the total.

There were "considerably less than" 100 cases of draft evasion among Negros in 1942, and most of these were failure to register, to return questionaires, and giving incorrect names and addresses. One suicide because of the racial discrimination in the armed forces was recorded, in addition to one attempt at suicide. Six men refused to report to induction centers for the same reason.

Herndon Hits Draft Slander

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

AUG 7 1943

47c

Angelo Herndon, in a statement made yesterday to the press declared [illegible] he h[illegible]ed for deferment from his Local Draft Board "because I felt that I could best serve my country in the post I now occupy as editor of the Negro Quarterly." His statement follows:

Statement by Angelo Herndon Re. Draft Deferment:

I resent the slander impugning my loyalty to fight for my country against the Axis. As a Negro, my devotion and loyalty to America dates back to the American Revolution for independence, the war of 1812, the Civil War, the first World War, and the Civil War in Spain, where my brother gave his life when America did not yet realize the danger of Fascism.

I am not evading the draft and I am willing at all times to defend my [illegible]ry. I a[illegible] for deferment from [illegible] Local Draft Board because I felt that I could best serve my country in the post I now occupy as editor of the Negro Quarterly. The draft board will make the final decision in this matter and not the newspapers.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Illiteracy At Benning Studied By Col. Johnson

SEP 16 1943

Sees Results In Training Program Just Inaugurated

47c

FORT BENNING—(ANP)—Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of selective service, was a visitor to Fort Benning this week on a tour of colored reception and induction centers in the southeast.

Of special interest to Col Johnson is the high rate of rejections among colored youths in this section because of failure to meet minimum intelligence standards. Studying the situation from all angles, Col. Johnson is trying to determine the cause of this shortcoming, whether due to lack of opportunity, lack of application or whether the standards set are too high to reach the mental developments of colored youths of a corresponding age to white. Col. Johnson hopes to find the reason and work toward correction.

His visit to the special training regiment at the reception center was most gratifying in that the could see posiive results in the training program, he declared.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

To Reject Half Of 1-A's: Report

AUG 30 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A sad commentary on the physical condition of America's young men is shown in the statement from Brig. Gen. Hershey of the Selective Service board when he says that of the more than 1,000,000 men available in Class 1-A for induction into the Army, over half of them will be found physically unfit and rejected for this and other causes. He bases his figures on wha tthe draft has shown in the past.

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This announcement was made in connection with the announcement on the drafting of "fathers" needed to fill the complement and demands for inductees during the last half of the year. Nearly half a million fathers face this call, according to Gen. Hershey, of which the percentage of Negroes will range between ten and thirteen per cent of the total number. Where they will be called from depends upon the filling of questionairres where 1-A's [illegible] Objections to the use of [illegible] in [illegible] draft when so many able bodied apparently healthy young men infest the street corners, have been raised in many places. Many believe they would be more useful both during and after the war, if they were put in the army and given medical and educational attention instead of leaving them floating around to prey on the civilian population.

AUG 30 1943

News
Birmingham, Ala

Near Half Alabamians Rejected For Service, Latest Reports Show

AUG 29 1943

Physical And Mental Ailments Given Reason For High Percentage

BY CARROLL KILPATRICK
Special Washington Correspondent for The News

WASHINGTON — Approximately half of all Alabamians who have reported to selective service for induction into the Army or Navy have been rejected for physical or mental reasons, the latest report of the Selective Service System reveals.

The exact percentages are not available, [illegible] months are given and [illegible] high rejection of 58.2 per cent in July and August, 1942, and a low rejection of 41.2 per cent in September and October, 1942. In November, 1942, 45.7 per cent were rejected in the state.

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The District of Columbia and Florida have the highest rejection rates in the country. But Virginia, North and South Carolina, Mississippi and Alabama are close behind.

In Alabama 33,246 persons had been rejected at induction stations up to Nov. 30, 1942. A smaller number had been rejected by their local boards.

[illegible] Mississippi, where the white population only slightly outnumbers the Negro population, 49,240 white men were called in the first two years of Selective Service and 34,075 were accepted. In the same period, 45,941 Negroes were called and 28,092 were accepted.

AUG 29 1943

DRAFT REJECTS TOP 25 PER CENT

AUG 27 1943

U. S. Figures Show Alabama Above Average With 32.8 Per Cent

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

47c

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Selective Service statistics showed today that during 26 months of drafting men for the armed forces 27.8 per cent of the 5,043,135 sent to induction stations were rejected as unfit for the Army, physically or otherwise.

The statistics, contained in the annual report of the Selective Service System, covered the period from the first inductions in 1940 through Nov. 30, 1942. No breakdown was presented which would show how many were rejected for physical disabilities, or for such reasons as mental disorders and illiteracy.

1,400,840 Rejected

AUG 27 1943

The number rejected during the 26-mo[illegible] period was 1,400,840. Of these [illegible],184,456 were whites, 26.6 per cent of the 4,451,692 forwarded to induction stations by draft boards The board also sent 591,443 Negroes and of these 216,384, or ~~36.6 per~~ cent were rejected.

South Carolina had the largest percentage of rejections. It sent 59,647 men to induction stations which rejected 21,033, or 35.3 per cent. The rejection of whites was 31.6 per cent, and of Negroes 41 per cent.

Michigan followed closely with rejections of 34.4 per cent and other states with high rejections were Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, Alabama and Vermont.

The figures for Alabama showed that 101,232 men were sent, of which 33,246, or 32.8 per cent, were rejected. Of these 61,258 sent were whites of which 16,258 were rejected. Negroes sent were 39,974, of which 16,294 were rejected.

Wyoming Record Best

The best record was made by Wyoming which sent 7892 men to induction stations and had only 1031 or 13.1 per cent turned back. A perfect record on a racial class of inductees was reported for North Dakota which sent 10 Negroes to induction stations and had 10 accepted by the Army.

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Trailing Wyoming for low percentages of rejections were Utah, Kansas, Washington, Iowa, South Dakota, Nevada and Connecticut.

The figures presented little evidence that states in any particular region had higher rates of rejections than others.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Voice Of The People

SEP 15 1943

A WORD OF PRAISE

To the Editor of The News:

So often we fail to give credit to the Negro when he deserves it. I for one am guilty, so that I might redeem myself just a bit, I'm writing this to the "Voice of the People."

I carried my brother to town Sunday night to catch a bus to return to Wheeler Dam after a 10-day furlough here. When I left the bus station it was 10:30 p.m., so I decided to pick my husband up as he got off from work at 11 p.m.

However, at Third Avenue and 17th Street, I was stopped by a Negro woman air raid warden (or whatever title she has. Anyway she wore an official band). I asked her to let me continue my journey as I was afraid I'd miss my husband. The reply was an emphatic "No," so I switched off my motor and remained there until she gave me the "go" signal.

Her block was in total darkness in a few seconds and she stopped [illegible], streetcar and pedestrian with great efficiency. It was a beautiful piece of work and I feel like our "hats" should go off to her. This Negro woman's name is Hattie Sherman, age 76 years. She has lived on Third Avenue for 34 years.

MRS. GLAZE ROBERSON.
1600 Almeda Avenue Southwest.

Post
Washington, D. C

Illiterates Exempt

Senator Maybank's proposal to induct physically fit illiterates into the Army is well worth consideration on its merits. Several hundred thousand men who could pass the physical tests have been rejected because of inability to satisfy the Army's literacy requirements. In his own State of South Carolina Senator Maybank points out that "some 2000 white inductees and another 10,000 colored have been released from the Army since the start of the year because they could not meet literacy tests." Abandonment of literacy tests would greatly reduce the number of fathers whom it will be necessary to call up for service. While that is not a conclusive argument, it is one of a number of good reasons for urging a change in policy.

Unquestionably illiteracy is a personal handicap automatically [illegible] individual from many kinds of Army training calling for a knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic. But, as Senator Maybank says, there are plenty of assignments that call for brawn rather than brain. Moreover, the illiterate man may be a person of high native intelligence, better able to use his head in an emergency than a fellow soldier who has had a certain amount of formal education. Certainly the shockingly high proportion of illiterates in some of our Southern States would not be interpreted to mean that the people there are of a generally lower order of intelligence than those living in other sections. The chief cause of illiteracy in final analysis is private poverty that encourages evasion of laws compelling school attendance and public poverty that is responsible for inadequate educational facilities and lax enforcement of compulsory school laws.

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In all probability, therefore, thousands of husky illiterates now on the rejected list would make much better soldier material if handled properly than fathers of families. The latter are likely to be past the peak of physical effectiveness and almost certain to be mentally disturbed by separation from their families.

Daily World
Atlanta. Ga

Chicago Youth Leader Seized By Federal Men

Faces Trial For Deserting CPS Camp

AUG 4 - 1943

DETROIT — (ANP) — Joseph Guinn, well-known youth leader and former president of the Chicago NAACP youth council, was seized here last week by agents of the FBI and returned to Coshocton, O., to stand trial for abandoning his post at the civilian public service camp there for conscientious objectors.

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The militant leader in young people's movements left the camp several weeks ago as a protest to the regimentation of camp life and the subjection of civilian public workers to "slave labor" tasks. He had been in the camp since early 1942.

Guinn, a religious conscientious objector, charged that camp officials were suppressing religious freedom, and referred to the irony of this practice in a country founded upon the basic principles of religious freedom.

Declaring that CPS camps are in effect operated for the conscription and punishment of individuals holding religious beliefs contrary to that of the majority, Guinn said he "could come to no other decision than to disassociate myself from a system that invalidated my fundamental Christian philosophy."

"NO LONGER FREE"

Continuing, Guinn said that the commander of the camp issued a memorandum which stated that: "Every assignee . . . who reports to camp is under control of the director of selective service. He ceases to be a free agent and is accountable for all of his time, in camp and out, 24 hours a day. His movements and his actions are subject to control and regulation. He ceases to have certain rights and is granted certain privileges instead.

"These privileges can be restricted or withdrawn without his approval or consent as punishment, during emergencies or a matter of policy. He may be told when, where and how to work, what to wear and where to sleep. He can be required to submit medical examinations and sanitations. He may be moved from place to place and from job to job, even to foreign countries, for the convenience of the government, regardless of his personal feelings or desires."

This order was followed by others of a like nature stated Guinn, who termed the one providing farm labor from the camp personnel to nearby farmers, as particularly vicious.

AUG 4 - 1943

The individual, by this order, is compelled to work for private citizins without pay," revealed Guinn. "Conscript labor is a slave labor regardless whether the employer is the government or a fellow citizen, and as such is reprehensible to any individual who believes in freedom."

High Rejection Rate Of Negro Draftees Continues

Defender
Chicago. Ill

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— Negroes continue to be rejected in greater proportions than whites, according to the annual report of the selective service administration, just out, with illiteracy and venereal disease as the prevalent reason.

But at the same time, however, selective service was able to furnish to the armed forces 275,059 men in 1942.

The section of the voluminous report dealing with Negroes was written by Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, administrative assistant to Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, SSA chief.

Negroes represented 18.7 of all persons that had been classified as 4-F in 1942, as result of which the calls for Negroes to meet quotas had to be hiked up considerably.

"The high rejection rate for educational deficiency remains one of the unsolved problems among Negro registrants," the report said. According to a four-month study of problems, it is five time that among whites. Up to the end of the year, no program had been worked out to remedy the problem. The unequal educational facilities of the South are blamed for this condition, and the inclusion of Negro educators in conferences on the subject is recommended.

But the "most important" cause of rejections is venereal disease. While local civic communities are trying to help the situation, a remedial program is being planned. In addition to this, the report says there must be a recognition of the "social aspects of these diseases" if there is to be any real solution.

Registration figures reveal that Negroes represented 10.4 per cent of the nation's manpower total between the ages of 18 and 45. Some 476,728 were called up to the end of the year, while 375,059 were inducted. Beginning the middle of last year calls for Negroes were stepped up. In July 50,000 or 14.4 per cent received greetings, and throughout the year the figure was always above 40,000.

The bulk of those classified were in 1A and 1B. Only 3 per cent of Negro registrants were deferred on industrial grounds. Conscientious objectors were few representing but 2.2 per cent of the total.

There were "considerably less than 100 cases" of draft evasion among Negroes in 1942, and most of these were for failure to register, to return questionaires, and giving incorrect names and addresses. One suicide because of the racial discrimination in the armed forces was recorded, in addition to one attempt at suicide. Six men refused to report to induction centers for the same reason.

47c-I943

Director Hershey Discusses Negro Induction Problems

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Pointing out that there has been no change either in the basic legal prohibition against racial discrimination nor in the administrative provision for promoting sound racial relations in the Selective Service, Director Lewis B. Hershey, in his second annual report to President Roosevelt, discusses in detail the problems encountered in the induction of Negroes into the armed forces from December 7, 1941, to December 5, 1942.

47c

The report, Selective Service in Wartime, devotes a chapter to the racial problems faced by the Selective Service organization, and to the steps taken by the Office of the Director to overcome difficulties. Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to the director of Selective Service, has been responsible for the racial relations work of the organization.

Chapter XIII of the report, "Negroes and Selective Service," declares:

"There has been no change either in the basic legal prohibition against racial discrimination nor in the administrative provision for promoting sound racial relations in the period since Pearl Harbor. The original Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, contained the basic legal prohibitions against racial discrimination.

"The first provision is that 'within the limits of the quotas determined under Section 4 (b) for the subdivision in which he resides, any person, regardless of race or color, between the ages of 18 and 36, shall be afforded an opportunity to volunteer for induction into the armed forces of the United States for the training and service prescribed.'

"When persons up to 45 years of age were made liable for military service by the act of December 20, 1941, the ages in this group were also extended. The second provision, more general, applied to all 'in the selection

and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color.'"

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
October 2, 1943

HOPE IS REVIVED HERE FOR INDUCTION CENTER

Memphis May Be Considered, Officials Indicate

OGLETHORPE STILL USED

From The Commercial Appeal
Nashville Bureau

NASHVILLE, Oct. 1.—Prospects for reconsideration of the proposal to establish an induction center at Memphis for West Tennessee selectees were seen Friday, should Fort Oglethorpe eventually be dropped as a point of induction for Tennesseans, and become wholly a WAC reception and induction station.

47c

The proposal to establish an induction center at Memphis was tossed out several weeks ago by National Selective Service officials because of the expense involved. However, since Fort Oglethorpe is to cease being a reception center on Nov. 1 for selectees and be taken over as a reception center for WACs, State Selective officials declared there was a possibility it might later be dropped even as an induction station for selectees, and, should this occur, efforts to get an induction station at Memphis might be reopened.

Opening For Memphis

These officals pointed out that should Camp Forrest, near Tullahoma, be the only induction station in the state, there might be difficulty experienced in handling all Tennessee selectees at this point.

They emphasized, however, that Fort Oglethorpe would not cease to be an induction station on Nov. 1, but that Tennessee selectees would continue to be sent there after that date, later to be sent to Camp Shelby, near Hattiesburg, Miss., for assignment after their acceptance into military service.

The order removing Oglethorpe as a reception center, they pointed out, in no wise affects it as an induction center and at the present time state headquarters is still setting up its plans for the induction of Tennessee selectees there, and will continue to do so until ordered to do otherwise.

Both Stations Used

At the same time, these officers pointed out that Camp Forrest would continue to be an induction station for Tennessee white selectees, and the policy of alternating between the two induction stations—Fort Oglethorpe and Camp Forrest—would be followed much the same as it has been in recent months. The officals said the facilities available determined which induction center would be used at the time a contingent of selectees was scheduled to move.

Camp Forrest, likewise, will continue to be the point of induction for all Tennessee negro selectees, who will then go to Fort Benning, Ga., for reception into the armed forces, and eventual assignment to services.

Reopen Campaign, Chandler Urges

The change in plans for inducting selectees should "give us an opportunity to reopen" the campaign to obtain an induction center for Memphis, Mayor Chandler said last night.

"Since changes are contemplated in the induction centers for Selective Service men in Tennessee, this will give us an opportunity to reopen our effort to have Memphis designated as the West Tennessee induction center," the Mayor said. "This should have been done long ago."

Brownsville, Tenn., States Graphic
September 17, 1943

Two Get Out Of Jail Just In Time to Go To Army

(Union City Daily Messenger)

Tap Fry and George Turner, colored, who were arrested by Sheriff W. O. Walker Wednesday night on charges preferred by Lilly May Lennox, colored, relative to the theft of her watch, were released from the county jail this morning, and at 8:55 the two boarded an N. C. & St. L. Train with a group of colored selectees bound for an Army induction center.

47c

"We thought it would be far better to let Uncle Sam have these men and proceed with his plans of winning the war just as soon as possible than to keep them in jail," the sheriff said.

SELECTIVE SERVICE REJECTIONS: A LESSON

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

There is food for sober thought in the facts disclosed in the second report by Selective Service on the rejection rate for men called for military service. According to General B. H. Hershey, Selective Service director, the rate of rejection of Negroes is four times that of white registrants. For the former rate is 112 per one thousand, and for the latter 27.8 per one thousand. The combined rate of rejection was 28.2 per thousand.

Among the reasons for rejections are physical or moral unfitness and illiteracy. In the latter category there were 1,228 colored men rejected during the three-month period of April, May, and June, 1942.

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The rates of rejection are not surprising if one is familiar with the enviromental conditions in which the two races live. On the matter of illiteracy, the facts concerning the unequal educational provisions made for the two races, particular in the deeper South and in the rural areas in all of the dual-system states, plus the vital non-enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws where Negroes are concerned, make impossible any other results than the shocking rejection rate. The facilities provided, the per-student expenditudes, the drawback of salary differentials are taking their toll.

One perhaps overlooked by-product of this situation is that, since the draft boards will continue to call other eligible selectees until the colored quotas are filled, a higher percentage of the physically and morally fit and educated Negroes will be called into the armed services than from the white group. Assuming an equality of casualties and disabled men, a larger proportion of the flower of the race among Negroes will be lost than from other racial groups. That is not a prospect to be faced without misgiving.

Similarly, on the score of physical unfitness and other reasons for erjections, America has only itself to blame. It has definitely proscribed the Negro group to the underfed, poorly housed, and under-paid Forgotten Man category. Squalid living, unavoidable under a vicious social system, is not a factor for good health.

The Negro has not had adequate general hospital facilities, he has a disproportionate share of the welfare centers and tuberculosis sanatoriums, he has makeshift or no public parks and playgrounds, nor municipal recreation centers and swimming pools.

His publi cschools are not equipped for physical training courses in too many cases, often where the state laws require them in high schools. Public and private clinics are few and far between. The state and local health programs, for him, are mostly on paper. Between all these handicaps, he is remarkably healthy, everything considered.

But the Negro's actual and relative disqualification for military service is a drain on American manpower that ought not to exist. If America is to build for a more secure future, it will take to heart the findings of the Selective Service officials and begin to spread the benefits of democracy to all the people in equal measures.

Unequal Facilities Cause of High Negro Rejections, Says Colonel

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Back at his desk in the headquarters of the Selective Service System after 32 days' absence, Colonel Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Selective Service Director Major General Lewis B. Hershey, had, (1) completed a 3,400-mile tour of Army induction stations from North Carolina to Louisiana, (2) been promoted from lieutenant colonel to colonel.

On his tour of induction stations, Colonel Johnson sought answers to these questions: Why the righ rate of Negro rejections for failure to pass the Army's minimum intelligence standards? Why the low percentage of those meeting the Army's physical requirements standards?

When interviewed, he had this to say: "I concluded my tour with the conviction that the root of the trouble lies in the inadequate educational facilities

gence but also in lower standards of health as a direct consequence.

"Negro youth must be given a chance. Because they have not been given equal opportunities for learning, the Army is paying the penalty. However, the Selective Service has managed, despite these handicaps, to recruit eligible youths to the extent that today Negroes comprise above 10 per cent of the men inducted into the armed forces through the Selective Service System."

Colonel Johnson, a graduate of Howard University, is a member of the Board of Parole of the District of Columbia and of the bar of the District of Columbia and of North Carolina. His rise in rank began in 1917 when he was promoted to first lieutenant of infantry; by October 1918, he had risen to the rank of captain, becoming a major in September 1929. Promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1942, he received his latest elevation on September 21, 1943.

Captain Benson D. Mitchell is assisstant to Colonel Johnson. He is a graduate of Howard University and was assigned to the Selective Service System in June 1942.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
October 30, 1943

Negroes Go to Fort Jackson

Darlington, Oct. 29.—Special: One hundred and two Darlington negro men left here on Thursday morning for Fort Jackson, where they will undergo their physical examinations for induction into the United States army. The group is among the largest to leave here for selective service men in recent months.

47c

Knoxville, Tenn.-Journal
Oct. 30, 1943.

8500 Tennessee Fathers Involved In Next Draft

NASHVILLE, Oct. 29 (AP)—Approximately 8500 fathers, including whites and Negroes, will be involved in the December selective service quota for Tennessee, State Selective Service Director T. A. Frazier estimated today.

Advance estimates of the call will be mailed tomorrow to local boards, General Frazier said.

Total December delivery figures are restricted, he added.

Negro Hired By State Files Affidavit

1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Frankfort, Ky., Oct. 24 (AP)—Charges that Houston Settle, Negro porter for the State Insurance Division, was refused re-employment after being drafted and then rejected by the Army, were made public today at Republican headquarters here along with a statement that the case was being reported to Washington.

The charges were made in an affidavit bearing Settle's name and witnessed by Joseph R. Carpenter, attorney, notary public and a Republican leader. County Judge Boone Hamilton said, that in his capacity as Franklin County re-employment committeeman he was writing the National Re-employment Service in Washington a report on the matter.

Another Man Given Job.

Insurance Director Sherman Goodpaster said he gave Settle's job to another Negro after other porters in the building told him that Settle had gone to the Army and been accepted and that as a result he had no job to offer the man on his return. He said Settle did not tell him he was leaving.

Goodpaster also said that when Settle came back asking for reinstatement he asked him why he had not told him he was going and explained he had filled the job because he heard Settle had been accepted.

The insurance director declared he sent Settle to Democratic organization headquarters in an effort to get him another job and also telephoned another department head where he heard there was a vacancy in an effort to find a job for the man.

Johnson Says Case Unusual.

Told of the charges, Gov. Keen Johnson said, "If that's true, it's one out of fifty or seventy-five cases. The general policy has been to restore men to their jobs or give them another job and it's been my purpose to adhere to that. That's the first I've heard of it."

Settle's affidavit said he was a resident of Frankfort, that he was drafted October 7 and that Goodpaster told him he hoped he would fail to be accepted as he was a "faithful and efficient employe."

He added he was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and rejected after a week or ten days, and returned here to get back his post, but Director Goodpaster informed him the place had been filled and the latter had since refused to reinstate him.

Affidavit Tells of Appeals.

Settle's affidavit continued: "I appealed to Mr. Goebel Harrod, clerk of Franklin County Draft Board No. 46, and he advised me to contact the National Re-employment Service. By them I was advised to contact the Franklin County Re-employment committeeman for Local Board No. 46.

"The re-employment committeeman called Commissioner Sherman Goodpaster and asked him to reinstate me in my former job, whereupon said committeeman was advised by Sherman Goodpaster that the committeeman would have to take up the matter with the local Democratic organization and Mr. Martin Smith, Democratic Senatorial candidate for the Twentieth Senatorial District, in order to secure a job for me.

"I heard the committeeman state to Mr. Goodpaster that there was no reason for him to contact or get permission of the Democratic organization as this boy has been called to the Army, and it was the duty of the commissioner (Goodpaster) to reinstate me—to which statement Mr. Goodpaster said definitely that he would not reinstate me, and that he has since failed and refused to re-employ me."

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No White, Few Negro Fathers Will Answer October Draft Calls

Talladega Home
Octobe

No white pre-Pearl Harbor fathers will be called in October quotas, Otis R. Burton, chairman of the Talladega Draft Board No. 1, said Thursday.

It may be necessary to call a few Negro fathers because of extra heavy Negro quotas for October, he said.

Mr. Burton said it will be November before pre-Pearl Harbor white fathers would be called in Talladega.

47c

Bedford County Has 7,330 Men Registered In Selective Service

Shelbyville, Tenn. Times
October 14, 1943

Records at the local Selective Service Board show that there are 7,330 men registered in Bedford county. Of this number 2,104 are men registered from age 45-65, which leaves 5,226 men registered age 18-45. Of these registered Bedford countians 1,368 are in the armed forces, which includes 918 white inductees with 244 white men enlisted; 205 negro inductees and one negro enlisted. There are a number of volunteers among the inducted which were not enumerated, however past publications of men leaving in service have revealed a good percentage have been volunteers, which has been in keeping with the name "Volunteer State."

Recent inventory in the office of the Selective Service Board has brought the above figures as of October 1 and the following figures show the number listed in each class as of October 1, released by the local S. S. B: White men—921 inducted, class 1-C (member of the armed forces in the United States); 244 enlisted, class 1-C; 117 in class 1-A (available for military service); 3 class 1-A-L (limited service men); 15 class 2-A (man necessary in his civilian activity); 120 class 2-B (man necessary to war production program); 175 class 2-C (single men deferred by reason of his agricultural occupation or endeavor); 1050 class 3-A (Pre-Pearl Harbor Fathers); 171 class 3-C (man deferred both by reason of dependency and agricultural occupation of endeavor); 20 class 3-D (man deferred by reason of extreme hardship and privation to wife, child, or parent); 14 class IV-D (minister of religion or divinity student); 567 class IV-F (Morally unfit, physical or mentally unfit); total classifications 3417; 23 unclassified; 10 cancellations; 27 deceased; bringing the total to 3477 men registered between age 18-37; 988 in class between ages 38 to 45, making a grand total of 4465 white men registered between ages 18-45.

Colored men—205 inducted class 1-C; 1 enlisted class, 1-C; 58, class 1-A; 4 class 11-B; 14 class 11-C; 114 class (Pre-Pearl Harbor Fathers); 20 class 111-C; 3 class 111-D; 4, class IV-D; 158 class IV-F; total classifications 580; 2 unclassified; 7 cancelled; 7 deceased; total colored registrants 596 between age 18-37; 165 men between age 38-45, makes a total number of colored registrants 761.

The above figures of both white and colored registrants makes a total number of 5,226 registrants between ages 18-45. There are 2,104 men both white and colored registered between ages 45-65 making the grand total of 7330 men registered in Bedford county.

This recent inventory as taken by Miss Melvin Isom, chief clerk, and Mrs. Gladys Nelson, clerk, assisted by Mrs. Sarah McGill indicates a great deal of careful work performed in this office and accurate records in compliance with the Government office kept by the clerks. Members of the board are Franklin Boyd, chairman; Virgil Hastings and Charles H. Eblen, all volunteer workers who show every courtesy possible in meeting questions or problems which come up before them, giving careful consideration to all alike.

Belton, S. C. News
November 4, 1943

28 Negroes Called By Local Board Number 7

The following list of negro registrants will be inducted into the U. S. Army through the Belton Board Selective Service during the month of November:

Emanuel Earle, Junius Cunningham, Allen Williams, Raymond Kennedy, George Hermon Arnold, Robert McCullough, Bravell Young, M. C. Mitchell, Paul Harrold Hagood, Leo Jacobs, Lorenza Sitton.

Also Alvin White, John Frank Fuller, Samie Fields, Albert Smith, Walter Little, Johnny Gambrell, Aaron Ware, E.V. Donald, Marion T. Simmons, Odis Latimer, Harvey Junior Jackson, Joe Henry Cobb, S. T. Garrison, Cody Harris, Jhonnie Greene, John Roy McDavid and Fred Junior Robinson.

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Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Camp Lee To Be Negro Troop Center

OCT 2 1943

By the Associated Press

Camp Lee, Va., Oct. 1.—White inductees of the Third Service Command will be received in the future at Fort George G. Meade, Md., and New Cumberland, Pa., instead of at Camp Lee, Capt. E. Gerlach, adjutant of the reception center, announced today.

OCT 2 1943

Under the policy Camp Lee's reception center will receive Negro troops who formerly were inducted from throughout the Third Service Command at Fort Meade. Discontinuance of the 1303d Service Unit as a reception center for white troops became effective September 30 but a few casual groups of white troops will be received until October 7.

Captain Gerlach said the same service command will serve as the Negro reception center.

The 1303d came into being at Camp Lee, March 4, 1941, when the first group of selectees arrived at the reception center for processing. Before that time the only group here was the cadre of which some were members of the medical department.

OCT 2 1943

At the time of the 1303d's arrival, the entire post was situated in what is now the present reception center and the camp had just begun to function as a quartermaster replacement training center, a medical replacement training center and a reception center which supplied many of the men for the two other branches.

47c

Maryville, Tenn. Enterprise
November 4, 1943

ARMY TAKES EIGHT COLORED SELECTEES

The following listed colored selectees left from Blount County Local Board No. 2, this week:

Walter Lewis Mann, Odell Coleman, George Raymond Brown, Eddie Roscoe Dowdle, L. V. Williams, Samuel Edward Blair, John B. Smith, Clarence Wesley Brown.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

HAROLD LINDSEY NOT MAD ENOUGH TO FIGHT

AUG 20 1943

Harold Lindsey, 30 years old, says he tried twice to adapt himself to army routine and twice failed. Arrested at his home, 2016 North Fifth street, he is being held for a third effort.

Inducted early this year he got as far as Ft. Leavenworth, decided he wanted no part of it, and caught the next bus home. The draft board ordered him to try again a few weeks later and he got a little further. He donned a uniform but took it off that night as soon as he got home and hung it in the closet.

AUG 20 1943

"I just don't feel mad at nobody, somehow," he explained to Detective Harry Hartung at police headquarters today while awaiting the arrival of the military police, "I ain't no good at

47c

Darlington, S. C., News & Press
November 4, 1943

102 Colored Men Leave for Exams.

102 Darlington Negro men left Thursday for examinations for induction into the U. S. Army.

Clinton, S. C. Chronicle
November 4, 1943

19 Negroes Left Monday for Jackson

Nineteen Negro selectees left Monday morning, Nov. 1, for Fort Jackson, Columbia, for physical examination and possible induction into the armed services.

They were sent by local board No. 50, and were:

Sam Reeder Williams, Washington, D. C.
Theodore Roosevelt Clayton, Princeton.
Thomas Harris, Youngstown, Ohio
Marion Taylor, Rt 1, Clinton.
Lewis Cornelius Burnside, Clinton
Oscar Lee Dunlap, Greensboro N. C.
Samuel Copeland, Clinton.
R. V. Todd, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Proverb McMorris, Baltimore, Md.
W. C. Copeland, RFD, Clinton.
Blakely Bates, Henderson, N. C.
Loyd Watts, Richmond, Va.
Sammie Acie King, Rt. 3, Clinton.
James Curtis Johnson, Rt. 1, Honea Path.
Johnnie Walter Pyles, Rt. 3, Clinton.

The group was among the largest to leave from here in recent months.

47c-1943

Negro Youth Must Be Given Chance, Says Col. Johnson

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 5 1943

Selective Service Official Is Back from Tour of Southeast

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(S N S)—Back at his desk in the headquarters of the Selective Service System after 32 days absence, Colonel Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Selective Service Director Major General Lewis B. Hershey, had, (1) completed a 3400-mile tour of Army induction stations from North Carolina to Louisiana, (2) been promoted from lieutenant colonel to colonel.

On his tour of induction stations, Colonel Johnson sought answers to these questions: Why the high rate of Negro rejections for failure to pass the Army's minimum intelligence standards?—Why the low percentage of those meeting the Army's physical requirement standards?

When interviewed, he had this to say: "I concluded my tour with the conviction that the root of the trouble lies in the inadequate educational facilities in lower standards of health as a direct consequence.

"Negro youth must be given a chance. Because they have not been given equal opportunities for learning, the Army is paying the penalty. However, the Selective Service has managed, despite these handicaps, to recruit eligible youths to the extent that today Negroes comprise above 10 per cent of the men inducted into the armed forces through the Selective Service System

Colonel Johnson, a graduate of Howard University, is a member of the Board of Parole of the District of Columbia and of the bar of the District of Columbia and of North Carolina. His rise in rank began in 1917 when he was promoted to first lieutenant of Infantry; by October 1918 he had risen to the rank of captain, becoming major in September 1929. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1942, he received his latest elevation on September 21, 1943.

Captain Benson D. Mitchell is assistant to Colonel Johnson. He is a graduate of Howard University and was assigned to the Selective System in June 1942.

Jackson Tenn Sun
November 15, 1943

COLORED SELECTEES SENT BY BOARD FOR ARMY EXAMINATIONS

Local Board No. 1, Selective Service, today sent a contingent of colored Selectees for their final examination and induction into the service. Those leaving with this group are:

Sylvester Glenn, 312 Tanyard, (volunteer); Louis McVeigh, 438 Merry Lane Courts, (volunteer); Rocherster Epperson, Route 3, Bells; William Bradley, 111 Murray; Lonell Fowler, 110 Iron; James Turner, Care 7-UP Bottling Co.; Emerson Tomlin, 208 Beasley;

Samuel Taylor, 114 Tanyard; Leroy Brown, 215 Conger; Robert Hunt, 225 Meadow; Leroy Horton, 202 Hale; Charlie Isable, 141 Boone; Allie Everett Taylor, 113 Carson Alley; Belden Lancaster, 3312 Calumet Ave., Chicago, Ill.; Isaac Sharp, 116 Middleton;

Otis Price, 410 Institute; Robert Samuel Lyons, 348 Stonewall; Curtis Elmer Miller, 1702 Maypole, Chicago, Ill.; Delany Worthy, 470 S. Market; James Cornelius Banks, 507 Day; Curtis Howard, 548 Church; Melvin Fant, 1749 W. 13th St., Chicago, Ill.; James Robert Douglass, 503 Etheridge, Humboldt, Tenn;

James Madison Howell, 218 Stonewall; Luster Duckworth, 253 Middleton; Rufus Fred Jamerson Cole, 4218 Wabash, Chicago, Ill.; Anderson Jones, Jr., 2310 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.; Odell Shipp, 412 Eastern; Willie Border, 523 North Cumberland; William Edward McCorry, 118 Farrar; Jessie Willie Watkins, 5015 S. Calumet, Chicago, Ill.;

Perry Jones, 100 Woodruff; Caliph McKnight, 111 Beasley; John Wesley Ballard, 515 Day; John Wesley Cummings, 111 Johnson; Wesley Poe, 563 Short; James Smith, 354 Eureka; Abbie Pearson, 112 First St.

Charlie Smith, 594 Merryland Courts; Nathaniel Willo Crum, 351 First; Tom Theus, 719 Middleton; Raymond Waddell Reaves, 409 Mobile; Chester Fulton Johnson, 315 Second; Edd Bird, 326 Tanyard; Frank Bray Moore, 420 E. 39th St. Chicago, Ill.; James Donald Martin, 563 Short;

Hulton Lacy Cooper, Route 2, Tiptonville, Tenn.; Frazell Bond, 509 N. Church; Tom Poston, 4011-A Evans, St. Louis, Mo.; Willie T. Chatman, 419 Shannon; Charles Eugene Gray, 126 Taylor Alley; James Estes Britt, 114 Spoke; Grady Huntspon, 533 Cumberland; Willie Green Tanner, 227 Meadow.

Jasper Abbitt, 1629 Maryland St. Gary, Ind.; Wardell Yarbrough, 330 Hale; Elmore Johnson, 480 Shannon; Thornton Parrot, Route 1, Rossville, Tenn.; Henry Clay Robertson, 1702 Maple, Chicago, Ill.; Henry Carthel Brown, 254 Otk; R. B. Thues, 114 Sycamore; Frank Ward, 311 Allen Alley;

George Kidd, 317 Second; Eddie Foster, 326 Second; Booker T. Farr, 434 S. Liberty; Nathan Spencer, 105 N. W. 10th St., Miami, Fla.; Kid Patrick, 337 Burks Alley; Richard Greene, 1330 Campbell; Arzell Sanford; Care Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich.; James Henry Watkins, 339 South;

Eugene Cisco, 445 S. Liberty; James Roy Hurt, 104 Pine; Leslie Lawrence Coates, 210 Eastern; L. C. Fly, 123 Collier Alley; Frank Tidwell, 106 Orchard; James Harris Edward Utley, 108 Laconte; Smith Billups, 233 South; Isiah Cooper, Jr., 161 Wilkerson;

Lincoln Kendricks, Jr., 636 Third; Alveyde Chatman, 524 N. Church; Ross Elton Granberry, Jr., 150 Pine; Fred Brown, Jr., 222 Lane; Enloe Voris Hopper, 114 Neff; Tracey Barnes, 127 Railroad; Foster Bridges, 110 W. Orleans; Otis Ford, 118 White; Emmett Hayes, 227 Middleton.

Boards Continue List Of Draft Delinquents In Jefferson County

Birmingham, Ala., News
November 7, 1943

23 Names Are Reported; Panel In Warrior Points Out Six White, 12 Negro

Names of draft registrants judged to be delinquent by their local boards continued to be listed Saturday, in Jefferson County.

Local Board No. 14 reported that two men who appear on their records as Negroes are now considered delinquent. Their names and last addresses as listed by the board are Clinton Murry, (rear) 3540 North 27th Street, and Willie Miller, 2404 North 18th St.

Judged to be delinquent by Local Board No. 2 are these three, whose races and last addresses are as obtained from board records; White—Willie Ralph Gann, Route 1, Theodore, Ala., care Mrs. Harvey Henson. Negro—Joe Moody, 1616 Rice Street, Columbia, S. C., and Arthur Baker, 651 Adams Street, Detroit, Mich.

Local Board No. 5, Warrior, Ala., reports the following, with races and last addresses as shown on board papers:

White—Thomas Ivan McCluskey, Route 1, Cullman, Ala.; Robert J. Naylor, Route 2, Moulton, Ala.; William Alfred Adams, 113 Washington Avenue, Richmond, Calif.; Jack Lois Malone, Lewisburg, Ala.; Jack Lee Webster, 1353 East 47th Place, Chicago, and James Loftis Robertson, 309 Third Avenue, Bessemer.

Negro—Mum Smith, 421 Dowell Avenue, Powderly, Ala.; Ruben Delothe, Lewisburg, Ala.; Howard Cooper, 428 Dowell Avenue, Powderly; Frank Robert George Thomas, Jr., Box 139, Route 1, Birmingham; Cleveland McBride, Box 725, Route 1, Birmingham; James Hawkins, 922½ Ninth Street, West, Palm Beach, Fla.; Reed Hardin, 412 Carmichael Avenue, Powderly; Astor Emmett Davenport, care J. O. Greathouse, Warrior, Ala.; Willie Clark Pecues, 2221 Avenue E. South, Birmingham; Elisha Gooden, care Southern Pacific Railroad Company, Los Angeles, Calif.; James Adamson, J-92 Hudson House., Vancouver, Wash.; Prince Albert Welch, Stone Webster Engineer Corporation, Knoxville, Tenn.

COLORED SELECTEES INCLUDE A FATHER WITH SIX CHILDREN

Jackson, Tenn. Sun
November 18, 1943

Will Ozier, colored farmer of Routs 1, Bells, who has six children, is among the men from this county leaving today from Local Board No. 2, Selective Service, for final examinations preparatory to induction into the service.

Lee E. Clegett of 124 Farrow St., Jackson, with five children, and Q. T. Pearson of Michigan with four children lead the approximately half of colored Selectees in this call The list follows:

Sam Crooms, Rt. 5, Jackson; Leonard Hays, Spring Creek; George Vantreese, Rt. 1, Oakfield; Mack Weaver, Rt. 1, Pinson; Will Ozier, Rt. 1, Bells; Lee Edward Clegett, 124 Farrow S., Jackson; Odesma Morgan, 3841 Cook Ave. St. Louis, Mo.; Thurman Stinson Eulester Cox, Rt. 7, Humboldt;

Grady Lee, 237 Sycamore St., Jackson; Willie Martin, Rt. 2, Jackson; Robert Hammons, Clinton, Kentucky; Clate Collier, Rt. 2, Pinson; George Allen McGaughy, Rt. 2, Medon; Q. T. Pearson, 402 Fisher St. Kalamazoo, Michigan; Letoy McFadden, 270A Hickory St., St. Louis, Mo.; James Givens, Rt. 4, Jackson;

James Anderson, Rt. 1, Oakfield; Willie Lee Grim, 717 Walnut St., Osawatomie, Kansas; Louis Reed, Bemis; A. D. White, 110 Sycamore St., Jackson; Littlerd Croom, Rt. 3, Jackson; Clarence Arthur Harrison, 224 Franklin St., Jackson; Herman Dodson, Rt. 2, Jackson; Ernest Walker, 110 Sycamore St., Jackson;

J. C. Briett, Rt. 7, Humboldt; Henry Curtis Poe, 744 E. Baltimore St., Jackson; Hoover Ammons, 49½ Bush St., Pontiac, Michigan; Charlie Blackwell, Bemis; Elmer Fuller, Rt. 1, Medon; Herman Flournoy, Rt. 3, Jackson; Gollie Benson, Rt. 1, Oakfield; Fennessee Gardner, Rt. 5, Jackson; Mathis Ross Jones, Rt. 1, Oakfield;

James Hopper, Rt. 1, Denmark; Ernest Shaw, Rt. 1, Denmark; Thomas Fuller, Mercer; Hozell Mayes, Arnold Alley, Jackson; Willie Lee Transou, Rt. 1, Denmark; James McCoy, Rt. 5, Jackson; Johnnie Lee Jordan, Bemis; Emmett Washington, Rt. 2, Jackson; Roger, Rt. 2, Mercer; Leonard Floyd Reid, Rt. 3, Milan;

Uriah Lincoln Freeman, Rt. 2, Denmark; J. C. Hill, Malesus; Cephus Williams, 2124 Madison St., Gary Indiana; Wiley Rhodes, 524 Nowen Ave., Chicago, Ill.; J. D. Rucker, 200 No. California, Chicago Ill.; Harrison Jones, Alamo; R. B. Mercer, Rt. 4, Jackson; Nelson Montgomery, Rt. 2, Denmark; Pete Albert Woodson, Rt. 1, Pinson;

Allen Delton Manley, Rt. 2, Denmark; Martin McClellan, Jr., Rt. 7, Humboldt; Murdic Fuller, Jr., Rt. 2, Mercer; J. T. Lacey, Rt. 2, Jackson; Lofton Oscar Holloman, Mercer; Henry Lee Huddleston, Rt. 1, Jackson; Eevoy Ellison, Rt. 2, Bells; Sam Hawkins, Rt. 1, Denmark; Eugene Crump, Rt. 2, Jackson;

Alvoid Long Rt. 2, Jackson; Adam Vann, Rt. 1, Bells; Harvey James Brown, Rt. 5, Jackson; Thomas Jefferson Martin, Jr., Rt. 1, Jackson; Melvin Cole, Rt. 2, Jackson; Eugene Womack, Rt. 2, Denmark; Robert Stinson, Rt. 7, Humboldt; Nolen Hardin, 1513 Hawkins St., Nashville; Richard Lee Nichelson, Rt. 1, Denmark;

Guy Nathan Turley, Spring Creek; Rufus Wade Franklin, Rt. 5, Jackson; Frank Lee Weddle, Rt. 2, Denmark; Baby Ruth Willies, Rt 1, Jackson; Ben David Thompson, Rt. 1, Medon; Whittie Bond, Burnswich, Ga., Tom Daniel, Jr., Rt. 5, Jackson; Matthew Bivens, Rt. 2, Denmark;

Willie Lee Flakes, Rt. 2, Medon; Chester Clark, Rt. 1, Oakfield; Wiley Willious Williams, Rt. 2, Lamar, Mississippi (Del) Frank (Preacher Flournoy, Rt. 3, Jackson; Jessie Lee Godwin, Rt. 4, Jackson; Fletcher Rucker, Rt. 2, Jackson; Millard Croom, Bemis, Tennessee.

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12 Negro Selectees Sent To Jackson

Clinton, S. C. Chronicle
October 28, 1943

Clinton draft board No. 50 sent the following 12 Negro selectees to Fort Jackson on Thursday, October, 21, for induction into the army:

Aron Willie Gallman, Mill Brook, N. C.

D. V. Jones, Laurens.

Johnnie Mark Duckett, Clinton.

Robert Adkinson, Washington, D. C.

John Wesley Fuller, Zellwood, Fla.

Paul Fleming, Cedartown, Ga.

Nathaniel Harris, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Marcellus Dillard Davis, Rt. 2, Clinton.

Tommie Pitts, Charlotte N. C.

Thomas Young, Clinton.

Rivers Dawkins, Rt. 2, Whitmire.

Marion Anderson, Waterloo.

Army Reveals More Whites Than Negroes Rejected

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 3 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Approximately 750,000 men have been lost to the United States army because of illiteracy it has been revealed by "The Alphabet and the Army," an article appearing in the March issue of the Journal of the National Education association. The figure representing about 50 divi-

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ins not including the 18-19-year-olds, has raised pointed questions concerning the educational systems of various states, most of which are southern.

Of the 750,000 rejectees, education deficiencies hit 500,000 whites as opposed to 250,000 Negroes, which dispels popular belief that the illiteracy problem is confined to Negro educational standards notably discriminatory in the south. The number of whites released by the army because they failed to pass the army test for illiteracy — ability to read an ordinary newspaper indicating training equivalent to a fourth grade education — is shown by the record to be proportionately higher than among Negroes.

ILLITERACY SECTIONAL

While army intelligence is not available on the states having the highest illiteracy rates, the U. S. Census reveals that with one exception, they are located in the south. The 1940 census showed that one out of seven Americans 25 years of age and over could be classified as "functionally" illiterate on the basis of army definition.

Among the 18-19-year-olds selective service reports that about 12 per cent of Negro registrants have been rejected for educational deficiency along with one per cent of whites in the same age group. It is believed that the south's educational policies with respect to the minority group is responsible for the high Negro rate.

MONEY IS LACKING

The general population over 25 years old, according to census figures, reveals 7,300,000 whites as funcually illiterate and 2,700,000 Negroes. Of the whites, 4,200,000 are native born.

The states having the highest illiteracy rate are Tennessee, Arkansas, Virginia, North Carolina, New Mexico, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Louisiana. Lowest illiteracy rates are to be found in Utah, Oregon, Idaho, Iowa, Washington, Nebraska, Kansas, Vermont, Wyoming and Maine. They range from four to seven and a half per cent.

OCT 3 1943

The states with highest illiteracy rates are inferior in monies expended for education, number of pupils in classes, average teacher salary and length of school year. Many persons believe that the only solution to the problem is a federal subsidy to elevate the standards in schools of backward states.

OCT 3 194

Chester S. C. Reporter

Oct. 11 1943

Colored Men For October Induction

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The following colored men will be called for induction in October by Selective Service Board, No. 20:

William Edward Little, Coley Houser, Wallace Gist, John Robert Archie, Ben Chisholm, James Roosevelt Stewart, Lawyer Worthy, Jimmie Wilks, Jack Small Murphy, John Hugh Caudle, John Reece, Felix Calvin Gist, Willie Brice ,Willie Cureton, Marion Jas. Hemphill, John Henry Jackson, Mannie Nickles, Lucius Barnes, Robert Whitlock, Joseph Caldwell, Robert Lee Lowry, Hack Jeter, William Chisholm, Mack Carter, Cal Hames, Joe Williams, Abe Haynes, Robert H.Tobias, Wardell Chambers, Rufus Kee, Johnnie John Caldwell, Jesse Hughes, George B. Hinton, Esper Robbins, Hick Sanders, Walter Tobias, Jr., Robert Neal, Charlie Toliver, Sam Borcey Hick, McKinley Hall, Cecil Sanders, Henry Archie, Jesse Ferguson, Bay Wilks, Arthur Darby, Audrey Hayes, King David Wylie, Elbert Halsey, George Henry Black, Oror Hughes, Joe Banks Gilmore, Hilliard Crosby, William David Worthy, Charley Clowney, Lawrence Israel Carter, John Rollingson Chisholm, J. B. Gorden, Johnnie James Pressley, Haze Sanders, William Tom McLinton, Coleman Bagwell, Ross Graham, Orvet Cromer, David Carthell Clark, Jr., James Hudson, John C. Abraham, John Henry Wright, John William Stroud, Willie Weathers, William Ervin, William Davis Chisholm, James William Douglass, Joe Willie Williams, Ernest Walker, Sylvester Shannon, Sumter Junior Dixon, Roscoe Williams, James Clyde Mobley, Fred Walker Brown. Robert Lee Craig, Jr., David Ferguson, John Robert Pearson, Mackers Darby, Robert Kennedy, Leroy Douglas, Jake Price, Herman Carnell Cole, Burnett Walker, Wyman Mobley,Walter Jennings Willfrie, Jr., Calvin Brown,George Dixon, John Barnes Carter,Charlie Wilks, Amos Washington, Johnnie Miles Strother, George William Simpson, Willie Brown, Gettie Anderson, Tommie Lee Johnson, Joe Robbins, David Ferguson, David Paul Simpson, Glasper Parks, Willie Be Sanders, Walker Young, Frank Killian, William Jennings, William James Howard, Woods Dunaford, L. B. Steele.

Charleston, S. C., News Courier

November 5, 1943

Draft Board No. 16

Calls 87 Negro Men

47c

Eighty-seven negro men have been ordered by Selective Service Board No. 16 to report at board headquarters, 30 Mount Pleasant street, on November 11 to be sent to Fort Jackson for indiction into the army. The men are the following:

George Elmore White, James Oree, Ervin Brown, Alexander Ravenel, Julius Simmons, Cyrus Sams, Leo Williams, Jackson Governor Nesbit, Charles Robinson, George Perry, Jr., Robert Williams, James Donnom Washington, Robert Collins, Julius Allen, Hazel David Brown, Benjamin (Friend) White, John Wigfall, Charles N. Bradley, Timothy Smalls, John Ladson, James Rock, Willie Pinckney.

Also, Charlie Williams, Julius Richardson, Joseph Lambright, Rufus Kelly, Aaron McGinnis, Richard Calhoun Able, Eddie Flood, Lenon Edwards, Frank Ellis, John Lucius McKinney, Pharisee Clark, Henry Simmons, Louis Lucious Ellis, Dan Deas, George Swinton, Frank Grant, Elijah Ham, Joe Martin, Esau Morris Simmons, William J. Hamilton, Hardin (Boy) Duggins, Elijah Bradley.

Also, Quincy Knox, Lewis Morrison, Jr., Philip Jefferson, Melvin Washington, Joseph Harper, Jr., Joe McClary, Francis Cecil Rofers, Ett Rivers, Clarence Brown, Junius Fulton, Moses Moultrie, James Williams, James Smith, Ernest Jerome Williams, Buster Harvin, Elijah Blake, Tom Weathers, Leroy Clifford, Robert Wilson Edwards, James Lee Carter.

Also, Alfred Simmons, James Aiken, Marion Wilford Jenkins, Willie Middleton, Charlie Kressie Taste, Julian Henderson, Jr., Henry Butler, Jossy Simmons, Paul Green, Jacob Commings, Charles Junior Alston, Hezekiah Drayton, Amos Hilton, James (King) Johnson, Luke Read, Wesley Gilliens, Charlie Simpson, Pohn Bennett, Jr., Pirter German, Albert Way, Daught (Brother) Peterson, Arthur Jenkins and William Murray.

Newberry, S. C., Observer & Herald

October 26, 1943

Colored Men To Report For Final Exams Nov. 2nd

Both Boards Send Groups

47c

The two local selective service boards have announced the names of the colored selectees from the local boards which will report on November 2nd to Fort Jackson for final physical examinations.

The following is the list from Board No. 58:

John Calvin Dominick, Robert Lee Blair, Grady Lee Douglas, Eddie Bigham Mathis, Pierce Coleman, Albert Cannon, Olin Clark, Robert Butler, S. T. Davis, Dewey Aughtry, Caseilo Jones, Jodie Johnson, Robert B. Graham, James Rutherford, Nathaniel Caldwell.

The following is the list from Board No. 59:

Leonard Lomax, Walter Clark, Allen Pee, Willie James Longshaw, Willie Griffin Pinkney, Johnnie Williams, George Brown, Johnnie Mack, James Whitner, Ervin Toland, George Howard Sims, James Heller, Jr., George Adam Counts, Jr., Thomas Berley Wise, Haskell Suber, Major Burton, James Arthur Higgins, Forest Lee Robinson, J. W. Pitts, Irineious Wheeler, Edd Wilson, Nathaniel Gilliam, Dallas Hizeal, John Henry Martin.

EIGHT "OBJECTORS" FAIL TO REPORT TO LOCAL BOARD NO. 2

Jackson. Tenn. Sun

47c

Eight colored men who claim to be "Conscientious Objectors" failed to report to local Board No. 2, Selective Service, today under the first call for men of this classification this board has had.

Information obtained from the office of the Board shows that [illegible] Church of God at Medon, and have been advised by their pastor to refrain from meeting Selective Service requirements.

November 18, 1943

The call for these conscientious objectors is for final examination preparatory to sending them to a work camp. No military service is contemplated, according to Board information. Had they reported as instructed, and passed their examinations, they would have been returned to this county until needed at a work camp.

Under Selective Service regulations, names of these eight will now be turned over to the United States Attorney General for further action.

Included in this group are Joe Oliver McBride, Henry Lee Reaves, Marshall Neal Thompson and Edgar Houston Darr Thompson, all of Route 1, Medon; Namon Marshall, David Marshall and C. M. Thompson of Route 5, Jackson; and Robert Marshall of 544 S. Liberty St.

Six Negroes Accepted From Colored Call

Batesburg, S. C., News

October 29, 1943

47c

Only six negroes were accepted for military service from the group sent to Fort Jackson Oct. 22 for examination. The call was for 29 men, which makes the percentage accepted unusually small. Three were assigned to the army, while the other three went into the navy.

Accepted for the army are: Odessa John Geiger, Irmo Rt. 1; Trance Nichols, Batesburg; Richard Marion Wise, Lexington, Rt. 4.

Accepted for the navy are: Walter Henry Adams, Leesville, Rt. 3; James Earley Summers, Lexington, Rt. 2; and Benson Leon Coleman, Irmo.

The Northwest Enterprise

Seattle, Washington

Army Engineers Need Skilled Negro Workers

47c

A special call for skilled Negro construction workers to volunteer for service with the Army Engineers was issued this week by Lieutenant Colonel Ralph A. Tudor, U. S. District Engineer, Portland.

SEP 1 1943

"The Corps of Engineers is activating a large number of highly specialized Negro airdrome construction battalions," Colonel Tudor stated. These organizations require specialists who have had experience in all types of construction work, particularly those having to do with the operation and maintenance of highway construciton machinery, but the list includes a large number of other skilled trades such as carpenters, construction foremen, electricians, demolition men, et al."

SEP 1 1943

Colonel Tudor made public a letter written under the date of July 16, 1943, to the chief of engineers by headquarters of the Army Air Forces which quoted Brigadier General O. S. Godfrey, chief air engineer, as stating:

"I feel that the district and division engineers are to be commended for the splendid job they have done in the selection and procurement of construction specialist personnel We are trying to carry on by granting these men early promotions in recognition of their great value to the corps. I trust that our continuing efforts will bring an increasing number of these fine construction men into the military service in the corps of engineers.

SEP 1 1943

"I have only one suggestion to offer in this continuing program, that greatest stress be placed on the recruitment of qualified Negro inductees. We have a large number of colored units. The need is greater than in white units and I realize the recruiting field is very limited.

A representative of the Portland district engineer will interview applicants for voluntary induction in the Corps of Engineers at 625 Pittock block to determine their technical qualifications. Upon approval the men will be given a letter of assignment which earmarks them for an Engineer regiment where their services are most needed.

LOCAL NEGROES SENT TO ARMY

Walhalla, S. C. Courier

November 11, 1943

The following colored selectees, sent to Fort Jackson by the Walhalla draft board, were inducted last Friday:

Grover Hunter, Westminster; Jeff Rogers, Walhalla, Rt. 2; Eddie Bradley, Jr., Westminster Star Route; Jefferson Davis Richardson Walhalla. Joe Nathan Taylor, West Union, and Johnnie Grant, Walhalla, Rt. 1, were transferred to Pennsylvania for induction.

47c-1943

"Ft. Huachuca's Hell On Earth"; Exposé Reveals

SEP 11 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York. N. Y.

TUSCON, Ariz. (ANP).—Confidential information has been obtained by the Associated Negro Press of startling and sensational discriminatory practices imposed upon soldiers of the 92nd infantry division stationed at Fort Huachuca. Sources cannot be revealed for fear of reprisals upon the informants.

Scandal Threatens

The shameful situation threatens to develop into a national scandal, and more important, according to observers, unless the federal government and the army high command takes immediate, fortright action to correct the disgraceful conditions, it is believed that all the fury of an overseas batltefield will explode in his desert community.

Black American soldiers who a few months before had entered the U. S. army filled with patriotic determination to help win the war for democracy, even to the point of sacrificing their lives, are now reported to be enmeshed in the doldrums of frustration and despair as a direct result of the heartbreaking, inhuman treatment meted out to them by commanding general and white officers alike.

Shocking Charges

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort included the following:

1. That the comamnding general, E. M. Almond, of Anniston, Ala., refers to his Negro charges both in and out of their presence as "niggers."

2. That the commanding general is formulating plans to convince the War Department to ship the division for combat duty, although the division is miserably unprepared for such service.

3. That Gen. Almond is not a top flight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications. The War Department foisted him upon the Negro group it is charged because it was necessary to place him somewhere.

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

5. That a quota system operates in the making and promotion of Negro officers with few ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern methods of warfare. Instead, training consists almost exclusively of marches and drills around the confines of the army post.

Confusion?!?!

7. That although present conditions on the military reservation have existed ever since the division moved into Arizona last May, Atty Truman K. Gibson, Jr., acting civilian aide to the secretary of war, and Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, inspecting general from the inspector general's office, Washington, on a recent inspection here found conditions to be "in excellent shape, morale "high," training "good," and the overall picture "gratifying."

"Slaveocracy"

Personnel at the army post are said to be greatly puzzled over how they can reconcile the vicious dictums of Gen. Almond and his staff of white officers to preachments of a nation pledged in a war to carry the four freedoms and democracy to the far corners of the world. Rumors are being circulated in Tuscon that the soldiers are so restive under the "slaveocracy" rule at the camp that a flareup of serious proportions is expected almost momentarily. Only positive intervention of the federal government with drastic punishment delivered upon the heads of responsible authorities is seen as a possible palliative.

Particularly bitter are the men over the statements accredited to Atty. Truman K. Gibson and Gen Benjamin O. Davis that conditions are "in excellent shape," training "good," morale "high' and the overall picture "gratifying.' Enlisted men who said the two high officials were at Fort Huachuoa recently to investigate the post must have known that the reservation is a "key of dynamite" if they had their eyes open.

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SEP 11 1943

HIT REVENGE DRAFT OF GA. RACE EDITOR

Chicago Defender

Probe Of Board Asked By Scott — See Link To Lynch Expose

Chicago, Illinois

ATLANTA. (ANP) — Col. James N. Keelin Jr., director of selective service of Georgia, Saturday was called upon to investigate Albany (Ga.) Draft Board No. 1, which it is charged showed prejudice in the army induction of Editor A. C. Searles, of the Southwest Georgian, an Albany newspaper.

The request for investigation came from C. A. Scott, southern vice president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' association and general manager of the Atlanta Daily World.

Searles' case was recently discussed with national selective service officials in Washington by Mr. Scott and members of the publishers executive committee. It was contended at this conference and at the annual association meeting in Louisville that Searles was eligible for deferment under Selective Service Occupational Directive No. 29, which states that managing editors and other essential employes of newspapers are eligible for consideration for deferment. Searles was refused a deferment and was inducted the first week in June this year.

Prior to Searles' induction, he expressed the belief that the speed with which he was given re-classification grew out of the exposure by his newspaper of the midnight abduction and lynching of Robert Hall at Newton, Ga., on Jan. 29.

According to Mr. Scott, further evidence shows that the Albany local board attempted to intimidate the man that Editor Searles left to carry on his paper by sending police after him and threatening to put the FBI on him and the paper because of the board's displeasure with an article that appeared in the June 26 issue. As a result of the pressure that the local board brought on the new publisher, the publication of the paper was suspended.

Col. Keelin was asked to investigate the board because "this type of action is a serious threat to the existence of the Negro press," which Mr. Scott contended "is essential to our war effort by printing news of interest to Negroes and thereby keeping up their morale."

47c

AUG 7 1943

Globe & Independent
Nashville. Tenn.

Put Illiterates In Army Before Fathers, Is Plea

DEC 10 1943

Mass Meeting In Chicago Wants Gov't To Draft 500,000 Colored Men

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 9—(ANP)—Utilization of 500,000 single Negro illiterates before drafting pre-Pearl Harbor fathers for noncombat service, was urged at a mass meeting of the National Negro council Monday at the Metropolitan Community church.

A resolution adopted also urged the government to make provision for a primary education for these illiterates. The group requested that President Roosevelt issue an executive order "prohibiting the war department from its present undemocratic policy of segregating and discrimination against a million Negro soldiers by denying Negroes combat service and relegating them to engineer labor and miscellaneous divisions."

Other requests were that a higher quota of Negro nurses in the army, admission of Negro women as WAVES and SPARS, and defeat of the Senate proposal for soldier voting Congress neglected to protect the rights of Negro soldiers to cast a ballot in the southern poll tax states."

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DEC 10 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York. N. Y.

Bias Claimed In Dixie Case

Say Publisher Was Eligible For Deferment Under Ruling

ATLANTA, (ANP)—Col. James N. Keelin Jr., director of selective service of Georgia, Saturday was called upon to investigate Albany (Ga.) Draft Board No. 1, which it is charged showed prejudice in the army induction of Editor A. C. Searles, of the Southwest Georgian, an Albany weekly newspaper. The request for investigation came from C. A. Scott, southern vice president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' association and general manager of the Atlanta Daily World.

Searles' case was recently discussed with national selective service officials in Washington by Mr. Scott and members of the publishers executive committee. It was contented at this conference and at the annual association meeting in Louisville that Searles was eligible for deferment under Selective Service Occupational Directive No. 29, which states that managing editors and other essential employes of newspapers are eligible for consideration for deferment. Searles was refused a deferment and was inducted the first week in June this year.

Prior to Searles' induction, he expressed the belief that the speed with which he was given re-classification grew out of the exposure by his newspaper of the midnight abduction and lynching of Robert Hall at Newton, Ga., on Jan. 29.

According to Mr. Scott, further evidence shows that the Albany local board attempted to intimidate the man that Editor Searles left to carry on his paper by sending police after him and threatening to put the FBI on him and the paper because of the board's displeasure with an article that appeared in the June 26 issue. As a result of the pressure that the local board brought on the new publisher, the publication of the paper was suspended.

Col. Keelin was asked to investigate the board because "this type of action is a serious threat to the existence of the Negro press," which Mr. Scott contended "is essential to our war effort by printing news of interest to Negroes and thereby keeping up their morale."

On Feb. 6, Searles carried an article regarding the Hall lynching naming the Baker county sheriff and two deputies as perpetrators of the crime. Quite a furore resulted. Immediately after the appearance of the article, the draft board reacted. Searles was then 3-A, but two days after the appearance of his paper in Albany, was ordered to report for a physical examination. Three days after the examination he received a card indicating that he had been re-classified to 1-A. Searles asserted that he was not given the opportunity to appear before the board, nor to appeal the classification.

On the same date that Searles reported for induction, June 19, the Southwest Georgian carried a signed article by the editor stating that he was not opposed to service in the army, but felt that his board had not dealt with him fairly.

Then on June 26, Albany Local Board No. 1 addressed an unsigned card to "Editor-Publisher of Southwest Georgian" directing an ap-

pearance before the board on June warning him not [illegible]ore it. Thisbout the suspension of their only
28 and ordering that a copy of the was interpreted by Mr. Scott as be-ource of information about
Southwest Georgian be brought to ing a [illegible] misuse of local boardegroes.
the board's headquarters. Typed power and a pointed effort to in-
on the card and underscored in red timidate the Negro press.
were these words, "Bring This The pressure tactics of the Al-
Subpoena With You." bany board, it was felt, were so
The man whom Searles had left plainly evident that those left in
to carry on his paper answered this charge deemed it unwise to continue
Subpoena" after a police officer had publication of the newspaper. Read-
called at his office [illegible] day before ers of the paper are quite concerned

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AUG 7 1943

Proportion of Negroes in Army High, Says Hershey's Report

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

SEP 24 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Official information that 375,059 Negroes have been inducted into the army out of a total of 476,728 called for military service from a list in excess of [illegible] registrants, is contained in the second report of the operation of selective service for 1942 submitted to the President April 3. The number of inductees is "higher than the proportion of the population and of the registrations."

The report, covering the period from Dec. 7, 1941, to Dec. 5, 1942, was prepared under the direction of Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director, who stated that Negroes are serving in all "overseas theaters where American troops are stationed." It has just been released in book form.

Hershey's report also revealed that the number of Negroes now in service represents 10 per cent of registrants between the ages of 18 and 45 distributed through the U. S. but most of whom are concentrated in southern states under jurisdiction of the third, fourth and eighth service commands.

"There is no state entirely without Negro registrants, although North Dakota has only one 100th of one per cent," stated the summary. "Mississippi on the other hand, has the largest proportion of Negro registrants, 48.6 per cent. The largest actual number of Negro registrants is in Georgia. There are 230,511 Negroes in a total registration in the state of 66,266."

1.8 PER CENT ENLISTED

Statistics show that only 1.8 per cent of Negroes appear in Class 1-C, (enlisted) undoubtedly as a result of restriction placed upon voluntary enlistments of Negroes by the army, navy, marine corps and coast guard, continued the report. This situation has brought unfavorable reaction from both Negroes and whites, declared the report, but it added that selective service was not responsible. All requisition must come from the war department which the service simply fills, it is said, and the war department has several times imposed restrictions on the induction of Negroes because "facilities were not available for the reception and training of Negro soldiers."

"Editors of Negro newspapers, leaders of Negro organizations, and interested citizens of both races expressed dissatisfaction over the situation and demanded that Negroes constitute a proportionate part of the war army," informs the paper. "The war department finally announced that it was necessary to make light calls for Negroes in the early months of the year 1942, for the reasons stated, but that the calls would be increased in the later months so that by the end of 1942, at least 175,000 Negroes would be called for army service. With the aid of this release, selective service was able to reassure Negroes regarding their participation in the army and to tell them that they would be permitted to bear their share of the fight for the preservation of democracy throughout the world. A definite threat to the patriotic enthusiasm of Negro citizens was thereby removed.

BOARDS MISUNDERSTOOD

Much of the same condition prevailed with respect to enlistment of Negro officer candidates, said Hershey's report. Many state and local boards misunderstood that Negro officer material was desired and it was necessary to issue a directive to them expressly asking for officer candidates. This situation was cleared up although not in a wholly satisfactory manner due to the continued "inherent uncertainty" in the volunteer office candidate program.

Rejection of Negroes for physical, mental or moral reasons, represent 18.7 per cent of the total, the report went on. A smaller percentage was disclosed in Class 11-A and 11-B, occupational deferments, due in part, said the paper to "the fact that ordinarily many Negroes do not occupy key positions in the industries [illegible] regarded as essential because of their "lack of technical training, to union discrimination, and to discriminatory employment policies." Only 1.2 per cent are officials deferred by law, and 2.2 per cent are deferred because they are conscientious objectors.

According to the report the greatest cause for rejection of Negroes by tre army is venereal disease, but illiteracy likewise presents a serious problem. A four month's study made by selective service during the summer and early fall of 1941 indicates that the rate is five times that of whites.

EDUCATORS INTERESTED

"Several groups of educators in states most seriously affected have expressed interest and concern in the problem and have undertaken to extend their facilities and personnel so as to make some contribution in this direction," the report said. "It would be helpful if all conferences of the war department, the selective service system, the office of education and other government agencies directed toward the relief of this situation would include Negro educators. In the sections of the country where the largest number of illiterates is found, educational systems for Negroes and whites are separate.

"In the planning of programs to increase the functional literacy of registrants in these sections of the country, Negro educators could do constructive work on the planning groups so as to give the most intelligent and experienced direction to plans that are projected for operation among illiterate Negroes."

List Number Of Men Rejected

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

State Selective Service officials, with headquarters in Atlanta, stated Thursday that the percentage of inductees rejected in Georgia was 33.3 instead of 27.8, as reported by officials in Washington.

Statistics released from the nation's capital were compiled in an anual report of the Selective Service System, covering the period from the first inductions in 1940 through November, 1942 .

The breakdown from Washington showed that the number sent to Georgia induction stations in the 26-period was 89,373 with a total of 24,889 rejections. Of this total, 58,004 were white with 14,298 rejected, and 31,369 Negroes with 10,591 rejected.

State officials indicated that the percentage of rejections were high at present because, "we are scraping the bottom of the barrel and reaching men who do not represent the average physical condition."

Figures for other Southern states follow:

South Carolina—Total sent, 59,647, with 21,033 rejected, for percentage of 35.3. Of these, 36,460 were white, with 11,521 rejected; Negroes, 23,187, with 9,512 rejected.

Alabama — Total sent, 101,232, with 33,248 rejected, for percentage of 32.8. Of these, 61,258 were white, with 16.952 rejected; Negroes, 39,974, with 16,294 rejected.

Florida — Total sent, 67,384, with 20,487 rejected, for percentage of 30.4. Of these, 44,463 were white with [illegible],626 rejected; Negroes, 22,921, with 7,861 rejected.

Tennessee — Total sent, 109,579, with 33,248 rejected, for percentage of 25.8. Of these, 84,731 were white, with 18,554 rejected; Negroes, 24,848, with 9.763 rejected.

Virtually All Convicted Are Religious Fanatics

Negroes Represent Less Than 2 Per Cent Of Draft Dodgers Jailed

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 9—Fewer than 100 Negro draft dodgers, or less than two per cent of the total 6,116 persons convicted of Selective Service Act violations from October 1940 to June 30, 1943, have been convicted and are now serving terms ranging from nine months to 15 years in 11 federal prisons, according to information made public here this week by Asst. Atty. Gen. Wendell Berge, in charge of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

Practically all of the Negroes convicted are members of sects or organizations opposing compliance with the Selective Service Act. Of 73 Negro draft dodgers named this week by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as inmates of federal prisons, 54 were members of the Negro Moslem cult; 17 members of the International Reassemble of the Church of Freedom League, Inc.; one a member of the Moorish Science Temple and one a member of the Ethiopian World Federation.

LONG SENTENCE

The stiffest sentence—15 years in Leavenworth penitentiary—was received by Ethelbert A. Broaster of New Orleans, La., leader of the International Reassemble Church of Freedom League, Inc., charged with counseling others to evade the draft. All others convicted received sentences ranging from nine months to five years, with a majority of them three years, except Roynell Lawson, a ring leader in Broaster's organization, who was sent to Leavenworth for eight years, three months and six days on a conviction for draft evasion.

The largest number of convictions was in Chicago and New Orleans, accounting for 37 and 17, respectively; the remainder being New Jersey with ten, Kansas with seven and Michigan and the District of Columbia with one each.

NOT "FIFTH COLUMNISTS"

None of the persons convicted was proved to have had any connections with alien or enemy agents. The Negro Moslem cult—like Jehovah's Witnesses, which according to Berge, accounted for 1,253 of the persons convicted does not recognize the Government of the United States as their sovereign. Members of this cult deny that they are Negroes and renounce "slave names" given them at birth as "degrading." They adopt Moslem names or else resort to the practice of adding the Moorish title "Bey" to the names given them at birth. Many of those convicted are listed in prison records only by their first names and the letter "X". Thus prison records show "John XX" and "John 3X" as inmates of the Sandstone federal prison; "Winifred B. Bey, Sr." at the Springfield prison; "Emmanuel Mohammed" (Robert Bridgeman) at Milan prison.

DOUBTFUL STATUS

Although these cultists claim to be conscientious objectors, this is not the reason for their conviction. Mr. Berge pointed out that the violators who profess conscientious objection are fined and imprisoned for the same reason as are other violators of the Selective Service Act, not because of their beliefs or scruples regarding war. Machinery has been set up under the Act, he said, to pass upon the validity of claims for exemption on grounds of conscientious objection. If the claim is not granted, and the person then refuses to perform full or limited service to which he is ordered, his status is the same as any other violator of the Act. His professed status as a conscientious objector, Mr. Berge said, is merely incidental to his actual status as a lawbreaker.

47c-1943

Segregation Means Discrimination

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

AUG 28 1943

It is trite but true that segregation means discrimination, and the recent report of the Selective Service administration on the drafting of Negroes proves it once more.

This report asserts that a disproportionate number of colored selectees were rejected because of illiteracy and venereal disease largely, and that they represented 18.7 of all persons classified as 4-F in 1942.

These are the ills and handicaps imposed by poverty, jim-crowism and discrimination, for it is axiomatic that they decrease with economic opportunity, adequate educational and medical facilities, proper housing and wholesome cultural atmosphere.

The fact that this disproportion of Negroes was rejected for military service for these reasons is an indictment of this civilization and a mockery of democracy.

The report tells us that as as a result of this high proportion of colored 4-F's, "calls for Negroes to meet quotas had to be raised considerably."

This is a confession that the non-discriminatory clauses in the Selective Service act are being violated by setting up a Negro quota and a white quota instead of a State quota.

It means that the system of jim-crow units upon which the Army and Navy stubbornly insist makes for discrimination against Negroes because a large number of Negroes were drafted who should not have been drafted for the reason that other Negroes were rejected and a "Negro quota" had to be filled.

Without a segregated system, men would be selected as their order numbers were called, regardless of so-called race, but with a segregated system the draft boards select "Negroes" rather than Americans in 1-A.

The United States and her Allies seem on the road to winning this war for democracy and freedom, but after victory, what will she have actually won if this vicious and all-pervading system of jim-crowism remains and continues to grow stronger and stronger?

What shall it profit a nation to win the whole world, yet lose its soul?

THE HORIZON

BY P. L. PRATTIS

AUG 28 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

SEVERAL weeks ago, the writer posed a simple problem in arithmetic for Courier readers and other Negroes. It was pointed out that during the last 80 years the Japanese in this country, who now number approximately 120,000, had accumulated two billion dollars in wealth. Against these figures was set the fact that American Negroes during the last 80 years had also accumulated two billion dollars in wealth. There are thirteen million American Negroes. The figures do not speak too well for Negroes. This writer then speculated on the possibility of increasing the total wealth of Negroes in this country quickly through the purchase and saving of War Bonds. It was shown that if five million Negroes purchased one $25 bond each month — and held on to it— the purchases would amount to one hundred and twenty-five million dollars in one month . . to one billion dollars in eight months . . . to two billion dollars in 16 months . . and to three billion dollars in 24 months, or two years.

Mr. Prattis

In other words, through the purchase and saving of War Bonds, American Negroes might accumulate in the next two years one and one-half times the wealth they have amassed since Emancipation. Spread out among thirteen million Negroes, the obligation would amount to only $1.79 a week for each. Some could not afford that much. Others could afford much more. It seems that the job could be done through proper organization.

It was suggested that some of our organizations, with an eye on our economic future, might be disposed to try to organize Negroes to save War Bonds. The problem to solve was the organization of Negroes to save.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT OFFERS SOLUTION

AN answer—possibly a solution—to the problem has come. The answer has come through the National Organization Division of the United States Treasury. Mr. J. L. Houghteling, head of that division, is interested that Americans—not just Negroes—should save their bonds to aid their security in the post-war period. He believes that in the conversion to peace endeavors, the money of all Americans is going to be needed. He believes that part of the future of the common man in America is going to depend on how much money the common man is going to have in his pocket.

As a consequence, Mr. Houghteling has placed the resources of his division behind a national Five-Year Savings Plan to be promoted through small units in every State in the Nation. Americans are going to be asked to organize themselves into units of not more than 100 persons to save War Bonds TOGETHER. The Treasury department will foster the organization of these WAR BOND SAVINGS clubs among Negroes and whites. One such club with 100 members, saving one $25 bond together each month, can save bonds with a maturity value of $2,500 in one month, with a maturity value of $30,000 in one year and with a maturity value of $150,000 in five years. The proposition is as simple as that.

If these War Bond Savings clubs can be organized throughout the nation, among Negroes and whites, the common man will come out of the war with billions of dollars in his collective pocket. Organized in these units, he will be able to look around and to consider ways of using his money collectively to advance his cause. The joint saving of these bonds is going to improve the promise of the future for [illegible]

WILLARD ALLEN ORGANIZES UNITS

MR. WILLARD ALLEN, well known fraternal leader, who is now an executive in the Organizations Division of the Treasury department, has already gone to work to promote saving through the organization of War Bond Savings clubs. Six such clubs have already been set up in Baltimore. One healthy club with nearly five thousand dollars in bonds in its treasury is operating in Pittsburgh. It has been operating less than two months. At the convention of the National Negro Insurance association in Chicago, the proposal for a Five-Year Savings Plan, as presented by Mr. Allen, was endorsed. The proposal is to be placed before the National Negro Business league at its convention in Baltimore, when Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, will address the delegates.

The idea is simple and clear. Anybody can organize a War Bond Savings club with the idea of having 100 persons save one $25 War Bond together every month or every two months. All any such club has to do to get somewhere is to stick to its plan. The savings mount rapidly. There is no risk. The bonds of each member belong to him. Nobody can use them or cash them but him. But by saving with others, he can become a part of a force more powerful than he would be alone. Anyone interested in organizing such a unit, or who already has an organization and wishes to become a part of the Five-Year Savings Plan, should write to Mr. Willard Allen, War Finance Division, Treasury Department, 14[illegible] G Street, N.W., Washington. D. C. Mr. Allen will be glad to help you to organize and to make your organization an integral part of the national Five-Year Savings Plan.

Treasury Endorses Idea to Organize War Bond Savings Clubs Based on Five-Year Plan

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Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Army Rejections

Eye defects were the chief cause of rejection among white 18 and 19-year-old Selective Service registrants called up for physical examination by local boards and induction stations during December, 1942, and January and February, 1943, whereas for Negroes in the same age group and during the same period the leading cause for rejection was educational deficiency. Col. Leonard G. Rowntree, Medical Reserve Corps, United States Army; Kenneth H. McGill and Thomas I. Edwards, PhD., Washington, D. C., report in The Journal of the American Medical Association for Sept. 25.

The next nine leading causes of rejection among white registrants in decreasing order of occurrence were mental disease, musculoskeletal (muscle and bone) defects, cardiovascular (heart and blood vessel) defects, ear defects, hernia, neurologic defects, educational deficiency, underweight and mental deficiency.

The remaining nine leading causes of rejection among Negroes in the same age group were syphilis, cardiovascular defects, mental disease, musculoskeleta defects, hernia, eye defects, neurolgic defects, mental deficiency and tuberculosis. Half of the rejections of Negro youths resulted from educational deficiency or from syphilis.

"In the following broad groups of defects," the authors explain, "white youths had higher rejection rates than Negroes: eyes, ears, nose, kidneys, nervous system, feet, endocrines, overweight and underweight.

"In the following broad groups of defects, Negro youths had higher rejection rates than white youths: tuberculosis, cardivoscular disease, hernia, genital disease, syphilis, gonorrhea, skin disease, educational deficiency and mental disease."

It is explained that in compiling the data, registrants have been counted as rejected if they were not accepted for general military service. "However," the authors say, "a substantial number of registrants who were not acceptable for general military service were inducted for limited service. If these men accepted for limited service only had been counted as inducted for the purposes of this paper the rejection rates would have been lower, particularly for rejections due to defective vision and musculoskeletal defects."

Of the white youths called up for physical examination, 23.8 per cent were rejected either at local boards or at induction stations, whereas the rejection rates for Negro youths was almost twice as high, 45.5 per cent.

The rejection rates for 18 and 19 year olds ar eonly slightly lower than those for older registrants, but the authors warn, "caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions from thi ssince . . . a large proportion physically fit youths were not liable for examination either (a) because of previous enlistment in the armed forces, (b) because of programs that postponed examination and induction until a course of training has been completed or (c) because of employment in war industry or agriculture.

"The most striking difference between the two racial groups concerns the high rate of rejections among Negroes for educational deficiency and for syphilis. Educational deficiency accounted for 121.7 rejections per thousand Negro youths examined, or for 26.7 per cent of all Negro rejections. Syphilis accounted for 112.0 rejections per thousand examined, or for 24.6 per cent of all Negro rejections. . . . Eye defects and mental disease, the leading causes of rejection among white youths, ranked seventh and fourth respectively among Negro youths. . . . Musculoskeletal defects are in third place among

SEP 28 1943

white youths and in fifth place among Negroes, cardiovascular defects are fourth in importance among white youths and third among Negroes. E[illegible] defects and underweight appear on the list of ten leading causes of rejection among white youths but are not important as causes of rejection among Negroes. Conversely, syphilis and tuberculosis, listed among the first ten causes of rejection for Negroes, are lower in order of importance among white youths. . . ."

It is explained that determination of educational deficiency and of mental deficiency was made at induction stations on the basis of tests designed to measure the individual's capacity to absorb basic training.

Summary Of Draft Problem

(1) Hamilton Fish, New York Republican congressman, tells House of Representatives between 200,000 and 300,000 men could be added to the armed forces without difficulty if colored men who have been rejected fo[illegible]tary service because of a lack of education were rescre[illegible] [illegible] reclassified.

(2) It wa[illegible]sclosed that 641,000 colored draft registrants under the Selective Service Act had been rejected for military duty, nearly as many as were accepted—688,000.

(3) Mr. Fish declared that after two years of war he knew of no colored infantry combat troops being used in Europe or any other theatre of operations.

(4) Should these men, rejected for military duty because of education, be reclaimed, he told the House of Representatives, it would not be necessary to draft so large a number of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

(5) Sterling fighting record in first World War of soldiers lacking in education was cited by Congressman Fish as brilliant.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

New York Republican Declares 300,000 Rejected For Lack Of Education Can Be Reclaimed As First Class Fighting Men

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WASHINGTON, D. C. — Rescreening and reclassification of 641,000 rejected colored draft registrants as a means of obtaining 200,000 or 300,000 additional men for the armed forces was urged by Representative Hamilton Fish, Republican, of New York, during debate last week on the bill to halt the further drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers until the induction of all other eligibles. Mr Fish said the armed forces could obtain an additional 200,000 or 300,000 men with[illegible] any difficulty if colored men who have been re[illegible] for military service because of a lack of educa[illegible] were rescreened and reclassified.

Selective Service figures showing the number of colored men rejected because of illiteracy, Mr. Fish said, "were startling."

SOME OF BEST UNABLE TO READ OR WRITE

Mr. Fish, who served as an infantry commander of colored troops in World War I, said that some of the best men in the 369th Infantry, whose colors were decorated with the Croix de Guerre, were unable to read or write.

"One of the best men in my outfit, George Jackson, of Goshen, New York," he said, "could not read or write, yet he could take a machine gun apart and put it together again, blindfolded, when hardly anybody else could do it with their eyes wide open.

"It does not require educational qualifications or school or college certificates, or ability to read and write to shoot a rifle, or to have good eyesight, to be able to march and fight in defense of your country."

NEARLY 50 PERCENT CALLED REJECTED

Mr. Fish disclosed that a total of 641,000 colored draft registrants under the Selective Service Act had been rejected for milit[illegible] duty and th[illegible]olored reg[illegible] induc[illegible] 688,000.

[illegible] said most of the rejections of colored registrants were due to a lack of educational qaulifications.

"I submit," he said, "there ought to be a rescreening and reclassification of all these rejected Negroes. They want to serve in the armed forces, but they are shut out largely because of that single fact that they are not able to read and write.

"I submit that they will make just as good soldiers if properly trained; and they will shoot just as well if they have the proper eyesight.

They are physically strong. **Most of them from the South** come off the farms and are healthy specimens and will probably make good soldiers.

"So, if you want manpower in the Army, if you want to increase it by two or three hundred thousand, then I suggest you rescreen or reclassify these 641,000 Negroes who have been rejected under the Selective Service Act."

ON BATTLE FRONT IN 12 MONTHS IN LAST WAR

Mr. Fish added that the United States has "been in this war twenty-three months—on the 7th of December it will be two years. In the last war colored troops were on the front line fighting within twelve months after war was declared. I know that to be a fact because my own reg[illegible] was in the front [illegible] A[illegible] 1918.

"Almost two years have gone by and I do not know of any colored infantry combat troops anywhere, either in Europe or in the far Pacific or anywhere else in a combat zone.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The only combat unit in the North African theatre of operations, as reported by the Guide war correspondent recently was the 99th Fighter Squadron, first Air Corps tactical unit sent overseas. A squadron, it is well known, consists of less than 300 men, including ground crews, mechanics, pilots, armorers, communications and ordnance technicians. The Guide correspondent wrote last May that there were no colored combat troops in all of North [illegible]ica. Since then he has reported seeing no Negro fighting soldiers in Sicily or England, despite thorough searches for them.)

"They are serving as stevedores, noncombat engineers, in quartermaster detachments, and in unloading transports, but practically none of the 600,000 colored soldiers are in combat units fighting in the front line where they want to be and where they ought to be and have a right to be, the same as any other America[illegible] [illegible]ops."

The House, with only one dissenting vote, last Tuesday passed the bill to halt the further drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers until the induction of all other eligibles.

NOV 6 1943

47c-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Selective Service Rejections: A Lesson

THERE is food for sober thought in the facts disclosed in the second report by Selective Service on the rejection rate for men called for military service. According to General Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, the rate of rejection of Negroes is four times that of white registrants. For the former the rate is 112 per one thousand, and for the latter 27.8 per one thousand. The combined rate of rejection was 38.2 per thousand.

Among the reasons for rejections are physical or moral unfitness and illiteracy. In the latter category there were 1,228 colored men rejected during the three month period of April, May, and June, 1942.

The rates of rejection are not surprising if one is familiar with the environmental conditions in which the two races live. On the matter of illiteracy, the facts concerning the unequal educational provisions made for the two races, particularly in the deeper South and in the rural areas in all of the dual-system states, plus the virtual non-enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws where Negroes are concerned, make impossible any other results than the shocking rejection rate. The facilities provided, the per-student expenditures, the drawback of salary differentials are taking their toll.

One perhaps overlooked by-product of this situaiton is that, since the draft boards will continue to call other eligible selectees until the colored quotas are filled, a higher percentage of the physicially and morally fit and educated Negroes will be called into the armed services than from the white group. Assuming an equality of casualties and disabled men, a larger proportion of the flower of the race among Negroes will be lost than from other racial groups. That is not a prospect to be faced without misgivings.

Similiarly, on the score of physical unfitness and other reasons for rejections, America has only itself to blame. It has definitely proscribed the Negro group to the underfed, poorly housed, and underpaid Forgotten Man category. Squalid living, unavoidable under a vicious social system, is not a factor making for good health.

The Negro has not had adequate general hospital facilities, he has a disproportionate share of the welfare centers and tuberculosis sanatoriums, he has makeshift or no public parks and playgrounds, nor municipal recreation centers and swimming pools.

His public schools are not equipped for physical training courses in too many cases, often where the state laws require them in high schools. Public and private clinics are few and far between. The state and local health programs, for him, are mostly on paper. Between all these handicaps, he is remarkably healthy, everything considered.

But the Negro's actual and relative disqualification for military service is a drain on American manpower that ought not to exist. If America is to build for a more secure future, it will take to heart the findings of the Selective Service officials and begin to spread the benefits of democracy to all the people in equal measure.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Million Men Rejected by Army For Illiteracy

AUG 25 1943

Washington, Aug [illegible]—Almost 1,000,000 men have been rejected because of illiteracy, according to a report made recently by a Senate Education and Labor subcommittee.

Citing figures of the Army Induction Board, the report of the Senate group stated that 28 out of every 1,000 men called up for induction were rejected because they had not attained a fourth-grade education. Otherwise they were qualified for military service.

The rate of rejection per 1,000 men ran from zero in Wyoming to 136.32 in Georgia. The rate for Whites ran as high as 107.11 in Tennessee, and for Negroes as high as 256.29 in Georgia.

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Defender
Chicago. Ill.

SEP 4 1943

Detailed Report On Draft Setup Bares Discrimination In Army And War Jobs

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Pointing out that there has been no change either in the basic legal prohibition against racial discrimination nor in the administrative provision for promoting sound racial relations in the Selective Service, Director Lewis B. Hershey, in his second annual report to President Roosevelt, discusses in detail the problems encountered in the induction of Negroes into the armed forces from December 7, [illegible] to December 5, 1942.

His report devotes a chapter to the racial problems faced by the Selective Service organization, and to the steps taken by the office of the director to overcome difficulties. Lieut. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to the director of Selective Service, has been responsible for the racial relations work of the organization.

The chapter "Negroes and Selective Service" reveals:

"Negroes in 1940 constituted 9.7 percent of the population and 10.4 per cent of the total registration. There was placed in the various subdivisions of Class 1-A, 18.9 per cent of the Negro registration, with classification still incomplete, and there was actually inducted 12.4 per cent of the total Negro registration. A total of 476 728 Negroes was called for military duty, and 375,059 were inducted. This is part of the manpower pool of 3,015,550 Negroes who constitute 10.4 per cent of the 29,029 125 registrants between the ages of 18 and 45.

"While the little over 3,000,000 Negro registrants included in the first. second, third and fifth registrations are, in general, distributed throughout the United States, they are largely in the Third, Fourth and Eighth Service commands Geographically, this represents the southern part of the United States. There is no state entirely without Negro registrants, although North Dakota has only one-hundredth of one per cent. Mississippi, on the other hand, has the largest proportion of Negro registrants—48.6 per cent. The largest actual number of Negro registrants is in Georgia There are 230 511 Negroes in a total registration in the state of 668,266.

Cites Restrictions

"It will be noted that the larger percentage of Negroes has been placed in classes immediately available for general or limited military service. Correspondingly, it will be noted that a relatively smaller number of Negroes who were placed in the deferred classes have been engaged in essential industry or essential agriculture, although the proportion of agricultural workers is greater than industrial workers. In short, comparatively few Negroes are deferred on industrial grounds, particularly in proportion to the number registered. The number of Negroes enlisting in the armed forces is small. This is true also of the number of conscientious objectors.

"A low percentage of Negroes appears in Class 1-C (enlisted) which contains registrants who voluntarily enlisted in the military service. The small proportion of Negroes. 1.3 per cent, is undoubtedly due to the restrictions on voluntary enlistment of Negroes in the army navy. marine corps and coast guard. This fact has caused unfavorable reaction in many communities with large Negro populations where it is felt that a disproportionate number of white men are being called to military service.

"The Selective Service System has made every effort to keep the calls for Negro and white registrants in balance in every local board throughout the country. With the cooperation of the army, it has been able to maintain this balance in calls through the Selective Service system, but the ability of white men to enlist freely in all of the armed forces contrasted with the restrictions placed on Negro enlistments has distorted the picture.

T[illegible] Calls For Men

"Classes 2-A, and 2-B, which represent men deferred for occupational reasons, contain relatively few Negroes. They were only 3 per cent of the registrants deferred in Class 2-A, which represents men deferred as necessary in jobs connected directly with essential civilian occupations. The proportion of Negroes is even smaller in Class 2-B, men holding necessary jobs directly connected with the war effort. The proportion of Negroes in this classification is 1.3 per cent. This is due in part at least. to the fact that ordinarily many Negroes do not occupy key positions in the industries now regarded as essential, due to their lack of technical training, to union discrimination, and to discriminatory employment policies.

"In class 4 B, officials deferred by law, there are a small number of Negroes, only 1.2 per cent. Negroes likewise are very sparsely represented among those given deferred classification in Class 4-E as conscientious objectors available only for civilian work of national importance. They are 2.2 per cent of this classification.

"Negro rejections constituted 18.7 per cent of the total in Class 4-F. These rejections are on physical, mental or moral grounds.

"One of the problems carried over from the peacetime Selective Service was the problem of calling Negro registrants according to their order numbers and in numbers that approximated the proportion of the total population. They wanted to participate in the war effort and in the training program. On the other hand, the War Department reduced the calls for Negroes after Pearl Harbor with the explanation that there was a lack of reception and training facilities for Negroes at the time.

"Editors of Negro newspapers, leaders of Negro organizations and interested citizens of both races expressed dissatisfaction over the situation and demanded that Negroes constitute a proportionate part of the war army. The War Department finally announced that it was necessary to make light calls for Negroes in the early months of the year of 1942, for the reasons stated, but that the calls would be increased in the later months so that by the end of 1942, at least 175,000 Negroes would be called for army service. With the aid of this release Selective Service was able to reassure Negroes regarding their participation in the army and to tell them that they would be permitted to bear their share of the fight for the preservation of democracy throughout the world. A definite threat to the patriotic enthusiasm of Negro citizens was thereby removed.

Evasion

"During the year, a number of cases of registrants, which number considerably less than 100 individuals among over 3,000,000 Negro registrants, were indicted for evasion of the Selective Service Act Some of these men were accused of such ordinary offenses as failing to register, falsifying questionnaire. failure to return questionnaire. and incorrect name and address on registration card. In some cases the failure to register or to report was based on the teachings of the religious sect to which the registrant belonged. There were some curious cases. Membership in one sect was alleged to change the registrant's nationality, membership in another changed his race. Another modified the basis for the computation of age so that the registrant considered himself either beyond or under the age of liability.

"One group of registrants did not comply with the law because the religious sect to which they belonged taught them not to engage in expeditionary warfare. There were at least three cases where registrants charged with failure to report for induction contended that their failure was due to incorrect racial designation not connected with the teaching of a religious sect. There were two arrests for failure to report to conscientious objector camps. There was one suicide and one attempt at suicide to evade service in the army because of alleged racial discrimination. Six men refused to report for induction because of the same reason. The small number of cases indicate clearly that evasion of the law was not a serious problem among the Negroes.

Racial Discrimination

"In all but one of these cases based on racial discimination the prejudice complained of was either in the country at large or in the armed forces. In one case, the defense was based on the grounds that separate calls issued by the Selective Service System for white and Negro registrants was a violation of the provision in the Selective Training and Service Act that 'In the selection and training of men under this act and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color.

"The court denied the writ of habeas corpus in this case, holding that the man was bound to obey the order to report for induction and that any right he might have in the circumstances would certainly not exist until he had submitted himself to the induction process. Further activity in this case is expected.

"Several confidential studies have been made during the year under the auspices of the Bureau of Intelligence, Office of War Information, to determine the attitude of Negroes toward governmental agencies and programs. All of these studies have reported that Negroes believe the Selective Service System has operated with fairness. Some objections were met by investigators but these had to do with the treatment of Negro soldiers within the army and, according to one of these reports, 'their objections do not, of course, reflect on the handling of the Selective Service.'"

Jasper, Ala., Eagle
November 21, 1943

Colored Selectees To Leave November 1—

The following group of colored selectees, now home on 21-day furlough, will leave for Fort Benning, Ga., November 1 for induction into the armed forces.

Edgar D. Jordan, Ozesie C. Harris, Maxey Joe Williams, Ercy Lee Gibbs, Allen Bigby, Jr., Leander McDavid, John Wesley Henderson, Will Young, Jr., and Columbus Esan Sparks.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Father of 12 Inducted

By the Associated Press:

JACKSON, Miss., 1943.—Perry Booker, 36-year-old Negro porter, has been inducted into the army at Camp Shelby, and his wife and 12 children will receive an allotment of $320 a month. Three children are by a former wife.

Sheffield (Ala.) Standard & Times
November 12, 1943

ARMY ACCEPTS NEGROES

The following negroes have been accepted for the armed services, Mrs. Birdie Esslinger, clerk of Colbert county draft board, No. 1, announced Friday: army—Cleveland Holiday, Josh F. Ford, Sidney M. Hodges, Jr., Olion Baker, Jr., Harry Emmett Ricks, transfer from board 14, Birmingham; Irvin Waddle, transfer from board No. 7, Washington, D. C.

Sheffield (Ala.) Standard & Times
October 22, 1943

FIVE NEGROES ACCEPTED

The following negro registrants have been accepted for the army and navy from Colbert county draft board, No. 1, Mrs. Birdie Esslinger, clerk, reported Tuesday: Army: Willie L. Loveless, James L. Eady, Oscar Lovelace. Navy: Robert F. McCray, Roger W. Hayes.

Angelo Herndon Ordered Into 1-A Despite Activity

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK (ANP) — Angelo Herndon, principal in the sensational Georgia chaingang case of 1933, was ordered re-classified from 2-A to 1-A last week by Col. Arthur D. McDermott, selective service director for New York City, despite his essential activity as editor of the popular magazine, the Negro Quarterly.

Herndon was granted a six month deferment last May 2 by his local draft board because national headquarters of selective service at Washington have declared editors and other top executives of news publications "essential." Col McDermott, however, personally appealed the deferment before Appeals Board, which ordered the reclassification.

While organizing Negro and white tenant farmers in Georgia in 1933 Herndon was arrested and convicted for insurrection because as a Communist, under state law, he was considered a "potential revolutionary." The case attracted international attention and the decision was finally reversed by the U. S. Sureme Court in 1937 in a 5 to 4 decision.

Few Negroes Are Deferred: McNutt Sees Nothing Wrong

New York, N. Y.
Daily Worker

WASHINGTON (A N P)—Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower chairman, does not think that the low proportion of deferments given Negroes because of their essentiality in either war plants or necessary civilian activity is any reflection upon efforts being made to secure placement of Negroes and their upgrading in industry.

He revealed this viewpoint at his press conference last Monday.

According to figures contained in the 1943 report of the selective service system, only 3 percent of those in class IIA and 1.3 of those in II-B were Negroes. The first covers those essential to civilian activity while later are engaged in defense work.

EYE DEFECTS BAR MANY IN ARMY'S TESTS

Birmingham, Alabama

Mental Diseases High On List; Some Barred By Lack Of Education

Birmingham Post

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—The leading causes of draft rejections among 18 and 19 year olds are reported by Col. Leonard G. Rowntree, Kenneth H. McGill, and Dr. Thomas I. Edwards, of national headquarters of the Selective Service System, in the forthcoming issue of The Journal of the American Medical Assn.

For white youths, the 10 leading causes of rejection during December, 1942, and January and February, 1943, were, in decreasing order of occurrence: eye defects, mental disease, musculoskeletal defects, heart and blood vessel defects, ear defects, hernia, neurologic defects, educational deficiency, underweight and mental deficiency.

Lack Education

For Negroes during the same period the 10 leading rejetion causes were: educational deficiency, syphilis, heart and blood vessel defects, mental disease, musculoskeletal defects, hernia, eye defects, neurologic defects, mental deficiency, and tuberculosis.

Of the white youths called for physical examination, 23 per cent were rejected at local boards or induction stations. The rate was almost twice as high for Negroes, 45.5 per cent. The rates are only slightly lower than for older registrants, but the Selective Service officials point out one should be cautious in drawing conclusions from this.

Large numbers of physically fit 18 to 19 year oldes entered the armed forces by enlistment, and the Selective Service figures do not cover findings on these youths. An additional number are in schools or colleges and their examinations are postponed until after this training period. Still others are deferred because of employment in war industry or agriculture.

Standards Revised

Comparison of rejection causes between the 18 and 19 year old and the older men called up previously cannot be made very rapidly, because standards for eyes, teeth, and educational qualifications have been revised and increased attention given to psychiatric examination.

Between November, 1940, and May, 1941, the 10 leading causes of rejection for white and Negroes combined, ages 21 to 36, were: teeth, eyes, heart and blood vessel defects, musculoskeletal defects, mental and nervous defects, hernia, ears, feet, and tuberculosis and other lung defects.

Let's Do Our Part And Contend For Full Reward

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

We are impressed with the seriousness of the charges of cold indifference and sometimes, manifestly unfair treatment, of our soldiers and would-be soldiers, on the part of some Draft boards in local communities in the South. Such terms as "nigger" and "boy"; an occasional whipping by civilian police or train conductors; a jailing here or a killing there; all these add up to a most unpleasant and unhealthy picture for the Negro soldier and the Negro people. They most certainly do not help build morale nor cheer would-be-soldiers to look with pleasant anticipation upon the time when they will enter the service of their country.

We believe and fondly hope that local and National Selective Service officials will speedily end such bad acting on the part of such draft boards. Every sensible and sane step should be taken to ameliorate these conditions and to see that draft board officials take a more considerate view of the men who are committed to defending them in battle with their blood and their lives.

Our concern in this message however, is with the attitude of a small group of leaders, scarcely enough to be serious. In their efforts to correct these evil practices and to bring about conditions more conducive to morale-building, unwittingly, they have allowed themselves to be maneuvered into a position of mild indifference on the matter of the struggle in which we are engaged. They profess to see in the treatment of soldiers and civilians and the violence to citizens through race riots and so forth, a determination on the part of certain Americans that we shall have no part of the Four Freedoms.

We are prepared to admit the truth of such a view. But we are unprepared to go along with leaders, however well-meaning they may be, who despite the hardships and disappointments our boys face in the Armed services of their country, would give up the struggle for a better and brighter day; for a bigger and better America. Such a view, we contend, is the shortsighted one and can lead only to defeat and frustration of aim and purpose.

Benning 'Agricultural College' Plans To Train Soldiers in Food Arsenal

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

BENNING, Ga., Dec. 27.—(AP)—The infantry plans to turn out a few farmers, as well as fighters.

Negro infantrymen who have attended agricultural school or who have had actual farming experience will be invited to attend an "agricultural college" at this largest infantry training center. Applicants will be given an opportunity to pick up training that will assure them an improved status in civilian life.

Instruction of the men will follow the infantry school pattern of "preparation, demonstration and application" and will embrace virtually every phase of farming—soil treatment, planting, crop rotation and animal husbandry.

Classes will be conducted along a schedule which will not interfere with the students' assigned duties and military training. Instructors will be officers in the Third Student Training Regiment who possess agricultural degrees or who were successful farmers before entering the Army.

The regiment acquired a 30-acre farm from the now inactivated Second Student Training Regiment which had operated it for two years. As in the past, crops harvested will be used to supplement rations of the regiment.

Colonel John D. Hill, regimental commander, placed Captain Jack D. West, commanding officer of Company C, in charge of the project. A garden tractor was bought to use in planting seasonal crops. Farm textbooks, pamphlets and studies submitted by leading agricultural colleges in the southeast will form a reference library for the students.

All Colors Unite In Battle For Right

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47c Camps

It takes all races, creeds and colors to win democracy's great battle against the Axis. Shown here is a class in business training at Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla. Under Mrs. Lucy T. Ball, head instructor and her able assistants Misses Nancy Chambers, Gladys Fuhlbrugge and Helen Duffy, this class in shorthand and typing are getting additional training that will help to beat the Axis now and will prove advantageous after the duration. — (Photo by Corp. Bill Lyles.

Morale Sags At Camp Forrest As Jim Crow Rules With Iron Hand

NOV 6 - 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

TALLAHOMA, Tenn.—This little town tacked on the map just a stone's throw from Camp Forrest is where General Sherman started his march to the sea during the Civil War.

And the whites both in town and in camp never seem to forget it. They seem determined to convince Negro troops here that war is just what General Sherman said it was.

Jim Crow rules the roost with an iron hand at Camp Forrest. Colored soldiers at this Tennessee armored post bitterly complain at the treatment they get here.

War is what General Sherman called it — at least to the Negro soldiers.

In talking to hundreds of soldiers and officers during a recent tour of this maneuver area, they cited any number of humiliating incidents which they have suffered and which tend to eat away morale so necessary in developing an effective fighting force.

'Black Plague'

Here's a description one northern-born soldier gave me of Camp Forrest: "My unit as well as all colored units, with the exception of the WACs, are isolated in one section of the camp, as if by contact we'd give our white brothers-in-arms the 'black plague.'

"When we are fortunate enough to get into the camp theatre, we're segregated. Any time there's a good picture, they won't let us in. They tell us it's crowded.

"They bar us from the camp library. Why they even refused to let a captain of the 931st Field Artillery Battalion stay in there. Yet there's no library for us. Since they put the captain out, they're building a dinky addition to our recreation hall. But as yet that's not finished.

"The facilities that we do have, like our recreation hall, and Post Exchange, are small and inadequate. While the white boys have large buildings with separate game room and reading rooms, ours are one-room affairs.

"The post command seems to spare no efforts to let us know that we are different, something apart from the other soldiers."

I visited in Tullahoma and found conditions equally as bad as the soldiers described within it. The colored USO center is located near the end of town in what is known as the Negro district. There is one medium-sized lounge room, a kitchen and a room which could pass for an office. This in contrast to four large, spacious buildings for white troops which are strategically located in various sections of the village.

The very location is depressing. All around the center are hovels and shacks, as bad as the worst to be found elsewhere in the South. The director of the USO club is a Chicagoan and former football player of Fenger high school by the name of Emmet Spurlock. Together with his wife and curly-headed little 10-year-old son, he is forced to live in a trailer because the whites won't rent him a decent house. He is striving manfully to carry on a real recreation program under the most impossible handicaps.

Can't Get Train Tickets

The railroad station is another rotten spot. Colored soldiers complain that they often miss their train when leaving on short precious furloughs because the clerks in the station won't sell them tickets until after all the whites have been waited on. Then it is too late to catch the train.

The soldiers say further that no matter how many men are travelling, they are allowed only one Jim-Crow car. If this is overcrowded they either have to ride in the baggage car or forfeit their travel privileges.

With the exception of the colored USO club, there is no decent place for a Negro soldier to go in town. Tullahoma is the typical southern village which is still fighting the Civil War. It will be remembered that it was from this town that a white soldier attached to the Illinois 33rd division had to be escorted back to camp by military police as a protective measure for asking to see where General Sherman started his march to the sea.

Southern Commander

Investigation shows that all attempts to improve conditions for Negro troops in this camp have been blocked by post commanders. It was during the administration of Col. Millard F. Waltz that the theatre incident involving officers of the 931st Field Artillery Battalion occurred. It was Col. Waltz who, backed by MP's carrying tommy guns, ordered these officers to leave the theatre for sitting in the non-segregated section. Col. Waltz, a southerner by birth, made no provision for Negro troops.

He has since been relieved by Col. Frank T. Addington, another southerner who boasts Virginia as his home. It is reported that he is an ardent believer in segregation although he is trying to make some provision for the recreation of colored troops. It is he who is building the "dinky" library addition. And he has given Negroes a couple of nights a month in the post dance hall.

The net effect of these conditions is extremely low morale among the troops. The northern boys and the more intelligent southern ones are bitterly and deeply resentful. They only go into Tullahoma when they have to. They spend most of their time in the camp areas.

The lower calibre southern boys, most of whom are in the engineering units, are not as resentful, but their appearance belies the state of their morale.

They are dirty, some of them look as if they haven't had a bath for a month. Their uniforms are untidy. They don't have the snap and zip which is a natural part of a fighting man.

Apparently their white officers are doing nothing to inject into them the feeling that they are part of a proud fighting American army which is destined to make a world safe for the democratic ideology.

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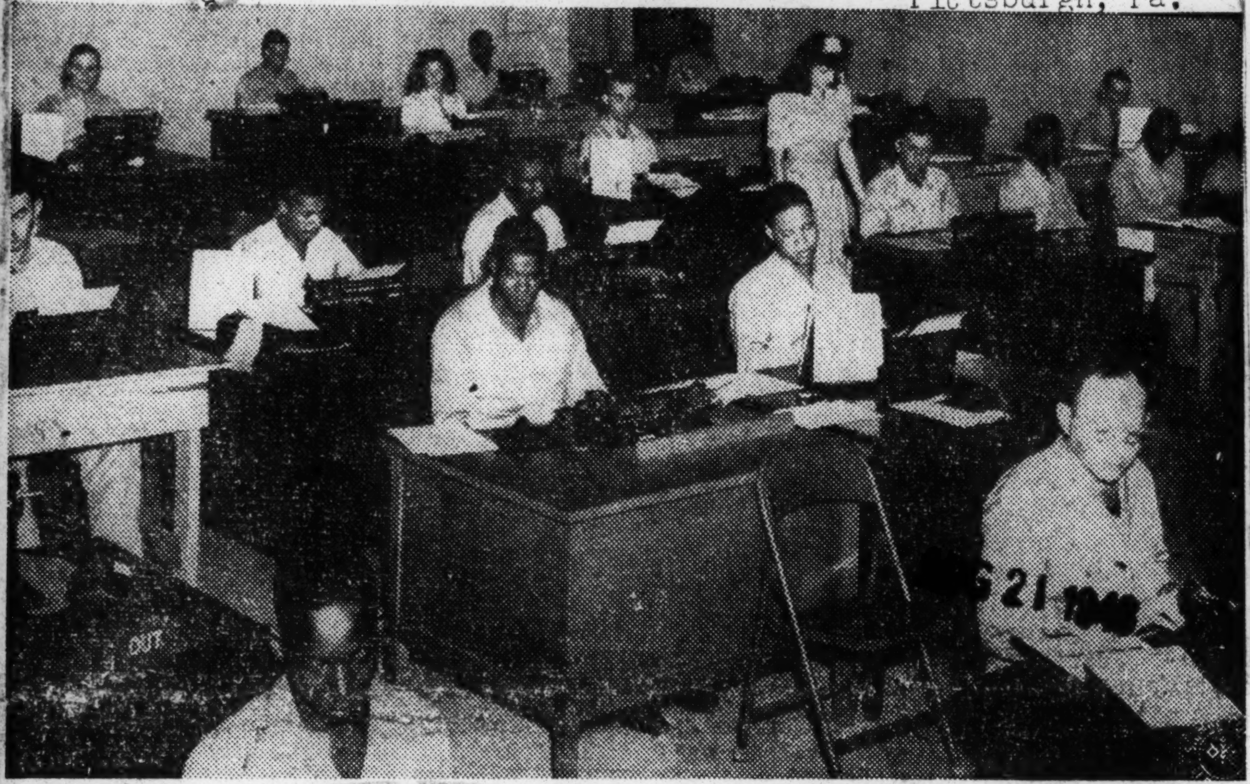
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



AUG 21 1943

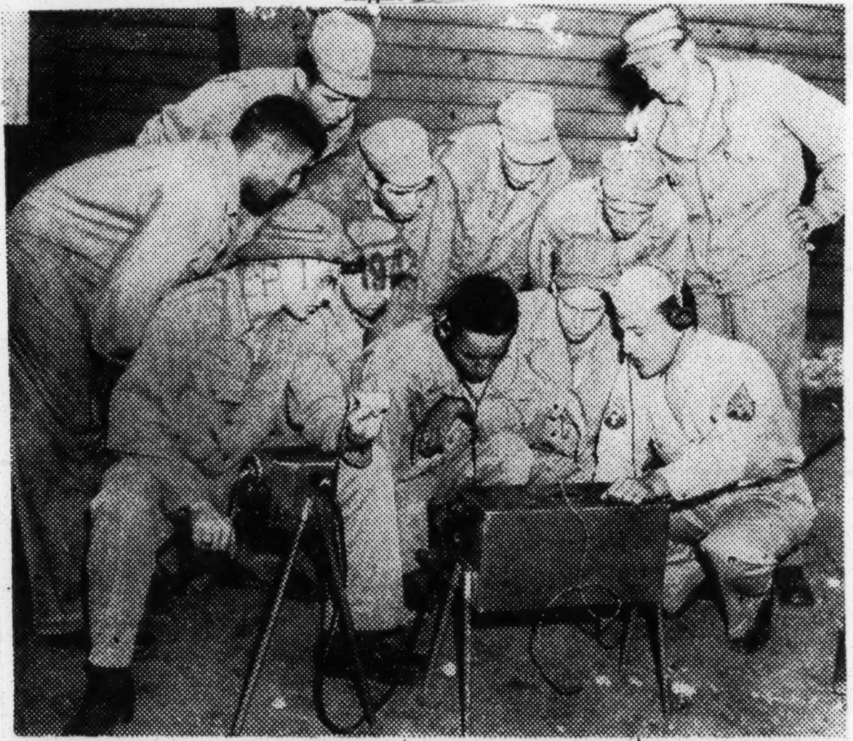
It takes all races, creeds and colors to win democracy's great battle against the Axis. Shown here is a class in business training at Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida. Under Mrs. Lucy T. Ball, head instructor and her able assistants, Misses Nancy Chambers, G[illegible] Fohlbrugge, and Helen Duffy, this class in shorthand and typing, are getting additional training that will help beat the Axis now and will prove advantageous after the war.—U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo.

1C

AUG 21 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

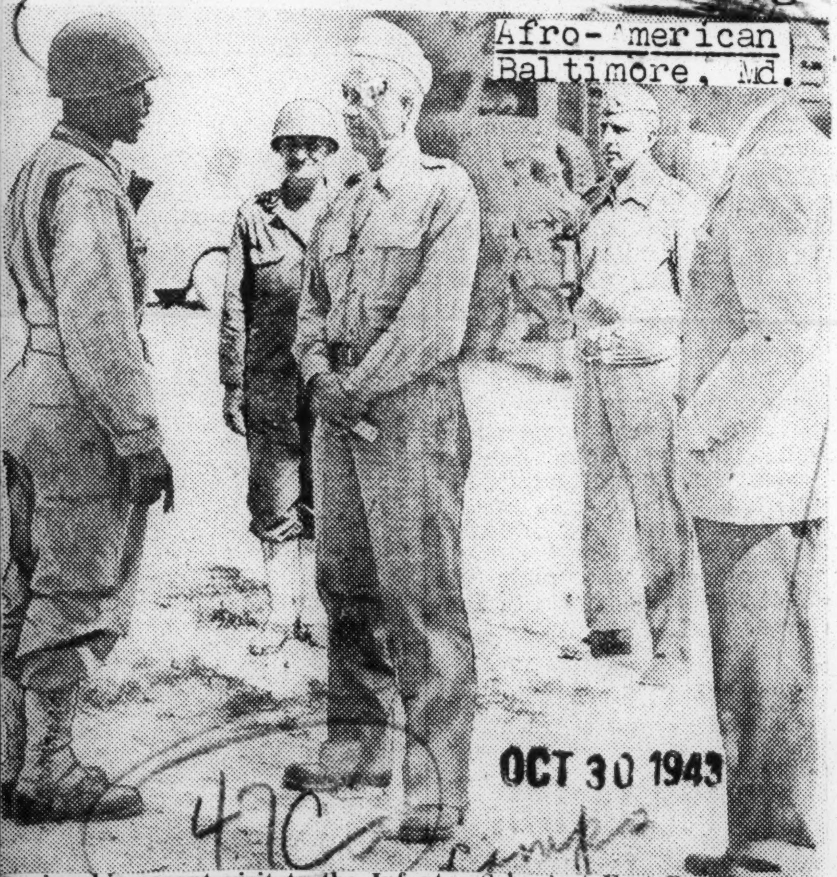
Sgt. Henry Camp, instructor in the radio division, enlisted men's department, Eastern Signal Corps Schools, Fort Monmouth, checks on the progress of a soldier-student. He is T/5 Leslie Wheeler of Montclair, N.J. Wheeler is a graduate of Montclair High School and a former radio repair student at the New York Technical Institute's night school.



Technician Fourth Grade Bert Savitt instructs signal corps students in the operation of field radio sets at the enlisted men's school, Fort Monmouth. In center is Pvt. Thomas Green of 503 E. Market Street, Xenia, Ohio. In civilian life, Green was a junior aircraft mechanic. He was inducted into the army last April.

Member of Parliament at Benning

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



OCT 30 1943

47C Camps

During his recent visit to the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., Ronald Tree, British member of Parliament, stopped to question Lt. Charles H. Borican, of Bridgeton, N.J., concerning his studies in an officers' basic class of the First Student Training Regiment. Photo shows Lt. Borican, Brig. Gen. George H. Weems, assistant commandant of the infantry school, and Mr. Tree.

OCT 30 1943

Discharged Soldier Hates Dixie Camps

SEP 4 1943

Says Officer Attacked Him in Va.; Has Served at 6 Different Camps

BALTIMORE—Conditions confronting colored soldiers in the South were called "detestable" this week by Howard Daniels, of 322 N. Fremont Avenue, who was honorably discharged last Saturday from the army.

Mr. Daniels, who charged he was attacked by a white lieutenant at Camp Gordon, Ga., said that he has served at Fort Dix N.J.; Fort Meade, Md., Fort Shenango, Pa.; Fort McClellan, Ala. Camp Robinson, Ark., and Camp Gordon.

According to Daniels, the officer grabbed him last December at Camp Gordon. For an officer to deliberately lay a hand on an enlisted man is against army regulations, he pointed out.

Pugnacious Officer Transferred

He reported the incident to the AFRO and the matter was taken up with the War Department. Shortly after he learned of this action, Daniels said, the officer was transferred.

The former soldier said that the most vexing problem facing colored soldiers is the humiliation and inconvenience they are forced to endure while traveling.

He said that at Camp Gordon and Camp Robinson he found the jim crow transportation system particularly vexatious.

Soldiers at these posts often are not able to get back from furlough on time because buses carrying whites refuse to pick them up, and special buses for them run irregularly, Daniels complained.

Unfair Curfew Exists

At both these camps there is an 11:30 p.m. curfew in nearby towns for soldiers, but it is not enforced as far as white soldiers are concerned, Daniels added.

He also told of an incident in which a colored woman, riding in the rear of a bus, according to the laws of Arkansas, was forced to give up her seat to a white man.

SEP 4 1943

Daniels is the son of Mrs. Victoria Daniels, of the Fremont Avenue address. He is 34 years old and has two brothers and one sister. He said that he hopes to find a war job.

47c

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Soldiers Of Two Races In Free-For-All At Texas Post

JUL 3 1943

SHEPPARD FIELD, Texas—A clash between Negro and white troops resulted in a free-for-all fist fight here last week but, fortunately, brought serious injury to no one.

According to reports, a command of the 301st Training Group (white) and a unit of the 19th Aviation Squadron (colored) collided as they were marching on the drill field, the collision a direct result of refusal on the parts of officers in charge to give an order which would clear the way for the approaching column.

As the two columns charged into each other, one of the white non-commissioned officers is said to have hurled an epithet at the Negro troops, whereupon a general melee occurred.

With both groups composed of approximately three platoons, numbers of the opposing commands were about even. Aside from a few bloody noses and one or two black eyes, little physical damage was done.

Blame Detroit Riots

Army officials blamed the clash on the feeling provoked by radio reports of racial riots which swept Detroit the same day of the fight here.

Platoon leaders of both units were called to headquarters and lectured on the seriousness of the disorder, and were advised that racial friction would not be tolerated here.

The squadron commander of the 19th Aviation outfit called for an immediate report from non-commissioned officers should there be an indication that trouble is to be resumed. Calm has been restored and it is rumored in some quarters that court martials are in prospect for some of the soldiers of the 301st.

JUL 3 1943

For several days after the disorder, military policemen were stationed at the two bus stops where soldiers meet as they leave or enter the post.

47c

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Segregation Is Ended at Devens

AUG 27 1943

FORT DEVENS, Mass.—Efforts to segregate colored troops in the post theater were frustrated here last week when Mrs. M. K. Dugger, principal hostess at the 366th Service Club asked Captain Mann for an explanation.

According to Mrs. Dugger, southern WACs stationed here objected to sitting in the theater with the colored soldiers and someone issued an order for the troops to sit to one side.

This order had been in effect three days before it was called to Mrs. Dugger's attention. She immediately took it up with Captain Mann, who is in charge of the theater.

"I told him," Mrs. Dugger said, "that we cannot go down South and change the customs down there and we shouldn't let them come up here and force their customs upon us."

Captain Mann had the order rescinded.

47c

Selfridge Field Scandal

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

SEP 20 1943

Why has there been such a flagrant miscarriage of military justice at Selfridge Field? Why was Col. William T. Colman, convicted by general court-martial of careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkenness, punished only with demotion to the rank of captain, ineligible to promotion for three years? Why was the former commandant of a large Army air base, who gave a shabby "everything went black" excuse for the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William McRate, Negro chauffeur, acquitted of the charge of assault with intent to do bodily harm?

Colman first faced charges of violation of 29 Articles of War, including misappropriation of government property, fraudulently obtaining transfers of enlisted personnel, accepting a gift from a government contractor, and conduct "unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The court denied his motion for dismissal on the protest that he had been suffering from a mental disorder, proceeded with what appeared to be patent attempts to whitewash the offender. The whole case reeks with the strictured justice of L'affaire Dreyfus in reverse.

SEP 20 1943

If there is ever a time when the Army cannot risk [illegible] prestige at home, this is it. If there is ever a time when the personal, parental and proud feelings with which United States citizens regard their fighting arms cannot be placed in jeopardy, that time is now. Ours is a civilian Army, not a force of medieval mercenaries. Its officers must—and have done so until now — maintain an antiseptic respectability to hold the public confidence.

The Selfridge Field case is not closed. The court-martial verdict is not effective until approved by the War Department. Surely this scandalous blot on an otherwise soldierly wartime record will be erased, and justice done, when the proceedings are reviewed in Washington.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

SEP 20 1943

47c

Tribune Chicago, Illinois

THE SELFRIDGE FIELD VERDICTS.

SEP 23 1943

Lt. Col. Charles G. White has been ordered dismissed from the army by court martial. He was found guilty of seven offenses while he was executive officer at Selfridge field.

The verdict is in striking contrast to that reached in the case of his superior, Col. William T. Colman, who was commanding officer at the field. Col. Colman was found guilty of five offenses, including drunkenness, and he had shot and wounded a soldier for no cause at all, but Col. Colman suffered no greater penalty than reduction in rank from colonel to captain.

SEP 23 1943

The two verdicts, taken together, make no sense, and to say that is certainly not to suggest that the punishment of Lt. Col. White was excessive. If the junior officer deserved what he got, Col. Colman deserved at least as much. He got drunk at least as often and when drunk his conduct was more degrading and its consequences more serious. In addition, he was the commander and as such bore a measure of responsibility for the acts of his executive subordinate. It was Colman's business to know what was going on at his post.

SEP 23 1943

The verdict of the court martial leaves Colman a captain in the army and as such responsible for the lives and welfare of any men entrusted to his command. The discrepancy between the two verdicts needs a lot more explaining than has yet been forthcoming.

47c

Tribune Chicago, Illinois

CAPT. COLMAN GETS A PENSION.

NOV 12 1943

William T. Colman, who as commandant at Selfridge field, Mich., frequently got drunk and on one occasion shot a [illegible] is being retired from the army on pension by order of the secretary of war. A court-martial which found him guilty penalized him only by reducing his rank from colonel to captain. The sentence was grossly inadequate, particularly in view of the severer sentences imposed on a number of Colman's subordinates.

NOV 12 1943

The war department reviewed the case after public opinion had demanded that Col. Colman should be more severely punished. The action of the secretary of war is as much an insult to the United States army and to the American taxpayers as was the penalty meted out by the original court-martial.

Capt. Colman has been in the army 15 years. A man who has been employed in a private industry for 15 years and is discharged for drunkenness and the wanton shooting of a fellow employe certainly would not be retired on pension.

NOV 12 1943

If the Roosevelt administration expects the army to have respect for military justice, there will have to be another review of the Colman verdict.

47c

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

Ex-Colonel Colman Still Unassigned

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Michigan — (ANP) — Col. William T. Colman, tried by a general court-martial from September 6 to September 14, will not be assigned to military duties until the findings of the court are approved and announced. Meantime, he will continue to rank as a colonel, although the court's verdict ordered his demotion to captain with no opportunity of promotion for three years.

Review of the case probably will not be started for at least six weeks. The court reporter who served during the Colman trial will be unable to start transcription of the record until he completes the reporting of proceedings in the current case of the United States Vs. Lt. Col. Charles G. White. The reporter estimates that he will require a month to transcribe the Colman case record.

These facts were announced by

Col. William L. B[illegible] commanding officer of Selfridge Field, who stated that Col. Colman still is stationed at this base without duty status.

47c

Investigation of Colman Court-Martial Demanded

Post
Washington, D. C

SEP 16 1943

By the Associated Press

Repre[illegible] O[illegible] (Democrat) of New York demanded of War Secretary Stimson yesterday an investigation of the court martial of Col. William T. Colman, saying, "The morale of the Army and of the public will be shattered by the retention of such specimens within our armed forces."

The New Yorker also demanded that Colman be suspended from all duties until the inquiry was completed. Earlier Representative Shafer (Republican) of Michigan described the outcome of the court martial as a travesty and said he would ask the Military Affairs Committee to review the case.

Colman, former commanding officer at Selfridge Field (Mich.) Air Base, was convicted by a general court martial of violating the articles of [illegible] and faces a demotion to the [illegible] with no chance for promotion for three years. He was found guilty of careless use of firearms in the shooting and wounding of a Negro private, and on four charges of drunkenness on duty.

If press accounts are accurate "[illegible] this man is allowed to remain [illegible] officer of the Army of the United States," O'Toole wrote Stimson, "I could not blame any civilian or member of the Army from failing to have respect for those who [illegible] known [illegible] officers and gentlemen by act [illegible] Congress."

Shafer asserted "we can not have confidence in our military if we are going to allow officers to escape with nominal penalties for serious offenses."

The verdict against Colman is subject to review by the War Department here and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 2 1943

Colman Whitewash Stirs Cry for War Dept. Probe

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson last Thursday told his press conference that he was taking steps to expedite the review by the War Department of the court martial proceedings in the case of Col. William T. Colman, former commandant at Selfridge Field, Mich.

The Secretary was asked whether he had acknowledged receipt of a letter from Representative Donald L. O'Toole, Democrat, of New York, asking an investigation by the War Department of the court martial.

Mr. Stims[illegible]plained [illegible] the routine pro[illegible] is for [illegible] record of each court martial trial to be reviewed first by the appointing authority, which in this case was the commanding general of the Third Air Force, Tampa, Fla. Finally, th[illegible] record is e[illegible]ed by the Judge Advocate General of the War Department.

Hasn't Received Record

The record of the Colman court martial, Mr. Stimson said, has not yet reached the War Department, but "I am taking steps to expedite the process in this case."

Rep. Paul W. Shafer (Rep., Mich.) characterized the light sentence given Colonel Colman as "a damned shame." Congressman May was chairman of the House investigating committee whose investigations last May brought about the officer's [illegible] martial.

Con[illegible] Andrew J. May, chairm[illegible] the House Military Affairs Committee, said:

"I do not know at this time whether the committee will take any further action in the Colman case. However, it was at our request that the War Department began its investigation of the court martial and if the War Department fails to take adequate steps following its investigation, I am certain that the committee will take further action."

Convicted of Drunkenness

Colman was acquitted of twenty-three charges against him and was found guilty on five minor counts of reduced charges. He was convicted of being drunk on duty in wartime while in charge of an important air base and training center, but the court held that such instances of drunkenness did not constitute "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" but was only conduct th[illegible] worked against pr[illegible] military discipline.

He shot [illegible] wounded Pfc. William McRae, a colored soldier. The original count charged that the shooting of McRae was an assault with intent to do bodily harm, but the court modified the charge and found him guilty of only careless use of firearms.

He was sentenced to demotion to the rank of captain — the rank he held before the war — and to be placed at the bottom of the list of captains and not be promoted for three years.

Some members of Co[illegible] regard the sen[illegible] a mild slap on the wrist and are insisting that the War Department undertake a searching review of the court martial proceedings or the House Committee on Military Affairs conduct an investigation of the court martial.

"Education for Negro Troops" Pamphlet Issued at Camp Stewart Is Contradictory

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

AUG 28 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — A directive, "Educational Program for Colored Troops," was recently handed out [illegible] to brigade, group and battalion commanders and officers of Negro units at the Anti-A[illegible] Center. The following "suggestions" are included:

- An officer heading Negro soldiers must "accept his troops as they are, not with some preconceived notion of what they should or might be."
- "Generalities about Negroes as about everything else, are usually inaccurate. Some individuals will be well-educated and possessed of a ready intelligence. For the most part, however, as an examination of AGCT scores will reveal, Negro soldiers have had less opportunity for education and are consequently less able to assimilate knowledge rapidly and accurately;
- "Most men want to 'do right,' and the men who 'do right' will never have any trouble with military law";

"Background

One section of the directive includes "background" material to be passed along to the soldiers:

- "The American Negro has come a long way since the days of slavery. Let us look back and see how little protection a slave had under the law. . . ."
- "Most slave-owners were good-hearted, Christian people who liked for everybody around them to be happy. They were, as a rule, good to their slaves. Of course, there were bound to be some cruel owners and overseers who made their slaves miserable";
- "Many Negroes helped end slavery. But the American Negro could never have gotten out by himself. Slavery came to an end **because thousands of white people thought it was wrong, and that every human being in this country should enjoy the blessings of freedom won by the blood of patriots in the Revolution";**
- "[illegible] SLAVE HAD PRACTICALLY NO RIGHTS AT ALL, YOU WILL FIND THAT YOU NOW HAVE AS MANY RIGHTS AS ANYONE ELSE UNDER THE LAW. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN THE ARMY. . . ."
- "You are treated in the Army like any other soldier. You get the same pay, the same food, the same equipment, the same shelter, the same careful doctor's care. The government has spent a lot of money to give you movies, service clubs and other things for your entertainment";
- **"IN THE ARMY THERE IS NO DISCRIMINATION AMONG SOLDIERS, AS LONG AS EVERYONE BEHAVES HIMSELF [illegible] A SOLDIER. THE COMMAND[illegible]AL AT CAMP STEWART [illegible]D HIS STAFF GUARANTEE THAT THERE WILL BE NO DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN WHITE OR COLORED."**
- "A good soldier doesn't have time to fool with his hometown politics, or to go around telling other soldiers how the country ought to be run. Any question about white people and black people will never be settled by barracks talk. Let's forget these things for the time being, buckle down to real soldiering [illegible] this war."

Complete Contradiction

The next "pointer" is a complete contradiction of the assertion made that "there will be no discrimination between white or colored" at the camp.

- "We have seen that soldiers who do not respect and obey military law are sure to get into serious trouble. Soldiers who do not obey the civil laws and respect the customs of the place they happen to be ARE ALSO HEADED FOR TROUBLE";
- "YOU ARE IN GEORGIA. WHILE YOU ARE HERE, YOU MUST OBEY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA. THE LAWS OF GEORGI[illegible]Y NOT BE LIKE THE LAWS OF NEW YORK OR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, etc., BUT THAT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE";
- "SOME OF YOU MAY NOT UNDERSTAND WHY YOU CAN'T GO EVERYWHERE WHITE FOLKS GO IN GEORGIA. IT'S BECAUSE THE LAW SAYS SO."

There follows a list of "suggestions" as to the best way to get along in Georgia:

- **"Be p[illegible] and respectful in any talk yo[illegible]ve with white people. Don't try t[illegible] conversation with white [illegible]angers. Stay out of white places, and sit where you are supposed to sit on trains and buses. Above all, don't say or do anything that somebody might take as an insult to any white or colored woman. In short, remember your manners";**
- "You are in the South. Things have been as they are in the South for a long time, and they will PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE THAT WAY FOR A LONG TIME. If you start any arguments or disturbances over those things, you will get nowhere, settle nothing, and get yourself in trouble";
- "It was a pretty smart man who said: 'When in Rome, do as the Romans do.'"

CAMPS

47c-1943

Did the Bullets Boomerang? New Republic

According to the camp's public-relations office, a group of Negro soldiers, after a [illegible] with white troops, broke into a supply building in their battalion area, armed themselves with rifles and ammunition and began firing into the area occupied by the whites. New York, N. Y.

AUG 23 1943

Camp

Camp authorities identified the dead soldier as Pvt. Norman Taylor, 20, a Negro of Rosedale, Kansas. The six wounded, also Negroes, were admitted to the station hospital for treatment of gunshot wounds. —*From an account of the recent rioting at a Greenville, Pa., army camp in The New York Daily News.*

AUG 23 1943

Kansas City Call

Camp Lee for Negro Troops

Kansas City, Mo.

RICHMOND, Va. — (ANP) — Camp Lee will no longer receive white selectees, but only Negro troops who formerly were inducted from throughout the Third Service command at Fort George G. Meade, Md., announced [illegible] E. A. Gerlach, adjutant of the Camp Lee reception center.

OCT 9 1943

He stated discontinuance of the 13022d service unit as a reception center for white troops became effective Sept. 30.

47c-1943 Camps

Peoples Voice
New York. N. Y.

Camp Crowder Newspaper Owes Apology To Negro Soldiers for Insulting Ad

SEP 11 1943

CAMP CROWDER, Mo.—The *Message*, official camp newspaper, hurled a blatant insult into the faces of its Negro and fair-minded white personnel by carrying a large and boldly written advertisement of a drive-in restaurant named Hopton's located in Neosho, a nearby town.

The ad announces that the eatery features "N——r Chicken."

Ironically enough, this camp paper was awarded first place by Creighton University for "excellence" in journalism in a contest among Army units in the Seventh Service Command.

PV thinks an apology is due the Negro soldiers in camp, an apology that will require courage to print, but these Negro boys are American soldiers.

SEP 11 1943

47C Camps

Shocking Charge Made By Soldiers At Arizona Camp

SEP 6 1943

General's Attitude Toward Charges Hit As Frustration

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

TUSCON, Ariz.—(ANP)—Confidential information has been obtained by the Associated Negro Press of startling and sensational discriminatory practices imposed upon soldiers of the 92nd infantry division stationed at Fort Hunchuca. Sources cannot be revealed for fear of reprisals upon the informents.

The shameful situaten threatens to develop into a national scandal, and more important, according to observers, unless the federal government and the army high command takes immediate, forthright action to correct the disgraceful conditions, it is believed that all the fury of an overseas battlefields will explode in this desert community.

SEP 6 1943

FRUSTRATION AND DESPAIR

Black American soldiers who a few months before had entered the U. S. army filled with patriotic determination to help win the war for democracy, even to the point of sacrificing their lives are now reported to be enmeshed in the doldrums of frustration and despair as a direct result of the heart-breaking, inhuman treatment meted out to them by commanding general and white officers alike.

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort are:

1. That the commanding general M. Almond, of Anniston, Ala. refers to his Negro charges both in and out of their presence as "N . . .s."

2. That the commanding general is formulating plans to convince the war department to ship the division overseas for combat duty, although the division is miserably unprepared for such service.

SEP 6 1943

3. That Gen. Almond is not a topflight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications. The war department foisted him upon the Negro group it is charged because it was necessary to place him somewhere.

"SHAKEDOWN" AFTER PRACTICE

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

5. That a quota system operates in the making and promotion of Negro officers with [illegible] ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

SEP 6 1943

Information has trickled out of the camp that several white officers including one colonels have been severely beaten up or killed in altercations with enlisted personnel. The officers are also said to stand far behind the lines during firing practice with live ammunition, because they fear a sharpshooter might train his sights upon them and revenge mistreatment.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern of warfare. Instead, training consists almost exclusively of marches and drills around the confines of the army.

7. That the food served in mess halls at Fort Huachuca is the "worst in the army."

SEP 6 1943

8. That although present conditions on the military reservation have existed ever since the division moved into Arizona last May, Atty Truman K Gibson, Jr., acting civiliian aide to the secretary of war, and Brig. Gen Benjamin O. Davis, inspecting general from the inspector general's office, Washington, on a recent inspection here found conditions to be "in excellent shape," morale "high," training "good, and the overal picture "gratifying."

Personnel at the army post are said to be greatly puzzled over how they can reconcile the vicious dictums of Gen Almond and his staff of white officers to preachments of a nation pledged in a war to carry the four freedoms and democracy to the far corners of the world. Rumors are being circulated in Tuscon that the soldiers are so restive under the "slave-ocracy" rule at the camp that a flareup of serious proporticsn is expected almost momentarily. Only positive intervention of the federal governments with drastic punishment delivered upon the heads of responsible authorities is seen as a possible preventative.

SEP 6 1943

Soldiers complain that at a recent meeting of mess officers and mess sergeants Gen Almond deplored the alleged waste of food and declared before the mixed group:

"There is too much waste in these mess halls. These N. . . s eat too damn much meat and bread and not enough vegetables."

IS UNIT UNPREPARED

Added to this stinging [illegible] are the alleged plans of Gen. Almond to heighten his stature in the army by sending unprepared men overseas as a fighting unit. One army private said that "if the Japs are Germans saw us coming they would laugh themselves to death."

SEP 6 1943

"Instead of training for combat through the techniques of handling issued weapons, the men are trained to walk miles upon miles over the rocky mountainous terrain," charged a disgusted soldier.

47C Camps

Afro-American
Baltimore. Maryland

Secret Order on Bias Issued by War Dept.

NOV 20 1943

Army Alters Policy on Colored Papers and Treatment of Troops

UNDERSTANDING, DIPLOMACY URGED

Earlier Ban Against Colored Newspapers Is Rescinded

BULLETIN

Despite a War Department ruling to the contrary, the AFRO-AMERICAN is still being barred from this army post by order of Capt. Buell A. Williamson, camp intelligence officer.

NOV 20 1943

CAMP FORREST, Tenn. — Issuance of two special communications, including a secret directive by the War Department on the treatment of colored soldiers, was revealed here following an investigation by the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers on Wednesday.

The secret communication, sent to service command headquarters and regimental executives, listed as War Department Memo W600-13-43, captioned "Policy in Regard to the Negro," goes into detail as to treatment of colored soldiers, especially those under white officers.

White officers in command of colored units were instructed to talk with their men and to read colored newspapers in order to understand the racial problems. It was pointed out that the morale of colored soldiers is alarmingly low.

NOV 20 1943

Warns Against Offending

Whenever a colored unit, especially one under supervision of colored officers, becomes militant, do not use any drastic methods in an attempt to suppress it but act with utmost care and diplomacy, the directive advised, adding: Always be on the alert not to offend officers and men.

This directive and the recent ruling by the War Department rescinding the orders of some service commands barring various publications, especially colored newspapers from camps, is believed to be the result of the militant fight waged by officers of the 931st Field Artillery.

The artillery unit is the only group stationed at Camp Forrest which has all colored officers. Formerly a part of the famous 8th Illinois Regiment, the group is headed by Lieut. Col. Marcus H. Ray, Chicago chemist.

Newspaper Ban Lifted

The order from General Suders chief of public relations, rescinding the barring of newspapers, was issued after a series of protests were made by relatives and friends of men attached to the 931st Battalion.

NOV 20 1943

An order dated November 3 from the service command at Atlanta, barred the men from receiving newspapers.

Colored publications included the AFRO-AMERICAN, Pittsburgh Courier, People's Voice, Chicago Defender, Norfolk Journal and Guide and the Boston Chronicle.

The ruling stated that all subscriptions for magazines, newspapers and publications for all units on the Camp Forrest post had to be forwarded to the post intelligence officer for approval.

Officers Won't Talk

When a clear interpretation of the order was requested by officers of the 931st Artillery, they were advised that as a unit the men could not receive colored papers nor could the hostess at the service club for colored men nor officers purchase papers for the club, barracks, day rooms or post exchange.

Queried by an AFRO investigator, Colonel Ray declined to make a statement. "I am unable to give any statement as it would be in violation of military regulation. I suggest that you contact the intelligence officer of the post," the unit commander said.

Efforts to obtain an interview or statement from the intelligence officer or the commander of the post also proved futile. Each headquarters officer questioned pleaded lack of authority to give public statements.

47C Camps

Charge Soldiers Overworked At Camp Stewart

AUG 18 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Complaint Filed With War Department

AUG 18 1943

Complaint that Army Officers at Camp Stewart, near Savannah, were overworking men attached to *the "limited service" outfit* had been filed with the War Department in Washington, Tuesday.

The soldier making the complaint stated that increased prejudice has been shown colored soldiers since the conflict at the camp a few months ago in which two white military policemen were killed and three seriously wounded. An application for a furlough to return to his Chicago home in order to get the guarantee of a civilian job (he is 39 years of age and physically incapacitated), *has been consistently* ignored and worked heaped upon him, the informant says.

According to the complaint made to the War Department the colored soldiers receive improper medical attention, inhuman treatment, refusal of leaves, improperly cooked food, have to work unreasonable hours, day and night, including Sundays, and regardless of ailments are "snapped up" by officers, given "ragged salutes" and unnecessary detail.

Many of the men go "over the *hill" in an attempt to get some* rest, returning later to face imprisonment in the guardhouse, the complainant added, terming the camp "a disgrace to the U. S. Army." The writer said he was "over the hill" at the time the letter was written, trying to prevent a "possible nervous braekdown as I could not stand the ordeal any longer."

AUG 18 1943

47C Camps

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

NOV 13 1943

Courier Protest Brings Army-Stabbing Probe

[SEE PICTURE ON PAGE 4] NOV 13 1943

Following a formal protest by The Pittsburgh Courier to the U. S. War Department, the case of Pvt. Ellis Robinson of Greensburg, Pa., stabbed Sunday, Oct. 24, by First Lieutenant William Sammons, his company commander at Camp Swift, Texas, has been brought out in the open and the commanding officer has been subjected to an Army general court-martial.

4 1 C

According to a War Department statement, corroborated by the Post Intelligence Officer at Camp Swift, Private Robinson refused to obey a direct command from Lieutenant Sammons and the act so infuriated the officer that he picked up a bayonet and stabbed the sodier in the arm. Robinson, the report states, was confined in the hospital one day. He is stationed with Company 'A', First Battalion, 132nd Engineer Regiment.

REFUSED TO DIG

The tr[illegible] bet[illegible]e commanding [illegible]dier is said to have started over an order to Private Johnson to do some digging, which the soldier allegedly stated he would rather go to the stockade than do. After Robinson's refusal to do the chore, the commanding officer reportedly ordered one of the sergeants to stick him with the bayonet but the sergeant balked, whereupon Lieutenant Sammons himself stabbed the soldier who, it is stat[illegible] [illegible]ot try to defend [illegible].

NOV 13 1943

Private Robinson, the last report on whose condition was just "fair," is the son of Mrs. Minnie Robinson, connected with Hoyle's restaurant in Greensburg.

'Ain't Slavery Grand'—School Days Army Style

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

(Special to the Defender)

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — Race discrimination has existed in Dixie for a long time and there's not a thing that Negro soldiers can do about it.

Slave owners were fine people who just loved to make everyone happy.

No, it's not Rankin talking—it's Brig. Gen. E. A. Stockton, commanding the anti-aircraft training center here at Camp Stewart.

The general's ideas on an educational program for Negro troops in this area were incorporated into a 12-page document this week for his fellow officers and the above is his idea of education.

Copies of the report entitled "Educational Program for Colored Troops" have been obtained by the Defender and are startling in their defense of Jim Crow.

Typical of the "education" prescribed for colored soldiers at Camp Stewart is a section which reminds them that they are in Georgia and that they must not expect to "go everywhere the white folks go in Georgia." Still another example of the "enlightenment" felt necessary is one which warns Negro troops not to look upon "every little inconvenience as racial discrimination."

Recommends Spy System

Accompanying the course of "education" are suggestions to unit commanders to set up a system of espionage of their own, this for the ostensible purpose of avoiding friction before it develops. Excerpts from this section of the document read as follows:

"Remember, racial trouble spreads like wildfire. Mass hysteria and mob violence develop in an incredibly brief time. **Once a riot starts, it is too late to find out what's going on in your outfit.** You must know what your men are doing and thinking all the time.

The most helpful thing in this respect is constant observation on your part. You can also use your S-2 Section and organize a counter-subversive system. Select as secret agents qualified and patriotic men in each barracks. Instruct these men carefully and secretly. Give them code names and have them **mail** their reports to you except in emergencies.

"Examine the reading matter that circulates among your men. Some of it, often innocently appearing, may be seditious and highly inflammatory."

Advises Lecture on Slavery

A lengthy dissertation on slavery and what it meant to Negroes, for some unaccountable reason, is included in the suggestions for topics of talks by the officers. The result is that Negro boys from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and other liberal states find themselves sitting in conference listening to lectures based on the following Army information:

"Most slave-owners were good-hearted, Christian people who liked for everyone around them to be happy They were, as a rule, good to their slaves. Of course there were bound to be some cruel owners and overseers, who made their slaves miserable.

Many able Negroes helped end slavery. But the American Negro could never have gotten out by himself. Slavery came to an end because thousands of white people thought it was wrong, and that every human being in this country should enjoy the blessings of freedom won by the blood of patriots in the Revolution.

"Many Negroes did not understand their new freedom. They flocked to town, thinking that freedom meant they didn't have to work any more, somebody would take care of them while they led the 'life of Riley.' A great deal of hard work was necessary, by great educators like the Negro, Booker T. Washington, before the American Negro got where he is today.

"Whereas a slave had practically no rights at all, you will find that you now have as many rights as everyone else under the law. This is especially true in the Army. Every offender under military law is guaranteed a fair trial."

Tells Soldiers They Must Behave

More excerpts from the "educational" course of instruction, these directed to the soldiers themselves, read thus:

"In the Army there is no discrimination among soldiers, as long as everyone behaves himself like a soldier. The Commanding General at Camp Stewart and his staff guarantee that there will be no discrimination between white or colored.

"A good soldier doesn't have time to fool with his home town politics, or to go around telling other soldiers how the country ought to be run. Any question about white people and black people will never be settled by barracks talk. **Let's forget these things for the time being, buckle down to real soldiering, and win the war.**

"We have heard that our soldiers in England are given rules on how to get along with the English people, who have many habits and customs different from ours.

"Our soldiers in Africa were given rules on how to get along with the Mohammedans, and other people who live there.

"Our soldiers in Sicily have been told how to treat the people there.

"You are in Georgia. While you are here, you must obey the laws of the State of Georgia. The laws of Georgia may not be like the laws of New York, or the District of Columbia, or Pennsylvania, or Illinois; but that makes no difference.

"Some of you may not understand why you can't go everywhere white folks go in Georgia. It's because the law says so.

Be Polite to "White Folks"

"Whether or not they did this where you came from, and no matter what you think about it, it is your duty to do exactly as the law says, and to accept the customs of the people, while you are in Georgia.

"Be polite and respectful in any talk you may have with white people. Don't try to start conversations with white strangers. Stay out of white places, and sit where you are supposed to sit on trains and buses.

"You are in the South. Things have been as they are in the South for a long time, and they will probably continue to be that way for a long time. If you start any argument or disturbances over these things, you will get nowhere, settle nothing, and get yourself in trouble."

Finally, instructors are advised that "the colored soldier should be taught to avoid a 'chip on the shoulder' attitude and to avoid babying himself with the belief that every little inconvenience he suffers is racial discrimination."

Through this method the Army expects to avoid a repetition of the clashes here in June, which resulted in the death of one and injury to four others.

BAYONET VICTIM

NOV 13 1943
Courier Pittsburgh

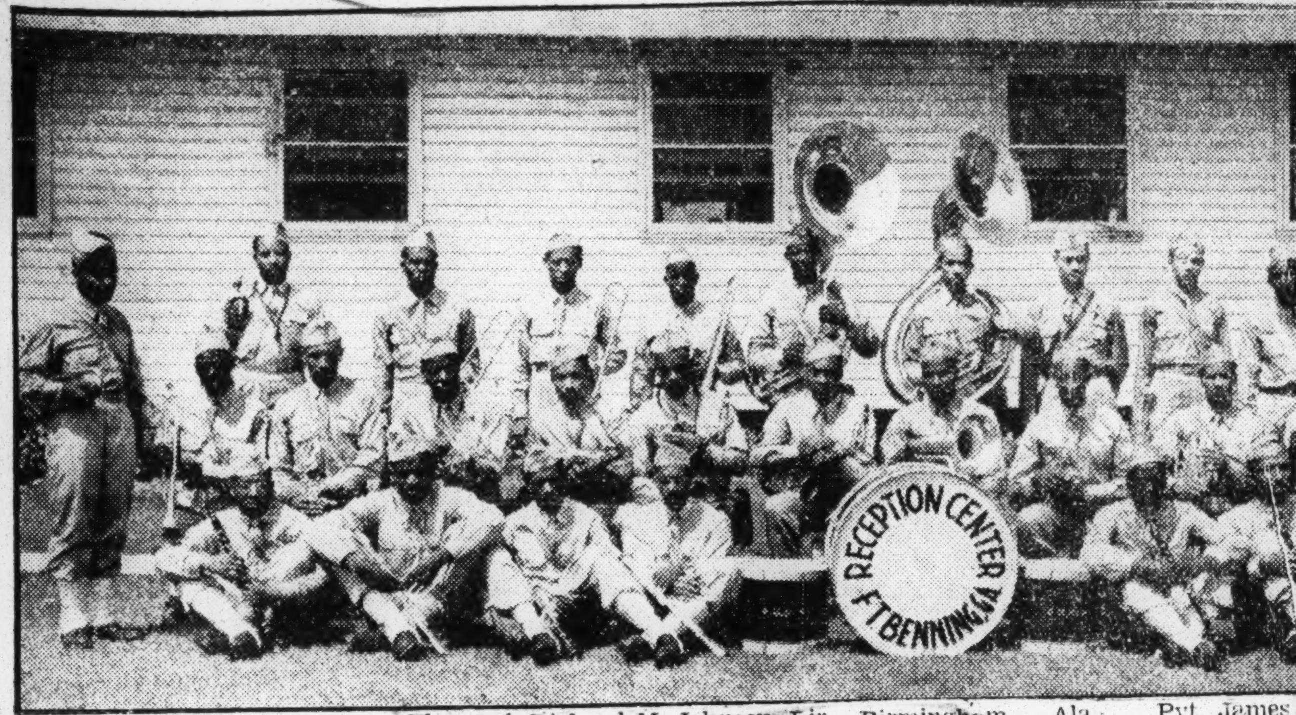
When Pvt. Ellis Robinson of Greensburg, Pa., reportedly refused to obey a direct command from First Lieutenant William Sammons, company commander of an engineering regiment at Camp Swift, Texas, he was stabbed in the arm with a bayonet by the irate officer and, later, was confined to a [illegible]ital for emerge[illegible]treatment.

NOV 13 1943

Lieutenant Sammons, for his act, has been subjected to an army general court-martial.

Camps

Ft. Benning's Crack Band Of Reception Center



OCT 2 1943

Members of the Band of the Reception Center, Fort Benning, Ga Left to right, standing from row S-Sgt. Horace O. Jackson, Birmingham, Ala., Asst. Bandleader; sitting, Sgt Walker P. Jackson, Birmingham, Ala., Pfc. Willie J. Hill Thomasville, Ga.; Cpl. Frank Stevenson, Mobile, Ala.; Cpl. Henry L McDowell, Shelby, N. C.; Pfc. Fred E. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; Sgt. Robert Harrell, Jr., Nashvlle, Tenn., Sgt Lawrenc C. Iszard, Jacksonville. Fla.; Cpl. Richard M. Johnson, Birmingham, Ala.; and T-Sgt. Alton A Davenport (standing) bandleader, Birmingham, Ala.

Second Row, kneeling left to right Pfc. Will M. Douglas Gallatin, Tenn.; Pvt. Wilton Robinson, Birmingham, Ala.; Cpl. Richard W. Judge, Atlanta, Ga.; Pfc. Owen Hunt, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.; Pvt. George Woodruff, Birmingham, Ala.; Sgt. Thomas W. Flowers, Dixon, Tenn.; Pfc. Frank Jackson Birmingham, Ala.; Pvt. James Young, Johnson City, Tenn.; Pfc. Thomas B. Dunlap, Memphis, Tenn.; Cpl. Archie A. Clark, Sarasota, Fla.; Pvt. Jacob Claye Birmingham, Ala.; Pfc. Moddie Swanigan, Birmingham, Ala

Third row, standing left to right: Cpl. Edwin F. Driskell, Atlanta, Ga.; Sgt. Clyde M. Ewell, Nashville, Tenn; Pvt. Howard Young, Johnson City, Tenn.; Cpl. Frontis Brooks, Rock Hill, S. C.; Pfc. Herman Dawson, Albany, Ga.; Pfc William M. Holmes, Mobile, Ala. Pfc. William A. Shorter, Atlanta Ga.; Pvt. Ira J. Wells, Mobile, Ala. Sgt. James Ben, Bessemer. Ala.; Pfc. Willie Mitchell, Atlanta, Ga.

Bandsmen not in picture: Pfc. Charles E. Gilbert, Miami, Fla. Cpl. Theodore J. Lawson, Nashville, Tenn., and Sgt. William H Stovers, Indianapolis, Ind.

(CREDIT U S. ARMY SIGNAL CORPS PHOTO)

Court Martial For Youth Charged With Leading Protest Group On Jim Crow

The Plaindealer 7 1943
Kansas City, Kan

March Field, Cal.—Because his protest against a color ban in the post movie and service club almost led to a bloody armed outbreak here, a 19-year-old soldier from Tulsa, Okla, today faced a 25-year sentence at hard labor.

He is Clarence A. Richardson, a young private formerly attached to the 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion. He was given this severe punishment for allegedly telling a second lieutenant to "move out of the way" and for being recognized as one of a group of Negro soldiers who attempted to storm a supply room where arms and ammunition were stored here on June 14.

AUG 27 1943

A War department spokesman stated Monday that Richardson's sentence is subject to review by the 9th Service command, at Salt Lake City. The same spokesman declared that the matter of separate theaters and service clubs is to be investigated by the army within the very near future.

Chief prosecution witness was an officer, who sought to quiet the men but was ordered out of the way when they attempted to enter a building in which arms were known to be stored. All efforts to reason with them or to control them were futile, the lieutenant declared, and Richardson was particularly abusive in his remarks to the officer.

A large group of men reported for the discussion and, led by Richardson, voiced strenuous objection to be being barred from the theater and service club because of their color. Major Potter stated that he was unable to identify anyone in the group other than Richardson.

Richardson and two others were recognized as spokesmen for the group as they "appeared by their manner of speech and the language they used to be at least educated to a state above the average for colored people," according to testimony.

So tense was the situation at this point that one of the men is reported to have called out to Major Potter that he "would just as soon die here at home fighting riots as to go across and be killed somewhere else."

Defied Lieut. Colonel

Second Lt. Emilio A. Munoz, according to the information, was sent by Major Potter to the supply room in order to forestall any possible move of the men in the direction of the ammunition and guns. A short time after his arrival, the men are said to have concluded their conference with Major Potter and, not having been satisfied, started for the store room.

Lt. Munoz faced them in front of E. Nettleton, passing them as they stood in front of battalion headquarters, attempted to get some semblance of order by calling out to them to fall in. He was greeted by jeers and reminders that he "had better get going."

Failing in his attempt to control the group, Lt. Munoz declared he retired to the door of the supply room but the men continued to advance on him.

At this point the story was taken up by 2nd Lt. Edwin R. Childs, duty officer for the day who, as such, was detailed at the store room. He reported seeing the group of soldiers advancing on the place in a menacing attitude and of locking the door to keep them out.

After arming himself with a .45 caliber sub-machine gun, Lt. Childs said he opened the door in response to their demands that he do so "or they would tear it down." The officer is then said to have defied them to "make one step in that door."

The men replied to the effect that he might get some of them but he couldn't get them all before they got him. His rejoinder is said to have been "I might not get them all but I would get a whole lot more of them than they would get of me because I had 700 rounds of ammunition and they didn't have any."

Had Previous Record

Both Lt. Munoz and Lt. Childs are reputed to have identified Richardson as the leader of the group during the whole time. The latter declared he heard Richardson tell Lt. Munoz to step aside because they didn't want to hurt him.

Knox's Negro Soldiers Make Good Sentries

OCT 4 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville. Ky. OCT 4 1943

By Sgt. James Goble

Fort Knox.

IT'S THE first time the Negro soldiers of the 18th Battalion's Company "C" at the Fort Knox Armored Replacement Training Center have been on guard duty.

Pvt. Leon E. Dorsey, son of Mrs. Leenanna Dorsey, 925 S. Clay St., Louisville, and the late Thomas J. Dorsey, Sunday School superintendent for twenty years at the city's Lampton Baptist Church, marches up and down his beat inside the tank park.

There is pride in the look on his face, in the way he carries his rifle, in his jaunty steps. Tonight he is king. He is the nation's guardian of many costly tanks. And he can stop anyone in the nation who comes [illegible] them, his sergeant, his captain, the general, even the President. He marches along, 120 steps to the minute. His back is straight; his chin up. He reaches the end of his beat and halts with a click of his heels. He does a smart about-face, and marches back. It's 3 o'clock in the morning, but he isn't sleepy. A soldier can't be sleepy on this job.

ON ANOTHER side of the park marches Pvt. Alvin Jones, Barlow, Ky. He frequently glances at the row of tanks alongside his beat. They crackle in the growing cold. He stops and shines his flashlight on one, then marches on.

His lips move silently as if he is reciting his general orders. Every guard must know all eleven of them. Officers of the guard might appear at any moment and question Private Jones about them. If he can't recite them as they are written in the Soldier's Handbook, he will be relieved of duty as a guard and sent back to his barracks. Maybe he will have to do K. P.; maybe he will be restricted during the weekend.

His lips the words of General Order No. 1: "Take charge of this post and all Government property in view." He smiles as if he might be thinking of the hep-cat version of that order, which is making the rounds at Army posts: "Strut in style and keep both glimmers on the jernt."

Or General Order No. 8: "Give the alarm in case of fire or disorder," and its jitterbug version: "Beat my chops and throw a four-alarmer at a real hot jernt or a truck driver's hold."

•

THE smile leaves his face. This is no time for anything that is not serious. He marches on. The gun on his shoulder grows heavier. A truck drives up to the tank park entrance. A dark form gets out of the truck and starts into the park. Private Jones runs toward the gate. But before he gets there, Private Dorsey yells, "Halt." The form stops. "Who's there?" yells Private Dorsey. The dark form says, "Corporal of the guard." Private Dorsey says, "Advance and be recognized." The dark form advances.

"I've brought guards to relieve you," says the corporal. "You and Jones give me your rifles and take off. You can get a couple of hours' sleep before daylight."

The privates walk toward the gate, yawning. Their reign is over. They now are just plain soldiers. Nothing exciting happened on their posts. But they did their part in seeing that it didn't.

OCT 4 1943

Jacksonville, N. C., Record
October 26, 1943

Davis Ready For New Negro Battalions

CAMP DAVIS, Oct. 26.—They set up a first class service club in three days. In four days they put a complete PX together and opened for business on the fifth. Meanwhile they stocked a library, furnished a chapel, and prepared a guest house and an officers' club.

That's how Camp Davis moved this week to welcome two battalions of Negro combat troops who are being stationed here for training. One of the biggest and swiftest conversion jobs ever undertaken at Davis was nearly complete as the new troops moved in.

The rush job was ordered when word was received here suddenly of the arrival in a few days of two new battalions.

A block of barracks was prepared for the newcomers around Fourth and D streets. Tennis and volleyball courts in the area were readied for immediate use.

After inspecting all facilities Col. Adam E. Potts, camp commander, said the new troops will have one of the most complete and comfortable layouts on the post. He congratulated post workers on their speedy job of remodelling and furnishing the area buildings, which were vacant just prior to the arrival of the men.

The new service club, cafeteria and soda fountain facilities, to be known as Service Club No. 6, once was a recreation hall. In three days complete kitchen facilities were moved in and set up, and the big main dining hall decorated and furnished to feed more than 100 at a time.

The club now is complete down to the juke box, which was in operation to greet the new troops. Boogie-woogie made up most of the record selections, which was swell with everyone concerned. Work now is being completed on special game and recreation rooms in the same building, and office facilities for the hostess.

Also available to the new units is the Service Club No. 3, at the post detachment, with its enlarged floor for dancing and party events.

Supervision of the service club and general recreational layout for the new men is in the hands of F-Sgt. Harvey Hall, who has been collecting ideas during his 29 years in the Army.

The new library used to be a guardhouse, but you'd never recognize it now. The area's ten-room guest house once was an officers' day room, before the remodelling blitzkrieg struck it. The officers' club and chapel were not in use, but now are ready for a busy schedule of activities.

Camp Stewart's Pinup Girl

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Press Photo Service

OCT 2 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — Pretty Anna Mae Winburn, the directress of the International Sweethearts of Rhythm, all-girl band was chosen pin-up girl for Camp Stewart's fighting unit by Pfc. Allen L. Herndon (Chicago) who headed committee. Miss Winburn and her band played to a jam-packed house in the Windy City, recently, and is scheduled for Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 1; Lawton, Okla., Oct. 2 and Wichita, Kas., Oct. 3.

Soldiers Found Guilty In Duck Hill Shooting

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 18 1943

CAMP M'CAIN, Miss., Sept. 16—(ANP)—Six soldiers from Southern states attached to the 470th Quartermaster truck regiment, Third army, have been found guilty of firing shots from Garand rifles on the town of Duck Hill last July 5, and sentenced to serve sentences ranging from 10 to 15 years at hard labor in the federal prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Seven others under heavy guard at the camp, likewise accused in the raid, were tried on September 10.

The men whose sentences have been approved by Gen. Hodges, commander of the Third army with headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., have already been shipped to the penitentiary. They will also be "dishonorably discharged from the services of the United States, forfeiting all pay and allowances" due them, stated the court-martial decision.

Those under sentence are Cpl. Larue Steele, Pvt. James Harris and Pvt. Elijah Outlaw, each given 15-year terms; and Pvts. Thomas E. Webb, Ray Brookshire, and Thomas Decker, who were given 10-year terms.

ATMOSPHERE TENSE

The men under sentence were said by officers at the camp to have organized a miniature platoon to attack the city of Starkville 80 miles distant but became dismayed at prospects of the long journey, and decided to fire upon nearby Duck Hill.

Trouble had been brewing here ever since the Negro soldiers arrived several months ago with Duck Hill citizens noticeably hostile to the army men. Knowledge that a Negro civilain, accused of murder, had been lynched several years ago, was not conductive to the morale of the Negro soldiers and added reports that a white woman had been assaulted resulting in a flood of MPs concentrated in the area and Duck Hill declared "out-of-bounds" for the Negro soldiers aggravated the situation. Negro soldiers have been repeatedly mistreated in Starkville which further made the atmosphere here tense.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 5 1943

NORTH CAMP HOOD, Texas—(SNS)—The newly activated 133rd Tank Destroyer Battalion is the first Negro unit to be formed at the Army's only Tank Destroyer Replacement Training Center at North Camp Hood.

Noncommissioned officers who will train the enlisted personnel of the 133rd TD Battalion have arrived and are undergoing orientation, while trainees from all over the country are expected to arrive in the near future. Here they will learn Tank Destryer tactics and become fully cognizant of the meaning of the TD motto, "Seek, Strike, Destroy."

Lt. Col. William S. Halcomb is the battalion commanding officer, with Major H. W. Dabber serving as executive officer. The adjutant is 1st Lt. John W. Foust.

Democracy Rules In Florida Camp

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—(S N S)—In connection with the War Department educational program, civilian and military personnel of both races at Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla., are attending night classes in typing and shorthand.

Under head instructor, Mrs. Lucy T. Ball and her able assistants, Misses Nancy Chambers, Gladys Fuhlbrugge and Helen Duffy, the school got underway last week with an enrollment of approximately 185 students. Classes are held 5 nights per week, three nights for beginners and two nights for the advanced students.

Many opportunities are being offered military personnel under the present educational program. Those who are ambitious enough to use their off time in the pursuit of furthering their education often find instructors and subject matter available to them that was almost an impossibility in civilian life. Such is the case at Camp Gordon Johnston, Mrs. Ball, the head instructor is on leave at the Gulf Camp from Wiley Business School in Chattanooga, Tenn.

With the splendid progress now being made in the business training school, steps are being taken to organize other types of classes so that GI Joe might return to civilian life a much wiser man than when he first donned the uniform.

Under command of Colonel Walter E. Smith, Camp Gordon Johnston is located 59 miles southwest of Tallahassee, Florida's capital, on the beautiful Gulf of Mexico and is one of the nation's outstanding amphibious warfare training centers.

47c1943

Colonel On Trial At Michigan Field

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 13 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —(ANP)—When Lt. Col. Paul A Petree of the medical corps, chief of neure-psychiatric division of the Percy Jones General hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., quoted Col. W. T. Walden, former commanding officer of Selfridge field, as saying, "I have given orders repeatedly that a Negro chauffeur should never be permitted to drive my car," a point was introduced which was never before made public in official announcements of the case.

The statement was the first reference in the trial to the circumstances of the shooting of Pvt. Willie McRae, a chauffeur at the army air base here by Col. Colman last May.

On cross-examination by Capt. Phillip D. O. O'Connell, the trial judge advocate, Petree said Colman had told him he had been drinking the night before the shooting and that he had gone to his offce to get two revolvers.

Col. Petree further quoted Colman as having asked: "Which do you think would be most in my favor, amnesia or alcoholism?" Asked to give this opinion as to the reason for the outburst which caused the shooting, the witness said it might have been amnesia, alcohol, or general mental disorder.

Aside from being accused of the shooting of Pvt. Willie McRae, Col. Colman, who is under trial by a court-martial, has other counts against him of having violated the articles of war. Numbered among these are repeated instances of drunkenness, having fraudulently obtained transfers of enlisted men, accepted a gift from a government contractor, and misappropriated government property.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

SEP 23 1943

COURT MARTIAL WHITEWASH COL. COLEMAN

Last week Col. William T. Coleman, former commandant at Selfridge Field, Michigan, was found guilty by a court martial of careless use of fire arms and four counts of drunkeness. The colonel was relieved from his command after shooting his chauffeur, a Negro soldier.

He was tried on about forty charges some growing out of favoritism and the misuse of his official position for private gain. His counsel contended in defense that the colonel was a sick man mentally and thus not responsible for the acts he committed.

The court martial found him guilty of some of the charges but undoubtedly went a long way in fixing punishment in their effort to save the colonel rather than do justice as they were sworn to do. It appears that the soldier was shot without provocation, and it was a traversity of justice not to have found the colonel guilty of at least assault with intent to do great bodily injury.

We are inclined to say the court martial was as rotten as the colonel himself. Here was an officer in charge of thousands of men and millions of dollars worth of property belonging to the people; a man who by his rank had been trusted to discharge his duties faithfully and with fairness to all. On the other hand, here was this colonel whose conduct proved to be that of a tramp—a hoodlum and who by his own testimony and the plea of his counsel was unfit mentally to administer the duties assigned him, and yet Colonel Coleman is now Captain Coleman with a chance left to continue his dishonorable conduct upon the members of his unit.

The army has suffered a terrific jolt by this whitewash and the Bystander believes that rotten decision of the court martial should not be allowed to stand.

Camp

Colonel Pleads He Can't Remember Shot At Driver

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SEP 18 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —A plea that he did not remember shooting a Negro chauffeur was the defense of Col. William T. Colman when he took the witness stand this week in his defense during court martial proceedings.

Colman, who was removed from his command at Selfridge Feld following the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, his Negro driver, told the court martial:

"Gentlemen, not for the life of me, so help me God, can I remember one other thing. That's my story. I have had four months to think it over and read testimony. There are things in there that I am reported to have said.

Tells of Picnic

Colman then told of a picnic which he attended the evening of the shooting. He said his wife, Jane, and Lt. Col. Sam Westbrook accompanied him on the picnic and they had a bottle of whisky, about half full.

"I know there was not more than half a fifth," he said, "because there was some question about whether it was worth taking. I don't know who mixed the drinks. I think I mixed the first, but I was more interested in cooking a steak.

"We had a fire going and I was turning the steak. On my first or second drink I could see the bone in the steak, and from that time on the one person I can remember is Maj. John Lucas (the medical officer who examined Colman after the shooting).

"Testimony shows that half a bottle of liquor was drunk in headquarters. I can't tell you. As far as I'm concerned, that bottle of liquor still is in the left hand drawer of my desk, as it was put there many months ago.

Stimson Asked to Probe Colman Court-Martial

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Washington, Sept. 15 (AP)—Representative O'Toole (D., N. Y.) demanded of War Secretary Stimson today an investigation of the court-martial of Col. William T. Colman saying "the morale of the Army and of the public will be shattered by the retention of such specimens within our armed forces."

The New Yorker also demanded that Colman be suspended from all duties until the inquiry is completed. Earlier, Representative Shafer (R., Mich.) described the outcome of the court-martial as a travesty and said he would ask the military affairs committee to review the case.

Faces Demotion.

Colman, former commanding officer at the Selfridge Field, Michigan, Air Base, was convicted by a general court-martial of violating the Articles of War and faces a demotion to captain with no chance for promotion for three years. He was found guilty of careless use of firearms in the shooting and wounding of a Negro private, and of drunkenness.

If press accounts are accurate "and this man is allowed to remain as an officer of the Army of the United States," O'Toole wrote Stimson, "I could not blame any civilian or member of the Army for failing to have respect for those who are known as 'officers and gentlemen' by Act of Congress."

Shafer asserted, "We cannot have confidence in our military if we are going to allow officers to escape with nominal penalties for serious offenses."

The verdict against Colman is subject to review by the War Department here and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

Ousted Selfridge Head Claims Losing Memory After Drinking

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal

Picture on Pict

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 12 (U.P.)—Col. William T. Colman, ousted Selfridge Field commander charged with twenty-nine violations of the articles of war, testified in his own behalf today he could not remember anything about the shooting of Pfc. William McRae last May 5 which precipitated an investigation of his administration at the air base.

Colman told of going on a picnic for relaxation from the strain of "constant investigations behind my back" and the shifting of Selfridge from one Air Forces command to another.

The apparent tenor of his testimony was to convey to the nine Air Forces colonels sitting in judgment that his mental condition had been aggravated by wartime pressure, Army red tape and especially by Army indecision concerning the status of the Silfridge and Oscoda, Mich., air bases.

Bases Transferred

He explained that for twenty years Selfridge and Oscoda had been practically the same base, for administrative purposes, but that last September Oscoda had been taken over by the Third Air Force and Selfridge by the Air Service Command, thereby relieving the commander of Selfridge as the ex-officio commander of Oscoda.

Last March, however, Selfridge was taken over by the Third Air Force and reunited with Oscoda, he testified.

Since Colman was relieved of his command last May, Selfridge and Oscoda have been transferred from the Third to the First Air Force.

With this as a background, Colman told of a picnic May 4, the day of the night of the shooting, at which he is charged with being under the influence of liquor.

"I don't remember who mixed the drinks," Colman said. "I was more interested in cooking a steak and I had a fire going and was turning it from side to side.

"It was on either my first or second drink I could see the bone—and gentlemen, from that time on I can remember only one thing (until the shooting). I leaned over the fireplace—I can remember that as distinctly as if it were yesterday—and from there on I can't remember. I don't remember eating the steak and I don't remember coming to headquarters."

Seek Facilities For Ft. Huachuca

NOV 15 1943

Atlanta Daily World

TUCSON, Ariz. — (ANP) — Maj. Gen. E. W. Almond of Ft. Huachuca last week made a plea for more recreation facilities for Negro troops in Tucson, when the American Legion entertained a group of officers from nearby military units that had arrived for the Armistice day parade.

He said that the army makes

no distinction as to color. that each man must prove himself on an individual basis and that Negro troops must and do meet the same standard as other troops.

The men at Ft. Huachuca have met the standards demanded of American fighting men, insisted Maj. Gen. Almond, in asking that facilities for these men in the towns they visit be in accordance with their service.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Shooting Colonel Pleads Not Guilty

SEP 17 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — Col. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the Selfridge Field Air Base, pleaded not guilty when arraigned before a general court-martial of nine colonels last Monday on charges of shooting a colored soldier and misappropriation of government property.

Seven charges of alleged violations of articles of war were lodged against Colonel Colman, who has been held under military arrest since May 5, following the shooting of Pfc. William McRae of Morven, N.C. McRae has since been returned to duty.

Colman also was charged with illegal procurement of personnel, including the "fraudulent and unlawful procurement of the transfer of Pvt. (now lieutenant) Benson Ford, son of Edsel Ford, to Selfridge Field on October 15, 1942.

Soldier Shot "by Mistake"

Other charges included the misappropriation of $1000 worth of government property, including an $800 electric generator, a $175 refrigerator, and five beds worth $5 each, and misuse of the labor of civilian government employees at the Oscoda Air Field.

It is not believed that the shooting of McRae was connected with any of the irregularities with which Colman is charged, but was the result of mistaken identity. McRae had had no trouble with Colonel Colman.

Camps Can't Bar Negro Newspapers

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
NOV 17 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS) — After a conference here last week, the War department issued an order that no officer in the field is hence forward to ban or question the introduction of any tpye military installation.

The action was taken after numerous complaints had been made that officers in the field at some posts had prevented the circulation of Negro publications. The action was a direct outgrowth of the barring of Negro newspapers from Camp Forrest, Tenn. Whereas most of the other complaints were unsubstantiated reports, the War department secured a copy of an order issued by a field officer in the Camp Forrest case.

According to Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in the future the question of admission of publications to military posts "can only be decided in Washington." This order is expected to end the practice of some military commanders of acting on their own feeling about Negro publications.

Col. Colman's Court-Martial In Shooting Case Opened

Post
Washington, D. C.
SEP 9 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 8. — Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, assistant trial judge advocate, today told members of the courtmartial trying Col. William T. Colman on charges alleging 29 violations of the Articles of War, that the Government proposed to show that Colonel Colman was "a careless, drunken man."

Colonel Colman, relieved as commandant of the Army air base here following the shooting and wounding last May of Pvt. William McRae, a Negro chauffeur, has pleaded innocent to all the charges, and offered testimony designed to show he was suffering from a mental disorder at the time of the shooting.

Captain Dolan said the Government would seek to show that Colonel Colman would have shot the officer of the day or anybody else who happened to be within range at the time McRae was shot.

The Government would also show, Captain Dolan said in an opening statement to the court, that Colonel Colman once asked his girl secretray, "Haven't you got a boy friend you want transferred here?"

Later, Captain Dolan said, the girl's cousin, a saxophone player, enlisted at Selfridge as a parachute rigger, and was assigned to the field band by Colonel Colman.

The Government proposed to show, Captain Dolan continued, that Colonel Colman was given the continuing use of a summer lodge near Oscoda, Mich., by Herman Granse, representative of a Bay City, Mich., firm erecting buildings at Selfridge, after the colonel arranged to have Granse's two soldier sons transferred to the field.

Transfer of one of the sons, Captain Dolan said, was arranged within a few hours of his scheduled embarkation for an overseas theater of operations.

The trial before eight colonels and one lieutenant colonel, was resumed today after the court late yesterday in a 10-minute closed session denied a defense motion to dismiss seven of the most serious charges against Colonel Colman on the grounds of insanity.

THE STOCKTON PROGRAM

AUG 21 1943

The bad features of General E. A. Stockton's educational program for colored soldiers at Camp Stewart, Ga., were admirably stated by John Jasper's exclusive dispatch to the AFRO last week.

Reminding colored soldiers that they once were slaves wasn't at all tactful. Millions of whites are slaves today to Hitler. The Romans regarded the Britons as "too dumb" to be slaves and counselled against bringing them home as prisoners.

Today we have the British conquering the Romans and regarding the Italian people as inferior fighters. That is how the times change. Today's slave is tomorrow's master.

The Germans kicked the Russians around for centuries. The "stupid Russian" was a German household word. Now it's Russia's turn to master the Germans. There is no color line to slavery. If we lose this war by failing to rebuke intolerant generals like Stockton, we, colored and white, shall be slaves to Japan and to Germany.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

The inconsistency of the Stockton directive is equally manifest in his thesis that the law is the Golden Rule, but colored troops must accept segregation and the customs of the South or else expect punishment.

That is quite an indigestible meal for colored soldiers. Maybe General Stockton never heard that an army travels on its stomach.

These illogical and discordant passages of the Stockton bulletin becloud its excellent features—and it has some fine points.

For example, it proposes to hold officers responsible for the enlisted men, on the theory that there are no bad regiments, only regiments with bad colonels.

It puts officers on notice that epithets are not to be used and every man in uniform is a soldier—an important cog in the war machine.

Soldiers are to have the regulations governing desertion, absence without leave, disrespect for officers, mutiny, sedition, murder, rape, sodomy, theft, forgery and perjury, repeated again and again until they know them thoroughly.

In general, if we are going to have better soldiers, we must have responsible officers, who will quit making excuses and make good.

General Stockton's program is the first in this war instructing officers and men at length in the important problem of getting along with each other and with the community. In the main, it is bad medicine. But it does attack the problem. That is its chief virtue.

47c-1943

CAMPS

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Comments on General Stockton's Order to Soldiers at Camp Stewart, Ga.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

General Stockton ordered officers and soldiers in a program of education issued July 29 to observe the Golden Rule, segregation, the laws of Georgia, the customs of the South, and to be polite to white people—Italic

Comments from Philadelphians on the directive of Brigadier General Stockton follow:

HERBERT E. MILLEN, assistant director of public safety:

"At this time, when all people of the world are fighting for the Four Freedoms, we colored Americans, whose Chief Executive is one of the underspoken exponents of the Four Freedoms, should not be compelled to submit to the treatment and attitude which we find in the Southern States, particularly in Georgia, Mississippi, and Florida.

"Many young men who have lived in the North where some semblance of freedom is accorded them, suddenly find themselves in the armed forces in these Southern States where customs have not changed in the last 75 years, where treatment of the colored citizen is such that it is but little higher than that accorded slaves before the Emancipation.

Should Begin at Home

"Since we are fighting for democracy, it should be started at home where the preachments we hear from the pulpit, over the radio and from the Senate chamber itself should become a reality.

"The instruments of death being used by the Axis powers are no discriminators of persons. Black people, white people, brown people, all members of the human family, are subject to destruction at the hands of these instruments of war and we colored Americans who have contributed more than our quota by our willingness to serve and our ability to sacrifice should receive a larger measure of fair play.

"The attitude of General Stockton is no worse than the attitude of some of the leaders of the countries who comprise the Axis powers."

Spaulding "Shocked"

AUG 21 1943

THEODORE O. SPAULDING, president, NAACP:

I am shocked by the excerpts I've seen of the directive which I'm advised was issued by Brigadier General Stockton on July 29. The implications which can be drawn from the statements in this directive reveal an attitude dangerously Fascist-like towards colored people who by right of heritage are entitled to all of the rights of citizenship.

"It is hard for me to imagine our military department knuckling so completely to undemocratic customs as evidenced here. There is small wonder that we note on every hand from soldiers of color a sarcastic vein of ridicule about the 'ideals of democracy' for which we are fighting.

"If this directive is a true indication of War Department attitudes. I fear for the future of America."

Henry "Not Surprised"

MAGISTRATE EDWARD W. HENRY:

AUG 21 1943

"I'm shocked and yet I'm not surprised. Such conditions are a disgrace to this country. They are more of a disgrace to the U.S. Army from the Commander-in-Chief down. If such conditions cannot be corrected by the Commander-in-Chief or those next in authority, they should be corrected by congressional action.

"I have a verbal report from a private in the army who was stationed in that same camp. He said that the colonel commanding that outfit in addressing them on one occasion said: 'We are going to try to make soldiers of you young men and don't be just a bunch of n - - - - - s, but act like soldiers.'

"No group of men on earth, black or white, native-born or foreign-born can submit to such outrageous treatment without protesting, and I'm proud that some of our boys have the courage to protest, while others are, unfortunately, thoroughly cowed.

"I think we owe it to our God and to our country to insist that the South is not the whole government, even if it is riding in the saddle and that obnoxious Southern customs are not the law of God and must be corrected by praying or fighting. That is the way I feel; that is the way millions feel."

HAROLD A. LETT, secretary, New Jersey Urban League:

One of the reasons for Judge William Hastie's resignation from his War Department post was his inability to get the Army to issue an educational pamphlet to white soldiers.

General Stockton's statement, therefore, merely supports the conviction of any liberal-minded person that the Army is working to strengthen anti-colored attitudes in American life. General Stockton warns soldiers that if Hitler won the war, colored and whites "would be thrown back into slavery," and that "Hitler thinks the only people on earth fit to live well are his own breed of supermen."

Then, he adds, "The laws of Georgia provide for segregation" of white and colored people. Has General Stockton compared his views and the laws of the South with Hitler's philosophy which he says should be destroyed?

MRS. R. P. MILBURN, white, chairman of Newark Interracial Council:

General Stockton's statement is disgusting to those working for interracial harmony and goodwill. It was stupid and tactless and will only intensify race hatred.

It may be truthfully said, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do," but that refers to one who voluntarily goes to Rome. The colored soldiers in Georgia went sent there by the United States Government and not because they wanted to go there. They are wearing the uniform of this country and should certainly be treated according to the laws of the nation—not Georgia.

I would hate to live in Georgia and if I did I would certainly fight to end racial segregation which is a disgrace to our democratic ideals.

MRS. RUTH OLDS, counsellor War Department's Office of Dependency Benefits, Newark:

General Stockton's directive is an insult to intelligent American citizens and a blow in the face of colored soldiers who are fighting to preserve a democracy in which they have shared very little.

It is most unfortunate that many of the responsible leaders in the prosecution of our war effort think as he does, even though they may not be as frank. The North may have won the Civil War ut the South certainly won the peace and is strongly entrenched in our national life. General Stockton should e removed for making such a statement which certainly is demoralizing to the men under his command and detrimental to the war effort. They recently ordered a trial for Chaplain Fuller who expressed his disapproval of un-American practices among soldiers. I wonder what will be the attitude of the War Department towards General Stockton?

J. MERCER BURRELL, veteran of World War I and Newark attorney:

This is the most insulting statement since General Ballou's infamous order issued to the students of the 17th Provisional Training Regiment Officers Reserve Corps at Fort Des Moines, Iowa in July, 1917. On this occasion the General threatened to court-martial any officer-candidate who resented segregation in theatres and public places of Des Moines, even though the State of Iowa did have a Civil Rights Law of sort.

General Stockton's directive is an insult to colored soldiers under his command as well as a gratuitous insult to the entire race by a military official who evidently seeks to destroy the morale of citizens.

The General shows himself to be an un-reconstructed rebel who still believes that Abraham Lincoln was wrong and slavery was a benevolent institution.

THOMAS L. PURYEAR, Newark housing head and chaplain in World War I:

This fellow Stockton is wearing an American uniform but he is certainly representing Hitler.

I am astounded that this sort of malicious propaganda can come from a high Army officer. This is the kind of loose, prejudiced talk that sets off the race frictions in this country. In as much as General Stockton's order is now known, tihs disservice to the colored soldiers under his command disqualifies him for further service in the Army of the United States.

He has sown the seeds for future race riots, because the soldier in uniform builds up a resentment which he may silently accept, while in the service, but will be bitterly and violently expressed when he returns to civilian life.

Only a weakness in the leadership of the War Department prevents the General from being immediately dismissed for harboring and promoting un-American views while representing the government.

WILLIAM .R JACKSON, Newark YMCA secretary:

The future of all that America holds dear hangs in the balance, while misinformed and misunderstanding persons in high positions in the Army continue to breed dissension among the men they are sworn to lead.

If Black Americans are giving their lives to maintain the diabolic customs of the South, the laws of Georgia, face segregation, Jim Crowism and white superiority, then all the "blood, sweat and tears" which have been spent on th ehomefronts and battlefields of the world have been in vain. Nazism is the same, whether practiced by a German Dictator or an American Army officer. A veneer of "Georgia culture" cannot cover up Nazi methods, even though they are practiced in America.

Undermining the morale of men in the armed services of this country is treason. General Stockton should be removed—and all others like him who know democracy only as a word and not a way of life.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Words of Wisdom

There are many Negro troops stationed at Camp Stewart. Some of them are of the south, but many are draftees from the Negro sections of northern cities, such as Harlem in New York and the Negro areas of Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, etc.

SEP 10 1943

Brigadier General E. A. Stockton, in command of the antiaircraft center at Camp Stewart, is the author of a 12-page booklet entitled "Educational Program for Colored Troops." It has been issued to every Negro at the camp. It would serve a good cause if it could be put in the hands, as required reading, of every Negro in every southern camp.

The following paragraphs, words of highest wisdom for those to whom they are addressed, are taken from General Stockton's booklet:

"A good soldier doesn't have time to fool with his home town politics, or to go around telling other soldiers how the country should be run. Any question about white people and black people will never be settled by barracks talk. Let's forget these things for the time being, buckle down to real soldiering, and win the war.

SEP 10 1943

"We have heard that our soldiers in England are given rules on how to get along with the English people, who have many habits and customs different from ours.

"Our soldiers in Africa were given rules on how to get along with the Mohammedans, and other peoples who live there.

"Our soldiers in Sicily have been told how to treat people there.

"You are in Georgia. While you are here, you must obey the laws of the state of Georgia. The laws of Georgia may not be the laws of New York, or the District of Columbia, or Pennsylvania, or Illinois, but that makes no difference.

"Some of you may not understand why you can't go everywhere white folks go in Georgia. It's because the law says so.

SEP 10 1943

"Whether or not they did this where you came from, and no matter what you think about it, it is your duty to do exactly as the laws say, and to accept the customs of the people, while you are in Georgia.

"Be polite and respectful in any talk you may have with white people. Don't try to start conversations with white strangers. Stay out of white places, and sit where you are supposed to sit on trains and buses.

"You are in the south. Things have been as they are in the south for a long time, and they will probably continue to be that way for a long time. If you start any argument or disturbances over these things, you will get nowhere, settle nothing, and get yourself in trouble."

Inspection At Fort Huachuca Thorough

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World
SEP 11 1943

FT. HUACHUCA, Ariz.—(ANP)—Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis and Acting Civilian Aide Truman K. Gibson Jr., spent a week here recently giving Fort Huachuca and the 92nd division an inspection which was a bit out of the ordinary. The officials conferred with officers from the commanding general on down. They held conferences in groups, singly and sometimes repeated them. In addition and perhaps more important they talked individually with several hundred soldi[illegible] Gen. Davis and Gibson saw personally every soldier on the post who had filed a complaint. They ran down every rumor which came to them before they got here or which they heard after they arrived. If anything was wrong with the 92nd either as to morale or physical well being they appeared determined to find out what it was.

Observers felt their progress was slowed somewhat by the calibre of many of the men. It is said that complaints come frequently from men whose intelligence quotients do not rate high. Man after man when pressed regarding his troubls is said to have explained that their training and education had been neglected; they just could not understand the things they were to do or why they had to do them. These cases prove graphic indictments of the [illegible]ional preparedness which [illegible] democracy gives our citizens.

Many of the gripes come from men who have just become discontented without specific reasons. Occasionally this applies to officers. The 92nd has a considerable number of officers especially in the ower grades who have emerged rom the ranks because of natural bility and passed through officer andidate training schools but hose total educational training ould be classed perhaps as deficient.

Some of the 60 officers who were or had been in disciplinary school were an example. There were rumors that these men had been found guilty of misdemeanors and more or less railroaded into this school. Every officer in the school was interviewed and given an opportunity to express himself. It is reported to have developed that practicall[illegible] of them [illegible] pleaded guilty to the charg[illegible] assessed against them and that in most cases they refused to plead other than guilty. Charges varied from drunkness to foul language and conduct unbecoming an officer.

There appears to be some question as to whether the Davis-Gibson report will be made public. It is certain, however, that from Maj. Gen. [illegible]mond on [illegible], the entire division has now a thorough understanding of what Washington headquarters expects of it while men who feel they have had a grievance [illegible] certain of an impartial investigation on [illegible] merits of the case.

SEP 11 1943

PX MANAGER

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Promotion of Mrs. Jewel Maxine Garland to manager of the Fourth Regiment post exchange, Fort Warren, Wyo., has been announced in the Quartermaster Replacement Training center. Just 26 years old, Mrs. Garland is one of the youngest and perhaps the only woman PX manager in the States. On her staff of 11 employees are three men.

Brilliant Array Of Ex-College Stars To Play With Ft. Benning

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
SEP 27 1943

Pfc. JOHN L. ROBINSON

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(SNS)—Under the able tutelage of Capt. Charles R. Houghland, head coach, of Notre Dame fame, and assisted by Lt. Hugh Martin of the University of Alabama, Sgt. Nelson T. Archer of Morehouse College, and Cpl. John H. Spriggs of Alcorn College, a strong [illegible] team is expected from a squad of fifty (50) men.

Led by the All-American Macon Williams of Florida A. and M. College, the Tigers rapidly round into shape. Other stalwarts to appear in the line-up are: Leo T. Harrison, teammate of Williams at Florida A. and M., Franklin Banks, All-American quarterback of Bluefield College, V. H. Henderson of N. C. College, Arthur Lacey of Clark College, "M[illegible]" Cheatham of Alabama State, James Williams, John "Honey" Smith, Bruce Mackey, L. Rogers, and George Hollingsworth of Morris Brown, Lonnie Gaines, Warren Baugh, Richard Baugh, Nathaniel Smith, and Lewis Crews of Alabama A. and M. College, George Hall of Dillard University, Stanford Smith, Albert Williams, J. Sullivan of Morehouse, John L. Pitts of Talladega, John Moulton of Knoxville College, Hosea Hudson and Jesse Gibson, Miles College, Collier Carson of Benedict College, J. Martin, W. J. Monroe, and others.

With a fast backfield averaging 185 lbs., behind a 200 pound line the Tigers expect to take on all opponents. A tough schedule has been arranged consisting of such teams [illegible] Clark College, Atlanta; Georgia 3rd S. T. R. Panthers, Ft. Benning, Florida; Florida A. and M. Rattlers; Alabama State Hornets; Tuskegee Tigers; and other Southern Conference teams to be announced later.

SEP 27 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sun-Tanned Yank Commandos Wear Dagger Emblems

By E. W. BAKER
Courier War Correspondent

AUG 28 1943

CAMP CLIPPER, Calif., Aug. 26—Down the steps flanking the stage of the huge 93rd Division Desert Bowl sprightly tripped long lines of lithe, brawny, erect soldiers to the tune of the especially-composed "Ranger Song;" last Tuesday night.

Intermittent blasts of explosives with accompanying blasts of light in the darkened amphitheatre heightened the military atmosphere as they nudged into the bars of the new song sung to the music of "It's A Grand Old Flag."

Halting in front of the raised platform, these men, approximately one officer and two non-coms from each unit of the division, proudly watched their representatives receive certificates of proficiency and authorization to wear a six-inch cloth red dagger on a blue field attached to their uniform. The dagger is the official emblem of the Rangers.

These men were graduates of the 93rd's Ranger course and are outstanding examples of the art of manly mayhem, the living embodiments of all-out offense, tougher, faster, better trained than any enemy they may be called upon to meet in mortal combat.

They are now going through the division developing other sun-tanned Yanks in methods to use their strength and resourcefulness against scientifically-developed human beasts in Germany and Japan, with an essence which is an utter disregard of all rules of sportsmanship and fair play.

LEARN DEADLY ART OF KILLING

For [illegible] ago, these men had had their ear drums pressed back by the concussion of heavy dynamite charges in their training, their flesh torn in barbed wire entanglements over which they hurled their bodies and formed human bridges so that their companions could forge ahead, their heads bobbing just a few inches under a stream of deadly machine-gun bullets, and had themselves flung over the backs of opponents in the art of killing with the bare hands.

As these men stood before him, Maj. Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, commanding general of the 93rd Division, with unabashed satisfaction declared: "You don't need these special awards. Your attitude of self-assurance and your soldierly bearing proves to me that you're good and know that you're good."

He led his audience into confidences about his plan for the division—Rangers All—to have every man under his command able to beat the fanatic military enemy maniacs at anything they can offer. He emphasized how the training will enable each man to protect his own life.

In picturesque, vigorous language, General Lehman predicted: "We'll run the enemy to the end of the earth . . . break their backs and their necks in their own backyard . . ."

HARD WORK AHEAD

Although the general warned the men of the hard work, discomfitures, and sufferings they must undergo before wearing the Ranger dagger, his program caught the popular fancy, elicited profuse applause, and led to the new greeting about the camp, "Hi, Ranger," and an apparent determination of the 93rd to merit the salutation.

"You have the gratitude of the division for your work," General Lehman told hard-bitten, soft-talking Lt. Col. A. M. Murray, Ranger commandant, then handed him a certificate of commendation. Similar presentations were made to more than three-score assistant instructors.

Introduced by Col. Stanley M. Prouty, Chief of Staff, Colonel Murray gave a detailed story of Ranger training.

In the development of these men to become the deadliest killers of all, they are taught the use of the hand as a blade, the fist as a bludgeon, use of fingertips to blind, the edge of the hand to cripple or stun.

They learn that delicate military operation of night patrolling, making their own Molotov cocktails to destroy tanks and pillboxes, construction and destruction of booby traps which the Germans and Italians used so effectively in Tunisia, shooting from hips at targets which bob up unexpectedly.

Along with the general physical conditioning, the men also learn the art of camouflage, how to snipe and stalk the enemy, ambushing, and close combat with all the weapons at their disposal.

BAND COMMENDED

The officers receiving the Ranger awards and the units they represented follow: 1st Lt. Wilbur C. Goodwin, 318th Engineers and 25th Infantry; 1st Lt. Lemuel S. Brown, 368th Infantry; 1st Lt. Robert Stormont, Division Artillery, Reconnaissance Troop, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, and Division Headquarters.

The 368th Band was lauded for presentation of the Ranger song and music during the exercises and great ovations were given when the following were commended by [illegible]: Cpl. William Kyle, regimental headquarters, arranger of the song; Staff Sgt. Robert L. Taylor, for orchestration of each instrument; 1st Sgt. Antone Delhousaye, band leader, and Col. James R. Urquhart, commanding 368th Infantry.

AUG 28 1943

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Camps

NEW OUTBREAKS IN ARMY CAMPS; SOLDIER DIES, 6 HURT

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois
1943

On the heels of race violence believed to have been aggravated by reports of mistreatment of Negro soldiers stationed in the South comes reports this week of another series of racial outbreaks between Negro and white soldiers. In one instance a Negro soldier was shot to death and six others wounded during an encounter between white and colored soldiers at Camp Shenango, Pa., last Sunday evening.

The official post report stated:

"Friction between white and colored troops which developed at the Shenango Personnel Replacement depot Sunday evening resulted in the death of one Negro soldier and the wounding of six more. All the men are now being treated at station hospital." The slain soldier was identified as Pvt. Norman Taylor, 20, of Rosedale, Kas.

CAMP STEWART PROBE LOOMS

JUL 13 1943

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Secretary of War Henry Stimson this week assured the NAACP that it plans to act against the deplorable condition revealed in a recent memorandum to the War department on the treatment of Negro soldiers stationed at Camp Stewart.

"We appreciate your sincere interest in the welfare," wrote Secretary Stimson, "of the Negro officers and enlisted men, who are stationed at Camp Stewart, and assure you that the War department is taking action to see that there will be no just cause for complaint as to the personnel and facilities under its jurisdiction."

JUL 13 1943

NEGRO SOLDIERS STRIKE AFTER TROUBLE IN JACKSON

FLORA, Miss., July 15.—Negro soldiers in training at the Mississippi Ordnance plant a few miles north of this town, according to authortative reports reaching here, went on strike Thursday morning following disorders in Jackson, the state capital, Wednesday night.

The immediate cause of the strike is said to have been the allaged serious beating of one of their number, and the alleged of several of their wives and women companions, a number of whom were put in jail by civilian policemen in Jackson Wednesday night. The arrests were made after Negro soldiers and military and civilian policemen became involved in what is reported to have threatened to a serious incident, which brought a large number of military and civilian police scurrying to Negro neighborhoods."

Rumors to the effect that the soldier who had been beaten in Jackson Wednesday night had died, which quickly spread throughout the city, have since been proved false. It was learned from reliable sources that the soldier was being treated at the camp while suffering from one or two scalp wounds.

During the Thursday morning demonstration at the camp, it was reported that three Negro military policemen, from whom the wounded soldier was taken by civilian police and beaten, had to be rushed out of camp for safety because of threats made by the soldiers who held them at fault for giving the soldier over to the custody of white civilian officers.

JUL 13 1943

What was the immediate cause of the Wednesday disturbance in Jackson has been the subject of many conflicting rumors and reports. The disturbance began a few hours after a large number of the soldiers on pay day leave fro mthe Jackson Air base and the Mississippi Ordnance plant reached the heart of the Negro neighborhood. No white civilians were involved in the dispute, it was said.

JUL 13 1943

Officers Stop Soldiers Brawl

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

SHEPPARD FIELD, Texas, July 1—Sympathetic and cool-headed action probably prevented a serious racial outbreak among white officers and men, colored platoon leaders and soldiers here June 21 when the 301st Training group met the 19th Aviation Squadron group.

As the platoons marched into each other, a white sergeant reportedly uttered a charge to his men in which he used a baneful expression quickly resented by the colored platoon leaders and their men, who, it was said, were given a 'fall out" command—and fist fighting broke out.

The major and two white lieutenants abandoned their cars and ended the disturbance before anyone could be critically hurt, according to information, and then the men were given a sympathetic lecture and a plea for self-control and patriotism, after which total peace was restored. However, special military patrolmen were assigned to keep order after duty hours.

JUL 13 1943

Reports Reveal Fort Bragg To Move Negroes

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
1943

Combat Troops Being Changed To Service Units

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(A N P)—Reports from an unofficial source revealed that large groups of Negro troops had been transferred from Fort Bragg to other points and that eventually there would not be any Negroes in the nation's largest army post.

It was further said that cadres and shipments of field artillery soldiers were being transferred almost daily to organize service companies and quartermaster units. Most of these soldiers are from one of the country's crack artillery units and had outpointed white troops in frequent tests on the range.

OCT 6 1943

A band from a training unit which is led by Chief Warrant Officer J. J. Brice, is also making preparations to move to an unannounced destination. Brice was at one time leader of a famed engineer band serving in North Africa with a task force.

OCT 6 1943

It was also believed that no more Negroes would be trained at that installation for field artillery since most Negroes overseas are doing labor tasks. WACs stationed there are replacing many soldiers in such duties as ward attendants, truck drivers and general warehouse work.

Riot Rumors Grip Evansville, Ind.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By JULIUS HOLDER

JUL 13 1943

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—(ANP) — Soldiers, war workers, and others of the civilian population were gripped with jitters the past weekend as sinister rumors of race war were circulated throughout the city. The fear sensation was heightened with the noticeable absence from streets and boulevards of the usual overflow of soldiers from nearby Camp Breckenridge.

An 'out of bounds' order issuing from the fifth corps area headquarters at Ft. Hayes in Columbus, O., resulted in the huddling of soldiers on leave into jeeps and trucks for Camp Breckenridge and the paratroops base on the outskirts of town.

Dame rumor began her work at a local war plant Friday when it revealed that former white employes of the concern had telephoned a message to Negroes that a contingent of white paratroopers was planning to descend upon the city Saturday and start a riot. The soldiers were said to be moved to revenge for the alleged stabbing of a paratroop officer by three Negro youths several days ago.

RUMORS PILE UP

Rumor piled upon rumor until it was almost accepted as a fact that the officer had died from his wounds and the paratroopers had stolen several machine guns. The whole situation created a tenseness that threatenoded to break out into open violence. That there was some basis for apprehension was seen in an order from the police department requiring Derbyville business men to close thier stores early and civilians to remain off the streets.

JUL 13 1943

Late Friday steel-helmeted military police were placed on guard duty in all sections of Evansville. Heavily populated Lincoln avenue and the Fifth street district drew special attention with a concentration of patrols. The service men were fully equipped and rode around in jeeps and commando cars.. They were augmented Saturday by a large company of Negro military policemen from Camp Breckenridge.

Dr. C. E. Rochelle, an active worker in community affairs, was contacted by the Evansville Argus and asked to commment upon the situation. Dr. Rochelle said that rumors of race wars were vicious propaganda and tended to disrupt vital war activity. (Several score Negro war workers were reported absent from their jobs during the crisis.)

SHOULD BE PUNISHED

"Those who peddle such rumors should be punished and to the fullest extent of the law," he said. "I feel that Chief of Police Freer, Col. John D. Kelley and others responsible for the augmented police forces that patrolled Evansville streets during the week end should be commended very highly for their cooperative efforts to thwart any attempts that might have been made to cause any trouble in the city and to allay the fears of those who took the rumors to heart."

PURELY RACIAL AFFAIR

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

(Official U. S. Army Statement)

JUN 19 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — Post authorities announced today that one military policeman was killed and four wounded during a riot of colored troops here last night.

No white soldiers were involved in the disturbance, other than the MPs, and no colored soldiers were injured, it was added.

Cause of the riot has not been determined and a board of officers was appointed immediately to investigate.

First reports indicated that colored soldiers had been stirred up by "false and malicious" rumors that colored girls were being molested.

Major E. P. Scott, Provost Marshall, said only one shot was fired by the MP's during the time they were fired on by the colored soldiers.

Quiet was restored by 12:30 a. m., there have been no further disturbances and the post has returned to normal, Major Scott added.

Dead was:

Pfc. Ronie E. Findsey, 22, Valdosta, Ga.

Wounded were:

Staff Sgt. John L. McEachern, 31, Homestead, Mont.

Sgt. Charles W. Almand, 24, Atlanta, Ga.

Sgt. William V. Brown, 24, New York City.

Pvt. Merlin B. Hotchkiss, 20, Perry, N. Y.

1943

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200 SOLDIERS IN FLARE-UP

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif., July 1—It required military and civilian authorities—even with the aid of tear gas bombs and other modern riot-breaking devices—more than an hour to throttle a violent racial flare-up between about 200 white and colored soldiers from nearby army camps here Wednesday, June 23, on Higuera street, this city's main thoroughfare.

JUL 3 1943

In order to halt the smashing of store windows, stoning of each other, and general rioting by the servicemen—and a few civilians—Col. L. E. Goodier Jr., representing Col. Henry T. Bull, Camp San Luis Obispo commanding officer, ordered all military traffic stopped and dispelled civilians from the streets.

ORDERED OUT

The trouble reportedly was the result of the refusal of Danny Chisea, proprietor of a local night spot, to serve colored soldiers after a USO dance around 9:30 p. m., following which white soldiers—already in the place—are said to have stormed the Negro servicemen, ordering them out of the place. According to information, the colored soldiers did leave the business place, but, as soon as they reached the sidewalk, retaliated sharply with the result that general confusion broke out.

Soldier Riot Due To Overcrowding

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

JUL 24 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Overcrowding of that portion of Camp Shenango assigned to colored troops was offered this week by the Mercer County, Pa., NAACP branch as one of the reasons for the July 11 outbreak at the Army camp.

The national office of the NAACP has submitted to Secretary of War Stimson information gathered by the Mercer County branch which says that causes for the disturbance are: (1) Insufficient living and recreational facilities on the post for colored troops. (2) Overcrowding of that portion of the camp assigned to colored troops. (3) [illegible] colored chaplains or commissioned officers on the post. (4) Failure of the commanding officer to foresee the handicaps or recognize approaching danger, as well as regarding the riot as just a passing incident. (5) Lack of courtesy towards soldiers and citizens by white military police. (6) Releasing of only that part of the facts of the case which might incriminate the colored soldiers and influence the minds of the reading and listening public.

The NAACP is continuing to check a report that three Negroes and four white soldiers were killed.

JUL 24 1943

JUL 24 1943

Negro Slain, Six Wounded In Army Riot

PM
New York, N. Y

Special Correspondence

JUL 13 1943

GREENVILLE, Pa., July 13.—Seven Negro soldiers were shot, one fatally, in a gun fight at the Shenango Personnel Replacement Depot, near here, following a clash between Negro and white soldiers.

Although the trouble occurred Sunday evening, only sketchy details were released by the camp's Public Relations Office.

The camp announcement related that trouble started about 9:30 p.m. when a dispute arose between white and Negro soldiers at a post exchange.

Col. Zim E. Lawhon, post commander, intervened and addressed the quarreling men, pointing out that serious consequences might arise if the dispute continued.

Inquiry Underway

Peace was restored, the report continued, but later in the evening "an undetermined number of Negro soldiers" broke into a supply building, armed themselves with rifles and ammunition "and began firing into the area occupied by the whites."

What happened after that was not disclosed. Col. Lawhon could not be reached by PM with a request for additional information.

The camp announced that Pvt. Norman Taylor, 20, of Rosedale, Kan. was killed and that the six other men were in the post hospital with gunshot wounds.

It was announced that an investigation was under way by a board of inquiry appointed by Col. Lawhon.

Disturbance Is Laid To 'False, Malicious Rumor'

Daily World

No Participating Soldiers Wounded; MP's Are Victims

Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—(SNS)—One white military policeman was killed and four others wounded during a riot of troops here Wednesday night, Captain Walter H. Dustmann, Jr., public relations officer, reported Thursday.

Dustmann said that no white soldiers were involved in the disturbance other than military police and officers and that none of the Negro soldiers participating was injured.

Cause of the riot was not immediately determined. Captain Dustmann said, first reports indicated that Negro soldiers had been stirred up by a rumor that Negro girls were being molested. The rumor was declared to be "false and malicious."

Private Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, of Valdosta, Ga., was shot and died immediately. The wounded included: Staff Sergeant John L. McEachern, 31, of Homestead, Mont.; Sergeant Charles W. Almond, 24, of Atlanta; Sergeant William B. Brown, 24, of New York City; Private Merlin B. Hotchkiss, 20, of Perry, N. Y. McEachern was reported in serious condition.

According to Major E. P. Scott, provost marshal, only one shot was fired by military police. He claimed that the military officers were fired on intermittently by the soldiers.

Quiet was restored shortly before midnight and Major Scott said there had been no further disturbance on the post.

A board of officers was appointtd immediately to investigate the disturbance.

JUN 1943

Situation Tense for Long Time

Kansas City, Mo.

Separate Busses Among Grievances Of Our Soldiers

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — The killing of a white MP on June 9 at Camp Stewart, Ga., and the wounding of four others by bullets allegedly fired by Negro troops was seen this week by the N. A. A. C. P. as the culmination of unsatisfactory conditions which have existed at the camp for months.

The MP who was killed was Private First Class Ronie E Lindsey of Valdosta, Ga. The wounded men were Staff Sergeant John L. McEacher, Homestead, Mont.; Sergeant Charles W. Almand, Atlanta, Ga.; Sergeant William V. Brown, New York City and Private Merlin B. Hatchkill, Perry, N. Y.

The N. A. A. C. P. has submitted to the Department of Justice the report of an investigator immediately dispatched to the scene.

The N. A. A. C. P. report revealed these findings:

Transportation Bad

The transportation situation is and for a long time has been, a rasping issue. Separate buses are operated for white and Negro soldiers, in the ratio of about one for Negroes, six for whites, and this despite the fact that Negro soldiers are approximately 40 per cent of the camp personnel.

The taxicabs in Hinesville (nearest town to Camp Stewart) refuse to ride Negro soldiers.

There is high resentment among Negro soldiers of the Nazi-racial attitude of the white officers in command. Interviewed Negro officers and enlisted men all insisted that the situation could not be remedied so long as they remained under command of Colonels Gross and Ochs, both of German extraction, and General Spiller, who was characterized as being "definitely in sympathy with the whole policy of discrimination."

Negro MP's are without authority. Negro soldiers and civilians resent this, and resent that all MP's stationed in Savannah are white, even those designated to patrol the most thickly settled Negro areas.

Recreational facilities for Negro soldiers are glaringly inadequate. There are no provisions made at all for the recreation of Negro officers. Fifty persons crowd out the Negro USO. The Negro service club has a total floor space coverage of 100 by 200 feet. Contrastingly, white officers have a service club; the white USO is a spacious two-story building; white enlisted men have a service club with floor space measuring 350 by 500 feet.

Meagre facilities are provided for treatment of Negro soldiers afflicted with venereal diseases. White civilians nurses in the camp hospital have refused to handle Negro patients, and in Savannah there is only one prophylactic station for colored soldiers.

In two known instances, Negro soldiers have been kicked by white officers. On one occasion the officer was not identified; on the other, the officer's punishment was to be transferred to another post.

Contributing also to the tension which resulted in the violent outbreak of Thursday, the investigator pointed out, were numerous other factors.

Relations of Negro soldiers with local law enforcement officers have been generally bad. Racial segregation signs were posted on toilets at the prison stockade (a Negro officer reports he was brusquely asked: 'Can't you read?" when he used a toilet marked "For White Only").

Negro officers generally are subjected to unnecessary humiliating treatment.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

CLEAN UP THE 92ND DIVISION

SEP 6 1943

According to the Associatel Negro Press, the 92nd infantry division at Fort Huachuca is rife with discriminatory practices; that unless something tangible is done, the situation may develop into a national scandal.

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort are:

1. That the commanding general, E. M. Almond of Anniston, Alabama, refers to his Negro charges both in and out of their presence as "niggers."

2. That the division is miserably unprepared for combat service.

3. That General Almond is not a top flight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications.

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

5. That a quota system operates in the making and promotion of Negro officers with few ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern methods of warfare.

7. That the food served in mess halls at Fort Huachuca is the "worst in the army."

SEP 9 1943

8. That although present conditions on the military reservation have existed ever since the division moved into Arizona last May, Atty. Truman K. Gibson, Jr., acting civilian aide to the secretary of war, and Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, inspector general from the inspector general's office, Washington, on a recent inspection here found conditions to be "in excellent shape," morale "high," training "good," and the overal picture "gratifying."

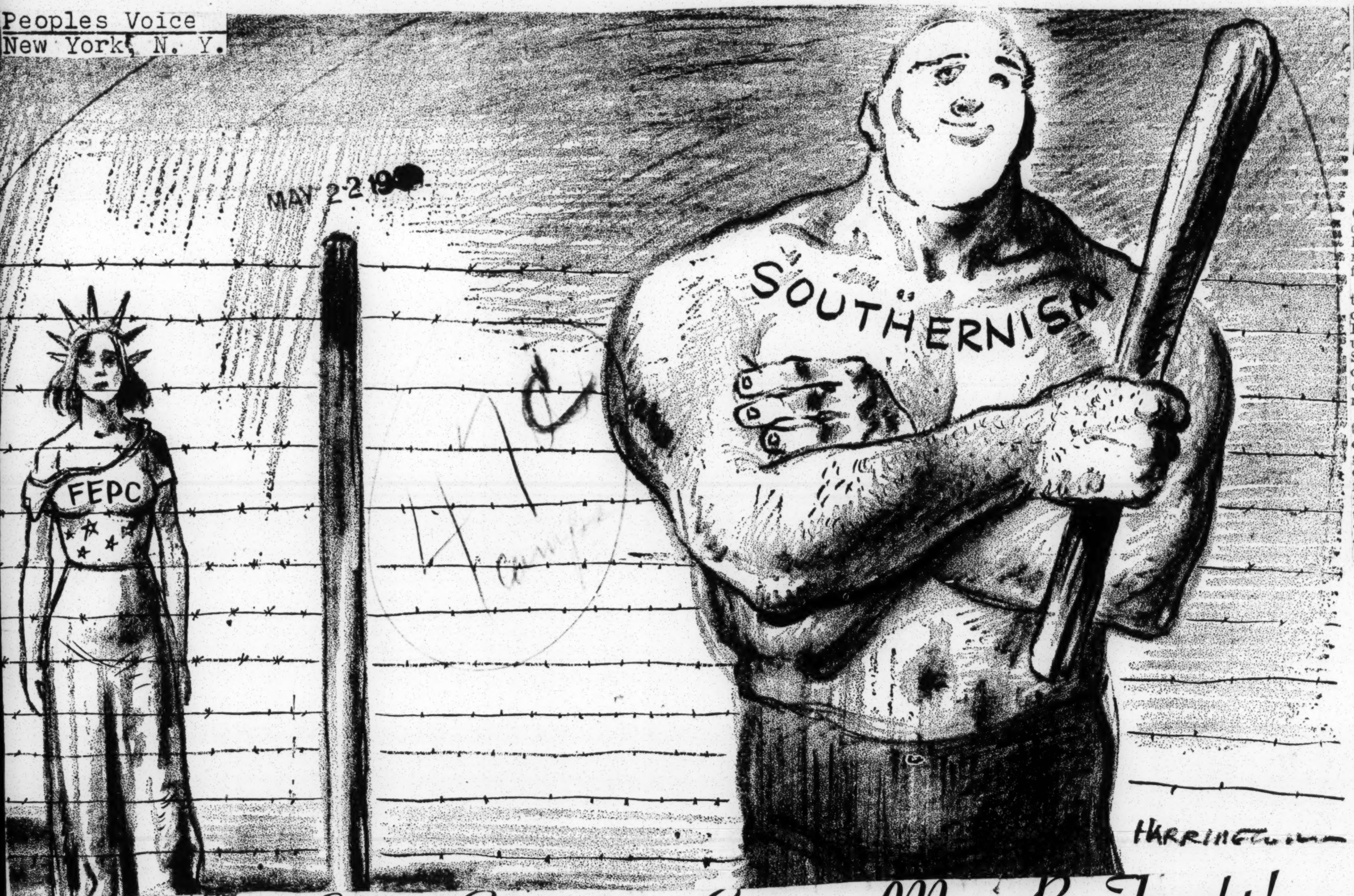
The N. A. P. has prepared two articles telling if its investigation. If true—and we doubt that such an accusation would be made without a thorough investigation—the commanding general should be removed and the division put [illegible] an efficien bases. And if this is not done, the record of the division will be a flop.

SEP 9 1943

The Bystander does not condemn all white officers, but the war department was foolish to assign a commanding general to this divisiron unless he was thoroughly in sympathy with the aims and ambitions of the Negro and had their confidence for no soldier is going to respect or fight for a man whom he hates.

And if Mr. Gibson and Mr. Davis made glowing reports of high morale and excellent shape of the men of the division in spite of the existance of all of the things the A. N. P. charges, they are contributing to the downfall of the unit.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.



MAY 22 1943

Hitlerism at Camp Stewart in Georgia Must Be Fought!

"We Cannot Be Bought"—EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE PEOPLE'S VOICE—"We Will Not Be Sold."

THE SITUATION facing the noncommissioned officers of the 369th in Camp Stewart, Georgia, is extremely serious. It has already developed into a most bitter conflict between Southernism and the New Negro.

The 369th is not just another group of soldiers. They are better trained than the majority of their white and Negro brethern in the armed forces. There is not an anti-aircraft group anywhere that is their superior. They are the pride of Harlem. There are thousands of friends and relatives in New York City who are personally interested in their welfare. These men have not been getting the best deal.

It has been suggested in some quarters that they be moved from Camp Stewart. To me this would not solve the problem. To me the only solution of the problem would be to Democratize Camp Stewart. It is not the men of the 369th who need to be investigated but the officials of Camp Stewart.

47c

Army life is not an easy life and there can be no guarantee of creature comforts, either at home or abroad. Yet, on the other hand, BLACK FIGHTING MEN ARE ENTITLED TO THE SAME—NO MORE OR NO LESS—THAT WHITE FIGHTING MEN RECEIVE. They are entitled to equal facilities, equal treatment and the guarantee of the best possible health standards. According to the hundreds of letters that are pouring in these are not being met now.

MAY 22 1943

We can't change these conditions by moving the group to a northern camp, nor can they be changed by the men of the 369th going AWOL. They can only be changed by an aroused citizenry, black and white, compelling the War Department to investigate and make the necessary changes immediately.

MAY 22 1943

I talked to a regiment, off the record, a couple of months ago and I told them: "You are in the army to fight Hitler. You let we who are on the homefront fight American Hitlerism." This is still true. The men in the armed forces should keep us informed of all that is unAmerican and unDemocratic but leave the fight up to us.

In time of war the army is a power unto itself. The army is the law. On the other hand, in a Democratic country in the midst of Four Freedom's conflict, the army must never lose its sensitivity to the peoples' wishes and desires. The people must be heard. Whenever there is a refusal to hear them, and the powers that be become insentitive to the people, then we have reduced our fighting men and our conflict to a totalitarian basis.

KEEP SOLDIERS AT MISS. CAMP

Pittsburgh Pa.
Courier

JUL 10 1943

CENTERVILLE, Miss., July 8 (ANP)—Not only will Negro soldiers now stationed at Camp Van Dorn remain there, but they will not be disarmed, it was learned from reliable sources this week.

Following an outbreak here between Negro soldiers and white civilians, Mississippi's Governor, Paul B. Johnston, had sent an urgent wire to Secretary of War Stimson calling for the removal of the Negro soldiers from this community in "the interest of racial harmony."

Later representation was made to Camp Van Dorn's commanding officer by local officials that Negro soldiers, stationed there, be completely disarmed. Taking a firm stand, the commanding officer was reported to have refused this request on the grounds that "to disarm troops who are being trained for combat duty would be a disgrace to the United States."

47c
Camps

The Negro people of New York are extremely concerned over the problem of Camp Stewart, Georgia. More than our concern it is the concern of every right thinking, black and white member of this Democracy. It must lay heavy on the conscience of America. There can be no full victory until that conscience is purged. As a war measure steps must be taken and taken immediately.

This is the open advice of one who knows intimately the hearts and minds of the masses of people who are fighting at home and abroad. We repeat again: "WE CANNOT DEFEAT HITLER ABROAD AND LET HITLERISM RUN UP AND DOWN THE STREETS OF AMERICA."

MAY 22 1943

Adam Clayton Powell

Mississippi Governor Scared When Negro Soldiers Say They Came to Clean Up His State

June 5, 1943

June 5/19

JACKSON, Miss. — War Department investigation of a regiment was asked by Gov. Paul B. Johnson yesterday following colored soldier, Sunday and a re- the shooting of a Camp Van Dorn quest for action from Mayor Omer Carroll of Centerville, near the camp.

The Governor said he had asked Senators Eastland and Bilbo of Mississippi to advise the Secretary of War of the Centerville situation and to seek immediate investigation and action.

Incorporated in the request to the Senators was the telegram from Mayor Carroll, which read:

"Urgently request that steps be taken to have the 364th Infantry, colored, recently ordered here to Camp Van Dorn from Phoenix, Ariz., be removed by War Department to northern station. This regiment is fomenting race riots and openly boasts that they have come to clean out Mississippi. Have had no trouble with other colored troops until arrival of this regiment from Arizona some days ago. Consider this request of utmost urgency as serious race riots are lowed to remain here."

expected if this regiment al-

City Marshal Robert J. Knighton reported that Sheriff Richard Whitaker shot and killed a colored private from Camp Von Dorn Sunday when the soldier resisted arrest by military police and attempted to take a military policeman's gun.

Col. R. E. Guthrie, commanding officer of Camp Van Dorn described the trouble as "an individual incident" and said there had been "a little emotional disturbance among colored troops and some unrest among the people of Centerville."

"The situation is under control and we anticipate no difficulty," he added.

Col. Guthrie said Sheriff Whitaker told him he fired on the soldier in Centreville after a warning.

June 5, 1943

Columbia, S. C., State

June 11, 1943

MP Killed When Negro Troops Riot At Camp Stewart

Camp Stewart, Ga., June 10— (AP)— Capt. Walter H. Dustmann, Jr., public relations officer reported today that one military policeman was killed and four others wounded during a riot of Negro troops here last night.

He said no white soldiers were involved in the disturbance other than military police and officers and none of the Negro soldiers was injured.

Captain Dustmann said first reports indicated the Negro soldiers had been stirred up by a "false and malicious rumor" that Negro girls were being molested.

Pvt. Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, of Valdosta, Ga., was shot and killed. The wounded, all military policemen: Staff Sgt. John L. McEachern, [illegible] Homestead. Mont.; Sgt. Charles W. Almond, 24, Atlanta; Sgt. William B. Brown, 24, New York City; Pvt. Merlin B. Hotchkiss, 20, Perry, N. Y. The condition of McEachern was reported serious.

Maj. E. P. Scott, provost marshal, reported only one shot was fired by military police. The latter, he said, were fired on intermittently by the Negro soldiers.

Quiet was restored shortly after midnight and Major Scott said there had been no further disturbance on the post.

A board of officers was appointed immediately to investigate.

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

931st Artillery Moved To Georgia After 'Incident'

MAY 29 1943

CAMP GORDON, Ga. — (ANP)— The 931st [illegible] artillery battalion, an all-Negro outfit from commanding officer down, has been moved from Camp Forrest, Tenn., where 10 officers were recently ejected from a post theatre as 50 white military policemen held tommy guns on them, to this camp to participate in scheduled army maneuvers.

The 931st is headed by Lt. Col Marcus H. Ray and is composed mainly of soldiers from Chicago who were part of the 184th field artillery regiment until it was ordered disbanded several months ago.

MAY 29 1943

Members of the battalion expressed themselves as better satisfied with its accommodations than those found in any of the other seven camps to which the unit has been sent. Facilities for Negro soldiers are complete with a large service club, hostess house, post exchange, theatre, cafeteria, library and good transportation system.

The march by motor from Camp Forrest gave white southerners their first glimpse of a Negro fighting force equipped with artillery and live munition from 155 mm. guns down.

MAY 29 1943

Amsterdam Star-News

New York. N. Y.

Officers Ejected From Army Show

MAY 22 1943

MP'S with Tommy Guns Order Lieutenant Out Of Tenn. Post Theatre

CAMP FOREST, Tenn., (ANP) —A row in Post theater No. 2 last week by 5 military policemen armed with tommy guns climaxed a long standing friction regarding post theaters. The excitement occurred when the MP's ejected from the theater 10 Negro officers of the 931st Field artillery.

MAY 22 1943

Col. M. F. Maltz, post commander of Camp Forrest, stamped the Negro officers "objectionable."

Formal charges against the post commander were filed by Lt. Col. Marcus H. Ray, Negro battalion commander, who was summoned to the theater and advised that 10 of his officers had been told to get out because their presence was "objectionable."

Lt. Ray ordered his officers to leave. At this time the place was surrounded by military police who paraded about with drawn tommy guns.

MAY 22 1943

Incite to Riot Charged

Ray is said to have filed formal charges against Col. Waltz under the articles of war charging him with attempting to incite a riot.

Trouble regarding post theaters began brewing on the day the [illegible] from Fort Cus- [illegible] some 250 members of the unit were ordered out [illegible] theatre No. 1 at pistol point by M. P.'s. They had refused to take jim crow seats on the contention that the post was federal property and therefore not subject to state jim crow laws.

When they were ejected they were compelled to form outside the theater in a drainage ditch off the road while sub-machine guns of a whole military police company were ready to go off.

Saved the Day

Lt. Col. Ray's arrival on the scene saved the day, there was no bloodshed.

MAY 22 1943

After that whites were granted the middle section of the theater and the right section was labeled "colored." It was then that the Negro soldiers decided to turn to Post Theater No. 2.

The 10 officers ejected from the theatre were 1st. Lts. John A. Rector, David W. Pelkey, Lawrence Langford, Robbin E. L. Washington, Welton I. Taylor and Ernest Davenport; 2nd Lts. Byron Minor, James Dunn and Ernest V. Williams, and Warrant Officer Milton J. Winfield Jr.

ASK PROBE OF CAMP ASSAULT ON PRIVATE

Bee

Chicago, Ill.

JUL 25 1943

FT. BENNING, Ga., July 22— (ANP) — The company commander of Co. L has asked that the provisional truck regiment make an investigation of the slugging last week of a private attached to his company by a white civilian policeman on the army post while two white military police stood silently by.

The soldier, Pvt. Jasper Williams, suffered a deep gash on his forehead as a result of the attack that required four stitches.

According to reports, Pvt. Williams was assaulted by Sheriff N. B. Wright of nearby Cusseta, when the later became incensed because the soldier failed to use "sir" in addressing him. The officer had approached Williams earlier in Cusseta and questioned him about a man he was seeking named "Gilbert."

Later, after Williams ha[illegible] turned to camp he encountered the sheriff again and was subjected to further questioning. Pvt. Williams replied, "No, I haven't seen the person you are searching for" in answer to the officer's query. The sheriff, angrily demanded, "Nigger you are lying to me. Don't you ever say sir to a white man?" whereupon Williams was slugged with the policeman's gun.

The attack occurred on the military reservation and was viewed by two white MP's named Spurrier and Beasley, neither of whom attempted to prevent the assault. Williams was returning to his company after having spent part of the day in Cusseta on pay-day leave.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

FT. JACKSON GETS CHAPLAIN

Fort Jackson, S. C. (ANP)—For the first time in many months, Negro troops at Fort Jackson will have the services of a chaplain of their own race.

Maj Wiley R. Deal, chief of the Fort Jackson Chaplain's branch, revealed that 1st Lt. Llewellyn T. Thornhill has been assigned to this post for duty with the 274th Quartermaster battalion.

Chaplain Thornhill was educated at Wilberforce university and Payne Theological seminary.

From "Paradise to Hell"

Kansas City Call

'From Hawaii to Camp Stewart,' Says Soldiers

Kansas City, Mo.

From Paradise to Hell!

This statement sums up the story told by fire sergeants of the United States army, now attending the Midland Radio school, here, of their transfer from overseas duty in Hawaii to Camp Stewart, Ga.

The five sergeants, all former members of the famous 369th division, are: Sgts. Ulysses S. Pitts, Dion Norwood, Nelson Carrington, Arthur Richardson, all of New York, and Sgt. George Peet of Chicago, Ill.

19 Years in Service

A combined total of 19 years in the armed service is offered by this quintet of soldiers who one and all wear bars of recognition for years of good conduct and excellence in tasks assigned.

In Hawaii they were members of the radio section of the 369th division, and their outstanding work in this department led to their applications being accepted for further study in the radio division of the army.

The Paradise to Hell story?

Well, on June 21, 1942, the famous 369th division was ordered to Hawaii to guard this United States possession against further attacks by the Japanese.

At this time the route travelled by these men was infested with Japanese means of destruction including submarines, destroyers, dive bombers, etc. The men were tense and filled with wonderment as to what lay in store for them, if and when they arrived in Hawaii.

Natives Welcome Them

The division arrived intact and procded to carry out its mission.

After routine procedures had been carried out during the first few days in Hawaii the men went in search of recreation and to explore the habitats of the island.

To their pleasant surprise they found the natives warm in their welcomes and extending of courtesies. The native women mingled and socialized with the soldiers freely and conversed with them as best they could.

The native men were cordial in their hospitalities and introduced the men to the recreational facilities of the island.

Find No Discrimination

During the nine months' stay in Hawaii these five men say that they built up several close friendships with the natives and that on numerous occasions groups of natives would come over to the camp and put on shows for them including the world famous hula dance.

They related that the USO headquarters on the island served both white and Negro troops stationed there, and that no discrimination was shown them either in use of facilities or invitations to social affairs given by the organization.

The members of the 369th were made welcome at the USO at all times and the directors in charge seemed to be over-eager to serve them and aid them in any problem that might be confronting them.

Although work came first, the social periods of the day were spent very enjoyable.

As one of the men put it, "paradise was really in the offering. For once in my life I felt like a free man and not as a tool."

Start Toward Hell

With the filing of their applications for advanced training in the field of radio these five men started on their journey to what they termed a "living hell."

Their applications were accepted by high army officials, and the five left Hawaii for Camp Stewart, Ga., where they were to be stationed until a new class for radio technicians was opened.

The return trip was made in caution but without any serious attacks by enemy ships or planes.

At last they reached Camp Stewart—the arrival at "hell."

On reporting at Camp Stewart the five were told that no accommodations were available and so they were placed in a broken down garage where the leaky roof, filth and other debris created an excellent breeding place for disease.

Protest To Washington

Several days of this type of living soon had a line of the men, some from other camps, at the door of the camp hospital seeking treatment for colds and other similar diseases, and also had aroused the resentment of the men so high that they took liberty to write officials in Washington to see what could be done about it.

On learning that an investigation was to be made the officials at Camp Stewart promptly found desirable accommodations for the men and removed them from the rat-infested garage.

"Nothing as usual was done about the conduct of the officials in charge," said one of the men, "but we were reprimanded for not being able to take it."

The men told a pitiful story of the poor transportation facilities for the Negro soldiers stationed at Camp Stewart, relating that oftimes men with week-end passes were compelled to stay in camp and give up their pleasures solely because the white operators of the bus lines would pass them up and at most only take a load or two of them into town.

Can't Ride Buses

One of the soldiers said, "If there happened to be a large contingent of white soldiers going into town you could almost look at your pass and forget it," for all the white soldiers were certain to be taken first."

The soldiers relate that a constant program of discrimination is carried out not only in the surrounding towns but directly in the camp against the Negro soldiers.

One of them said that he did not know where he would be attached following his training here but that he would rather be sent directly to a combat zone than to be returned to the deluge of unjustices heaped upon colored soldiers at Camp Stewart.

Asked if they would like to be returned to their former unit, the 369th, still stationed in Hawaii, they answered almost to the man that they would.

They said it was a mighty good feeling to breathe the air purified by the absence of discrimination and prejudice that was ever present in Hawaii.

—Ernest L. Brown Jr.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner

Paris Off Limits To Negro Troops

October 21, 1943

Paris, Tenn., Oct. 21—(Special)—Paris has been placed off limits to Negro Army troops, Police Chief Eran Butler was notified late Wednesday by Col. Frederick Dodge.

The order was issued from Camp Tyson in an effort to quell disturbances that have occurred in Paris recently and were climaxed Saturday when a city police car was damaged, Chief Butler said.

The Camp Stewart Rebellion

Afro-American

Baltimore, Maryland

That is exactly what it was—a revolt. The 100th Regiment of Coast Artillery, a colored unit, had as much segregation as it could stand last week and went berserk.

It fired 5,000 rounds of ammunition, an amazing quantity considering 24 rounds are regarded as sufficient for one soldier to carry into battle.

Firing lasted from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m before ammunition was exhausted and tempers cooled.

The fact that after all that shooting only one person was killed and five wounded is the best indication that the revolt was an expression of outraged dignity and humanity rather than a desire to kill.

It was a breach of discipline, an indefensible violation of army regulations that must be punished.

But others must share in the blame for this revolt.

The War Department had full notice of the intolerable segregation and jim crow at Camp Stewart. The newspapers had been full of it. Brigadier Geenral B. O. Davis had made an investigation and report to the Inspector General's department. Soldiers had written to newspapers and to their families at home, and their commanding officers had brushed aside these complaints by throwing up their hands and declaring that they could no nothing about them.

The Camp Stewart revolt appears to serve notice that the South can carry its segregation and its lack of respect for an army uniform too far.

There is no segregation in Federal post offices and public parks in the South; why should there be in a Federal army camp?

This newspaper has repeatedly given this advice to colored men in the armed services: You fight the enemy, let civilians keep up the battle for citizenship on the home front.

We think that admonition is wise and practical, but what good is any preachment if Federal authorities permit the States to take over the regulation of facilities in U.S. Army camps?

The rebellious 100th Regiment will be punished. It expected that. But we call upon the President to remove also the commanding officers of Camp Stewart. They are unfit to command troops.

We call upon the President to end racial discrimination in Federal army camps wherever they are located.

We say to Mr. Roosevelt that the war on the home front has lasted long enough. The American people are tired of it. He can end it. He ought to do it now. We expect him to do it.

Stage Summer Olympics At Camp Pickett, Virginia

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

CAMP PICKETT, Va. — (SNS) — Heated battles of strength, speed and endurance highlighted the Summer Olympics held recently by the Medical Replacement Training Center at this camp.

An all-day meet, the Olympics saw more than 2,000 picked athletes strive for personal and regimental honors, while more than 15,000 spectators cheered them on.

Several outstanding Negro soldier-athletes participated in the cavalcade of sports and aided the Third Regiment to garner a total of 185 points and carry off the commanding general's cup.

The Olympics, — which comprised 27 different competitions — were staged as part of the Medical Replacement Center's after-duty athletics which augment the regular physical training program designed to condition Medical Soldiers for the arduous and dangerous battlefield tasks that lie ahead of them.

One of the most prominent athletes taking part was Corporal Joshua Williamson, who held several national sports championships before he entered the army and who has since his induction carried off honors in various meets.

Corporal Williamson won the high jump competition in the Olympics with a leap of 6' 4". He also was a member of the team that won the 440-yard relay race and took first place in the standing broad jump, doing 9' 8½". Corporal Williamson's home is at 303 North Delaware Avenue, Atlantic City, N. J.

Second place in the high jump went to Corporal Estell Harper of 1136 Ames Street, Hammond, Ind., who cleared the bar at 6' 3". Cpl. Harper is a former student of the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro, North Carolina, and also attended Hammond Technical High School. Like Williamson, Harper was active in scholastic sports.

Another Olympics ace was Pvt. Chester Thomas who won the 100-yard dash in 11 seconds flat. Thomas, who lives at 2176 East 93rd St., Cleveland, Ohio, also was a member of the 440-yard relay team and paced first in the running broad jump with a leap of 22' 5". In an unofficial extra jump, Pvt. Thomas did 23'.

Pvt. Allen Scisco of 406 Turtle Street, Dowogiac, Michigan, took third place in the running broad jump with a leap of 20' 6" and also competed in the 100-yard dash.

Corporal Evermont Robinson of 283 Decatur St., Brooklyn, N. Y., carried off first honors in the 440-yard run and Pvt. Charles Wilson of New York City placed third. Robinson also was a member of the winning 440-yard relay team.

Among other athletes competing were: Corporal Hoax Brown of 55 Ward St., New Brunswick, N. J.; Pvt. Grady Jackson of 2033 Cornell Road, Cleveland, Ohio; Pvt. Frank Ellis of 814 Third Avenue, Huntington, West Virginia; Pvt. Strickland Millerd of 511 Sanford Avenue, Sanford, Fla.; Pvt. Pedro Swiggins, of 365 Hensel Avenue, Springfield, Ohio; Pvt. Milton Estelle of 1905 St. Ceritus Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.; Pvt. James E. Flint of 250 Marston St., Detroit, Mich., and Pvt. William White of 732 North 42nd St., West Philadelphia, Pa.

Army Investigates Negro-White Battle in South's 'Powder Keg'

PM
New York, N. Y.

By JAMES B. O'HANLON

JUN 11 1943

A military board of inquiry today was investigating the fatal clash between Negro troops and white military policeman at Camp Stewart, Ga., the culmination of a situation which Negro leaders have called a "powder keg."

In the clash, which occurred Wednesday night but was not announced until late yesterday, one MP was shot dead and four others wounded by bullets fired by Negro troops, according to Camp Stewart authorities.

The official reason given was that the Negroes had been stirred up by "false and malicious rumors" that Negro girls were being molested. Beyond that bare announcement, the Army gave no details.

47c

Camps

Explosive Situation Existed

Whatever the immediate reason for the clash, Negro leaders in New York say any spark would have touched off the explosive situation that has existed there for months. They have received so many complaints from soldiers of their mistreatment by white officers that Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, the only Negro who wears a star, was sent there recently by the War Dept. to investigate conditions.

JUN 11 1943

One of the principal causes of friction in the camp, according to Walter White, executive secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, has been the presence of 211 picked men from the New York 369th Regiment, a Negro unit.

This regiment is stationed in Hawaii, but the 211 were returned to this country as instructors. White says there have been reports that some of the green white officers resented these instructors' superior knowledge, and treated them accordingly.

Col. William V. Ochs, commandant, told PM by telephone that the clash was not a riot between Negro and white troops.

"Negro MPs and Negro regiments joined with the white men to quell the fight," he said. Col. Ochs said it was true that "some have felt they were being mistreated," but every case is investigated.

"But after all, this is Georgia," he said. "And I'm not responsible for the presence of Negro troops or Southern white troops in this camp. We know what these Negro boys are up against and we even lean over backward to make them feel better."

47c

Camps

Buses an Issue

Col. Ochs presumably was referring to one of the principal sore spots—the private bus line which is the only transportation to Savannah. Negroes complain they are not allowed to ride the bus with white men, that only occasionally does a bus arrive at camp "for Negroes only."

White, of the NAACP, said other principal causes of the situation are an almost complete lack of recreational facilities for Negroes, whereas those for whites are excellent; complete segregation and overcrowding. He said some white civilian nurses in the camp hospital had refused to handle Negro patients.

LET'S REMOVE THE CAUSE

New York Age

WHEN 2,000 PEOPLE gathered at the Alexander Hamilton High School in Brooklyn on Sunday to join the fight of the Save Our Soldiers Committee and Brooklyn NAACP for the boys in Camp Stewart, Georgia, a real demonstration was given of the unity of the Negro people on this situation.

JUN 5 1943

There are several thousand Negro troops stationed at Camp Stewart, Georgia.

Move the 369th — and then what.

John Yancey, chairman of the committee, said in a statement to this paper last week that it is less important to move the 369th than it is to remove the crackers who are in power at Stewart who are making life unbearable for the Negro soldiers.

47c

Camps

We must not be selfish about this thing.

We will solve nothing by running away from it. That is the same thing our Government has been doing.

New York, N. Y.

We will solve the situation if our Government looks things squarely in the face and admits openly and angrily that the Civil War-waging South is impeding the war effort.

Our Government will not and cannot be forthright about it until we are the same.

We hope that the representaions made to Washington will take into consideration some definite line of action to let black Americans train to fight and die for their native land in any part of that native land.

JUN 5 1943

The Civil War will have to stop so that World War II may continue and be concluded victoriously.

That is what the Government needs to tell the South.

That is what Negro people and white democrats need to instruct their Government to tell the South.

Military Policeman Killed, Four Wounded In Soldiers Race Riot

Informer

Houston, Texas

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—(ANP)—One military policeman was killed and four wounded during a riot of Negro troops here Thursday night, post authorities announced.

JUN 19 1943

The only white soldiers involved in the disturbance were the MPs. No Negro soldiers were injured. The cause of the riot has not been determined. A board of officers was appointed to make an immediate investigation.

47c

Camps

The board's first reports revealed that the Negro soldiers were stirred up by "false and malicious rumors" that Negro girls were being molested by white troops, said post headquarters.

Only one shot was fired by the MPs during the time they were fired on by the Negro soldiers, according to Maj. E. P. Schott, provost marshall, who added that quiet was restored by 12:00 a. m. after which there was no further disturbances, and that the post has now returned to normal conditions.

JUN 19 1943

The dead are, Pfc. Ronie E. Lindsay, 22, Valdosta, Ga., who died almost instantly when he was struck by a bullet. The wounded are S/Sgt. John L. McEachern, 31, Homestead Mt., Sgt. Charles W. Almand, 24, Atlanta; Sgt. William V. Brown, 24, New York, and Pvt. Merle B. Hotkiss, 20, Perry, N. Y.

Cuthbert, Ga., Leader
September 2, 1943

SOUND ADVICE

Brigadier General E. A. Stockton, commanding the new anti-aircraft center at Camp Stewart, where many negro troops are stationed, has issued a 12-page document entitled "Educational Program for Colored Troops." This document among other things, includes this advice:

"In the Army there is no discrimination among soldiers, as long as every one behaves himself like a soldier. The commanding general at Camp Stewart and his staff guarantee that there will be no discrimination between white and colored.

47c

Camps

"A good soldier doesn't have time to fool with his home town politics, or to go around telling other soldiers how the country should be run. Any question about white people and black people will never be settled by barracks talk. Let's forget these things for the time being, buckle down to real soldiering, and win the war.

"We have heard that our soldiers in England are given rules on how to get along with the English people, who have many habits and customs different from ours.

Our soldiers in Africa were given rules on how to get along with the Mohammedans, and other people who live there.

"Our soldiers in Sicily have been told how to treat people there.

"You are in Georgia. While you are here, you must obey the laws of the State of Georgia. The laws of Georgia may not be the laws of New York, or the District of Columbia, or Pennsylvania, or Illinois but that makes no difference.

"Some of you may not understand why you can't go everywhere white folks go in Georgia. It's because the law says so.

"Whether or not they did this where you came from, and no matter what you think about it, it is your duty to do exactly as the laws say, and to accept the customs of the people, while you are in Georgia.

"Be polite and respectful in any talk you may have with white people. Don't try to start conversations with white strangers. Stay out of white places, and sit where you are supposed to sit on trains and buses.

"You are in the South. Things have been as they are in the South for a long time, and they will probably continue to be that way for a long time. If you start any argument or disturbances over these things, you will get nowhere, settle nothing, and get yourself in trouble."

That is sound advice and if followed there will be no further difficulties at Camp Stewart or any other negro camp.

Charleston, S. C. News Courier
November [illegible]

In Store for the South

To The News and Courier:

I was interested in the letter (November 3) from "A South Carolinian, from an army camp in Kansas". The only "offense" he commited was under-statement; and, of course, one has to be careful of what he says in the army.

The writer, who had some service in 1918, has had an opportunity to observe the changes brought about in 25 years. The negro enjoys a quite different status in Franklin's army from his counterpart in Woodrow's army. A negro doctor at Fort McPherson (Atlanta) examined the result of the smallpox vaccination given me at the reception center. This negro official was attached to the headquarters of the Fourth Service command.

47c

While at Fort Oglethorpe (still in Georgia), I saw negroes of the M. P. officers' candidate school sleeping in the same barracks and eating in the same mess halls with white students.

Naturally, if such things went on in the South, the sky was the limit north of the Ohio. At Fort Custer (Michigan), the M. P. duties for the post were taken over by a negro outfit from Chicago. These blacks took a great delight in "calling down" a Southerner for the slightest infraction of military regulations.

And, don't let anyone tell you otherwise, the lawyer politicians who represent the South in congress are fully aware of the aforementioned conditions, because they have been told. They evidently rely on our innocuous press to keep the white South from learning. If every Southern city had a News and Courier, the white citizenry would be better informed.

As I gathered from numerous conversations with so-called educated Northerners, the principal purpose of our military effort was to make conditions better for "minorities". I was told in no uncertain terms that, when the remainder of the world had been attended to, the white Southerners would be forced to give the negro "complete equality", which meant doing away with segregation and prohibitions against intermarriage. My talks with individuals were and are being confirmed by such "newspapers" as PM, which is indirectly supported by the public treasury.

The South Carolinian "exiled" in Kansas has made a good beginning, but the "dear peepul" have not been told the half of it.

However, maybe they'll get a new postoffice in Green Swamp, and the 56 corporations that have 95 per cent of the war contracts will pay off.

A SOUTH CAROLINIAN WHO
WAS IN THE ARMY.

Atlanta.

47c-1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

House Probe Of Selfridge Causes Split

MAY 30 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27 —Difference of opinion has developed between Chairman May of the House military affairs comittee and committee member Paul Shaffer of Michigan as to the scope of investigational authority that was granted in connection with the group's probing of the shooting of a Negro private by Col. William T. Colman, commanding officer of Selfridge field, Mich., but since relieved of the post.

On Friday Congressman Shafer announced a report of his visit to Selfridge field, where the shooting of Pvt. William McRae occurred, in which he said of Col. Colman that his "conduct was well-known throughout the post and to citizens of nearby cities," and that he was "on the verge of a nervous breakdown." Further, his report said that "if the inspector general's office (of the War department) had properly functioned," Colman would have been hospitalized weeks ago.

MAY 30 1943

Chairman May immediately took issue with Shafer saying that the latter had made an "unauthorized" investigation. Not only was May angry because the Michigan representative had made public the report of his findings, but also, as he said, because he had no authority to go beyond certain limits. The investigation, according to May, was only intended to determine the relation of the incident to the "war effort and war contracts and not to a matter within the jurisdiction of the military court."

MAY 30 1943

Shafer insisted that the committee had "placed no restrictions on the investigation whatever." "My report probably isn't liked by some of the higher officials in the War department," he said, "and that is the reason the committee chairman has described my investigation as 'unauthorized.'" The congressman maintains that he will have the support of the majority of the committee "to the limit." He has asked the military committee to insist upon an early report on progress by the War department's inquiry, without 'white-washing" the facts.

47

Negro Soldiers Strike After Trouble In Jackson

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

FLORA, Miss., July — (ANP) — Negro soldiers in training at the Mississippi Ordnance plant a few miles north of this town, according to authoritatiev reports that reached here, went on strike Thursday morning following disorder in Jackson, the state capitol, Wednesday night.

JUL 17 1943

The immediate cause of the strike is said to have been the alleged serious beating of one of their number, and the alleged abuse of several of their wives and women companions, a number of whom were put in jail by civilian policement in Jackson Wednesday night. The arrests were made after Negro soldiers and military and civilian policement became involved in what is reported to have threatened to a serious incident, wihch brought a large number of military and evilian policemen scurrying to Negro neighobrhoods.

Rumors to the effect that the soldiers who had been beaten in Jackson Wednesday night had died, which quickly spread throughout the city, have since been proved false. It was learned from reliable sources that the soldier was being treated at the camp while suffering from one or two scalp wounds.

JUL 17 1943

During the Thursday morning demonstration at the camp, it was reported that three Negro military policemen, from whom the wounded soldier was taken by civilian police and beaten, had to be rushed out of camp for safety because of threats made by the soldiers who held them at fault for giving the soldier over to the custody of white civilian officers.

What was the immediate cause of the Wednesday disturbance in Jackson has been the subject of many conflicting rumors and reports. The disturbance began a few hours after a large number of soldiers on pay day leave from the Jackson Air Base and the Misisssippi Ordnance plant reached the heart of the Negro neighborhood. No white civilians were involved in the dispute.

JUL 17 1943

Camps

47c

War Dept. Silent As Mobs Rule

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Camp Stewart, Georgia, Van Dorn, Mississippi Called 'Hellholes!'

Civilian defiance of the elementary principles of democracy and a vicious disregard of its effect on the morale of the very men being trained to defend these same civilians from Germans, Japanese and other enemies of the United States, threaten to explode into widespread race warfare in the Southland as southerners continue ever increasing pressure on Negroes in uniform.

JUN 19 1943

Reports from widely separated points in the South, from Georgia, from Mississippi, from Texas, tell of Negro soldiers being shot down in cold blood by civilian police and citizens. Stories of greater measures of discrimination and segregation being heaped upon colored soldiers stationed at the various camps, and of threats of violence and humiliation more searing and painful than actual enemy bullets and bayonets are coming in from all sections.

Groups Protesting

Northern organizations—the NAACP, the National Negro Congress, the Workers Defense League, the International Labor Defense, and others are flooding the War Department at Washington with protests and demands for investigation and action, but little or no results have been noted.

JUN 19 1943

Prominent liberals have been outspoken in the current reign of terror, but their voices have been drowned in the old Rebel Yell of the Civil War resounding from Capitol Hill, in Washington, where a band of southern congressmen and senators are pushing the demands of their constituents in poll tax states ahead of the war effort and victory.

JUN 19 1943

Observers have tied the current wave of lawlessness against colored soldiers in the South to the visit of President Edwin Barclay of Liberia at the White House. The visitor was quartered in exclusive Blair Mansion in Washington where state visitors are entertained. He was the first Negro in the history of the nation to be so honored. In addition, he was a dinner guest at the White House where President and Mrs. Roosevelt entertained him in the same style they had previously entertained Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain and other heads of Allied governments.

Background of Terror

Silhouetted against a background of terror across which rode the hooded figures of the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacy gangs, the Negro's plight Down South in this, the second year of the war for the United States, is being compared with that of the Jews in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and other countries when the Nazis moved in. Horror stories are being spread among the Negro civilian population both north and south about the relentless pressure being exerted on colored people. Focused in Washington, capital of the nation, the virus of racial discrimination and kindred evils is rapidly being spread into such liberal strongholds as New York and Boston by transplanted southerners.

The open defiance of the government by southerners is being watched on all sides in blank amazement. The inactivity of the War Department in seeing to it that the men it has in uniform are given protection while getting ready for the major battle, has stumped even the most astute students of rational policy and action. That civilians can step in and lynch soldiers in the uniform of the United States with slight interference is a situation that is reducing the morale of the 15,000,000 Negroes almost to the complete disintegration point.

JUN 19 1943

47c

CONFISCATE DEFENDER IN DIXIE CAMP

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

White MP's Seize Papers, Eject Salesmen At Camp Rucker

CAMP RUCKER, Ala. — What appears to be a determined bid to bar Negro newspapers from seven U. S. army camps of the South, and this one in particular, reached a climax here last week when the Chicago Defender was taken away from salesmen who were forcibly ejected from the post.

JUL 24 1943

According to reports direct from eyewitnesses, white officers and military policemen seized Defender representatives as they entered the grounds, confiscated the papers and chased them away. When the soldiers for whom they were intended returned to the post from details, no explanation was given them as to the whereabouts of their papers or the reason for the action.

Similar steps are said to have been taken in Mississippi camps, where both the Defender and the Pittsburgh Courier appear to have aroused the ire of anti-Negro elements. In some cases, this resentment toward the Negro press has spread into the cities.

According to reports, Ted Rushing, young newsboy at Carthage, Miss., had his papers taken and destroyed by a group of white men last Friday, after which he was given a light whipping with the promise of something worse if caught trying to sell any more Negro newspapers in the town.

At Hattiesburg, Miss., near Camp Shelby, one of the largest camps in the country, salesmen of northern Negro newspapers are reported to have been told by police that no further sales of the papers would be permitted in Hattiesburg.

JUL 24 1943

In Brandon, Anslem J. Finch, columnist of the Pittsburgh Courier, is reported to have been called into question, by prominent white Brandon citizens regarding his connections with the Courier.

47c

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Troops Arouse Ire Of Mississippians

Van Dorn Camp, Scene Of Shooting, Brings Army Inquiry

Camps

47c

CENTREVILLE, MISS., June 1. —(AP)—Colonel R. E. Guthrie, commanding officer of Camp Van Dorn, declined comment today on an announcement by Mayor Omer Carroll, of Centreville, that two officers were being sent here from Washington to investigate disturbances in which negro troops stationed at the camp figured.

Carroll said Senator Eastland (D), Mississippi, informed him that the inspector general's department was dispatching the officers in response to an appeal yesterday from Gov. Paul B. Johnson for an investigation of the 364th Infantry, negro, which Carroll charged "is fomenting race riots."

The mayor's protest forwarded by Johnson urged that the regiment be moved by the War Department away from Mississippi.

Col. Guthrie said the camp had been "placed under some restrictions as a precaution to prevent any possible flare-up and the situation is under control." These restrictions prevent groups of soldiers from collecting, he said.

One negro soldier was reported shot and killed by the Wilkinson County sheriff Sunday while resisting arrest and Carroll said today a group of negro soldiers marched down Centreville's main street late Saturday night "shoving everyone from their path."

JUN 2 1943

Col. Guthrie said his provost marshal arrived on the scene during the latter incident while local officers were taking the soldiers in charge and returned the soldiers to camp calmly.

He said one negro soldier was shot and slightly wounded by a negro military policeman in camp but that "no serious harm has been done."

"We are still watching the situation," he said.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

MP IS KILLED

IN NEGRO RIOT

Four Others Wounded When Troops Resent Charge Of Molesting Girls

By United Press.

CAMP STEWART, Ga., June 11.—Camp Stewart authorities today prepared to launch an investigation of a riot of Negro soldiers at the post Wednesday night in [illegible] one military policeman was [illegible] and four others wounded.

JUN 11 1943

Capt. Walter H. Dustmann Jr., public relations officer, said that no white soldiers, other than the military police detachment and officers, were involved in the disturbance. No Negro soldiers were injured.

Georgian Is Slain

Pfc. Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, of Valdosta, Ga., was the military policeman slain in the riot. He was shot and died almost instantly.

The wounded soldiers were listed as: Sergt. John L. McEachern, 32, Homestead, Mont., Sergt. Charles W. Almand, 23, Atlanta, Ga., Sergt. William V. Brown, 23, New York City, and Pvt. Merlin B. Hotchkiss, 20, of Perry, N. Y. McEachern was reported still in serious condition.

MP's Fired One Shot

Camp Provost Marshal Maj. E. P. Scott, said only one shot was fired by the military police. The Negroes were reported to have fired several times on the MP's.

Captain Dustmann said it was reported that the Negro soldiers had been stirred up by what were officially described as "false and malicious rumors" of Negro girls being molested.

47c

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Camp Stewart Soldiers Riot; One Is Killed

CAMP STEWART, Ga., June 10.—(AP)—Captain Walter H. Dustmann Jr., public relations officer, reported today that a military policeman was killed and four others wounded during a riot of Negro troops here last night.

JUN 11 1943

He said no white soldiers were involved in the disturbance other than military police and officers and none of the Negro soldiers was injured.

Cause of the riot was not immediately determined but Captain Dustmann said first reports indicated the Negro soldiers had been stirred up by a "false and malicious rumor" that Negro girls were being molested.

Private Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, of Valdosta, Ga., was shot and died almost instantly. The wounded: Staff Sergeant John L. McEachern, 31, of Homestead, Mon.; Sergeant Charles W. Almond, 24, of Atlanta; Sergeant William B. Brown, 24, of New York city; Private Merlin B. Hotchkiss, 20, of Perry, N. Y. The condition of McEachern was reported serious.

Major E. P. Scott, provost marshal, reported only one shot was fired by military police. The latter, he said, were fired on intermittently by the Negro soldiers.

Quiet was restored shortly after midnight and Major Scott said there had been no further disturbance on the post.

A board of officers was appointed immediately to investigate.

47c

Camp Stewart Riot Lasted For 3 Hours

1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

False Rumor Blamed for Uprising of 100th Regiment

369th N.Y. TROOPS ARE NOT INVOLVED

Colored Colonel Who Rescued Wounded Is Cited

SAVANNAH, Ga.—A false rumor started the recent Camp Stewart riot in which a military policeman was killed and four others injured.

JUL 3 1943

Reports indicate that the rioting lasted for three hours, that 5,000 rounds of ammunition were fired by men alleged to be members of the 100th Regiment of Coast Artillery. The dead and injured are all military policemen.

47c

The 100th Regiment Coast Artillery unit was composed mostly of Southern boys and stationed at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., before coming to Savannah.

The men were dissatisfied there with army treatment because an officer, not of their regiment, advised town merchants not to serve them.

False Report

The rumor that started the Stewart riot declared that a colored woman, visiting her soldier husband, had been beaten to death by two policemen in Hinesville, a "one-horse" town near Camp Stewart.

JUL 3 1943

The husband, who was knocked down by the MP when he aided his wife, later died.

This rumor was false, but the soldiers believed it.

Organized at 8

They began to organize around 8 p.m., then ran to their battalion areas to get rifles and ammunition. When they returned they did not travel as a mob, but scattered as snipers. It was more or less guerilla warfare in the hospital area.

A bus was riddled with bullets and the driver was shot in the neck. The passengers, first told to lie on the floor, were later told to get out of the bus and seek shelter.

JUL 3 1943

Firing at 10 P.M.

Firing was said to have begun at 10 p.m. and lasted until 1 a.m. During that time 5,000 shots were fired.

One rifle shot started it. Unverified reports are that machine guns and tommy guns took it up from there and fire was all around the various barracks.

One rifle fired by a soldier stopped a jeep of military police.

Half-track tanks, mounting 37 millimeter guns, were sent up to the area of the 100th Regiment, but there was no fight there, so the tanks had to await further orders.

Casualties, one dead and six injured.

Next day the post exchanges shut down early and half-track tanks were dispersed throughout the area.

369th Not Involved

Soldiers of the 369th New York Infantry who came here under Col. DeMaurice Moses, were not involved. When the difficulty arose, Colonel Moses rallied his battallion in an effort to stem the trouble.

He braved the fire of the snipers, picked up a wounded man and carried him to safety. The man afterward died, and it is understood Colonel Moses is recommended for a decoration.

Another story of how the riot began is that two MP's walking through the riot area were ordered to halt. When they failed to stop a voice cried out, "There go the MP's let them have it."

As the shots rang out, one fell mortally wounded and the other was injured.

Some 5,000 shells from expended cartridges were picked up on the grounds, it is reported.

It is believed that the soldiers secreted ammunition in Michigan and brought it to Georgia with them.

General McCroskey Said Alls' Well at Stewart, Then Came the Riot

Afro-American

This interview with Brigadier General S. L. McCroskey, white, commander at Camp Stewart, near Savannah, Ga., was given the AFRO one week before the tremendous riot in which a military policeman was killed and four injured. For three hours (10 p.m. to 1 a.m.), the soldiers of the 100th Regiment Coast Artillery shot up the camp, firing five thousand rounds of ammunition.

JUN 26 1943

Baltimore, Md.

WHO IS GEN. McCROSKEY?

Brig. Gen. S. L. McCroskey, 50, native of Washington State, was a chaplain in World War I. He came to Camp Stewart from command of an antiaircraft brigade in NYC. He served three years in Panama, 4 years at Fort Monroe, 2 years in Hawaii.

General McCroskey served on the staff of the Chief of the Coast Artillery and a year as Executive Officer at Camp Davis, N.C.

His wife, the former Helen M. Stevens, of Glenridge, N.J., is residing in Washington, D.C.

47c

The General Talks

By ALFRED DUCKETT
(Exclusive)

CAMP STEWART, Ga. — General McCroskey's special statement for the AFRO follows:

The several battalions of colored troops at Camp Stewart are here for the purpose of undergoing basic and advanced technical training to prepare them for the important role of fighting against hostile airplanes.

The Antiaircraft soldier is a very important one in this war. In effect, he is a front line soldier wherever he may be, in an active theatre, because the whole theatre is a front line for attack by hostile aviation.

47c

Our Soldiers Work Hard

The colored soldiers here are learning their jobs very satisfactorily. They work hard and for the most part show tremendous interest in learning. As their training progresses they recognize the need for precise, individual work and for well-co-ordinated teamwork.

JUN 26 1943

There have been from time to time adverse comments by certain individuals concerning the morale of the colored troops or concerning their treatment in camp. These criticisms are not justified by the facts in the case.

There is too much tendency on the part of some people seeking notoriety to exaggerate to tremendous proportions small incidents and, because of them, to say that everything is all wrong. In any large body of troops there are bound to be isolated cases of trouble and there are always a few malcontents.

Agitators Must Go

If agitators and trouble-makers would get out and stay out, or if their energy could be diverted to useful work, the colored soldier would like it much better. He is no softie and he doesn't want to be pampered and petted any more than the white soldiers do.

His officers have his welfare at heart and they are as interested in his morale and training as they are in their own, for the whole unit must learn to fight as a team and it will succeed or fail only as a team.

I believe thoroughly that the colored soldier will give a splendid account of himself when put to the test. It is up to us here to prepare him in the very best manner possible. If he honestly tries, he does excellently. If he is lazy and doesn't care, he does poorly; just like any other individual in any other occupation in the world.

Signed

S. L. McCROSKEY
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding

Editorial

Affably courteous General McCroskey, as chief of Stewart's Antiaircraft training, has under his immediate supervision ninety per cent of the colored troops at the camp. So diplomatic is General McCroskey that the investigator at Stewart is tempted to give him a clean bill of health in relation to the vicious conditions which exist at the camp.

JUN 26 1943

47c

It is an obvious fact, however, that the General's defense of conditions indicates either an unbelievable ignorance of conditions or an attempt to cover them up in what is truly a gracious manner.

The General's statement indicates an amazing similarity to that of Colonel Ochs, especially in his refutation of racial discriminations and his reference to "agitators and troublemakers."

No Single Instance of Unfairness

It is only fair to say that throughout our investigation at the camp we found no single instance in which the General himself was charged with unfairness against colored troops or display of any vestige of prejudice.

The fact remains however, that he is in charge of an overwhelming majority of the colored soldiers and it is fantastic to suppose that he is unaware of what they are forced to undergo.

MUST AVOID JACKSON

Jackson, Tenn. [redacted]

Jackson has been officially declared off limits for all negro enlisted men stationed at Camp Tyson near here, Col Frederick Dodge announced Thursday night.

This action followed by 24 hours Colonel Dodge's placing Paris off limits for negro soldiers of a Second Army unit stationed at Camp Tyson.

October 24, 1943

Colonel Dodge said the order placing Jackson off limits applied to all "colored enlisted soliders of the Second Army and the Barrage Balloon Training Center at Camp Tyson."

The off limits orders followed clashes between negro soldiers and police in both Jackson and Paris within the past two weeks.

Riot Flares At Camp Stewart As M.P. Beats Soldier's Wife

People's Voice New York N.Y.

Camps

JUN 19 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—The need for immediate action of the War Department to take measures to eliminate brutalities and injustices against Negro soldiers in the South was brought home with double-barreled force here last week with the outbreak of a riot between Negro soldiers and white guards resulting in the death of a white M.P., the wounding of 4 other M.P.'s, all white.

The disturbance, long feared by Negro press and national civic organizations all of which have asked for action on the mistreatment of soldiers, followed the alleged beating by a white M.P. of a New York girl visiting her husband in camp..

RUMORS SPREAD

Rumors spread like wildfire thruout the camp following the assault upon the soldier's wife, and the beating of the husband by a guard when the boy went to investigate the clubbing.

One report insisted the girl was dead as the result of a fractured skull; another that the husband had also succumbed to his injuriees.

According to the version received from a reliable source, the soldier's wife arrived in camp on Friday night and stayed in the guest house provided for visitors. She went out Saturday, it is said and came in after taps, causing an altercation with the guard at the gate.

Although the latter could have taken the girl into custody should he have desired, during the argument he allegedly clubbed her over the head. She was taken to the hospital suffering from concussion of the brain.

TROUBLE STARTS

Tension ran high all day Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday, June 9, about 6:30 p.m., Negro soldiers are supposed to have gone down to the gate ready to settle the score. The guards were drawn from the area where they were supposed to be, and are reported to have proceeded into the area occupied by the 100th anti-aircraft outfit of the 369th.

For a few minutes all was quiet and then hell broke loose. Negro soldiers opened fire and the firing is said to have lasted from 8:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m., ceasing at dawn.

TWO IN CUSTODY

Although peace has been restored and an investigation under way, tempers of the men are still running high. While no arrests have been made, two Negro soldiers are said to be in temporary custody because of wounds which have not been explained.

Because of communications received in New York on Monday coming directly from the camp, and asking for an investigation into what was reported as the death of the soldiers wife, PV contacted Truman Gibson, Acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

Gibson stated by telephone from Washington that he had received no information of such a killing, but said a board of inquiry was investigating the riot.

Pa. Camp Gets First Officer After Riot

~~Courier~~ Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

JUL 24 1943

SHENANGO, Pa.—Four days after the race riot at Camp Shenango in which one soldier was killed and six others injured, Captain Arganoh E. Martin, a chaplain, was transferred here to become the post's lone colored officer.

A board of inquiry, appointed by Col. Zim E. Lawhon, post commander, is continuing its investigation to determine the exact cause and to fix the blame for the trouble.

A report that a second colored soldier had died of injuries received during the riot was denied by the press relations office in a statement to the AFRO.

Transferred from Lee

Captain Martin, who was transferred from Camp Lee, Va., took over his new duties at the Shenango Replacement Depot on Thursday. A resident of the Eastern shore of Maryland and a Methodist, the chaplain entered the army on July 24, 1942.

He is a graduate of Clark University and Gammon Theological Seminary. His wife, Mrs. Olivia E. Martin, is residing at Petersburg, Va., and his two sons are government employees.

Causes Unknown

In the riot here July 11, Pvt. Norman Taylor, 20, of Rosedale, Kans., was killed and six other soldiers of both races received minor injuries, according to official reports.

The first outbreak was reported at 9:30 p.m., when a white and colored soldier had an altercation in a post exchange. The exact cause of the disturbance is not known, but it is reported that disparaging remarks were passed by soldiers of both groups.

6 MP's Praised

Col. Lawhon intervened and temporarily quieted the disorder. Later, another outbreak between groups of soldiers resulted in gunfire being exchanged.

The following day, Col. Lawhon cited six colored military policemen for meritorious service in attempting to quell the riot. When interviewed by the AFRO, the commander declined to make a statement as to the exact causes of the outbreaks.

ARMY RESPONSIBLE FOR TENSIONS

One colored soldier was killed and six colored and white soldiers were injured in a clash at Camp Shenango, Pa.

The AFRO's Levi Jolley, first on the scene, reported that one of the causes was the establishment of what 1,300 men recently arrived from Fort Belvoir, Va., called a jim crow post exchange. Afro-American. Baltimore, Md.

Before the arrival of the Belvoir contingent, all soldiers used the same post exchange.

AFRO readers who want to get an idea of the soldiers sensitivity to jim crow should read two articles in this issue. One by Max Lerner on the front page is titled "Drive J. C. from the Army." In the other, Mrs. Mary Bethune recites the hardships which she suffered in the South. Asked how she endured them, Mrs. Bethune replied, "I was born the daughter of a slave, but the young people today won't stand for what I went through."

Camps

JUL 24 1943

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
September 11, 1943

Swift Army Justice

A few weeks ago a number of negro soldiers attached to a unit then stationed at Camp McCain, Miss., managed to seize a number of rifles and a quantity of service ammunition and set out to terrorize the countryside. They "shot up" the town of Duck Hill and endangered the lives of a large number of citizens.

Military authority immediately undertook a scrupulous investigation, and through an investigative process of elimination, and other evidence, finally identified the offenders. They were brought to trial before a court-martial, vigorously prosecuted and fairly defended. Eight have been convicted and sentenced to long terms in military prisons.

The civilian population of this area recognizes the thoroughgoing manner in which the Army has handled this situation and will find no fault with the verdicts which, we believe, should receive the widest possible publicizing on the theory that they will act as deterrents to any who may think that the Army takes kindly to that sort of behavior. Military justice is not only swift but very sure.

Soldier Says Men Treated Worse Than Dogs in Texas

Afro-American
Baltimore Md

JUN 10 1943

BRYAN FIELD, Tex. — Members of the 325th Aviation Squadron here are being treated "worse than dogs," said a soldier in a letter to the AFRO this week requesting an investigation of conditions at the camp.

The soldier said that they were getting on the bus one day and when they didn't move fast enough an MP pushed them and said, "Come on, get on that damned bus, N----s."

No Colored MP's

When the men said they were not used to being called names, the soldier says the MP snatched one of the boys and slapped him in the face, and when he tried to defend himself, the MP's, provost marshal, and civilian police drew their guns.

"We have no colored MP's here or weapons with which to defend ourselves," he added.

"This drinking water gave me stomach trouble and I went to the hospital. When I got back, I was ordered to get on my hands and knees to scrub the barracks in our company. They said we were gold-bricking," the letter continued.

"We had five sergeants and eight corporals when the 325th came to this field, but they have all been busted because they wanted to transfer to other camps on account of bad treatment."

WAR DEP'T. URGED TO ACT ON CAMP STEWART

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUL 10 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8—The deplorable conditions of Negro soldiers at Camp Stewart, Ga., as revealed by a recent NAACP investigation was reported this week to the War Department. Camp Stewart accommodates some 25,000 white soldiers and 15,000 colored soldiers.

The War Department was informed that an investigator from the national office of the NAACP who "has talked with large numbers of soldiers and civilians in Savannah and neighboring communities and at Camp Stewart itself, has found three principal causes of unrest and tension."

The first of the causes, the report stated, has to do with the limited quantity and segregated pattern of recreational service facilities on the post. The second concerns the inadequacy of transportation facilities. The third is the attitude and policy of certain ranking white officers.

NO CLUB FOR RACE OFFICERS

The report pointed out that Negro soldiers have a service club covering a ground space of approximately 100x200 feet while the white service club covers a ground space of 350x500 feet.

For white officers there is a club, but for Negro officers there are no recreational facilities at all. At the camp there are three guest houses where guests and members of the families of white officers may be accommodated. There are no such facilities for guests and

United States Government To Blame For Abusive Treatment Of Soldiers

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

JUN 19 1943

ALL good Americans regret the rioting between colored and white troops in several army camps in the deep South.

According to an eye-witness report The TRIBUNE learns that two MP's are dead and four are injured as a result of rioting at Camp Stewart in Georgia.

47c
Camps

These incidents should not be considered [illegible] either by the Army or the American public. They are directly traceable to the refusal of Americans to deal honestly with the race problem.

Ever since the Civil War, the South has contended and this nation has agreed that the racial problem was local; that the Southern white people were able to handle the racial problem.

This position is absolutely wrong. The racial problem can not be localized and the worst people in the world to handle it are Southern whites, because they are determined that colored citizens shall not be accorded equality of opportunity.

The United States Government is largely to blame for anything that might happen because it has followed a policy of appeasement. It has permitted the South to violate every principle of the Constitution. Because of this weak policy, the Army of the United States of America must bend the knee to prejudice and is unable or unwilling to protect its colored soldiers.

JUN 19 1943

Unfortunately for America, those forces in American life which are determined to oppress colored people are running head-on into forces equally as determined not to be oppressed.

M.P. Killed And 4 Hurt At Camp Stewart

The Plaindealer,
Kansas City, Kan.

NAACP Claims Deplorable Jim Crow Setup Of Dixie And Mean Officers Is Cause Of So Many Race Riots and Killings

Camp Stewart, Ga.—The killing of a white M.P., on June 9 at Camp Stewart, Georgia, and the wounding of four others by bullets allegedly fired by Negro troops was seen this week by the NAACP as the culmination of unsatisfactory conditions which have existed at the camp for months.

1943

47c
Camps

The M.P. who was killed was Private First Class Ronie E. Lindsey of Valdosta, Ga. The wounded men were Staff Sergeant John L. McEacher, Homestead, Montana; Sergeant Charles W. Almand, Atlanta, Ga.; Sergeant William V. Brown, New York City and Private Merlin B. Hotchkill, Perry, N. Y.

The NAACP has submitted to the Department of Justice the report of an investigator immediately dispatched to the scene.

The NAACP report revealed these findings:

The transportation situation is, and for long has been, a rasping issue. Separate buses are operated for white and Negro soldiers, in the ratio of about one for Negroes, six for whites, and this despite the fact Negro soldiers are approximately 40% of the camp personnel. The taxicabs in Hinesville (nearest town to Camp Stewart) refuse to ride Negro soldiers.

JUN 18 1943

There is high resentment among Negro solders of the Nazi-racial attitude of the white officers in command. Interviewed Negro officers and enlisted men all insisted that the situation could not be remedied so long as they remained under command of Colonels Gross and Ochs, both of German extraction, and General Spiller, who was characterized as being 'definitely in sympathy with the whole policy of discrimination."

Negro M.P'5s are without authority. Negro soldiers and civilians resent this, and resent that all M.P.'s stationed in Savannah are white, even those designated to patrol the most thickly settled Negro areas.

Recreational facilities for Negro soldiers are glaringly inadequate. There are no proviisons made at all for the recreation of Negro offcires. Fifty persons crowd out the Negro USO. The Negro service club has a total floor space coverage of 100x200 feet. Contrastingly, white officers have a service club; the white USO is a spacious two-story building; white enlisted men have a service club with floor space measuring 350x500 feet.

Meagre faciilties are provided for treatment of Negro soldiers afflicted with veneral diseases. White civilian nurses in the camp hospital have refused to handle Negro patients, and in Savannah there is only one prophylactic station for colored soldiers.

JUN 18 1943

In two known instances, Negro soldiers have been kicked by white officers. On one occasion the officer was not identified; on the other, the officer's punishment was to be transferred to another post.

Contributing also to the tension which resutled in the violent outbreak of Thursday, the investigator pointed out, were numerous other factors. Relations of Negro soldiers with local law enforcement officers have been generally bad. Racial segregation signs were posted on toilets at the prison stockade (a Negro officer reports he was brusquely asked, "Can't you read?" when he used a toilet marked "oFr White Only"). Negro officers generally are subjected to unnecessarily humiliating treatment.

relatives of Negro officers. The colored service club has been without a senior hostess since January, 1943. There is resentment, the NAACP report revealed, of the post commander's excuse that a qualified Negro woman is not available in the neighboring community. The colored service club is supervised by a white lieutenant, acting as special service officer although it is said to be the policy of the Army that Negro officers be placed in charge of such facilities, the report claimed.

JUL

Segregated post exchanges are provided for Negro troops who are denied service in the more completely stocked main post exchange.

Neither Negro officers nor enlisted men are permitted to go to the several theatres reserved for white soldiers, the NAACP report charged.

M. P. Killed In Georgia Camp Riot

Kansas City Call

False Rumors Said to Have Caused Trouble

Kansas City, Mo.

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—(ANP) — One military policeman was killed and four wounded during a riot of Negro troops here Thursday night, post authorities announced.

JUN 25 1943

47c

The only white soldiers involved in the disturbance were the MPs. No Negro soldiers were injured. The cause of the riot has not been determined. A board of officers was appointed to make an immediate investigation.

The board's first reports revealed that the Negro soldiers were stirred up by "false and malicious rumors" that Negro girls were being molested by white troops, said post headquarters.

Only one shot was fired by the MPs during the time they were fired on by the Negro soldiers, according to Maj. E. P. Schott, provost marshal, who added that quiet was restored by 12:00 a. m. after which there was no further disturbances, and that the post has now returned to normal conditions.

JUN 25 1943

The dead are: Pfc. Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, Valdosta, Ga., who died almost instantly when he was struck by a bullet. The wounded are S. Sgt. John L. McEachern, 31, Homestead Mt.; Sgt. Charles W. Almand, 24, Atlanta; Sgt. William V. Brown, 24, New York, and Pvt. Merle B. Hotkiss, 20, Perry, N. Y.

Columbia, S. C., State
November 1, 1943

Station Complement Gets Drum And Bugle Corps, Choral Group

Fort Jackson's station complement, for the first time in its history, had its own drum and bugle corps yesterday with the transfer of a group of colored soldiers from Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., to this post.

The 23-piece drum and bugle corps has been organized for more than a year as part of the Headquarters detachment at the Georgia army post. At Fort Oglethorpe the corps was under the command of Col. Duncan Richart, who recently was made post commander at Fort Jackson.

Also included in the group of soldiers transferred to Fort Jackson was the Fort Oglethorpe Choral group made up of 40 excellent voices. They also are expected to be an addition to this post where they will entertain for soldier gatherings, radio programs and other post functions. The choral group is lead by T. Sgt. John S. Fleming and is reported to include some very fine singers.

At Fort Oglethorpe Colonel Richart had taken much interest in both the drum and bugle corps and the choral group and encouraged their development into an accomplished musical organization.

The drum and bugle corps was under the direct command of Capt. H. A. Eggert at Fort Oglethorpe, who also will be transferred to Fort Jackson.

The transfer of Negro soldiers to Fort Jackson resulted when Fort Oglethorpe became a WAC training center.

BRAVERY

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Orchids to Mrs. Madeline K. Dugger, senior hostess at the 366th Service Club at Fort Devens, for preventing efforts of Southern white Jim Crow zealots to segregate Negro soldiers in the post theatre.

SEP 1 1943

Guardian

It seems that some Southern W A Cs objected to sitting in the same audience with Negroes wearing, like themselves, the uniform of the United States Army as a symbol of their risking their lives and fortunes in defense of our country against Axis enslavement. As usual, weak-kneed Northern white officers cravenly capitulated to the Southern prejudice akin to the Fascist r[illegible] which the United Nations are combating and ordered the troops to sit on one side of the auditorium until Mrs. Dugger, as befits the widow of a colonel, intervened courageously after the order had been in effect for three days without her knowledge. She immediately saw the officer in charge of the theatre. "I told him that we cannot go down South and change the customs down there and we shouldn't let them come up here and force their customs upon us." Courage exhibited by this lady prevailed over bigots. Mrs. Dugger performed a service in improving morale which is worthy of official recognition in the form of a medal. — Boston Chronicle

SEP 1943

47c
Camps

47c-1943

Camps

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

Heads First P-X

47c

FEB 8 1943

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—Captain Harold Martin, who in private life was public health director at Minor State Teachers College, Washington, D. C., is the first of his race to head a post exchange for the U. S. Army. A $50,000 annual business, the post exchange sells everything from officers' uniforms to shoe strings. Captain Martin was the first of his race to graduate from Norwich University, receiving his B. S. degree in engineering.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Soldiers Call Georgia Camp One of Worst

1943

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT
(Exclusive to AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers)

NEW YORK—Two hundred clean-cut American soldiers, formerly members of the 369th Coast Artillery (anti-aircraft), now stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga., where they were transferred from overseas duty in Hawaii, charge that they have been insulted, kicked and beaten by white officers and forced to live in the midst of disease and filth.

They have appealed to friends to implore Washington to move them elsewhere.

Miss Colored Officers

A spokesman said:

"Our colored officers have been taken from us and attached to another unit, leaving us without any moral support whatsoever. We are now under white officers, the majority of whom are young and inexperienced, fresh from Southern colleges, so when we're right, we are wrong.

"The food is terrible and sanitary conditions are the most deplorable we have ever witnessed. It seems that army regulations do not even exist down here. One sergeant, while rectifying a mistake, was allegedly told by a captain from Mississippi:

"'This camp is the toughest camp in the United States. We make our own laws down here.'"

MAY 8 1943

~~Fine Recreation~~ Provided For All Negro Soldiers

Negro troops at Fort Jackson are being provided with every recreational facility that officials of the post are in position to supply.

A large area of ground near Post Service Club No. 3 is being readied for the construction of a concrete court which will be utilized for outdoor basketball games, badminton and hand ball. In addition, this space will be the site of an outdoor terrace for open-air dances and other outdoor events.

The USO-Camp Show unit, "Looping the Loop" will be at the new Post Theater No. 5, in the Negro section on Thursday night for 7 and 9 o'clock performances. This is one of the War Department's new theaters on the post for the use of Negro servicemen. However, the house is not quite ready for motion pictures, as the sound equipment is still being installed.

Columbia, S. C., State
November 25, 1943

Fort Jackson Negro Choir to Sing Today

Fort Jackson's excellent 40-voice Negro choir, composed of soldiers from the 23rd Quartermaster group, will be heard in a program of sacred music at 7:15 this evening in Chapel No. 18.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Camp Stewart Situation:

MAY 22 1943

Gen. Davis to Make Investigation; B'klyn Forms Citizens' Committee

MAY 22 1943

47c Camps

PV directed a challenge to the whole country last week—a challenge which, thank God, has not gone unanswered. We asked our readers what they were going to do about unspeakable conditions at Camp Stewart down in Georgia, where Jimcro is riding high, wide and handsome. And immediately letters and calls from parents and friends of boys in the 369th poured in pledging assistance in cleaning up the camp.

The paper was hardly off the press before it received a telegram from Truman K. Gibson, Jr., acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War in Washington. It read: "With reference to Camp Stewart, am advised that General Davis of the Inspector General's office is now making an investigation."

And immediately Brooklyn came through, too. With Charles Kellar, brilliant young attorney as its motivating spirit, Brooklyn has organized a Save Our Soldiers committee with John T. Yancey as chairman. Indications are that other communities will soon follow suit.

MAY 22 1943

SOS PLANS RALLY

Acting on behalf of the Brooklyn committee, which is coordinating its efforts with the Brooklyn branch of the NAACP, Kellar directed the following letter to the Commanding Officer of Camp Stewart and to the Adjutant General's office in Washington:

"Currently, there is a rumor to the effect that a considerable number of men are confined to their barracks because they had the temerity to write their relatives and friends about the abominable conditions prevailing. I have been instructed by the Citizens Committee representing the most important groups in the borough, to write you and ask you to investigate this situation immediately and apprise the committee of your findings. The situation is very real with us. Please do not table this matter."

The *SOS* has forged right on ahead and will sponsor a joint rally in cooperation with other community groups at the Boys High School, Marcy and Putnam aves., Sunday, May 30, at which prominent speakers will appear. This meeting bids fair to being one of the most successful of its type in recent years.

MAY 22 1943

BULLETIN may 27, 1943

Special

Allegedly in protest against the barbarous treatment of the 369th Regiment at Camp Stewart, two corporals—Murphy and Simpson—went A.W.O.L. and came here. The two men surrendered at Governor's Island last Saturday, but their presence here was not known until a few minutes before *PV* went to press.

MAY 22 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

'Investigation' of 369th Camp Slows; Who's Kidding Who?

MAY 29 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—With all due credit to Brigadier General Davis, highest-ranking Negro army officer, who was sent down here to "investigate" living conditions and alleged discriminatory treatment of soldiers of the famous 369th anti-aircraft and coast artillery recently returned from Hawaii and now stationed at Stewart for special training, the air has far from cleared.

According to a letter received from a musician in one of the leading dance bands which recently played a date in Savannah, Ga., 42 miles from camp, and whose brother is a member of the 369th outfit at Stewart.

MAY 29 1943

DRESS UP FOR DAVIS

"While I was at Camp Stewart, word was sent for the boys to evacuate the garage (where they were sleeping) and move into the barracks because the C.O. got word that Brigadier General Benjamin Davis was to visit the camp the following day in regard to the many complaints the boys have sent him. Of course, the boys refused to leave because they wanted General Davis to see just how their conditions are."

From a 369th soldier's letter received by PV this week:

"I would like for you to make public the following:

"We had just left the hall where General Davis had just promised us that he would eliminate Military Police brutalities upon colored soldiers.

MAY 29 1943

"Arriving at the Service Club with four or more other soldiers, and incidentally there were many witnesses, the M.P. approached us and said, "get out of here." Then he asked me for my ticket to the Service Club which I immediately showed him. The M.P. (named in the letter) then said: "Get the hell on in." I told him I would. The M.P. then threw a punch at me which I attempted to block. Then three or four jumped upon me with clubs and with drawn guns, beating me over the head and face while other M.P.'s stood by with drawn guns."

MAY 29 1943

THREATENED HIM

The letter states how the soldier was forced to enter a truck with three M.P.'s, one of whom sat in back of him with a gun trained on his back, and said: "If you move, I'll blow your brains out." Another M.P. (also named in the letter): "Sat next to me and gave me one of the most brutal and unmerciful beatings ever witnessed by any human being. While clubbing me, he said, "You ———, I'm going to kill you and no one will know the difference." If the M.P. sitting in the rear had not stopped him by saying, "For God's sake stop before you kill him!" . . . he would have carried out his threat."

Informer Houston Texas

NEGRO SOLDIERS ABUSED BY WHITE OFFICERS AT CAMP STEWART, GEORGIA

NEW YORK CITY—According to reliable information received at the March On Washington Movement headquarters at the Hotel Theresa Building in New York City, Negro soldiers are subjected to limited segregation at Camp Stewart, Georgia, and it is said that white officers have been seen kicking colored soldiers.

No proper supervision of soldiers venereal diseases is carried on in this camp and the white officers go to unusual and inexcusable lengths to insult and humiliate Negro soldiers.

Secretary Stimson of the War Department should be written letters by Negro citizens and various organizations demanding an investigation of this camp immediately, states A. Philip Randolph, National Director.

47c

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Army To Investigate 364th Negro Outfit

CENTREVILLE, Miss.—(AP)—Col. R. E. Guthrie, commanding officer of Camp Van Dorn, declined comment Wednesday on an announcement by Mayor Omer Carroll, of Centreville, that two officers were being sent here from Washington to investigate disturbances in which Negro troops stationed at the camp figured.

Carroll said Senator Eastland (D., Miss.) informed him that the inspector general's department was dispatching the officers in response to an appeal from Gov. Paul B. Johnson for an investigation of the 364th Infantry, Negro, which Carroll charged "is fomenting race riots."

Col. Guthrie said the camp had been "placed under some restrictions as a precaution to prevent any possible flare-up and the situation is under control." These restrictions prevent groups of soldiers from collecting, he said.

One Negro soldier was reported shot and killed by the Wilkinson County sheriff Sunday while resisting arrest and Carroll said a group of Negro soldiers marched down Centreville's main street late Saturday night "shoving everyone from their path."

47c Camps

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

EVANSVILLE UNDER GUARD

M. P.'s Patrol Streets as the City Is Barred to Soldiers

JUN 28 1943

EVANSVILLE, Ind., June 27 (U.P.) — Military police patrolled Evansville streets tonight to enforce an out-of-bounds order for soldiers at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., and George Field, Ill., to Guard against outbreaks between soldiers and zoot-suited youths.

The public relations office at Camp Breckinridge said the orders were issued by Colonel John D. Kelly, camp commander, on instructions from the area headquarters at Fort Hayes, Ohio. The orders were issued after a series of incidents involving soldiers in the last ten days.

City officials said several soldiers were beaten and robbed by zoot-suited Negroes. A Negro soldier and a white soldier were reported to have fired at each other. An Army paratroop lieutenant was injured seriously in a fight.

"It is the unruliness of hotheads and smart alecs on both sides," a city official said. "The lareg' majority are without blame."

47c Camps

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

SOLDIER IS KILLED IN NEGRO TROOP RIOT

Four Others Wounded in Fray at Camp Stewart, Ga.

JUN 11 1943

CAMP STEWART, Ga., June 10 (U.P.)—Camp Stewart authorities said today that during a "riot of colored troops" last night a military policeman was killed and four other military police wounded. None of the Negroes was injured.

Post officials said that the cause of the disturbance was not revealed. A board of officers was appointed to investigate. One report was that the colored soldiers had been stirred up by "false and malicious rumors" that colored girls were being molested.

Major E. P. Scott, Provost Marshal, said that only one shot was fired by the police during the time they were fired on by the colored soldiers. No white soldiers other than the police were involved.

Private First Class Ronie E. Lindsey, 22, of Valdosta, Ga., was instantly killed.

The wounded were listed as Staff Sergeant John L. Mceacher, 31, Homestead, Mont.; Sergeant Charles W. Almand, 23, Atlanta; Sergeant William V. Brown, 23, New York City, and Private Merlin B. Hotchkill, 20, Perry, N. Y.

According to Major Scott, there was no further disturbance after 12:30 A. M., and the post "has returned to normal."

47c Camps

Savannah, Ga. News
July 14, 1943

COLORED UNITS SNARE TOP HONORS

They Win "Splinting Rodeo" at Camp Stewart

CAMP STEWART, Ga., July 13.—Medical detachments from three Stewart colored units snared top honors in Stewart's "splinting rodeo," it was announced today. Medics of the 790th finished in first place; the 235th took second, and the 492nd captured third place.

In the fourth place was the 505th battalion; the 565th placed fifth, and the 490th and 793rd tied for sixth.

All enlisted men and officers in the 790th's detachment will receive three-day passes as first prize. Two-day passes will be given to medical soldiers and officers of the 492nd.

Each of the 25 medical detachments entered in the contest was represented by 12 men. They competed in four events, an arm and a leg splint, with and without blindfolds.

Best time for the arm splint was one minute, forty-eight seconds, and top time for the leg splint was two minutes, ten seconds. Blindfolded, the swiftest team splinted an arm in one minute, fifty-six seconds; a leg in two minutes, fifty-one seconds.

Completed splint jobs were judged on efficiency, technique and neatness as well as speed.

Contest judges were Major William G. Taylor, AAATC surgeon, and six battalion medical officers: Capts. Joseph Procopio, Harry D. Shell, Benjamin H. Lerner, Rodrigo Rego, Arthur Leistyna and First Lieut. Othello S. Kough.

47c Camps

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

"Army Camps In South Are Hell," Is Soldiers Cry

Southernism Sponsored By White Officers Is Reason For Demoralizing Conditions

In Louisiana

CAMP HALLAHAN, La.—A soldier on furlough says that Negro soldiers at the camp have been refused the right to buy at the Post Exchange, a post that is said to be operated by the Army. The soldier states, that while the company of Negro and white soldiers were on rifle range, the Negro soldiers bought beer without any friction. Later in the day a white captain called the Negro soldiers together and told them that in the future if they wanted beer, a white lieutenant would get it for them and take it to their barracks where they would have to drink it with Negro soldiers.

AUGUSTA, Ga. (ANP) — Pfc. William R. Carothers of Chicago and a member of service battery, 931st Field Artillery battalion, was seriously wounded here Sunday night with a .45 caliber automatic pistol by Negro military police from Camp Gordon. Two others said to have been civilians were also reported injured in the line of fire. The soldier was shot in the hip.

JUN 19 1943

The trouble started when two soldiers, Pvts. Robert Bell and Felton Hall, are said to have encountered an M.P. near the intersection of Qwinnette and 9th street when Hall's remark to Bell about M.P. tactics were overheard by the MP who accosted him and placed him under arrest. Another member of the artillery unit, seeing the arrest summoned other soldiers who gathered to see what happened when the free for all fight started. Several other MPs came upon the scene and began shooting wildly into the street. Scores of soldiers on pass from camp and civilians were forced to flee the streets.

In Mississippi

COLLINS, Miss. (ANP)—Latest communique from the Mississippi sector of the racebaiting Dixie front shows 15 Negro soldiers jailed and two shot as the aftermath of a clash Sunday between members of a Camp Shelby baseball team and a state highway patrolman, C. T. Simmons.

This latest racial trouble followed by a few days the slaying of a Negro soldier by a sheriff elsewhere in this state and the request to move an entire Negro regiment, recently sent here from the west, out of Mississippi to a northern location

Sunday's clash started when Simmons flagged down a truck containing the soldiers as it passed through Mt. Olive, near here. Throwing a gun on the soldiers, he ordered them out of the vehicle. One soldier, resenting the officer's attitude, rushed Simmons and knocked the gun out of his hand. The patrolman went back to his car after another weapon just as a Tri-State bus passed the scene and stopped, the driver and a white soldier getting out to help the officer.

In the ensuing melee, shots were fired by Simmons and the soldier who took his gun, with the white soldier grabbing a fire axe from the bus and joining in the affray, clubbing one colored soldier unconscious. The others broke and ran for the nearby woods, with the armed Negro soldier joining them when the gun he had taken became empty. Believed to have been badly wounded, he is still missing.

Simmons radioed for help and other highway patrolmen, civilians and MPs responded. A posse was formed and after firing into the woods, the soldiers were rounded up and placed in the Covington county jail here temporarily, later being moved to Camp Shelby by MPs.

Feeling continued through Sunday night when an unidentified Negro soldier refused to heed the command of an armed civilian to stop and was shot through the leg.

JUN 19 1943

47c Camps

CAMP STEWART, Ga.—A board of Army oficers has been appointed to investigate the cause of a riot here last Thursday night in which a white Miitary Police was slain and four others injured.

Although camp officers gave no specific cause of the fracas, Major E P. Scott said "false and malicious rumors to the effect that Colored girls were being molested" had stirred the Negro soldiers here up to such a frame of mind, that a group of them fired on a squad of MP's resulting in the casualties.

369th "Grudge" Belvieved Cause

Informed quarters advanced the opinion that the flareup can be attributed to the arrival of 211 members of the 369th from Hawaii recently. The presence of these seasoned veterans who were instructors to the green white recruits was resented by white officers, and a undercurrent of unrest has been intensified until the least provocation on either side may result in a major disturbance.

Transportation Facilities Bad

Another rub to the soldiers is the transportation situation. It seems a private bus company operates the bus line from here to Savannah. Soldiers say they are not allowed to ride the same buses the white soldiers use, therefore they are forced to wait at the terminal until a bus "for Negroes Only" comes along.

JUN 1943

Camps

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
October 19, 1943

PARIS NEGRO QUARTER IS QUIET AFTER ROW

Soldiers In Free-For-All Are Hustled Back To Camp

Special to The Commercial Appeal

PARIS, Tenn., Oct. 18.—City and county officials said Monday that there was no recurrence Sunday night of the trouble in the Paris negro section Saturday night when city police, deputy sheriffs, state highway patrolmen and military police rounded up some 300 negro soldiers after a free-for-all fight.

Fleetwood Lowe, chief deputy sheriff, said City Policemen Gilbert Jackson and Dudley Mann were on a regular patrol at 10:30 o'clock Saturday night when they stopped at the "Black Bottom," a negro social club.

Deputy Lowe said when the policemen stopped a crowd of negro soldiers estimated at from 200 to 300 began throwing rocks and bottles at the police car. All windows on one side of the car were broken and the fenders badly smashed although the officers were not hurt.

Deputies, highway patrolmen and military police answered a radio call for aid and quickly rounded up the soldiers who were placed in Army trucks and returned to their quarters at nearby Camp Tyson. Deputy Lowe said the soldiers were from a Second Army unit stationed at Camp Tyson.

47c-1943 CAMPS (Selfridge Field)

DURING COURT MARTIAL AT SELFRIDGE FIELD

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

47c
Camps

SEP 7 1943

Army officers who are hearing the charges (left to right): Col. K. G. Gould, Col. O. H. Stout, Col. J. E Duke, Col. [illegible] B. Gates, [illegible] H. Huston, Lieut. Col. McDonald and Col. J. A. Wheeler.

Col. William T. Colman, whose trial opened yesterday.

Associated Press Wirephotos

SEP 7 1943

COL. COLMAN ACCUSED IN TRANSFER CASES

Defendant in Court-Martial Said to Have Shifted Ford's Son

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Sept. 6 (U.P.)—The Army today charged Col. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the Selfridge Field air base, with using his position to obtain the illegal transfer of eleven men, including Private [illegible] son of the late [illegible] to the air base.

The charge was one of seven, alleging violation of five Articles of War, placed against Colonel Colman at the opening of his court-martial. Other charges included the misappropriation of Government property and the shooting of a Negro soldier, Private First Class William McRae of Morven, N. C., last May 5. McRae has recovered from his wounds.

A plea of innocent was entered for Colonel Colman, who has been held under military arrest since the shooting.

The defense called two Army Air Force psychiatrists to testify as to Colonel Colman's mental condition at the time of the shooting.

Lieut. Col. Charles R. Rayburn said the defendant was mentally irresponsible. He said Colman had been under treatment for a neurosis since 1939, when he entered the Walte[illegible] Hospit[illegible] Washington.

Capt. Leonard R. Rittenberg, Selfridge psychiatrist, said he examined Colman immediately following the shooting and he saw no signs of intoxication. On the other hand Capt. John R. Lucas said Colman appeared to be intoxicated.

SEP 7 1943

COLMAN, GUILTY, REDUCEDTOCAPTAIN

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Former Selfridge Field Chief Is Convicted as Drunk and of Misuse of Firearms

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Sept. 14 (AP)—Col. William T. Colman, 39-year-old former commandant of this Army air base, was convicted by a court-martial today of careless use of firearms and drunkenness and was ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy.

He was acquitted on all other charges, including allegations that he fraudulently arranged the transfer of military personnel to the field here, that he had accepted a gift from a contractor engaged on work for the Government, and that he had misappropriated Government property and labor services.

In directing Colonel Colman's reduction in rank, the court-martial of eight colonels and one lieutenant colonel ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years.

The verdict was announced just six hours after the court began deliberation on more than a week of testimony. The finding is subject to review by the War Department, and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

In all, the Government presented twenty-eight charges against Colonel Colman. He pleaded innocent on all of them, and at the opening of the trial sought their dismissal on the ground he had been suffering from a mental disorder. The court denied his motion.

The principal charge against Colonel Colman was the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William R. McRae, Negro chauffeur, at the base here last May 5. The original charge on this count was assault with intent to do bodily harm. The court reduced this to the careless use of firearms.

In the summing up by Colonel Colman's counsel, Maj. Thomas A. Ballantine, he was described as a "mentally sick man." It was argued that he accepted a vacation from a contracting firm in good faith for all the officers at Selfridge Field.

"Here is a man who had charge of $8,000,000 worth of expansion," Major Ballantine said. "He is charged with fraud in connection with a six-bit bed spring."

Capt. Phillip D. O'Connell, the trial judge advocate, summing up for the prosecution, charged that the vacation lodge "never was officially turned over by Colonel Colman to the officers' club at Selfridge" and that he "told only his particular friends about it."

Colonel Colman stood at attention as the court announced his sentence. When it was pronounced he smiled broadly and thanked the oficers of the court. He declined to make any comment on the verdict and sentence.

The court adjourned until Friday, when it will take up the trial of Lieut. Col Charles G. White, who was executive officer under Colonel Colman. The nature of the charges has not been made known.

SELFRIDGE FIELD FILES FALSIFIED, SERGEANT SAYS

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

SEP 16 1943

Transfers Are Told at Court Martial.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 18 [Special].—A wholesale enlistment and transfer system existed at this army air base during the regime of Col. William T. Colman as commandant, Master Sgt. Myron F. Collins today told a court martial that is hearing charges against Lt. Col. Charles G. White.

"Nearly every staff officer at the field had some friends he wanted in," Collins testified. "Most of them were just about to be drafted."

Col. White, executive officer at the field under Colman, is accused on 16 counts of violating two of the articles of war. Among the charges are drunkenness, arranging enlistments and transfers in an unlawful and fraudulent manner, and using labor services of civilian personnel. He is accused of conspiring with Sgt. Collins and Warrant Officer Fred Lalone in arranging the enlistments and transfers.

Colman Demoted by Court.

Earlier this week another court martial ordered Col. Colman reduced to the rank of captain after he was found guilty of drunkenness and of shooting and wounding a Negro chauffeur, Pvt. Willie McRae.

In Washington today Rep. Andrew J. May [D., K[illegible]], [illegible]man of the house [illegible]tary affairs committee, said his committee had directed Rep. Paul W. Shafer [R., Mich.] to take up with the secretary of war the question of reopening the court martial case of Colman.

"We do not intent to permit this man to remain in the army if we can help it," May added.

Falsified Records Charged.

In White's trial, Collins testified that false qualifications frequently were attributed to men for whom Col. White had ordered him to seek transfers. He said White had approved the transfer or enlistment of Privates Carl T. Lewis, Edward L. Martyka, Raymond W. Foss, and Bert Huler, and Corporals Bernard J. Rosso and Sam Lieberman.

Collins told the court officers at the field knew that "the heat was on" even before the shooting of Pvt. McRae.

"I was warned [illegible]lly thru the 6th service command in Chicago that we had gone too far," he said.

Collins said that in the case of Rosso, a Mt. Clemens sporting goods store proprietor, four telegrams had been sent to Washington before Rosso's enlistment was achieved only one day before he was to have been drafted. These telegrams, which Collins said White had ordered, described Rosso as an accoun[illegible]

Lewis, now a corporal, testified he had had no knowledge of having been described in enlistment requests as a mechanic. He said he was a piano player.

SEP 19 1943

Post
Washington, D. C

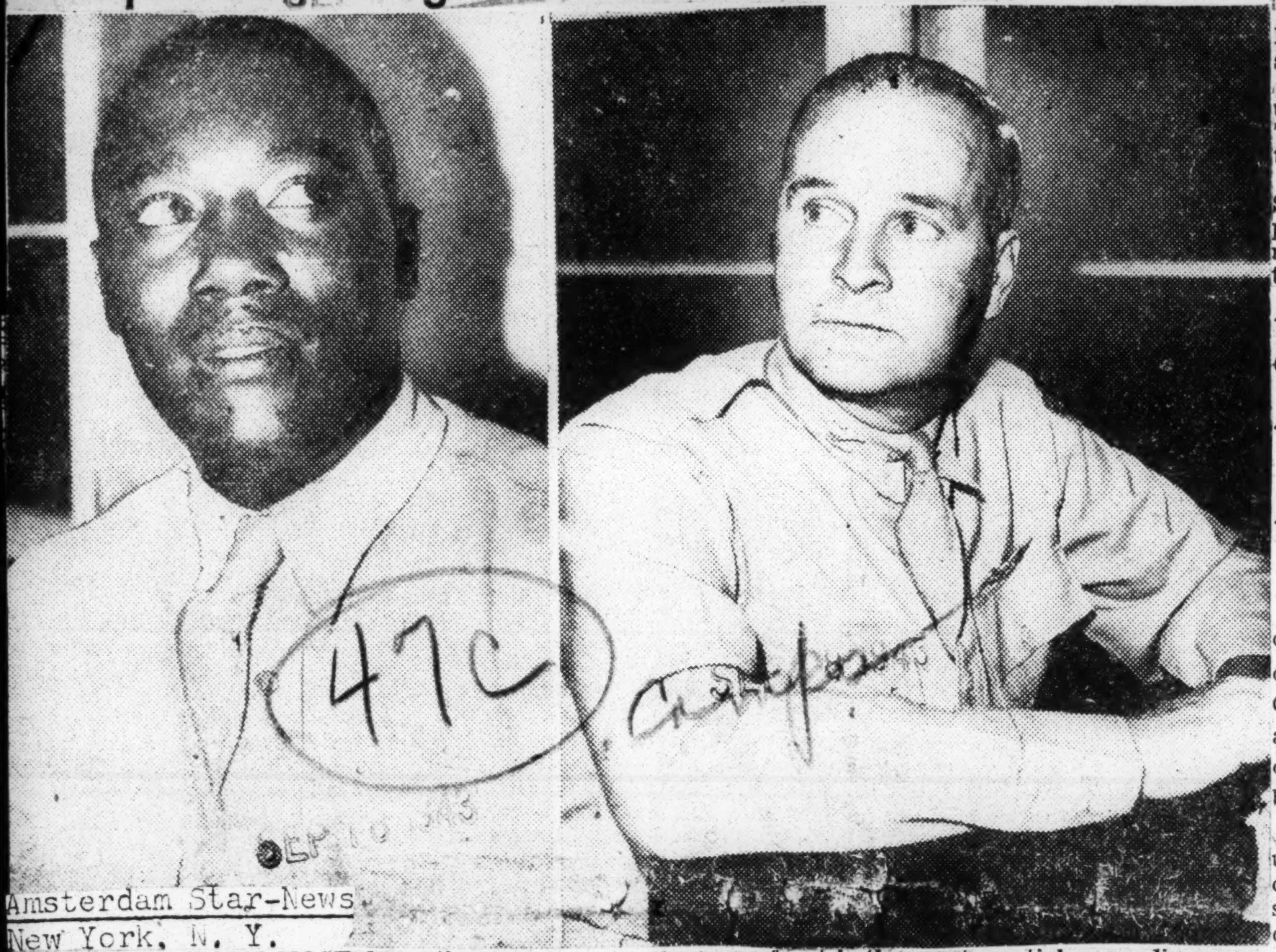
Capt. W. T. Colman Retired by Army

NOV 10 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich., Nov. 9 (AP).
Capt. W[illegible] T. Colman, former commandant at this army air base, who was convicted by a court-martial of careless use of firearms after the shooting of a Negro private, is being retired, the War Department disclosed today.

The wounding of the soldier set off an investigation of administrative affairs at Selfridge Field which resulted in court-martial of several officers. Colman was reduced in rank from colonel to captain; more severe penalties were meted out to others convicted of ministrative irregularities.

Principals in Selfridge Field Court Martial Case



Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

ONE OF THE WAR'S MOST dramatic occurences on the home front is the court martial proceedings now going on at Selfridge Field, Mich., where Col. William T. Colman, right, former commandant, is facing dismissal from the army plus a prison sentence growing out of 29 charges, main one of which is that he shot and seriously wounded Pvt. William McRae, 24 years old, soldier-chauffeur, (at left) last May. McRae has already testified and told how the unprovoked attack made upon him when he came to pick up the colonel in his car. The colonel who has been relieved of his command, testified he could recall nothing of the shooting and said his memory had snapped under the combined strain of post-Pearl Harbor duties and therefore couldn't remember the details of official misconduct with which he is charged. —INS Photo

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War Department Retires Colonel

Washington Tribune

Who Shot Soldier at Selfridge Field

Washington, D. C.

The War Department has retired Col. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the Selfridge Field Air Base, it was announced this week.

Following a court-martial on a charge of the careless use of his service gun, in connection with the shooting of William McRae, chauffeur at the field, the commanding officer had been reduced from his temporary rank of colonel, to his permanent rank of captain.

A wave of protest followed this mild punishment, resulting in a review of the case by higher officials of the War Department, on order of Secretary of War Stimson.

NOV 13 1943

Following the review, the War Department ordered the retirement of the colonel on grounds of "inefficiency," which permits him to receive approximately thirty percent of the pay of a captain.

Colman, who had been charged with the felonious shooting of McRae, had been found not guilty of the charge by the court-martial, but guilty only of "careless use of firearms." He was also convicted on three charges of drunkenness.

Investigators of the incident had found that Colman resented a Negro chauffeur being detailed to drive him and his wife. Angered when McRae appeared to carry out the assignment, he is said to have drawn his revolver, and fired on the soldier.

An exhaustive investigation followed, participated in by the War Department, the FBI, and Congress.

Acting under a recent law permitting the War Department to retire an officer for inefficiency, the Secretary of War ordered a special board of inquiry to review the Colman case, as a result of which, the retirement under the new law was ordered.

COLMAN TO BE RETIRED

New York, N. Y.

Army Officer Was Convicted by Court-Martial

NOV 10 1943

New York Times

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Nov. 9 (AP)—Capt. William T. Colman, former commandant at this Army air base, who was convicted by a court-martial of careless use of firearms after the shooting of a Negro private, is being retired, the War Department disclosed today.

NOV 10 1943

The wounding of the soldier set off an investigation of administrative affairs at Selfridge Field which resulted in several officers of the base facing court martial. Colman was reduced in rank from colonel to captain; more severe penalties were meted out to others convicted of administrative irregularities.

Today's statement from the War Department, made public here, said:

'Captain Colman is being retired under public law No. 190 of the 77th Congress. The date of his retirement is not yet announced."

The law referred to gives the Secretary of War, in wartime, the power to place on the "unlimited retirement list" any officer found to be unfit for duty.

ARMY TO RETIRE CAPT. COLMAN IN NEGRO SHOOTING

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illino

Action Based on Law for Unfit Officers.

NOV 10 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich., Nov. 9 [Special].—The war department disclosed today that Capt. William T. Colman, former commandant of this army air base who recently was convicted by a court martial, is being retired.

"Capt. Colman is being retired under public law No. 190 of the 77th congress," said the war department statement, made public here. "The date of his retirement is not yet announced."

The law referred to gives the secretary of war, in war time, power to place on the unlimited retirement list any officer found to be unfit for duty.

Convicted in Soldier Shooting.

Colman was convicted of drunkenness and careless use of a pistol in the shooting and wounding of his Negro chauffeur. He was acquitted of 23 other charges, including illegal transfer of soldiers and misappropriation of government property.

NOV 10 1943

The court martial ordered his reduction from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain, altho two other Selfridge field officers, convicted within two weeks of his trial, received heavier sentences. Colman's aid, Lt. Col. Charles G. White, was ordered dismissed from service, as was Maj. George A. Hartford, former intelligence officer at the base.

After Colman's conviction Sept. 14 Rep. Paul W. Shafer [R., Mich.] termed his sentence "disgustingly inadequate" and announced the reopening of his investigation of alleged wholesale irregularities at Selfridge field because he believed the war department had failed to get to the bottom of them.

NOV 10 1943

Demand Made to Stimson.

A demand was made on Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson by Rep. Donald O'Toole [D., N. Y.] for an investigation of Colman's court martial and the secretary announced subsequently he had ordered additional proceedings in the case.

Under the law thru which the war department acted, Colman would receive retirement pay. The law provides that if an officer has served more than seven years of commissioned service his retirement pay would be computed on his rank and length of service.

Inasmuch as Colman entered the army as a flying cadet in 1928, he would come under this provision. If retired as a captain he would receive retirement pay of $1,125 a year.

NOV 10 1943

Soldier Says Colonel Asked His Transfer

SEP 11 1943

Courier-Journal

Tells of Letter At Court-Martial

Louisville, Ky.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 10 (U.P.)—Corp. John W. Goldsmith, Dunkirk, N. Y., today told the court-martial of Col. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the Selfridge Field Air Base, that the defendant arranged his transfer to Selfridge as an airplane mechanic and then assigned him to the payroll department.

SEP 11 1943

Goldsmith was the first witness to testify at today's proceedings against Colman, on trial for violation of five articles of war, including the shooting of a Negro soldier, Pfc. William McRae, last May 5.

Received a Letter.

Goldsmith said he knew nothing of the transfer until he received a letter dated January 16, 1943, from Colman telling him not to be surprised if the commander of the Plattsburg, N. Y., barracks talked to him about a transfer to Selfridge. The letter was signed "Bill."

"I have put in a request for you," Colman wrote, explaining that a friend at Dunkirk had reported the elder Goldsmith would like to have his son transferred to Selfridge. Colman is a native of Dunkirk.

SEP 11 1943

Goldsmith said Colman wrote that he could spend three months at Selfridge and then go into officers' candidate school. Goldsmith was transferred to the air base here February 17, 1943.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

COLEMAN TRIAL ATTACKED

Two Congressmen Ask Investigation of Army Court Martial

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15 (AP)—Representative O'Toole, Democrat, of New York, demanded of Secretary Stimson today an investigation of the court-martial of Col. William T. Colman, who has been reduced to a captaincy, saying "the morale of the Army and of the public will be shattered by the retenntion of such specimens within our armed forces." The New Yorker also demanded that Colonel Colman be suspended from all duties until the inquiry was completed. Representative Shafer, Republican, of Michigan, described the outcome of the court-martial as a travesty and said he would ask the Military Affairs Committee to review the case.

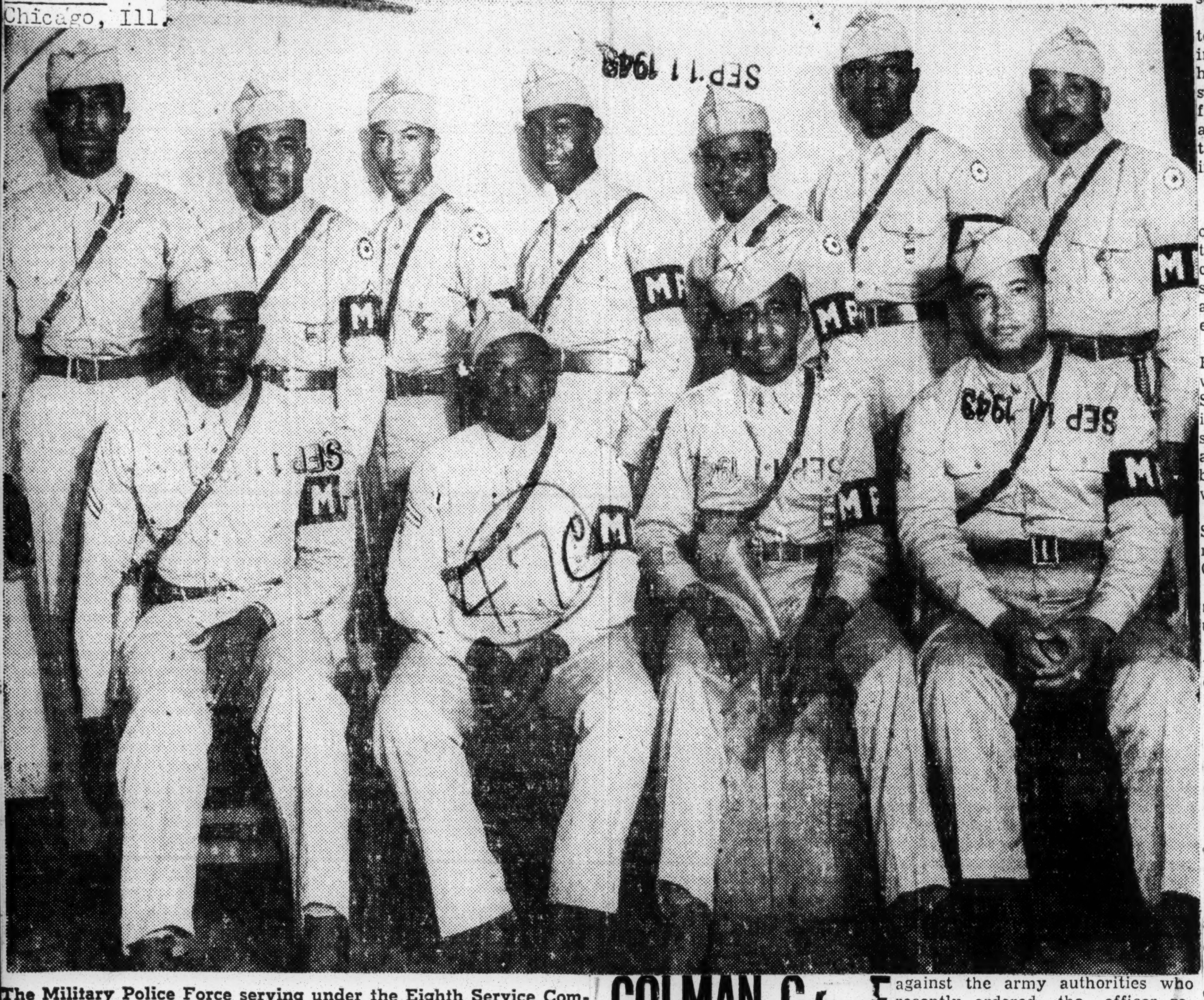
The verdict against Colonel Colman is subject to review by the War Department here and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

47c-1943

CAMPS (SELFRIDGE FIELD)

CAMP BOWIE, TEXAS MILITARY POLICE DETACHMENT

Defender
Chicago, Ill.



The Military Police Force serving under the Eighth Service Command, Military Police Detachment, Camp Bowie, Texas Area, is considered one of the most efficient groups in the Southwest and works with the civilian officials in maintaining law and order in nearby Brownwood, Texas. The detachment is headed by Provost Sgt. Melvin C. Mumford of Savannah, Ga., who has served in this capacity for more than a year. The members are equipped with the latest of military weapons. They work in close cooperation with other military police and city officials. Reading from left to right (standing) — Pfc. Louis Cook, Pfc. Oswald Walker, Pvts. Mathew Lee, Booker T. Askew, James Christopher, Velma Ramsey and Harvey Slaughter; (Seated from left to right) — Cpls. Lapthaniel Jackson, Mardis Washington, Pfc. Robert S. Moore and Provost Sgt. Melvin C. Mumford. Not shown on the picture are military police Pvts. Andrew Jackson and Jeffie Wilson and Cpl. Jeff Tatum.

CONGRESSMEN ASK PROBE F

COLMAN CASE

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Whitewash Of Selfridge Field Commander Hit By Angry Solons

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.— Reopening of the court-martial case against Col. William T. Colman, former commander of the Selfridge Field, Mich., air base, appeared imminent this week as Congress girded for action against the army authorities who recently ordered the officer reduced to a captain's rank for shooting a Negro soldier.

Chairman Andrew J. May, of the House Military Affairs committee, joined with Rep. Paul W. Shafer, Republican of Michigan, in declaring the verdict inadequate. Both asserted that "the committee does not intend to permit this man to remain in the army if we can help it."

Shafer, himself, lighted the fire under the Congressional boiling pot. He pointed out that the court-martial which demoted Colman to captain ignored reports that 52 drafted soldiers were being held at Selfridge Field at the request of influential families, while others drafted at the same time had been sent overseas.

"You can't do this sort of thing to a lot of swell kids who are being brought into this army of ours," he said. "They convict a man of shooting a private. They admit their findings that the officer is a drunkard. But they leave him as a captain in the army. You can't do that in a democracy."

Shafer Familiar With Case

It was Shafer who, as chairman of the military affairs subcommittee, first turned up information concerning Colman's activities. He stepped out of the case, however, at the request of the inspector general's office of the army.

Still another member of Congress, Rep. Donald L. O'Toole, (D. of N.Y.) wrote a letter to Secretary of War Stimson last week, demanding an investigation of the court-martial, saying: "The morale of the army and of the public will be shattered by the retention of such specimens within our armed forces."

At his press conference last week, Secretary Stimson said he had not received any such demand from the Congressman.

O'Toole also demanded that Colman be suspended from all duties until the inquiry was completed.

Rep. Shafer in a Defender interview called the outcome of the court-martial "a travesty" and said he would do all in his power to bring about a review of the case. He added: "We cannot have confidence in our military if we are going to allow officers to escape with nominal penalties for serious offenses."

O'Toole took a similar stand, when he said in his letter, "I could not blame any civilian or member of the army from failing to have respect for those who are known as 'officers and gentlemen' by act of Congress," if this man is allowed to remain an officer in the army of the United States.

Edgar G. Brown, chairman of the National Negro Council, sent a telegram to President Roosevelt urging him to order a new trial for Colman, on the ground that the "verdict was equivalent to acquittal."

The wire said, in part:

"The American people, including 13 million loyal and patriotic Negroes, had every right to look forward to the proper punishment of Col. Colman upon conviction by the court-martial.

"The final verdict, however, was equivalent to acquittal in merely an order to reduce him from the temporary colonelcy back to his regular rank of captain, and for that obvious reason we feel constrained to call upon you, as commander in chief, to order a new trial of the Colman case.

"The social demands of these war times necessitate the speedy correction of this outrageous and sorry spectacle of the miscarriage of justice."

Compare Sentences

Meanwhile Negroes and whites throughout the country were comparing the light penalty given Colman and the severe punishment meted out to nine soldiers accused of firing on the town of Duck Hill, Miss.

Testimony from witnesses revealed that Colman harbored racial prejudices that influenced many of his actions. He was reported to have said he would not have a Negro chauffeur and resented McRae's appearance at the post command to drive his automobile. Orders were issued by the commander to his aides to never assign a Negro to his detail.

The soldiers accused of the Duck Hill shooting, in which no one was injured, with two exceptions, were from southern states and attached to the 476th quartermaster truck regiment. They drew sentences at hard labor ranging from five to 15 years in federal and military prisons. Those sentenced were Cpl. Larue Steele, Pvts. James Harris and Elijah Outlaw, who drew 15 year terms; Pvts. Leroy Dorsey of Miss., sentenced to seven years, and Pvt. C. Wells, of Georgia who drew a term of five years.

Charge Reduced

Colman was acquitted on a charge of shooting McRae with intent to do him bodily harm, but was found guilty of wounding him while carelessly discharging a revolver. He was also found guilty of four charges of drunkenness. Two of these charges originally containing the accusation of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" were amended by the court to remove those words. Colman was thus saved from dismissal from service under the 95th article of war which requires such action upon conviction.

The commanding officer was acquitted of all other charges which included misappropriation of government property, accepting a summer lodge from a government contractor, and illegal transfer of soldiers to Selfridge field. Under court decision Colman was also reduced from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain and placed at the bottom of the promotion list. Army regulation require that he remain there for the next three years before he can be eligible for elevation.

Findings of the court-martial are subject to review by higher authorities who may decrease but not increase the pentalty.

Colman was jubilant at the verdict and eagerly accepted the congratulations of fellow officers. O'Connell and his assistant, Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, however, expressed astonishment at the decision, but under rules of the court refused to comment.

Set Trial Date For Colonel In Mich. Shooting

Daily World

Ac[illegible]ed [illegible]

SEP 3 1943

Shooting

Private McRae

Atlanta. Ga.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — (ANP) — Col. William T. Colman 39, former commanding officer of Selfridge Field here, was ordered to stand trial September 6 on charges growing out of his shooting and seriously wounding of his chauffeur, Pvt. William McRae, 24, of Morven, N. C., last May 5, according to Capt. Richard M. Ramey, air corps public relations officer.

Colman, who had been in charge of the air [illegible] here since April 23, 1942, shot [illegible] soldier during an altercation over his discovery that the commander allegedly permitted irregularities to exisit on the military reservation. McRae has recovered from his wounds and is reportedly reassigned.

SEP 3 1943

Hours after the shooting, Col. Colman was confined to a hospital for observation and replaced by Col. William B. Wright, former commander at Barksdale Field, La.

Rep. Paul Shafer (Rep. Mich.) instituted an investigation of the camp by the house military affairs committee immediately after the shooting.

"This matter smells to high heaven," said Shafer, "and I mean to get to the bottom of it. I suspect the army is trying to whitewash the officer involved and suppress a scandal. I have asked that the committee look in[illegible] reliable [illegible] which have reached me that Col. Colman was connected with two men who were charged with soliciting money on the premises to deliver permanent jobs at Selfridge Field and that the Negro chauffeur had knowledge of the situation."

SEP 3 1943

CAPT. WILLIAM T. COLMAN
Army lets him out.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Officer Who Shot Private Is Retired

NOV 10 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich., Nov. 9 (U.P.)—Capt. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the air base here has been retired from the Army under Public Law 190, the War Department announced today through the public relations officer of Selfridge Field.

Public Law 190 was passed by the Seventy-Seventh Congress to deal with "inefficiency" in the Army. Date of Colman's retirement was not announced and the War Department statement gave no additional details.

Under the law an officer retired during war emergency because [illegible]erformance "not in keeping with standards of the service" may receive annual retirement pay equal to 2½ per cent of his active annual pay times the number of complete years of service, provided the number is "over seven years." Colman was an Army officer fifteen years.

Court-martial Reviewed.

The Army's action in retiring Colman, commander of Selfridge for several years, followed a special review of court-martial proceedings here last September by Secretary of War Stimson and a board of inquiry; the court convicted Colman of three charges of drunkenness and one charge of careless use of firearms in [illegible]ooting of Pvt. William Mc[illegible] his Negro chauffeur.

The court's sentence was that Colman be demoted from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain. He also was ordered to serve at the bottom of the list of captains for three years.

NOV 10 1943

COURT MARTIAL REDUCES RANK TO CAPTAINCY

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Convicted of Using Pistol Carelessly.

BY CARL WIEGMAN.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 14.—Col. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of Selfridge field, who shot and wounded a Negro soldier at the air base May 5, was reduced to the rank of captain today by a general court martial.

The court of nine colonels found Colman guilty of five charges and acquitted him of 23 other counts. He was acquitted [illegible] charge of shoot[illegible]e soldi[illegible]t. Willie McRae, with intent to do him bodily harm, but was fou[illegible] guilty on another charge of wounding McRae by discharging a pistol carelessly.

He also was found guilty of four charges of drunkenness. Two of these charges originally contained allegations of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," but were amended by the court to remove those words. Thus the court saved Colman from punishment under the 95th article of war, which requires that a convicted officer be dismissed from the service.

Acquitted of Other Charges.

He was found not guilty of all other charges, which included illegal transfer of soldiers to Selfridge field, misappropriation of government property, and accepting a gift from a government contrac[illegible].

The sentence reduced Colman from his temporary rank of colonel to his former permanent rank of captain and ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of permanent [illegible]ins [illegible] promotion list. [illegible] sentence requires that he remain at the foot of the promotion list for three years, during which time he will not be eligible for promotion.

SEP 15 1943

Colman, overjoyed by the verdict, thanked the court and was surrounded by officers who shook his hands and congratulated him.

Exemplary Sentence Sought.

The jubilation did not extend to the trial judge advocate [prosecutor], Capt. Phillip D. O'Connell, and his assistant, Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, who had asked the court for a sentence that would be an example to all army officers.

Under court martial rules, comments outside of the court by the prosecutor are deemed improper, and O'Connell and Dolan refused to say what they thought of the verdict. They sat open mouthed with astonishment, however, as they heard [illegible]d.

SEP 15 1943

Out[illegible] court Colman smilingly accepted more congratulations, and said: "There are lots of captains in the army. I'll go right along with them."

The court deliberated in a closed session for three hours before finding Colman guilty. Then court was reopened and the defendant's military record was read—a formality to determine whether he had any previous convictions.

Colman Pale in Court.

The court's call for this formality indicated Colman had been found guilty on at least one of the charges, and his ruddy face paled as he realized the import of the procedure.

Then the court went back into a closed session, and voted, by secret ballot, on the penalty to be imposed. This took an hour and a half, an anxious time for the defendant, who sat outside the court building [illegible] with his counsel.

SEP 15 1943

When court reopened, Colman was called to the bench. He stood rigidly at attention as Col. Hamner Huston, president of the court, read the sentence.

The court heard nearly 100 witnesses during the nine day trial, which began Labor day and continued thru a session Sunday. Early in the trial the defense offered testimony intended to show that Colman was suffering from a mental disorder when he shot McRae and when he misbehaved on drinking parties.

Army Colonel Held On Seven War Charges

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Selfridge Fie[illegible] Chief Is Accu[illegible] Of Fraud And Accepting 'Gifts'

SEP 7 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH., Sept. 6.—(AP)—Col. William T. Colman, deposed commandant of the Army air base here, was accused at the opening of his court martial trial today of violating seven articles of war, including allegations that he fraudulently obtained the transfer of enlisted personnel, accepted a gift from a contractor employed by the government and that he misappropriated government property.

He was accused also of assault in the shooting of a negro private.

Col. Colman pleaded innocent on all counts and introduced testimony designed to show that he was suffering from a psychoneurosis of moderate severity and an organic brain disorder at the time of the shooting and for many months prior to that incident.

Named among thos[illegible]m Col. Colman w[illegible]ccused of having transferre[illegible] Selfridge Field was Lieut. Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford. Lieut. Ford is now serving at the armed forces induction center in Detroit.

SEP 7 1943

Col. Colman was accused of accepting a vacation lodge near Oscoda, Mich., Army air field, from a representative of the Altadin Company of Bay City, Mich., whose two sons in the armed services were transferred in 1942 to Selfridge Field.

Col. Colman was relieved of his command here and placed under technical arrest following the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William R. McRae, 24-year-old soldier-chauffeur at the base on May 5. He was charged in this connection today with assault to do great bodily harm and also with careless discharge of a pistol.

Other charges included four separate allegations of dr[illegible]enness, misappro[illegible]ation o[illegible] or and services of [illegible] employes on th[illegible]ccasions, and fraudulently pr[illegible]ring the enlistment of three men for service at Selfridge Field.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Colonel to Face Trial in Shooting

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Aug. 31.—Col. William T. Colman, former com[illegible]ding of[illegible] at the Selfridge [illegible] Air Base, will face trial before a general court martial Monday on charges of shooting Pvt. William McRae, 24, a Negro, last May 5.

AUG 31 1943

Col. Willia[illegible] Boyd, base commander, announced the date of the trial, originally set for July 20. Boyd said Colman is charged with violation of several articles of war, including the shooting of McRae, who was serving as a chauffeur for the base. McRae has since recovered. Colman was relieved of his command following the incident and was placed under arrest.

47c-1943

CAMPS (Selfridge Field)

The Army White-Washes

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

SEP 25 1943

Last Spring Col. William T. Colman, former post commander of Selfridge Field, Mich., shot and seriously wounded a Negro private who had been assigned to him as a chauffeur. It was reliably reported that Col. Colman had demanded that no Negro chauffeur be assigned to drive him, that if one were, he would kill the bl — s— o— b—. Regardless of whether the colonel threatened to kill any Negro soldier assigned to him as a chauffeur or not, nevertheless, when one did he wantonly shot him. Although the soldier did not die as a result of his wounds, he will be maimed for the rest of his life.

Following his maniacal and prejudicial outburst, Col. Colman was "arrested" and placed in a hospital for "observation." Meanwhile, his shocking action in shooting the soldier for absolutely no reason at all blew the lid off his inefficient, prejudicial and partial command of his post. An investigation followed. He was charged, among other things, while on duty with being drunk and falsely getting comparatively soft births at Selfridge Field for certain soldiers, including a grandson of Henry Ford, as well as maliciously shooting the colored private.

Last week Col. Colman was court martialed and convicted of careless use of fire arms and on four charges of drunkeness on duty. The pay off, however, is this: he was demoted to a captaincy and denied the privilege of promotion for three years. (His regular rank is that of captain—he was promoted to colonel temporarily during the war—therefore he actually wasn't demoted at all).

The entire Colman stench ranks among the most notorious army white-washings in history. It is shocking, revolting and depressing. He should have and could have been thrown out of the army on any one of the charges on which he was found guilty. Yet, this brute was penalized about as much as an officer who might have been AWOL for a day or so.

In so far as the morale of 700,000 Negro troops and the entire Negro civilian population is concerned, the Colman case has done much to lower their already close to rock bottom morale. Negro service men and civilians look upon the case as another blunt example of the lack of consideration Negroes get in the army. They believe that Colman should have been punished to the limit by the army, and that he would have been punished much more severely if the private he shot had been white.

They also recall the fact that some half dozen Negro soldiers were recently court martialed, convicted, and dishonorably discharged from the army and sentenced to Leavenworth Penitentiary for long terms for shooting up the town of Duck Hill, Miss. No one was injured in this affair.

Following the white washing of Colman, Congressman Donald L. O'Toole of New York demanded of Secretary of War Stimson an investigation of the court martial. Mr. O'Toole said: "the morale of the army and the public will be shattered by the retention of such specimens within our armed forces."

It is hoped that the War Department finally gets wise to itself and demonstrate that it can mete out justice imparially and regardless of color. The stench of the Colman case will last for a long time.

Coast Interracial USO

Center Ends First Year

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

JUL 3 1943

SACRAMENTO, Cal. — (ANP)—The interracial USO center here had recently completed its first year of successful operation with high hopes for the future.

The interracial center sponsored by the Sacramento Council of United Service Organizations was not foisted upon the community by outsiders, stated Ben Ellison, director, but was generated by local inhabitants.

Soldiers of all races, colors and creeds share the facilities of the center with complete equality in an atmosphere of harmony, stated the director. Approximately 25 per cent of the center's attendance is white, 34 per cent Negro, and 11 per cent Oriental and other races.

The center is accessible to all soldiers because it is located in the central part of the town.

Special entertainments are provided on designated nights during the week as, for instance, on Sunday night a raffle is held to determine which lucky soldier will make a long distance telephone call to his parents; Wednesday nights are devoted to highly skilled games such as chess; on other evenings amateur productions are staged by the Little Theatre association of the center. Every event presents a cross-section of the vari-colored complexion of the American population.

"Our most successful attractions have been those of united nations' participation, in which such groups as Chinese, Negro, Indian, Latin American, and other foreign-born and native American peoples have taken part," declared Ellison.

When the "Porgy and Bess" show closed a highly successful engagement here recently, Etta Moten and Todd Duncan appeared at Mather field nearby, where most of the center's habitues are drawn from, and gave an impromptu performance.

Soldiers at the post expressed their appreciation by joining in the singing and music, and conferring honorary master sergeants' chevrons on the sleeves of Miss Moten and Mrs. Todd Duncan who accompanied the artists.

Ellison, who before coming here was director of youth activities for the Los Angeles County Coordinating council, said that much of the credit for the smoothness with which Negro and white enlisted men are integrated into recreational and entertainment programs here was due to two white officers, Maj. Maurice Coulson and Capt. Charles H. Dorsey.

Besides these men Ellison stated that several community organizations had assumed responsibility for the efficient management of the center. He said that more than 170 persons give freely of their time to see that the soldiers are never lonely.

Some of the organizations represented are the Shiloh Baptist church, the United Travelers, the Russian club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the B'Nai Sisterhood, the NAACP and the Pocahontas club and First Methodist church.

DRUNKEN SPREE OF SELFRIDGE CHIEF RELATED

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Plea Of Amnesia Aired As Medical Experts Take Stand

By JOHN T. WOOD

SEP 11 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —"I repeatedly gave instructoons that I did not want a colored chauffeur."

This statement, allegedly made by Col. William T. Colman following the May 5 shooting of Pct. William McRae, was introduced this week as evidence at the court martial of the former commander at Selfridge Field who is charged with violating five Articles of War and who faces dismissal from the armed forces or imprisonment.

Colman's alleged statement was revealed in the testimony of Lieut. Col. Paul A. Petree, chief psychiatrist at Percy Jones hospital, one of four psychiatrists to testify Monday. Lieut. Col. Petree's testimony followed that of Lt. Col. Charles B. Rayburn, Capt. Leonard Hitt[illegible] and Dr. Raymond W. Waggoner, professor of psychiatry at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Lieut. Col. Petree's testimony that the defendant admitted to him that he was averse to being driven by a colored chauffeur, and Colman's questioning the psychiatrist as to whether "alcohol or amnesia will be in my favor" deal a blow to the defense counsel's inquiry into the defendant's sanity. It indicated that the defense is seeking to establish that Colman was suffering from a mental disorder and was therefore not responsible for the acts charged.

Claim Amnesia

The preceding witnesses testified to the effect that their examinations of Colman revealed that the defendant, prior to and at the time of the shooting of McRea, was "suffering from a severe psycho-neurosis of the anxiety type and there were periods when he was not responsible." These witnesses also testified that Colman's condition had existed over a period of three four years and that the type of psycho-neurosis from which he suffered frequently resulted in periods of amnesia.

Lieut. Col. Petree's testimony, however, was at variance with that of the other witnesses. He told the court that although he, too, found that Colman suffered a psychoneurotic condition, he did not believe it was the type that produces amnesia. Contrary to testimony of the three other experts on mental diseases, Petree said he could not testify that at the time of the shooting Colman was suffering from any mental ailment and thus was not responsible for his acts.

Cross-examined by Capt. Phillip D. O'Connell, trial judge advocate of the court martial, Petree testified that Colman, in attempting to piece together the events leading up to the shooting of McRae, said that he had been on a picnic and that following the picnic, he returned to his office for one of two revolvers. Colman, Petree testified, admitted that he had been drinking on the night of the shooting.

Query On Alcohol

Petree's questioning of Colman occurred on May 7, and it was then that Colman asked him whether "alcohol or amnesia will be in my favor." Petree did not reveal how he asnwered Colman's question.

It was also during this interview, Petree said, that Colman, in trying to reconstruct the story of the May 5 incident, said "Oh, what's the use, I've got amnesia anyway."

Besides being accused of the shooting of Pvt. Willie McRae, 24 years old, and repeated instances of drunkenness, Col. Colman is charged with having fraudulently obtained transfers of enlisted men, accepted a gift from a government contractor, and misappropriated government property.

The court was told the colonel's drinking habit was so bad that he had difficulty in taking off and landing airplanes at the field and sometimes, while in flight, he had a frantic obsession that he must get out of the plane.

During cross-examination of one witness, Lt. Col. Rayburn of the medical corps, by Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, the assistant trial judge advocate, Dolan asked: "Wouldn't a person be in a state of amnesia if he had drunk nearly a fifth of whiskey?"

Rayburn shrugged his shoulders. The prosecutor did not pursue the line of inquiry and made no further explanation of his reference to the whiskey.

Taken to Hospital

Lt. Col. Petree of the medical corps, chief of the neuro-psychiatric division of the Percy Jones General hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., then took the stand and told how Col. Colman was taken to his hospital on the day of the shooting and remained there for five days.

On cross-examination by Capt. O'Connell, Petree said Colman had told him he had been drinking the night before the shooting and that he had gone to his office to get two revolvers.

Col. Petree then brought out a point never before made public in official announcements of the case, that Colman had said: "I have given orders repeatedly that a Negro chauffeur should never be sent to drive my car."

This was the first reference in the trial to the circumstances of the shooting, which occurred near the front steps of the administration at 1 a.m., when Pvt. McRae drove up to the building in Colman's car. The

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commanding officer fired one shot, which struck McRae in the abdomen. McRae has recovered and he appeared at the opening of the trial, posing for newspaper photographers.

Defense Heard First

With Petree's testimony, the defense ended presentation of testimony of the matter of Colman's mental condition and the judge advocate began to present his side of the case. It was explained the procedure of having defense witnesses first was followed in the interest of saving time. The judge advocate said that if the court holds that Colman was mentally irresponsible nothing would be gained by presenting voluminous testimony as to his acts.

The first witness for the prosecution was Maj. John Lukas of the medical corps, stationed at Selfridge field. He said he saw Colman at the commanding officer's quarters an hour after the shooting.

"His eyes were bloodshot and blurry," Lukas said. "His speech was affected and he apparently didn't know what was going on. My impression was that he was under the influence of liquor."

Drinking at Picnic Told

Maj. Lukas said Colman told him he had had a few drinks at a picnic on the afternoon of the shooting and a few drinks later. Asked whether he is a psychiatrist, Lukas replied with an emphatic "No."

Members of the court, who had spent most of the day hearing testimony involving the use of complex medical terms, joined in the laugh that swept the courtroom.

The defendant smiled nervously during much of the testimony and his brown eyes darted many quick glances at the members of the court.

Rain Sweeps Field

It was a rainy morning as the hearing opened in a frame temporary office building across the road from the field's administration building. Sheets of rain swept across the nearby runways and upon a Flying Fortress parked within sight of the court building.

Late in afternoon the sun came out, and planes of the 332nd fighter group, a Negro group in training at the field, started streaking across the sky. The noise of the motors made it difficult to hear witnesses.

When the hearing began the courtroom was jammed with witnesses and newspaper men. The judge advocate read the list of witnesses summoned—79 in all—and called the roll. All were present or accounted for.

After the reading of the charges by Judge Advocate O'Connell, he also gave the oath to the members of the court, which originally comprised 11 colonels. Col. James F. Doherty of Tallassee, Ala., one of the members, was unable to appear because of illness, and another member, Col. Gilbert T. Collar of Columbia, S. C., was excused after a peremptory challenge by the trial judge advocate.

Plea of Not Guilty Entered

After the members of the court had been sworn to grant Col. Colman a fair trial, the president of the court Col. Hamner Huston of Tampa, Fla., administered the oath to the trial judge advocate. Col. Colman and his defense counsel, who include John R. Watkins, former United States district attorney in Detroit then were asked how they wished to plead. They arose, faced the court, and Maj. Thomas A. Ballantine of Tallahassee, Fla., chief defense counsel, spoke for the group.

"Not guilty," he said.

29 Specifications Set Up

The charges against Col. Colman, read to the court at the opening of the court-martial, detailed alleged violations of five articles of war and set up 29 specifications as to how the articles were violated. The court may fix the penalty under four of the articles of war involved, but a finding of guilty does not require that the defendant be dismissed from service.

Col. Colman, however, also is on trial under another article, known to army men as No. 95, which provides that any officer convicted of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman shall be dismissed from service.

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Under this article he is charged with being drunk and disorderly May 5, the date of the shooting of Pvt. McRae, and again on April 3, April 20, and May 1. One such offense is alleged to have occurred at the Oscoda (Mich.) army air field, a subsidiary base 200 miles north of Selfridge field.

Eighteen specifications listed in the charges allege that Col. Colman unlawfully procured the transfer of enlisted men to Selfridge field "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

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In some of the cases he is accused of certifying that men were qualified for special assignments when they were not in fact so qualified.

In addition, he is charged with misappropriating an electric power generator valued at $800, a refrigerator valued at $175, and five bedsteads valued at $4.93 each. He also is accused of misappropriating labor and services, valued at $154, of six civilian employes of Selfridge field.

COURT MARTIAL DENIES COLMAN DISMISSAL PLEA

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Refuses to Vote Verdict of Insanity.

BY CARL WIEGMAN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 7.—After 15 minutes' deliberation a general court martial today refused to dismiss the major charges against Col. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of Selfridge field, on a defense plea Colman was not guilty by reason of insanity.

The decision was announced by the law member of the court, Lt. Col. Charles H. McDonald, in seven words: "The motion of the de[illegible] is denied."

The decision followed 90 minutes of argument by Capt. Philip D. O'Connell, the trial judge advocate [prosecutor], and Maj. Thomas A. Ballantine, chief of defense counsel, and concluded two days of court action which would have taken weeks in the ordinary civil court.

Story of Shooting Told.

The defense moved to dismiss the major charges against Colman after the court martial had heard the story of the shooting last May 5 of Pvt. Willie McRae, a Negro chauffeur, at the air base.

McRae and other witnesses of the shooting were placed on the witness stand by the prosecutor, who sought by their testimony to discredit the defense contention Colman's mental condition excused him of responsibility for the shooting and other alleged acts of misconduct.

McRae, a medium size man with close cropped black hair, appeared before the court wearing a field jacket over his summer uniform, saluted smartly, and told his story with little prompting. It was the first time the army had permitted anything except a bare announcement of the shooting to be made public.

Tells of Driving to Field.

McRae said that about 12:30 a. m. on the morning of the shooting, he drove to the field headquarters building in response to a summons from the colonel for an automobile. Col. Colman was in his office with his wife and son, Harner, 4 years old. McRae's story continued:

"I sat in the car and the officer of the day [Capt. Will Orr Ross] came out of headquarters with Col. Colman and the boy. They put the boy in the car and he went to sleep. Then the colonel went back upstairs and the kid wakes up.

"I took the kid inside and was in there talking to the guard, and the guard told me to take the boy to the toilet. Capt. Ross came and helped me and then I brought the kid back out and sit down in the car for 3 or 4 minutes.

Colman Staggering, Says Witness.

"Col. Colman came out of headquarters. He was staggering and he came out to the car where I was and told me to put the kid over into the private car [Colman's private automobile]. I carry the kid over and he said 'Go ahead and leave the kid' and I walk back to the staff car and sat down.

"I was there a few minutes and he told me to come and get the kid and just as I got out he said just like something struck him: 'Damn' and he turned around and shot and I whirled and circled around the flag pole and he fired a second shot."

McRae was wounded in the abdomen.

Two other enlisted men supported McRae's account of the shooting. Pvt. Norman J. Nyland, a sentry at headquarters, said he noticed Colman appeared to be under the influence of liquor.

"He walked unsteadily," Nyland said. "Also, he asked me to get his cap, and I told him the cap was in his pocket and he took it out and put it on. Then he asked for his son, told me to go get him, and cursed me a little."

Nyland said that after the shooting he went to Col. Colman's office with a major and saw a bottle one-third full of whisky.

Pvt. Carl E. Blankenship, who was driving a patrol car on the night of the shooting, added testimony which brought in the name of Mrs. Colman.

Over the protests of Maj. Ballantine, who argued Mrs. Colman's acts were irrelevant, the witness was permitted to tell how he saw the colonel's wife go outside the building, carrying a [illegible] in her hand.

He said a yellow liquid was in the glass. Mrs. Colman's face was red and her hair disheveled, Blankenship added.

Describes Second Shot.

"After the first shot," Blankenship continued, "I got behind the colonel so I could grab him if he tried to shoot me, and then he let go another shot, saying: 'There's one for the British'."

On cross-examination by the defense, Blankenship said the colonel turned to him and said after the first shot, "Did I hurt him?"

"It looks as tho you did, sir," the witness said he replied.

Earlier the prosecutor submitted a deposition from Lt. Col. Sam W. Westbrook, formerly a flying group commander at Selfridge, who now is in foreign service. The deposition told how Col. Colman and his wife spent the evening prior to the shooting.

Drinking at Picnic Told.

Westbrook testified that at 7 p. m. he accompanied Col. and Mrs. Colman to the picnic grounds of the army post, where they broiled steaks.

"Col. Coleman brought a fifth of whisky," the deposition read. "I had one drink and the rest was consumed by Mr. and Mrs. Colman. Later we went to the colonel's office where he had another fifth of whisky. I had one drink out of that and left at 11:45 p. m."

In his final argument on the motion to dismiss the major charges, Maj. Ballantine contended the manual of court-martial provides no man may be found guilty where a reasonable doubt exists as to his mental condition and his ability to distinguish right from wrong. He reviewed the testimony of a series of mental diseases specialties who asserted Colman was afflicted with a psycho-neurosis of an anxiety type and had been under treatment; at intervals, for more than four years.

Capt. O'Connell, for the government, in his closing argument, contended the acts of Col. Colman were typical of a drunken shooting rather than the acts of a neurotic person. The fact that the accused man is a high ranking officer is all the more reason why he should be subject to discipline, O'Connell said.

Social Rivalries Recounted.

Social rivalries at the Selfridge field officers' club, and drinking bouts at a hunting lodge were recounted by witnesses at the morning session, when the trial judge advocate resumed presentation of rebuttal testimony concerning Col. Colman's mental condition.

The first witness was Lt. A. C. Wadsworth of the medical corps, who is in charge of the flight surgeon's office at the Selfridge air base. He testified that Col. Colman took a physical examination April 30, five days prior to the shooting, and was found to be qualified for full flying duty.

"He appeared to be collected and quite stable and completely free of the symptoms he had previously," Wadsworth said.

Relieved of Flying Duty.

The witness explained that the previous symptoms referred to were headaches, dizziness, and spots before the eyes, of which Col. Colman had complained when he was examined July 25, 1941, the date of his arrival at Selfridge field. At that time he was relieved of flying duty.

Maj. Charles B. Horton of the medical corps, Barksdale Field, Louisiana, then took the stand. Under questioning by the trial judge advocate, he identified himself as a graduate of the University of Chicago school of medicine and a specialist in mental diseases.

Maj. Horton said he examined Colman July 11 and 12 and concluded that the colonel was suffering from a psychoneurosis. He said he reported later to his superior officers that he believed the shooting was the result of an acute upset, and that Colman had no conscious intent to commit the act.

Blames It on Drinking.

Asked whether he still had that opinion, he said: "I no longer believe that was the undoubted cause. My opinion now is that what happened on the night of May 4-5 was the result of intoxication, not a mental lapse."

On cross examination by Maj. Ballantine of defense counsel, Maj. Horton admitted he had ruled out alcoholism as the cause of the shooting in his report to the judge advocate of the 3d air force. He admitted also he had told Col. Colman he believed the colonel could be relieved of army duty for medical reasons. He conceded he had advised the colonel's wife to "move next door" if Colman had any recurrence of mental disorders.

47c-1943

CAMPS (Selfridge Field)

Denounce Army Sentence In Case of Michigan Colonel

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

Selfridge Field, Mich. (ANP)—While Rep. Paul W. Shafer (R. Mich.) denounced the army court martial action in the case of Col. W. T. Colman as "disgustingly inadequate," and announced his intention of conducting his own investigation of Selfridge field irregularities unless the army makes further inquiry, Negro and white citizens throughout the country were comparing the light penalty given the officer for shooting Pvt. Willie McRae, and the severe punishment meted out to nine soldiers accused of firing on the town of Duck Hill, Miss.

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Col. Colman, commanding officer of Selfridge Field tried for the McRae shooting and irregularities at the army post was reduced to the rank of captain by a court martial last week composed of nine colonels. He was found guilty of five charges and acquitted of 23 other counts, which caused Shafer to ask, what kind of faith the people can be expected to have in the military when "that kind of a sentence is dealt to an officer who has shot a private under his command."

Harbored Prejudices

Testimony from witnesses revealed that Colman harbored racial prejudices that influenced many of his actions. He was reported to have said he would not have a Negro chauffeur and resented McRae's appearance at the post command to drive his automobile. Orders were issued by the commander to his aides to never assign a Negro to his detail.

The soldiers accused of the Duck Hill shooting, in which no one was injured, with two exceptions, were from southern states and attached to the 476th quartermaster truck regiment. They drew sentences at hard labor ranging from five to 15 years in federal and military prisons. Those sentenced were Cpl. Larue Steele, Pvts. James Harris and Elijah Outlaw, who drew 15 year terms; Pvts. Leroy Dorsey of Miss., sentenced to seven years, and Pvt. C. Wells, of Georgia who drew a term of five years.

Colman was acquitted on a charge of shooting McRae with intent to do him bodily harm, but was found guilty of wounding him while carelessly discharging a revolver. He was also found guilty of four charges of drunkeness. Two of these charges originally containing the accusation of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" were amended by the court to remove those words. Colman was thus saved from dismissal from service under the 95th article of war which requires such action upon conviction.

STIMSON ASKS QUICK ACTION

Tribune

In Case Lt. Colonel Who Shot Soldier

Savannah, Ga.

Washington, Sept. 24 (ANP) Sec. of War Stimson told his press-radio conference Thursday that he has asked that the record in the case of Lt. Col. William T. Coleman, courtmartialed commander of Selfridge field, Mich., be "expedited."

"Our system of court-martial procedure and military jurisdiction is that the record in each general court-martial trial is reviewed first by the authority that appointed the court, which in this case was the commanding general of the first air force," Stimson declared. "Finally it is reviewed in Washington in the office of the judge advocate general of the war department.

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That record has not reached here yet, but I am taking steps to expedite in this case."

Both Reps. O'Toole and Shafer have been prodding the war department through threats of a cogressioal investigation to determine why a stiffer penalty had not been handed to Coleman other than demoting him to a captaincy.

MEMORY BLANK ON SHOOTING, COLMAN PLEADS

Asserts Picnic Is His Last Recollection.

BY CARL WIEGMAN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 12.—Col. William T. Colman took the witness stand today in his trial before a court martial and testified he remembered nothing of what happened the night of May 4-5, when he shot and wounded Pvt. Willie McRae, a Negro chauffeur, at the air base headquarters.

Colman, former commander of Selfridge field, also is accused of procuring the fraudulent transfer of enlisted men, of drunkenness, of accepting a gift from a government contractor, and of misappropriating government property. He was removed from his command after the shooting of McRae.

Colman testified he was worried during March and April because many army inspectors were sent to Selfridge field, some without his knowledge of their presence.

Irritated by Methods.

"Don't misunderstand me, gentlemen," he told the court. "I love the work, but the methods used in going behind my back irritated me. I didn't have sufficient officer material, and when I called Tampa, Fla. [3d air force headquarters], they told me 'we're going to take more of your officers; we're going to scrape the bottom of the barrel.'

"Then the inspectors kept complaining that beds were too long, or beds were too short, or men were living in a swamp. I learned one of the inspectors, Capt. L. W. Bryan—I don't like to mention his name—was with some men from the FBI and they had with them Sgt. Myron Collins, the post sergeant major.

"Bryan, I learned later, was under orders to go thru the S-2 [intelligence] files and nothing else, but he went down to my hangars. He told me how the men should stand at the gate, he handed me a letter—gentlemen, if you had got a letter like that you would have thrown him out of the office. And this was when the regular inspectors for the 3d air force were about to give me an excellent report, which they did."

Colman Tells of Picnic.

Colman then told of a picnic which he attended the evening of the shooting. He said his wife, Jane, and Lt. Col. Sam Westbrook accompanied him on the picnic and they had a bottle of whisky, about half full.

"I know there was not more than half a fifth," he said, "because there was some question about whether it was worth taking. I don't know who mixed the drinks. I think I mixed the first, but I was more interested in cooking a steak.

"We had a fire going and I was turning the steak. On my first or second drink I could see the bone in the steak, and, gentlemen, from that time on the only person I can remember is Maj. John Lucas, [the medical officer who examined Colman after the shooting].

Can't Remember Another Thing.

Colman paused a few seconds and spoke slowly:

"Gentlemen, not for the life of me, so help me God, can I remember one other thing. That's my story. I have had four months to think it over and read testimony. There are things in there that I am reported to have said.

"If I could get within five minutes of the affair I might have some glimmer, but that moment when I leaned over the steak is the last time that I remember anything. I don't remember eating the steak. I don't remember coming to headquarters.

"Testimony shows that half a bottle of liquor was drunk in headquarters. I can't tell you. As far as I'm concerned, that bottle of liquor still is in the left hand drawer of my desk, as it was put there many months ago.

Recognizes Pistol on Table.

"I know that pistol [on a table in the courtroom]. I have seen it, and it was left in the left hand drawer and always was in the left hand drawer. I can't tell you any more, gentlemen. That's the end."

Colman paused again, then added: "Why, I cannot understand. It is beyond me."

Defense counsel led Colman thru a brief account of his career. He was born in Dunkirk, N. Y., and was graduated from the University of Michigan. He attended the army flying school at Brooks field, Texas, and was graduated from Kelly field, Texas. Then came four years' service in the Philippines, where, he said, he helped set up the flying fields and plan of defense which were used when the Japanese invaded the islands.

Later he worked with the test section of the air forces, helped develop the P-39 fighter plane, took advanced work in aeronautical engineering, and was assigned to Selfridge field, where he became commander April 23, 1942. He is 39 years old.

Cooks Trained to Start Motors.

Colman spoke for nearly an hour in telling problems he faced as commander, explaining that during the period of his command, ending May 5, more than 15,000 soldiers were trained at his station.

"I tried to have every man know everything possible," he said. "I even had cooks learning how to start an airplane motor. I figured the time might come when the cook would be the only man left."

Maj. Gerge A. Hartford, former provost marshal at Selfridge field, testified he saw Colman at 6 p. m. May 4 and that Colman seemed to be agitated. The colonel and his wife were on their way to the picnic, Hartford said. He helped put the picnic food into the back compartment of Colman's car. In doing so, he saw a bottle of whisky, Hartford said. He testified he saw Colman at headquarters after the shooting.

"His eyes were watery and bloodshot and he seemed to be under the influence of liquor," Hartford said.

Tells of Trip to Quarters.

Lt. Col. Charles G. White, Colman's former executive officer, testified he took Colman home in a staff car, meeting him at headquarters after Pvt. McRae had been wounded.

"Col. Colman greeted me jovially," White testified. "He did not mention the shooting on the way to his quarters and when we got there he talked for 15 or 20 minutes about things at the field, never mentioning that anything unusual had occurred.

"Then the phone rang and Maj. Hartford informed me McRae was about to have an operation. Then I asked Col. Colman whether he had shot anybody. He asked: 'What, did you shoot somebody?' He meant me, and I told him no, that I had been told he shot a chauffeur. He acted as if he had been drinking."

Former Secretary Heard.

Miss Ruth Hausner, Colman's former secretary, testified Colman appeared to be under severe strain during the month before the shooting.

"He was as nice as possible before that," she said, "but then he became excitable over little matters. I couldn't seem to please him. He complained of headaches and ear trouble, and frequently pointed to a sign on his desk, which said 'Relax,' and said, 'I wish I could relax'."

Miss Hausner said she was about to ask to be transferred from Colman's office when the shooting occurred and he was relieved of his command.

Officer's Sneers Described.

Defense testimony also was presented today on an incident of April 3, when, according to prosecution witnesses, Colman insulted a junior officer and gave ridiculous commands to the enlisted men.

Colman said he insulted the junior officer because he was exasperated with the man's sneering and smirking. Asked whether he had commanded an enlisted man to lie on the ground and perform indecent motions, the defendant said: "Unfortunately I must admit I gave orders to tha teffect. I didn't intend to have the man obey the commands. Looking back upon it, I see that I was absolutely unjustified."

Colman testified that a vacation lodge on Foote dam lake was not a personal gift to him but was intended as an annex to the officers' club of the air base there.

He said a power generator was sent to the lodge from Selfridge field so workmen building the place could use power saws and get it ready for use "when we went up for deer hunting."

Gift for Transfers Charged.

The prosecution charges the lodge was the gift of the Aladdin company of Bay City, Mich., which manufactured and sold prefabricated buildings for installation at Selfridge field. It was charged the lodge was a gift to Colman in return for effecting the transfer of James and Robert Granse, sons of an official of the Aladdin company, to Selfridge field.

Colman denied knowing of negotiations for the transfers. He said

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STIMSON ADVISES DISMISSAL OF COLMAN

OCT 9 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON — Showing obvious displeasure at the light punishment given by the general court-martial at Selfridge Field to Capt. William Colman, former colonel and post commander, who shot a Negro soldier, Secretary of War Stimson last Thursday announced that he had reviewed the hearing and the sentence and had decided to take further steps with a view of removing Colman from all active service in the Army.

RECOMMENDS DISMISSAL

The court-martial reduced Colman to the rank of captain and prevented his promotion for three years. Secretary Stimson has recommended his dismissal to a board of five general officers appointed by him to hear the case.

If the board decides to remove Colman from active service he will automatically be retired from the Army and will draw a pay based on his 14 years of Army service of approximately $75 per month as compared with the more than $600 base pay he received as a full colonel.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

COLMAN'S SENTENCE AROUSES

CONGRESS

Representatives Demand Investigation of Court-Martial Findings

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—Rep. Andrew J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs committee, said last Saturday that his committee may order a "full-scale investigation" of the court-martial of Colonel William T. Colman, 39-year-old former commander of the Selfridge Field, Michigan Army Air base.

Mr. May said, however, that such an investigation was contingent on what the War Department does.

HOUSE COMMITTEE MAY LAUNCH PROBE

"If no action is forthcoming and it appears that the court-martial findings were not in keeping with the evidence, we then may order a full-scale investigation," May said.

May denied reports that his committee already had decided to investigate.

Colman was convicted by a court-martial on September 14 of careless use of firearms and drunkenness and was ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy.

ACQUITTED ON SHOOTING CHARGE

He was acquitted on all other charges, including allegations that he had feloniously shot and wounded Pvt. William R. McRae, a colored soldier, at the Selfridge Field Air base on May 5. The original charge on this count was reduced to the careless use of firearms.

The finding of the court-martial is subject to review by the War Department, and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

In directing Colman's reduction in rank, the court-martial ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years.

Representative Paul W. Shafer, Republican, of Michigan, another member of the House Military Affairs committee, also has asked for an investigation of the court-martial proceedings against Colman.

"I wonder what this court-martial would have done if a drunken private shot his commanding officer?" Mr. Shafer asked, and he added, "If an investigation goes far enough, it will involve some State officials and a lot of persons in civilian life. I want to know about the slot machine racket and about a lot of other people not mentioned in the testimony."

Representative Donald L. O'Toole, Democrat, of New York, demanded in a letter to Secretary of War Stimson, an investigation of the court-martial of Colonel Colman, saying "the morale of the Army and the public will be shattered by the retention of such specimen within the armed services.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

ARMY JUSTICE

An army colonel shoots a Negro soldier and gets off with a reduction of rank to captain. Colored America on reading this news last week, shook its head and rightly conjectured, "Would the punishment have been as moderate had the soldier been white?"

Even the white daily press raised this question. Almost without exception editorial comment roundly condemned the verdict of the military court which was composed of seven army colonels. The press deplored the fact that the color of the victim's skin could sway military men away from their duty to mete out even-handed justice.

Prejudice on the part of high army officer is nothing new however. Every week there is reported some new outrage against Negro soldiers on the part of army officials—a camp commander will bar them from post exchanges, theatres and service clubs; an army chief will break-up artillery units ordering gunnery experts to labor detachments; a game young colored enlisted man draws a sentence of 25 years at hard labor because he leads a protest against discrimination.

These instances are the natural result of the un-American philosophy which pervades the army. One must remember that in the main, Negro-hating southerners are in control of army policy and that the rest of white America merely lets them run the show.

The Colman case is just another incident that fits into this jig-saw of racial bigotry. Colonel Colman staggered up to his car one dark night at Selfridge Field, Mich., the army post he was commanding, and shot a colored boy who was waiting to drive him. It was a brutal, defenseless attack, but the colonel is white, the boy colored, one would hardly expect the colonel to be severely punished for wounding a Negro.

Of course colored folks are bitter. As usual when these incidents occur their morale takes a deep crash-dive. But in their bitterness, they should not forget that this case has wider implications.

According to testimony, Colonel Colman was blind drunk the night the shooting occurred. According to his own admission his mind was blank. At the worst he was drunk, at the best he was sick. If he was drunk he should be dismissed from the service for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. If he were ill there is still no place for him in military service. An army has no place for leaders who periodically go off their bean.

Army officers have autocratic authority. They are supposed to be obeyed without question. But their demeanor, poise and sound judgement are supposed to justify the faith enlisted men have in them. Here we have an example of a high army officer cavorting around his post in a dazed stupor, presenting a disgraceful spectacle to all soldiers who saw him whether white or colored.

What could these men possibly have thought when they awoke the following morning to hear the news that their commander had shot a soldier? What can privates throughout the whole army think when they hear that he has received the whitewash?

You may convince a few white soldiers that this could only happen because a Negro was involved. This line of reasoning may restore a sort of uneasy confidence and make them feel that the same thing couldn't happen to them. It might even justify to some the colonel's strange conduct.

But by and large "buck" privates who hear about this case—and many will, for army news has a strange way of traveling by the grapevine, even to far-flung outposts — will remember that Colonel Colman went beserk and shot a soldier. They may even forget he was a Negro soldier. And because the colonel got away with it, their opinion of all colonels will be lowered.

Then at some crucial point of battle a blue-eyed, blond youngster will suddenly remember that colonels aren't infallible, and he'll hesitate to carry out an order given him by one, and because he does other white boys will be killed and the final outcome of the action will hang longer in doubt.

If the seven-colonel court martial board could have seen beyond the complexion of the unfortunate soldier who was shot, and if they could have seen the larger implications which might result from Colonel Colman's conduct, they would no doubt have been more severe — they would have erased the blot which his conduct has cast on the entire officer corps, they would have dismissed him from service.

SEP 25 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

THE COLMAN VERDICT.

SEP 16 1943

In the technical [illegible] Col. Colman was convicted by the court martial at Selfridge field, for he was found guilty on five minor counts. In his own mind, and in the minds of everybody else, the verdict was equivalent to an acquittal. He was not dismissed in disgrace from the army. He was not sentenced to a term of imprisonment. He was merely reduced in rank from colonel to captain. That's about all the penalty the court imposed on him for shooting a soldier without cause and for repeated drunkenness while on duty in time of war.

The verdict was a bad one if only because the offenses of which he was guilty by their very nature required far more severe punishment. He has proved himself wholly unfit for command. More particularly, the verdict will encourage a great many people to believe that military justice is tempered to officers of the regular establishment and operates in its full severity only against a man without rank and without friends in the military hierarchy.

Certainly there is less reason to show leniency to an officer who commits a crime while drunk and can't remember what happened, than to a private who presents a similar defense, but this court martial seemed to take the opposite view. Discipline and morale in the army will not be strengthened by the verdict. Further than that, a great many people—and not all of them Negroes—must be wondering today whether the defendant would have been punished so lightly if his victim had been a white boy instead of a Negro.

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

The Bandwagon

Col. William T. Colman, formerly the commander of this army air base [Selfridge Field, Michigan], was found guilty today [illegible] court-martial of the shooting "through carelessness" of a Negro private [illegible] the post. As punishment Colman was ordered reduced from [illegible] temporary rank of colonel to captain. . . . On the more serious charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman the court found [illegible] not guilty. Had he been convicted of this count, his discharge from the service would have been the penalty.—*From The Chicago [illegible].*

47c-1943

Camps

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Selfridge Field Colonel Didn't Want Negro Driver

MAY 21 1943

BY ROBERT W. CRUMP

MT. CLEMENS, Mich. — (ANP) — The sweeping investigation by high ranking army officers and Cong. Paul Shafer, member of the house military affairs committee, into glaring irregularities at Selfridge Field, Michigan's largest air base and training field, is going forward at a rapid rate.

It has resulted into a complete shakeup of the entire officer personnel here. The investigation was launched following the shooting of a Negro private, William McRae, by Col. William T. Coleman, commanding officer of the field.

INADEQUATE QUARTERS

It is common knowledge here that Col. Colman did not like Negroes. He had given a standing order at the quartermaster depot that he was never to be sent a Negro chauffeur.

Shortly before 1 a. m., Wednesady, May 5, Col. Colman called the quartermaster department and asked that a car be sent to the administration building to take him to his home half a mile away.

An inexperienced private on duty as a dispatcher, unaware of Colman's standing order, dispatched Pvt. McRae, who was the only available driver. Col. Colman's regular chauffeur, John Henvad, was asleep.

Arriving at the administrative building, Pvt. McRae walked up the steps and met Col. Colman and his wife at the door.

"Your car is ready, sir," Pvt. McRae said.

MAY 21 1943

SHOOTS WITHOUT WORD

Hardly had he uttered the words when the colonel drew his .38 calibre automatic and fired 3 shots in rapid succession into Pvt. McRae's abdomen. McRae fell, writhing to the steps. Col. Colman was placed under arrest immediately by the provost marshal.

Several weeks ago the 332nd Fighter group and the 96th Service group were moved into Selfridge field from Tuskegee. There are more than 100 Negro officers in the two outfits.

At the outset the officers' quarters were inadequate at the field, as the quarters for non-commissioned white officers were far better than those assigned to Negro commissioned officers, and while the men complained, nothing was ever done about it even though, according to some officers, there they were promised a monetary allowance in lieu of quarters.

Col. Colman, base commander at Selfridge, was said by some of the Negro officers to have been hardboiled. Restrictions, the men say, were clamped down on them as soon as they arrived.

While this does not account for the shooting of Pvt. McRae by Col. Colman, it serves to indicate that the Colonel was prejudiced. Col. Colman has been arrested and is being held for court martial. Not until the trial will the real motive for the shooting be made known, if then.

47c

Defender
Chicago Ill.

Delay Trial Of Colonel In Shooting

JUL 24 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —(ANP)—It was learned this week that a general court martial scheduled to try several officers including a post commander who shot a Negro private here several weeks ago has been postponed upon the request of the post commander's attorneys under paragraph 52 of the manual for court martials.

The commanding officer here Col. William B. Wright, said that special orders detailing the court were signed by Brig. Gen. Adlai H. Gilkerson, acting commander of the third air force for Maj. Gen. St. Clair Street. Length of the continuance was not revealed.

To stand trial for the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, a chauffeur for the base motor pool, on the morning of May 5 is Col. William T. Colman who served as commander of the post from April 23, 1942, until May 5, 1943, when he was removed from his command.

McRae, 24, of Morven, N. C. is reported to be improving rapidly from his wounds at the Selfridge Field station hospital and is able to attend baseball games and visit his fellow soldiers of the 44th aviation squadron.

JUL 24 1943

Colonel Colman was sent to the Percy Jones General hospital at Battle Creek immediately after the gun play but was returned here on May 11 and has been restricted on the post ever since. Col. Wright revealed he will face other charges besides the McRae shooting.

Charges against other military personnel at Selfridge field for violation of the articles of war have resulted from an investigation conducted by the inspector general's office into alleged irregularities and misconduct on the post said Colonel Wright.

47c

Informer, Texas

Investigation Of Selfridge Field Shooting Unauthorized Says Rep. May

MAY 29 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., — Representative Andrew J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, last Saturday said the investigation by Representative Paul W. Shafer, of ing public the report of his one-man investigation without committee sanction. He said the authority delegated to Shafer related only to an investigation "of the war effort and war contracts and not to a matter within the jurisdiction of a military court."

Responsibility for the shooting of Private McRae on May 5, at Selfridge Field, was placed last Friday at the door of the Inspector General's Office by Mr. Shafer.

Representative Shafer made his finding in a report which he submitted to the committee. He recommended:

MAY 29 1943

"That the Military Affairs Committee insist upon an early report on the progress of the War Department's inquiry, and that the alleged irregularities be proved or disproved promptly. If proved the committee should make certain that there shall be no 'whitewash' and that those found guilty are punished. I believe it is the duty of this committee to make certain that those responsible for the direction of our armed forces are above suspicion."

Representative Shafer's report said:

MAY 29 1943

"I definitely determined that the shooting of Private McRae by Col. William T. Colman, commanding officer, was in no way linked with alleged irregularities at Selfridge Field.

MAY 29 1943

"Private McRae had been assigned from a chauffeurs' pool at the post garage to drive Colonel Colman from the headquarters building to his own quraters. He had never before been called upon to serve as chauffeur for the colonel, and, so far as I could ascertain, he had never before had any direct contact with the colonel.

"It was established that Colonel Colman was under the influence of liquor when the shooting occurred. It was further established that for several weeks prior to the shooting Colonel Colman had been drinking to excess.

MAY 29 1943

"Other actions indicated that he had been on the verge of a nervous breakdown, with the result that he was lax in the conduct of his duties at Selfridge Field. . . I found that this condition was well known throughout the post and to citizens of nearby cities."

Representative Shafer's report said that it was difficult to understand why the Inspector General's office had failed to recognize the situation, and added:

MAY 29 1943

"I am confident that if the Inspector General's office had properly functioned, Colonel Colman would have been removed and hospitalized weeks ago, and the unprovoked and unexplained shooting of Private McRae would have been avoided."

47c

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

WHITEWASH SUSPECTED
IN KILLING OF PRIVATE

5-15-43

DETROIT----The alleged shooting of a Negro private at Selfridge Field near here last week by a white colonel, had its reverberations in Washington as the House Military Affairs Committee ordered the matter looked into without delay.

The private was William McRae, who according to a PV investigation died within 24 hours after Col. William T. Colman, until recently commander of Selfridge Field, shot him in cold blood without provocation. Officials at the field, however, declared that McRae is still living. Colman, who was replaced by Col. William B. Wright Jr, and who was described as having a "terrible temper," was removed to a hospital in Battle Creek where he is under observation.

SHOT WITHOUT WARNING

The story circulating among the soldiers here, PV learned, had it that Col. Colman ordered a car from the field's garage directing that he didn't want a "n--r" driver. When the car came for him chauffeured by McRae, he was infuriated and shot without warning.

In the meantime, Representative Paul Shafer (R., Mich.), ranking Republican member of the House Military Affairs Committee in Washington, requested an investigation into what threatens to be a major Army scandal despite the "hush-hush" that has been clamped on the incident by ranking Army officials.

5-15-43

"This matter smells to high heaven," Shafer said, "and I mean to get to the bottom of it."

He added that he suspected that the Army was attempting to whitewash the officer involved and suppress the scandal.

47c

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

ARMY OFFICER'S TRIAL IS SET IN NEGRO SHOOTING

Selfridge Field, Mich., July 18 (AP). —Col. William B. Wright, commanding Selfridge Field, announced yesterday that Col William T. Colman, removed from command of the field May 5 and charged with shooting a Negro private, will be tried before a general court-martial convening Tuesday.

Altho Col. Colman's case was the only one specified by Col. Wright, he said the Military court may consider charges filed against Selfridge Field personnel. These, he said, were "charges growing out of and based upon an investigation by the inspector general's department of alleged irregularities and misconduct."

JUL 19 1943

Col. Colman is charged with shooting Pvt. William McRae, who was serving as a chauffeur for the base motor pool. McRae was said to be "almost completely recovered from his wounds.

47c

House Committee Probes Selfridge Field Shooting

"Pittsburgh Courier"

MAY 15 1943 Pittsburgh Pa.

Airplane Crashes, Shooting Incidents and Graft Charges Point to An "Unsavory Mess" at Michigan Army Air Base, Where Largest Contingent of Race Flyers Are Stationed

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS
(Staff Correspondent)

DETROIT, May 13—Shootings, deaths and scandals during the past week have focussed an unwelcome spotlight on Selfridge Field and have resulted in an investigation of conditions at the field, ordered by the Military Affairs committee of the House of Representatives.

The first shooting occurred early Wednesday morning, May 5, when Pvt. William McRae was shot twice in the abdomen by Col. William T. Coleman, then commanding officer of Selfridge Field.

PROWLER SHOT

The second shooting occurred early Friday morning, May 7, when William H. Hasse, ~~wealthy~~ 54-year-old resident of Grand Rapids, was shot by a colored sentry, Pvt. William Bridges.

The deaths occurred Saturday and Sunday, when 2nd Lts. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh and Jerome Thompson Edwards were reported lost after their planes had crashed in routine training flights.

The element of scandal entered the situation when Rep. Paul Shafer of Michigan charged before the Military Affairs committee that racketeers were selling permanent assignment to Selfride field for cash and that McRae was shot because he knew too much. The scandal was heightened when operatives of the Department of Justice arrested two white men, Hubert K. Marx and Charles Behrman, and by the fact that directly after the shooting of McRae, Col. Tayman's wife and their two children left for an unknown destination.

SHOT IN FRONT OF HEADQUARTERS

McRae, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Moses McRae, Morven, N. C., was inducted into the Army at Fort Bragg, August 25, 1941. He was transferred to Selfridge field December 24, 1941.

He was shot in front of base headquarters at one o'clock Wednesday morning. It is stated that Colonel Colman, 39-year-old native of Dunkirk, N.Y., had an express rule against the use of Negro chauffeurs. It is further reported that when he had ordered a car and a chauffeur, he had expected the man who usually drove for him—Pvt. John Hunvad, white—to report. But, according to reports circulated at the field, Hunvad refused to report and McRae was sent in his stead.

McRae is said to have been shot, without words or argument, as he started to alight from the automobile.

This is said to have caused speculation as to the relations between Hunvad and the Colmans.

COLONEL COLMAN UNDER ARREST

McRae, seriously wounded, was placed in the Station hospital on the post.

Colman, not wounded, but reportedly under the influence of liquor, was sent to the Percy Jones hospital at Battle Creek, 175 miles away. Mrs. Colman did no find him.

The Army reported that Col. Colman was under arrest and had been placed in the hospital "for observation."

Col. William B. Wright, former base commander at Barksdale Field, La., was appointed by the War Department to succeed Col. Colman.

The second shooting occurred at 4:30 Friday morning when two white men were caught attempting to enter the field by Sentry Bridges. Bridges claims that he ordered the men to stop and fired three warning shots. He then shot in earnest and wounded Hasse. The other man fled.

INVESTIGATORS ON SCENE

In pressing for an investigation by the House Military Affairs committee, Congressman Shafer asserted that alleged irregularities at Selfridge Field were "closely connected" with the shooting of McRae.

The congressman met a committee investigator in this city Sunday and proceeded to Battle Creek to question Col. Colman.

Mr. Shafer said his information indicated that the shooting was related with an alleged conspiracy "to sell permanent assignments to Selfridge Field."

"According to my information," Mr. Shafer said, "there has been some money paid to cover this thing up. It stinks to high heaven."

Shortly before Capt. Richard M. Ramey, public relations officer at Selfridge Field, announced that Col. Colman was under arrest, Hubert K. Marx and Charles Behrman were taken into Federal court here, charged with conspiracy to take money from draftees on promises to obtain permanent assignments for them to Selfridge Field

"I am convinced on the information which has reached me," Rep. Shafer told the press, "that the Army put Col. Colman in the hospital for mental observation in an effort to whitewash an unsavory mess."

Courier

Still Very Much Alive

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUN 12 1943

47c

The rumor still persists that Pvt. Willie McRae is dead. But such is not the case. Three weekly newspapers in nearby Detroit, three Detroit dailies and one in Mount Clemens, Mich., were invited to see for themselves. Four reporters appeared on May 30 and (as shown above) found Private McRae "getting along very well" in the Station Hospital at Selfridge Field, Mich. Private McRae, whose home is near Morven, N. C., was wounded on May 5 by a .38 pistol shot allegedly fired by Colonel William T. Colman, then the Selfridge Field Base commander. Shown interviewing McRae in above picture, the four newspapermen are, left to right: Edgar Racine, representing the Detroit Times and Detroit Free-Press; Russell Cowan, Michigan Chroncile; W. B. MacLachlin, Mount Clemens Monitor-Leader and representing the Detroit News; and Ulysses W. Boykin, Detroit Tribune. Lieutenant Colonel John H. King Jr., base surgeon, accompanied the visitors to McRae's room in the hospital.

TRIAL OF SELFRIDGE COMMANDER DELAYED

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUL 2 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — (ANP) — It was learned this week that a general court martial scheduled to try several officers including a post commander who shot a Negro private here several weeks ago has been postponed upon the request of the post commander's attorneys under paragraph 52 of the manual for court martials.

The commnading officer here, Col. William B. Wright, said that special orders detailing the court were signed by Brig. Gen. Adlai H. Gilkerson, acting commander of the third air force for Maj. Gen. St. Clair Street. Length of the continuance was not revealed.

To stand trial for the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, a chauffeur for the base motor pool, on the morning of May 5 is Col. William T. Colman, who served as commander of the post from April 23, 1942, until May 5, 1943, when he was removed from his command.

McRae, 24, of Morven, N. C., is reported improving rapidly from his wounds at the Selfridge Field station hospital and is able to attend baseball games and visit his fellow soldiers of the 44th aviation squadron.

Col. Colman was sent to the Percy Jones General hospital at Battle Creek immediately after the gunplay but was returned here on May 11 and has been restricted on the post ever since. Col. Wright revealed he will face other charges besides the McRae shooting.

Charges against other military personnel at Selfridge Field for violation of the articles of war have resulted from an investigation conducted by the inspector general's office into alleged irregularities and misconduct on the post, said Col. Wright.

Officer Who Shot McRae Faces 29 Violations at Court Martial Hearing

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Court Martial proceedings opened here Monday, September 6, for the purpose of trying Col. William T. Colman on 9 specific violations of Army regulations. Chief among the charges which Col. Colman will have to face will be that of shooting Private William R. McRae, 24, a Colored soldier-chauffeur on May 5. The soldier has since recovered.

The defense asserted during their testimony that at the time Private McRae was shot the Colonel was suffering from amnesia and a psychoneurosis. The medical examiner and psychiatrist at the base hospital at Fox Field, Ala., Maj. Charles Horton, denied this contention, however, when he testified that he found no indication of mental disorder and no organic brain disorder when he conducted a three-day examination of the former commandant of the air base here last July.

Colonel Colman, who was relieved of his command when the shooting of Private McRae occurred, also faces a serious charge involving fraudulent methods in the transferring of Lieut. Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford to Selfridge Field. The Lieutenant was at the time stationed at Fort Custer.

Other charges which the Colonel faces include the accepting of a vacation lodge near Oscoda, Mich., Army airfield from a representative of the Alladin Co., of Bay City, whose two sons were transferred in 1942 to Selfride Field; four separate allegations of drunkenness; misappropriation of labor and services of Government employees on three occasions, and fraudulently procuring the enlistment of three men for service at Selfridge Field.

47c-1943

Camps (Selfridge Field)

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Claim Colonel Who Shot Private Is Negro-Hater

MAY 29 1943

By Robert W. Crump

MT. CLEMENS, Mich., (ANP) —The sweeping investigation by high ranking army officers and Congressman Paul Shafer, member of the house military affairs committee, into glaring irregularities at Selfridge field, Michigan's largest air base and training field which was climaxed by the wilful shooting of a Negro private by Col. William T. Colman, commanding officer of the field, goes forward at a rapid rate which has caused a complete shakeup of the entire officer personnel here.

Col. Colman who deliberately shot Pvt. William McRae, who was acting as chauffeur to the colonel, on the steps of the officers' headquarters, was, according to the general belief, premeditated, as it has been stated by soldiers on the ground and through the press as well that Col. Colman had repeatedly informed the man in charge at the transportation depot never to send him a Negro chauffeur.

But on the day of the shooting when no other man was available the Negro was detailed to drive the colonel's car. When the driver approached and announced that the car was ready, it is reported that Col. Colman drew his revolver and shot the driver three times.

MAY 29 1943

Several weeks ago the 333nd Fighter group and the 96th Service group were moved into Selfridge Field from Tuskegee. There are more than 100 Negro officers in the two outfits. At the outset the officers' quarters were inadequate at the field, as the quarters for non-commissioned white officers were far better than those assigned to Negro commissioned officers, and while the men complained, nothing was ever done about it even though, according to some officers, they were promised a monetary allowance in lieu of quarters.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

ARMY ORDERS INQUIRY AT SELFRIDGE FIELD

Col. Babcock to Head Investigation at Michigan Post

MAY 11 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DETROIT, May 10—Army officers will conduct a separate investigation of conditions at Selfridge Field. Colonel Franklin Babcock of the inspector general's department in Washington and a staff of aides have been assigned to the task.

MAY 11 1943

The officers are expected to arrive at Selfridge Field within the next day or two to supplement the investigation begun by representative Paul Shafer of the House Military Affairs Committee.

The investigations center around charges of irregularity in administration of the field, together with charges of favoritism shown enlisted men.

MAY 11 1943

Mr. Shafer today questioned Lieut. Col. Charles G. White concerning unusual liberties granted to Master Sergeant Myron Collins, formerly stationed at the field. Sergeant Collins last week was returned to Selfridge from Tampa, Fla., for questioning.

Mr. Shafer reported that on his arrival at the field Sergeant Collins was ordered under arrest by the inspector general's office, but later was given an extended leave by Colonel White. He was found in a Detroit hotel and today was returned to the field and held under arrest. According to Mr. Shafer, Colonel White admitted having been entertained on the non-commissioned officer's yacht last Summer.

MAY 11 1943

Mr. Shafer said that he believed that Sergeant Collins might be a key figure in the alleged favoritism by which assignment of draftees to the field had been arranged.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

NEGRO PRIVATE SHOT, COLONEL IS ARRESTED

Wounding of Soldier Is Charged to Selfridge Field Base Chief

MAY 7 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich., May 6—Colonel William T. Colman, air base commander at Selfridge Field, was under arrest and observation in the Army Hospital at Battle Creek today after the shooting early yesterday morning of Private William McRae.

While an investigation was being made by an Army board, Colonel William B. Wright of the Air Corps took over command of the post. A statement at headquarters said:

MAY 7 1943

"Private William McRae, a Negro soldier, serving as a motor vehicle driver for the base garage at Selfridge Field, was wounded at approximately 1 A. M. Wednesday as the result of a shot allegedly fired by Colonel William T. Colman, then the base commander of Selfridge Field. The revolver was said to have been fired near the front steps of base headquarters.

"Colonel Colman is under arrest in Percy Jones General Hospital, Battle Creek, where he is under observation by Medical Corps personnel.

MAY 7 1943

"Private McRae is in the station hospital at Selfridge Field. His condition is described as fair.

"Command of the post at Selfridge Field has been taken over by Colonel William B. Wright of the Air Corps."

Private McRae, 24 years old, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Moses McRae of Morven, N. C. He had been at Selfridge Field since Dec. 24, 1941.

MAY 7 1943

Colonel Colman, 39 years old, had commanded the base since April 23, 1942. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Colman of Dunkirk, N. Y., he joined the Army soon after graduation in aeronautical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1926. After flight training he served at Langley and Wright Fields and in the Philippines. He is married and has two sons.

MAY 7 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Private Shot; Hold Air Field Commander

MAY 7 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich., May 6 (AP).—Headquarters of this army air base announced today Col. William T. Colman, in command of Selfridge field since April 23, 1942, has been relieved of the command and is under arrest at the army's Percy Jones hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., following the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, a Negro soldier.

The statement issued by Capt. Richard Ramey, press relations officer at the field, said McRae, whose home is in Morven, N. C., was struck at 1 a. m. Wednesday by a pistol shot "allegedly fired by" Col. Colman, then base commander.

Colonel "Under Observation."

Command of the base has been assumed by Col. William B. Wright, who has commanded Barksdale field, Louisiana, for the past eight months.

"The revolver was said to have been fired near the front steps of the base headquarters," the statement said. It added that Col. Colman "is under observation by medical corps personnel" at the Battle Creek hospital.

MAY 7 1943

The statement gave no explanation of the cause of the shooting.

A board of army officers is investigating the shooting.

McRae's condition was reported as "fair" at the Selfridge base hospital.

MAY 7 1943

Victim Is a Driver.

McRae, who was inducted at Fort Bragg, N. C., Aug. 24, 1941, had been assigned as a motor vehicle driver at the base garage at Selfridge field.

Col. Colman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Richard Colman of Dunkirk, N. Y. He was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1926 with a degree of bachelor of science in aeronautical engineering. He was trained at Langley field, Virginia, and served in the Philippines before he was assigned to Selfridge field. His wife and two sons live at the field.

MAY 7 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y

CIVILIAN IS SHOT AT MICHIGAN BASE

Selfridge Field Sentry Wounds Man Within 24 Hours After Colonel 'Fired' on Private

MAY 8 1943

HOUSE GROUP AROUSED

1943

Shafer, Who Says First Affray 'Smells to High Heaven,' Is Assigned to Inquiry

MAY 8 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., May 7 (AP)—A second shooting, the wounding of a civilian by a sentry, occurred at Selfridge Field today, less than twenty-four hours after the disclosure that the former commanding officer of this Army air base, Colonel William T. Colman, had been arrested following the wounding of a Negro private.

Captain Richard Ramey, public relations officer at the base, said today's shooting occurred at 4 A. M., when Private William Bridges of Montclair, N. J., fired a shot into the chest of a civilian who had ignored three challenges and three warning shots.

The wounded civilian was identified as William H. Hasse, 54, whose last known address was Grand Rapids, Mich. His condition at the Army base hospital here was reported as "fair."

MAY 8 1943

Captain Ramey said Private Bridges reported that Hasse and another civilian apparently climbed over a fence on the south side of Selfridge Field, that when challenged neither of the men answered but continued to advance toward the sentry, who fired three warning shots before taking aim at one of the intruders.

MAY 8 1943

When Hasse was shot in the chest near the heart by the sentry's bullet, Captain Ramey said he was told, the other civilian escaped in the darkness.

'Washington Post'
Wash. D.C.

Selfridge Field Probe Reports Are Contradictory

MAY 11 1943

Detroit, May 10 (AP).—Representative Paul W. Shafer (Republican) of Michigan proceeded today with his investigation at Selfridge Field Army Air Base after observing that he had received "amazingly different" accounts from officers already questioned.

MAY 11 1943

Shafer's investigation for the House Military Affairs Committee was authorized after the wounding of a Selfridge Field private May 3 and the subsequent detention of Col. William T. Colman. Colonel Colman was relieved of command of the base.

MAY 11 1943

The Congressman declined to make known the details of initial questioning of officers except to say that they concerned "various irregularities on the post."

U. S. District Attorney John C. Lehr has said he would ask indictments against a number of Detroit area civilians for attempting to bribe Government officials into favoring inductees with assignments to Selfridge so they would be close to home.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Colonel Is Arrested After Negro Is Shot

MAY 6 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—(AP).—Headquarters of this Army Air Base announced Thursday Col. William T. Colman, in command of Selfridge Field since April 23, 1942, has been relieved of the command and is under arrest at the Army's Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., following the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, a Negro soldier.

MAY 6 1943

The statement issued by Capt. Richard Ramey, press relations officer at the field, said McRae, whose home is in Morven, N. C., was struck at 1 a.m. Wednesday by a pistol shot "allegedly fired by" Col. Colman, then base commander.

Command of the base has been assumed by Col. William B. Wright, who has commanded the base at Barksdale Field, La., for the past eight months.

"The revolver was said to have been fired near the front steps of the base headquarters," the statement said. It added that Col. Colman "is under observation by medical corps personnel" at the Battle Creek hospital.

A board of Army Air Force officers is investigating the shooting, the statement said.

McRae's condition was reported as "fair" at the Selfridge base hospital.

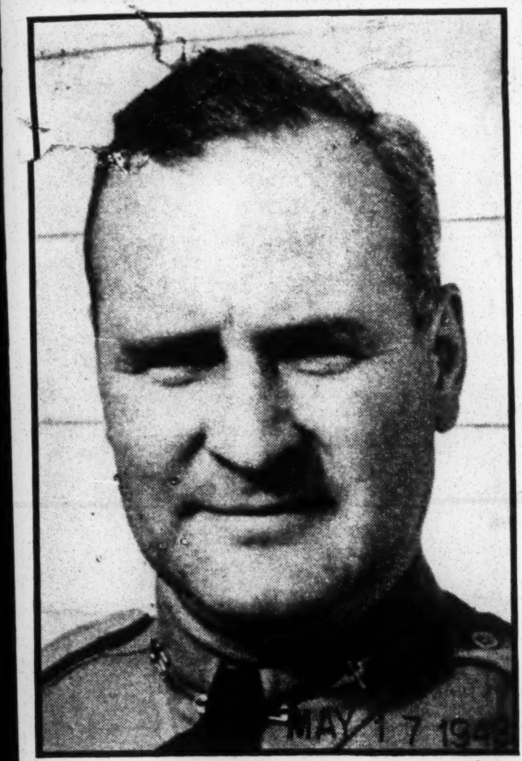
Time
Chicago, Illinois

PERSONNEL

Scandal at Selfridge

MAY 17 1943

For months past, rumors of military misdoings had been piling up around Selfridge Field, Mich. Griping and gossip centered on ugly stories of unsoldierly behavior, favoritism, trading in promotions and bombproof jobs. Then came the most fantastic rumor of all: that the commande of the field, a full colonel, had been arrested for shooting a Negro private.



MAY 17 1943

Acme

SELFRIDGE'S COLMAN
Fantastic rumors came to a boil.

After 25 hours of dismayed silence, Army authorities issued a tight-lipped statement. That rumor, at any rate, was no fantasy. Private William McRae, a chauffeur, had indeed been shot and seriously wounded; Colonel William T. Colman, 39, commander at Selfridge, was under arrest and observation at a Battle Creek hospital.

The Colonel Fires. Unofficial details pieced out the story. Apparently Colonel Colman had called just before 1 a.m. for a car to take him home. His regular driver was off duty; by an unlucky happenstance, the new dispatcher did not know of Colman's standing order that no Negro soldier should drive his car. At headquarters, said eyewitnesses, McRae reported: "Your car is ready, sir." Colman drew his service pistol and fired.

A board of Army officers began an investigation of the case, and in Washington the House Military Affairs Committee prepared to conduct an inquiry of its own. That made three agencies stirring the Selfridge stew; last month the FBI arrested two Wayne County constables, charged them with getting $200 from a Detroit draftee on the promise that friends of theirs at Selfridge could fix him up with a safe, soft berth for the duration.

A Congressman Inquires. Representative Paul W. Shafer (R., Mich.) stormed that the Selfridge situation "smelled to high heaven" and vowed to get to the bottom of it; he hinted that McRae might have been shot for learning of some irregularity. In Detroit U.S. Attorney John C. Lehr said he would ask indictment of at least 50 civilians involved in efforts to bribe Selfridge officials.

Other reports that will have to be scanned:

MAY 17 1943

- ▶ That the field, once one of the Air Forces' proudest posts has been a paradise for apple-polishing noncoms who openly bartered favors, flouted regulations, overrode the authority of commissioned officers.
- ▶ That certain officials have accepted substantial gifts of property and real estate from the families of soldiers who were "rescued" from overseas duty.
- ▶ That a sergeant who was in on the fixing acquired a new car and speedboat.
- ▶ That civilians were enlisted at the field and promoted rapidly without ever taking basic military training.

Two nights after the McRae shooting, Selfridge had more gunplay. A sentry discovered two civilians scaling a fence into the field and fired on them when they ignored his command to halt. One escaped in the dark; the other, seriously wounded, was identified as a former Detroit salesman. The Selfridge pot had come to a boil.

MAY 17 1943

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Scandal looms in Army circles as the result of the shooting by Col. W. T. Colman of Selfridge Field, Mich., of his chauffeur, a colored private, William McCrae. The wounding of the soldier is being investigated in connection with the alleged sale of permanent assignments at Selfridge Field, at the request of Rep. Paul Shafer of Michigan.

MAY 8 1943

Col. Coleman was arrested for firing on the soldier but is now in Percy Jones Hospital at Battle Creek, Mich., for observation.

"This matter smells to high heaven," said Representative Shafer, "and I mean to get to the bottom of it. I suspect the army is trying to whitewash the officer involved and suppress a scandal."

Shortly before the announcement of Col. Coleman's arrest, two men, Hubert K. Marx and Charles Behrman, were taken into federal court at Detroit, Mich., charged with conspiracy to take money from draftees on promises to obtain permanent assignments for them to Selfridge Field.

"My information is that the shooting and the arraignment of the two men are related," said Representative Shafer. "I have asked that the committee look into reliable reports which have reached me that Colonel Colman was connected with the two men who were soliciting money on promises to deliver permanent jobs at Selfridge Field and that the colored chauffeur was shot because he knew too much.

What's Wrong At Selfridge Field?

Pittsburgh Courier

EDITOR'S NOTE—The following letter was received May 1 by The Pittsburgh Courier. I had been decided not to publish it. But incidents at Selfridge Field during the past week have given it a special significance.

Pittsburgh Pa. MAY 15 1943

DEAR EDITOR:

As soldiers of the armed forces of the United States, we the undersigned, wish to acquaint you with an ugly situation occurring here at Selfridge Field yesterday (April 14). Realizing that good behavior as well as morale is essential, especially in camps where both whites and Negroes are stationed, we, the undersigned, have reason to believe that the situation we are about to explain to you was purposely plotted, and if carried through would seriously damage the good record and prestige that we Negroes have gained and maintained on this field in relation with whites.

MAY 15 1943

In one of the buildings where all troops are served beer, members almost wholly composed of a certain unit on this field (Negro), had been drinking beer. Nothing unusual had been noticed until suddenly two colored soldiers were thrown bodily from the building by another colored soldier. At this precise moment, two white photographers took pictures of this action. Immediately after this incident, all three colored soldiers concerned in this so-called "brawl" were back inside joking as if nothing had happened.

We asked the photographers if the pictures they had taken were to be published. Just then one of the members of this certain group stepped in and requested that we mind our own business. During this horse play a white officer was present and we also have reason to believe that this officer was in charge of this certain group.

Now, it seems to us that this situation was, for some reason, purposely instigated wherein if said photos were published in any nationally circulated paper or magazine, would no doubt carry an ugly story, relating falsely how the Negroes were acting at Selfridge Field. We could not gain any satisfactory reason from the white photographers, and are taking the liberty to write you in case worse comes to worse you may have a true picture of just what happened, knowing you will act in our behalf and for the welfare of the Negro soldier as a whole in easing any unfavorable situation which might disturb the peaceful relations that have existed at this base.

MAY 15 1943

This letter is written in good will with the purpose in mind that no stone should be left unturned in protecting the peaceful relations of the United States armed forces between the two races.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Court Martial Trial Begins For Col. Who Shot Soldier

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—The court-martial trial of Colonel William T. Colman, charged with the shooting of Private William McRae, 24, of Morven, N.C., began here on Tuesday morning.

JUL 24 1943

Orders for the court were signed by Brig. Gen. Adlai H. Gilkeson, acting commanding general of the Third Air Force.

Col. Colman, who shot McRae last May 5, was removed from command of Selfridge Field, and has been restricted at the field since that date.

McRae, a member of the Forty-fourth Aviation Squadron, was serving as a chauffeur for the base motor pool the day he was shot.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

COLONEL TO TRIAL FOR SHOOTING NEGRO SOLDIER

Selfridge Field, Mich.—Col. William B. Wright, commanding Selfridge Field, announced last Saturday that Col. William T. Colman, who was removed from command on the field on May 5 and charged with the shooting of a Negro private was scheduled to be tried before a general court martial, on Tuesday.

JUL 22 1943

The trial was postponed to permit the colonel more time to prepare his defense.

The general court martial was ordered by Brig. Gen. Adlai H. Gilkerson, acting commander of the third ar force for Maj. Gen. St. Clair Street.

JUL 22 1943

McRae was shot on the morning of May 5 when he reported to Col Colman to drive his car. McRae was sent to the post commander by the motor pool although it was reported that Colman had issued orders tha a Negro driver was was never to b sent to him.

According to reports, the commanding officer, Col. Colman, had ordered a car for his transportation. When he noted that he was to be chauffeured by a Negro, he is alleged to have shot him.

The shooting was investigated by Congress, the FBI and the Army authorities. As a result of their investigation, Col. Colman was arrested and sent to the Percy Jones General Hospital in Battle Creek for observation. He was subsequently removed from the hospital and confined to the Army base with restrictions.

McRae is said to be almost completely recovered, and is expected to testify at the trial.

47c-1943

Camps (Selfridge Field)

Urge Probe Of Army Trial

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Rep. Paul W. Shafee, Michigan Republican, chairman of the House Investigating Committee responsible for bringing Col. W. T. Colman to trial, (The Colonel was recently demoted to the rank of a Captain for the shooting of a Negro soldier, at Selfridge Field, Michigan), and Edgar G. Brown, Director, National Negro Council, urge Rep. Andrtw J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, to initiate a full-scale probe to wipe out of the Colman "whitewash" and bring the Colonel to a new trial. Reading from left to right: Representative Shafer, Mr. Brown and Representative May.—(Press Photo Service.)

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Col. Colman's Light Sentence under Criticism

House Group Plans Probe of "Inadequate" Court-Martial

CLEARED IN PVT. McRAE SHOOTING

White Press Joins Critics in Hinting Racial Injustice

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. (ANP)—A court-martial's virtual exoneration of Col. W. T. Colman in the shooting of Pvt. Willie McRae has aroused nation-wide protests and threats of a Congressional investigation.

Colman was convicted on only five of the twenty-eight counts on which he faced trial. These were careless use of firearms and drunkenness on four occasions.

The reference to "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" was removed from these charges and his punishment was fixed at reduction from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain.

Dismissal Averted

Modification of the charges averted mandatory dismissal from service.

Consideration of a full-scale investigation of the court-martial proceedings, in the event the War Department fails to reopen the case, was announced in Washington Saturday by Rep. Andrew J. May (Dem., Ky.), chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee.

"Disgustingly Inadequate"

Rep. Paul W. Shafer (Rep., Mich.), a member of that committee, joined the demand for an investigation, terming the verdict "disgustingly inadequate."

"I wonder what this court-martial would have done," he asked, "if a drunken private shot his commanding officer?"

Cases Contrasted

Similar uneasiness is being expressed by other observers, noting the contrast with the sentences of five, seven and fifteen years given nine soldiers for random shooting in the town of Duck Hill, Miss., in which no one was injured.

The Chicago Sun, Marshall Field's new daily, said editorially:

"The court-martial . . . has done a grevious injury to the good name of the armed services, to the cause of interracial harmony, and to simple justice.

Distrust Encouraged

"Two questions emerge from this exhibition of military jurisprudence. First, if getting drunk on duty and shooting a private is not conduct "unbecoming an officer," what kind of standards prevail in the United States Army? Second, what is the purpose of a court-martial — to apply the disciplines of strict accountability, or to surround an officer with a protective cordon of fellow officers?

"Civilians will be reluctant to believe that the Colman case represents a fair expression of army attitudes toward official misconduct. Their faith can be confirmed in only one way—by executive action to set aside a pusillanimous verdict and bring Col. Colman to justice. The responsibility goes straight to Secretary Stimson and the President."

The Chicago Tribune's editorial on the case called attention to the fact that Colman was not dismissed in disgrace from the army and was not sentenced to a term of imprisonment. It continued:

"The verdict was a bad one if only because the offenses of which he was guilty by their very nature required far more severe punishment. He has proved himself wholly unfit for command.

Racial Angle Hinted

"More particularly, the verdict will encourage a great many people to believe that military justice is tempered to officers of the regular establishment and operates in its full severity only against a man without rank and without friends in the military hierarchy.

"Discipline and morale in the army will not be strengthened by the verdict. Further than that, a great many people—and not all of them colored—must be wondering today whether the defendant would have been punished so lightly if his victim had been a white boy instead of colored."

Prejudices Revealed

Col. Colman, 39 and then commanding officer of the army air base here, shot Pvt. McRae on the night of May 14 when the latter called, under orders, to pick him up in an army jeep.

Testimony from witnesses revealed that Colman harbored racial prejudices that influenced many of his actions. He was reported to have said he would not have colored chauffeur and resented McRae's appearance at the post command to drive his automobile.

He was acquitted of charges which included misappropriation of government property, accepting a summer lodge from a government contractor, and illegal transfer of soldiers to Selfridge Field.

Findings of the court-martial are subject to review by the War Department, and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Army May Drop Colman From List

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson disclosed yesterday that Capt. William T. Colman, former commanding officer at Selfridge Field, Mich., found guilty of drunkeness by a court martial, has appeared before a reclassification board which will determine whether he will be removed from the Army active list.

Stimson, who said the proceedings have not yet been completed, ordered a review of the case after several Congressmen criticized the court-martial verdict as too light. The trial reduced Colman from the rank of colonel to captain. He was also found guilty of the careless shooting of a Negro soldier.

Time
Chicago, Illinois

COMMAND

Selfridge Justice

As the courts-martial sitting on the Selfridge Field cases worked down the defendants in rank, sentences rose in severity. The commanding colonel, William T. Colman got off lightest: demotion to captain (TIME, Sept. 27) for drunkenness and careless use of firearms in shooting a Negro private. A lieutenant colonel found guilty of drunkenness and fraudulent transfer of soldiers was ordered dismissed from the service. A major and a warrant officer were also sentenced to dismissal.

By last week the unsavory cases at the Michigan air base were concluded. The court ordered a dishonorable discharge for Master Sergeant Myron B. Collins. The charge: accepting bribes for his "influence and action" on improper enlistments and transfers. He also got prison time: 18 months' confinement at hard labor.

Collins, 37, eleven years an enlisted man, had testified against his superiors in the previous cases. Said he ruefully when he heard the sentence: "Wasn't that a dandy?"

Time
Chicago, Illinois

Colman's Court-Martial

Sirs:

. . . The court-martial of William T. Colman [TIME, Sept. 27] . . . was an inexcusable travesty on justice and decency.

Instead of being dishonorably discharged as he deserves, his demotion from colonelcy to captaincy still places him in a responsible position commanding men. . . .

HENRY M. STERN
Rochester, N.Y.

Sirs:

. . . As enlisted men, we shudder to think that we might sometime have a "Capt. Colman" as our C.O. . . .

(SERVICEMEN'S NAMES WITHHELD)
Champaign, Ill.

Sirs:

The farce . . . at Selfridge Field should direct public attention to a fundamental defect in the system whereby army "justice" is administered. . . . Aside from the other charges against Colonel Colman, **it is difficult** to suppose that, were the parties to the assault reversed, a court-martial would have punished an attack with a deadly weapon by a colored soldier on a colonel with less than death or life imprisonment. . . .

(SERVICEMAN'S NAME WITHHELD)
Fort Ord, Calif.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Selfridge Colonel Reduced In Rank

Shooting Of Negro Private Drops Him To Captain

SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH., Sept. 14.—(AP)—Col. William T. Colman, 39-year-old former commandant of this big Army air base, was convicted by a court-martial today on careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkenness and ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy.

He was acquitted on all other charges including allegations that he fraudulently arranged the transfer of military personnel to the field here, that he had accepted a gift from a contractor engaged on work for the government and that he had misappropriated government property

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Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Stimson Asks Quick Action On Col. Colman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30 (ANP)—Secretary of War Stimson told his press-radio conference Thursday that he has asked that the record in the case of Lieut. Col. William T. Colman, court-martialed commander of Selfridge field, Mich., be "expedited."

"Our system of court-martial procedure and military jurisdiction

and labor services.

In directing Col. Coleman's reduction in rank, the court-martial of eight colonels and one lieutenant-colonel ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years.

The verdict was announced just six hours after the court began deliberation of more than a week of testimony. It is subject to review by the War Department in Washington and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

In all the government presented 23 charges against Col. Colman. He pleaded innocent on all of them and at the opening of the trial sought their dismissal on the ground he had been suf-

ering from a mental disorder. The court denied his motion.

The major charge against Col. Colman was the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William R. McRae, negro chauffeur at the base here last May 5.

is that the record in each general court-martial trial is reviewed first by the authority that appointed the court, which in this case was the commanding general of the First Air Force," Stimson declared. "Finally it is reviewed in Washington in the office of the judge advocate general of the War Department.

CONGRESSMEN THREATEN PROBE

"That record has not reached here yet, but I am taking steps to expedite is coming, in this case."

Both Representatives O'Toole and Shafer have been prodding the War Department through threats of a congressional investigation to determine why a stiffer penalty had not been handed to Colman other than demoting him to a captaincy.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

May Dismiss Col. Colman From Army

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson hinted this week that Colonel William T. Colman, recently court-martialed at Selfridge Field, Mich., on charges of careless use of a pistol and drunkenness, would be dismissed from the Army.

In a statement to the press, the Secretary said he had been informed of the charges against Col. Colman and had read the sentence pronounced by the court-martial, and stated that he had gone further into the records because the charges and the verdict attracted his attention.

"In view of the fact that he was found guilty of careless use of a pistol, as a result of which a soldier of the United States Army was injured, and that he was found guilty of drunkenness on four counts, I went further into the record of this officer.

"Apart from the trial and as a result of this record, I directed that the then Col. Colman be reduced immediately from the grade of colonel to that of captain. I have directed also that proceedings be instituted under public law 190, Seventy-seventh Congress, under which, if the proper board so determines, Captain Colman may be removed from the active list of the Army."

Since the trial of Col. Colman, the Selfridge Field court-martial has tried and convicted five subordinates of the colonel. All of those convicted were dismissed from the Army, and the last one, Master Sergt. Myron B. Collins, sentenced to 18 months at hard labor, following conviction on seven counts of misconduct.

Colonel Colman faced twenty-three charges, but was cleared of all except the careless use of his revolver and four cases of drunkenness. He was not dismissed from the Army but merely reduced from a temporary rank of Lieutenant Colonel to his permanent rank of a captain.

Members of Congress and others sent up an immediate protest and urged the Secretary of War to review the court-martial proceedings.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

COLMAN OUSTER SEEN NEARER

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Capt. Colman former colonel in command at Selfridge Field, Mich, who was convicted by courtmartial on charges of drunkenness and careless use of fire arms in shooting a Negro soldier, is nearer to being removed from the Army's active list.

Secretary of War Stimson told his press conference last week that Colman has already appeared before a special board as ordered by him under authority of a public law. The proceedings, however, are not yet complete.

Stimson had previously said he would order Colman's retirement from active service if report of the special board indicated such action appropriate

Meanwhile, Rep. Paul W. Shafer (R., Mich.) renewed his demand for a transcript of the war department investigation and court martial proceedings against Colman. Shafer is conducting an independent investigation of the case for the house military affairs committee.

Other Counts Dismissed

Colman formerly was commanding officer of the army air base at Selfridge field, Mich. He was reduced to a captaincy after being found guilty at a court martial Sept. 14 on four charges of drunkenness and a charge of wounding his Negro soldier chauffeur by the careless use of a pistol.

The court martial acquitted the officer, however, on 23 other counts, including one of shooting the soldier, Pvt. Willie McRae, with intent to do him bodily harm.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

ASKS TO PROBE "SHOOTIN' COLONEL'S" TRIAL—Rep. Paul W. Shafer, Michigan Republican, chairman of the House Investigating Committee responsible for bringing Col. W. T. Colman to trial, (The colonel was recently demoted to the rank of a captain for the shooting of a Negro soldier, at Selfridge Field, Michigan) and Edgar G. Brown, director, National Negro Council, urge Rep. Andrew J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, to initiate a full-scale probe to wipe out the Colman "Whitewash" and bring the colonel to a new trial. Reading from left to right: Representative Shafer, Mr. Brown and Representative May. (Press Photo Service.)

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Col. Colman, Convicted, His Rank Reduced

Ousted Commander of Selfridge Field Demoted to Captain

UNPROMOTABLE FOR THREE-YEAR PERIOD

Convicted on 4 of 29 Counts, Including Shooting of Soldier

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—An Army court martial on Tuesday convicted Colonel William T. Colman, ousted commander of Selfridge Field, of four violations of the Ninety-sixth Article of War and ordered him reduced to his permanent rank of captain.

lonel Hemper Huston of Signal Corps Headquarters, Tampa, Fla., read the sentence as Colman stood before the nine colonels who had deliberated four hours before reaching a verdict.

At Foot of the List

Huston said the court ordered Colman placed "at the foot" of the list of captains for three years and suspended from all temporary promotions for a "like period."

Although the court convicted Colman of four violations of the Ninety-sixth Article of War—"disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," it acquitted him of twenty-five additional counts, including the felonious shooting last May 5 of Pvt. William McRae, a soldier at the air base.

Colman, however, was found guilty of discharging a pistol "through carelessness" which wounded McRae and touched off the investigation and court martial. The deposed commander testified that his mind was "a blank" when he shot McRae.

Convicted of Drunkeness

Colman also was convicted of three charges of being drunk and disorderly, but acquitted of allegations that he misused Government property and arranged the transfer to Selfridge Field of twelve soldiers, including Private (now Lieutenant) Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford.

The first indication that the 39-year-old Army officer had been found guilty came shortly after lunch when the court martial was reopened and the officers called for a copy of Colman's military record to determine his punishment.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Soldier Describes Details of Shooting At Selfridge Field

Selfridge Field, Mich. (ANP)—Details of the shooting last May of Pvt. William R. McRae, Negro chauffeur at the army air base here, were related Tuesday to a court martial trying Col. William T. Colmas, former commandant of the field, on 29 counts of violating the articles of war.

Colman was relieved of his command following the shooting.

McRae and two other privates, one a sentry on duty at the field headquarters, described the commanding officer as "unsteady and under the influence of liquor."

Speech Irregular

Norman J. Nyland, the sentry, said:

"He asked me to get his cap. His speech was irregular. I pointed out to him that the cap was sticking out of his pocket."

McRae, in describing the shooting, said he had responded to a call for a chauffeur. Colonel Colman, he said told him to come and get his 4-year-old son, Harner Colman, from the Colman car.

As he reached the car door, McRae said, Colman suddenly cursed.

"Then he turned around and shot," the witness testified.

"I whirled around and circled around the flag pole. As I was making the circle he fired a second shot. I came back between two cars and said, "take me to the hospital."

Held Sane

Maj. Charles B. Horton, medical examiner and psychiatrist at the base hospital at Fox Field, Alabama, testified he had conducted a three-day examination of Colonel Colman last July after he had been relieved of his command. He said he found no indication of mental disorder and no organic brain disorder.

A defense witness had testified that Colman was suffering from amnesia and a psycho-neurosis at the time of the shooting.

Major Horton said that in his opinion Colman's mental disturbances were the result of alcoholic intoxication rather than mental collapse.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Colonel's Trial Set For Shooting

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. (ANP)—Col. William T. Colman, 39, former commanding officer of Selfridge field here, was ordered to stand trial September 6 on charges growing out of his shooting and seriously wounding of his chauffeur, Pvt. William McRae, 24, of Morven, N. C., last May 8, according to Capt. Richard M. Ramsey, air corps public relations officer.

Colman who had been in charge of the air base here since April 23, 1942, shot the soldier during an altercation over his discovery that the commander allegedly permitted irregularities to exist on the military reservation. McRae has recovered from his wounds and is reportedly reassigned.

SEP 9 1943
SEP 9 1943
SEP 9 1943
SEP 4

Order New Proceedings In Selfridge Field Decision

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Colman May Be Removed From Active List

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — When Rep. Paul W. Shafer (R., Mich.) described the sentence of Capt. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of the army air base at Selfridge Field, Mich., as "disgustingly inadequate," Sec. of War Henry L. Stimson ordered additional proceedings in the case. The additional proceedings, Stimson said, could result in Colman's removal from the army's active list.

Capt. Colman, whose rank was reduced from that of colonel following a recent court martialing, was convicted of drunkeness and careless use of a pistol in the shooting of his Negro chauffeur. He was acquitted of 23 other charges, including illegal transfer of soldiers and misappropriation of government property.

One of three Selfridge field officers convicted within two weeks, Colman received the lightest punishment. His aide, Lt. Col. Charles G. White was ordered dismissed from the service as was Maj. Geo. A. Hartford, former intelligence officer at the base.

If the proper board so determines the additional proceedings ordered by Stimson could result in Colman removal from the army's active list, according to public law 190.

This law permits the secretary to remove from the active list any army officer "whose performance of duty, or general eficiency, compared with other officers of the same grade and length of service is such as to warrant such action, or whose retention on the active list is not justified for other good and sufficient reasons appearing to the satisfaction of the secretary of war."

Such an action as described above could take place only after a hearing before a board of at least five general oficers; the officer would then be dishonorably discharged if he had completed less than seven years of comissioned service, and his retirement with pay computed on his rank and length of record if he had served more than seven years.

Since Colman entered the army as a flying cadet in 1928, he has had 15 years of service and would received retirement pay, if removed. However, if retired as a captain, he would receive only $1,125 a year, as compared with a total of pay and allowances as a colonel of $6,984 or $9,484 if he were on flying duty.

After Colman's conviction on Sept. 14, Rep. Paul W. Shafer called the sentence "disgustingly inadequate, and then announced that he was reopening his probe of allegedly wholesale irregularities at Selfridge field because he believed the war department had failed to get to the bottom of things.

COLONEL'S TRIAL BY ARMY COURT DRAWS NEAR END

Nine Officers Will Hear Final Pleas Today.

BY CARL WIEGMAN.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 13.—Col. William T. Colman's fight to continue wearing the uniform of the United States army neared a close here today at his trial before a general court-martial.

Arguments will be heard tomorrow by the court of nine colonels, who then will ballot, in closed session, to determine whether to acquit or convict Colman on the 28 charges.

He is accused of shooting and wounding Pvt. Willie McRae, a Negro chauffeur, of drunkenness, of fraudulent transfers of enlisted men, and of misappropriating government property.

Two-thirds Vote Required.

Agreement by two-thirds of the court, or six members, is necessary to determine guilt on each charge. If the verdict is not guilty, it will be announced immediately. If the verdict is one of guilty, the court will be closed again and votes on the sentence will be taken.

Several of the charges have been brought under the 95th article of war—conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. Conviction under this charge carries the penalty of dismissal from service.

Col. Colman was on the witness stand during most of today's session, continuing his testimony, begun yesterday, in defense of his conduct.

Explains Army Transfers.

During the morning sesssion Colman gave his explanation of the transfer of Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford, and other soldiers to Selfridge field.

Colman said he first met young Ford at the Ford company's Willow Run plant, near Detroit. The meeting took place in the office of Harry Bennett, personnel director of the Ford company. In the room were Charles A. Lindbergh, now a technical adviser for Ford, and several test pilots, Colman said.

"Bennett advised me the war department had O. K.'d the transfer of Ford from Fort Custer to this field," he continued. "I believe I had to have the approval of Washington, and they intimated they had talked to Washington and would take care of it thru the 6th service command in Chicago.

Request Termed Normal.

"Then I telephoned Col. Thomas Lanphier [air forces intelligence officer in Washington] and it was made clear to me that I was to go ahead. The request for Ford's transfer here was made in the normal way."

On cross-examination by Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, assistant prosecutor, Colman was asked whether Ford's transfer was made for the convenience of the government, as regulations prescribe.

"Yes," said Colman. "It was a great convenience to the government to have people see Ford on the street in a private's uniform and to see him out here jumping hurdles."

Davison Advice Described.

The defense presented a deposition taken in Washington from Col. Lanphier, who testified he had taken up the matter of Ford's enlistment with Col. F. Trubee Davison, then chief of the personnel section. Lanphier said Davison directed him to advise Ford to apply to his draft board for voluntary enlistment, then get in touch with the commanding officer of the nearest air field and have him request transfer to the field after his induction.

Another deposition from Lt. Col. Glenn B. Arnold of the signal corps, Lansing, Mich., said Ford previously sought to get into both the army and the navy and had been rejected because of poor eyesight. Arnold said Ford's case had not been handled differently from that of any other American citizen.

It previously had been brought out that Ford went from Selfridge field to San Francisco, Cal., then to an officers' training school, and now is a second lieutenant at the Detroit induction station.

Short of Men, Says Colman.

Defense counsel also put Col. Colman on the stand to answer other charges of fraudulent transfers. Colman said requests for these transfers were made by members of his staff at his direction after he had been told the men would be useful at Selfridge field.

"I always was short of men with specialized training," he said. "I grabbed them in every direction.

"But I never said to members of the staff, 'Get that man.' I always said, 'See if you can get that man,' meaning see if you can get him under proper regulations."

SELFRIDGE FIELD SCANDAL!

Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

(St. Louis Post Dispatch)

Why has there been such a flagrant miscarriage of military justice at Selfridge Field? Why was Col. William T. Colman, convicted by a general court-martial of careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkenness, punished only with demotion to the rank of captain, ineligible to promotion for three years? Why was the former commandant of a large army air base, who gave a shabby "everything went black" excuse for the shooting and wounding of Private William McRae, Negro chauffeur, acquitted of the charge of assault with intent to do bodily harm?

Colman first [illegible] charges of violation of 29 Articles of War, including misappropriation of government property, fraudently obtaining transfers of enlisted personnel, accepting a gift from a government contractor, and conduct "unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The court denied his motion for dismissal on the protest that he had been suffering from a mental disorder, proceeded with what appeared to be patent attempts to whitewash the offender. The whole case reeks with the strictured justice of L'affaire Dreyfus in reverse.

If there is ever a time when the army cannot risk toppled prestige at home, this is it. If there is ever a time when the personal, parental and proud feelings with which United States citizens regard their fighting arm cannot be placed in jeopardy, that time is now. Ours is a civilian army, not a force of medieval mercenaries. Its officers must—and have done so until now—maintain an antiseptic respectability to hold the public confidence.

The Selfridge Field case is not closed. The court-martial verdict is not effective until approved by the war department. Surely this scandalous blot on an otherwise soldierly wartime shield will be erased, and justice done, when the proceedings are reviewed in Washington.

MICHIGAN REPRESENTATIVE TO MAKE INVESTIGATION OF TRIAL

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 24. (ANP)—While Rep. Paul W. Shafer, (R. Mich.) denounced the army court martial action in the case of Col. W. T. Colman as "disgustingly inadequate" and announced his intention of conducting his own investigation of Selfridge Field irregularities unless the army makes further inquiry, Negro and white citizens throughout the country were comparing the light penalty given the officer for shooting Pvt. Willie McRae, and the severe punishment meted out to nine soldiers accused of firing on the town of Duck Hill, Miss.

Col. Colman, commanding officer of Selfridge Field, [illegible] for the McRae shooting and irregularities at the army post, was reduced to the rank of captain by a court martial last week composed of nine colonels. He was found guilty of five charges and acquitted of 23 other counts, which caused Shafer to ask, what kind of faith the people can be expected to have in the military when "that kind of a sentence is dealt to an officer who has shot a private under his command."

Testimony from witnesses revealed that Colman harbored racial prejudices that influenced many of his actions. He was reported to have said he would not have a Negro chauffeur and resented McRae's appearance at the post command to drive his automobile. Orders were issued by the commander to his aides to never assign a Negro to his detail.

The soldiers accused of the Duck Hill shooting, in which no one was injured, with two exceptions, were from southern states and attached to the 476th quartermaster truck regiment. They drew sentences at hard labor ranging from five to 15 years in federal and military prisons. Those sentenced were Cpl. Larus Steele, Pvts. James Harris and Elijah Outlaw, who drew 15 year terms, Pvt. Leroy Dorsey of Miss., sentneced to seven years, and Pvt. C. Wells, of Georgia, who drew a term of five years.

Colman was acquitted on a charge of shooting McRae with intent to do him bodily harm, but was found guilty of wounding him while carelessly discharging a revolver. Two of these charges originally containing the accusation of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" were amended by the court to remove those words. Colman was thus saved from dismissal from service under the 95th article of war which requires such action upon conviction.

The commanding officer was acquitted of all other charges which included misappropriation of government property, accepting a summer lodge from a government contractor, and illegal transfer of soldiers to Selfridge Field. Under court decision Colman was also reduced from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain and placed at the bottom of the promotion list. Army regulations require that he remain there for the next three years before he can be eligible for elevation.

Findings of the court martial

SEP 22 1943

SEP 23 1943

SEP 24 1943

SEP 25 1943

are subject to review by higher authorities who may decrease but not increase the penalty.

Presenting the closing argument for the defense Maj. Tom Ballantine of Louisville, chief defense counsel, said that in the accusations against his client "there was no bad faith, no willful wrong doing shown. In all $8,000,000 was spent here in improving this post, and we have been hearing about the removal from the field of six army bedsteads."

Col. Phillip D. O'Connell, trial judge advocate (prosecutor) expressed sympathy for the man he was [illegible] bound to present evidence against. He said: "We all have a strain of sympathy for the defendant. The unsung heroes of this war have been men like him, the base commanders whose work was complicated by developments after Pearl Harbor. But if an army private takes a jeep without permission and goes into town he is likely to get three months' imprisonment. There should be no difference in the attitude in a case of this wind."

Colman was jubilant at the verdict and eagerly accepted the congratulations of fellow officers. O'Connell and his assistant, Capt W. Stanley Dolan, however, expressed astonishment at the decision, but under the rules of the court refused to comment. Outside court Colman said: "There are lots of captains in the army. I'll go right along with them."

The court heard almost 100 witnesses during the nine days of the trial and studied the evidence in a closed session for three hours before reporting its decision.

SEP 24 1943

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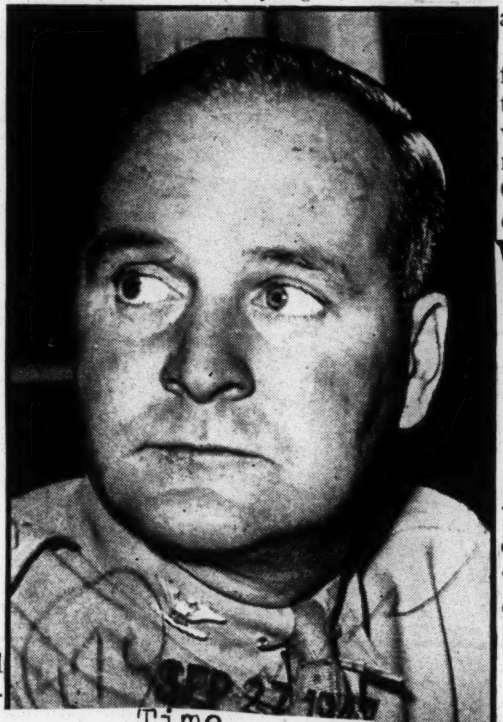
SEP 27 1943

Associated Press

SELFRIDGE FIELD COURT MARTIAL

Colonels judged another colonel's conduct . . .



SEP 27 1943

Time

Chicago, Illinois

International

THE DEFENDANT

. . . *"prejudicial" but not "unbecoming."*

COMMAND

Colman's Court

SEP 27 1943

The Air Forces court-martial of Colonel William T. Colman (TIME, Sept. 13), one-time commander of Selfridge Field, Mich., handed down its verdict. Charged with shooting a Negro private at the field, the defendant was found guilty of "careless use of firearms." Charged with four instances of drunkenness on duty, he was convicted of "conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline." The court's sentence: reduction to the rank of captain, with promotion barred for three years.

Crime? The court had rejected the stiffer formula of "conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman" which would have cashiered Colonel Colman. It acquitted him altogether of 23 violations of the Articles of War, involving various charges of illegally transferring soldiers, accepting gifts from favor-seeking civilians, making away with government property.

Trial observers found the verdict all the stranger because the defense against the shooting charge had taken a clear line that Colonel Colman was mentally irresponsible at the time—indicating that he probably hoped to be let off with a medical discharge from the Army. As it was, the sentence merely canceled his temporary colonelcy. It left him a U.S. officer, plainly implied that he was still fit to command.

Punishment? Public indignation bubbled up in Detroit. Congressman Paul W. Shafer called the verdict a "farce," a "travesty" and "disgustingly inadequate." The Detroit *Free Press* called it a "whitewash" and "an insult to the fighting forces." The Detroit *Times* said "it will smell to heaven," and went back 131 years to find a local parallel of military shame when "the coward Hull surrendered Detroit to the British without even swinging a punch."

SEP 27 1943

Under Army legal procedure the court's findings must be reviewed by higher military authorities, who can reverse the convictions or lighten the sentence, but cannot increase it. This week Lieut. Colonel Charles G. White, Colonel Colman's former executive officer at Selfridge, was on trial

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White Colonel Reduced in Rank for Shooting Negro

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

SEP 16 1943

Selfridge Field, Mich.—Col. William T. Colman, 39, former commandant of the big army air base, Tuesday was convicted by a court martial of careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkeness. He was ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy.

Colman was acquitted on all other charges, allegations that he fraudulently arranged the transfer of military personnel to the field here, that he had accepted a gift from a contractor engaged on work for the government and that he had misappropriated government property and labor servic[illegible]

Foot [illegible]

SEP 16 1943

In directing Colonel Colman's reduction in rank, the court martial of nine officers ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years.

The verdict is subject to review by the war department in Washington, D. C.

The government presented 28 charges against Colonel Colman. He pleaded innocent and sought their dismissal on the ground he had been suffering from a mental disorder. The court denied his motion.

The major charge against Colonel Colman was the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William R. McRae, Negro chauffeur, at the base here last May 5. The original charge on this count was assault with intent to do bodily harm. The court reduced this to careless use of fire arms. Colonel Colman testified his mind was a blank for some time before and after the shooting.

SEP 16 1943

Ford Dra[illegible]

To a charge that he had arranged the transfer of a number of enlisted men to Selfridge Field, including Lieut. Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford, he testified the assignments were made for the benefit of the field.

Young Ford's transfer was made with the understanding it had war department approval, Colonel Colman testified.

He denied he accepted a vacation lodge at Oscoda, Mich., as a personal gift from a Bay City, Mich., contracting firm.

SEP 16 1943

Colman Guilty. Reduced in Rank

Daily Worker New York

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Sept. 14 (UP).—Col. William T. Colman, former commander of Selfridge Field, was found guilty by a general court martial of four violations of the 96th article of war today and was reduced from his temporary rank of Colonel to his permanent rank of Captain.

The case took nine days. More than 70 witnesses were heard.

SEP 15 1943

Colman, 39, a native of Dunkirk, N. Y., has 17 years of Army service, including several years in the Philippines. He denied charges of drunkenness and defended the transfer of personnel to the air base.

The case went to the Board of Officers today after the War Department denied defense counsel a closed session to hear Mrs. Jane Colman, the defendant's wife. The court immediately retired into executive session to emerge shortly after lunch for a reading of Colman's military record. The court martial developed after Colman's shooting of a Negro private.

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

Colonel's Scalp Demanded by Men

Believe His Dishonorable Discharge Only Action To Restore Morale

OCT 16 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Dismissal from the service of William T. Colman, former commandant of this air base, who was reduced in rank following a court-martial last month would have little effect on the morale of Negro service men unless his dismissal came as a dishonorable discharge.

This opinion was expressed by both enlisted men and officers whose morale received a momentary boost with the arrival of Lt.-Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who became executive officer of the 332nd Fighter Group last week. Though obviously please with the arrival of the new Fighter group officer, and also impressed by the interest in their welfare shown by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., Negroes here still seemed rankled by the whitewash of Colman who shot Private William R. McRae last May 5, and was subsequently convicted for "careless use of firearms," and reduced to the rank of a captain.

One officer, voluntarily discussing the case, said that most of the men in his outfit had refused to become "excited" over Secretary of War Stimson's announcement that Colman may be dismissed from the service. In view of the sentencing of other Selfridge Field officers, one of whom was dishonorably discharged for a lesser crime than that with which Colman was charged, this officer said that only Colman's dishonorable discharge, or imprisonment, or both, would restore the Negro serviceman's faith in the war department.

OCT 16 1943

Such an opinion, he said, had been expressed to Brig. Gen. Davis who was believed to have been sent to Selfridge Field to get a clear picture of the servicemen's reaction to the Colman verdict.

Stimson spoke out on the Colman verdict after newspapers throughout the country had focused attention on the findings of the court-martial and Rep. Paul W. Shafer began an investigation of conditions at Selfridge Field to obtain facts in connection with the court-martial.

Chicago Tribune

Chicago, Ill.

THE COLMAN VERDICT.

SEP 18 1943

Chicago, Sept. 15.—I'm mad! I've been reading an account of the trial of Col. Colman who was accused of shooting a soldier, drunkenness, misappropriating government property, and about 20 other crimes. His penalty? He was reduced from the temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain. His defense consisted of a plea of mild insanity, a psychoneurosis that he had treated for the last four years. If that's true, what is he doing in the army? Even a draft board turns a man down for a psychoneurotic condition. Why is he permitted to remain in the army as an officer qualified to control the lives and actions of many men? What would have been Pvt. Willie MacRae's p[illegible] if he had shot Col. Colman? [illegible] can't demote a private.

JOHN HOSTED.

47c-1943

Camps (Selfridge Field)

COLMAN PLEADS MENTAL ILLNESS AT ARMY TRIAL

SEP 7 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Amnesia Attack Before Shooting Told.

BY CARL WIEGMAN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 6.—A court of stern faced fellow officers today heard Col. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of Selfridge field, start a fight to save his career by pleading that he was mentally ill May 5 when he shot and wounded a Negro soldier.

At the end of the day's session the nine colonels who compose the general's court martial had heard testimony from three psychiatrists that the former commander of the army air base was afflicted with frequent headaches, [illegible] before the eyes, ringing in the ears, dizziness, and was mentally irresponsible at the time of the shooting.

The court was told his condition was so bad that he had difficulty in taking off and landing the $100,000 airplanes at the field and sometimes, while in flight, he had a frantic obsession that he must get out of the plane.

Amnesia Attack Reported.

The mental specialists also testified that for five hours before the shooting Col. Coleman was in a state of amnesia during which he had no consciousness of what he was doing.

During cross-examination of one witness, Lt. Col. Charles R. Rayburn of the medical corps, by Capt. W. Stanley Dolan, the assistant trial judge advocate, Dolan asked: "Wouldn't a person be in a state of amnesia if he had drunk nearly a fifth of whisky?"

Rayburn shrugged his shoulders. The prosecutor did not pursue the line of inquiry and made no further explanation of his reference to the whisky.

Lt. Col. Paul A. Petree of the medical corps, chief of the neuropsychiatric division of the Percy Jones General hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., then took the stand and told how Col. Colman was taken to his hospital on the day of the shoting and remained [illegible] for five days.

Psychiatrist Told of Drinking.

On cross-examination by Capt. Phillip D. O'Connell, the trial judge advocate, Petree said Colman had told him he had been drinking the night before the shooting and that he had gone to his office to get two revolvers.

Col. Petree then quoted Colman as having asked: "Which do you think would be most in my favor, amnesia or alcholism?" Asked to give his opinion as to the reason for the outburst which caused the shooting, the witness said it might have been amnesia, alcohol, or general mental disorder.

Col. Petree then brought out a point never before made public in official announcements of the case, that Colman had said: "I have given orders repeatedly that a Negro chauffeur should never be sent to drive my car."

First Reference to Shooting.

This was the first reference in the trial to the circumstances of the shooting, which occurred near the front steps of the administration at 1 a. m., when Pvt. Willie McRae, 24 years old, drove up to the building in Colman's car. The commanding officer fired one shot, which struck McRae in the abdomen. McRae has recovered and he appeared at the opening of the trial, posing for newspaper photographers with a wide grin on his face.

Continuing his testimony on cross-examination by Capt. O'Connell, Col. Petree quoted Colman as saying: "What is the use—I have amnesia."

"Is there anything in a psychoneurosis that would cause a man to drink?" the judge advocate asked.

"No, it's purely voluntary," Petree replied.

Defense Heard First.

With Petree's testimony, the defense ended presentation of testimony of the matter of Colman's mental condition and the judge advocate began to present his side of the case. It was explained the procedure of having defense witnesses first was followed in the interest of saving time. The judge advocate said that if the court holds that Colman was mentally irresponsible nothing would be gained by presenting voluminous testimony as to his acts.

The first witness for the prosecution was Maj. John Lukas of the medical corps, stationed at Selfridge field. He said he saw Colman at the commanding officer's quarters an hour after the shooting.

"His eyes were bloodshot and blurry," Lukas said. "His speech was affected and he apparently didn't know what was going on. My impression was that he was under the influence of liquor."

Drinking at Picnic Told.

Maj. Lukas said Colman told him he had had a few drinks at a picnic on the afternoon of the shooting and a few drinks later. Asked ther he is a psychiatrist, Lukas eplied with an emphatic, "No."

Members of the court, who had spent most of the day hearing testimony involving the use of complex medical terms, joined in the laugh that swept the court room.

29 Specifications Set Up.

The charges against Col. Colman, read to the court at the opening of the court-martial, detailed alleged violations of five articles of war and set up 29 specifications as to how the articles were violated. The court may fix the penalty under four of the articles of war involved, but a finding of guilty does not require that the defendant be dismissed from service.

Col. Colman, however, also is on trial under another article, known to army men as No. 95, which provides that any officer convicted of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman shall be dismissed from service.

Under this article he is charged with being drunk and disorderly May 5, the date of the shooting of Pvt. McRae, and again on April 3, April 20, and May 1. One such offense is alleged to have occurred at the Oscoda [Mich.] army air field, a subsidiary base 200 miles north of Selfridge field.

Illegal Transfers Charged.

Eighteen specifications listed in the charges allege that Col. Colman unlawfully procured the transfer of enlisted men to Selfridge field "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

In some of these cases he is accused of certifying that men were qualified for special assignments when they were not in fact so qualified.

In addition, he is charged with misappropriating an electric power generator valued at $800, a refrigerator valued at $175, and five bedsteads valued at $4.93 each. He also is accused of misappropriating labor and services, valued at $154, of six civilian employes of Selfridge field.

[From Late Edition of Yesterday's TIMES.]

HITS COLMAN SENTENCE

New York Times

Negro Leader Asks President to Order a New Court-Martial

New York, N. Y.

SEP 21 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19 (U.P.)—Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, today asked President Roosevelt to order a new court-martial of Capt. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of Selfridge Field, Mich., who shot and wounded a Negro soldier at the air base May 5.

In an appeal addressed to the President as commander in chief, he said punishment ordered by a court of nine colonels—reduction in rank from a temporary colonelcy to his regular captain's rank—was equivalent to acquittal and an "outrageous and sorry spectacle of the miscarriage of justice,"

PRINCIPALS IN COURT-MARTIAL

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Shown above are the central figures in the Selfridge Field, Mich., shooting of a soldier because the commandant did not want a colored chauffeur to drive him. Pvt. William McRae, top, was shot and seriously wounded by Col. William T. Colman, who faces 29 charges in court-martial proceedings against him—International News Photo.

Colman To Know Fate This Week

Courier, Pittsburgh Pa.

SEP 18 1943

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Sept. 16—The much-delayed court-matial hearing for Col. William T. Colman, former commanding officer of Selfride Field—charged with the shooting of soldier-chaffeur William McRae around midnight May 5—finally got under way Monday, September 6.

Despite the fact that Private McRae was on the stand at length Tuesday, September 7, it took the later testimony of Lt. Col. Paul A. Petree of the Medical Corps and chief of the neuro-psychiatric division in the Percy Jones hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., to introduce the newest angle in the case—when he quoted Colonel Colman as saying "I have given orders repeatedly that a Negro chauffeur should never be sent to drive my car."

PREMEDITATED DEFENSE HINTED

Colonel Petree further quoted Colman as asking, "Which do you think would be most in my favor—amnesia or alcoholism?" (On trial, Colman, when asked for the reason for the outburst which caused the shooting, declared it might have been amnesia, alcohol, or general mental disorder).

Petree, when cross-examined by Capt. Philip D. O'Connell, trial judge advocate, said Colman told him he had been drinking the night before the shooting and had gone to his office to get two revolvers.

McRae, while on the stand, completely narrated events leading up to and details of the actual shooting.

Colonel Colman is not only on trial for the May 5 shooting of Private McRae, but he also is answering 28 other counts for drunkenness, fraudulent transfer of enlisted men, accepting a gift from a government contractor, misappropriation of government property, and a number of similar offenses. The court-martial hearing, scheduled for ten days, is expected to reach a close this week.

Court Martial Officer Who Shot Negro

SEP 7 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich., Sept. 6 (UP).—Col. William T. Colman, deposed commander of the Selfridge Field Air Base, entered a plea of innocent when arraigned before a court martial of nine colonels today on charges of shooting a Negro soldier and misappropriating government property.

Seven charges, alleging violations of five articles of war, were placed against Colman, who has been held under military arrest since last May 5, following the shooting of his Negro chauffeur, Pfc. William McRae, of Morven, N. C. McRae has recovered from his wounds since that time and has returned to duty.

Colman also was charged with illegal procurement of personnel, including the "fraudulent and unlawful procurement of the transfer of Pvt. (now Lieutenant) Benson Ford, son of Edsel Ford, to Selfridge Field on Oct. 15, 1942."

It also was charged that Colman procured or attempted to procure the transfer of other persons to Selfridge by "false statements as to their qualifications."

Colman originally was scheduled for trial before a court martial composed of 10 colonels but Col. Gilbert T. Collar, of the Columbia, S. C., Army air base, was dismissed by peremptory challenge.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

SHOOTING COLONEL CUT TO CAPTAIN

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.,—Col. William T. Colman, former comandant at this Army air base, was reduced in rank to his permanent grade of captain by a general court-martial that tried him on 28 counts of violating the Articles of War. The court ordered him placed at the foot of the list of captains, 1943, to be promoted [illegible] three years.

Colonel Colman was convicted of careless use of firearms in the shooting of Pvt. William R. McRae, Negro chauffeur, and of four charges of drunkenness. He was acquitted of other charges. Among the latter were charges that he had illegally arranged transfers for enlisted personnel to the field here and that he had accepted for his private use a vacation lodge from a Bay City, Mich., contracting firm.

SEP 15 1943

Colman, a Regular Army officer, held the temporary rank of colonel.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Stimson Asks Quick Action for Colman

OCT 2 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Secretary of War Stimson told his press-radio conference on Thursday that he has asked that the record in the case of Lt. Col. William T. Colman, court-martialed commander of Selfridge Field, Mich., be "expedited."

Both Representatives O'Toole and Shafer have been prodding the War Department through threats of a Congressional investigation to determine why a stiffer penalty than demotion to a captaincy was not invoked.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

SEP 15 1943

REDUCED IN RANK—Col. William T. Colman (above), 39-year-old former commandant of the Selfridge Field, Mich., Army air base, is shown above after he was convicted by a courtmartial of careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkenness and ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy. He was acquitted on all other charges. The verdict is subject to review by the War Department in Washington and will not take effect until approved.

Selfridge Field's Shooting Officer To Be Retired

Daily World NOV 4 1943

Pressure Brings Action From War Department

Atlanta, Georgia

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. —(ANP)—Capt. William T. Colman, former commander of the Selfridge field army air base, recently convicted by a court-martial, is to be retired, announced the war department Tuesday. The announcement said that "Capt. Colman is being retired under public law No. 193 of the 77th congress." The date of his retirement is not yet revealed.

The law referred to gives the secretary of war in war time, power to place on the unlimited retirement list any officer found to be unfit for duty.

CONVICTED IN SHOOTING

Colman was convicted of drunkeness and careless use of a pistol in the shooting and wounding of his Negro-chauffeur. The former commandant was also acquitted of 23 other charges which included illegal transfer of soldiers and misappropriation of government property.

By the court-marital, Colman was reduced from the temporary rank of colonel to the permanent rank of captain, when two other Selfridge field officers, convicted within two weeks of his trial, received heavier sentences.

Colman's retirement is the ultimate result of a statement by Rep. Paul W. Shafer (R., Mich.) who termed his sentence "disgustingly inadequate" and announced the reopening of his investigation of alleged wholesale irregularities at Selfridge fields because he believed the war department has failed to get to the bottom of things.

INVESTIGATION DEMANDED

Rep. Donald O'Tolle (D., N. Y.) demanded Sec'y. Stimson investigate Colman's court-marital. The secretary later announced that he had ordered additional proceedings in the case.

The law through which the war department ordered provides that if an officer has served more than seven years of commissioned service his retirement pay will be computed on his rank and length of service.

Since Colman entered the army as a flying cadet in 1928, he would come under this provision. If retired as a captain, Colman will receive retirement pay of $1,125 a year.

Col. Colman Found Guilty In Shooting

Post
Washington, D.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 14. Col. William T. Colman, 39-year-old former commandant of this big Army air base, was convicted by a court martial today on careless use of firearms and on four counts of drunkenness and ordered reduced in rank to a captaincy.

He was acquitted on all other charges including allegations that he fraudulently arranged the transfer of military personnel to the field here, that he had accepted a gift from a contractor engaged on work for the Government and that he had misappropriated Government property and labor services.

In directing Colonel Colman's reduction in rank, the court martial of eight colonels and one lieutenant colonel ordered that he be placed at the foot of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years.

SEP 15 1943

Deliberate Six Hours

The verdict was announced just six hours after the court began deliberation on more than a week of testimony. It is subject to review by the War Department and the sentence will not take effect until finally approved.

The major charge against Colonel Colman was the shooting and wounding of Pvt. William R. McCrae, Negro chauffeur at the base, here last May 5. The original charge on this count was assault with intent to do bodily harm. The court reduced this to careless use of firearms.

Testifying on this allegation, Colonel Colman said his mind was a blank for some time before and after the shooting. To a charge that he had arranged the transfer of a number of enlisted men to Selfridge Field, including Lieut. Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford, he testified the assignments were made for the [illegible] of the field and that young Ford's transfer was made with the understanding it had War Department approval.

Denies He ToTok Gift

He denied he accepted a vacation lodge at Oscoda, Mich., as a personal gift from a Bay City (Mich.) contracting firm.

Colonel Colman stood at attention as the court announced his sentence. When it was pronounced he smiled broadly and thanked the officers of the court. He declined to make any comment on the verdict and sentence.

The court adjourned until Friday, when it will take up the trial of Lieut. Col. Charles C. White, who was executive [illegible] under Colonel Colman. The charges have not been disclosed.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Set Trial for Colonel in Selfridge Field Shooting

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. (ANP) — Col. William T. Colman, 39, former commanding officer here, will stand trial September 6 on charges growing out of his shooting of Pvt. William McRae, 24, of Merven, N.C., last May 8, according to Capt. [illegible]chard M. Ramcy, public relations officer.

Colman shot the soldier during an altercation over his discovery that the commander allegedly permitted irregularities to exist on the military reservation. McRae, who was chauffeur for the commander, has recovered from his wounds and is reportedly reassigned.

Court-Martial Reduces Colman to Rank of Captain

SEP 15 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

By the United Press.

Selfridge Field, Mich., Sept. 14—Col. William T. Colman, former commander of Selfridge Field, was found guilty by a general court-martial of four violations of the 96th Article of War today and was reduced from his temporary rank of colonel to his permanent rank of captain.

The punishment was fixed by the court-martial of nine colonels after four hours of deliberation.

Colman was called before the board of officers and the sentence was read by Col. Hamner Huston, president of the court.

SEP 15 1943

Stood Stiffly At Attention.

Colman stood stiffly at attention as the officer read:

"It is the verdict of this court that you be reduced from your temporary rank of colonel to your permanent rank of captain and be placed at the foot of the list of captains for three years and suspended from temporary promotions for a like period."

COL. WILLIAM T. COLMAN.

The specific counts were three charges of being drunk and disorderly and the shooting "through carelessness" last May 5 of Pfc. William McRae, a Negro soldier at the base. It was the shooting of McRae which prompted investigation of Colman's administration and the court-martial proceedings.

96th Article Violated.

All the charges come under the 96th Article of War—"disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

Colman was found innocent of the other twenty-five charges, including the felonious shooting of McRae, misuse of Government property and the illegal transfer of personnel, including the transfer of Pvt. (now lieutenant) Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford, and eleven other soldiers.

The case against the 39-year-old defendant was completed after nine days of deliberations in which more than seventy witnesses were heard.

47c-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Reinstatement Of Air Wardens Urged

FEB 1 4 1943

The dismissed and disbanded representatives of the Negro Civilian Defense organization of the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Saturday called upon Director George M. Phillips to rescind his Februry 8 order and grant Negroes representation in planning for the area corps for the sake of efficiency and morale.

The confusion which had been brewing in the Atlanta and Fulton County Negro Civilian Defense Corps for several months came to a head last week with the dismissal of the entire Negro staff and disbanding of the organization by Phillips.

FEB 1 4 1943

Those dismissed were W. H. Aiken, local contractor, who was liason officer and director of the corps; Attorney A. T. Walden, Director of Zone II; R. C. Eberhardt, insurance official, director of Zone IV; his assistant, J. H. Calhoun, real estate man; E. A. Pollard, funeral director, head of Zone VII. Rev. M. L. King, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church and chairman of the Negro Advisory Committee for Fulton County.

AIKEN LIASON OFFICER

FEB 1 4 1943

Aiken was appointed liason officer for the Atlanta Negro Civilian Defense corps and authorized to set up a volunteer office at 158 Auburn Avenue, N. E., in January. 1942, by General Peyton, then Civilian Defense Director for the city Prior to that time, ex-Governor Talmadge had appointed a Negro Advisory Committee to the State Citizens' Defense Committee, headed by J. W. Holly, of Albany. Similarly, the county defense director C. J. Currie, had approved a Fulton County Negro Committee, with the Rev. M. L. King as chairman and Rev. D. T. Babcock and C. N. Ellis and C. A Scott as members. J. H. Hanley was named chairman for the Fifth Congressional District Aiken set up an organization of Negro leadership and under the auspices and direction of his staff more than 1,000 men and women were trained in several areas. This organization functioned well, receiving the commendation of higher officials. Supervision was over Negro citizens only.

FEB 1 4 1943

Shortly after Phillips assumed the area civilian defense directorate, he elected to close up the central office maintained by Aiken and discontinued the small appropriation set aside for its operation The Negro organization protested and asked continuance of the staff and budget, necessary authorization and provision for training, placement and equipping of comparable Negro corps and representation on the planning committee.

IGNORED BY PHILLIPS

Phillips ignored the repeated requests of the Negro leadership to confer with him and did so only after the Regional Director of the United States Office of Civilian Defense intervened. At the conference, he refused to agree to retain Negro Zone Directors, however agreeing to appoint Negro district wardens; said it was not within his power to grant Negro representation on defense councils against tradition; that Negroes could not be trained as auxiliary policemen because the police department refused to train them and that Negroes could not be trained as auxiliary firemen unless the Negro committee was able to secure by purchase or gift the required transportation equipment. The Negro group later voted unanimously to stand by their original requests. Another meeting was held and further negotiation promised. Then the February 8 order of dismissal and disbandment came.

The Negro leadership contends that it and the Negro citizenry are loyal to their country and desire to do their full duty on the home front as well as on the battlefronts. Further, it is contended that democracy and respect for human personality be practiced at a time when Americans, including Negroes, are fighting and dying on a hundred battlefields of the global war which engulfs mankind.

Atlanta Ga. Journal
February 15, 1943

PHILLIPS INTEGRATES NEGRO CD CORPS

Changes in the Atlanta and Fulton County Negro Civilian Defense organization, to integrate the Negro units with those of whites instead of continuing a separate administration, were announced Monday by George M. Phillips, area OCD director.

The office of corps director for Negroes, held by W. H. Aiken, and several other administrative posts have been discontinued, Mr. Phillips said, and district Negro wardens will work through the metropolitan organization. The district wardens have authority in predominantly Negro districts; will appoint their precinct and sector wardens, and supervise their activities.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Women War Workers Get Escorts

OCD

MAR 2 - 1943

MACON, Ga., March 1.—(AP)—A major function of Macon's auxiliary police battalion, Company Company A, comprised of 90 men, will be to see that young women engaged in war work are safely escorted to their homes at night.

That announcement was made by Captain Paul Weinfeld, company commander, at the formal opening of the new company headquarters last night. Captain Weinfeld pointed out that parental fears could be dispelled for the young women who are forced to walk from bus stops to their homes as they leave their jobs in defense plants late at night. It will be one main objective of the auxiliary police to offer safe escort to such young women.

MAR 2 - 1943

This is the first of several auxiliary headquarters to have one-way radio communications, and Weinfeld said that officers' private cars would soon be installed with one-way receivers.

The battalion is composed of six companies, five white and one Negro, and each has approximately 90 members who aid the undermanned regular police.

Civilian Defense
Guardian
Boston, Mass.

MAR 6 1943

PRACTICE DEMOCRACY

MAR 6 1943

The war has brought to many minds a clear understanding of the evils wrought by the division of the population because of race, creed and color. An increasing number of influential citizens have become outspoken in condemning segregation and discrimination. But talking about unity and democracy is not enough. The following statement by Director James M. Landis of the Office of Civilian Defense is offered as testimony that unity and democracy can be practiced by providing Americans a chance to work side by side indiscriminately. Mr. Landis says the Civilian Defense program affords the opportunity for all races and creeds to become better acquainted with each other. Since they can work side by side it follows that they can also fight side by side. There is no need for segregation in either industry or the armed forces.

MAR 6 1943

"I am proud that our Civilian Defense program has been singularly inhospitable to racial innuendoes. Common danger and common decency can recognize no barriers. In fact the Civilian Defense program affords an unusual opportunity for neighbors of all races and creeds to become better acquainted with each other. Every time an American works side by side with an American of another race or color, he gives the lie to Hitler's racial nonsense.

"Unity is, of course, an aim that would be dictated by reasons of sentiment and plain humanity. But today it is demanded by the stark, grim consideration of winning the war. This war will be lost if it is won by or for one creed, one race, one color. If it is a war for democratic ideals and democratic freedoms, it must be waged in this united manner both abroad and at home.

MAR 6

"This is why the OCD has urged that defense movements, either local or statewide, represent as best they can the groups that make up the community. At the top in the planning stage we want horizontal participation of all groups, so that at the bottom where plans are translated into action by millions of workers it will be the community as a whole that responds to America's needs rather than merely a religious, a political or an economic group.

MAR 6 1943

"I cannot overemphasize the need for this approach. Almost every Axis-propagated rumor seeks to threaten that concept. Differences that normally arise between men and women active in any enterprise are exploited into differences of faith and of objective, until frequently bitternesses arise so deep that we lose sight of the continual threat of the common enemy. And on occasion we tend to forget that that which we must never forget, day in and day out, that this hateful racism, this fundamental belief in slavery of the Nazis must forever and at any cost be driven from the face of the earth.

MAR 6 1943

"It is too easy, however, to talk; it is difficult so to arrange one's life as to be a potent force in the waging of war. Particularly is that true of this war, when the battle lines themselves must of necessity be far away. But the function of civilian defense is to answer that question—to devise ways and means of effectively catapulting the energy and the resources of America's thousands of communities into the war."

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Negro Officers Receive No Pay

MAR 10 1943

47c

MACON, Ga. — Negro policemen who serve without pay and buy their own uniforms, pistols and clubs, won the praise of the police department recently for lending a hand with law enforcement in this congested war camp center.

The city, with a Negro population of 25,600 and white residents numebring 32,250, has a Negro platoon in the auxiliary police force set up by the Civilian Defense organization.

MAR 10 1943

Its members, dressed in gray-blue uniforms and armed with pistols and clubs, patrol Negro communities. The regular police force does not employ Negroes.

Working under direction of the police department, the 65 members of the Negro platoon have been giving material aid to the short-handed regular force. Chief of Police Robert L. Miller said considerable improvement in law enforcement had been noted since the Negro officers took over beats as part of their training in Civilian Defense work.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

PAIR COMMENDED FOR QUICK ACTION

MAR 24 1943

Alertness and initiative of two Negro women in reporting accidental fall of an Army experimental projectile from a plane over Pratt City a few days ago was commended Monday by Mayor Cooper Green and Capt. John H. Atkinson director of the Jefferson County Defense Council.

The two women, Willie Mae Davis, 934 Avenue T, Pratt City, and Maylo Alford, 915 10th Street, Pratt City, after seeing the projectile fall notified C. A. Carter, 101 First Street, Pratt City, precinct air raid warden. Carter informed the headquarters office of the Civilian Defense Council. The FBI and the Civil Air Patrol were then notified.

MAR 24 1943

The projectile was the model of a new type of bomb invented by a Birmingham man. It was being flown by a civilian plane under Army orde

MAR 2

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Volunteer Police Win Lofty Praise

MAR 13 1943

MACON, Ga., Mar. 11 (ANP)—In praising the Negro police force of this city, assistant chief of police J. C. Smith said, "the colored auxiliaries, working in some of the city's most difficult districts, have set a remarkable record for efficiency."

MAR 13 1943

The 65 members of the platoon serve their communities without pay. They buy their own uniforms, pistols and guns. Chief of Police Robert L. Miller has noted considerable improvement in law enforcement since these officers took over their beats as part of their training in civilian defense work more than a year ago.

Macon has a Negro population of 25,600 and white residents number 32,250. The regular police force does not employ Negroes.

Northwest Enterprise
Seattle Washington

Negro Wardens To Meet Tuesday

47c

Chief Air Raid Warden E. B Dudley today made a special announcement concerning a meeting of all Negro wardens in the East Charlotte area next Tuesday evening the 27th, at 8:15 o'clock.

Some confusion had arisen concerning the time and he called attention to the scheduled date. The meeting will be held in the Brooklyn Presbyterian Church. Pictures will be shown in line with the work of the wardens. A meeting of the West Charlotte area will be held soon, also, and due announcement will be made concerning this meeting later.

MAYOR WM F. DEVIN SCORES AIR RAID WARDEN RACIAL BIAS

MAY 5 1943

Political, racial, or religious controversies have no place in civilian defense and no member of any civilian defense organization should use his position in that organization to participate in any such controversy.

MAY 5 1943

So declared Mayor William F. Devin Tuesday night after he had asserted. In his report to the people on city affairs, that "a matter has come to my attention recently

which causes me to comment about the subject of racial discrimination."

MAY 5 1943

"I want it definitely understood that the Air Raid Warden organization and the entire civilian defense are organized solely for the purpose of furthering the war effort and of protecting the lives and property of Seattle citizens," the mayor said.

47c

"Today in some parts of the world the racial prejudices of mankind have been fanned into flames of conflagration which are engulfing entire nations. These flames no doubt started from small prejudices but were enlarged easily and quickly through intolerance and misunderstanding.

MAY 5 1943

"There can be no place in American goevrnment for this kind of discrimination. America has prospered and grown strong for many reasons, one of which i love of justice and equality of opportunity. These qualities have become a part of the very fiber of American democracy. We cannot and must not forsake them now."

MAY 5 1943

Sumpter S. C. Daily Times
Jun. 2 1943

Food Demonstrations At Negro Schools Termed Successes

The first Nutrition and Food conservation schools, sponsored by the Civilian Defense committee, were a success, Edward C. Jones of the negro defense committee announced today.

The demonstrations were held at Lincoln High school, June 7, and at Savage-Glover, June 8.

The nutritious dishes prepared were meat substitute, scalloped cabbage, whole wheat muffin and yeast bread.

47c

The conservation demonstrations were drying of fruit, extracting tomato juice, canning of non-acid vegetables, and dehydration of fruit and vegetables.

All persons present enjoyed the program and expressed themselves as being greatly benefited, Jones said.

Mrs. Mary C. Lawson, Mrs. Janie R. Howard, home agent, and Mrs. Marion B. Paul, state supervisor of home demonstration work, directed the demonstrations.

The Civilian Defense committee expressed today their appreciation to the city officials for the contribution made to cover the cost of materials [illegible] the demonstrations. The date [illegible] the next series of demonst[illegible] will be announced later.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
June 10, 1943

Negro Air Raid Wardens Will Gather Friday

County-Wide Meeting to Be Held at Second Baptist Church.

A county-wide meeting of air raid wardens of the negro division will beheld at 8 o'clock tomorrow night in the Second Baptist Church, 954 Kings Road, it was announced yesterday by R. F. Swicegood, divisional deputy chief air raid warden.

47c

This meeting will be comparable to the one recently held in the Mayflower hotel for white wardens. All district wardens, their deputies and zone and precinct workers are invited to attend the meeting.

Music will be furnished by the Second Baptist Church choir. The program will open with presentation of the colors and this will be followed by the pledge of allegiance.

F. P. Fleming, chairman of the Duval County-Jacksonville Defense Council, will [illegible] presented to the wardens.

Herbert E. Williams, executive and personnel officer of the defense council, will speak on compensation for injuries received by civilian defense workers.

A demonstration of the communications system, announcement of the Army surprise test and several reports will be on the program.

Warden C. J. Britt will speak on "War Gases," and Warden C. B. Eagleton will discuss "Bombs." "The Civilian's Duty" will be the subject of a talk by Warden I. L. Lawson. Arm bands will be presented to Dr. J. E. Bush and the Rev. K. D. Britt.

Chief S. D. McGill, head of the negro division of auxiliary police; Dr. J. P. Patterson, deputy chief of the auxiliary police, and R. T. Thomas, executive secretary of the negro division of the Defense Council, also will be introduced.

COLORED CITIZENS AID WAR EFFORT IN VARIOUS WAYS

Forest City, N. C. Courier

Scrap Drives Conducted In Negro Schools Of County, And Citizens Aid In Purchase Of Bonds.

August 12, 1943

ISSUE RATION BOOKS

By PROF. J. O. GIBBS,
Grahamtown School, Forest City

In this "all-out global war" the Negro civilian citizens of Rutherford County have contributed their bit to the home front. Among other contributions the following may be mentioned to show that Negroes in this war like in all the other wars in which this country has been engaged, are none the less patriotic.

47c

Scrap drives were sponsored in all of the larger schools and some of the smaller ones. New Hope High School and Grahamtown High School leading in contributing more than 4,000 pounds. Organized War Bond and Stamp Sales were conducted in the two high schools. Records show that more than $100 have been contributed to the Red Cross. More than 6,000 ration books have been issued by the Negro teachers. Twenty women completed the home nursing course conducted at Grahamtown School.

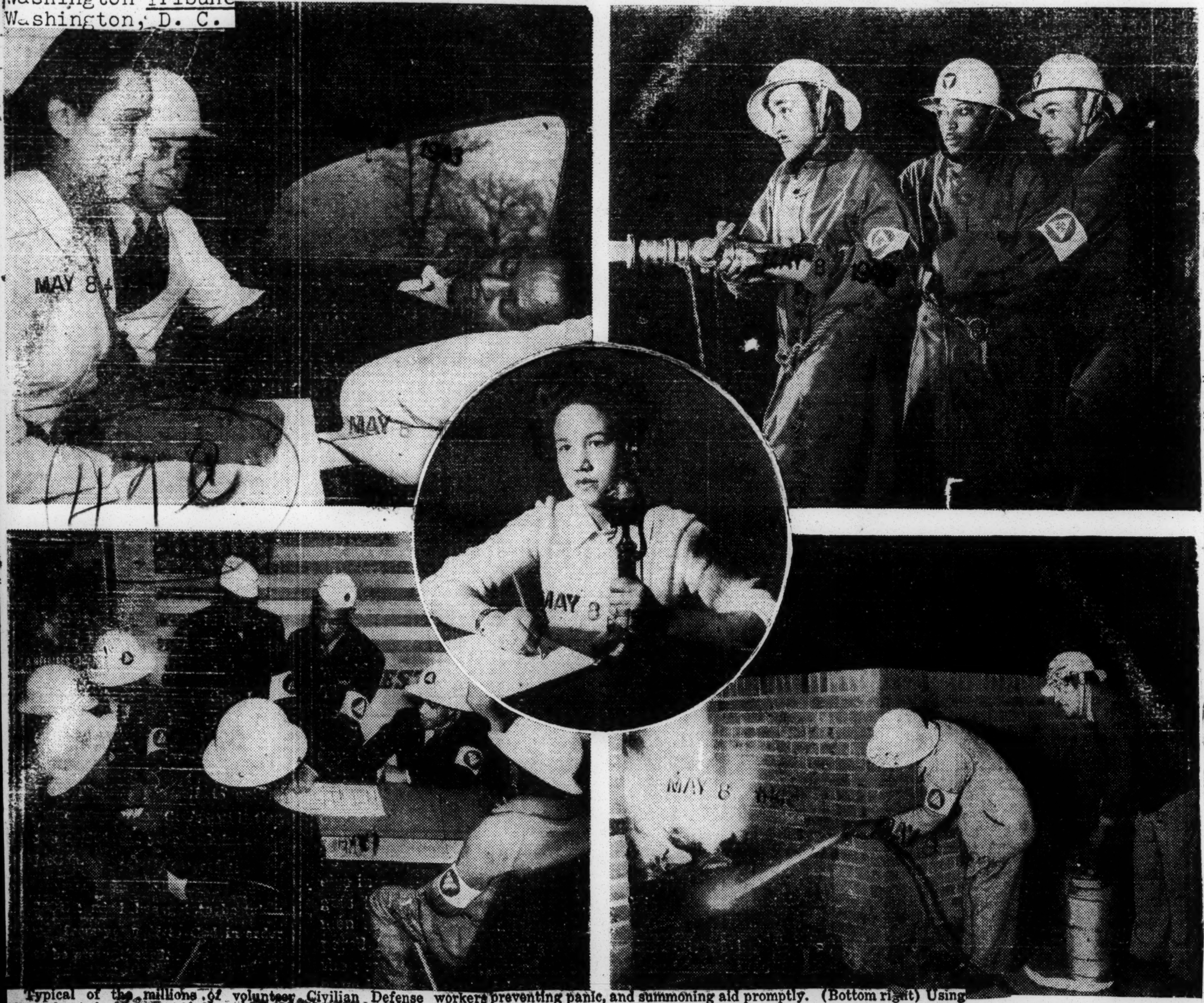
More than 50 pupils and teachers have qualified for First Aid certificates. Three men of Forest City have qualified and are actively participating in the Auxiliary Firemen Corps. More than a score of boys and girls have received training at some of the NYA centers and are now actively engaged in defense plants. Victory Gardens and chickens are now a definite part of the greater number of colored homes. The Negro ministers have either rebuilt or remodeled most of the churches, thus causing a greater sense of responsibility among church folks.

47c-1943

Civilian Defense

OCD WORKERS HELP PROTECT THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.



Typical of the millions of volunteer Civilian Defense workers throughout the country, the Negro CD workers in the Nation's Capital are prepared for any emergency. (Top left) An air-raid "victim" is rushed to a hospital after receiving first-aid treatment. Both physician and nurse carry gas masks. (Top right) Volunteer auxiliary firemen know how to control their water stream under all conditions. (Bottom left) Air-raid wardens are the keymen in the Civilian Defense program. Sector meetings keep them alert to their duties of clearing the streets, preventing panic, and summoning aid promptly. (Bottom right) Using a wall as a shield from the intense heat, these wardens operate a stirrup pump in extinguishing an incendiary fire during a practice drill in Washington, D. C. (Center) A message center is the central nerve of Civilian Defense communications. The young woman shown above is one of the scores of volunteer workers in the Message Center of the Central Alarm System in the Nation's Capital.

[illegible] May 4, 1943

Negro Volunteer Civilian Defense Office Reopens

Reopening of the Negro Volunteer Office of Civilian Defense was announced today by Mrs. Jack M. Bass and Mrs. Sydney Keeble, recently appointed chairmen of the Nashville-Davidson County Volunteer Office.

The Negro volunteer program had been inactive since February when WPA funds for operating the office were discontinued.

The office is located at the Blue Triangle YWCA on Fifth Avenue, North, and began operation this week under the direction of Mrs. Calvin McKissack as chairman, and Stella Barker as secretary. Mrs. Charles S. Johnson has been appointed chairman of the Block Organization for Negroes, and will begin immediately to put the Victory-Home campaign in progress.

Serving as a branch of the city-county office, the Negro volunteer office will furnish workers for all war effort and community programs. Its immediate objective is the securing of volunteer registrars for the supplementary canning sugar registration which will be held next week in seven Negro schools.

The central volunteer office will furnish workers for the registration in 20 white schools.

47c

Portsmouth, Va., Star
June 16, 1943

Negro Rationing Board Is Likely

Only the sanction of the [illegible] OPA office remains before the proposed Negro rationing board begins to organize. Names of Negro civic and business leaders to constitute the board have been submitted and have been approved in Richmond.

47c

HARLEM CHILDREN WHO ARE AIDING THE WAR EFFORT

New York Times
New York, N. Y

APR 27

Members of the Neighborhood Clubs who are helping to stage a variety show to raise money to buy seed, tools and fertilizers for Victory Gardens to be operated by Harlem youngsters and for the benefit of the Harlem Servicemen's Center. They are shown at a party given for the cast of the show, which will be held at Mecca Temple on May 7.

HARLEM CHILDREN PLAN VARIETY SHOW

Event May 7 at Mecca Temple to Aid Servicemen's Center and Victory Gardeners

APR 27 1943

Harlem children who are members of the neighborhood clubs of their home district are cooperating to stage a variety show at Mecca Temple, 133 West Fifty-fifth Street, on May 7 for the benefit of the Harlem Servicemen's Center and to raise funds to buy seed, tools and fertilizer for Harlem children's Victory Gardens.

Behind this venture, it was disclosed yesterday, lies an attempt, during a period when the talk about Harlem deals chiefly with jujvenile delinquency, to coordinate the efforts of the neighborhood clubs into a solid influence for healthy juvenile pursuits.

Neighborhood clubs are nothing new in Harlem. In the past, however, they have never worked together. Indeed, in some instances, they have come to open conflict.

Venture Began in August

Last August the Juvenile Welfare Council at 200 West 135th Street, directed by Children's Court Justice Stephen S. Jackson, began gradually to weld the clubs together. The common denominator was patriotic motive—aid in civilian defense, collection of rubber and scrap and sale of war stamps. In October sponsors of the movement, including Miss Ann Petry, Nathaniel A. Burrell, Daniel Burley and Ludlow Werner, diverted the combined clubs into a common projejcjtj. This was the staging of a variety show for the Harlem Servicemen Center.

The actors, who range in age from 13 to 21 years, worked hard at this project under direction of Richard Campbell. The Harlem Recreation Center and the Harlem Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association helped. The show was highly successful. The children, though members of different clubs, worked smoothly together.

The next step in the way of a special contribution by the clubs to the war was a public showing of the variety program and plans for this are now booming along, with prospects of greater success than the original showing.

Policeman Helps Children

The children are working together in getting out posters, selling tickets and making scenery. Patrolman Glendon Bryant, 6 feet 4 inches, an experienced Juvenile Aid Bureau worker, has been assigned by Commissioner Valentine to help the children and under his guidance they seem inspired.

While the variety show is taking shape the adults behind the movement are negotiating for large plots of ground for the club's Victory Gardens. Tentative sites in the heart of Harlem already have been chosen and the idea is to have each club tend its own portion of this ground.

The adult sponsors think they have the movement started, but are making no optimistic prophecies. They keep saying "We just hope it will work out."

May 26, 1943

CL Graduates Will Show Bomb Technique

A parade and special exercises will feature graduation exercises for 35 Negro Civilian Defense workers at Walker Tabernacle, corner of West Fair and Chapel streets, at 8:15 p. m. Thursday.

Demonstrations on extinguishing incendiary bombs will be given, and talks and music will be included on the program. Seats will be reserved for white people.

COLORED DEFENSE LEADERS FOR KINGSTREE NAMED

As announced last week, the Council for Civilian Defense, with the recommendations and assistance of the colored leaders of the defense council, have appointed the following colored people of Kingstree as members of the Civilian Service corps, as follows:

Mrs. Ida R. Thomas, leader (under Mrs. J. A. Cole, Sr., chief for Kingstree);

Leader, Section 1—Miss Edith Stubbs; block leaders: Mrs. Marie Greenock, Mrs. Gimetta Fulton, Mrs. Cleo Speight, Mrs. Hattie Kennedy, Mrs. Evelyn McCray, Mrs. Rhoda McFadden, Mrs. Mabel McDaniel, Mrs. Georgia McCray and Mrs. Louise Thomas.

Leader, Sector No. 2—Mrs. M. S. Mason; block leaders: Mrs. Eva Dukes, Mrs. Maud Purvis, Mrs. Jas. McFadden, Mrs. Mary Williams, Mrs. Aletha Hannah, Mrs. Mattie Burgess, and Mrs. Maggie Kennedy.

Leader, Sector No. 3—Mrs. H. H. Cooper; block leaders: Mrs. Carrie Wilson, Mrs. Anna McFarlin, Mrs. Senis M. Fulton, Mrs. Dorothy Shaw, Mrs. Virginia Patterson, Mrs. Alice Bines, and Mrs. Ruth Harper.

Leader, Sector No. 4—Mrs. Julia Lee Shaw; block leaders: Mrs. Luvenia Chandler, Mrs. Lula Johnson, Mrs. Johnny Ward, Mrs. Rosa Brown, Mrs. William Witherspoon, Mrs. Lula Blakeley, Mrs. Lula Brockinton, Mrs. Mary Cannon and Mrs. Julia Felder.

Leader, Sector No. 5—Mrs. S. S. Bacote; block leaders: Mrs. Marie Fulton, Rev. Pousalt, Mrs. Opelet Graham, Mrs. Martha Bines, Mrs. Sadie Brown, Mrs. Mable Burgess, Mrs. Villa McKnight, Mrs. Flora Nesmith, and Miss Ruth Porcher.

Charlotte, N. C. News
June 21, 1943

Negro Aid In Mailing Books Asked

Behind Schedule In Distribution

Falling alarmingly behind schedule in the mailing of North Carolinians' war ration book No. 3, the Office of Price Administration mailing center at Charlotte appealed today for Negro school teachers and leaders of Negro organizations here to volunteer for assistance in this tremendous task.

Aubrey Elliott, principal of Alexander Graham Junior High School and mailing center supervisor, said Clinton L. Blake, principal of the West Charlotte High School for Negro children, will receive offers for assistance in this work and will instruct the volunteers.

The Negro division of the mailing center will begin its activities tomorrow morning in the basement of Central High School, where several hundred white persons and a few Negro civil service helpers already are on udty.

AMPLE SPACE

Mr. Elliott said the basement is so extensive and includes such a relatively large number of rooms that the Negro division can be provided with ample working space without congestion being caused at the mailing center.

The center was opened June 10 and has averaged about 50,000 books distributed each work day, operating five days a week. The original schedule provided for the work to be completed by June 20 so that arrangements could be made to start the work of obtaining belated applications and mailing the requested books to these applicants. Aleary approximately 1,000,000 applications have been received at the mailing center, which must issue almost 4,000,000 books. Only about 400,000 books have been mailed so far, it was estimated.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

NEGRO WOMEN CAN AID DRIVERS' CORPS

Negro women who are licensed automobile drivers can volunteer for the Civilian Defense Drivers Corps (Negro Division) and applicants will be interviewed and registered at Citizens Service Headquarters, [illegible] Se[illegible] Avenue, North, [illegible] 9:[illegible] a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, it was announced Thursday.

AUG 6 1943

Volunteers of the group, who will wear the uniforms of the Protective Corps with distinctive insignia, will be given intensive training in first aid, ambulance driving and motor vehicle maintenance. They will be assigned to the Negro casualty stations and other duties of the Protective Corps.

August 26, 1943

LOYALTY OF NEGROES

As evidence of the patriotism and loyalty of Richmond Negroes Mayor Ambler has pointed out that 8,308 Negroes are engaged in Civilian Defense work.

47c-1943

Civilian Defense

THEY PILOT EFFICIENT MACON, GEORGIA VOLUNTEER POLICE CORPS

APR 3 1943

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Key figures in the efficient volunteer patrol forces which won such high praise from officials of the government, administrators of the local Office of Civilian Defense, and police authorities in Macon, Ga., recently are the quartet of leaders above, three of whom are executives in Company "D" of the Macon Auxiliary Police Batallion, all-colored unit numbering more than 60 members.

Left to right, these leaders are First Lieutenant C. D. Ingram, Chief of Police Robert L. Miller, First Lieutenant William P. Hutchings, and Captain F. J. Hutchings.

APR 3 1943

Chief of Police Miller admits it would be impossible to properly police the city of Macon, presently undermanned because of heavy inductions in the Central City, without the yeoman service of the colored volunteer police.

Preinduction Driver's Institute To Be Held

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
October 9, 1943

A TEACHER institute in preinduction driver education will be held at Central High school October 28 under the sponsorship of the Division of Instructional Service, the Division of Negro Education, Highway Safety division and the North Carolina Board of Education.

The driver education plan is designed to prepare civilian drivers and to help meet the needs of the Army for two million trained operators of military motor vehicles.

Institutes will also be held in the following North Carolina cities: Bryson City, October 11; Asheville, October 12; Hickory, October 13; Boone, October 14; Winston-Salem, October 15; Rocky Mount, October 25; Raleigh, October 26; Greensboro, October 27; Fayetteville, October 29; Wilmington, November 15; New Bern, November 16, and Elizabeth City, November 17.

Experts assisting in the institutes will be furnished by the Center for Safety Education of New York university, National Safety council, National Conservation bureau, Quartermaster corps and the Preinduction Training branch of the Fourth Service command.

NEGRO GROUP TO RECEIVE TICKETS

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
October [illegible], 1943

Children's Theater To Aid Dramatics In Local Schools

The Asheville Children's theater board will present 189 season tickets for Children's theater performances to the negro Civilian Defense office here to be distributed through an organization of negro teachers.

The tickets will be sold to children with the proceeds being used by the teachers' group to further dramatic and musical activities for students in negro schools. Some of the tickets will be distributed free and rotated for various performances of the season so that a number of children will be able to attend.

An additional 71 tickets will be presented to this group for the concert by Rudolph Ganz on Oct. 24 in the city auditorium because of the additional seats available there. Remaining performances will be at the Plaza theater on Saturday mornings.

Members of negro Girl Scout troops will serve as ushers in this division during the programs.

The tickets campaign of the Children's theater is under way with headquarters at the Carpenter-Matthews jewelry store.

SCHOOL CHILDREN GET TIN CAN DRIVE PRIZES

$25 Bonds Awarded To Leading Pupils And Schools

SHOW TICKETS GIVEN, TOO

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal

Winners of the tin can collection drive for September were announced yesterday by Mrs. Thomas Nelson Coppedge, educational chairman for the city campaign.

The school, the home room and the child topping all others in the city for cans collected through the month are presented $25 War Bonds. Two theater tickets are awarded the child bringing in the greatest number of cans for his school.

October 16, 1943

An equal number of prizes are given winners in the negro schools, where a sensational total of more than 13,000 cans took the prize.

Brings In 3104

Walter Streuli of 635 North Trezevant lugged 3104 flattened cans to his school, Snowden, to outweigh all others. He wins a War Bond donated by Memphis Salvage Commission.

Richard Luttman, 1989 Walker, of Peabody School, earned second place by turning in 2646 cans. Around 2000 cans was the contribution of the third place winner, Harold Rose, 506 Reese, of Messick. Edward Magee, 927 Maple Drive, of Springdale, was fourth with 868 cans.

A brace of tickets to neighborhood theaters, presented by M. A. Lightman, is awarded to them and to the following children, all winners within their respective schools:

Julia Herring of Bellevue, Glenn Lynch of Bethel Grove, Arthur Andrews of Cummings, L. G. Wilson of Fairview, Paula Hicks of Ford N. Taylor, Mary Russom of Gordon, Robert Brown of Guthrie, Shirley Ann Forgey of Hill, Lewis Cooper of Humes.

Bess Bayne of Idlewild, Nancy Hendley of Lauderdale, Mary Ann McLeroy of Lawler, Gene Weldon of Maury, Bobby Hunter of Memphis State Teachers Training, Andy Mullins of Riverside, Robert Depend of St. Paul's, and John Harris of Vollentine.

Snowden School won first place for total contribution among city schools after its overflowing tin baskets were counted at 28,120 cans. Peabody gathered 16,862, while Messick, with 16,798, won a third place, which was almost a second. Pope School turned in 13,202 for fourth place.

The home room class taught by Miss Herbert Lee Swepston of Snowden brought in the largest number of cans of all city home rooms. The room gets a $25 bond from Memphis Bottling Exchange.

Second place home room was the one at Peabody taught by Miss Mildred Flinn. It produced 6746 cans. A Pope School home room, whose teacher is Miss Cornelia Crinkley, took in 2544 and Miss Lala Stephens' Messick School home room garnered 2036.

St. Mary's Wins

Of the parochial schools, St. Mary's won first place with a yield of 4670. St. Mary's home room, directed by Sister Carmelina, gave 1740 cans. Parochial school individual winner was Delores Danovi of St. Mary's, who brought in 1144 cans.

Glenview Foundation contributed the greatest number of cans among the private schools. Sue Osenbaugh of Glenview won top honors for individuals.

Of all negro school children in the city, J. B. Joy of 357-C Wellington turned in the heaviest pile of cans. He brought 13,650 to Booker T. Washington School, and thereby earned a $25 bond.

Other negro individual winners were Rufus Green of Virginia Avenue School, who gathered 1220 cans; Evelyn Stewart of Lester, who brought 650; and Earl Banks of Klondike, who got 518.

23,480 Turned In

Booker T. Washington School led the negro field with a total of 23,480 cans brought in through September. Virginia Avenue, with 8466, came in second; Leath, with a total of 5131, was third, and Klondike, with 2985, was fourth.

Negro children who were best in their respective schools, and who therefore got two movie tickets, included: Reefers Webb of Caldwell, Otis Hunt of Grant, Floyd Moore of Leath, Eddie Harris of Lincoln, and Eddie Butler of Magnolia.

Awards for schools and children in Shelby County outside the city will be announced within a few days. Collection in the county is undertaken on a six-week, rather than a monthly, schedule. Mrs. William T. Whitley is education chairman for the county.

Home Front Workers Are Named Here

Columbia, S. C., State
October 16, 1943

J. Philip Rast, chairman for the Richland county home front campaign, last night named part of the committees which will open a county-wide campaign against inflation during the first week of November.

Charles Stork and Mrs. W. T. Cassels will serve as general chairman and co-chairman.

Others named were: Speakers, Mrs. John Cain; distribution, Rosco E. Stevens; George R. Morris associated committee; Wade H. Cobb, county chairman, and Thomas Moore, Gonzales Gardens; Guy L. Varn, Schneider school; publicity, Miss Lecil Drummond and Jack Collins, The Columbia Record; Miller Montgomery and Mark Warren, The State; W. C. Bocman and Jack Sholar, WCOS; J. Dudley Saumenig and Ray Furr, WIS; theaters, M. S. Suggs, Palmetto; Ed Candler, the State. Clay Williamson, Carver; S. J. Friedman, the Capital; Mrs. Harry Merritt, parent-teacher association, and C. A. Johnson, Negro schools.

Mrs. Cassels, the co-chairman of the drive, is being assisted by Mrs. Fred Gantt, executive director of the civilian defense block system in Columbia.

Pledge cards will be taken to all the homes of this area to seek compliance with governmental regulations to ward off inflation.

The task is being undertaken by the Columbia Exchange club and the block system workers.

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
October 17, 1943

State-Wide Meeting To Plan Negro War Recreation Is Set

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 16.—(AP)—The nation's first state-wide meeting to plan Negro war recreation programs will be held here Tuesday.

George L. Burr, jr., executive director of the state defense council which is cooperating in the movement, said plans will be made to "mobilize social and recreation forces among Negroes to improve wartime morale, direct concerted action against absenteeism and anti-social behavior, and develop personality and efficiency to increase war output."

Florida A. and M. college for Negroes, the Federal Security agency and the National Recreation association also are cooperating in the program.

Mark McCloskey of Washington, director of recreation for the Federal Security agency, will be, the principal speaker at the conference. President J. R. E. Lee of the A. and M. college will be chairman. Negro leaders of various federal agencies will participate.

SC Negroes Help Fight Inflation

Columbia, S. C., State

The Negro home front pledge campaign committee, composed of Negro leaders representing all sections of the state, met at the South Carolina State college in Orangeburg Saturday to plan its drive to combat inflation and "black markets." J. A. Gresham, district information officers from the Office of Price administration, stated the purpose of the meeting, the dangers of inflation and the need for organized efforts in holding down prices.

M. F. Whittaker, S. L. Finley, C. A. Johnson, C. V. Bing, A. R. Rucker, H. H. Butler and A. M. Anderson, in brief talks, discussed inflation during the first World war and the dangers of this evil in the present crisis. They explained how Negroes, who will suffer greatly from inflation, might be organized to fight this condition.

The state committee decided to set up in each county a home front pledge committee in co-operation with the county civilian defense organization. It was pointed out, however, that in a number of counties Negroes have not been included in civilian defense units. They will not be able to make their contribution unless they are made a part of the official county unit, the committee said.

September 22, 1943

The work of the state committee was divided among the following subcommittees: Ministers and pastors, school principals, colleges ,farm extension and home demonstration agents, vocational agricultural teachers and women organized under the block system.

John P. Burgess, state chairman, presided throughout the meeting.

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
October 15, 1943

Negro Rationing Board Registered 74,000

The Negro War Price and Rationing Board of Richmond, which is one year old today, has had a total registration of 74,000 persons during the past year, Chairman C. L. Townes announced yesterday.

When it was appointed one year ago today, the board was the first all-Negro rationing board in the State but others have been set up since that time. The board actually opened its offices in the Southern Aid Building at Third and Clay Sts. on Nov. 1, 1942.

Besides the chairman, the Negro board consists of Roscoe Mitchell and W. St. Elmo Reed. Reed yesterday announced he was resigning.

NEGRO BRANCH OF BOARD APPOINTED

Savannah, Ga., News

War Rationing Group Named By R. W. Groves

Inauguration of a negro branch of the Chatham County War Price and Rationing Board, to begin functioning as soon as suitable quarters and equipment can be provided, was announced yesterday afternoon by John W. Carswell, district director of the Office of Price Administration.

W. S. Scott, president of the Guaranty Insurance Company, has been named chairman, and eight other members have been selected. At the outset two panels will be in operation, a gasoline panel and a kerosene panel, and the branch will be under the general supervision of J. A. Myers, general chairman of the Chatham County War Price and Rationing Board.

October 13, 1943

In addition to Chairman Scott, the other eight members and the panels on which they will serve are as follows: kerosene panel, Martin Haynes, chairman; Authur Givens, and Louis B. Toomer; gasoline panel: Dr. J. E. Fonville, chairman; Simeon L. Williams, Jesse B. Sherman, Peter Jackson, and Thomas Heyward.

The establishment of the branch board was in compliance with a suggestion from the Savannah-Chatham County Defense Council through its chairman, Robert W. Groves, who nominated the personnel. The organization was then completed by the district office of the OPA.

At a meeting of the Defense Council, full discussion was given to the advisability of establishing a negro branch in Chatham county, and it was decided in the interests of the public to recommend to the OPA district director that steps be taken to create such a setup.

Chairman Scott and the panel members held a meeting last night and it was expected that both panels will be in operation soon. Definite announcement will be made shortly, giving location of the board and exact date it will begin operation.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
October 17, 1943

Negro Recreation To Be Subject of State-Wide Meet

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 16, (AP)—The Nation's first state-wide meeting to plan negro war recreation programs will be held here October 19.

George L. Burr Jr., executive director of the State Defense Council, which is co-operating in the movement, said plans will be made to "mobilize social and recreation forces among negroes to improve wartime morale, direct concerted action against absenteeism and anti-social behavior, and develop personality and efficiency to increase war output."

Florida A. and M. College for negroes, the Federal Security Agency and the National Recreation Association also are co-operating in the program.

Mark McCloskey of Washington, director of recreation for the Federal Security Agency, will be the principal speaker at the conference.

President J. R. E. Lee of the A. and M. College will be chairman. Negro leaders of various Federal agencies will participate.

"It is anticipated that the Florida conference will have national significance since it is the first of a number scheduled to be held in other States," Burr said.

"Constructive inter-racial community planning gained in this conference should be valuable in other States."

NEGROES NAMED ON RATIONING PANELS

Savannah, Ga., Press

Kerosene and Gas Branches Are Established

A negro branch of the Chatham County War Price and Rationing Board will begin to function as soon as suitable quarters and equipment can be provided. John W. Carswell, district director of the Office of Price Administration, announced yesterday afternoon.

October 13, 1943

W. S. Scott, president of the Guaranty Insurance Company, has been named chairman and other members are: Kerosene panel, Martin Haynes, chairman; Arthur Given and Lois B. Toomer; gasoline panel, Dr. J. E. Fonville, chairman; Simeon L. Williams, Jesse B. Sherman, Peter Jackson and Thomas Heyward.

The establishment of the branch is in compliance with a suggestion from the Savannah-Chatham County Defense Council through its chairman, Robert W. Groves, who nominated the personnel. The organization was then perfected by the district office of the OPA.

Carthage, N. C., News
September 9, 1943

Colored Man Shares Food With Refugees

PINEHURST, Aug. 31.—Tommy Russel, a generous and kindly colored man of this section who enjoys sharing his blessings with those less fortunate than himself, is setting an example of patriotism this summer with his contributions of food sent regularly to the refugee shildren in New York who have been brought from the battle fronts in Europs.

Tommy has a victory garden beside his little home in Eastwood, from which he gets fresh vegetables to feed himself and his family. Every week there are beans and squash, cucumbers and cabbages, onions and other vitamin giving foods left on the vines after Tommy and his family had their fill. Wishing to do his part towards aiding the victims of our warring enemies, Tommy has been gathering those extra vegetables, crating them, and shipping them to a regugee children's agency in New York. He has already sent three crates during July, and he averages a crate every two weeks.

No freight charge is made by the local office for Tommy's worthwhile endeavors towards aiding our allies. He is recognized as one of this section's least known but most deserving patriots.

[illegible] Record
September 16, 1943

NEGRO LEADERS TO MEET AT ORANGEBURG SEPTEMBER 18

John P. Burgess, of the State A & M College in Orangeburg, and chairman of the planning committee for educational work among the colored people, has announced a meeting at Orangeburg on September 18 of 40 Negros leaders where plans will be completed to start the home front pledge campaign of mobilization against inflation.

Educating the public to buy wisely will help cradicate black markets, and more money will then be available.

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 13, 1943

Voice Of The People

A WORD OF PRAISE

To the Editor of The News:

So often we fail to give credit to the Negro when he deserves it. I for one am guilty, so that I might redeem myself just a bit, I'm writing this to the "Voice of the People."

I carried my brother to town Sunday night to catch a bus to return to Wheeler Dam after a 10-day furlough here. When I left the bus station it was 10:30 p.m., so I decided to pick my husband up as he got off from work at 11 p.m.

However, at Third Avenue and 17th Street, I was stopped by a Negro woman air raid warden (or whatever title she has. Anyway she wore an official band). I asked her to let me continue my journey as I was afraid I'd miss my husband. The reply was an emphatic "No," so I switched off my motor and remained there until she gave me the "go" signal.

Her block was in total darkness in a few seconds and she stopped each car, streetcar and pedestrian with great efficiency. It was a beautiful piece of work and I feel like our "hats" should go off to her. This Negro woman's name is Hattie Sherman age 76 years. She has lived on Third Avenue for 34 years.

MRS. GLAZE ROBERSON.
1600 Almeda Avenue, Southwest.

Columbia, S. C., Record
October 21, 1943

Retailers Asked To Sign Pledge

Price panels of all war price and rationing boards in South Carolina are planning to offer to each retail merchant the privilege of being the first to sign the Home Front Pledge, which will later be extended to every adult in the state, both white and colored.

"Our price panels have recognized merchants as being civic leaders and feel that they should be given the opportunity of endorsing the government's program of good citizenship prior to the offer to the public, who are their customers," J. A. Gresham, district executive information executive for OPA, said yesterday.

John P. Burgess and 46 other outstanding Negro leaders over South Carolina are now intensifying their educational program among their people to the end that every Negro family in the state will realize the vital necessity of holding the home front secure and will want to sign the Home Front Pledge, Mr. Gresham explained.

The pledge to be taken by the

Birmingham, Ala., News
November 2, 1943

260,888 Here Sign For Ration Book 4, But 37,000 Waiting

At Birmingham's public schools the past Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 260,888 persons registered for Ration Book Four. Impressive as this seems, using the approximate corporate population of 297,000, there are some 37,000 persons who are compelled to wait until Nov. 15 to obtain their books.

Largest number, 13,927, of persons registered at the Negro Lincoln School on Ninth Avenue North, with the second largest group at South Highlands School, where 11,358 persons registered.

There was a total white registration of 150,119 and a total Negro enrollment of 110,769.

47c-1943

Civilian Defense

Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

New OPA Order To Place Negroes On Ration Boards

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON— The Office of Price Administration this week issued a long awaited administrative order to its regional and district offices to place Negroes on war price and ration boards.

Proper enforcement of this order will have far-reaching effects on Negroes and Negro communities throughout the country, including the South. No sectional exceptions are made.

MAY 29 1943

The order, issued by Prentiss Brown, administrator of the OPA, is dated May 7, and has now been sent to all district and regional offices. Under the qualifications of board members, the order states: "The membership of each board shall be such as to represent the community as a whole. Selection of all members of any one board from the same political party, sex, religious faith, RACE, economic level, social level or occupation, shall be avoided except as under special circumstances such selection may be necessary and unavoidable.

"When appropriate, the board, and the panels thereof, should include a housewife and members from labor, from agriculture, and from various MINORITY and RACIAL groups."

Whereas the defense councils make the nominations, the responsibility for the selection and appointment of board members is in the district director of the OPA.

The general functions of the boards, as enumerated in the OPA order, point up the importance of having Negroes represented. These functions include (1) informing the public of the nature, purposes and methods of price control and rationing; (2) informing the district offices of public response to OPA's programs, and the need for changes in operating procedures; (3) acting on all rationing matters assigned to the local boards; (4) receiving complaints of price violations and either transmitting them to the district office or taking such other action on them as is required by regulations and instructions; and (5) providing local leadership for meeting community problems associated with the price control, rent, and rationing programs.

MAY 29 1943

The absence of Negro representation on local boards, particularly in the South, has been one of the factors contributing to an inequitable administration of the OPA program where the Negro is concerned. Many of these evils still exist— differentials in prices in Negro neighborhoods, overcharging points for rationed commodities, and refusal of adequate and equitable rationing to Negroes.

The order for the inclusion of Negroes on ration boards is a culmination of a series of efforts toward this end. The N.A.A.C.P. first broached the subject in June of 1942. Their suggestion was turned down by Deputy Administrator John Hamm, who said the administration feared that a specific directive to state and local officials, particularly in the South, might endanger the entire administrative set-up in the Southern area.

The Defender pointed out the evils arising from the lack of Negro representation on such boards in February of 1943, and brought the matter to the attention of Administrator Brown with a list of questions on the problem. The Defender later conferred with Mr. Brown and suggested a statement of policy on the inclusion of Negroes.

George Weaver, director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, held several conferences and wrote memoranda to Brown on this same point. He presented forceful arguments in which he showed how successfully the selective service system has utilized Negroes, and how the post office deparement makes use of the services of Negroes but maintains but one service for the communities. Much of the credit for the administrative order is due George Weaver.

The problem now facing the OPA is machinery for enforcing the order, which may be resisted in some of the "backwoods" areas of the country.

MAY 29 1943

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 6, 1943

Negro Women To Take OCD Drivers' Tests

Negro women members for a new drivers corps for the Negro division of Civilian Defense will be interviewed and registered Saturday at the volunteer desk of Citizens Service Corps headquarters, 1718 Second Avenue, North.

Licensed automobile drivers have been urged to apply for the corps, whose members will be uniformed and wear Protective Corps insignia. Volunteers will be given intensive training in first aid, ambulance driving and motor vehicle maintenance and be assigned to Negro casualty stations.

Registration hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, and in charge will be Ruth Jackson Durr, chairman, and Wilma G. Nichols and Barbara V. Durr, co-chairmen.

July 27, 1943

SALVAGE DRIVE IS HELPED BY NEGRO

Bristol Cook Is Proclaimed One-Man Committee

RICHMOND, July 26 (AP).—Robert Scott's ability as a cook is something the war production board knows nothing about, but the WPB does know that Robert is just about the nearest thing to a one-man salvage drive that you can find anywhere.

Robert, the Negro cook at a Bristol cafe, started one of the greatest grease-collecting campaigns the Old Dominion ever has or ever will see, according to C. H. Luebbert, executive secretary of the state salvage committee.

Receives Letter

Not being satisfied with being the first person in the country to "give a grease anniversary" celebrating one year of grease-collecting, Robert has just sent Luebbert a letter enclosing a renderer's receipt showing that he has sold 1,023 pounds of grease since June 13, the date of the anniversary celebration.

During the first year, Robert, single-handed, collected 5,550 pounds of grease for the war program.

Now Robert is ready to branch out into other fields of salvage. In his leter, he wrote:

"I am taking my vacation next month, and I am going to spend the most of my time gathering up grease, and what about old silk and anything you think needed most? Please let me have a list. I have a list of names of about 75 or 100 to call on first. Have two hours in the morning and one and a half in the evening."

Oxford, N. C. Ledger
June 25, 1943

Colored Council On Nutrition Is Being Organized

Catherine McGhee Is Elected County Chairman at First Meeting of Group

A Colored Council to work in conjunction with the Nutrition Council of the Granville County Civilian Defense organization has been formed through the assistance of Mrs. Henry P. Hall.

At the initial meeting, the purposes of the committee were outlined and a plan of procedure suggested. Catherine McGhee was elected county chairman and she will be assisted in competing the organization by the following committees:

Publicity — Rev. G. W. Watkins and wife, Cornelia Green and Malissa Brooks; Food Production — J. R. Redding, R. A. Lewis and T. A. Hamme; Food Conservation and Utilization — Irene Parham, Maylor Oakley and Virginia McAden; Public Health and Clinical Nutritional Service — Dr. E. E. Toney, Dr. L. W. Anderson and H. B. Hicks; School Lunchrooms —Mildred B. Williams, Cleveland Hawley, and William Baptiste; Unit Courses in Nutrition; G. W. Hall, Charlie Gregory and Edna R. Tuck

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REPORT TELLS OF NEGRO'S PART IN CIVILIAN DEFENSE

Amelia, [illegible] Gazette
August 26, 1943

Virginia Negroes are active in all phases of civilian defense and have representatives on the Defense Councils of 66 counties, cities and towns, according to the report of James F. Nicholas, supervisor of Negro Defense Activities, covering the period between June 1, 1942, and June 30, 1943.

From the beginning of the Civilian Defense organization in Virginia, it has been the policy of the State Office to encourage Negro participation on all levels.

The 1940 census places the Negro population in the State at 631,449. Of this total, 405,305, or 61.3 per cent, live in the 66 counties and towns that have Negro representation on their Defense Councils.

The work of Negro air raid wardens and auxiliary police has been outstanding and there is no record of friction or disturbances of a serious nature that have resulted from the actions of any Negro air raid warden or auxiliary policeman.

Since June 1, 1942, the Supervisor of Negro Defense Activities has made 126 visits to 64 counties, cities and towns in connection with Negro participation in the protective and war service activities.

The supervisor's report says that, "Taking the State as a whole, the work that the Negro people have done is very commendable. Some localities have better programs than others; but, when we consider the needs of the respective communities and all the disadvantages that some of them have to work under, it is, perhaps, a correct appraisal to say that most of them are doing about as well as they can." Several outstanding examples of Negro civilian defense activities in different cities and towns are listed.

August 12, 1943
Winnsboro, S. C. News & Herald

Colored Families Save Tin Cans

Twenty-three small colored children met at the Negro agricultural agent's office Friday, August 6th, to organize a Junior Salvage committee. These children were selected from each block in the colored sectors to contact the people who live in those blocks and constantly remind them to save their tin cans and fats.

All families will be requested to prepare the cans as the volunteer workers will demonstrate and put them in containers conveniently located for the city workers to collect without any trouble.

We are looking forward to full cooperation from all families and ask that you give these young workers proper respect and encouragement.

The Junior chairmen are Miss Kathaleen Ross and Miss Ameila McIntosh.

OCD HOME FRONT

School Principal Commended For Fine Work

Shreveport, La. "Sun"

Outstanding work is being done in Caddo Parish by Walter Saxon, school principal in the Belcher district. He has organized and is now successfully handling, with competent assistants, the Home Front Program in five districts in the parish. He is also the Home Canning Agent for that territory. The Home Front Committee is one of the greatest importance as our president has declared and the Negroes are doing their part in making it successful.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Jefferson Gets New Post In OCD

APR 24 1943

WASHINGTON — The appointment of Bernard S. Jefferson, associate professor of law at Howard university, to the staff of the national Office of Civilian Defense has been announced by Director James M. Landis.

As a member of the National Organizations Section, Jefferson will present OCD services to organized Negro groups.

"We are particularly fortunate to have Mr. Jefferson as a member of our staff," Landis said. "Negro organizations play an important role in creating a better understanding of the nation's war programs and the part their members can take in civilian activities is vitally necessary to the war effort."

Jefferson will help to present to organized Negro groups the federal war programs which depend for their success upon the work of volunteers. Among these programs are manpower, child-care, transportation, war savings, conservation, rationing, nutrition and health.

Part of his job will be to assist Negro organizations to serve their communities through local defense councils and to receive from such organizations suggestions which might be helpful in the promotion of various aspects of the Civilian Defense program.

Newport News, Va. Press
November 4, 1943

Negro OCD Firemen To Elect Officers

Negro auxiliary firemen of the Hampton division of the Elizabeth City county civilian defense will elect officers at a meeting at 7 tonight in Union school.

Julian H. Lipscombe, chairman, said business matters will also be considered by the unit.

PM
New York, N. Y.

47c

JUL 14 1943
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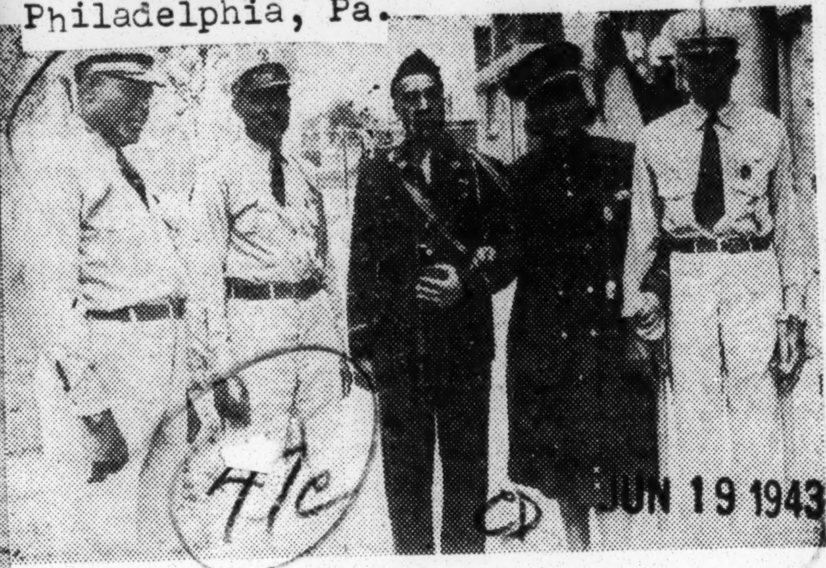
Bottles for Victory

Irving Goldsmith, of 121 Bainbridge St., Brooklyn, heads for a grocery store with bottles he collected to help along a campaign that started this week to save glass by salvaging used bottles. *PM Photo by Wilbert Blanche*

Auxiliary Police

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



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CD JUN 19 1943

Five of Atlantic City's Auxiliary Police, recently sworn in. Left to right: James Hunter, C. Bailey, Sam McQueen, Margaret Cresswell, only policewoman in Atlantic City; and Romaine Merritt.—Photo by "Chink" Robinson.

Every Home To Be Asked To Display Compliance Pledge

Dover, Tenn., Times September 2, 1943

47c

Every home in Dover and Stewart County will be asked to display in their windows a voluntary compliance pledge not to pay more than top legal prices and to accept no rationed goods without giving up ration stamps.

This sweeping program was mapped at a joint OPA-OCD meeting at Clarksville High School this morning. The campaign was explained by Hardin H. Conn and Mrs. A. H. Roberts, representing the OPA and the OCD.

Western Grizzard, Civilian Defense coordinator, who presided, appointed a committee to direct a house-to-house campaign that is intended to come in contact with every family in the city and county. This committee is composed of C. H. Moore, chairman; Mrs. Gobble Davis, Block Leader; Ralph Winters, of the OCD; Dr. Richard N. Owen, representing the churches; Stanley Gower, the press; N. L. Carney, rural schools; T. B. Foust, OPA; Jesse F. Perry, civic clubs; Miss Verda Williams, city schools; Charlie Runyon, speakers' bureau; H. W. Short, county agent, and H. L. Allison, the colored people. The drive will be from September 12 to 18.

A total of 6,000 stickers for the estimated 2,000 homes in Clarksville and the estimated 4,000 in the rural communities will be provided. The stickers read:

"I pledge to pay no more than top legal prices; I accept no rationed goods without giving up ration stamps."

Mr. Conn said the battle on the home front is to see that the things for which the boys are fighting will not be dissipated. He described inflation as an insidious enemy that must be defeated.

Rationing and price control are designed to prevent inflation and to assure a fair division of the necessities of life. Rationing, he is a fair system in that it issues ration currency against a national stock pile. Price control and rationing must go hand in hand.

The only way the program can be effective, he said, is through voluntary compliance—the American public accepting it and abiding by it. If the pledges are carried out there will be no black markets, he concluded.

Mrs. Roberts conceded that OPA had drawn much criticism, but she asked what would happen if OPA was abolished? The new compliance pledge is a movement of compliance rather than inforcement, she explained.

The pledge campaign was begun in New Orleans, Mrs. Roberts stated. The pledges were signed by practically every family in New Orleans and overnight prices dropped. It is an example, she said, of what can be done when the people cooperate.

This was one of a series of more than 100 meetings that are being conducted over the state. The campaign is expected to be nation-wide.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
September 11, 1943

Solicitor Garrett Flays Acts Of Negro Auxiliary Groups

47c
CD

The Bibb county grand jury yesterday returned a no bill in case of James Walker, Negro auxiliary policeman, charged with murder in the death of Willie B. Jones. Nine other Negro auxiliaries were charged with Walker as accessories in the slaying.

Solicitor General Charles H. Garrett, following the return of the no bill, lashed out at certain factions of the Negro auxiliary police force, stating that "the Negro auxiliaries are unnecessarily cruel and vicious in making arrests in some instances."

"The Negroes should have part in the organization," he said, "but should be under the direct supervision of white officers and if they are not willing to accept the sacrifices and obey orders they should not have a part in the undertaking."

Garrett declared that he had no complaint against the white auxiliaries, citing their untiring efforts in the patriotic endeavor, but stated that he had "two or three" homicides involving Negro auxiliaries in his office and "several complaints where they were said to have assaulted persons unnecessarily in making arrests."

Walker and the nine other auxiliaries were charged with the murder of Jones, following an affray in front of a Negro night club here July 17. The case was to have been heard at a previous grand jury session but was postponed until later because of the absence of two of the witnesses. The ten Negroes were charged in the warrant with making an assault upon Jones "with a pistol, and wooden bludgeons, police sticks, blackjacks, and other blunt instruments."

The case of Claude Lundy, another Negro auxiliary, charged with murder in connection with the death of Richard Felts, will be heard when the grand jury convenes next Tuesday, Garrett declared. Felts died Sept. 2 in the Macon hospital of gunshot wounds allegedly inflicted by Lundy on May 22. Lundy was released from the Bibb county jail under $1,000 after he was held by a coroner's jury in the death of Felts.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

League Hears Plans Of City Defense Council

Corps Will Reach Into Life Of Every Family

FEB 3 1943

47c
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A very effective meeting of the Atlanta Civic and Political League was held at Ebenezer Baptist Church Tuesday evening, with several important reports highlighting the program. J. W. Dobbs. president, who has just returned from a months trip to the southwest, presided at the meeting.

Miss E. Fannie Granton, of the Atlanta School of Social Work, called upon League members as citizens to help carry on the program which has been sponsored by the Atlanta Urban League in combatting social diseases. Each person was asked to have a blood test and examination, and urge his neighbor, associates, employees and others to do the same.

The prospective Citizens Defense Council, which will organize the rationing, welfare, health and recreational phases of Civilian Defense, was described by Warren A. Cochrane, executive secretary of the Butler Street Branch, Y. M. C. A. Mr. Cochrane pointed out how this corps will reach into every family of the city, with a block organization similar to Civilian Defense Corps, but distinctly apart from it. This matter was thoroughly discussed as well as the efforts to maintain Negro leadership in the protective corps. As a result, a committee was authorized to be appointed to work out a program to be presented at the mass meeting to be held in connection with the Lincoln Douglas Day program at Big Bethel A. M. E. Church on February 14th. It was also agreed, upon recommendation of W. Y. Bell and T. M. Alexander, to set up a publicity committee to organize information on all phases of the League's activities in connection with community life.

The committee on organization reported progress in setting up precinct groups all over the city in that committees have been appointed in each section. Most of these committees were represented, and during the next two weeks meetings will be called to elect officers for each precinct of the city.

FEB 3 1943

The president, J. W. Dobbs gave an interesting account of his trip to the southwest and old something of what Negroes are doing in that section. He emphasized the necessity of paying poll taxes to remain on the voters' list, and the need for an effective organization.

Albany, Ga. Journal
Oct 29, 1943

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IMPRESSIONS OF THE RATIONING

47c

Opening hour on Oct. 21 with a line of white people extending all the way from North Washington to the rationing building, and a line of colored people from Front . . . city policemen, one at the time, patiently directing black and white and handing out blanks to be filled; auxiliary po-

lice inside doing their share . . . versation with an occasional
helpers patiently learning how tolaugh . . . high school boys and
do the job, and checking care-girls doing their work as cheer-
fully . . . sighs on part of thosefully and efficiently as their eld-
waiting in line . . . workers yellers . . . colored girls with a few
ing out, "Books, more books" men, mostly students from the
. . the constant hub-bub of con-college, all helpers .

47c-1943

Civilian Defense

Macon, Ga., Telegraph

Bibb School Children Take Spotlight in Scrap Drive

November 7, 1943

Bibb county school children took the spotlight in yesterday's Macon scrap parade, and the float entered by John W. Burke school earned the first prize $50 War Bond prize, with Charles Bruce school's float in second place for a $25 War Bond prize.

Similar War Bond awards offered for the best floats from Negro schools went to Burdell school as first prize winner and to L. H. Williams school as second prize winner.

A secret committee of judges selected these floats as the winners from entries representing almost all of Bibb county's public schools. All of the school floats portrayed some part of the scrap collection program.

BIG CROWD WATCHES

Boy Scouts, firemen, policemen, members of the Marines, the American Legion and the State Guard marched with the youngsters in the parade, which was viewed by a crowd that jammed Cherry street from the city auditorium down to Broadway.

The Robins Field band paraded for the scrap drive too, and Cochran Field gave the use of its jeeps for the occasion. Other army equipment came from Warner Robins, while the Lanier High boys' band furnished part of the music.

Scrap collecting became a colorful enterprise as it was shown in the floats, posters, and pantomime scenes. The John W. Burke school's winning float showed a WAC, WAVE, sailor, Marine and soldier busy at a melting pot turning out planes, tanks, jeeps and other weapons which can be made from scrap.

The second prize float from Charles Bruce school showed small boys dressed as soldiers with a wall of scrap between them and the enemy as protection. The Bellevue school entry featured Uncle Sam, while Virgil Powers float pictured two groups, one dressed like gold rush days with a sign saying "Not the spirit of 49 — gold digging" and the second group dressed in old, scrappy clothes with a sign saying "But the Spirit of '43—scrap collecting."

SCRAP HAPPY

Girls from Lanier High bore a huge sign: "Scrap happy. Hi soldier! Here comes help!" Joseph Clisby school pupils carried dozens of big signs showing the different kinds of scrap collecting, and Gresham children dressed up in scrap metal helmets and armed themselves with scrap metal guns.

The Negro schools taking first and second place planned their floats around terse, pointed slogans. Burdell school's float showed a huge shell made of a scrapped hot water boiler with a big sign saying, "Christmas present for Tokio." The L. H. Williams float featured a Jap dummy hanging from a gallows, with a sign reading "Our scrap to hang the Japs."

Wreckers also had a part in the dramatization of scrap needs, as they were used to haul broken-down jalopies marked "4-F" in the parade, followed by a jeep marked "After." Another such jalopy was marked "Death of a jalopy" and was followed by a tough little Army vehicle marked "Birth of a jeep."

Jay-Cees were sponsors of the scrap parade at the request of the Bibb county salvage committee headed by W. Mac Davis. Walter Doyle acted as chairman of arrangements with Lamar Swift, Capt. J. C. Spangler, and Claude McCollough as committee members. The Jay-cees carried a giant poster during yesterday's marching, to show the 102 Jay-cees in the Scrap.

Collection of scrap will be carried on throughout the county on Armistice Day, November 11, at which time 40 trucks from Camp Wheeler will be routed by schools to pick up the scrap turned in there.

Schools getting the most scrap have been offered prizes by Macon newspapers, with $100 War Bonds for the top white and top colored schools, $50 War Bonds for second place schools and $25 prizes for the third place winners.

47c

CD

Nashville, Tenn., Banner

November 4, 1943

Negro Air Raid Wardens Honored

Fifty Nashville Negroes received air raid warden certificates last night at a meeting at the Citizen's Bank Building, G. B. Dickey, chief air raid warden for Davidson County, announced.

In presenting the certificates, Dickey said, "You are not only qualifying as air raid wardens but as good citizens."

H. J. Stockard, who has four sons in the service, is head of the Negro wardens. Fire Capt. Jesse Vaughn, chief instructor of civilian defense, made a short talk to the group.

In commending this group, Dickey said that on Halloween they were called upon by the Fire Department to watch the fire alarm boxes, and that not a single false alarm was turned in.

47c

CD

Kernersville (N. C.) News

October 21, 1943

Colored Members of C. D. Are Given Feed By Town

The colored members of the Civilian Defense Corps in Kernersville were given a barbecue and oyster stew Friday night of last week in the Kernersville colored school cafeteria.

There are 30 colored members in the organization which is known as Zone 6 and was organized by Earl Watson, who is warden. The organization is composed of first aiders, block wardens, auxiliary policemen and firemen.

The feed was opened by Cyrus Matthews (col), who led his fellow members in singing the National Anthem, which was followed by "God Bless America," after which he returned thanks. Earl Watson in a brief talk explained that the town was giving the feed to show appreciation of the cooperation of the colored people in Civilian Defense. Mr. Watson also thanked them for their loyalty in the organization.

Carlos Wilson, of Winston-Salem, who taught first aid to members of the organization, was the speaker of the evening, being introduced by Mr. Watson. Mr. Wilson spoke on the Red Cross, citing its activities on the battle front as well as the home front.

The program was concluded with two negro spirituals.

47c

Americus Ga. Recorder

November 8, 1943

Negro Leaders Preparing For Salvage Drive

The negroes in Americus, under the leadership of Eddie Bryant, chairman of the negro Scrap Drive Committee are organized to do their share towards making the drive a success. According to Bryant, with the assistance of the other members, associated with him, the students of Staley High school and the McCoy Hill school will locate and assemble the scrap and tin cans at the various homes, prior to November 10, at which time the individual small piles assembled at the homes will be reassembled in a large pile on the campus of the Staley High school, ready for collection, November 11th.

Bryant is asking all of the colored citizens and housewives to co-operate with him and give the students full sympathetic assistance.

In the county, F. M. Staley, negro county agent announces that the rural schools will be responsible for assembling scrap at a central location, using the school as the central point. The Sumter County Farmers' Board and the neighborhood leaders located in each community will co-operate with the rural teachers in making the drive a success.

The negroes in the city are being urged to donate money collected from the sale of the scrap to the Negro Boy Scouts. The rural people will donate the money derived from sale of scrap to their respective school.

47c

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Macon, Ga., News

November 8, 1943

Negro Auxiliary Officers Spend Busy Evening

Bus Disturbance Draws Heavy Fine

Negro auxiliary police were kept busy last night defending themselves from attacks by other members of their race.

First, Ben Fountain drew a knife on a bus driver and then threatened to slash an auxiliary who was attracted by the disturbance, police reported.

THEN WILLIE FULLER, who was also on the bus, wanted to jump into the scramble along side Fountain, it was reported.

Fountain was fined $100 and Fuller $50 in recorder's court.

Later in the evening, auxiliaries arrested Irene Little for being drunk. She tried to get an ice pick out of her pocketbook and the police had to take it away from her.

* * *

ROY HUBBARD got into an argument with the arresting officers and he was nabbed when he reached into his pocket for a knife, the court was told.

As police were taking these two to a box, David Tucker dove towards one of them with another open knife and a third auxiliary tripped Tucker and took the weapon away, officers said.

Tucker was fined $50, the woman, $33; and Hubbard, $15, by Judge George Nottingham.

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Raleigh

Nov

WILSON STARTS DRIVE TO COLLECT CLOTHES

Wilson, Nov. 23.—Wilson and Wilson County began a drive for old clothes for people in war-torn countries yesterday and set as their quota for the drive one hundredth of the State's quota of 3,500,000 garments for the drive between November 22 and December 4, said John G. Thomas, county salvage chairman.

This means that Wilson will attempt the collection of 3,500 garments in the drive "and hopefully more", the Salvage committee announced.

All the civic clubs in Wilson are cooperating in the drive. The Jaycees will have the actual collection ojb in the white section of town while the egro Civic Club will collect clothes in Negro section.

Lloyd Batton, president of the Kiwanis Club, has been made chairman of the old clothes group.

The Jaycees will make a house-to-house collection Sunday for the clothes. Six depots have been set up where people can bring their old clothes to give away any time during the two-week period.

47c

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November 15, 1943

School at Seale Leading In Scrap

H. B. Hamner, superintendent of Russell county school, reported Monday that the school in Seale is leading all schools in the county salvage work and the County Training Negro school of Hurtsboro is leading the Negro schools in the salvage drive.

H. A. Johnston, chairman of Russell County Salvage drive, asserted that Phenix City schools and other organizations are far behind other schools and organizations in the scrap drive.

"Everything is needed," said Mr. Johnston. "There is no need to waste anything. We want to collect scrap iron and any other metal, rubber of any description, grease, bones, old rags, old felt base rugs, newspapers, magazines, books and cardboard."

"Some people have the idea that Mr. Johnston receives money or personal benefit for issuing bonds or collecting scrap," said Mayor E. E. Reese, who is urging the public to cooperate further. "I want everyone to know that Mr. Johnston receives no compensation whatsoever for the work he does as chairman of the Russell county salvage committee. In fact, he is usually digging into his own pocket."

47c

CD

Waycross, Ga., Journal Herald

November 19, 1943

GRAND JURY PRAISES WORK DONE BY NEGROES BEHALF WAR EFFORT

1/28

VALDOSTA, Ga., Nov. 19 (AP)—The Lowndes county grand jury in its presentments praised the work being done on behalf of the war effort by a number of the leading citizens of Valdosta.

Especially mentioned in the commendation were Chauncey Hudson, store owner and chairman of the Negro civilian defense council: James Dockett, druggist; Prof. T. A. Lomax, school principal, and Jabes Scott, undertaker. All of these men are on the advisory board of the Negro recreation center here.

47c

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun

November 15.

Salvage Drive Led By Seale Students

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Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

NEW COMMISSION FOR ATTORNEY BROWN

Atty. S. Joe Brown, a veteran of World War I, who for more than two years has held three commissions in the present war, one as Govt. Appeal Agt. for Seleceive Service Board No. 4; another as "Minute Man" speaker in the Bond Drive and a third as Re-Employment Officer for men discharged from the service, received a fourth last Thursday evening when he completed his training course.

He was sworn in as a member of the Civilian Service Corps; and almost before the ink was dry upon his new commission was called into active duty on Friday evening and served as Air Raid Warden for his neighborhood during the surprise blackout.

AUG 5 1943

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

Loyalty On Parade

More than 15,000 persons are expected to march through the downtown streets of Birmingham this morning in a monster Loyalty Parade climaxing the observance in the county of Civilian Defense Loyalty Week. The procession will be in 20 sections, including three from Bessemer and four Negro divisions, and after passing through the downtown streets will end at the Municipal Auditorium where participants will join in a mass rally. All the various local defense organizations will be represented in the parade which will be reviewed by a group of civilian defense officials and Army, Navy and Marine officers.

Speakers at the mass rally to follow the parade will be James M. Landis, national OCD director, and Charles H. Murchison, regional OCD head.

The rally will bring to a close a week of interesting events in connection with the Defense Loyalty observance, which included a simulated air raid and a blackout. These demonstrations also gave evidence of the efficiency of the defense organization in the city and county and reflected much credit upon the leaders of this movement for their efforts in perfecting their respective organizations.

Birmingham may never, one hopes, be actually in need of being defended, but it is good to know that should such a need ever arise we have a well-trained, smoothly functioning group which can be relied upon to give a good account of itself in any emergency.

SEP 6 1943

CDVO Calls Negro-White Unity Rally Tomorrow

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

What is reported to be the first Negro-white unity rally in the United States called by the Civilian Defense Volunteer Office will be held at Poe Park, Grand Concourse, north of Fordham Road, at 8 P.M. Sunday, when prominent community leaders and artists will join the people in pledging to work for racial and national unity.

Plans for the rally grew out of a meeting at the home of Jean Muir, motion picture star, 51 W. 86th St., two weeks ago, where Mayor F. H. LaGuardia led in the signing of a "Pledge of Unity" and where a "Pledge of Unity Committee" was set up. It is this committee which laid the groundwork for Sunday's rally.

The Pledge of Unity, signed by some of the most prominent persons in the City of New York, read:

"We, the citizens of New York, say it can't happen here, but we want to make sure: Moved by a deep sense of anguish and horror that in the midst of a war being fought for democracy there should be manifestations of racial hatred and violence against Americans of any race, color or creed, we pledge:

"1. That we shall not be moved by mob action against any fellow citizen;

"2. That we shall not listen to nor repeat any rumors designed to divide us among ourselves.

"3. That we shall at all times live up to the spirit of our American citizenship and do what is in our power to forward mutual understanding and friendliness among all the various groups which make up this city and our America.

"This pledge is supported and has been signed by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia."

Signatures followed.

Roderick Stephens, co-chairman of the Bronx CDVO, will be chairman of the rally. Speakers will include Dr. James Waterman Wise, the Rev. Edler Hawkins, Miss Muir, Maurice Hindus, author; W. C. Handy, "Father of the Blues," and Herbert Chenko, CDVO.

JUL 24 1943

The Proudest Kids in America

The Worker

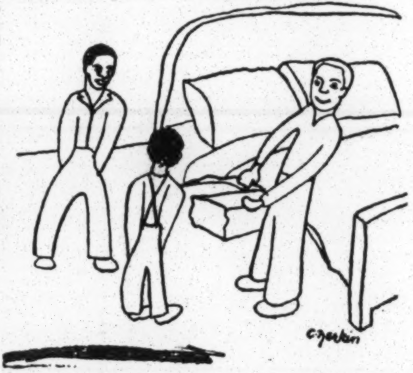
By *AUNT ANNIE*

New York, N. Y.

Last week, I saw some of the proudest kids in America. They were a bunch of Negro and white boys and girls from Harlem and Upper Manhattan, New York City, heads of kids' salvage clubs, who met in the Civilian Defense office to get their insignia as members of the U. S. Junior Citizens Service Corps.

Those treasured insignia, red and blue on white silk badges, meant they had each given ten hours' work to helping win the war, and were promising to give an hour a week till victory comes.

"We've been collecting salvage," said Cleopatra Humphrey, a cute 15-year-old Negro girl, "and doing mostly anything that's needed. We had parties to raise money for the Red Cross, and gave plays and charged a war stamp admission. But I like getting the salvage best. We have so much fun at it, going from house to house and the people giving it to us."



Rubin hid his salvage under the bed

Cleo, who is "General" of the girls' salvage club in her junior high school, has put in lots more than ten hours—she's been at it for nearly two years. So has her little sister, Geraldine, who is a "Major" in the club.

Nine-year-old Anthony Clarke, and his pal Robert Negron, eight, both Negro boys, are captains in another salvage club that's gone after waste paper collection. They know that waste paper can be made into bombs and parachutes. They save every tiny scrap. So does their friend Rubin Rosario, a white boy of nine in the same group. Only Rubin's had trouble finding a place to keep his salvage. He used to hide it under his mother's bed. "But now I've got a better place," he says, "in the closet."

DEC 5 1943

47c-1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro USO Center Lists Its Activities

FEB 2

The Rev. F. E. Churchill, pastor of the St. John A. M. E Church, will deliver a special message to the soldiers at Gunter Field, in their chapel today at 1 p.m. Music by St. John's Choir.

The week's program at the USO will include: Open house and informal recreation from 6-10:30 p.m., Sunday.

Monday: Relaxation Night—Classes in reading, writing and arithmetic; meeting of Little Theater and Dramatic Club; informal recreation.

Tuesday: Informal recreation night—Free stenographic service, classes in typing; radio broadcast (WCOV 6:30 p.m.); classes in typing, photography, reading, writing and arithmetic; informal recreation; radio boardcast (7:45).

Wednesday: Gunter Field's Glee Club rehearsal; meeting of Little Theater and Dramatic Club; informal recreation.

Thursday: Class night—Classes in typing and photography; informal recreation; meeting of USO Lounge Committee.

Friday: Informal recreation—Radio broadcast, Fourth Aviation Glee Club. FEB 28 1943

Saturday: Informal recreation

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

USO CENTER

Last Sunday, the new Keo-Way USO center was formally opened. The public had waited a long time for the creation of facilities adequate to house the activities of this agency which heretofore has been forced to carry on a big work with inadequate accommodations. FEB 18 1943

But the long wait has justified itself for now this agency is housed in one of the most complete set of quarters to be found anywhere in the country. Contrary to projects generally handed out which the Negro conducts and frequents most, in this center nothing has been left undone to make it equal to that of any other town or section.

Des Moines has done itself proud in this effort much to the credit of the sponsoring agencies and those in charge both officially and unofficially.

Of course with this beautiful beginning goes a responsibility resting on civilians as well as the officials to pitch in and see that those for whose pleasure and comfort the center was set up, get all the good possible out of it. These facilities will go a long way to provide proper entertainment and comfort for service men and women while off duty thus raising the morale of our fighting forces.

FEB 18 1943

The citizens of Des Moines must be proud of this project and the best way to show it is to give those in charge their wholehearted support.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Director Explains USO Program

FEB 25 1943

Because of the number of queries and comments regarding the program of the Keo-Way USO in the community and groups that are admitted to the Center, Miss Ann T. Wolfolk, makes the following statement:

"The common task of USO will be to provide services in the communities near camps where the young men and women of the armed forces spend their free time. In some communities where there are a number of defense workers and the community agencies can not provide any or all of the services for defense workers, the USO provides some program for them.

"The Keo-Way USO at the present time is serving only men and women in the armed forces with the help of associated civilians who are on the Volunteer Staff. These associated civilians have made application and stated in what capacity they would like to serve. Each associated civilian will carry soon a membership card. FEB 25 1943

"The Keo-Way staff welcomes anyone who would like to do some type of service and will be very grateful to have you. Someone will be on hand to take applications during the hours the Center is open."

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

To USO Post In Six States

FEB 5 1943

USO

New York. — Appointment of Thomas M. Bond as associate director of Negro operations was announced today by Thomas A. Rymer, executive director of USO activities for the YMCA. He will assist Director Arthur W. Hardy in supervising USO clubs for Colored servicemen in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama, and will assume an advisory and consulting relationship with the USO-YMCA offices

FEB 5 - 1943

of the Southwestern and Southeastern Regions, with headquarters for the present in New Orleans.

Bond's record as director of the USO club the YMCA conducts at Cassin street, Alexandria, La., was a factor in his selection for the executive post, the YMCA announced. He was one of the first men chosen by the YMCA to direct its USO club w FEB 5 - 1943

A native of Louisville, Bond attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, George Williams College in Chicago, and received his M. A. degree from the University of Cincinnati. He taught in Louisville's public schools for 13 years, and has served as state secretary for the Colored YMCA's of Kentucky.

Bond is a member of a family already long nationally prominent in educational work and social service. His brother, Dr. Horace M. Bond, is president of Fort Valley Institute, at Fort Valley, Ga. Another brother, Dr. Max Bond, is Dean of the College at Tuskegee, Ala. FEB 5 - 1943

The YMCA is operating 74 USO clubs for Colored servicemen. More are planned.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

W. Y. Bell, Jr. TO USO POST

Atlanta, Feb. 12. (ANP)—Effective this week, William Y. Bell, Jr., executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban league, was granted a leave of absence by the board of directors of that agency to become associate regional executive of USO with headquarters in Atlanta, it was announced by A. T. Walden, chairman of the board.

Bell's duties will include coordination of USO activities for Negro soldiers and industrial workers primarily in Region 7 comprising the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. He may also be called upon for periodic work in Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

FEB 12 1943

He will be responsible to H. W. Pope, consultant for Negro service, in the national USO office in New York, who has responsibility for coordination of Negro work on the national level.

Bell will be the first Negro to be employed by the USO itself for regional work. FEB 12 1943

It is understood that the great number of Negro soldiers in the south, and the tense race relations existing now in many sections where USO centers have been set up and where others will be established, are among the most important factors which influenced the selection of a Negro for the regional staff. FEB 12 1943

By means of a special arrangement he will continue to give advice and direction to the program of the Atlanta Urban league. This arrangement is possible because most of his work with USO will be centered in Atlanta, making possible much extra work with the Urban league program.

The announcement of an acting executive secretary will be made as soon as the board completes its arrangements with one of a number of persons being considered for the post..

Although he is not a member, Bell was recently cited by the Atlanta Omega chapter as having made the outstanding record of achievement among Negroes in Atlanta last year.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

NATION'S USOs TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE FOR PUBLIC ON SUNDAY

The Keo-Way USO, 1333 Keo-Way, will hold open house Sunday, for the general public, March 28, in celebrating the annual Open House Day to be observed by more than 1,200 United Service Organization clubs and centers in 47 states, national headquarters in New York announced this week.

MAR 25 1943

The purpose of the USO Open House Day is to enable the American people at first hand to observe a USO club and to become acquainted with the services rendered and the accomplishments of USO within the past year. In each community where USO operates the slogan for the day will be, "This is your USO. Come and See it."

From 1 to 6 p. m. the public will be invited to inspect the clubs and see USO in action. Programs at each club will take the form of a community-wide celebration, in which prominent local officials and citizens, USO representatives, civic, religious and patriotic groups, service men, their families, and USO volunteers will participate. Tributes will be paid to the 600,000 volunteers and hostesses who have aided USO programs. Radio stations in many parts of the country will broadcast the ceremonies.

MAR 25 1943

Examples of art and craft work, photographs and other products of hobby groups executed by service men will be on view. Other displays will depict USO services to the armed forces and the growth of the organization. Music will feature programs at all clubs, and so far as rationing permits refreshments will be served.

Miss Alma Priestley and Mrs. Ruth P. McGregor are USO directors at the Keo-Way Center.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Dedicate USO Building At Anniston, Ala.

MAR 13 1943

ANNISTON, Ala., Mar. 11—Brig.-General Wallace Philoon was guest speaker for the elaborate and impressive program Sunday, March 7, at the NCCS USO club here. Music was furnished by the First Regiment Band with M. Sgt. John A. Lewis directing.

General Philoon is commanding official of the IRTC. The USO building, in charge of the former Olympic star, Ralph H. Metcalfe, was dedicated during the impressive exercises. MAR 13 1943

A WORTHY SERVICE RENDERED

Informer Houston Tex.

The Dowling Street USO Club in Houston recently observed its first anniversary and reported that "during the year 80,636 service men visited the club; lodging was provided for 4,005. Free services included 1,000 showers monthly," and many other services to our boys in uniform.

This is indeed a worthy service rendered; it will always be remembered by the service men who received its benefits.

Neighborhood Clubs Act for Service Men

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

APR 1 1943
APR 1 1943

Some of the youngsters at a party given in Mayfair Hall for the cast of a successful variety show produced by the Neighborhood Clubs of Harlem.

APR

Who says the kids of Harlem can't act? Just ask any serviceman who has seen them in action.

The boys and girls of 13 to 21 years who comprise the 200 or more Neighborhood Clubs in Harlem are branching out In the earlier days of the war, they pitched in on such drives as scrap collection, war stamps, civilian defense and other important home-front matters. Now they are going in for acting in a big way.

APR 1 1943

Recently they produced a highly successful variety show and entertainment for a packed house of servicemen, in collaboration with the Harlem Recreation Center and the Harlem branch of the YWCA. It went over with a bang. The kids have decided to give the same show with elaborations publicly, at the Mecca Temple, 133 W. 55th St., May 7.

The boys and girls insist that the proceeds go to buy special equipment for the Harlem Servicemen's Center, 2348 Seventh Ave. Anything left over will go into the children's own "defense fund" for the Neighborhood Clubs.

These youngsters don't need any hints that Hollywood talent scouts are "in the house" to spur them. They think it's great fun—and their parents agree that it keeps them out of mischief. Most of the club activity, besides acting, is planned by the children themselves.

Savannah Ga. News
November 7, 1943

Recreation Center

ALBANY, Ga., Nov. 6 (AP). — City Manager C. Q. Wright today announced plans for a recreation center for negro soldiers have been approved tentatively. They call for a building which could be used by the negro high school after the war.

USO Concentrating Attention on Negro

THE CALL Kansas City Mo

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

NEW YORK.—(ANP) — Even though USO has been in operation over a year, it is only recently that the care of the Negro on leave has been giving the particularly concentrated attention it is now receiving.

FEB 5 1943

The task of putting into operation an organization the size of USO was so vast and had to be acomplished under such heavy pressure of time that many important matters could not immediately be given the time and attention they required.

Nevertheless, USO had at its very inception a keen sense of responsibility to the Negro servicemen. Among the first policies it drafted was one which reads in part as follows:

"USO services are made available to all members of America's forces and to war workers in certain overburdened areas, as extensively as resources permit in some communities separate for the Negroes are required by law.

In other communities adequate services may be provided in the same facilities. Wherever the camp is located, the USO should endeavor to help the entire community regardless of race, should feel a responsibility to all members of the armed forces located there."

FEB 5 1943

The policy states furthermore that while it is not the primary function of the USO to solve deep-seated problems of race relationship, USO is obligated by the religious heritage of its member agencies to demonstrate respect for human personality, and by its inter-racial and inter-agency character to further tolerance and understanding.

"The Call"

In line with this policy, USO immediately allocated funds for the establishment of the needed number of club houses and units for the primary use of the Negro troops.

FEB 5 1943

Today these operations total approximately 108. The staffs of these centers and the recreational activities in them parallel those in centers used primarily by white troops. One of the newest, located in California, serves as many as 8,000 men a month with an enrollment of some 300 hostesses. As in other clubs of this size, there are facilities for dancing, games, refreshments, reading writing and religious programs.

There is also a special bureau for servicemen's wives to assist them in finding employment. This clubhouse and others of its type gives ample proof of the harmonious relationship possible between such centers and the residents of the community in which they are located.

FEB 5 1943

In its southern clubhouses, USO has provided equally comprehensive programs and in many instances has met with community assistance for exceeding expectations.

FEB 5 1943

The Negro director of a clubhouse in Louisiana has gained local respect to the extent that he now sits on the mayor's committee to deal with any troublesome situations which might arise. This example is not unique. Other communities have adopted similar practises.

FEB 5 1943

Outside of these standard clubhouse provisions made for the Negro, USO also maintains extension services which are established in localities where the number of Negroes is too small to warrant the erection of a separate clubhouse.

FEB 5 1943

In such cases, the private resources of the community are frequently engaged and recreation is provided in local buildings such as schools, gymnasiums, auditoriums and the like.

In those communities where the same facilities are used by both races, the results have been, unfortunately, less happy. A good many factors play a role in the difficulties here, the chief one being that the majority of Negroes do not use these facilities freely.

USO has tried to make it clear to all concerned that these centers are for the use of all members of the armed forces, but to many Negroes this is purely a theoretical privilege. A major part of USO' efforts is now being exerted to rectify this.

FEB 5 1943

All operations in behalf of the Negro serviceman are in the hands of staffs housed at headquarters in New York City. Most of the policies on Negro matters are dictated by an advisory committee headed by the chairman of the Board of directors of USO, and composed of expert representatives of the member agencies: Salvation army, YMCA, YWCA, National Catholic Community service, Jewish Welfare board and National Travelers Aid association.

FEB 5 1943

It is inter-racial in composition, operates with headquarters staff and is at the service of the regional executives throughout the country. A special consultant is employed to insure proper interpretation and execution of all policy decisions. He is steady personal contact with community and clubhouse activities.

FEB 5 1943

The concentration of these two groups is now focused upon enriching the programs in these centers already established and in establishing new ones where needed. Regional staffs have undertaken intensified study and analysis of communities into which Negro troops will be moved, believing that thorough investigation will reveal an increasing number of communities which are agreeable to clubhouses where separation need not be practised. Greater effort is also being made to insure Negro staff participation in all USO staff conferences as well as their representation in USO Councils.

Special attention is also being given to those problems which arise from the use of the same facilities by both races in the conviction that ways may be found by which these facilities can be made more effective for the Negro constituency.

FEB 5 1943

At this writing, the problem is still a very complicated one. Variations in both pace and method which USO must necessarily pursue in different parts of the country make progress slow and uneven. But once all the plans under way become accomplished facts, a major chapter may then be written in the development of tolerance and understanding among all people.

FEB 5 1943

SERVICE CLUB DEDICATED BY USO CHIEFTAIN

MAY 15 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 13— Mother's Day was described as a fitting occasion to assure American mothers that their sons and daughters in the armed forces are given adequate recreational opportunities at USO clubs, in a speech here May 9 by Henry W. Pope, Consultant for Negro services of USO.

MAY 15 1943

Mr. Pope spoke at the dedication of a new USO club for service to Negroes in uniform at 800½ West Ninth street.

A graduate of the Johnson C. Smith university in Charlotte, N. C., Mr. Pope has taken post graduate courses at Columbia university, New York university and the Union Theological seminary.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

USO Committee To Hold Seminar

The National USO program committee, the Rev. J. A. Stringfield, chairman, announces a special seminar to take place Aug. 10-12. An invitation is extended to all ministers in the city by the committee, who has added to its staff men who are efficient in religious counseling, to attend this seminar, which will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. daily, Aug. 10-12, and conducted by Dr. Russell L. Dicks, graduate minister of the Highland Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas.

AUG 1943

A special meeting will be held Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock in the library of the USO Club, 215 Monroe Street, to complete plans for the seminar. Ministers are invited to be present at this meeting.

AUG 3 1943

47c-1943

Art, Music, Religion Highlight Negro USO

Columbus, Ga. Ledger
October 12, 1943

BY JANE RAYMOND

A touch of religion meets the eye wherever you look in the USO Army and Navy Negro YMCA, two-story brick building at 841 Fifth avenue—popular with more than 12,000 Negro soldiers on a week-end.

It is in the "spiritual nook" arranged in one corner of the reading room where the walls are covered with mounted paintings, charcoal drawings and pencil sketches by Fort Benning Negro soldiers who developed their art talents at the USO centers; the church directory hanging in the office of E. E. Farley, executive secretary of the center; or the pulpit on the stage in the second floor auditorium where vespers, assemblies, and dances are held.

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The "spiritual nook" was designed by Farley. A small book case contains Bibles, and many of the best theological books await meditation. An easy chair sits beside it. Above the bookcase, under a painting of Christ, a poster made by a Negro soldier invites "Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

With 18 years of YMCA work behind him, all dealing with Negro troops at Fort Benning, Farley has contributed much to the fine service given thousands of Negro soldiers and hundreds of civilians participating in the programs of the Columbus Negro USO center.

This club is the second largest Negro USO recreation center of the country.

EMPHASIZE RELIGION

"We have a definite religious emphasis at our center. We believe the best people ought to be found in churches, and do everything we can to encourage church-going and building spiritual values," Farley said.

Bible discussions are held on Sunday mornings, while coffee and doughnuts are served free. Some hundred men regularly leave the center afterwards to attend church services at one of the forty-odd Negro churches of Columbus, Phenix City or Girard. Vespers are held Sunday evenings, conducted by chaplains from Fort Benning, local ministers, or soldiers themselves.

Oftentimes special vesper meetings are held to introduce such visiting speakers as white ministers from Columbus, presidents of Tuskegee or Moorehouse Negro colleges, or talented soldiers from Fort Benning such as First Lieut. Van J. Malone, of the Reception Center, who is now a chaplain.

Noteworthy, besides the obvious religious emphasis, are the inclinations towards other culture. Original paintings by soldiers are well-mounted and decorate the reading room; good books may be seen on the shelves; a piano stands near the center of the room under a good light; well drawn posters announce special coming programs, or rules of the club; a fine library of classical recordings shows much use; books on etiquette, courtesy, and other character-building material are available.

ARTISTS INVITED

Artists, musicians, and writers are invited to speak at the vespers, because there is religion in art.

"All outstanding art has been motivated by Christianity," Farley said.

The USO center must meet the needs of every man, regardless of his background, he added. The Negro soldier at Fort Benning depends upon his USO Center for recreation, more than anything else, because existing facilities for community recreation among the Negroes is inadequate to meet the over-crowded conditions of an army camp town.

Greatest problem of the Columbus center is making limited, cramped space do for a program so varied that every Negro soldier will have a place to feel at home, whether he is one of the 6,000 illiterates stationed at Fort Benning, or a highly trained soldier such as the man who holds a Ph. D. degree, or another who taught English at the University of Paris before the war.

1,300 IS 'LOW'

The number of soldiers attending the USO club seems incredible. But by actual count, 1,300 men is the lowest number attending the club on one day since the center was opened July 24, 1941.

Figures taken on a clocking machine, around pay day, ran for one week: Monday, 5,597; Tuesday, 6,983; Wednesday, pay-day, 12,521; Thursday, 3,356; Friday, 2,287; Saturday, 8,066;; and Sunday, 12,554.

Figures taken the week before a pay-day week, when fares for trips into town are scarcer, showed the attendance did not slack, as might be expected.

Cramped conditions of the USO building are reflected conditions of the USO building are reflected in the lack of storing space. Every inch is used. The tiny heat room was turned into a check room. The checking service, of great benefit to soldiers who want a place to leave their cleaning and heavy parcels while they're in town, results in piling things into a closet so full that a warbrobe falls out when the door is opened.

Cold drinks and other stocks for the canteen, formerly stored in the heat room, are thrust out into an alley under a shed-roof. Lacking space for a dark room, necessary for hobbyists interested in photography, Farley enclosed part of the stair-case landing with beaver-board.

Sides of the stage were put on slides, so props, music, costumes and spare lumber might be stored underneath the platform. Sixty-five rolling beds used to rent to soldiers spending the week-end in town, are crammed into a small room, which also serves as the orchestra's store room, with drums base violin and other instruments piled to the ceiling.

FOR BED SPACE

A third floor of an adjoining building, opening into the second floor of the USO center, has been leased for additional bed space. About 75 standing cots, made-up with blankets, sheets and a pillow are available in the extra dormitory. The only closets on the second floor, about the size of a small storeroom, has been turned into officers' quarters and contains four single beds.

Members of the Girls' Service Organization act as hostesses on the Tuesday night dances. An army wives club meets on Wednesday. Other special programs include the poet's corner, photography classes, art classes, indoor and outdoor games scheduled regularly, meeting once a week.

Information, personal counseling, music, radio, popular recordings, writing paper, home hospitality, package wrapping and mailing are other services offered.

Lt.-Col. M. R. Ashworth, former Ledger-Enquirer publisher now serving overseas, was original chairman of the board of directors, of which County Commissioner T. G. Reeves is present chairman. Other directors are Dr. Joseph S. Cook, treasurer, Wilbur Glenn, J. D. Kirven, Rev. H. I. Bearden, John L. Sconiers, Henry Pease; I. C. Moyer, recording secretary; Dr. T. H. Brewer, vice chairman; E. E. Farley, P. L. Taylor, Dr. K.H. Terry, C. W. Marshall, Rev T. W. Smith.

USO

Chester Community Organizations Share Welfare And Recreational Facilities With USO Clubhouse

New York Age

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New York, N. Y.

CHESTER, Pa.—When the large number of Negro industrial workers sent into this city outgrew the only USO clubhouse here, community organizations comprised of many races and faiths promptly offered to share their recreational and welfare facilities. This cooperative program has proved so popular that today the clubhouse, operated by Negro directors, is used mainly as a lounge and operational headquarters while the major part of the services for workers is conducted as a community enterprise.

In the case of dances, for instance, the USO provides for the party but the dances themselves are held at the permanent YWCA building and in the gymnasium or on the outdoor platform of the Federal Housing Project. One dance was held recently at Columbus Center which is owned by the Italian residents, and a monthly rally holds sway at the Synagogue, athough this is for draftees and not industrial workers, but here too the USO is managerial host—in partnership with the Veteran's Aid Society.

OCT 16 1943

The war workers are so pleased to be part of community life, according to William C. Anderson, director of the club, that they reciprocate not only through personal effort but by monetary donation as well. All the posters announcing the dances held at the YWCA are constructed and painted by the workers at the Sun ship plant on their own time, and at the Columbus Center dance, a contribution of $187.50 was made to the USO by the Sun ship workers.

"The USO here hardly seems like a war organization," declared Mr. Anderson, "it has its roots so deep in the community. My associate, Mrs. Alene Briggs Brown, and I have been invited to sit on almost all the city and county social and welfare committees. Currently, Mrs. Brown is also cooperating with the management of the Sun ship plant on a program to combat absenteeism. This program, which has the approval of the War Department, will be put on in the yards and broadcast to all the workers, and possibly over a nation-wide network. It will present the problem from both the management and the labor point of view—each group stating its side and then arguing out a possible solution."

Classes In Sex Education

At the suggestion of the women workers, the USO is also about to institute classes in sex education. There will be two groups, one for boys and girls under sixteen, another for those over that age. This program too will have community assistance. Moving pictures, picnics and games for the children of the some 350 families in Lamokin Village, the Housing Project, are provided regularly by the USO and held on the Project grounds. And classes in art, under the instruction of a volunteer city teacher, are conducted in the USO lounge. Religious discussion groups have also been established. These are more educational than formally religious, with lay citizens leading the discussions.

According to estimates, Chester has grown from about 60,000 people to nearly 100,000 during the war years, and the Negro population has increased from abou' 10,000 to over 20,000 of which almost all are employed in the great shipping plant and other war indusries here.

"With so many people relying on us as the main-spring of all recreational war activity," said Mr. Anderson, our responsibility is a vast one. There is only one way to date in which I feel we have not fully met it and that concerns itself with offsetting the bad influences which naturally spring up in a city of mushroom growth. Although there are 17 Negro churches here — a considerable number — there are some 170 taverns — an even more considerable number. I feel that if the workers were offerred high-class entertainment, they would not frequent these 'hot-spots'.

"I am now working on a plan to bring in name-bands and recognized singers. The community will provide me with the halls, so that space is no consideration. We will charge admission to cover cost and I am certain that most of the workers will be only too happy to support this type of decent entertainment once it is offered to them."

Travelers' Aid Handling Large Increase In Work

Columbia, S. C., Record
October 15, 1943

Total services given by Travelers Aid Societies of the country in 1941 were 808,913; in 1942 there was an increase to 3,398,963, and in the first six months of 1943, 2,398,963. Miss Agnes Anderson, regional field supervisor of Travelers Aid, told members of the board of directors of the Columbia Travelers Aid Society at their regular monthly meeting here.

"These statistics are for local Travelers' Aid Societies and include neither USO Travelers Aid nor Service to Troops in Transit," Miss Anderson said. "In this time of war we are seeing a mobile nation—moving people bringing to each new place their problems and their more positive contributions. This increased mobility is naturally reflected in Travelers Aid services."

While USO Travelers Aid has undertaken to handle cases of men in the armed forces and those directly connected with the war, Miss Anderson pointed out, it is impossible to draw an arbitrary line and say in this total war exactly who is connected with the war and who is not.

Handle Big Increase

In cities where there are neither military forces nor war industries there has been an increase in the services of the Travelers Aid Societies and the local agencies have assumed the responsibility for caring for this increase.

In August in Columbia, Miss Anderson said, the total Travelers Aid services by all the staff and volunteer—USO and local—were 8,029. The USO Unit's chief emphasis was on housing as far as information and direction services were concerned and work with women and girls in difficulty in those cases which required more social planning.

Through USO Travelers Aid, Miss Anderson told the board, a medical social worker has been assigned to work with patients at the venereal treatment center at Pontiac. She assists selected patients to make plans after their treatment is completed and in becoming better adjusted to their situation. Last month around 102 cases were under care.

A Negro Travelers Aid worker for the USO unit has been ap proved, Miss Anderson said. Her duties will be to develop a program for Negroes so that Travelers Aid will be readily available to this group. A few Negro volunteers are already serving. There has also been much discussion of the need for a Service to Troops in Transit program here but as yet no steps have been taken to establish it.

Typical Cases

Miss Anderson, in closing, told two typical case stories given her by Miss Adelaide Philson, executive secretary of the Columbia Travelers Aid Society.

"These services," she said, "will always be needed. The Columbia Travelers Aid Society will remain in the community after the war agencies have gone. It will then be faced with an enlarged program, a public expecting a high quality of service and a mobile nation. We should begin now to prepare for the responsibilities which will undoubtedly be ours."

Mrs. Emmett Madden, president of the society, presided at the meeting. The usual reports and routine business were dispensed with and after Miss Anderson's talk a round table discussion of Travelers Aid problems was held.

Thomasville, Ga. [illegible] Enterprise

November [illegible]

CRIMINAL CASE"

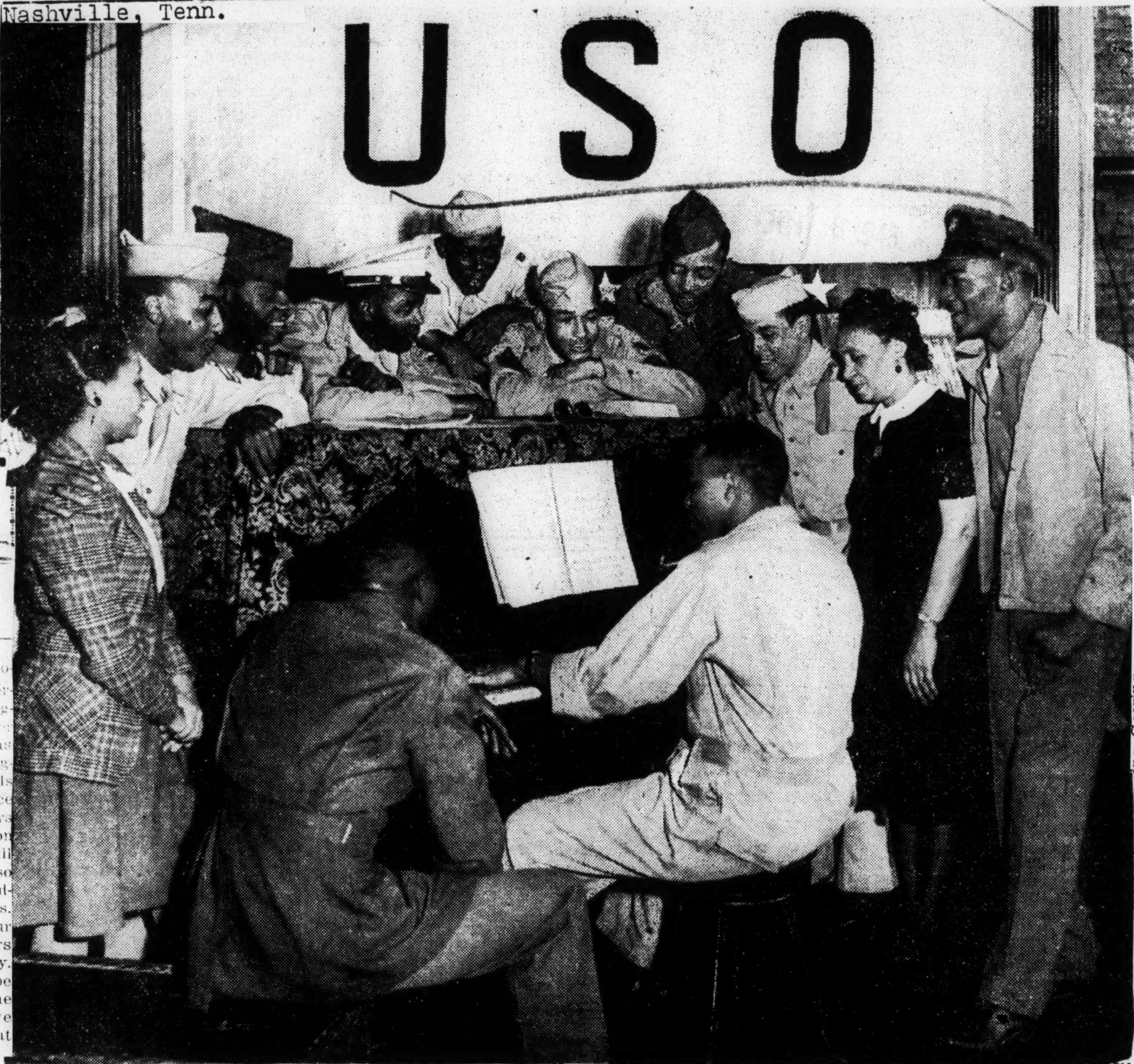
T-28

Colored Mass Meeting To Be Held Tomorrow Afternoon At Douglas Hi—

A mass meeting for colored people is to be held tomorrow afternoon at four o'clock at the Douglas High School auditorium under the sponsorship of the Thomas County Business and Civic League. It is designed to raise funds for the establishment of a Service Mens Center for colored soldiers in Thomasville. Dr. M. L. Walton is head of the league and will have a part in the program, also with a number of other civic minded negro ministers and citizens. There will be a musical hour rendered by the various choirs and musical groups in the county. Special arrangements are to be made for the mothers of the negro soldiers who will receive badges of a pattriotic nature at the door.

A Home For The Bo ys Away From Home

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.



The service men's lounge in the Y. M. C. A. building here is filling a great need. Here is a case:

"When a fellow private told me there was an U. S. O. in Nashville, I decided to spend my furlough here," said a handsome P. F. C. from a camp down near the border in Texas.

When questioned as to why he preferred Nashville to his home in Georgia, where his mother, brothers, sisters and sweetheart were, the soldier answered: "When I leave home, it's months before I can get straight again. My mother grieves, and for the longest I can see her tear-bathed face, and it interferes with my work. So I inquired about the lounge set-up here, and upon learning htat there was one, I came. Believe me, I knew what to expect: Competent staff of hostesses who feel and understand the soldiers' problems. I'll say for Nashville that the southern hospitality quite exceeds any I've found yet and the army has kept me moving for 14 months."

Newport News, Va. Press

November 11, 1943

Rooms Sought For Families Of Negro Soldiers

Housing facilities for the wives and families of Negro service men coming to this area are being sought by the Jefferson USO room registry.

A total of 25 persons were housed in October, said Mrs. Mary Sowrs, chairman, but 125 more rooms are needed. She praises the cooperation of those who had responded to the demand, and urged that others open their homes to accommodate the many who are moving to this area.

The Jefferson USO program is combined to meeting the housing needs of families of men at Fort Eustis, Camp Hill and Camp Patrick Henry. Persons having rooms to offer may telephone the chairman at 2-2418 or the room registry at 5-1271.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

British Lecturer Heard At Tuskegee

SEP 11 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. [illegible]—Gerard Priestley of London, England, noted Brtish lecturer and authority on International Affairs delivered a series of lectures at the USO Club, Tuskegee, Alabama, on September 7-8, it has been announced by E. L. Raiford, USO Director. He discussed world problems from first hand information gained through travel and contact with world leaders.

WAS IN BERLIN

Mr. Priestley, a graduate of London University, was in Berlin when Hitler came to power in 1933. He lived in Essen for six months and met many of the leaders of Nazi Germany including Goering.

Since 1933 he has made eight trips to Germany and has lived in the Balkans and Turkey.

SEP 11 1943

In 1938 Gerard Priestley was the guest of the Royal Rumanian Government and spent considerable time in Transylvania. He has also traveled extensively throughout Latin America and knows personally many of the world leaders both here and abroad.

47c-1943
Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Terminal Station USO Club Will Be Opened Here Shortly

JUL 11 1943

MRS. AUBREY NEAL

MRS KATHRYN SAMPLE

A USO lounge for colored service men will be opened at the Terminal Station at an early date in the future, it was announced last week. The lounge will be used by service men in transit and will be operated by volunteer workers under the supervision of a full time worker with Travelers' Aid, Mrs. Audrey Neal, who is already in the city making preliminary arrangements for the opening. As a worker with Travelers' Aid Mrs. Neal's duties will include the services of that organization for the general colored traveling public as well as service men.

Numerous volunteers have already been secured by the local committee to work on the program and it is hoped that many others will come forward and offer their services. There will be much work of all kinds which require part-time or occasional services of many types of workers and there is a job for everyone who wishes to help this worthy cause along. Persons desiring to do so should register at once with Mrs. Neal, telephone 3-3975.

The lounge itself will be constructed in a portion of the colored waiting room and house the office of the Travelers' Aid representative, lounge chairs, desks for letter writing, and such other conveniences as needed by traveling service men will be available. Volunteer workers will be trained by Mrs. Neal to handle detail duties for short periods of the day as the lounge will be open for long hours in order to render the greatest amount of service. A shortage of workers will of necessity lessen the number of hours in which the lounge can be available and lessen its usefulness and thus the need of numerous workers is apparent. Casework duties in connection with the general situation will occupy most of the full-time worker's time.

JUL 11 1943

Mrs. Neal is well qualified for her work here. A native of New Orleans, she is a graduate of Xavier College of Pharmacy, holds the degree of bachelor of arts from Texas College, and a Master of Arts degree from Atlanta University School of Social Work.

Preparation for Travelers' Aid work was secured at Columbia University. Her experience includes casework with New Orleans Welfare Committee, Emergency Relief Administration, New Orleans Department of Public Welfare and Negro Child Center of Depelchin Home, Houston. She was at one time resident social worker at Fisk University Social Center, and later instructor of Sociology and Child Welfare at Texas College, of Tyler, Texas.

Mrs. Neal has had the assistance of Mrs. Kathryn Sample, field supervisor of National Travelers' Aid, in making preliminary arrangements. Mrs. Sample is a native of Florence, S. C., and a graduate of Benedict and Columbia.

USO
Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
August 21, 1943

Army Asks Recreation Center For Negro Troops North of City

The proposed North Charleston recreation center fo rnegro troops is being certified to the Federal Works agency by the war department as essential to the war effort, Mayor Henry W. Lockwood announced yesterday he had been informed in a telegram from Senator Burnet R. Maybank, who said he is doing everything possible to promote the project.

The recreation center has been urged for several months by negro leaders and by Brigadier General James T. Duke, commanding officer of the port of embarkation, who pointed out that recreational facilities here for negro service men are totally inadequate.

Senator Maybank's telegram was as follows:

"Major Inge, war department, telephoned my office today stating they were writing a letter to FWA advising they consider North Charleston recreation center for colored troops essential to war effort. Rest assured will keep behind officers FWA and will do everything I can to assist."

BIRMINGHAM GETS NEW USO

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 8—The Magic City's new USO center, 1716 Fourth avenue, North, was dedicated Sunday with an hour program presided over by Father J. Clyde Perry, chairman of the Citizens' Committee for Army Welfare. Military personnel from the various major camps in the Birmingham area was present for the exercises.

JUL 10 1943

Notables taking an active part on the dedicatory program were Capt. Fred Minnis, of the Special Services office of the Tuskegee Army Flying school, who was principal speaker, as well as Judge Whit Windham, chairman of the board of the Birmingham USO; J. L. Zwingle, William Y. Bell III., Thomas Bond, Petty Officer J. Henry Smith, the Rev. John W. Goodgame, Jr., and Sgt. Albert D. Porter.

FILLED POST NEARLY YEAR

Mrs. Rella H. Williams, who had been acting director of the Birmingham USO center since Nov. 2, 1942, was paid a glowing tribute at a fine testimonial in her honor here Monday night, June 21, at which time Mrs. A. H. Parker, Citizens' Committee vice chairman, formally presented the honoree a WAAC purse with over-the-shoulder strap. A lavish dinner climaxed the evening.

Succeeding Mrs. Williams as USO director is Arthur J. McClung, well known graduate of Tuskegee institute and all-'round athletic coach, who is a native of Birmingham. McClung has many distinctions in the educational field. He is a Scoutmaster, a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, and a staunch member of the AME Zion church.

Miss Doris R. Novel To USO

Kansas City Call

Gets Leave of Absence From Texas College

Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Doris Reita Novel, a college music school head, "for whom school bells have tolled" for 16 years will miss their ring this September. The well known Kansas City, Kas., musician for six years head of the music department at Texas college, a C.M.E. institution in Tyler, Texas, has accepted a USO postion.

Miss Novel made a "flying" trip home Tuesday to visit her mother, Mrs. Novel, 1208 Everett Ave. Friday she left for Columbia university, New York, where she will take a special three-week course in USO work. Her assignment to a camp will follow shortly thereafter.

JUN 1943

Miss Novel, for eight years in charge of music at Northeast Junior high school before going to Texas, has won paeons of praise throughout Texas and surrounding states for the famed a cappella choir of Texas college. This group has sung in several camps and schools in that section of the country.

Aside from her music the Kansas music instructor has been interested in community work. This played no small part in her selection for this new post. Her new duties will include the planning of entertainments for soldiers and the bringing in of talent for the troops.

Miss Novel's appointment comes through the Y.M.C.A.

A graduate from the University of Kansas with the Mus. B. degree, Miss Novel received the M.S. in education from Syracuse university. She taught for two years at Prairie View State college, Prairie View, Texas.

Miss Novel was granted a leave of absence from Texas college to take up her new activity. She spent her time here renewing old acquaintances, shopping and resting up before starting her USO training last week-end.

JUN 4 1943

MILLION COLORED SOLDIERS SERVED BY 118 USO CLUBS

Globe and Independent

Service Men to Benefit From National War Fund Drive

Nashville, Tenn.

Negro Servicemen to Benefit By National War Fund in Combination Drive

NEW YORK—More than a million visits a month are made to the 118 U. S. O. clubs by our men in uniform—to dance, play games, eat, read, write letters, or just to laugh and loaf. And this number includes only those clubs exclusively for Negroes. There is no way of taking count of the thousands more visits that colored servicemen make monthly to clubs in Northern areas which cater to all races.

JUN 1943

Thus spoke Henry W. Pope, consultant for Negro services of the United Service Organizations, in connection with the launching of the first drive of the newly formed National War Fund which is getting under way.

The U. S. O. is one of the sixteen war relief and service organizations which have recently combined their fund-raising activities in the National War Fund to keep things going on the war front, the home front and the United Nations front.

"Negro leadership, together with leadership by other groups, is giving its best to the common task of fortifying the heart and soul of men in uniform," continued Mr. Pope. "Together we seek to achieve victory and a lasting peace to follow this global war."

More than 53,000 persons volunteer their services to the U. S. O., he explained, and it is up to the public to see that these services to our men continue and improve by giving to the National War Fund; for it eliminates duplication, reduces administrative expenses and conserves the energy of community leaders in the huge task of collecting funds for the support of these agencies.

The war agencies participating in the National War Fund, includes besides the U. S. O. (United Service Organization), United Seaman's Service, War Prisoners Aid, Russian War Relief, United China Relief, British War Relief Society, Greek War Relief Association, Polish War Relief, French Relief Fund, United Yugoslav Relief Fund, Belgian War Relief Society, United Czechoslovak Relief Fund, Queen Wilhelmina Fund, Norwegian Relief, Refugees Relief Trustees, U. S. Committee for Care of European children.

Dedication of Negro Community Building

Monroe, N. C. Journal
October 1, 1943

The Monroe Defense Recreation committee is pleased to announce to the citizens of Monroe that the Federal community building, operated by the United Service organizations for the Negroes of the community will be formally dedicated Saturday, Oct. 2, at 3 p. m.

The Rev. John A. Heritage, rector of St. Mchaels' Epiiscopal church of Charlotte will deliver the main address.

Mayor V. D. Sikes will represent the City of Monroe at the ceremonies. Colonels W. R. Wheeler and J. S. Marshall of Camp Sutton will represent the United States Army.

The following persons will take part in the presentation ceremonies: William J. Trent, Racial Coordinator, Federal Works Agency, J. I. Neasmith, Regional Recreation Representative FSA; George M. Ivey, State Director USO Campaign, and C. Randolph Taylor, Director.

USO Colored Club To Open Saturday Night

The colored USO club on Winchester Avenue near the Winchester school, will have its formal opening to the general public and to the service men of the area tomorrow night.

The first thing will be a dance to which service men are cordially invited. Members of USO from Marsh-

47c

ville, Monroe, Wadesboro, Pageland, and Jefferson, and the Army Wives club will serve as hostesses for the occasion.

The club fosters a full program of USO activities and services for the colored members of the armed forces. It will be opened from nine in the morning till eleven at night daily. During the first week of operation, beginning on the 12th, the general public is cordially invited to inspect the building. There are writing room facilities, a lounge, a snack bar, and games and various activities to make the leisure time of a soldier wholesome.

The slogan of the Winchester Avenue USO club is, "This is the soldier's home away from home."

Clarkesville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
August 9, 1943

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

47

Members of the Women's Chorus of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Rev. T. D. Howard, pastor, presented a complimentary musicale before a mixed audience of service men, USO hostesses and visitors on Sunday afternoon. Their offerings varied in nature and found a warm reception from their listeners. Hostess Roy Williams was sponsor for the project. Director R. C. Wallace expressed the gratitude of the staff and USO volunteers for this special service. Other community groups have indicated that they should have to make such presentations from time to time, Wallace said. "Little by little our community is realizing that it has a definite responsibility to our service men which it may serve through the facilities and activities of local USO clubs."

Tonight at 8 o'clock a social hour will be sponsored for service men. Informal games and a community sing will be offered on Tuesday night. Regular game night activities and recordings will be offered on Thursday night.

Junior hostesses and the Girls' Service Organization will hold their weekly meeting on Friday night at 7:30 and 8:30 respectively. Senior hostesses will meet at 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. All hostesses are urged to attend the particular meetings of the groups with which they are affiliated.

A bingo party will be sponsored by the drama and speech committee, under the direction of Mostess H. W. Collins, on Saturday night. Junior hostesses will present a special program Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock, under the direction of Hostess Clara Greenlaw, chairman. The vesper hour, 7 p.m., will be featured with recorded classics.

Members of the Girls' Service Organization and their chaperones, under the supervision of Hostess Prudence Allison, attended a picnic and dance on the post at Camp Campbell, Ky., last Saturday. The affair was one of the most enjoyable of the current outdoor season.

The several hostess organizations operating in Franklin St. USO Club have rendered good service during the year serving effectively to boost the morale of service men, Wallace said. Service wives have been placed in local homes through the room registry service and volunteers have sought to fill their social and recreational needs.

A Men's Service Club is in the process of coming into being to supplement the activities of hostesses in the club. During the week of August 15 a meeting of the men will be held to complete the organization of this group.

Plans are being considered for the formal opening of the new club home on Ninth Street near College early in September. The building is attractive in its appointments and is now awaiting only the finishing touches and the arrival of equipment and furniture.

Clarkesville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
August 4, 1943

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

Senior hostesses of Franklin St USO will hold their weekly meeting today at 4 o'clock. Hostess William Oliver urges the attendance of all members. Several new projects are to be initiated in the near future.

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The complimentary musicale and open house sponsored by senior for mothers of service men and selectees was eminently successful. Recitalists Bennie and Juanita Oliver blended their voices in harmony in song after song and presented additional features in voice and piano. Hostess Arnetta G. Wallace played incidental music during the serving period. Hostesses William Oliver, chairman of the senior hostesses, was mistress of ceremonies. Hostess R. T. Burt gave a brief but interesting talk on the purpose of USO, its services and community obligations. War Mothers were especially urged to take an active part in volunteer service to serve hte sons of mothers from other areas who are stationed in this area as their sons are being served through USO in other camp areas.

Game night activities will be featured on Thursday night with ping pong and table games of all descriptions. Recordings will be made for soldiers desiring this service.

Members of the Girls Service Organization and their chaperones will serve as dance hostesses at a dance at Service Club No. 3 at Camp Campbell, Ky., on Thursday night. Buses will leave the bus terminal at 8 o'clock. Hostess PrudenceAllison, GSO chairman, urges attendance of all GSO's and chaperones.

Junior hostesses are urged to attend their weekly meeting Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Hostess Clara Greenlaw, chairman, plans to present several new projects for consideration. The Girls Service Organization will meet at 8:30 p.m.

Horse shoes, an outdoor activity, will be offered Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The court is shaded by trees at this hour. A community sing with song slides will be presented at 8:30 p.m.

The Women's Chorus of Moun Olive Baptist Church, Rev. T. D Howard, pastor, will be presented in a musicale at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Hostess F. Williams is sponsor for the event. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Ballad for Americans featuring Paul Robeson, international baritone, and chorus will be played at the Vesper Hour at 7 p.m. in honor of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Soldiers To Get Bainbridge USO Unit

BAINBRIDGE, Ga., Oct. 11.—(AP)—Construction of a $6,000 USO building for Negro soldiers at Bainbridge Army air field will begin in the next six weeks, post public relations announced today.

The structure, to be located in Bainbridge, will be a one-story building consisting of a large lounge room, office and other features. Recreational features will be installed for the soldiers, the report said.

N.Y. Pastor Answers Where Our Place Is

[redacted] Afro-American
[redacted] Baltimore, Md.

White Cleric Quotes Mrs. Bethune as Saying Young People 'Won't Take It'

Ga

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y.—The Rev. Theodore C. Bobilin, white, pastor of the Hempstead Methdist Church, spoke at the interracial goodwill services Sunday, arranged by the USO Extension Service, James O. Thomas, director.

JUL 24 1943

"The greatest problem in America today is the race problem. Some think it is food; some armaments, and others, manpower. One of the Allies' greatest victories in this war, to date, is the victory in North Africa. I feel that if we are unable to solve the race problem in America, our loss will be greater than the loss of North Africa would have been to the Allies," the pastor said. He continued:

Colored Race on March

"The battle in our country has been lost in a spiritual way when we permit race riots to exist. That they are countenanced should put grief in the hearts of our people, as would the loss of North Africa. The Christian Church must assert itself and turn the searchlight of publicity upon the whole question.

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"Basically, the colored people are on the march; so are the Chinese and the Russians. The Japanese also are on the march, but they are marching in the wrong direction.

JUL 24 1943

Entertains Mrs. Bethune

"Some time ago, I entertained at my house, Mrs. Mary M. Bethune, a very cultured, and nationally known educator. She has a beautiful soul. As we sat around the dinner table, she recounted so many things, inconvenient and embarrassing things that her color had caused her to be subjected to, that I was amazed and shocked—in fact, I wonder how she could have stood them.

"She told me many things about not being able to get a meal in so many places, and in others, that lodgings were out of the question. I asked her how she could stand them. She told me that she was the daughter of a slave, and that she had been taught that way; that she could take it. But, she added, the youngsters of a trio, which she had brought along to entertain us, would not take it.

"The colored man is on the march. Some say he should be kept in his place. I agree with that. The colored man's place is right along side of us, marching together. Let's be honest. There are hoodlums, both black and white, but there are many wonderful examples of successes in the colored race which urge the colored people on. None of us can read the life of that great colored scientist, Dr. George Carver, without being thrilled.

JUL 24 1943

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"The very soul of our nation will be lost if we attempt to keep the colored people back. But the struggle can be won if those who think differently will have a lofty faith in one another, and in God. We must have faith and a will to win. We must find what is unique in America.

"Basically, a person is not an American if he does not believe that every individual is entitled, to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. There must be a rebirth of our devotion and love for our country.

Lower Class Will Control

"In America, there is an upper 15 per cent of thinkers, a 15 per cent of low thinkers, and a middle class with little interest in how things go. We need look no further than Germany.

"With all its culture and scientific contributions to civilization, the apathy of the upper class of thinkers made it possible for the lower class to inject its propaganda into the nation. So today, it is under the dominance of a group which has resulted in the destruction of one of the mightiest cultural sanctuaries on earth.

"In the same way, if the upper 15 per cent of thinkers in America, and the middle class are not alert, the lower 15 per cent will dominate and control this nation."

JUL 24 1943

USO Executive

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

OCT 25 1943

Miss Florence A. Robinson, graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, is now serving as Assistant Director of Negro work at the Court Street USO San Bernardina, California. During the past two years she served as the Head of the Economics Department of Morris Brown College. Miss Robinson is a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Post
Washington, D. C.

Negro USO Club To Open New D. C. Service Quarters

SEP 30 1943

A Negro USO club, which will be one of the largest centers for servicemen and war workers in the District, will open within two months at 2011 Georgia ave. nw., adjoining Washington baseball park.

The proposed center is the gift of Mrs. Henry Alvah Strong, who purchased the property from the Goodwill Industries, which will reoccupy the quarters after the war.

Final leases for the two-story building, which was presented to the USO after officials had long sought spacious quarters in a convenient location, were signed this week. Renovations will begin next week.

SEP 30 1943

The new USO will be operated jointly by the YMCA and the YWCA, both of which have been operating supplementary facilities at their Negro branches for the past two years.

SEP 30 1943

Facilities will be available for dancing, games and refreshments, while informantion services will be provided on available lodging, religious and entertainment institutions. The programs at the new USO will be integrated with schedules at other nearby clubs.

47c-1943
Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Mrs. McGregor New USO Head

MAR 1 8 1943

Mrs. Ruth Prince McGregor, program director for the Y.W.C.A., began her duties as new USO worker this week at the Keo-Way USO Center, 1333 Keo-Way. She comes to the city from Cheyenne, Wyo., where she served as USO director of eighteen months.

She succeeds Miss Anna T. Wolfolk who went to the Cheyenne USO Center.

MAR 1 8 1943

A native of Pasadena, Calif., Mrs. McGregor received her education in California. She has Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Southern California.

Following her college career she taught in the public schools of central California during which time she was active in the work of the Y.W.C.A., serving as a secretary and a Girl Reserve advisor for a number of years.

MAR 1 8 1943

Mrs. McGregor is an Alpha Kappa Alpha, a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the NAACP.

The widow of the late James W. McGregor of Los Angeles, Mrs. McGregor has a son, Allen, 14, and a niece, Ruth Orian Hutcherson, 10, who are with her. At present they are stopping at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Drew, 955 Sixteenth street.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Dr. Dett Takes Up Duties at 'Skegee USO

MAR 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, internationally known composer and one of USO's recently appointed music advisers, has arrived in Tuskegee, where he will conduct group singing at the USO club and direct other group musical activities.

Dr. Dett is one of seven USO music advisers now visiting USO clubs in different parts of the country, as part of a program to enlarge musical opportunities for service men. The program is under the direction of Dr. Raymond Kendall, USO music coordinator, on leave of absence from the music department of Dartmouth College.

The composer-musician holds a distinguished place among American composers. His "Listen to the Lambs," one of the first American anthems based on colored folk tunes, has been sung all over the world. "The Ordering of Moses" for soloist, chorus and orchestra, is one of his most outstanding compositions, having had more than fifty performances by the major choirs and orchestras of the country.

MAR 20 1943

Dr. Dett is a member of ASCAP, the National Association of American Composers and Conductors, the Music Teachers' National Association, the National Association of Negro Musicians and other music and educational societies.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Dr. Dett Visits Tuskegee USO Club

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—R. Nathaniel Dett, internationally known Negro composer and one of USO's music advisers, has arrived in Tuskegee, Alabama, where he will conduct group singing at the USO club and direct other group musical activities, it has been announced by E. L. Raiford, director of the USO Club, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

MAR 20 1943

Mr. Dett is one of seven USO music advisers now visiting USO Clubs in different parts of the country, as part of a program to enlarge musical opportunities for service men. The program is under the direction of Dr. Raymond Kendall, USO music coordinator, on leave of absence from the music department of Dartmouth College.

MAR 20 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Program Specialist Named To USO Staff

OCT 2 1943

ATLANTA, (ANP)—Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean, daughter of Dr. Channing Tobias, and a member of the Atlanta University Laboratory School faculty, has been appointed program specialist of the USO Headquarters Staff in arts and crafts, it was announced here Tuesday.

The mother of two children, Mrs. Dean is the wife of Dr. William H. Dean of the Atlanta University economics department, who is now on leave serving as price executive and economic administrator for the Virgin Island.

OCT 2 1943

USO

108 USO CLUBS IN U.S. FOR COLORED SOLDIERS

MAY 1 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Average Monthly Attendance Is 10,000 Persons Per Club

MAY 1 1943

NEW YORK—(SNS)—Negroes serving their country in the armed forces of the United States enjoy recreational opportunities at 108 special USO clubs throughout the country, Henry W. Pope, consultant for Negro Services at USO national headquarters in New York announced Friday.

MAY 1 1943

"Negroes who have joined the ranks of those fighting to preserve democracy have received the attention of USO from the day of its formation more than two years ago," Mr. Pope said. "As camps for Negro soldiers have increased in size and number, USO has endeavored to meet the needs of the men for leisure-time recreation. To date, 14 per cent of total USO operations is engaged in serving Negroes, and Negroes constitute [illegible] per cent of USO volunteers.

"The latest report for which statistics are available discloses that the total attendance at 108 clubs for Negroes now exceeds 1,000,000 monthly, or an average of about 10,000 per club. This figure includes volunteers and repeat visits of Negro soldiers. In addition, many Negroes make use of other clubs where no separate count is kept.

"Directed by a staff of 132 professionally trained workers, and assisted by a corps of 53,000 volunteers, the programs offer a wide range of activities. Dances and social gatherings of all kinds are held. Movies are popular. Religious programs are also well attended.

MAY 1 1943

"A long list of other activities are reported by the clubs, such as community sings, talent night, music appreciation hour, handicrafts lectures and forums, card parties tall-tales hour, bingo, ping pong and bowling tournaments, camera clubs, quizzacles and many others.

"Taking place in pleasant, homelike surroundings, in the company of volunteer hostesses, all these activities go a long way to help brighten the off-duty hours of these troops, from which they return with freshened spirits to their military duties.

"USO clubs include comfortable lounges, writing rooms with free USO stationery, showers, game rooms, snack bars and social halls. Some clubs have a rent-a-bike service, a free camera loan service, free checking, irons and ironing boards, shoe shine stands and other welcome and handy conveniences.

"An important feature of all USO clubs is information service. More than 67,000 information services were given at 108 USO clubs for these soldiers in a recent month for which full data is at hand. This includes advice on rooms, transportation and 'where to go and how to get there' in the local town.

"Service men often have personal problems about which they wish to consult an older person. The door of the USO club director is always open for this purpose. More than 11,000 soldiers were given personal counsel in the 108 clubs, according to the latest monthly report.

"The report also showed that 24,285 persons were given religious material, 326,986 pieces of USO stationery were used in writing letters home, and that sleeping accommodations were used 5,594 times."

Service Men's Centers Filled Over Week End

◆

Service men's centers supplying free sleeping accommodations to visiting soldiers were jammed to capacity during the week end, although there were beds to spare the preceding week end, a survey today indicated.

Each of the five centers providing free sleeping quarters for white soldiers and one for Negroes reported they were filled to capacity Saturday night and were unable to take care of the soldiers requesting a place to sleep.

Figures on the number of soldiers for whom beds were provided and who called on the service centers for other accommodations will not be available until reports are filed tomorrow with the Service Men's Committee.

The YMCA was filled both Saturday and Sunday nights; the YMHA, which does not operate on Sunday, was jammed Saturday night and about a dozen men were turned away, it was reported. Joe Werthan's Service Men's Center reported a capacity crowd both Saturday and Sunday nights, but said few requests were made that could not be filled. The Salvation Army which maintains 250 free beds at the Masonic Lodge, reported it was filled to capacity on Saturday night only and that a few men were sent elsewhere; and First Presbyterian Church said "quite a few were turned away" after the 150 beds were filled Saturday night.

The Negro YMCA reported it was "overrun" with requests for free beds and that the 100 available were filled.

The Salvation Army reported that all beds have been filled each Saturday night for several weeks, but that few of the soldiers desiring sleeping accommodations were from the maneuver area since regulations permit only a 12-hour pass and require that the soldiers are back in their areas by midnight Saturday.

The Rev. Pickens Johnson, chairman of the Service Men's Committee of the local Defense Council, commented that he "understood that each place providing sleeping space for soldiers was filled during the week end," but added that the committee was powerless to suggest any adjustments until a meeting is held to ascertain whether the need is great enough to arrange additional sleeping quarters. He said he had been told that "very few" soldiers lacked accommodations.

Free sleeping quarters now are being operated in keeping with the plan devised after Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, then commanding the Second Army, set up regulations banning passes other than those for 12 hours, Mr. Johnson said. Regulations specify that overnight passes are granted only when the soldier presents satisfactory evidence to his unit commander that a relative is in Nashville, Mr. Johnson pointed out.

The Service Men's Committee will hold a meeting this week, although a definite date has not been set, to hear reports from the lounges supplying beds for soldiers, he added.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Negro Soldiers to Have Recreation Center

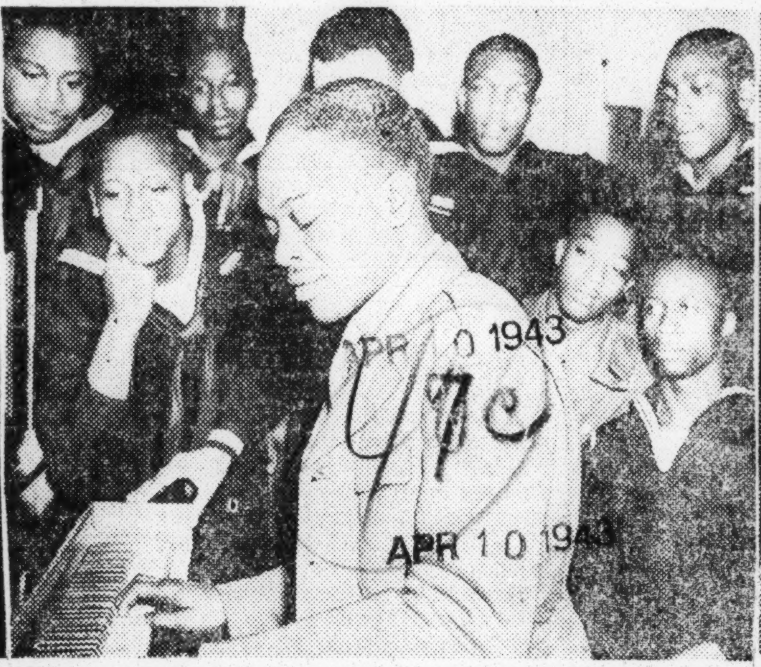
Richmond, Va., July 27 (AP).—Work was scheduled to start today on the construction of a recreation center for Negro troops at New Baltimore, a community near Bowling Green, Kenneth Markwell, regional director of the Federal Works Agency announced.

Contract for the work, including plumbing and heating, was awarded by the FWA Regional Office to Nathan Thorington, of Richmond, low bid at $23,584.

The New Baltimore structure will be used by Negro soldiers in training at the A. P. Hill Military Reservation.

Marian Anderson and Military Ball Features of USO Open House Celebration in Philadelphia

Scene at military ball given Saturday by Miss Olga Hazel, director of service men's activities at the YWCA. Trumpeter is Pfc. Dick Augustine of Chicago, now stationed at Fort Dix.



Private Robert Robinson of Jacksonville, Fla., now with the 153rd Ordnance at Indiantown Gap, Pa., plays for the boys while awaiting the arrival of Miss Anderson.

AFRO-AMERICAN BALTIMORE Md.

Marian Anderson shown giving her autograph to service men at the South Broad Street USO in Philadelphia on Sunday where open house was held.

Mrs. Faith Howe, a cartoonist, sketches Cyrus Napier, officers' cook first class, while Alexander M. Kendrick, officers' steward, 3rd class, looks on.

[redacted] S. C. [redacted]

May 15, 1943

Recreation Is Discussed By Civic Leaders

Though each month 87,000 persons visit the Columbia USO clubhouses and 100,000 are entertained at community and church centers through the city's soldier-civilian program, the need for greater recreation facilities, especially for the teen-age group was disclosed and discussed at a meeting of civic leaders, yesterday morning at the Laurel Street USO building. George A. Buchanan, chairman of the Richland County Council for National Defense, presided.

After hearing a number of speakers representing the viewpoints of welfare, anti-vice, parent-teacher, student, Red Cross, and military organizations, the group voted to adopt the motion of J. W. Duncan to have Mr. Buchanan appoint a committee to study the recreation facilities now available and plan additional entertainment for boys and girls in their teens.

Members of the committee, whose names have not yet been announced, will determine whether it is possible to make more extensive use of the facilities Columbia already has. Leaders hope that some of the centers and clubhouses operated by the city and the USO can be offered to high school students during slack hours.

The meeting was called at the instigation of Clark Brockman, chairman of the Defense Recreation committee, who appealed to parents to encourage their sons and daughters to visit the recreation centers more often.

City Councilman Lott Lawson suggested that the schools be opened in the afternoons and evenings for youth programs. After the meeting, Mr. Lawson said that he intends to bring up this proposal at the meeting of the Columbia School board this week.

The lack of adequate facilities for Negro civilians was emphasized by Everett C. Spurlock, Negro USO director, who explained that although he believed his organization's program for soldiers was satisfactory, there is a need for more recreation for Negro youths.

Brig. Gen. Robert T. Perrin, of the One Hundred and Sixth division at Fort Jackson, complimented the city on the way in which service men are being taken care of. He declared that "Columbia handles the soldier recreation problem better than any town I've ever been in, during my 26 years in the army."

That a large number of girls under 20 suffering from social diseases are being picked up on the city streets was revealed by Edmund S. Farr, chairman of the vice committee. The army, Mr. Farr said, is much farther advanced in its work toward controlling these diseases than civilians here are. "The group we have to watch closest is the group of girls who are between 14 and 18 years old, not paid prostitutes," he explained. "We are making progress at our Pontiac home, where we sometimes care for as many as 160 girls at a time. Ninety per cent of our patients have not had a high school education and 75 per cent of them are married. The home is not a detention school — we have the right to keep the girls there until they are well, under the health law for quarantine."

Other speakers expressed the opinion that many parents are so busy they haven't time for their adolescent children, though they promise themselves that they will make up for their neglect after the war. Some felt that there should be a minimum age limit for girls who wish to attend military dances, and others were concerned over the fact that teen age boys seem to feel left out of entertainment since so much of the recreation offered is for soldiers and their girl friends.

Among those who participated in the talks and panel discussion were the following:

Clark Brockman, chairman of the Defense Recreation committee; Dr. Francis W. Bradley of the University of South Carolina; Thomas B. Whaley, for the Family Welfare society and Travelers' Aid society; Mrs. Harry Merritt, president of the County Council PTA; Clara Robertson, Red Cross; Gary Paschal, city council; Roscoe Stevens, Boy Scout executive; the Rev. Paul Wheeler; Mrs. Thomas D. Dotterer, Gir Scout executive; Donn Mader and Thomas Bagnal, Columbia high school seniors, and others.

Fla.

Sun.

April 1 43

$18.000 Available For Building New Colored USO Unit

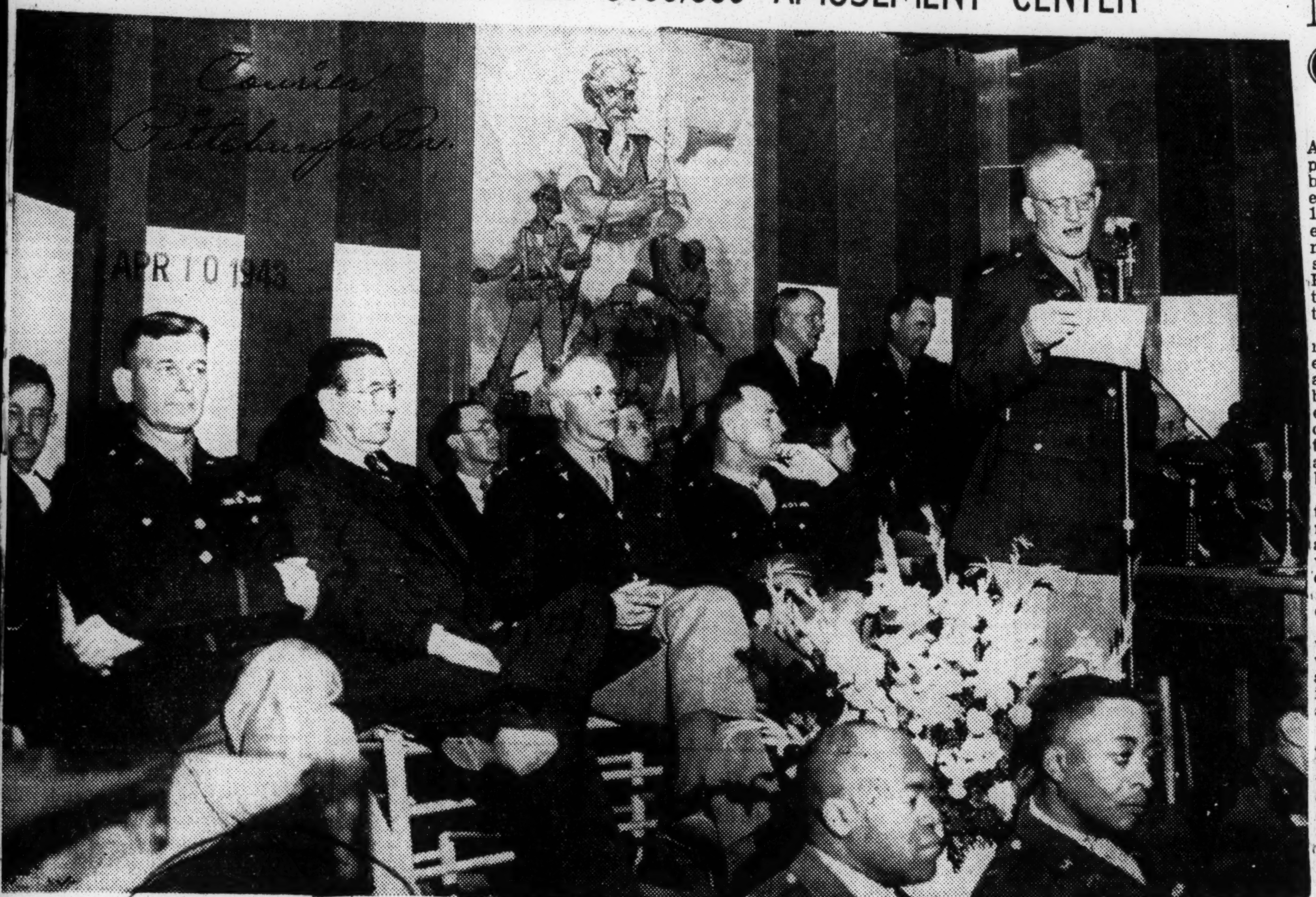
The city council, through Councilman S. E. Booth has just completed negotiations for the erection of an $18,000 YMCA-USO recreation hall in the colored quarters for the use of negro soldiers of the bombing range. Funds for the building are furnished through the Federal Works Agency, whose representative W. M. Toms, of Orlando, construction engineer, was here this week completing final details for the project.

Councilman Booth conducted the voluminous and complicated negotiations in securing the property, which is located on three lots across the street from the colored school building. The school board donated the lots to the city in order that the city could sponsor the project, which was a necessary requirement, and apply for a grant of $18,000 for the building. These funds are now available. By agreement the city has agreed to deed back the property to the school board after the close of the war, when the property is deeded back by the government to the city. Councilman Booth has spent two months preparing the voluminous details for the transfer, which entailed the compliation of ten folders of 35 pages each of detail work.

Vincent White, YMCA-USO colored representative has already arrived and has set up temporary quarters in the building formerly known as the Big Apple. White has recently finished training at Columbia University and comes highly recommended as a director.

47c-1943

FORT HUACHUCA SOLDIERS GET $100,000 AMUSEMENT USO CENTER



Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

APR 10 1943

There was much ado around Fort Huachuca last Saturday when its many troops and officers participated in dedication exercises which marked the opening of the new Fry Amusement Center, reputed to be one of the finest of its kind in the nation. Equipped with the most modern facilities and furnishings, its creation was made possible by funds raised by patriotic Negro Americans.

Above are pictures during the impressive ceremony. In foreground, left to right: Major Blackwood, ranking Negro line officer at Fort Huachuca; 1st Lt. Herbert Lowery, assistant special service officer, 93d Infantry Division.

Seated on platform, left to right: Major General Miller, commanding officer, 93d Infantry Division; Gov. Sidney Osborn of Arizona, Lt. Col. M. O. Bousefield, commanding officer, Station Hospital No. 1; Colonel Prouty, chief of staff, 93d Infantry Division; Colonel Hardy (speaking), post commander, Fort Huachuca, Arizona. — Signal Corps, U.S. Army.

Soldiers Get Taste Of St. Louis' Democracy

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

AUG 1943

47c

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5—It was 97 in the shade July 28. About 2 p. m., approximately 175 travel-weary soldiers poured from an in-bound Eastern train and "fell in." Their two white commanding officers hestitantly surveyed the huge Union station. Finally they espied a USO booth. Timidly approaching the blond girl in the booth, they asked where they could find the USO. The smiling young lady directed them to the municipal auditorium, four blocks to the east. Re-assured. the officers returned to their men and gave the order to march.

Arriving at the beautiful, air-conditioned Service Men's center in the tax-supported municipal auditorium, the company came to a grateful halt. Some of the men sensed something was wrong. Probably the officers did too, for, leaving their men to 'cool their heels' on the sun-baked sidewalk, they entered the club set up for the convenience of Uncle Sam's fighting men. They didn't stay long. They didn't need to. They were okay, but their men were at the "wrong" USO.

SWELTERING HEAT

So, as the temperature rose to a merciless 98, the officers and men again took the streets for the 20-block hike to the "right" USO, at 2809 Washington avenue.

This reporter, unable to overtake the sweat-laden column, boarded a Page avenue street car, arriving at the "right" USO a scant five minutes before the soldiers.

SPLENDID DISCIPLINE

As the boys filed in the building, there was a rush—an orderly rush, however, for a place in front of the huge electric fan. About 50 immediately formed a line at the drinking fountain, demonstrating the wonderful discipline they had learned in the Army.

While this was going on, one of the officers, a Lieutenant Chambers, was again trying to make arrangements for his "boys." This time, though, he was not turned down. Giving the order to be ready to "hit it" at 4:15 p. m. (It was then after 3 p. m. and the station was 16 blocks away) Lieutenant Chambers and Lieutenant Woodson, the other C.O., disappeared. Perhaps a taste of the air-cooled lounge of the "wrong" USO (or the "right" USO, depending upon how you look at it), was too much of a temptation.

SOLDIERS DISPLEASED

At any rate, this reporter circulated among the men, getting their reactions to the shameful treatment they had received. One said, "I could have told the C.O. what was going to happen. My brother was through here not long ago and got the same thing."

Another said, "Sure, it was hot, but our officers said 'march' and march we did."

Said one of the clerks, "We never turn down white soldiers if they come here."

In other words, 175 citizens of the United States, in the uniform of their country, were forced to spend over half of their two hours and 15 minutes stay in this great metropolis of ours, trying to get a drink of water—because their skin happens to be dark.

The men, members of Co. A 8 MRTC (a medical detachment), were enroute to Fort Clark, Texas, from Camp Pickett, Virginia.

The USO at 2809 Washington avenue is under the direction of Dennis W. Chestnut.

New USO Open 'Around Clock' For Servicemen

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

JUN 19 1943

SHREVEPORT, La., June 17—Although formal opening has been postponed until arrival of Venetian blinds for the windows and other equipment, the Shreveport USO at 1051½ Texas avenue, has been operating 24 hours daily for the past month to provide fun for colored soldiers from nearby Barksdale Field, other Louisiana camps, and those coming here to pass a short time.

The floor space of the USO, directed by Nathan E. Johnson, covers about 9,000 square feet. There are two large rooms filled with big easy chairs, tables and couches. There are ping pong tables, cards and other games. In one of the rooms is a juke-box and a piano and dancing space can readily be cleared.

For those of different inclinations, there is a completely furnished writing room with table and paper and four shelves filled with victory books for the reader. A newspaper rack and magazine shelves contain the latest copies.

A conference room is also provided for the exclusive use of private meetings or musical rehearsals in which entertainers may polish up before making their appearances before the soldiers.

A camera club is in the process of formation and an instructor will be available at certain times to teach the soldiers how to take and develop pictures. A well furnished dark room is already in use. Mrs Johnson, wife of the director, operates a snack bar which serves candy and cokes. A kitchen with stove, refrigerator, and equipment is in back of the club rooms and plans have been made to begin serving meals soon.

HOSTESSES HAND-PICKED

A charm class to instruc girls to be hostesses at the club and a war wives' class are among the clubs which have been initiated at the USO. President of the War Wives' club, designed to provide entertainment for soldiers' wives, is Mrs. John Hardee, wife of the sergeant who directs the band at Barksdale fiield. She is also a USO clerk.

Girls serving as hostesses must make application at the USO and they must be passed on and approved by the house committee before they are accepted. All civilians entering the club must sign their names and make known who they are.

Shower facilities have been installed at the club and Mr. Johnson is urging any one to donate extra cots so that sleeping quarters may be provided for soldiers who wish to stay overnight in Shreveport.

The weekly schedule being worked out calls for movies on Saturday nights and dances at other times with Sergeant Hardee and his Barksdale band providing the music.

Bee

Chicago, Ill.

Evanston USO Celebrates Anniv'y

JUL 11 1943

47c

The Emerson YMCA's USO center will celebrate the first anniversary of its opening of facilities to servicemen from Great Lakes and Fort Sheridan, Ill., July 17 and 18. During this period more than 4,000 Negro sailors and soldiers have visited the center and enjoyed the hospitality of over 127 senior and junior hostesses who have promoted 1,281 different activities and given over 21,000 hours of volunteer service.

The plans call for three special events in observation of the end of the first year of activities. On Saturday evening, July 17, there will be the anniversary party for servicemen. The hostesses have prepared a grand program for this occasion, and it is expected that all persons participating one or more times during the year will come out to help make merry with our boys. The Women's Defense Corps of America (Fred Hutcherson chapter, Mrs. Elizabeth Croomes, president) will co-operate and be present at this party.

The second event will be an open house at the Emerson YMCA Sunday, July 18, from 4 to 7 o'clock. The community is invited to visit our center and meet the boys who hail from everywhere. All the facilities of the YMCA will be open to the men and the senior and junior hostesses will be present to greet the public and to entertain the men. The GSO has prepared a surprise program for this informal open house.

Sunday evening, July 18, at 8 o'clock there will be held a big mass meeting at the Ebenezer A. M. E. church, Rev. C. F. Stewart, pastor. At this meeting a brief history of the origin, purpose and function of the USO center and the Girls' Service organization will be given. Music will be furnished by a large chorus of sailors from Great Lakes, and Commander D. W. Armstrong of Camp Smalls will give the principal address. He will describe the work of the navy and tell what happens to our boys when they enlist.

Chaplain James Cox of Fort Sheridan has promised to be present also with a group of his men. The public is cordially invited to these meetings.

freshments will be served to the men at the church by ladies from the Fred Hutcherson WDCA, Mrs. Elizabeth Croomes, president; the Crispus Attucks WDCA, Mrs. Allie Mae Jones, president, and the Woman's Council of the Emerson YMCA, Mrs. Maude Green. president.

Metcalfe With U S O On Maneuver With Army

Houston, Texas Informer

JUN 26 1943

MOBILE HQ. THIRD ARMY, SOMEWHERE IN LA.—Ralph H. Metcalfe, former Olympic champion and acclaimed by many sports authorities as the greatest foot racer of all time, has been assigned as associate director of the U. S. O. maneuver service which serves Third Army troops in Louisiana.

One of his first jobs on the new assignment was to direct a track and field meet for Third Army Negro troops at DeRidder, La.

Metcalfe, who coached at Xavier University in New Orleans before he was empolyed by the U. S. O. in 1941, came to the Louisiana maneuver area on May 18, from Anniston, Ala. At Anniston he was U. S. O. Club Director and Negro field consultant for the National Catholic Community Service.

The new associate director, who was never defeated in college footracing, was given recognition in Ripley's "Believe It or Not" feature for having tied or broken every world's record in running. from the 40-yard dash to and including the 220-yard dash.

He competed in the Olympics in Los Angeles in 1932 and in Berlin in 1936. He holds the distinction of being the only individual ever to win eight national AAU championships in the sprints. In the Berlin Olympics he ran with Jesse Owens in the 400-meters relay. He was national collegiate champion in the 100-yard dash in 1932, 1933, and 1934, his time being 9.4 seconds. In 1933 he set a new 220-yard dash record while attending Marquette University, 204 seconds. In 1933 he toured seven foreign countries Sweden, Germany, Denmark. France, England, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, where he competed and was undefeated. He competed in Japan, Korea, Manchuria, and the Philipines, and was again undefeated. At one time he was selected by Maxwell Styles of Los Angeles, one of the West Coast's leading sports authorities, as the greatest sprinter of all time.

Metcalfe was born in Atlanta, Ga., in 1910, and attended elementary and high schools in Chicago He received the Ph. B. degree at Marquette, and his Master's degree from th University of Southern California.

Mrs. Metcalfe is in Anniston, Ala., she is employed at the U. S. O. Club.

While coaching at Xavier University, Metcalfe developed six national champions, during his five year stay there.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

AFTER PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES to USO Junior hostesses, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Women's clubs, joined the young women and their soldier guests in the USO club room in the Phyllis Wheatley Branch YWCA, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Bethune awarded certificates to 152 young women who completed the 10-hour training course given for Junior Hostesses at the USO club in the Y. (OWI photo by Roger Smith)

JUL 18 1943

Wedding Trouble Allayed, Thanks to Negro USO-'YW'

Columbus Ga Ledger
October 13, 1943

JANE RAYMOND

It was a dilemma! A bride enroute and a groom without an idea of how to fix the wedding he was supposed to arrange.

So, the bewildered Negro soldier from Fort Benning rushed into the USO Negro YWCA club, at 936 Fifth avenue, for counsel. Fortunately, the Army Wives club was holding its weekly Wednesday luncheon, and the some 32 women attending turned a sympathetic ear.

With the aid of Frances Penman, USO Negro YWCA director, they took the couple under their wing, and planned the affair, going so far as participating in the wedding themselves.

This is an example of service the club has been doing since the nine-room dwelling house was opened as a USO Negro YWCA center two years ago. Figures, taken at random, show 7,412 services were given during a normal month, and some 9,864 persons served in a "record month."

INDIVIDUAL SERVICE

Special emphasis is placed on service to the individual, although nightly group meetings of some sort for special occasions are held. Individual services, besides information, package wrapping, handling money orders and mailing, include furnishing electric irons and electric sewing machines for soldiers' wives who come into the club to use such appliances. Kitchen privileges are also furnished to army couples who wish to fix a meal.

Some 35 civilians and soldiers regularly attend the "Let's Sing Hour" on Mondays at 8 p. m. Tuesday nights are featured by shorthand and typing classes conducted by Fort Benning soldiers, who regularly instruct about 20 out-of-high-school civilians, WACs and soldiers. It is expected the Thursday and Tuesday morning classes, discontinued during the summer, will be resumed this fall.

ARMY WIVES MEET

Forums and the Army Wives' club meet on Wednesdays.

The army wives hold a luncheon, highlighted by seasonal affairs, such as their approaching Hallowe'en party. Variety is given to the forums by featuring such special programs as the Book Reviews in October. Ten best sellers, both fiction and non-fiction, will be reviewed during October, beginning wtih "Valley of Decision," which will be told by Felix Paul, Boy Scout executive.

Last winter, the USO Negro YWCA sponsored Red Cross first aid classes. Some 34 Negroes received certificates upon finishing the course.

Friday and Saturday nights are free of scheduled club meetings. These two week-end nights are kept open for parties and dances. A "Parade of the Spooks", a costume party, and a Hallowe'en festival, to include a weiner roast and dancing, have been planned for two Friday nights in October. Officer candidates from Fort Benning generally participate in the Saturday night dances.

SPENCER PROGRAM

A "Twilight Hour" of vespers at 7 p. m. is customary on Sundays. The Spencer High school band will present a special musical program on October 10, and the Negro WACs from Fort Benning will be featured in another program on Oct. 24, in conjunction with the regular vespers.

Frances Penman, USO Negro YWCA director, of Macon, earned her degree at West Virginia State college. She was assistant director of the USO Negro YWCA at Columbia, S. C., before coming to Columbus over a year ago.

Mrs. Wiley New NCCS Director at Keo-Way USO

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

AUG 26 1943

Mrs. Mildred E. Wiley of Chicago, Ill., began duties this week at the Keo-Way USO as the National Catholic Community Service director, succeeding Miss Alma M. Priestley.

For the past nine years Mrs. Wiley has been employed in interracial social work in Chicago for the Catholic group. Prior to that she was a public school teacher in Alabama.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, Mrs. Wiley is a graduate of Wilberforce university.

The wife of Mr. Joseph Wiley of Chicago, she is the mother of three sons, the oldest of whom, Joseph. Jr., 21, is a corporal in the army; James who is with his father in Chicago; and Byron 12, who is with-her.

Her husband, a printer, is a veteran of World War I, having received his commission at Ft. Des Moines and served overseas eighteen months.

A member of the National Council of Catholic Women, the Third Order of St. Dominic, the NAACP, the Urban League, the Conference of Christians and Jews Mrs. Wiley is beginning her first work with members of the armed forces.

Mrs. Wiley was presented to her Keo-Way USO volunteers at a reception Saturday night.

47c-1943

Richmond, Va. [illegible]
February 20, 194

USO Center to Triple Space By Acquisition of Building Adjoining Present Quarters

The Richmond USO Club will more than triple its club space by taking over the three-story building next door at 205-207 East Grace St., Stirling King, chairman of the club's committee of management, announced yesterday after receiving word from Chester I. Barnard, of New York, president of USO, Inc., that arrangements for securing the new quarters had been completed.

Announcement also was made yesterday that a Negro USO Club will be established in what is now the Price Funeral Home building at 212 East Leigh St. At present there is no USO club for Negro servicemen in the city, but Fred H. Townsend, Negro worker, has been carrying on USO activities elsewhere in the city in co-operation with other groups.

Mr. Townsend's office, now located at 201 East Clay St., will be moved to the new club location on March 1, according to Dr. Joseph T. Hill, chairman of the Negro club's committee of management. The funeral home is moving to 210 East Leigh St.

Attendance Increased

Leasing of the additional building for the Richmond club at Second and Grace Streets was necessitated by a steady increase in attendance. Glen F. Thistlethwaite, club director, said the original building, put into operation last Fall, is inadequate to meet the needs.

Present plans call for use of only the first and second floors of the newly acquired building, Mr. Thistlethwaite said. There will be a place for dancing, more showers and lounge-room facilities and emergency sleeping facilities. Because of the increased space available, it will now be possible for the Travelers Aid-USO to set up a desk in the present lounge room offer complete services of its program.

Enlarging of the club will necessitate increasing the USO staff here, and already one additional worker has been authorized but no one has been selected as yet.

The old and new quarters will be connected by an archway. The building just leased, now used as an automobile showroom, is owned by E. W. Newman, of Ashland, and arrangements for renting it were made through Pollard & Bagby, real estate agents. The lease is for the duration.

Work To Be Started

Mr. King said renovation of the building would begin just as soon as the USO comes into possession of the building, but it will be several months before the work will be completed.

Attendance of servicemen at the USO Club was 6,228 in October, 6,282 in November, 23,132 in December and 18,227 in January. The percentage of soldiers, as distinguished from sailors and marines, was 78 per cent in October, 68 per cent in November, 69 per cent in December and 58 per cent in January.

Some indication of the popularity of the club was shown in the fact that at least 200 servicemen visited the place Thursday morning. This is a large number for a week-day morning, Mr. Thistlethwaite said. Peak Saturday load was 4,000 two weeks ago. Recently, the club went on a 24-hour-a-day operation basis.

As to the Negro facilities, the agency has leased the first floor of the Price Funeral Home building, but has an option on the second floor. There will be a room for dancing and other social activities, showers, lounge, reading and writing room and a snack bar. When the club is ready for use, it is expected that other persons will be employed to assist Mr. Townsend.

USO activities for both white and Negro servicemen are carried on under the guidance of the local USO board, headed by William Frazier, as chairman.

The Richmond USO's campaign for funds was held as part of the Richmond War and Community Fund drive last Fall.

New Negro USO Will Be Set Up

Gadsden [illegible]
April 9, 1943

Definite plans for Gadsden's new USO center for Negro service men are expected to be completed Monday when Harry T. Baker, of Atlanta, regional supervisor of USO-Y. M. C. A. operations will come here to confer with Commissioner J. Herbert Meighan regarding the project.

Suitable recreation facilities for Negro men have been sought for

USO

some time by both municipal and military authorities and national USO authorities recently agreed to set up and permanently operate such a project here.

President recreation facilities for Negro troops are limited, having been set up several weeks ago. The project has been handicapped by lack of funds.

Operation of the Negro USO will give the city a well-rounded recreational program for service men, as federal funds were recently made available for continuation of the two present Soldier Centers for white men.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

DR. DETT PRESENTS RECITAL AT FIELD

APR 22 1943

In a brilliant recital at the post theatre of the Tuskegee Army Flying School Tuesday evening April 20, Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett nationally - known composer, assisted by three other artists, concluded his work as music advisor to the USO chapter here. Dr Dett was assisted by Marian Pierce, soprano, and Gladys Gomez, pianist, of Tuskgeee Institute, and Jewell Smith, baritone, of the Air Base. The recital was presented under the supervision of E. I. Raiford, director of the local USO.

APR 22 1943

The program included a number of piano solos from Dett's newly published piano suite entitle "Bible Vignettes" and many of the composer's earlier works that have become world famous.

Other activities of Dr. Dett as music advisor at Tuskegee included two large community sings conducted in the Tuskegee Institute Chapel in March which were attended by more than 4,000 persons. Besides favorite songs and spirituals these programs featured illustrated lectures by the music director on "The Authenticity of the Negro Spiritual" and "Development of Negro Music." The Tuskegee Institute Choir under the direction of Dr. W. L. Dawson appeared on both of these programs.

Another important contribution of Dr. Dett to the USO program at Tuskegee was the organization of a Community Choir.

APR 22 1943

Savannah, Ga., News
July 5, 194

COLORED USO OPENS ADDITION

BISHOP O'HARA SPEAKS

Judge Wilkes MacFeeley Makes the Presentation

The dedication of the new addition of the colored USO, 812 West Thirty-sixth street, which is sponsored by the National Catholic Community Service, was held yesterday afternoon with the Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, bishop of the Atlanta-Savannah Diocese, and Judge Wilkes S. MacFeeley, chairman of the Savannah USO Council, as the principal speakers.

In his address to the large numbers which gathered for the dedication program, Bishop O'Hara referred to the time when a world war involving the United States was but a threat.

"At that time, which now seems so remote, instructions were sent to all Catholic parishes within the State of Georgia stating that all halls and possible places of gathering should be placed at the disposal of the members of our country's armed forces," the bishop stated, "and that this should be done without any thought of compensation."

At that time, when nothing nad been done for the recreation of the negro soldier here, a negro morale officer, one of the comparatively few negro soldiers then quartered in this area, approached leaders in this community in an effort to establish a recreation hall here. The officer was then brought by Arthur Floyd, director of the SSSS, to the Rt. Rev. Msgr. P. James McNamara who, with co-operation, immediately established a recreation hall at the St. Mary's School Hall which has since been incorporated in the USO as a National Catholic Community Service designation. From the start success has attained this club, Bishop O'Hara declared.

To those whose work has made possible the successful operation of the club, the bishop extended congratulations. He expressed the hope that all would work harmoniously toward the attainment of that Christian democracy whose philosophy of action is found in our country's Declaration of Independence.

The building was presented by Judge MacFeeley, who summarized the achievements of the USO. In his informative talk he stated that some $50,000,000 has been expended by the USO in providing recreational facilities for our country's armed forces both in the United States and abroad.

"This service has been rendered without distinction of race, color or creed," Judge MacFeeley declared. "A maximum of accomplishment with a minimum of spending has been made possible by over 700,000 volunteer workers assisted by 4,000 professional workers," he stated. These workers are representative of Protestantism, Judaism and Catholicism and most specifically of the six affiliated agencies constituting the USO, he added.

The invocation was pronounced by the Rev. Fr. A. J. Gall, S. M. A., following a prelude by an orchestra from Camp Stewart. Greetings were extended to the newly enlarged club by various Savannahians and civic leaders. Following Bishop O'Hara's address, the benediction was given by an army chaplain. The dedication ceremonies ended after the singing of the National Anthem by the audience.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

DETT DIRECTS USO MUSIC

MAR 20 1943

MAR 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — R. Nathaniel Dett, internationally known Negro composer and one of USO's music advisers, arrived Tuesday to conduct group singing at the USO club and direct other group musical activities, it has been announced by E. L. Raiford, director of the USO club at Tuskegee Institute.

Mr. Dett is one of seven USO music advisers now visiting USO clubs in different parts of the country, as part of a program to enlarge musical opportunities for service men. The program is under the direction of Dr. Raymond Kendall, USO music coordinator, on leave of absence from the Music department of Dartmouth college.

Gadsden [illegible]
July [illegible]

Dedication Set At Negro USO

New Club Building Plans Open House

A short dedication program, followed by Open House, to which the public is invited, will feature the formal opening of the USO for Negro soldiers this afternoon at 902 Tuscaloosa Avenue.

Maj. Jesse Johnson, judge advocate of Camp Sibert, will deliver the principal address; Mayor J. Herbert Meighan will accept the building on behalf of the City of Gadsden, and the Fourth Regiment RTC band of Camp Sibert will give a 45-minute concert. The program, which begins at 4 o'clock, will be concluded at 6 o'clock, after which Open House will be held until 10 o'clock.

Although still lacking a few items for the convenience and pleasure of the service men, such as Venetian blinds, lending library and a motion picture projector, the building has been modeled according to standards set up by the USO Building Commission in New York, and is comfortable and inviting.

The building, all white, has a stucco front, clapboard sides. The lounge contains tables, reading lamps, smokers and a modern snack bar, where sandwiches, cigarets, soft drinks, ice cream cones and peanuts are sold at modest prices by Rheba Morris, snack bar manager.

The social hall, which is 107 by 40 feet in size, has gleaming hardwood floors, shiny game tables, writing tables with shaded lamps, chairs with seats of simulated leather in ivory, green, canary and brick shades, comfortable upholstered circular divans, smoke stands, ash trays, two pianos, and huge electric fans.

Adjoining the social hall are well-arranged powder rooms for girls, and bathrooms for service men where showers, towels, soaps and razor blades are provided.

Nine thousand service men have visited the club since its opening June 10, E. L. Lipscomb, club director, said, and with only one or two exceptions their behavior has been exemplary.

Varied forms of entertainment are provided at the club, which is open from 10 a. m. until 11:30 p. m. daily. Two dances are given weekly, Camp Sibert companies alternating. A second weekly dance is sponsored by war wives. Other amusement includes games, quiz programs and community singing.

Lipscomb is assisted at the club by L. B. Johnson of Carver High School.

Dr. Dett Ends Work at Tuskegee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

APR 24 1943

After spending nearly two months at Tuskegee as special music director to the USO, Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, right, has been directed to another USO location by the national office in New York. He is shown above with E. L. Raiford, general supervisor of Tuskegee USO.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

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Another important contribution of Dr. Dett to the USO program at Tuskegee was the organization of a Community Choir under the leadership of Mrs. F. D. Patterson, chairman of the USO Music Committee. The choir is composed of the best talent in the community and will remain to assist in the local war effort with music renditions.

The Tuskegee Institute Choir, under the direction of Dr. W. L. Dawson, also appeared on both of these programs and were enthusiastically received.

Savannah, Ga. Press
July 10, 1943

USO TO OPEN CLUB FOR NEGRO TROOPS

McKELVEY-POWELL BUILDING BOUGHT FOR NEW CENTER

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The following announcement was made in connection with the opening of the new USO project, which will be operated by the Army-Navy Y. M. C. A. and the USO-Y. W. C. A.

"Inter-racial collaboration in the United States took an important step forward today with an announcement of the establishment of a new USO club here for the use of negro troops.

"A citizens committee for negro social service, organized and incorporated early this year and primarily concerned with the welfare of service men, has suyccessfully consummated plans to purchase and make available a suitable building for a USO-Army-Navy Y. M. C. A. for the benefit of the negro service men.

"In setting up this citizens committee the desires of the negroes themselves was carefully considered and therefore it is in keeping with their wish that the committee be composed of twelve white and twelve negro citizens. By-laws of the organization guarantee the preservation of this balance. The monogram presented in the seal of the corporation, two circles interlocking about a cross, attests the spirit in which the work of the committee is being done.

"Through generous contributions from both colored and white citizens the committee has been able to finance the purchase of the McKelvey-Powell building at 714-716 West Broad street and have it leased to the USO for the duration, plus six months. The USO is now putting the building in suitable repair and expects to have it in service very soon. After the war it will be held for the benefit of negroes in the community.

"In order to make the plans of the committee a reality the negro citizens raised among themselves $3,149. A letter was sent to white citizens known to be interested in meritorious community activities. To date $3,992.59 as been received from 171 white contributors. The committee urges those who have not already done so, to send their checks to Walter S. Scott, treasurer, 460 West Broad street, Savannah. The wholehearted participation of our citizenry is expected.

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"J. Q. Jefferson, formerly director of the Hinesville USO, has been appointed director of this club. Born and reared in Alabama, he finished Tuskegee Institute, Talladega College and New York University. At New York University, under Chick Meehan, he became an all-America football tackle. He was educational adviser for the CCC camps for six years. Director Jefferson will have an adequate staff technically trained to assist in the development of a well-rounded program, which will include housing, information guidance, counseling, recreation, church relationships, directories and religious meetings as well as travel service.

"The USO-Y. W. C. A. director is Sarah Horry, who finished Agriculture Technical College in Greensboro, N. C. She taught in high school in North and South Carolina and recently came from the NYA project at Chester, S. C., where she was a youth counselor.

"The members of the corporate committee are Sam G. Adler, Middleton S. Barnwell, D. D., Frank Callen, L. G. Cleverdon, D. D., Dr. J. R. Fonveille, R. W. Gadsden, L. E. Carter, J. S. Delaware, Ralph Mark Gilbert, D. D., Samuel MP. Glasgow, D. D., Martin G. Haynes, D. J. Hill, Sol C. Johnson, C. K. Knight, C. A. Linn, Ph. D., D. D.; Charles M. Maclean, S. M. McDew, Jr., M. D.; Frank M. Oliver, R. W. Porterfield, Jack F. Rabey, Vere H. Rogers, Walter S. Scott, T. T. Shepherd and Fred Wessels, Jr.

"The officers elected are: Dr. C. A. Linn, president; Jack F. Rabey, vice president; L. E. Carter, secretary; and Walter S. Scott, treasurer. The executive committee is composed of the four officers and three additional members, who are Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell, R. W. Gadsden and Charles M. Maclean.

"The committee of management of the new USO unit is composed of the following: Dr. S. M. McDew, Jr., chairman; Donald Thomas, vice chairman; Bowes Ford, secretary; D. J. Hill, treasurer; Sol Johnson, R. W. Gadsden, Dr. N. H. Collier, LeRoy Carter, Joseph Green, Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert, W. S. Scott, Marion Johnson, Frank Callen, Prof. M. H. Haynes and Leon Grant.

"With the announcement of the new USO club in Savannah, information was given Mr. McFeeley, president of the Savannah USO Council, that a $62,000 building is under construction by the army in Hinesville, Ga., and will be open soon as a USO operation with the Y. M. C. A. as the designated operating agency. This buliding will be directly opposite the negro barracks at Camp Stewart. This project was approved a year ago by the President of the United States and when completed should help materially in solving the recreational needs of the negro soldiers at Camp Stewart.

"The President of the United States made this statement:

" 'Not by machine alone will we win this war.

" 'Unitedly, unstintingly, and without interruption or delay, we have solemnly promised to give our men a mounting tide of guns, tanks, planes and ships.

" 'We shall keep that promise, and one promise more—that we shall preserve for them wherever they may be, and without regard to race, creed or color, the moral and spiritual values of the democratic ideals and freedoms for which they now are fighting.

" 'Because the USO is unitedly dedicated to that high purpose, and because that high purpose is a vital party of the job of winning this war, the USO should be supported by everybody . . . cheerfully, generously, aid now.' "

Recreation Center for Negro Service Men Is Dedicated

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
June 23, 1943

Howard P. Macfarlane, chairman of the Hillsborough defense council, spoke yesterday at ceremonies opening the new recreation center for Negro service men at 1008 Kay st.

"We are all Americans by virtue of birth and the institutions under which we live," he said.

"We must not regard the winning of the war as the duty only of our men in uniform, but the duty of every citizen, regardless of creed, color or political opinion.

"The funds for the building came from the government of the United States; the administration and facilities from the recreation department of the city of Tampa, and the direct supervision from the Negro section of the recreation division of the defense council.

"I hope that the fullest use may be made of the building for the good of these men who are offering their lives for their country."

Keys to the building were presented to Lawrence Bennett, director, who said he hoped his work there would spread among the men who were fighting not only "for democracy but for everything that is good in mankind."

Lieut. Col. A. E. Tanner, provost marshal for Tampa military police, spoke briefly. Others who spoke included Mrs. H. B. Hutchinson, president of the Public Recreation board, and Clotelle Williams, president of the City Federation of Negro Women's Clubs. James T. Hargrett, chairman of the Negro division of defense recreation, presided.

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
June 23, 1943

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

Tonight at 7:30 o'clock junior hostesses will hold their regular weekly meeting. All members are urged to be present. Plans for a new series of activities will be discussed. Members of the Girls Service Organization will meet at 8:30 p.m.

On Thursday evening game night will be featured with ping pong and table games. Several new games have recently been added to the club's collection. Service men may talk-a-letter home. Last week several recordings were made by the Camp Campbell True Tones, a male quartet.

Senior hostesses will meet on Friday evening at 8 o'clock. This group is expecting to enlarge its personnel in order to take over a larger share in the expanding activities of the club.

"Know Your USO," a quiz program, will be presented on Friday night at 9 o'clock.

Singspiration, a unique musical program featuring the use of song slides, will be offered on Saturday night at 8:30.

Sunday at 4:30 p.m. a special program commemorating the birthday of Paul Laurence Dunbar, eminent poet and folklorist, will be sponsored by the drama and speech committee.

At 6:30 p.m., the Vesper Hour, recorded music featuring Edward Grieg, will be presented.

Facilities of the club are available daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

An unprecedented influx of service wives has taxed the capacity of the room registry service. Citizens who have rooms available for rental are requested to contact the club by telephone at 9153 or call and fill out an application blank.

The new club home is rapidly taking shape on Ninth Street and should be ready for occupancy by midsummer.

"There is much to be done in programs and personal service to soldiers and defense workers in our present quarters," said Director R. C. Wallace, "and the enlistment of individuals in the community to aid the total USO program is constantly being urged." All interested persons are requested to contact Franklin Street USO Club and register for the particular service suited to their talents and interests. Activities and services cover a wide field and there is opportunity for everyone.

USO operates in partnership with the entire community, on a democratic basis, to serve those who are offering their last full measure of devotion for the defense and preservation of our democratic way of life.

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Baltimore, Md

47c

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"J. Q. Jefferson, formerly director of the Hinesville USO, has been appointed director of this club. Born and reared in Alabama, he finished Tuskegee Institute, Talladega College and New York University. At New York University, under Chick Meehan, he became an all-America football tackle. He was educational adviser for the CCC camps for six years. Director Jefferson will have an adequate staff technically trained to assist in the development of a well-rounded program, which will include housing, information guidance, counseling recreation, church relationships, directories and religious meetings as well as travel service.

"The USO-Y. W. C. A. director is Sarah Horry, who finished Agriculture Technical College in Greensboro, N. C. She taught in high school in North and South Carolina and recently came from the NYA project at Chester, S. C., where she was a youth counselor.

"The members of the corporate committee are Sam G. Adler, Middleton S. Barnwell, D. D., Frank Callen, L. G. Cleverdon, D. D., Dr. J. R. Fonveille, R. W. Gadsden, L. E. Carter, J. S. Delaware, Ralph Mark Gilbert, D. D., Samuel MP. Glasgow, D. D., Martin G. Haynes, D. J. Hill, Sol C Johnson, C. K. Knight, C. A. Linn, Ph. D., D. D.,; Charles M. Maclean, S. M. McDew, Jr., M. D.; Frank M. Oliver, R. W. Porterfield, Jack F. Rabey, Vere H. Rogers, Walter S. Scott, T. T. Shepherd and Fred Wessels, Jr.

"The officers elected are: Dr. C. A. Linn, president; Jack F. Rabey, vice president; L. E. Carter, secretary; and Walter S. Scott, treasurer. The executive committee is composed of the four officers and three additional members, who are Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell, R. W. Gadsden and Charles M. Maclean.

"The committee of management of the new USO unit is composed of the following: Dr. S. M. McDew, Jr., chairman; Donald Thomas, vice chairman; Bowes Ford, secretary; D. J. Hill, treasurer; Sol Johnson, R. W. Gadsden, Dr. N. H. Collier, LeRoy Carter, Joseph Green, Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert, W. S. Scott, Marion Johnson, Frank Callen, Prof. M. H. Haynes and Leon Grant.

"With the announcement of the new USO club in Savannah, information was given Mr. McFeeley, president of the Savannah USO Council, that a $62,000 building is under construction by the army in Hinesville, Ga., and will be open soon as a USO operation with the Y. M. C. A. as the designated operating agency. This buliding will be directly opposite the negro barracks at Camp Stewart. This project was approved a year ago by the President of the United States and when completed should help materially in solving the recreational needs of the negro soldiers at Camp Stewart.

"The President of the United States made this statement:

"'Not by machine alone will we win this war.

"'Unitedly, unstintingly, and without interruption or delay, we have solemnly promised to give our men a mounting tide of guns, tanks, planes and ships.

"'We shall keep that promise, and one promise more—that we shall preserve for them wherever they may be, and without regard to race, creed or color, the moral and spiritual values of the democratic ideals and freedoms for which they now are fighting.

"'Because the USO is unitedly dedicated to that high purpose, and because that high purpose is a vital party of the job of winning this war, the USO should be supported by everybody . . . cheerfully, generously, aid now.'"

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Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
June 23, 1943

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

Tonight at 7:30 o'clock junior hostesses will hold their regular weekly meeting. All members are urged to be present. Plans for a new series of activities will be discussed. Members of the Girls Service Organization will meet at 8:30 p.m.

On Thursday evening game night will be featured with ping pong and table games. Several new games have recently been added to the club's collection. Service men may talk-a-letter home. Last week several recordings were made by the Camp Campbell True Tones, a male quartet.

Senior hostesses will meet on Friday evening at 8 o'clock. This group is expecting to enlarge its personnel in order to take over a larger share in the expanding activities of the club.

"Know Your USO," a quiz program, will be presented on Friday night at 9 o'clock.

Singspiration, a unique musical program featuring the use of song slides, will be offered on Saturday night at 8:30.

Sunday at 4:30 p.m. a special program commemorating the birthday of Paul Laurence Dunbar, eminent poet and folklorist, will be sponsored by the drama and speech committee.

At 6:30 p.m., the Vesper Hour, recorded music featuring Edward Grieg, will be presented.

Facilities of the club are available daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

An unprecedented influx of service wives has taxed the capacity of the room registry service. Citizens who have rooms available for rental are requested to contact the club by telephone at 9153 or call and fill out an application blank.

The new club home is rapidly taking shape on Ninth Street and should be ready for occupancy by midsummer.

"There is much to be done in programs and personal service to soldiers and defense workers in our present quarters," said Director R. C. Wallace, "and the enlistment of individuals in the community to aid the total USO program is constantly being urged." All interested persons are requested to contact Franklin Street USO Club and register for the particular service suited to their talents and interests. Activities and services cover a wide field and there is opportunity for everyone.

USO operates in partnership with the entire community, on a democratic basis, to serve those who are offering their last full measure of devotion for the defense and preservation of our democratic way of life.

47c

Recreation Center for Negro Service Men Is Dedicated

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
June 23, 1943

Howard P. Macfarlane, chairman of the Hillsborough defense council, spoke yesterday at ceremonies opening the new recreation center for Negro service men at 1008 Kay st.

"We are all Americans by virtue of birth and the institutions under which we live," he said.

"We must not regard the winning of the war as the duty only of our men in uniform, but the duty of every citizen, regardless of creed, color or political opinion.

"The funds for the building came from the government of the United States; the administration and facilities from the recreation department of the city of Tampa, and the direct supervision from the Negro section of the recreation division of the defense council.

"I hope that the fullest use may be made of the building for the good men who are offering their lives for their country."

Keys to the building were presented to Lawrence Bennett, director, who said he hoped his work there would spread among the men who were fighting not only "for democracy but for everything that is good in mankind."

Lieut. Col. A. E. Tanner, provost marshal for Tampa military police, spoke briefly. Others who spoke included Mrs. H. B. Hutchinson, president of the Public Recreation board, and Clotelle Williams, president of the City Federation of Negro Women's Clubs. James T. Hargrett, chairman of the Negro division of defense recreation, presided.

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47c-1943

USO

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
January 7, 1943

Negro U.S.O. Hall O.K.'d., Site Studied

The FWA regional office at Atlanta has wired Mayor William Kleeman that an allotment of $18,000 for a Negro USO building in Clarksville has been approved.

A committee from the City Council and one from the colored citizens USO committee are now studying a number of sites. The City Council has voted to purchase the site for the building which will be of permanent construction. The building will be located in the neighborhood of Burt High School, Mayor Kleeman said.

Work should start on the project within 30 days, it was stated. At present a building on Franklin Street is being used temporarily for colored soldiers' activities under the direction of the USO. A colored USO director has already arrived in Clarksville and is in charge of the programs.

It was also revealed that architectural plans are already being drawn for the new health center to be erected on Main Street just west of Fourth. The architectural contract has been let to Speight & Hibbs and Wilson, Bell & Watkins. Mayor Kleeman said work on this project may start within two weeks. The health center building will be of a permanent type and will cost approximately $40,000. Its exterior appearance will be similar to the new USO building under construction on Main Street east of the McGregor Bros. warehouse.

The city is providing the site and the Government is paying for the construction. The center will be used by the Montgomery County Health Department which is now located in the courthouse basement.

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
January 13, 1943

Colored USO Work Going On

With the arrival of a duly authorized director from the National Office of the USO, plans are underway for increased activities at the colored club at 1040 Franklin Street.

Director R. C. Wallace comes to this work with considerable experience with various social agencies. Until recently he was employed with the Tennessee Valley Authority at Knoxville and and has just finished his initial course for USO directors in New York City.

It is his hope that local social agencies and civic groups as well as individuals will lend cooperative efforts to put over an effective program for the men in the armed services.

Contacts have been made with Mayor William Kleeman, Prof. V C. Moffitt and directors of local USO units as well as several camp officials, who have expressed commendation for the official recognition by USO for the activities sponsored by the citizens of Clarksville.

The public is invited to cooperate and participate in the program sponsored for the soldiers at all times.

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
January 18, 1943

Colored USO Hall Is Given FWA Approval

Approval of the Federal Works Agency of the colored USO buildining in Clarksville assures construction of the project, in the opinion of Mayor William Kleeman. Last week the military disapproved the hall and for some time it was believed the project had fallen through.

Mayor Kleeman and City Attorney Charles V. Runyon contacted Senator McKellar and it was learned today that the FWA had definitely approved its construction. The hall and lot on which it will be constructed will cost about $18,000.

While the city has not yet purchased a lot for the building, it was learned today that an option had been obtained on a lot on Ninth Street between College and Main. This lot is likely to be purchased.

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle
January 20, 1943

Health Center, Colored USO Plans Drafted

Architectural contracts for the Health Center and the Negro USO building were let to Wilson, Bell & Watkins and Speight & Hibbs Tuesday afternoon at a meeting attended by Mayor William Kleeman, H. W. Harris, senior engineer for FWA; J. H. Lane, assistant engineer, and J. S. Watkins of Wilson, Bell & Watkins.

Work on the Health Center is expected to start within three weeks. The fireproof, permanent type building will be erected on Main Street. The city and county are purchasing the lot and the Government is paying all construction costs.

Construction on the colored USO building will start within 30 days, it was estimated. The city is to purchase the lot and the Government is to pay all other costs. This building will cost about $18,000 and also will be of a permanent type.

All other things being equal, the Government has agreed to use local architects and materials from local supply firms, Mayor Kleeman said.

Columbia, S. C. State
January 22, 1943

Negroes At Orangeburg To Furnish Dayroom

Orangeburg, Jan. 21—(Special)—It was announced here today that Negro residents of this city are planning to furnish a day room for the use of members of their race in the armed service.

This dayroom will be located on North boulevard.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
February 4, 1943

FUNDS APPROVED FOR RECREATION

$48,000 For Negro U. S. O. Unit—$75,000 Allotted Job North of City

Telegrams from Senator Burnet R. Maybank and Representative L. Mendel Rivers last night announced that action of President Roosevelt yesterday completed Federal Works administration approval for two recreational building projects here totalling $123,000.

One of the projects is a $48,000 negro U. S. O. unit at Frasier field, in President street, backed by Mayor Henry W. Lockwood and Colonel James T. Duke, commanding officer of the Port of Embarkation, in a drive begun last summer. The other is a $75,000 recreational project for both negro and white troops to be located in the North Charleston area.

Messages reporting approval of the Frasier field unit were sent by Representative Rivers to Mayor Lockwood and to Frederick H. McDonald, chairman of the new Community Development council which in the last few days took action in the matter on behalf of the mayor, following an appeal by a delegation of negro leaders. William L. Califf, North Charleston druggist and civic leader, was notified of approval of the unit there by Rivers.

Colonel Duke Pleased

Senator Maybank also wired Mayor Lockwood of the action taken on the two projects.

Colonel Duke, who was active in reviving efforts to obtain the negro U. S. O. here, said he was greatly pleased at the approval, declaring the project would provide recreation for the negro troops under his command, and do a good deal to help relationships here.

Mayor Lockwood expressed gratification and said he hoped work would begin soon on the negro project, for which the city has donated the site. He thanked all organizations which have worked to obtain this end.

Both Mr. McDonald and Colonel Duke emphasized the need for such a program, since there are now virtually no recreational facilities here for negro troops. The site donated is near Burke Industral school, and already has a swmmng pool and other provsons.

Colonel Duke sad priorities and other difficulties hindered approval for many months, and that the way was finally smoothed when the grant of two large buildings at the Santee-Cooper project, used during construction work there, was obtained. Material in these buildings, the colonel said, will be used in the U. S. O. project, which will be of frame structure.

North Charleston Move

He reported that the move for a North Charleston center is of more recent origin, and said he did not know definitely what site would be chosen. The intention is to provide recreation for both white and negro, he declared, and added that taking over of the Berkeley Jungles club had been suggested.

Senator Maybank's telegram was as follows:

"F. W. A. advises approval of project 38-143, recreation facilities at North Charleston, estimated cost $75,000; also approved project 38-208, recreation facilities, city of Charleston, estimated cost $48,000".

Representative Rivers wired:

"It affords me great pleasure to advise you the president today approved the negro recreation center for Charleston in the amount of $48,000. I feel certain this will mean a great deal to the well-being of our community".

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
February 1, 1943

DAY ROOM FOR NEGROES

Quartermaster Battalion Has Recreation Place

Presentation of a completely furnished day room of the negro quartermaster battalion was made formally to the commanding officer of the battalion, Lieutenant Colonel C. Heartfield, Tuesday afternoon by representatives of the American Red Cross camp and hospital council and other contributing organizations, it was announced yesterday.

The council, under the direction of Charles E. Cozad, Red Cross field director, and his assistant, Ben Irwin, was able to secure the interest of the International Laborers union and its business agent, E. B. Radford, in addition to the Avery Institute in furnishing the room. Participating in the presentation Tuesday were William Blueford, representing the union; J. Howard Bennett, of Avery Institute and the Rev. Caesar S. Ledbetter, of the negro Plymouth Congregational church. Serving as liaison man in arranging the details of the project was Ray O. Burks, Red Cross assistant field director, covering the first staging area of the Port of Embarkation.

Mr. Cozad said that the drive for funds for the furnishing of the room was so successful that it will continue as long as there are demands made instead of expiring January 1, as originally planned.

Commended by officers as one of the best means possible of keeping the men's morale high, the day room offers recreational facilities of all types to negro soldiers. The officers said much was owed the Red Cross council and negro organizations that are helping them solve "what could become a tough problem".

Savannah, Ga., News
January 28, 1943

SERVICE CENTER PROVIDED COLORED

Plans Under Way to Expand Facilities Greatly

There is a center for colored soldiers operated by and under the general supervision of the Savannah Social Service for Soldiers located on the corner of 37th street and Ogeechee Road.

The center is open seven days each week, from early in the morning until late at night.

Service men in the armed forces are welcome at all times. During one week in December the SSSS colored center entertained and served 1,552 soldiers. During the month of December 2,855 soldiers were served through the SSSS center, and 897 women of Savannah were at the center during the month to help make it pleasant for the soldiers.

Colored people in Chatham county have contributed a total of $650.00 as their share toward the entertainment of negro soldiers. Forty volunteer workers contributed their labor towards serving the soldiers.

There are accommodations for sleeping for only six men, but according to Fred A. Davis, general chairman of the SSSS for Savannah and Chatham county, adequate sleeping accommodations will be made for soldiers from Camp Stewart and the air base in the immediate future. Plans call for a large social union room that will accommodate several hundred soldiers at one time. Sleeping quarters for several hundred men are being planned. Arrangements are being made for games including basketball, volley ball, tennis, and many of the indoor games.

One colored soldier speaking recently of the service at the colored SSSS center stated, "We are proud of the SSSS center." It is always clean, the people on the staff are courteous and anxious to serve.

Every effort is being made by the general committee of the SSSS to serve colored soldiers in the same way that other soldiers are being served in this and in other areas.

Columbia, S. C. Record
January 29, 1943

Negro Service Club Formed At Aiken

AIKEN, Jan. 29.—A community service club for the Negro members of the armed services has been formed in Aiken and already the success of the club appears assured.

The club is a project of the Negro citizens organized and operated by them with technical advice and assistance from the OCD.

The club is located in a two-story stucco building on York street, which through the cooperation of Edward Hill and the Ball family was furnished, rent free, for a month. Now that its success is evident, the community committee has leased the building. Plans are underway to paint the interior, plant shrubbery in the yard and add to the furnishings. Already paint has been donated for the kitchen and three painters gave an evening's time to do the work.

Curtains have been made, some china bought and the kitchen has been made very attractive. It is planned to do each room as there is opportunity.

The advisory committee is headed by A. D. Smith as chairman and the Rev. Cleveland as secretary. R. A. Brooks is chairman of the executive committee with C. C. Johnson as secretary and M. Drass treasurer. C. Treadwell, A. B. Kessels, F. McPhearson and W. Cummings form the housekeeping committee with W. Cummings as chairman. G. Eubanks is chairman of the canteen committee.

[illegible] News & Times
March 31, 1943

NEGRO U. S. O. STARTED

$6,000 Structure Will Be Put Up at Myrtle Beach

Myrtle Beach, March 30.—Special: A contract has been let for a negro U. S. O. building here to cost approximately $6,000.

Work on the foundations of the structure, to be located in the vicinity of the negro school building, has begun.

Recreation Need for Negro Soldiers Here Held Urgent

Action on behalf of Mayor Henry W. Lockwood to relieve a critical lack of recreational facilities for negro service men in this area is being taken, it was reported yesterday by Frederick H. McDonald, chairman of the new comprehensive Community Development council.

Mr. McDonald said council authorities were visited yesterday by a delegation of six negro leaders headed by L. H. Bennett, director of the Avery institute, asking that efforts be made to carry out plans begun last summer for a negro U. S. O. unit on Frazier field, near the Gadsden Green housing project.

Investigation brought out that there is almost a total absence of recreational facilities for negro troops, who are pouring into the Port of Embarkation here in increasing numbers, Mr. McDonald said.

The critical need, he declared, is pointedly illustrated by the fact that the only organization providing entertainment for negro service men is the colored Y. W. C. A. at 106 Coming street, and this unit, which consists of only two rooms, is visited each month by 14,000 to 15,000 negro service men.

This average of of around 500 a day necessarily means that no adequate program can be provided, and also means that the original barly-needed work of the Y. W. C. A. unit, with negro women, has been completely wrecked, Mr. McDonald said.

At the instigation of Mayor Lockwood, an appropriation for a negro U. S. O. at Frazier field was made last summer by the city council, and Frazier field made ready for the donation of building space, Mr. McDonald stated. Plans and specifications for a development to

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Orangeburg, S. C., Times & Dem.
February 11, 1943

Providing Dayroom For Negro Soldiers

H. Clifton Harley, chairman Camp and Hospiatl committee of Orangeburg County Red Cross Chapter, reports that arrangements have been made to provide a Dayroom or Recreation Room for colored service men in Orangeburg.

This Dayroom is sponsored by the colored citizens committee of Orangeburg.

James S. Bryant has kindly donated the use of his building at No. 11 North Boulevard, across from the Southern passenger depot.

Every week-end a large number of colored soldiers visit this city and this room will be for their use.

All persons interested in helping to furnish this room by contributing articles of furniture, magazines, etc, will please telephone No. 331-J.

Paris, Tenn., Post-Intelligencer
February 2, 1943

Colored Personnel Needed For Work At Camp Tyson

An immediate need of Colored Personnel for employment at the new service club at Camp Tyson was announced today by the local Civil Service Board.

Only persons who are qualified and have had training need apply, it was announced. Applications are to be made at Room 9 Post Office Building, Paris.

One bookkeeper, Male or Female, is needed; a junior and senior librarian, and under clerk typists.

Paris, Tenn., Parisian
February 5, 1943

NEGRO USO IS GETTING BUSY

Service Club At Camp Is Opened; Recreation Room Planned

Opening of the Negro Service Club at Camp Tyson with a band concert Wednesday evening is to be followed by the first formal dance at the club Saturday evening. Those who will be able to attend this affair, colored girls of the city and colored soldiers' wives, are asked to meet at Quinn Chapel A. M. E. Church, Friday evening at seven o'clock. An invitation to attend is given by R. J. Smith, national USO director here for the colored troops at Camp Tyson.

Basement at Quinn Chapel is being renovated and will be furnished and arranged as a temporary recreation room for negro soldiers from the Camp until a permanent building can be obtained, it is stated, and cooperation is asked of Paris colored citizens and white friends.

Director Smith is being assisted by a committee on management composed of leading negro citizens, of which B. W. Brown is chairman; Rev. J. W. Howard, vice-chairman; J. W. Travis, secretary; Prof. T. R. Wilson, treasurer; Prof. W. R. Jarrett, Mrs. W. R. Jarrett, Mrs. Bertie Palmer, Mildred Brown, Haiona Haynes.

This committee will also meet at the church following that of the girls and women who are asked to assist in the entertainment of the colored soldiers.

The negro USO here is an operating unit of the national YMCA.

Walterboro, S. C. [illegible] & Standard
February 18, 1943

~~Recreation~~ Hall For Negro Troops

The Town of Walterboro has agreed to let the defense recreation committee use part of the old factory building as a temporary service men's center for the colored troops stationed at the Walterboro army air base. This center will be operated by the colored service men's committee under the supervision of Lt. Johnson, colored special service officer at the base and Thelma Odom with the assistance of the colored ministers. The center will be opened for use in the very near future.

USO Entertains Nearly 2000 Guests at Mardi Gras

Bystander

MAR 12 1943

Des Moines, Iowa

St John's auditorium at Harding Road and University was a gay festival hall on Tuesday evening, when 2,000 of colored and white members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, and service men donned colorful carnival caps, threw paper streamers, danced, ate refreshments and made much merriment at the Mardi Gras which was sponsored by the Locust Street and Keo-Way USO and the Catholic Action girls.

For the first time many of the women and soldiers from southern parts of the country had opportunities to meet their colored WAAC sisters in a social way, exchange friendly greetings, and intermingle. Some danced. Some held heckled dancing couples. Some got in groups on the sidelines and gave cheers, sang state and army songs.

Slim Davis and his orchestra kept the rhythym of the evening at a moving pace as jitterbugs vied for applause. As master of ceremonies, the band leader, started the program as planned by the USO committees.

Parade of Soloists

Miss Blanch Manuel of the USO Junior Service group, started the parade of songsters which was soon taken over by WAAC soloists. Following Miss Manuel as programmed was Mr. Everett Mays, baritone. Then the WAACs took over, volunteering to do impromptu numbers. In the group were favorites of various white companies, Auxiliary Florence Mone, Auxiliary Reatha Moore and Auxiliary Reta Roebuck. They got a big hand from the entire group

Long lines of women and men waiting to gain admittance to the fortune-telling booth which was kept busy all evening. Other lines of WAACs and soldiers waited for the refreshments—the sandwiches, doughnuts, coffee. Peanuts were plentiful.

Committees of the USOs, the Junior Service Groups, the Catholic Action Groups were kept busy all evening seeing that the women and men and guests of the Mardi Gras were entertained in proper style.

Heading the committee as chairman was Miss Alma M. Priesley, originally from New Orleans, where Mardi Gras, is a favorite celebration. She is USO director at the Keo-Way USO for the National Catholic Community Service.

MAR 12 1943

Committee chairmen were: Mesdames Mattie Scott and Josn Sullivan, refreshments; Mrs. Helena Elliston, decorations; Mrs J. B. Morris, costumes, assisted by members of the Junior Service group; Mrs. I. Cushingberry, in charge of check stand.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

USO WILL OBSERVE OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY

MAR 25 1943

The USO Club at Tuskegee Institute will join 1,200 clubs in other parts of the nation in observing Open House Day next Sunday, when it will be host to the general public, it is announced by E. L. Raiford, director of the local club. The purpose of Open House Day, he said, is to acquaint the public with the services rendered by the U. S. O. and its accomplishments during the past year.

From 1 to 6 p. m. Sunday the public will be invited to inspect the club and see USO in action. Local officials and citizens, USO representatives, civic, religious and patriotic groups, service men and their families will participate. Tributes will be paid to the hostesses who have aided USO programs.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

NOTED COMPOSER TO DIRECT PROGRAMS

MAR 18 1943

R. Nathaniel Dett, internationally-known Negro composer and one of USO's music advisers, has arrived here to conduct group singing at the USO Club and direct other group musical activities, it is announced by E. L. Raiford, director, USO Club, Tuskegee Institute.

MAR 18 1943

While the noted composer is here he will conduct two community sings to be held at Tuskegee Institute Chapel on Sunday, March 21, and Sunday, March 28, at 6:30 p. m. Cooperating agencies include Tuskegee Institute Tuskegee Army Flying School, Veterans' Hospital, local churches civic and music clubs.

47c-1943

Servicemen "Welcome For Free" at Canteen

Peoples Voice New York, N.Y.

JUN 26 1943

In case there are any men in uniform who are stationed in or around New York City, or who will be passing through this section on furlough or leave, and have not been to or heard about the democratic hospitality being dished out at the Stage Door Canteen, should make it their business to visit this spot which is located on the south side of 44th st between 7th and 8th aves.

The Canteen is open to service men only, with nothing required of them but to show their identification. This is the one place where Negro boys need have no fear of feeling out of place or not wanted. The canteen is making a very special bid for the colored boys.

The American Theatre Wing, which is responsible for the founding of this and other canteens, is keenly aware of the discrimination which our boys face and for this reason wants it distainctly understood that at the Stage Door Canteen, all men in uniform, regardless of race or nationality, are welcome. It is their canteen.

At 5 every evening, the doors are opened and remain open until midnight. Dinner is served if wanted until 6 or 7. After that, milk, coffee, cake etc., are available. Hand-picked young ladies, both white and colored, act as hostesses. The finest entertainment of stage screen and radio is provided. All the big name bands swing in and out of the place to the delight of the boys. No less a person than Katherine Hepburn or some other big name may be the waitress.

JUN 26 1943

There is a big birthday cake available each night for the man whose birthday it happens to be.

While at the canteen the other night, I talked to a young Chinese boy, Sgt. Victor C. Young who is attached to the Air Corp at Camp Kilmer. He turned out to be the youngster who played Charlie Chan's son in the series of movies, "Charlie Chan." He has been in the army for five months.

JUN 26 1943

When I remarked that he was about ready to see combat duty he enthusiastically answered "You bet, I am. I'm rarin' to go."

An English gunner says America is tops, 100%. He nexer knew anything existed like the canteen.

Three Mexican boys in the US Army were seeing the canteen for the first time as were many Negro boys in the Army and Navy. One, Pvt. Woodrow Bailey, (colored) had been a member of the army show, "This Is The Army," and is now stationed in Jersey.

This is the Stage Door Canteen, everything free to all service men.

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Negro USO Lounge Will Open Sunday

AUG 1 1943

The public is cordially invited to attend the formal opening of the USO Lounge for service men in the colored waiting room of the Terminal Station between the hours of 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. Sunday. Completed last week, the lounge will be open this afternoon and evening during these hours for the public to come and see it in actual operation and learn of the tremendous service which it will render to service men and the general Montgomery traveling public.

Mrs. Neal, Travelers Air worker in charge, has been gratified by the response of volunteers who have been meeting in institute with her during the past week. The number now stands around 25 but there is urgent need of others so do not hesitate to make known your desire to help. Volunteers may sign up at the station during the formal opening today.

AUG 1 1943

Gifts of flowers, candy, cookies, etc., for the service men may be sent to the lounge all day Sunday and every day thereafter.

Negro Recreation Center Now Open

Through the efforts of Mort Levin, when he was commander of Florence Post No. 11, American Legion, a recreation center was established for the negroes on the corner of Sweetwater and Seminary streets, that has been

USO

of great benefit and pleasure to service men and industrial workers.

The center was established on June 10th and opened with an entertainment and since that time two other social affairs have been staged, all of which were well attended by service.

Mr. Levin has plans to keep the center open as a drop-in center, and when it is more widely known that volunteer help is needed, it will be supplied, for in other war efforts the negroes have not only done their share, but been outstanding in their efforts. Mr. Levin is not asking for financial aid, but he does want cooperation and work to put over the project successfully.

Negro USO Center To Be Ready Soon

A new USO Center for negro soldiers and sailors will be opened in the old three-story S. C. Toof home at the northeast corner of South Lauderdale and Linden in about two weeks, C. R. Lawrence, executive secretary of the negro Y. M. C. A., said yesterday. Sept. 8, 43

Contractors have promised to have the first floor of the old Memphis landmark remodeled about Sept. 20. The first two floors of the old 22-room mansion will be used for recreational activities and the third floor will be used for sleeping quarters.

The building is being remodeled at a cost of about $10,000 and will be the home of the Y. M. C. A. after the war.

Colored USO Club Dedicated Sunday In Colorful Program

Mayor Hardy, Colonel Markey, Others Take Part

Blackstone, Va. Courier-Record

July 2, 1943

The dedication of the recently constructed Federal Recreation Building, a USO-YMCA operation for Negro soldiers of Camp Pickett, was held Sunday, June 27, at 3 p. m.

Dr. John M. Gandy, President Emeritus of Virginia State College delivered the principal address, while the M.R.T.C. Band No. 2 rendered music for the occasion.

The exercises began promptly at 3 o'clock with a 15-minute prelude by the band. This period marked the arrival of the many dignitaries of State and National prominence.

Dr. Gandy, who was presented by Club Director W. A. Brown, outlined the history of USO in Blackstone, and stressed the functions and importance of USO Clubs in general. "The USO provides good and wholesome recreation for soldiers", said Dr. Gandy. He further admonished the servicemen to take advantage of all opportunities being offered them by membership in the armed forces. High tribute was paid to FWA, FSA and USO for their joint efforts in providing this worthwhile club for servicemen.

Hon. Rieves Hardy, Mayor of the town of Blackstone welcomed the club to the town and spoke highly of director W. A. Brown whom he praised for cooperation with town officials. Mayor Hardy assured all that the two would continue in any way possible the noble effort of USO.

The very impressive key passing ceremony was begun by Mr. Henry Brooks of F.W.A. Mr. Brooks stated that six such buildings had been dedicated in the state for Negro Service men. He stated also that is was his belief that Federal Funds could be used for no better purpose than to construct buildings for entertainment of our soldiers. Mr. Brooks passed the key to Mr. John Neasmith of FSA who spoke on the role of the community in this project for soldiers. He expressed the fact that soldiers when they are free often come into town thus USO Clubs have excellent opportunity for providing them with entertainment. Mr. Robert Wilson of USO accepted the key from Mr. Neasmith and passed it to Mr. Kenneth Dale, regional supervisor Y.M.C.A. Mr. Dale passed it to Rev. W. H. Winston, Chairman of Management Committee of Dillard Street USO.

Miss Mary Hardy, chairman of the Blackstone Defense Recreation Committee brought greetings and congratulations from Governor Colgate Darden who expressed regrets that he was unable to attend.

Colonel D. John Markey, Post Commander at Camp Pickett, climaxed the program with an excellent speech expressing appreciation for the excellent work of USO Clubs in Blackstone. He expressed the desire that volunteers would assist in USO programs so that a greater number of people would feel a part of the great war effort. Colonel Markey paid tribute to Negro outfits, organizations and individuals of the Post; namely, MRTC Band No. 2, Firemen, MRTC divisions of 2nd Army, Chaplain McLaughlin and Lieutenant Oliver.

Other platform guests were the Rev. Mr. F. C. Hawkins and Dr. T. C. Bradshaw of Blackstone.

After the exercises the Danville Drum and Bugle Corps gave a demonstration of military drills on the lawn of the Club.

Volunteers serving as hostesses for the occasion were Mesdames Ethel Edmonds, Hazel Royal, Martha Austin, Belle Stokes, Margaret Collier, W. H. Winston, Sarah Fitzgerald, Martha Overby, Ethel Curl, and Florence Brown.

Tribune

July 11, 1943

Some two dozen colored service men are now stationed in the Fort Pierce area. These young men need some sort of attention and the Rev. S. D. Thom, pastor of the Goodwill Presbyterian church, is now working out a plan for recreation for this group of service men. He has formulated a committee and this group has rented a room at 1208 Avenue D, cleaned and refinished it and now seek some furniture that this small club may be opened. Mrs. Clifton Davis, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, will present this need for furniture to the Legion and if that body will recognize this effort as proper and correct, Mrs. Davis will work with her group and other groups to secure such furniture as needed for the temporary effort for these colored service men.

DAY ROOM DEDICATED

JUL 10 1943 Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., July 8—Dedicatory services for the newly furnished day room were held recently at the Army Recreation camp for Negro soldiers on Chouteau, between Grand and Spring.

The ceremonies were under the direction of the Lou Swarz chapter of the Women's Defense corps of America, which contributed the largest portion of funds used to equip the room.

JUL 10 1943

Miss Swarz was mistress of ceremonies and presented speakers Col. Lawrence L. Conrad, commanding officer of the area; Major Stenslie, director of the camp, and Capt. Lola Wallace of WDCA, who presented the room to the soldiers of the camp. Sgt. Dudley McDonald, who works under Major Stenslie, acknowledged publicly the contributions of other organizations and individuals, among which were the Stowe Alumni association, the American Woodmen, All Saints church school, the Victory Art Reading club, the Arkansas club, Den Mothers' Cub Group 203 of the Boy Scouts, LaFleur club, Mrs. C. E. Sawyer, Mr. McConnell of Sears-Roebuck, Mrs. Emma Lee Chisholm, Mrs. Roscoe C. Davis, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Evans, Pete Hogan, Leroy Rodgers.

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

Dedicate New Book Room For Soldiers

AUG 7 1943

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—(ANP)—Two day rooms were recently dedicated at Jefferson Barracks near here for the benefit of soldiers attached to the 1167th Training group by the Lou Swarz Chapter of the Women's Defense Corps of America. It was the second day room made available for service men here in the past two months by the chapter, and represents an investment $1,000.

The dedicatory program was featured by the appearance of Lieut. Col. Lou Swarz, who organized the unit, as the master of ceremonies, the singing of patriotic songs, and other entertainment. Capt. Edwin A. Fairbairn, commander of the 1167th, welcomed the WDAC to the post and expressed appreciation for its cooperation.

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

Atlanta Urban League

Head Gets USO Post

FEB 13 1943

ATLANTA—(ANP)—William Y. Bell, Jr., executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban league, was granted a leave of absence by the league's board of directors to become associate regional executive of USO with headquarters in Atlanta, it was announced by A. T. Walden, chairman of the board.

Bell's duties will include coordination of USO activities for Negro soldiers and industrial workers primarily in Region 7 comprising the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. He may also be called upon for periodic work in Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

He will be responsible to H. W. Pope, consultant for Negro service, in the national USO office in New York, who has responsibility for coordination of Negro work on the national scale.

FEB 13 1943

Bell will be the first Negro to be employed by the USO itself for regional work.

Durham, [illegible] Herald
August 31, 1943

Negro Service Club At Henderson Opens

Henderson, Aug. 30.—(Special)—A servicemen's center for colored men has been provided by the colored people of the community and will be opened formally at exercises scheduled for Friday evening of this week, it was announced today. Hunter Hawkins is chairman of the committee which has had charge of equipping the center.

The quarters are located on Horner Street in the store building formerly occupied by the curb market.

Most of the renovation of the building has been completed, and coperation of the public is being asked by the committee in equipping the building. Furniture, musical instruments, games, newspapers and magazines and other items are asked. Churches, clubs and individuals are asked for donations.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

PRESS PHOTO SERVICE

ON USO STAFF—New Orleans, La.—Ralph Metcalfe, the former Marquette track king, is shown above in a familiar pose. As associate director of the USO Louisiana Maneuvers Service, Ralph serves and entertains third Army Maneuvers troops in this area. His work has brought high praise from top officials both the Army and USO.—(Press Photo Service.)

JUL 17 1943

STARDUST

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

By PETER SUSKIND

Dick Campbell Is The Right Man

It always gives me a kick when a grand guy gets a big break. In this case, it's the whole race of us who are really going to get the break.

JUN 5 1943

Dick Campbell, actor, producer, playwright, director, concert manager and all points theatrical, has just been made Negro Production Manager of the USO Camp Shows, Inc. He will take up where Noble Sissle left off because the bandleader has had to relinquish his responsibilities because of an extended tour of his orchestra through the west.

Sissle himself and Judge Hubert T. Delany encouraged the appointment of Campbell and the entire Negro theatrical profession seconded it. Everyone who knows the man has respect for his fundamental honesty and fearlessness.

There are more than a few sore spots in the Camp Shows setup as it effects the Negro performer. Not much of it has been brought to the front and it has looked as if not much of it would ever be adjusted.

But what has been poking up like a scared rabbit's ear was the fact that too few, oh, too few, colored units had been called upon to tour the Army circuit. And another thing, there has been no colored unit to go overseas. As you have probably read, there are a batch of Negro soldiers out there. Those fellows are hungry for the kind of entertainment that a group of their own can give them. Not to mention what it would mean to them just to have some of the home folks around for a while.

Camp Show' Inc., has announced that they are planning to send out 12 new units for the summer and early fall season. At this time, they say, they don't have any idea what these units will be or who will comprise them. And we wonder: will there be any Negro outfits among the 12?

Dick Campbell is at the helm now and he, too, is wondering. But he is in a position to wonder loudly and strongly. They've got to hear us wonder, now. And Campbell isn't the man to be a figurehead with a great long title and a big wide smile for all comers. He's a tough man behind a cause. Besides a firm will, a genuine love for the theatre and a desire to see Negroes partake more fully of the fruits of the theatre, Campbell knows his business from the ground up.

JUN 5 1943

Some years ago he organized the Rose McClendon Players. His objectives were many, but primarily he wanted an outlet for the hundreds of untried Negro actors, playwrights and stage mechanics. He did not ask that they be over-loaded with talent, but he insisted that the basic will and interest be there. The Rose McClendon Players thrived for many seasons, putting on at least a dozen highly credible productions. The Players are inactive at the present time but they are by no means a thing of the past.

About two months ago Campbell was appointed representative of Negro Theatres in the War Council Commission of Educational and Community Theatres. This program was initiated at the National Theatre Conference in March.

He Knows His Way Around

Since 1928 Campbell has been seen on Broadway in "Cabin in the Sky," "Mamba's Daughter," "Native Son" and other legitimate shows plus countless radio productions. You see, he knows what he's going to talk about.

As a concert manager, Campbell's most successful venture has been handling the career of his wife, Muriel Rahn, the sensational young dramatic soprano. She, incidentally, has just completed a cross country concert tour which followed her lengthy engagement with the Broadway hit, "The Pirate," starring those perennial favorites of the theatre, Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne.

The Negro theatre and the USO couldn't have a better man to champion a cause and to highlight the character of a people. Dick Campbell should clear up what has been threatening to be a messy situation. With any kind of cooperation from the Negro theatre and the USO, he can do it. The man doesn't compromise on principle and he seeks fairness and enlightenment with a fervor.

The best of luck, Dick Campbell.

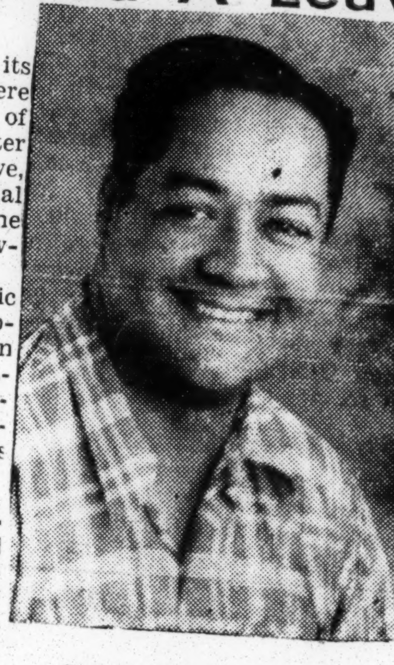
Coach Adkins Accepts USO Post-Is Granted A Leave

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—When LeMoyne College begins its fall term this September, there will be missing in the lineup of faculty members Coach Walter P. (Jack) Adkins, pictured above, who ranked first in the official family of that institution from the stand-point of longevity of service.

JUL 6 1943

The nationally known athletic director of LeMoyne last week, upon his request from the American Missionary Association, was granted a leave of absence for the duration to engage in physical educational work for the United States Service Organization.



Coach JACK ADKINS

Coach Adkins, in becoming identified with the USO, has joined company with many of his distinguished contemporaries in the coaching field, notably Coaches William (Big) Bell, of Florida A. and M; Forbes, of Morehouse; Kendall, of Talladega; Hawkins, of Knoxville; Nicks, of Morris Brown; and Ralph Metcalfe, of Xavier.

Selective Service began having telling effect upon enrollment of male students at these colleges two years ago, and in 1942 many colleges voted to suspend football. LeMoyne College suspended football during the spring of 1942, substituting in its place intra-mural activities.

JUL 6 1943

Jack Adkins pioneered the Memphis field as a football coach.

With this victory and others as comparatively outstanding during the next two sessions, the LeMoyne Yellow Jackets were called the "Wonder Team." With the smashing defeat of Morehouse College in 1937, sports writers of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate gave LeMoyne football aggregation its present game. "The Mad Magicians."

Dr. Frank Sweeney, who served LeMoyne as president during the greatest portion of Coach Adkin's tenure at the institution, wrote the following commendation regarding his record:—

JUL 6 1943

"I saw Jack Adkins every day for ten years and never saw him or knew of him doing anything unworthy or irregular in words or deeds."

Recognized as a sports authority, Coach Adkins was called upon frequently to referee games, settle disputes, and in 1937 he was invited to serve as a sports radio commentator over the Blue networks via WMPS, a position he held for one year. He also served two terms as president of the Southern Coaches and Officials Association.

Coach Adkins, while establishing an enviable record for himself and college as athletic director, kept abreast with his academic work. He received his B. A. Degree at Fisk University and his Master's Degree from Ohio State.

A native of Tennille, Ga., "a town of about one thousand souls as Coach Adkins said in reflection, he came to Tennessee during his early manhood to start his college career, and remained in this state until accepting his present post. When asked to comment upon his leaving the institution where for seventeen years he had helped to shape the lives of scores of young men as he taught them team work, self-defense, and techniques of overcoming obstacles in the achievement of an objective, he said:—

JUL 6 1943

"You know the story of 'Old Grover Alexander, of the St. Louis Cards. When he pitched his last major game, he looked at his watch, and told his teammates:—My time is up."

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
September 4. 1943

Recreation Center For Negro Soldiers Given Approval

Approval of a Federal Works Agency project for renovating and equipping the recently acquired frame dwelling on Council street for use as a recreation center for negro soldiers, was announced today by Mayor F. B. Creech, who was advised of the approval by Senator Burnet R. Maybank and Representative H. B. Fulmer.

Estimated cost of the project will be $10,500. A grant of $9,020 will be made. A government field expense of $460 and application fund of $1,020 will make up the remainder.

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item.
August 27, 1943

Items From Negro Community Center

N. KARL GREENE,
Supervisor

Socials, entertainments and varied activities for service men Shaw Field are planned and directed by Mesdames Garner and Allison of the recreation personnel. The loyal interest and unselfish effort of these recreation leaders have contributed much to the success of recreation in our city. Through special training and years of experience in recreation work they are prepared to render valuable service to our service men.

The Victory Girls club entertained the service men Tuesday night at the Community Center. Game room activities, musical selections, dancing and a jitter bug feature were the main attractions. Sandwiches punch and cookies were served by the staff.

A group of service men from Charleston, spent several hours at the Center Monday night and enjoyed the hospitality extended them. Other out of town guests visiting the center and enjoying the activities were Mrs. Georgana Dicks of Florida and Mrs. J. Smalls of Brooklyn, N. Y. "You are always welcome at the Community Center."

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun
October 13, 1943

NEGRO USO OPERATES

SAVANNAH, Ga., Oct. 12.—(AP)—The new USO club for Negro service men is in full operation. The USO center, located in downtown Savannah, was built with a total cost of $35,000.

47c-1943

USO .

Coach Nicks Granted Leave For Position With Y.M.C.A. Uso

Daily World

JUL 5 Atlanta. Georgia

BY JOEL W. SMITH

William J. Nicks, head coach at Morris Brown College has been granted a leave of absence to take a position with the YMCA-USO, and left the Gate City this week for New York, where he will spend three weeks in the Training Institute.

JUL 5 1943

After this brief training period, Coach Nicks will be assigned regular duties in the southern area and at the termination of his work with the USO, he will resume his coaching duties at Morris Brown College.

Nicks took the coaching duties at Morris Brown in 1930, and since that time has not only become recognized as one of the leading mentors in SIAC circles but throughout the country as well. He was on "leave" in 1937 and 1940, doing advance work, during which time A. J. Lockhart, Director of Athletics, and Artis P. Graves, assistant cach in charge.

Nicks has been very successful as a coach, winning a total of 68 games (football); against 20 lost and 10 ti[illegible] W[illegible]nes won the city [illegible] championship in 1930 and 1931; the city basketball crown five straight years, 1931-35; and annexed the conference cage title in 1932.

The highlights of Nicks' coaching career came in 1933, when the Wolverines toppled the Wiley Wildcats to vie for the mythical national championships; and in the colorful victory over the powerful Virginia State Trojans in the Peach Bowl Clasic. In spite of this fact, there is no doubt in the writer's mind, that the happiest moment in his entire career was the stunning upset administered the Florida A and M Rattlers in 1941.

Nicks-coached teams have annexed two conference football titles, 1934 and 1941, and have allways made a fine showing in the SIAC basketball tournaments. The Wolverines have been consistent winners in intercollegiate golf and have also made a creditable showing in the SIAC Track and Field meets and Tuskegee Relay Carnivals. He developed a brilliant array of all-Aremican stars and is well-liked by both players and coaches, throughout the country.

JUL 9 1943

Coach Nicks is a native of Griffin, Georgia, and graduated from Morris Brown College in 1928. Since that time he has done graduate work at Ohio State University, and Teachers' College, Columbia University, where he earned the degree of master of physical education in 1940.

According to A. J. Lockhart, Athletic Director, the future of football at the college for the 'duration' will depend on the manpower available.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

USO Club Opened In Kinston, N. C., For Servicemen

KINSTON, N. C. — The Harris Croom Post No. 219 of Kinston and the citizens feeling the need of a service men's club for the large number of men who are in and out of the city from the nearby camps, opened a USO Club on May 16 at 240 South Queen st.

The opening attendance was 200, a number which has steadily increased. During the week of May 31, the attendance amounted to 985. The home placement committee placed 183 men in the best homes, under the direction of Mrs. M. N. Leioto.

MARINE ORCHESTRA PLAYS

The Marine Orchestra from Montford Point was presented in a talent show on June 3 by the dance committee of the USO. The refreshment committee, under the direction of Mrs. Louise Isler served the men.

Those on the dance committee are Madams C. B. Stewart, G. B. Lane, and J. H. Harper. Mrs. C. J. Albritton is chairman of the junior hostesses and Mrs. S. E. Clark is chairman of the senior hostesses. Those who donated their services were Mrs. E. Pruce, Irene Jones, [illegible] Pittman, L. Isler, A. H. Cobb, A. Foye, and Miss Thelma Albritton. Miss Rosita Driggers is in charge of the center.

New York Age
New York, N. Y

152 Negro Girls End Training Course For USO Jr. Hostesses

JUL 24 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — One hundred and fifty-two young women — the first class to finish the hostess training course at the Phyllis Wheatley branch of the Y. W. C. A. — were presented with USO Junior Hostess diplomas at formal graduation exercises at the Washington, D. C. institution Tuesday night.

JUL 24 1943

The presentations were made by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women and director of Negro Affairs for the National Youth Administration. Dr. Bethune expressed pride in the fact that young women today are accepting their responsibilities to the war effort and urged the graduates to approach their duties in this manner.

The 152 graduates raised to more than 7,000 the number of white and Negro Junior Hostesses who have completed 10-hour training courses in the District of Columbia. Calling attention to this fact, Miss Mabel R. Cook, area representative of the National USO, reminded the graduates that their work afforded them one of the last opportunities to send the soldiers to war with memories which they could cherish throughout the grim task which faces them.

JUL 24 1943

Mrs. Adelaide Smith, USO Committee chairman at the Phyllis Wheatley "Y", presided, and Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, president of the branch, presented corsages to Dr. Bethune and Miss Cook. The "Pledge of Youth" was recited by Miss Orpha Robinson.

The program included an invocation and benediction by the Rev. M. M. Jefferson, assistant pastor of the Asbury Methodist Church, and musical selections by Reginald Bailey, pianist, and Miss Louise Burge, contralto. Miss Burge was accompanied by Miss Virginia Williams.

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108 USO Clubs Serving Race Soldiers In Nation

Chicago, Illinois Defender

MAY 1943

NEW YORK. — Negroes serving their country in the armed forces of the United States enjoy recreational opportunities at 108 special USO clubs throughout the country, Henry W. Pope, consultant for Negro Services at USO national headquarters here, announced this week.

"Negroes who have joined the ranks of those fighting to preserve democracy have received the attention of USO from the day of its formation more than two years ago," Pope said. "As camps for Negro soldiers have increased in size and number, USO has endeavored to meet the needs of the men for leisure-time recreation. To date, 14 per cent of total USO operations is engaged in serving Negroes, and Negroes constitute 12 per cent of USO volunteers.

"The latest report for which statistics are available discloses that the total attendance at 108 clubs for Negroes now exceeds 1,000,000 monthly or an average of about 10,000 per club. This figure includes volunteers and repeat visits of Negro soldiers. In addition, many Negroes make use of other clubs where no separate count is kept.

53,000 Volunteers

"Directed by a staff of 132 professionally trained workers, and assisted by a corps of 53,000 volunteers, the programs offer a wide range of activities. Dances and social gatherings of all kinds are held. Movies are popular. Religious programs are also well attended.

"USO clubs include comfortable lounges, writing rooms with free USO stationery, showers, game rooms, snack bars and social halls. Some clubs have a rent-a-bike service, a free camera loan service, free checking, irons and ironing boards, shoe shine stands and other welcome and handy conveniences.

"An important feature of all USO clubs is information service. More than 67,000 information services were given at 108 USO clubs for these soldiers in a recent month for which full data is at hand. This includes advice on rooms, transportation and 'where to go and how to get there' in the local town.

Personal Counsel

"Service men often have personal problems about which they wish to consult an older person. The door of the USO club director is always open for this purpose. More than 11,000 soldiers were given personal counsel in the 108 clubs, according to the latest monthly report.

"The report also showed that 24,285 persons were given religious material, 326,986 pieces of USO stationery were used in writing letters home, and that sleeping accommodations were used 5,594 times."

USO policies for service to Negroes are reviewed by an advisory committee including: Walter Hoving, chairman; Judge Hubert T. Delany, of the USO Board of Directors; Dr. Channing H. Tobias and Jay A. Urice, of the Y.M.C.A.; Louis Kraft of the Jewish Welfare Board; Frank E. Crane and Ralph Metcalfe, famous athlete, of the National Catholic Community Service; Brigadier William Parkins, of the Salvation Army; Mrs. Louise Cochran of the Y.W.C.A.; Miss Bertha McCall of the National Travelers Aid Association, and Henry W. Pope of the USO, secretary.

MAY 1943

Durham, N. C. Herald
September [illegible], 1943

Negro Service Center Opens At Henderson

Henderson, Sept. 4.—(Special)—A new servicemen's center for colored men in the armed forces was opened with ceremonies held at the new quarters on Horner Street Friday evening.

Mayor Henry T. Powell, who was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Gregg and Maj. O. R. Page, who was presented by Attorney C. H. Williamson, were the chief speakers. The Mayor gave a welcome, and Major Page said he accepted the hospitality of Henderson and of the center, and said, "I shall be glad to send troops under my command to Henderson, knowing that they shall have a clean, comfortable place to stop." He commended the effort highly.

The audience sang "America" and a solo was given by Virginia Adams. It was said that about 500 attended and expressed surprise and gratification at the progress made with such meagre financial help in so short a time, and many expressed willingness to assist in the work.

Greenville, S. C. News
September 11, 1943

Negro Center To Cost $37,780

The recreational center for negro troops here, announced Thursday as approved by the War Production board, has now been approved by the Federal Works agency, and will be a one-story building with equipment, costing a total of $37,780, Senator Burnet R. Maybank reported yesterday in a telegram to Mayor Henry W. Lockwood.

Brigadier General James T. Duke, commanding officer of the port of embarkation, expressed gratification, saying that "The information from Senator Maybank to Mayor Lockwood that the recreational center for negro troops to be built at North Charleston has been approved was most gratifying to me.

"The officials of the port of embarkation have been working more than a year to obtain this greatly needed facility for negro troops, and to know that it is now to be constructed should do much to raise the morale of the negro soldiers in this area.

"The center is to be located in the Liberty Hill section of North Charleston, which is most convenient for use of all the negro troops stationed in the Charleston area.

"It is hoped now that the project is approved that no delays will be encountered in the prompt construction and putting into use of this badly needed recreational facility."

[illegible]
September 10, 1943

Negroes Make Plans To Entertain Soldiers

Negro civic organizations, including lodges, various women's clubs, American Legion and others, have been meeting recently for the purpose of making plans for entertaining the soldiers stationed on the Lawsonville road. Members of the Men's Progressive Club met yesterday afternoon for the purpose of outlining plans for the same. Members or representatives of the various negro organizations are urged to meet tonight at 7:00 o'clock in ter.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
October 17, 1943

CENTER POSTPONED.

ALBANY, Ga., Oct. 16.—Construction of a recreation center for Negro soldiers has been postponed pending a conference with the Federal Works Agency and the Army, due to the fact that bids received for such a job exceeded the amount of money available for constructing and equiping the center.

the Reidsville Funeral Parlor for the purpose of consolidating and summarizing the plans of the various clubs.

Tonight, the soldiers will be entertained with a Juke box entertainment at the Elk Hall on Market street. The entertainment will be special for men in uniform, who have thus far, conducted themselves nicely since being in the city. On Saturday night the soldiers will be entertained at the Community Center.

Chaperons will be appointed in the meeting tonight to mobilize enough young ladies for entertaining the soldiers and to be present each night to assist with the same. Since most of the boys stationed here are picked soldiers with high school, college and post graduate training all the entertainments are expected to be conducted successfully.

Plans are underway for sponsoring a parade next Thursday if proper arrangements can be made. If the arrangements can be made all organizations will be expected to cooperate. The parade will be sponsored as a means of boosting the sale of war bonds and stamps.

Entertainment will be given Saturday night at the Community Center on Vance Street from 8:00 to 12:00 for the men in Service. Refreshments and music will be furnished.

All young women that are interested and would like to entertain the soldiers are asked to notify Ida Mae Reid, 'phone 649-J.

NEGRO SOLDIERS WILL HAVE DINNER WITH CITIZENS

Negro citizens are busy preparing or making preparations to invite soldiers to dinner with them on Sunday. All famlies are urged to invite at least one or two soldiers for the evening meals. Any family desiring to invite a soldier is requested to call Reidsville Funeral Parlor, 292, giving the number of soldiers desired. All calls should be in by 12 o'clock noon Saturday. A large group of soldiers will be attending church in the city on Sunday and will probably be expecting invitations from various families at this tme.

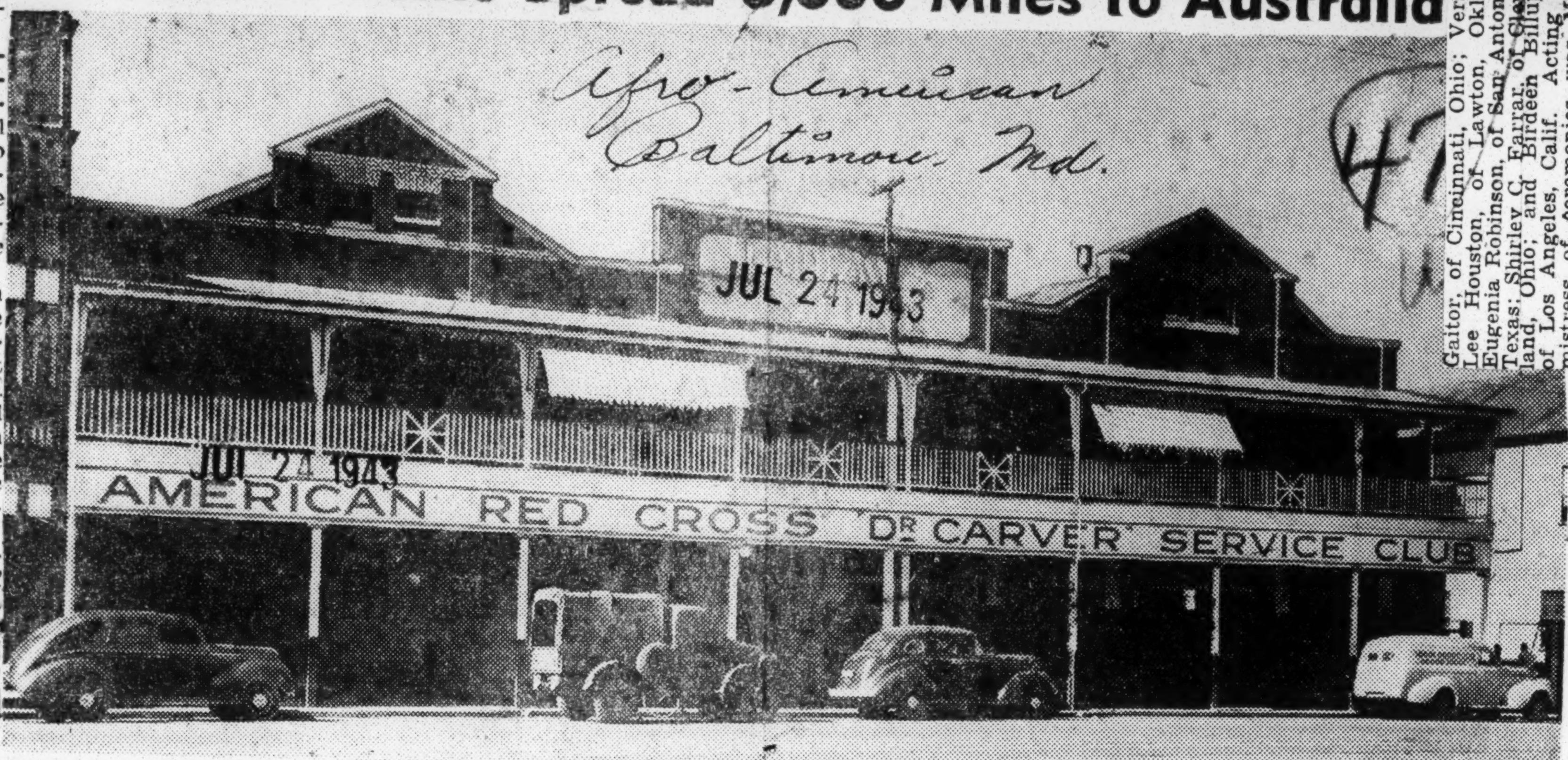
Charleston, S. C. Courier
October

$14,000 More Sought For Negro U. S. O. Unit

Mayor Henry W. Lockwood yesterday promised a group of negroes headed by Edward Simmons that the city will seek $14,000 additional federal funds to increase facilities of the negro U. S. O. center on Frasier field. The mayor said the committee is seeking the money to put a permanent roof and additional equipment. The project is approaching completion.

Carver Fame Spread 6,000 Miles to Australia

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



JUL 24 1943

This is the American Red Cross Club in Brisbane, Australia, operated for colored soldiers only.

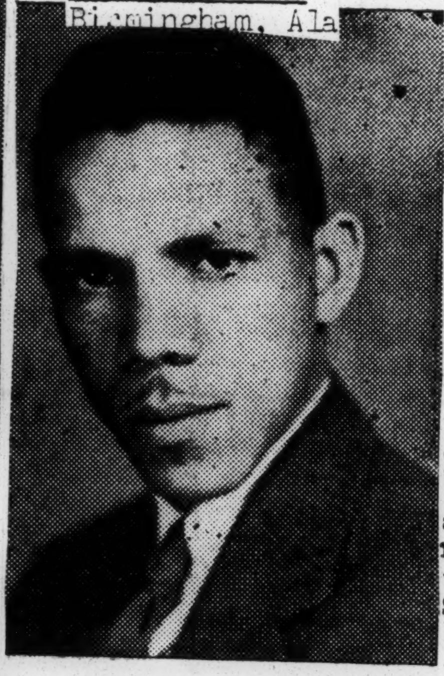
Australia's Colored Girls

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
JUL 24 1943

Oh, yes, there are colored girls in Australia, too, and here are two of them engaged in a game of Chinese checkers at the Carver Red Cross Club in Melbourne with a U.S. soldier and a sailor while a couple of kibitzers look on.

Appointed U.S.O. Director

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala



ARTHUR J. McCLUNG

The Citizens' Committee for Army Welfare ,sporsoring organization of the U.S.O. center, 1718 4th Avenue, North, Birmingham, Ala., is proud to announce Arthur J. McClung as Director. Mr. McClung is a native of the Magic City and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee Institute, class of 1938. He has been an instructor in Mechanics and assistant coach at Arkansas State College; instructor in Physical Education, Westfield High School and track teams. Over a period of years, his teams have won several championships. Mr McClung is a member of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church; Chapter Editor of Alpha Phi, Omega Psi Phi; Scoutmaster of B.S.A. Troop, No. 163; Treasurer Greater Birmingham Coaches Association; Chairman, Executive Committee, Birmingham-Tuskegee Club; past member, Executive Committee of Jefferson County Negro Teachers' Association; member of Jefferson County Negro Teachers' Year Book Committee.

With a wealth of experience in interscholastic and civic affairs, Mr. McClung comes to the work of the United Service Organizations well prepared to give to the men in the Armed Forces a service which both civilians and Uncle Sam can appreciate.

JUN 26 1943

Day Room Is Dedicated At Jefferson Barracks

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5—In an impressive ceremony, Sunday morning, July 25, the Lou Swarz chapter of the Women's Defense Corps of America, dedicated a Day Room for the men of the 1167th Training Group at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

The dedicatory exercises were opened with the singing of the National Anthem by the audience, followed by the invocation. First Lieut. Edwin A. Fairbairn, commander of the 1167th Training Group, delivered the welcome address. The response was made by Miss Lola Wallace, captain of the Lou Swarz chapter. Remarks by Maj. Byron C. Swanson, commander of the 95th Wing, Capt. Almond N. Fuller, executive officer of the 95th, and Pvt. Sam Shepard, former principal of the Penrose school, now stationed at Jefferson Barracks, as a member of the 1167th, followed Captain Wallace's response.

First Sgt. Hector F. Crosier of the 1167th presented the members of the W.D.C.A., who, in turn, performed the dedication. After the dedication, the W.D.C.A. members were taken on a tour of the barracks as guests of the 1167th.

This is the second such project by the Lou Swarz chapter of the W.D.C.A. In June, they furnished and dedicated the Day Room at the Spring and Chateau Recreation camp. The two rooms cost well over $1000.

Miss Lola Wallace ic captain of the local chapter, Miss Lou Swarz, honorary director, and Mrs. Nellie Bosworth of Chicago, national commander.

1943

Fort Sill Army Wives Active In USO Work

Pittsburgh, Pa.-Courier

LAWTON, Okla., Aug. 5 — The Douglas USO, just outside of Fort Sill, has one of the most attractive and highly organized groups of Army Wives in the United States. Under the able direction of Mrs. Sara Hill Long, director of women's activities at the club, women from all over the country gather to while away the hours while their husbands are at camp.

1943

PRESENTS SKITS

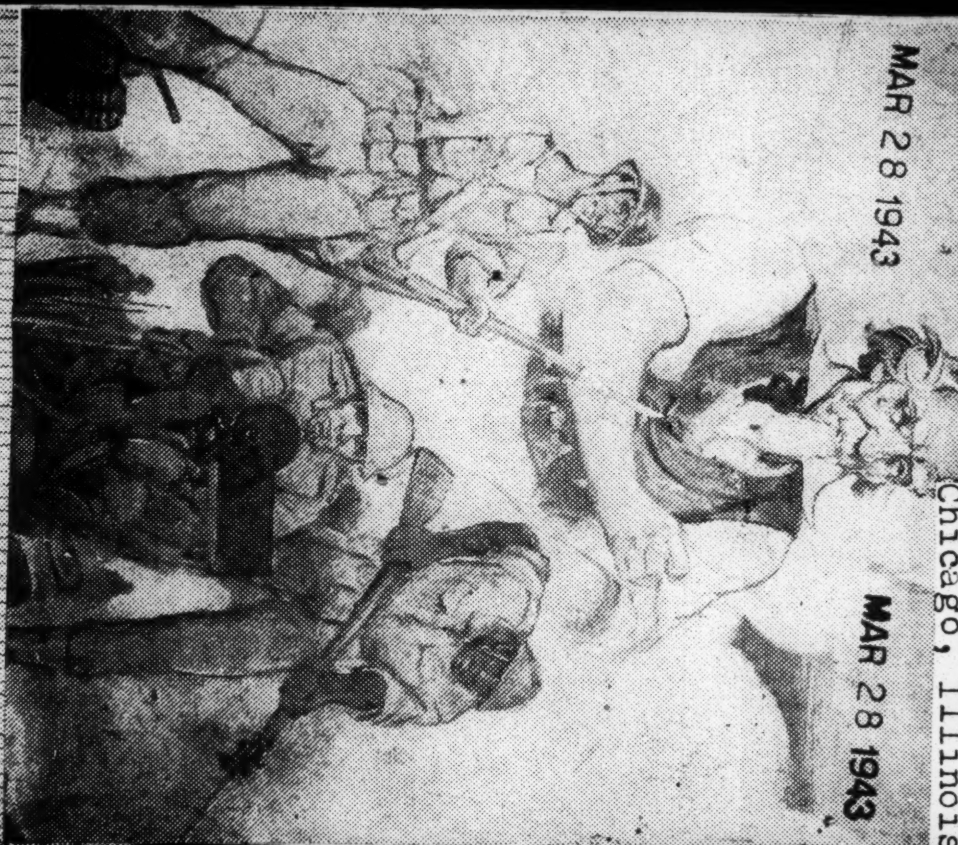
Recently, at the monthly luncheon, a group of women interested in dramatics, presented two skits of the Gay Nineties Era. Participants were: Mesdames Blanche Gaitor, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Versie Lee Houston, of Lawton, Okla.; Eugenia Robinson, of San Antonio, Texas; Shirley C. Farrar, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Birdeen Billups of Los Angeles, Calif. Acting as mistress of ceremonies was Mrs. Helen Mitchell, of New York, N.Y.

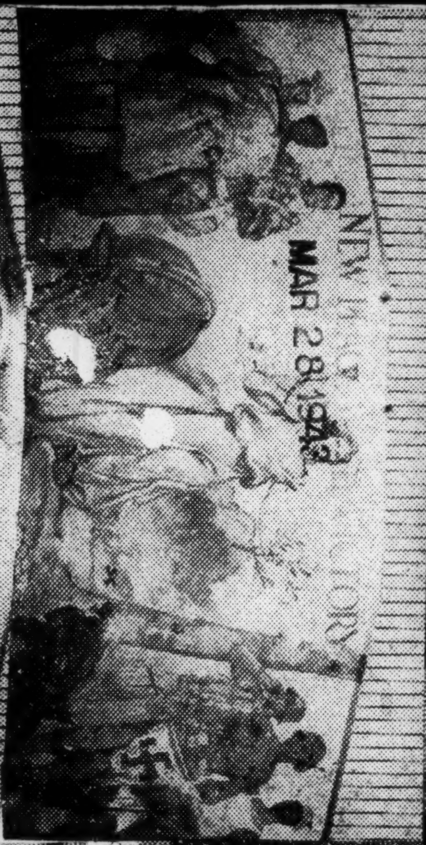
Between the skits Mrs. Curty Mary Green, of Lawton, Okla. sang and Mrs. Versie Lee Houston gave a reading.

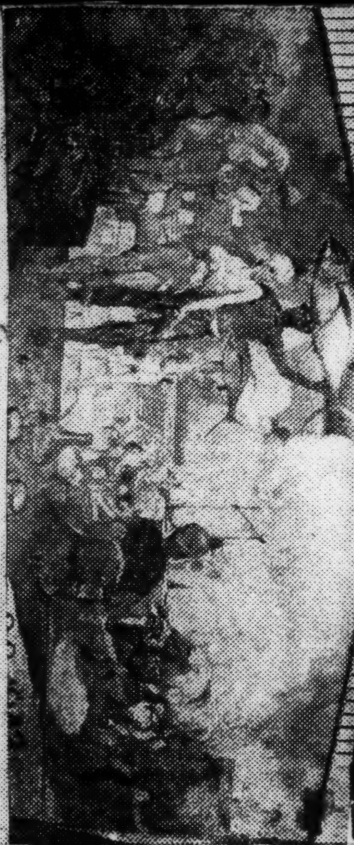
Newcomers to the community who were present were: Mesdames Beatrice Addian, Houston Texas; Gertrude Johnson, St Louis, Mo.; Naomi Davis, Clayborne, Texas; Gloria Green, Raleigh, N. C.; Ola Withlow, Richmond, Va.; Hortense Frazier Philadelphia, Pa.; Aline Foster Dallas, Texas; Irene Johnson, Red Rock, Okla.; Valerie Brooks, Amarillo, Texas; Nina Shepard, Clayborne, Texas, and Luberta Henderson, Memphis, Tenn.

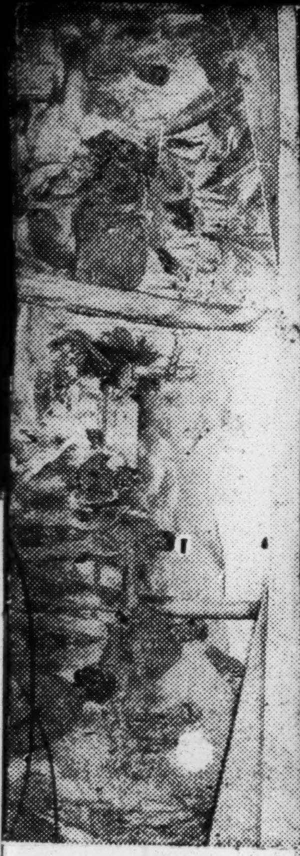
Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

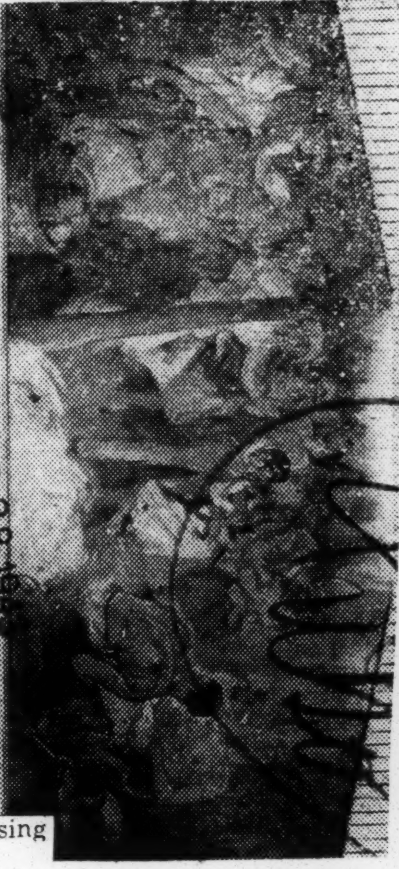
MAR 28 1943

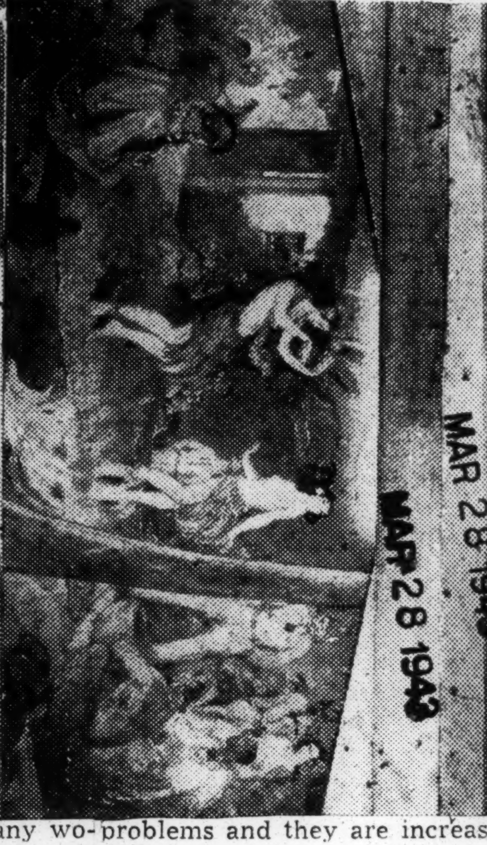


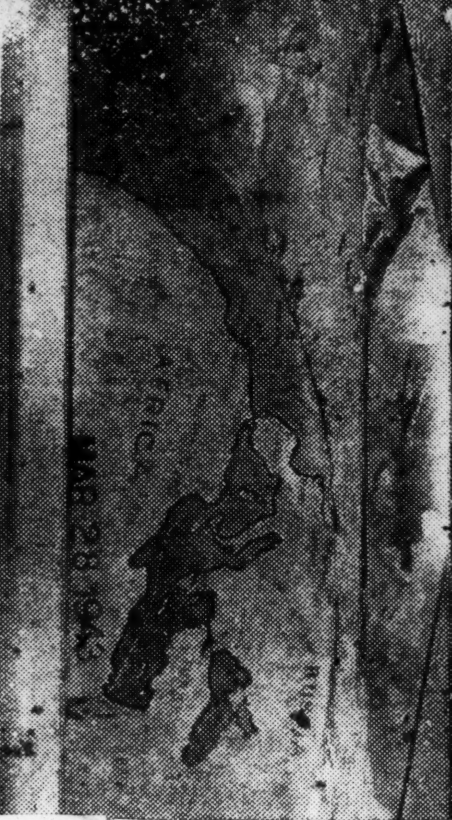


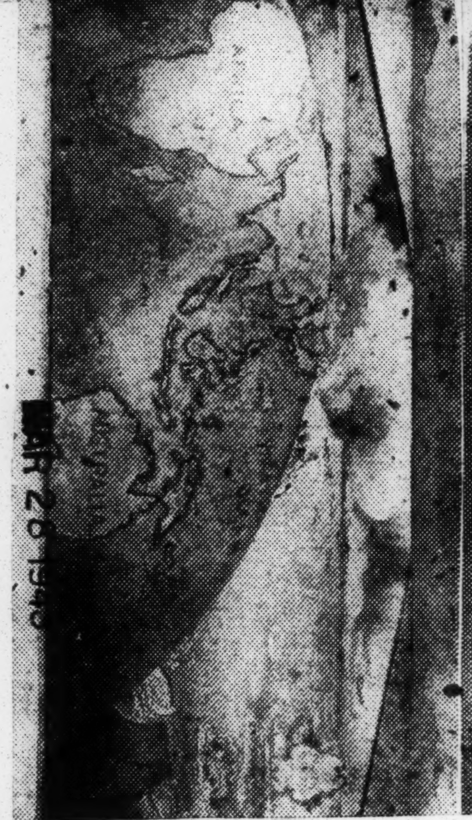












MAR 28 1943

No Jimcro at New Beach Soldier Club

People's Voice New York, N.Y.

JUN 26 1943

The open door policy will be maintained to Negro and white soldiers alike at the new Jones Beach Service Lounge set up in the main pavilion, it was announced last week.

The Lounge Hall, equipped by the State Park Commission with beautiful furnishings, dance music, library and game facilities, is open from 9.00 am to 6:00 pm weekdays and from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm Saturdays and Sundays.

Altho the USO at Hempstead prohibits Negro servicemen and their partners from dancing on the same floor with whites, the Jones Beach

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Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

AUG 10 1943

USO Plans War Seminar

Post-War Problems That Confront Men, Women Subjects

Monroe Street

Plans have been completed by the National USO program committee, the Rev. J. A. Stringfield, chairman, for a seminar to be held Tuesday through Thurs[illegible] at the [illegible] Street USO C

Millions of men and many women have entered military service. Along with this group should also be added the millions of those left at home, who in one way or another have been called upon to give up their loved ones either for military service or for defense programs, which in many instances take them away from home. Suddenly the securities of civilian life are gone. Military training is hard and those who are called on to make adjustments in new communities find this true when engaged in some phase of defense work. The need for helping individuals has been recognized by military services themselves and machines put in operation to meet those needs.

Many of our local leaders are of the opinion that a large percentage of those who make up industrial defense work, who will have many needs, will be neglected. In each instance the program mentioned is set up to serve those in the camps, also to this should be added the need found in the community. The men come to town and they bring with them their problems. The people who are already in town have their problems and they are increasing daily.

Increasingly there is a great demand for the ministers, USO directors and lay leaders, who in one way or another have been called on to help people solve their problems. Thus members of the publicity committee for the seminar on Personal Counseling on Wartime Problems are extending a special invitation to local ministers, USO directors, staff members and volunteer leaders, equipped to make a contribution in the specialized field.

Dr. Russell L. Dicks, graduate minister of Highland Methodist Church, Dallas, Tex., assistant professor of pastoral theologies in the School of Theologic of Associate Ministers, and graduate of the University of Oklahoma and the Union Theological Seminary in New York, will be present to lead the seminar.

For eight years he was a medical doctor, he was hospital chaplain at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and the Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago. He was one of the Pioneer Clinic Trainers of Ministry in the United States. He is author of several books, one, the volume written in collaboration with Richard C. Cabot, M. D., "The Art of Ministry to the Sick." He is probably the best known author and worker in the general field of ministry to the sick.

The session will be held eac. day from 2 p. m. until 1:30 p. m.

City Shows Servicemen and Civilians How to Relax and Have Fun . . . Free!

April [illegible] 1943

RECENT SCENES AT COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CENTERS, operated under the city recreation program. Top row, left, Mayor Fred D. Marshall accepts a glass of punch from Miss Miriam Henry, president of the Star Spangled Rhythmettes, at Valley Park clubhouse; right, weekly soldier dance at Valley Park; bottom row, left, outdoor camping ground group under supervision of city recreation directors; right, square dance for soldiers and civilians at the Arsenal Hill center. (Photos by Munn of Sargeant's studio.)

BY LEOLA GARETY

Where do they go—what do they do in their precious free hours—the thousands of Uncle Sam's boys in uniform already here and the hundreds more pouring in daily at the Columbia Army Air base, Fort Jackson, and the Congaree Air base? The City of Columbia has the answer to that popular question, and the answer is so good that South Carolina's capital city is attracting nationwide attention!

Under a city recreation program, 28,000 soldiers and civilians attended dances, block parties, bingo games, music hours, vespers, softball, and free movies, at the ten local centers during the past two weeks. Heading the planning committee are Fred D. Marshall, mayor, general chairman; W. H. Harth, director, and Miss Edna Gentry, program director.

This job of entertaining servicemen is a new one for city officials, who inherited the responsibility only a few weeks ago from the WPA. But there's nothing amateurish about the almost nightly programs of fun at Valley Park, Arsenal Hill, Earlwood park, Melrose park, Sims park, the First Presbyterian church, Shandon Presbyterian church, Washington Street Methodist church, Old Howard center, and the Elks Patio. Every party is a hit with those who attend, whether they're soldiers or civilians. They love 'em—they must, or they wouldn't keep crowding the halls.

Just one week of Columbia's program activities sounds like the schedule of entertainment for a year in most towns its size. With so much going on now that even mentioning it all is very nearly impossible, something new is constantly being added. Don't take our word for it; just listen to the weekly bulletin of recently added features:

"A group of Star Spangled Rythmettes, young girls who will remain on the Valley Park center dance list for call as hostesses, was organized and gave its first party Tuesday night.

"The canteen group at Washington Methodist church is establishing a lounge room for soldiers on the third floor. The Red Cross is going to furnish cots, sheets and blankets for use, and the church Boy Scout troop will serve as attendants in the lounge.

"A woman's gym class started at Gonzales Gardens was the first step in organizing a sewing class to handle Red Cross material.

"The Armyettes, a girls' volunteer hostess group, has been organized at Arsenal Hill to sponsor parties. This group of attractive girls held its first meeting and elected officers last week.

"The Elks patio had an orchestra for two of its dances last week. This is to be a regular feature each Saturday night.

"Keep Fit classes for Columbia women and army wives are being formed in order to help women stay physically fit for their work and war tasks.

"Last week a group of the tenants at Allen-Benedict court organized a club to sponsor parties for service men. The club is now collecting funds to assist with refreshments for the parties.

"Tuesday night, following through a contact made by the supervisor of Negro activities and the officials at the Columbia Army Air base, 50 boys were sent along with the softball team to enjoy a dance at the Old Howard immediately after the close of the game.

"A counter installed at Old Howard for cold drinks is filling a need, as well as proving popular. Funds obtained will be spent on needs of the center."

The city's program is divided into three main parts: Home Hospitality, directed by Miss Minnie Eskrigge; Church Centers and Housing, Mrs. Charlotte Jones; Dance and Camp program, Mrs. Isabel Sloan.

Home hospitality is handled by a strong volunteer group, headed by Mrs. Tom Pearce, who keep up contact between local and camp officers and secure invitations to Sunday dinner for boys in the service. Assisting are Mrs. W. Bedford Moore, Jr., Mrs. James Turner, Mrs. J. M. Cohen, Mrs. John Chase, Mrs. William Elliott, Jr., Mrs. F. B. Fitch, Mrs. R. R. Hammond, Mrs. J. S. Heslep, Mrs. Alice Seibels, Mrs. William Shand, Mrs. Herbert Spiers, Mrs. William Weston, Mrs. Curran Jones, and Miss Carolina Guignard.

Church centers and housing are planned at the Washington Street Methodist and Shandon Presbyterian, churches, the Gonzales and Andrew Jackson housing projects. Five white and two Negro community houses and parks are managed by Mrs. Christine Roof, who organizes community songs, music hours, hymn sings, games, afternoon tea and coffee hours, vespers, soldier dancing, and parties for non-commissioned officers and their wives.

Carrying out the idea of service to civilian families, supervisors work with children at the six pre-school (kindergartens), held from 9 a. m. until 12 noon. The kindergartens are located at Earlwood, Heathwood, Shandon, Melrose and Sims parks. Playgrounds are at Valley park, A C. Moore school, Taylor school and Irwin park. In five of the parks, wading pools are operated.

Not just for white residents but for the Negro population, as well, is the city providing recreation and relaxation. Leader of the Negro program is T. J. Miles who has charge of two colored centers, at Allen-Benedict and Old Howard. Negro girls are carried to the fort to meet and dance with Negro soldiers there.

Mrs. Sloan, head of the dance and camp program, has a dance list of 1000 girls and hopes to steadily increase this number. All volunteers are carefully checked on before they are allowed to become hostesses.

Officers of the new Armyettes are Miss Jessie Rutherford, president; Miss Carrie Mae Ashmore, vice-president; Miss Margaret Weir, treasurer; and Miss Elizabeth Hill, secretary.

Miss Miriam Henry is president of the Star Spangled Rythmettes, numbering about 35 girls.

Outdoor sports enjoyed by soldiers and civilians, alike, are baseball, softball, horseshoe tournaments, ping pong, basketball, tennis, and camp cooking. Each of the parks is equipped with Dutch ovens for outdoor suppers and picnics.

Since 1935 a less extensive city recreation program was carried on here by the WPA, until a few weeks ago, when the city took over on March 22 of this year. The $78,000 program is operated from a fund made up of city council appropriations and a federal government grant. All workers with children are on the city payroll, while those whose efforts are entirely with soldier entertainment receive their salaries from the federal grant. A total of 52 employees spend their full time at this work.

Mr. Harth had been with the WPA recreation office for two years before moving his office to city hall. A native of Columbia he had been with the city electric department for 20 years, until he resigned to go to the University of South Carolina as athletic director.

Mrs. Sloan transferred from the WPA program to her present job. Mrs. Edna Gentry was former state superintendent of recreation.

Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf Chronicle
July 6, 1943

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

Tonight at 8 o'clock members of the 562 Quartermaster Battalion will be entertained with a song slide session and other features at Service Club No. 3. Director R. C. Wallace and a party from Franklin St. USO Club will participate at the invitation of Lt. F. C. Stacy, special service officer.

Members of the Girls Service Organization and their chaperones will attend a "Block Party" at Camp Campbell on Wednesday night. Chartered buses will leave the bus terminal at 7:45 p.m. All GSO girls are requested to contact Hostess Prudence Allison, chairman. A large attendance has been requested by camp officials.

A bingo party will be featured entertainment at the club on Wednesday.

Regular game night activities will be offered on Thursday night with table games predominating "Talk a letter - home" recordings will be made for service men.

Regular meetings of junior hostesses and GSO's will be held on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. respectively.

Horse shoe enthusiasts will have opportunity to show their wares on Saturday afternoon. A new court has been provided beside the club. Players will find it a shady spot after 4 p.m. any day.

Lusty strains of "barber shop" harmony will mingle with more ambitious voices at 8:30 p.m. Saturday in a community sing. It will be followed by a quizz program.

On Sunday at 8 p.m. a musicale will be presented followed by a program of recorded classics at the Vesper Hour, 7 p.m.

Yesterday junior hostesses complimented service wives with an attractive social at the club. A festival atmosphere graded the occasion as young women from various sections of the country laughed and played together and shared a courageous community spirit.

Federal Security Agency representative L. G. Blackus spent Sunday afternoon in Clarksville visiting local USO clubs and inspecting the new club home on Ninth Street near College.

Regional directors B. Ralph Jones, Harry T. Baker, H. Cary and Ivan Rhodes spent several days last week inspecting local clubs and met with the local USO Council. It was their general impression that USO facilities in Clarksville are on the upgrade. They urged the enlistment of additional volunteers to effect a greater partnership of USO-community efforts to serve soldiers in their out-of-camp hours.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Harlem Children Donate $180

JUN 18 1943

With money obtained from their own musical revue, several hundred children of upper Harlem, members of neighborhood clubs, presented a check for $180 to the Harlem Servicemen's Center, 2348 Seventh Ave., last night.

The money will be used to provide the Center with a miniature bowling alley and a mimeograph machine.

The musical revue, already presented at the Harlem YWCA and the Mecca Temple, will be shown next at the Furuseth Club of the United Seamen's Service, 30 E. 37th St., on June 26.

JUN 18 1943

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

Former Teacher USO Director

JUL — 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., July 8.—Another teacher has left the campus of Lincoln university in Missouri and taken over an assignment more closely related to the war. This time it is Mr. William Joseph Neal, former instructor in government at Lincoln, and engaged now in helping to keep the morale of our soldiers at the proper pitch in his capacity as program director of the $90,000 "Pawnee Place" USO club, Salvation Army unit, at Junction City, Kas.

Soldiers from Ft. Riley, Camp Whiteside and Junction City, and the nearby Housing Authority area are served by the club.

47c-1943

Democracy Works At U. S. O.

Mosley
PHILADELPHIA
April 10, 1943
47c Vac

Eight persons, representing almost as many racial groups, are shown together at the South Broad Street USO, where they met last Sunday. Starting at the right and reading clockwise, are: Dennis Blanchon, a French marine; Jeanne B. Prose, a Frenchwoman who acts as a USO hostess; Marie Christmas Harris, Negro volunteer worker; Jean Bachellier, French sailor (white); George Gray, U. S. sailor; Elizabeth Young, assistant director of the USO; Lorenzo Bell, Negro soldier; and Joseph Robinson, Negro.

Win Fight For [illegible]e Dance Hostesses In Boston USO

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MAY 22 1943

BOSTON, Mass. — The heated month-old controversy over whether Negro hostesses should be permitted to serve at the USO Soldiers' and Sailors' recreation center on Boston Common was settled in the affirmative Monday.

Responsible for the show-down was Atty. Ray W. Guild, president of the Coordinating Council of Colored Organizations for National Defense, member of the Coordinating Group of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Committee, and formerly three times president of the Boston NAACP.

Guild had carried on negotiations with the trustees of the Boston USO for over a month in regard to assigning Negro hostesses to the junior group service at the Buddies club on the Common without success. Att.y Guild and several committee members, Matthew W. Bullock, board of trustees; Mrs. Hattie Hall, Morris Taylor and the Rev. M. J. Minor, threatened to resign if the USO trustees ruled against the proposal. Guild said he did not believe "Boston wants to go backward from its traditions just because at present we have many coming from southern parts of our country, and who are not accustomed to see colored people in public places."

He notified W. Duncan Russell, executive secretary of the USO Greater Boston Soldiers and Sailors committee, that the Stage Door canteen at New York, "having less floor space but greatly more attendance, has colored junior hostesses on duty regularly."

Russell said that thus far it had been felt that not enough colored service men used the Common quarters to justify having a hostess, and that there was a shortage of space. "Most of them go to the Ruggles Street USO center," Russell said, "where there are colored hostesses." He added that a survey had been made over a test period in which it was found only 80 colored men out of 99,764 had appeared on the Common.

Having a son in the army, Pvt. Ray W. Guild Jr., 366th Infantry, Fort Devens, Mass., Harvard varsity football player, and having been active in raising a large sum for the supporting fund, Guild let it be known that he "would not be a party to such bigotry in Massachusetts."

As a result of such pressure, at the annual meeting on Monday, May 10, trustees of the USO-Greater Boston Soldiers and Sailors committee authorized the colored hostesses.

MAY 22 1943

Possible groups to be used as hostesses at the Buddies club and the Stage Door canteen, yet to be opened, include the Smart Set club of which Miss Adelaide Holbrook of Dorchester is president.

Gadsden, Ala., Times

Tuscaloosa Avenue USO Dedication Set For July 11

Formal dedication of the Tuscaloosa Avenue USO, recently opened for Negro service men in the Gadsden area, will be held on July 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 o'clock when Commission Chairman J. Herbert Meighan, on behalf of the city, will accept the building from the USO.

Others appearing on the dedication program will be Harry T. Baker, regional USO supervisor, of Atlanta, and E. L. Lipscomb, director of the center.

Pipscomb also announced that beginning Wednesday no civilians will be admitted to the center without admittance cards.

He explained that the canteen service at the USO center is provided only for service men, their wives and guests, and said that beginning Wednesday civilians without regular admittance cards could not be accepted.

On The
HOME FRONT

The Colored Recreation Center has become so popular over the week-ends that it has secured a nearby former dance pavilion as a games room and for the two parties it plans to give monthly, one informal and one dance.

The first dance took place Saturday and was a great success although decidedly impromptu.

Shortly before noon an Officer called from Camp Gordon. Might he bring over 50 men? He might!

There ensued a period of great activity. The Canteen Aides went into action, food was donated, telephones buzzed as the junior hostesses were called.

As three trucks full of soldiers drove up, the hosts and hostesses exchanged happy glances— all was well—some girls were on hand, more were coming; the supper was all ready and ample; both buildings looked cheerful in the bright lights. The men climbed gayly out and considerable time was spent in getting acquainted, then the radio phonograph in the ball room was turned on—Disaster! Off went the radio and, inexplicably, the lights in the club house two doors away. The buildings and street seemed full of soldiers. They were good natured and as the lights were on in the ball room, many were soon playing cards or other games.

However, it couldn't be called a dance until suddenly the radio went on, a pianist appeared and more girls arrived. From then on there was no question of a good time being had by all, despite the shortage of girls due to the fact that soldiers seemed to spring from everywhere. Seventy registered in the guest book, but no one knows how many others came. Once two cars drew up and bystanders surged hopefully forward only to have 13 more men join the party.

However, the men all insisted they would be back as soon as possible and the sergeant's whistle shrilled several times before the guests reluctantly left. It was another good party!

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun
June 25, 1943

Negro USO Head Is Named Here

Announcement is made by Miss Alvaretta Keenan, director of the USO-Travelers Aid in Columbus, of the appointment of Dorothy L. Butler as director of the colored USO-Travelers Aid.

Aided by a staff of volunteer workers, she will have her office in the colored USO-YWCA located at 936 Fifth avenue, Columbus. Services rendered by this group will include information service as to places to live, and transportation schedules to and from Columbus.

Information on community resources such as recreation, employment, medical services—if a dentist or a doctor is needed in the middle of the night—and city directions will be readily available at this office.

Counseling service and travel service, which means meeting children on train or bus, under 16 years of age, old people, and travellers who are too ill to find their way alone and inexperienced travellers are among the services offered. The inexperienced traveller coming to Columbus will be met by this group only in stringent circumstances.

The new director comes to Columbus and her new assignment direct from New York City, where she has just completed special work with the joint agency orientation course in the USO. Practical field experience as well as class room and lecture work also was included in this course.

A graduate of Talladega college, Talladega, Ala., she majored in sociology and later graduated from the Atlanta university school of social work.

A special plea is made for volunteer workers to keep the information desk open at all hours for servicemen and their dependents

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Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle

COLORED USO ACTIVITIES

Tonight at 8 o'clock the Girls Service Organization will entertain service men from Camp Campbell with a box social at the club. A special musicale will be presented Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Recorded classics will be featured at the vesper hour, 6 p.m.

Representatives of Franklin St. USO Club met the local USO Council Monday night. Hostesses R. T. Burt, E. W. Roberts, E. D. Roberts and Dr. W. E. Pannell comprised the committee.

Preliminary work for construction of the new USO Club home on Ninth Street is progressing rapidly. Erection of the building will take definite form in a few weeks.

The enlistment of additional volunteers from various communi ry groups is being urged by Director R. C. Wallace. Interested persons are requested to contact staff members at the USO Club. All activities of volunteer workers will be on a community wide basis in acceptance with USO policies of completely democratic organization. Visitors are welcome to inspect the facilities and participate with service men in activities at all times.

Within a short time a regular series of motion pictures will be initiated and an out-of-door program for which equipment is at hand will get under way.

Hostess E. D. Roberts, chairman fo the committee of management, announces that members of the committee will meet in executive session on Monday night, June 14, at 8 o'clock.

Avon Park Fla
Sun
June 4, 1943

Contract Let For USO Negro Rec. Building Here

A contract was let Tuesday for the erection in Avon Park of an USO negro recreational building to C. H. Satterwhite, of Sebring, at a contract prce of $11,610. The contract covered the building only. The balance up to $18,000 will be spent for furniture and fixtures, under a 100 percent Federal grant.

The project is sponsored by the City of Avon Park on a site donated by the city in conjunction with the county school board. The plot, directly across from the present negro school house, consists of three lots, 165 by 150.

The building of frame construction, with concrete foundation, will be 90 x 50 feet. Main room of the building will be the lounge or assembly hall which will be used for gatherings and dances, will be 60 by 40, with a snack bar, check room, toilets, etc, on the sides. The building will be equipped with electric range, hot water, coffee urns, etc. Other floor space will be used for game rooms, reading rooms, and a director's room, where Vincent White, YMCA-USO director will have his office.

NAMED TO USO POST

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Following several months as a volunteer worker with a YWCA committee in charge of USO activities in the Sixth Ward, Mrs. Edna Perry has been appointed USO director for the Sixth Ward branch as its only paid worker.

Tribune : Philadelphia, Pa

Marian Anderson Serves Servicemen At USO Club

Apr. 1943

Miss Marian Anderson, world famous contralto, visited the South Broad Street USO Club last Sunday, during the National Open House Day observance in all USO units throughout the country.

Miss Anderson served many visiting servicemen in the Snack Bar of the Center. In Miss Anderson's party were her sister, Miss Alyce Anderson, Judge and Mrs. Curtis Bok, Mrs. Sophie Jacobs, publicity director of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Miss Emily Wrench and Mrs. C. Newbold Welsh.

Apr. 3, 1943

A program was conducted for the Open House visitors in the afternoon. Participants were: Mrs. Ursula Curd, pianist; Charles McCabe, violinist; William King, former Marian Anderson accompanist; and Nathaniel Dickerson, tenor.

Gethro H. Harris, steward mate, second class, presented to Charles Beckett, executive director of the South Broad St. USO, a plaque, which the seamen made at the club. The inscription was made of twenty-three braided cloth lines to for the words "U. S. Navy." The plaque will be hung in the club.

Some of the soldiers who frequent the club when on furlough are planning to make a plaque paying tribute to the U. S. Army, which will also be hung in the building.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
July 12, 1943

New Negro USO Unit Dedicated

Mayor J. Herbert Meighan praised the work of the Negro USO, the way the program had been developed, and the type of activities which are being featured there, in an address at the formal opening program at the Tuscaloosa Avenue center yesterday afternoon.

Mayor Meighan introduced Brig. Gen. Haig Shekerjian and Brig. Gen. E. F. Bullene of Camp Sibert, both of whom made short talks expressing their appreciation of the organization. Other talks were made by Col. L. W. Glazebrook of Camp Sibert, and Harry G. Baker, regional USO supervisor of Atlanta.

The Rev. W. B. Shealey, Negro minister of Gadsden, also made a short address.

A band concert, featuring music by the RTC fourth regiment band, completed the dedicatory exercises, after which open house was held from 6 until 10 o'clock. E. L. Lipscomb is club director.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
September 13, 1943

Atlanta U. Teacher New USO Program Specialist

Mary Tobias Dean, a member of the faculty of the Atlanta University Laboratory School, has been appointed program specialist of the U. S. O. headquarters staff in arts and crafts, with headquarters in New York City. She formerly taught at Paine College in Augusta.

She is the wife of Dr. William H. Dean, of the Atlanta University economics department, who is now on leave serving as price executive and economic administrator for the Virgin Islands.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

MRS. ROSA D. MALONE CHOSEN TO DIRECT GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER U S O CENTER

APR 1 4 1943

SPOKANE, Wash. — Directors of the George Washington Carver U. S. O. center, the new project launched to care for the recreational needs of Negro troops in Spokane, last night offered the post of director to Mrs. Rosa D. Malone, now secretary of the Boker T. aWshington center. It is believed Mrs. Malone will be granted a leave of absence from her present position to undertake the U. S. O. task.

Speaking for the board of directors, Jack Abrams said that Mrs. Malone was the unanimous choice by reason of her experience in community service. She will be asked to direct the activities of the new center, bids for which will be submitted to contractors for remodeling and furnishing the center, the estimated cost of which is $7000.

Mrs. Malone, who came to Spokane from Birmingham, Ala., has been active in Negro community affairs. With the number of troops constantly increasing in Spokane, she has taken the lead in devising plans for providing recreation and housing for them.

The new U. S. O. center, named in honor of the famous Negro scientist, will be located at the corner of First and Division. A dance floor, clubrooms and library facilities will be provided by the center, which it is hoped to have able by uJne 1.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

FORT HUACHUCA GETS RECREATION CENTER

MAR 28 1943

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz., Mar. 25—Like a beautiful oasis saucered by majestic mountain ranges, stands the new Recreation Center for enlisted personnel of Fort Huachuca. Located in Fry, Ariz., just beyond the Fry gate entrance to the Fort, the center looms as a definite asset to the community along with the drug store, theatre, USO and sandwich shops already there.

Constructed at a cost of approximately $80,000 by a group of exceedingly liberal minded Negro business men who are doing their utmost so that enlisted men of Fort Huachuca may have an abundance of good, clean, and wholesome recreational relaxation after a rigid day's training.

When the present Post commander, Colonel Edwin M. Hardy, assumed command of Fort Huachuca, on April 17, 1942, he realized immediately the necessity for the establishment of some form of genteel amusement in the Settlement of Fry, immediately adjacent to Fort Huachuca, which would accommodate large numbers of soldiers. He saw that this was necessary as a means of providing reasonable recreation outside the Reservation and as a means of protecting soldiers against unsanitary and unsuitable forms of recreation within the Fry settlement.

He also appreciated the fact that there was no real amusement to be had in this community without soldiers traveling long distances to the closest towns—Tuscon, Nogales, Naco, Douglas, Bisbee, Tombstone, and border towns in Mexico. He immediately tried to interest substantial colored people in establishing an Amusement Center, and although professional amusement groups stood ready to expedite the project, Col. Hardy persisted with the original colored groups until they were finally sold on the idea.

Since that time the cooperation between Col. Hardy and this group has been very close in surmounting the many obstacles which presented themselves daily.

This structure was designed by Paul Williams, Negro architect of Los Angeles, Calif., who is outstanding and second to none in his field. Mr. Williams directs from his offices located in Hollywood, Calif., a staff that is by no means small in size nor short in efficiency. He is responsible for more than a few of the homes of prominent movie stars and notables in the exclusive districts of California.

There are also numerous executive buildings of Los Angeles and other large cities in the United States that have dripped from his architectural pen. He and his staff have put forth an all-out effort to make this the finest Army Recreational Center (barring none) in the United States.

One's first impression upon entering this huge dome-shaped edifice, is that of a well-appointed "pleasure palace." The first eye-striking feature is the 6400 square feet of dance floor, surrounded by tables and chairs. To the right is a sizeable stage that will play host to some of the nation's most prominent scholars, artists and name bands. To the left is a 100 foot bar where soft drinks and 3.2 beer will be sold exclusively, no hard liquors permitted.

A basement pre-cooler" of 1000 square feet, capable of holding two freight carloads of leading brand beer, has been installed. This cooler maintains a temperature of 40 degrees at all times. The beer will be drawn directly from the kegs through plastic tubes. No metal coils are used, thereby keeping the draught in original condition from brewer to consumer.

The back bar is made up of seven eye-arresting murals, bearing the theme of "New Peace with Victory." Encased in frames of bamboo and with indirect lighting, bringing out every minute detail, the efficaciousness of the artist, William E. Scott of Chicago, Ill, is indisputable.

To the rear of the building is a beautiful lawn covered patio studded with comfortable garden furniture, where one may relax and enjoy a sandwich from the "Snack Bar". Equally beautiful are the living quarters provided for the employees of the Center. A lawn-fronted, shrub dotted building with an ample number of spacious rooms; each room on the outside, offers comfort to those who reside there when off duty.

Despite the many criticisms and rumors by the inadequately informed, there is no doubt that this Recreation Center will prove a great disappointment to those "gossip mongers" who say so much and do nothing for the race or for the country.

MAR 28 1943

Col. E. N. Hardy, Post commander, whose official capacity makes him host of all Army units training in this area, has been untiring in his efforts to expedite the completion of this great enterprise. A man of less intestinal fortitude would have wilted under the unjust criticisms of the alleged "lookers out for soldiers welfare", but who in reality, know nothing about a soldier or his tastes in the first instance.

The soldiers of Huachuca are grateful to these men, both civilian and military, who had the foresight, courage and interest to make this center possible.

47c-1943

Reveals How USO Aids Servicemen

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

NEW YORK CITY—(S N S)—Vastly important spade work in community operations, welfare work and education is being done for the Negro service man, war workers and other civilians at USO Centers.

This is the conclusion drawn by J. Saunders Redding, Negro author of the best seller, "No Day of Triumph,' who recently returned from a three weeks' tour of USO clubhouse which he took to gather material for a comprehensive article for a leading magazine on the care of this organization is providing the Negro.

NOTES IMPROVEMENT

At his desk at USO headquarters Mr. Redding elaborated on this conclusion.

"There is a strong tendency on the part of the Negro to be clanish in community operations, but I noticed a signal improvement in this respect in those communities where a USO clubhouse was located. Because club directors must call upon all reputable local organizations to fill the large order of providing entertainment and care for service men and their families, these organizations, if they wish to share in the war effort, are compelled to give up this greedy preservation of their own individuality and work cooperatively for a common good.

'Home hospitality, such an important feature of USO program is provided largely through the churches, which are in contact with resident families, so that religious groups too must work in unity. No one faith or denomination can possibly supply all the needs to all the men, just as the resources of no one civic or fraternal organization can suffice. This inter-organizational and inter-church cooperation is a very important innovation in Negro life

WORK NECESSARY

"The welfare work by the directors is equally necessary. This type of work applies more to the centers for war workers than for service men. To these come thousands of young girls and young men who are thrown into a new community and a new life. USO not only provides healthful recreation for them but sees to it that they are respectably housed and hygienically safeguarded. Negro social agencies are not yet organized thoroughly enough to do this work alone."

Mr. Redding believes that the benefits provided by USO in the cultural and educational field are perhaps the most vital contribution of all. He declared himself particularly impressed by the courses in music appreciation and was amazed to see the eagerness with which the men listened to long symphonic recordingns and those of operas and concert recitals.

HOSTESS TAUGHT

"There was still another phase of the educational work which impressed me," stated the author, "and that was the courses given the young hostesses who volunteer to dance with and entertain the men. Because there is a comparatively small leisure class among Negroes, many of these hostesses conme from homes which have no cultural background. The club directors make a point of teaching these girls practical lessons in social behaviour—how to approach the men in an easy, friendly but not forward manner, how to conduct themselves in a courteous and gracious way, how to dance and dress in a becoming fashion. These girls are truly receiving instruction and experience which stand them in good stead all their lives"

Mr. Redding also writes for such magazines as Harper's, the Atlantic Monthly and Mercury. He received his Phi Beta Kappa key at Brown University, Providence, R. I., and is a member of the English faculty at Hampton, Institute, Hampton, Va.

USO

NEGRO SHOPMEN GIVE SPECIAL FUND OF $45.45

Waycross, Ga., Journal-Herald
November 4, 1943

A special fund of $45.45 raised by Negro shopmen of the A. C. L Railroad, with Harry Leaphart as chairman, is announced today by Anna Sirmons, chairman of the management committee of the Negro U. S. O. in Waycross.

This fund was raised in connection with the campaign to secure funds for the U. S. O. It has been turned over to the current National War Fund campaign, in which the U. S. O. will share heavier than any other organization.

City Gets New Club For Negro Servicemen

Charlotte, N. C. News
November 17, 1943

Acquisition of the educational building of St. Michael's Episcopal Church at Mint and Hill Sts. as a Negro Servicemen's Club was announced today by officials of the Park and Recreation Commission.

Contract for renovation of the interior has been let to R. C. Hicks, Charlotte contractor, at $900; and work will begin next Monday. The building is expected to be ready for use around Dec. 1.

The new location, which was sought after it became necessary to close the service club at Second Ward Negro High School, is regarded as ideal because of its accessibility and facilities that include a large assembly room for dances and smaller rooms to be used for games, library, and writing. Furnishings used in the school location will be removed to the new location, and when this center is completed, it is expected to be more nearly comparable with the facilities provided for the white troops.

TRAINED STAFF

Supervision will be provided by a staff of professional recreation leaders who will work under the general direction of Mrs. Merle S. Ramsey, in charge of the soldier recreation program.

This center is part of the soldier recreation program, conducted locally with a grant from the Lanham Fund. The cost of the improvements will be borne by the Fund, and by agreement the building will be used for a period rent-free.

Negotiations for the use of the building have extended over several months and were conducted by Charles H. Stone, chairman, Park and Recreation Commission, Harry N. Sutton, recreation superintendent, the defense recreation committee, o which H. H. Everett is chairman, and the Negro recreation committee headed by A. E. Spears, chairman. The agreement on behalf of the church was executed by Bishop Edwin A. Penick, the Rev. John W. Heritage, rector of the church, and Prof S. H. Adams, registrar of Johnson C. Smith University and reasurer of the church.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Stage Door Canteen Runs On "Equal Rights" Policy

By Wittie Ann Biggins

NEW YORK—The Stage Door Canteen of this city offers to service men of all nations the finest there is in recreation and entertainment the hospitality of junior hostesses is so equally shared with Negro serviiemen that many sorialites of this Methopolitan area have been questioning the right of the Negro to enjoy these opprtonities. Margaret Halsey, naptain of jonior hostesses, has just made the startling revelation that the Canteen's polily about Negroes is based upon the quotation, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal.' So startling was the statement of policy that PM, the New York daily that continuously fights for equal rights of all men, printed the full text of the "Memo to Junior Hostesses" issued by the youthful hostess.

Captain Halsey further stated that "The Canteen's policy about Negroes is also based on the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, which it specifiially stated that nobody is to be denied the rights, privileges, and immunities of Ameriian citizenship on account of race, creed of color."

Contending that people who deny Negroes democratic equality actually are tearing down the constitution, the hostess explains that people cannot be blamed for being taught prejudice while they are young and helpless. "But you certainly can be blamed for hanging on to the prejudices when (a) you are old enough to know better, (b) you are being given, in the canteen, a golden opportunity to come into contact with Negroes under the best possible circumstances and find out what they are really like".

The memo points out that the real basis of the prejudice against Negroes is economic and historical, and not sexual or psychological. As long as Negroes are treated as sub-humans, you don't have to pay them so much, and you are moking it possible for employers all over the country to get Negroes to work for less money than they pay whites.

Equality—real, genuine, three-ply cooper-bottom equality—is the only possible basis for getting along with other sorts of peoples, said Miss Halsey. If we have any secret yearning to think of ourselves as a Master Race, we have only to pick up a newspaper to see that nobody is giving odds on Master Races these days.

A bit of history cited by the Junior Miss vlosed a full tabloid page "Memo" that will serve as a reminder to those who have forgotten.

"The Negroes aren't under any obligation to be better than we do. They didn't come to this country because they wanted to. We brought them here in chains. They didn't write the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution. We wrote those documents, and if we now wave them in the Negroes' face and say Ha ha Practical joke!, we must expect to meet the customery fate of practical jockers.

"We kept the Negroes in official slavery until 1864, and we've kept them in unofficial slavery ever since. If you meet a Negro serviceman at the Canteen whose conduct doesn't come up to your delicate and exacting standards of behavior, just don't forget this one thing—whatever he is, you made him that way"

SEP 18 1943

WORK STARTED ON USO NEGRO LOUNGE

Roanoke, Va
November 28,

Work has been started on a USO lounge for Negro men and women in the armed forces, it was announced yesterday afternoon by Broaddus E. Chewning, chairman of the USO executive committee.

In the store room formerly occupied by the Roanoke Scrap Iron and Metal company at 2 Randolph street, the lounge will be located. Jacob Brenner, proprietor, donated the space to the USO and renovation of the room was begun yesterday morning.

Plans have been made to furnish the colored USO lounge similarly to the USO lounge in the N. & W. passenger station and it is hoped that furniture, including a piano, will be donated for use in the room. Persons interested in the helping to furnish the lounge are requested to call Miss Eliabeth Ayers, chairman of the USO troops in transit committee.

Committee Set Up

Under the supervision of the USO executive committee, the lounge will be operated by a Negro committee with Mrs. Leroy Neely chairman.

This committee will arrange for hostesses to be on duty from 8:30 a. m. until midnight to perform services similar to those offered at the N. and W. station. Information service, limited entertainment facilities, and light refreshments will be available to the visiting men and women.

This lounge has been arranged in response to numerous demands.

Furniture Needed For Negro Center

Florence, Ala.

Recreational Rooms Are Ready For Use Of All Soldiers, Sailors Here

Novem

An urgent request comes for furniture for the negro recreational center at 116 West Alabama street, such as smoking stands, trays, chairs, magazine racks, sofa and floor lamps. Books, magazines and games will also be appreciated. The building is being repaired painted, and decorated to meet USO specifications, and the committee in charge is working toward making the center an approved USO.

Mrs. William Milliken, the Rev. J. J. Van Beskirk, Mort Levin, John Adler and J. V. McBride, the latter the USO official for the district, have rendered valuable assistance in the work and sometime have been advising with committees among the negroes as to the needs for the center and its establishment. There is a large unit of negro soldiers located at the Courtland air base, and a large number of negro soldiers passing through the district for other locations, as local soldiers on furlough, who would enjoy the recreational center while in the city, and have forcreated the need for it. Anyone having furniture, books and games or magazines to donate to the cause is asked to call any of the committee of white people or, H. A. Pruitt, phone 356, or W. H. Lewis, phone 920-W, after 4:00 p.m.

Where U. S. Servicemen Are Welcomed

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NOTHING
OVER A
NICKEL
CANTEEN

OCT 8 1943

IT'S SERVICE WITH A SMILE for soldiers, sailors, marines and their dates at Philadelphia's Labor-USO Plaza, built and operated by the CIO and AFL unions in the city. The most successful project of its kind in the nation, the Plaza is open to servicemen of every United Nation, with no color bar whatsoever. Robert Parker, area director for the National CIO War Relief Committee, reports that there has not been a single disturbance at the center which already to the few weeks of its existence has entertained more than 250,000 servicemen and their guest. Unique, too, is tha nothing costs more than a nickle.

OCT 8 1943

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Terminal Redressed In New Clothes

Birmingham, Ala., News
November 28, 1943

Once Grimy, Unkempt, She's Fresh As Daisy After Transformation

BY ROBERT W. KINCEY

"IN THE SWIM" AGAIN—Birmingham's Terminal Station, recognized as one of the finest architectural structures in the South, is all prettied up at a cost of more than $500,000.

Fresh as a daisy, immaculately clean, painted and dolled up and shining like the proverbial new dollar, Birmingham's Terminal Station has emerged from near obscurity to become a focal point in this district's war program—host today and every day to more strangers within its gates and more homefolks, too, than it ever saw before even in its heyday.

Time was, and not long ago, when the "Terminal," was just a smutty, neglected, unkempt railroad station where people went because they had to, and arrived for the same reason.

But not so today.

It took more than $500,000 and the work of a great many men, to say nothing of the growing pride the railroads have in Birmingham, to bring about a transformation that is the talk of everybody who's had occasion to go there lately.

There was something majestic about the Terminal even when it was down and out, so to speak. Its twin spires and its point of vantage at the foot of Fifth Avenue gave it a certain mark of distinction.

* * *

NEGLECTED, NOT THROUGH choice but of necessity, the Terminal accumulated, throughout the years, a coat of smoke and grime inside and out.

Its passenger subway was damp and uninviting; the subway over which it stands, an extension of Fifth Avenue, East, considered a place to be avoided and was, except by those whose business made that route imperative.

But the work of many men and the expenditure of $500,000 has written an amazing chapter into the life of the station which has been so much a part and parcel of Birmingham since the first train pulled into it from Selma on Sunday night, June 20, 1907.

The station has been sandblasted to bring out the color and texture of the bricks of which it was constructed. That little item alone cost the railroads $41,000.

* * *

YOU, AS A TRAVELER, may never notice it, but to handle trains with greater safety and dispatch, the Birmingham Terminal Company has just completed installation of a new interlocking plant and train control system, and a new central control tower, all automatic. And for that the railroads paid $275,000.

The tracks entering the passenger station have been rearranged and made longer to accommodate wartime travel. That item called for $50,000.

Lengthening of the passenger platforms cost another $35,000 and $40,000 was expended on new steel and concrete mail facilities, so great has the burden of mail in and out of Birmingham become.

Add to these items renovation of the power house at $25,000, rebuilding and waterproofing of the Fifth Avenue subway to make it bright and cheerful at a cost of $75,000 and a miscellaneous interior and exterior modernization program involving $25,000 and you have the highlights of the story of the virtual rebirth of "the Terminal," scene today of many sad farewells—scene as certain as tomorrow an the peace to come, of just as man happy reunions.

* * *

THE TERMINAL'S EXITS fro the train platforms to the statio are freshly painted and marke There is a new and improved trai bulletin board, new facilities fo handling baggage and USO center for white and Negro soldiers.

The premises have been cleane up from one end to the other anc as far as an acute manpowe shortage will permit, will be kep that way. The atmosphere generally is different—and better, a though employes are sharing th public pride generally in what ha happened to "the Terminal."

You may not know it, but th Birmingham Terminal Company i owned and operated by the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, the Central of Georgia Railroad, the Illinois Central Railroad Company, the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway, the Seaboard Railway and the Southern Railway Company.

* * *

IT HAS MANY MORE TRAINS and double the number of cars operting into and out of it daily. It has many, many times the number of passengers.

The board of control of the Terminal meets monthly. W. W. Simpson is chairman of the board of control and John B. Hyde is president of the Birmingham Terminal Company. H. E. Johnson is superintendent assisted by a stationmaster and two terminal trainmasters.

The directors are George H. Kerr, R. R. Cummins, J. C. Wroton, D. B. Cronin, E. B. Rock, Jr., and Mr. Hyde.

Birmingham's Terminal was considered, when it was built, the largest in the South and one of the finest in the world from an architectural standpoint. It covers slightly more than five acres.

It's light dimmed for years through no fault of its own, the shifting sands of time have again brought it into prominence and the ability of the railroads to pay for the job, has restored a great deal of beauty of its fundamentally architecture.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SEP 25 1943

GETS USO APPOINTMENT

MISS ~~ELIZABETH E.~~ SPENCER

Miss Elizabeth E. Spencer, who received the master of social work degree this year from Atlanta University School of Social Work, has been appointed case worker in the USO Travelers Aid Service, Savannah, Ga. She is also a graduate of West Virginia State College, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and has special abilities in dramatics and music.

SEP 25 1943

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Tobias Daughter Added to USO Staff

ATLANTA, (ANP)—Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean, daughter of Dr. Channing Tobias, and a member of the Atlanta University School faculty has been appointed program specialist of the USO Headquarters Staff

in arts and craft, it was announced here, Tuesday.

Mrs. Dean's office will be located in the Empire State building, New York City, and her duties will include the organizing and directing of arts and craft programs for USO clubs the nation over.

Background

A graduate of New York University where she earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts, Mrs. Dean obtained her master's degree from Columbia University and further study in this field was secured in European art centers.

The mother of two children, Mrs Dea nis the wife of Dr. William H. Dean of the Atlanta University economics departments, who is now on leave serving as price executive and economic administrator for the Virgin Islands. Her father, Dr. Tobias is senior secretary for colored work of the national council of the YMCA.

SEP 25 1943

47c-1943

USO

Honor Volunteer Workers At Anniston USO Center

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ANNISTON, Ala., Sept. 9—Ten USO volunteer workers were honored last Tuesday evening at the USO for servicemen, when Atty. R. Clarence Williams, one of Anniston's leading civic figurers, presented the ladies with gold USO pins in acknowledgement of the hours they spent making this club a "home away from home" for the soldiers and WACS stationed at Fort McClellan.

The first volunteer to record her 50 hours was Mrs. Ruby Turner of Detroit, Mich., whose husband, Sgt. Kerwood D. Turner, has been garrisoned at Fort McClellan soon after Pearl Harbor. Mrs. Mildred Hudson Carter, prominent Anniston club woman, was second to meet the requirements.

TRAVELER'S AID CO-OPERATES

As USO and Traveler's Aid co-operated in making the awards, Mrs. Ernestine Lewis, wife of the popular bandmaster, Sgt. John A. Lewis, who has served as chairman of the group working at Traveler's Aid information desks, received honorable mention in the speech made by Miss Mabel Thomas, director of Traveler's Aid. Miss Thomas organized colored volunteers early this year to work at the terminals throughout the city.

Other volunteers who received these pins, were Mesdames Verdie Nelson, Molly Westfield, Miss Rose Mack, Lena Walker, Martha J. Glover, Susie Cook and Selica Jones, president of the Senior hostess committee.

Club Dietician

SEP 25 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily World

Miss Louise Edna Harris, of Philadelphia, Pa., has just been appointed Dietician at Service Club No. 5, Fort Benning, Ga., for colored troops. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Harris, 7252 Saybrook Avenue, Philadelphia, Miss Harris is a graduate of Cheyney State College, Cheyney, Pa. (Credit Official U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

USO Case Worker

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

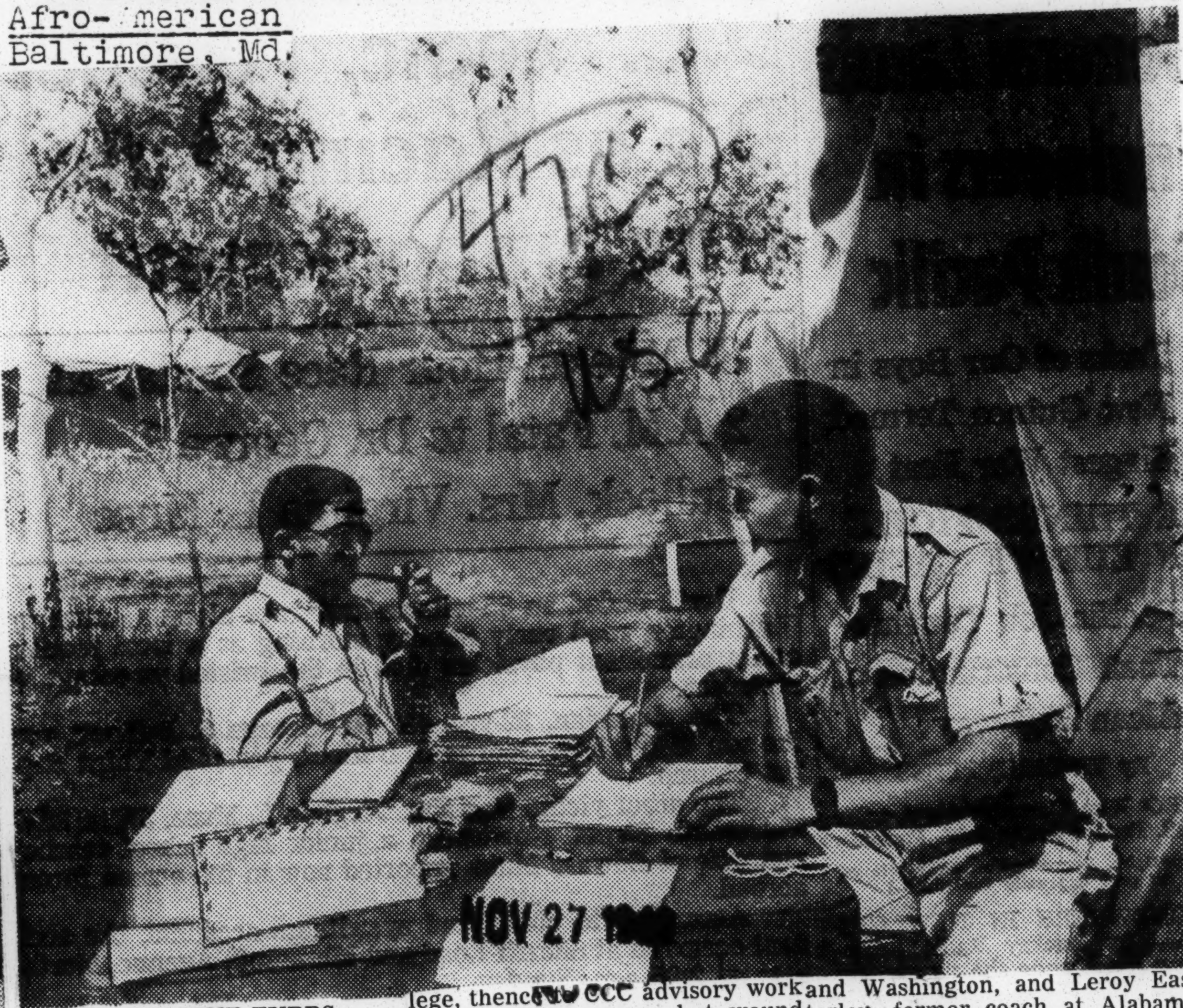
SEP 10 1943

MISS JESSIE W. LOGAN

—graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, is now serving as case worker with the USO-Travelers Aid, Spartanburg, South Carolina. She will be of aid in the handling of travel and central housing problems of the families and friends of soldiers stationed at Camp Croft. Miss Logan was formerly employed as a case worker by the Northhampton County Welfare Department, Northhampton, N. C., and also by the Department of Public Welfare, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Welfare Workers on Job in New Guinea

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



NOV 27 1943

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA (Via Ail Mail, Censored)—Big, 6-foot, over 200-pound, soldierly, dramatic Jack Bond of Washington is doing an A-1 job as director of one of the three service clubs for colored personnel in the Southwest Pacific.

His nearest rival is another Washingtonian, Sylvester Reeder, who, with more than 15 years of work in the States and nearly a year as field man in New Guinea behind him, is now heading up the Dr. Carver Service Club.

Behind Bond's success at the North American Club is a succession of tale-telling exploits.

Graduate of Howard University, '30, where he specialized in sociology and philosophy, he has also studied at the University of Iowa, Columbia University and Cornell where he earned his master's degree in dramatics and philosophy, and studied for his doctorate.

At Lincoln University, '32-33, he taught English and dramatics; shifted from there to [illegible] College, thence to CCC advisory work in a Louisiana camp, but wound up back in the classroom at A. and T. College, Greensboro, N.C., again teaching English and dramatics, '35-'38.

Moving into NYA work, he climbed from administrative assistant in charge in North Carolina to head of NYA work in the District of Columbia. On leave from the now extinct NYA he joined this overseas personnel.

Incidentally, Bond is on leave from 5 connections: A. and T. College, the N.C. and D.C. NYA's, Civil Service and War Manpower Commission.

NOV 27 1943

His wife is the former Miss Willard Phillips of Oxford, N.C., and their two children are Jack, 5, and Jill, 4.

In his club, Bond has introduced many traditions of the stage—principal among which is the delegation of parts. There is no overlapping. Each member of the staff has specific functions to perform and is charged with the necessity of performing them without hitches, lest the entire drama of operation be despoiled.

Co-operating marvelously with the Bond ideas of the dramatic are Mrs. Grace Outlaw of Chicago and Washington, and Leroy Easterley, former coach at Alabama State Teachers' College. Miss Clara Wells, who was at one time Bond's personal service director, has recently been shipped to New Guinea.

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The tendency toward the punchy, semi-sensational, advantageously dramatic can be traced to Jack Bond's father, who, as a Raleigh, N.C., haberdasher, advertised:

"Bond sells hats, Bond sells shirts; Bond sells everything for men—no skirts."

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE, Ala., 30.—Gerard Priestly, of London, England noted British lecturer on authority on international affairs, will deliver a series of lectures at the USO Club, Tuskegee, Ala., Sept. 7-8, it has been announced by E. L. Raiford, USO director. He will discuss world problems from first hand information gained through travel and contact with world leaders.

AUG 31 1943

Mr. Priestly, a graduate of London University, was in Berlin when Hitler came to power in 1933. He lived in Essex for six months and met many of the leaders of Nazi Germany, including Goering. Since 1933 he has made eight trips to Germany and has lived in the Balkans and Turkey. In 1938 Mr. Priestly was the guest of the Royal Rumanian Government and spent considerable time in Trannsylvania. He has also traveled extensively throughout Latin America and knows personally many of the world leaders both here and abroad. The public cordially invited to attend.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Jewish Group Furnishes 13 Centers For Race Soldiers

NOV 6 - 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — B'nai B'rith has furnished 13 recreation rooms for Negro military personnel throughout the country, including eight in the New York area, Arthur S. Glixson, chairman of the Metropolitan New York B'nai B'rith War Service council, told a distinguished gathering of 3,000 Negroes this week.

NOV 6 - 1943

Glixson accepted on behalf of B'nai B'rith a special certificate for meritorious service in connection with the center's recreational program for Negro servicemen.

The furnishing of these facilities for Negro personnel is part of the nationwide war service program of B'nai B'rith, the country's oldest and largest national Jewish service organization, which has equipped 552 day rooms, squadron rooms, game, card and reading rooms, recreation centers, libraries and canteens at military and naval installations in 36 states.

For Negro personnel B'nai B'rith has furnished the following facilities in the New York City area through the Metropolitan B'nai War Service council, Mr. Glixson said:

Two day rooms for the 372nd Infantry encampment in Brooklyn; a room in the colored officers club in the Hotel Theresa in Harlem; a recreation center in the 23rd Street armory; the first day room for Negro troops at the Staten Island port of embarkation; a day room at Fort Wadsworth in the Bronx; a room in the Negro War Service center in Harlem and a room in the Brooklyn Service club for Negro personnel. In addition a juke box was furnished for the Harlem center.

Outside of New York City, Mr. Glixson said, the following recreation facilities have been provided by B'nai B'rith for Negro troops:

A day room at Fort Leonard, Mo., by the B'nai B'rith Women of Cape Girardeau, Mo; a squadron room for a Negro regiment at Selfridge Field, Mich., by the B'nai B'rith men and women of Dayton; a day room at Hill Field camp, Utah, by the Bnai B'rith women of Ogden; a day room at Lake Muroc, Cal., by the B'nai B'rith women of California; and a day room at Geiger field, Spokane, Wash., by the Aleph Zadik Akeph, B'nai B'rith youth organization.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

WILLIAM EMERSON PAYNE, newly appointed USO director of the Twelfth Street Branch YMCA in Washington, who is a graduate of N.C. [illegible] College, former State director of vocational education. He came to Washington from Petersburg, Va.

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500 CIVILIANS, CIVIC, MILITARY LEADERS OPEN NEW USO CLUB PRAISE WORK OF MRS. MALONE

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

SPOKANE, Wash. — "This Sunday is a red letter day in the history of the Negro people of Spokane," Mayor Frank P. Sutherlin declared at the formal opening of [illegible] George Washington Carver U. S. O. [illegible] First and Division yesterday afternoon. Before a crowd of more than 500 persons the ceremonies dedicating the establishment of the Carver U. S. O. were conducted by Jack Abrams as master of ceremonies.

"The roots of this project go much deeper than Pearl Harbor," Mayor Sutherlin continued. "Through the efforts many years ago of those who had faith and hope in the upbringing of the Negro people was started the Booker T. Washington center here. Mrs. Rosa D. Malone, who has worked tirelessly at that center, is the woman who deserves the full credit for the final opening of this fine Carver U. S. O."

Civil and military leaders in this area were unanimous in their praise of Mrs. Malone's work with Negro troops from Gieger field and the Spokane army airfield and Colonel George Bienfang commander of troops at Galena said [illegible], Negro troops here have far exceeded the number of civiilans, but the need has been met in this organization. As far as my troops are concerned, they apperciate this Carver U. S. O., and I certainly do."

Colonel W. G. Schauffler Jr., commanding officer at Geiger field, extended his appreciation for the new center and praised men of his 32d aviation squadron by saying, "My men of that squadron deserve this beautiful home."

Spirituals Sang

Invocation was given by the Rev. S. J. Holly followed by the audience singing one verse of the national anther. Three spirituals were sung, a cappella, by the Galena men's chorus and introduction of distinguished guests occupied the majority of the afternoon's program that started at 4 o'clock.

Congratulatory telegrams, addressed to the Carver U. S. O., were read by Mr. Abrams. F. D. Patterson, president of the Tuskegee Institute, congratulated the Spokane people, and a message from Wiley Winsor, associate regional U. S. O. director, was read.

Charles Hebberd, chairman of the war appeals board, presented the club officially to Daniel Francis Connell, director of the U. S. O., who in turn, presented the Carver U. S. O., to Mrs. Malone with "God help you" his closing message.

Promises Help

Mrs. Malone, in accepting the club, thanked members of the audience, the military and civic leaders and declared: "We shall do everything in our power to uphold and continue the fine standards of the U. S. O."

A brief talk by the Rev. E. B. Reed, pastor of the Cavalry Baptist Church, promised continued cooperation with Mrs. Malone and workers at the Carver center.

Singing of the Negro anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," and the benediction given by Rabbi Adolph Fink, closed the program. An inspection tour, conducted by hostesses followed.

Distinguished guests, in addition to Colonel Schauffler, Colonel Bienfang and Mayor Sutherlin included: Dr. Charles Mowery, Miss Gladys Jacobsen and Mrs. August Paulsen, all of Spokane's Red Cross chapter; W. M. Clist, J. E. McWilliams, the Rev. Mr. Reed, Mrs. Mamie Lee, Mrs. Charles Barrow, Mrs. E. I. Dundee, Mr. Connell, Mrs. Malone and H. C. G. Fry of the U. S. O. board of management.

Many Flowers

Lieutenant Commander Perrino of Farragut and Lieutenant Campbell, aide of Commander J. S. Fitzgerald; Lieutenant Charles Adams and Captain Ford K. Sayer of Ga[illegible] D. A. Bolger, Lieutenant L. G. Mason of Geiger field, also attended.

Vocal selections were sung by Mrs. James Chase, accompanied by Mrs. C. V. Evans. Her songs were "Deep River" and "The "Hills of Home."

Completed after 11 months of anticipation, the Carver U. S. O. has been tastefully decorated with cool green walls, inlaid linoleum on the floors and modern furniture. The building is completed with recreation and reading rooms, [illegible] and a spacious garden equipper with picnic facilities and a huge outdoor fireplace.

PATRIOTIC

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Mrs. Eugene V. Woods, daughter of Mrs. Mary C. Booze, has been appointed director of the new service club at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Mrs. Woods, whose grandfather, Isaiah T. Montgomery, founded the all-colored town of Mound Bayou, Miss., comes from New York City, but of recent years she has been teaching in the Mound Bayou high school and managing her 1100-acre farm.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MISS MOTTA SIMS

Miss Sims, of Newnan, Ga., (4 Bewey Street), has been appointed senior colored hostess for Service Club No. 2 at Camp Stewart, Ga. A former teacher of home economics, she has a B. A. from Fisk University, Nashville, did graduate work at the University of Chicago, and has an M. A. from Columbia University.

AUG 18 1943

47c-1943

USO

A Second Look

By J. Saunders Redding

AUG 14 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

IN NEW YORK STATE and Pennsylvania, in New Jersey and Virginia and Georgia it is the same: exerywhere Negro USO directors have had to do the pioneer social work that, because it had already been done among the whites, was largely assumed to have been done among the Negroes as well.

It is no feather from the cap of white USO directors to say that for the success of their programs in general they have had only to organize and in some cases reactivate forces already in existence. City governments put recreational facilities at their disposal. Men and women of local authority and sufficient leisure were happy to become members of boards of management. In many instances private agencies and groups like Army and Navy clubs, political clubs, YMCA's, Junior League chapters, and odd organizations of local men and women had already established facilities with a view toward the recreational and spiritual needs of special white groups.

MR. REDDING

The cooperation of these circles was free to the directors for the asking. In New Brunswick, N. J., the Elks turned over their imposing quarters to USO. In Fort Worth, Texas, and Philadelphia, in Baltimore and San Francisco patriotic citizens had organized young women into escort parties for the recreation of service men before USO was out of swaddling clothes.

COMMUNITY SOCIAL FORCES

The social training necessary to make these young women congenial and wholesome company had been given them as part of their heritage in home and club, school and church. The rendering of volunteer services in Red Cross and Community Chest drives and in political rallies and civic campaigns was no new thing for the whites. All the social forces of the community were at the command of the white USO directors.

But not so the Negro. Instead of having buildings turned over to him, he has frequently had to fight greed and prejudice to rent even a third-class building. In one northern town an organization of white realtors (at least one of whom was on the board of management of the white USO) fought the Negro director's rental of a building so bitterly that for several months his office was literally in his hat and at the nearest telephone. When he did get the building, the rent was exorbitant and he had to spend nearly a thousand dollars for renovations.

In southern towns city officials seem to have a propensity for designating the slummiest slums as sites for Negro USO centers. In Norfolk, for example, the USO location is so bad that for a long time respectable Negro families would not permit their daughters to attend USO functions there. Some still do not.

COMPLAIN OF MUGGING

Service men have complained of being mugged in the neighborhood. Houses of prostitution are within stepping distance and set up terrific competition for wholesome recreation. Women of joy parade up and down the squalid, unpaved street and openly solicit men in the dim light that fans through the doors of the USO.

In another town the underprivileged, rachitic children of the crowded slums objected to the location of the USO club on their playground, a swampy vacant lot. For the first few days they tore out screens, broke windows, and defiled the building with chalk markings. But the director was a resourceful man. He started a program of social work such as is generally spared white directors. He organized a Kiddy Club.

He showed the kids movies one day a week; a second day he gave them a party, all free. He got a zealous Negro volunteer to solicit books from the Victory Book Drive (and from the back doors of likely white homes) and began the first circulating library available to Negroes in the town. He called the mothers from the slums in and organized them into a Mother's Club. A trained nurse consented to come in and teach simple home nursing. A teacher from the high school teaches reading and writing once a week. hTe director . . . .

MUST BE A GOOD MAN

But the point is this: it took him six months to get things going smoothly, to get his immediate community trained so that he could go on with the job he was supposed to do.

And the point is also this: a Negro USO director has got to be a good man. If he is not a good and intelligent man he will not understand the nature of his problem. But also, if those who can help him fail to do so, he cannot do his job. The imbalance is terrific. So much is demanded of him and so little is demanded of the people.

AUG 14 1943

Chicago, Ill.

Nation's First USO Club Is Renovated

Bee (Magazine Section)

SEP 5 1943

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Sept. 2. (ANP)—America's first Negro USO club, the Person Street USO club, re-opened its doors last Thursday evening after having been closed for renovations. The popular fun spot frequently by soldiers of Fort Bragg and surrounding army camps, has been closed for about three months. Approximately $6,000 was spent in making the center one of the finest. The rendezvous was given super streamlined touches with all new furniture, new paint, cozy snack bar, check room, kitchenette, game rooms, showers and numerous other features.

Located in downtown Fayetteville in the heart of the business district, this club has been the soldier's choice since September 4, 1941, at which time the club was established with the efforts and co-operation of Legion Commander B. F. Ferguson, Father William P. Ryan and other civic minded citizens. Joe Scott, Harlem welfare worker, was its first director, with Miss Beatrice Cox as hostess. Miss Cox now directs the activities of the center and holds the coveted distinction of being the only woman director of such a club. She is ably assisted by Miss Dorothea Taylor who is club hostess and Miss Allegra Westbrook as secretary. Volunteer hostesses are on hand during many affairs.

SEP 5 1943

W. Y. Bell Studies Soldier Needs In This Area for National USO

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

SEP 3 1943

W. Y. Bell of Atlanta, USO associate regional executive, region 7, is in the Kansas City area for a three-week period to study the needs for Negro soldiers in this vicinity.

Kansas City is the regional headquarters for USO activities in Missouri, Kansas and surrounding states. Bell is visiting most of the camps and forts in this section and will make recommendations to the national USO in New York.

Last week-end he was in Lincoln, Omaha, Grand Island and Fairmount, Neb., the cities where soldiers at Ft. Crook, Ft. Omaha, the Harvard Air base, Bruning air base, Grand Island air base, Hastings air base, Kearney air base, and Lincoln air base spend leaves and furloughs.

This week and next, he is visiting towns in Kansas including Coffeyville, Independence, Hutchinson, Topeka, Winfield, Arkansas City, Wichita, Leavenworth and Olathe.

Bell is one of the two Negro staff persons employed by the national USO office. The other, Henry W. Pope, works out of the New York office while Bell is attached to the Atlanta regional office.

The USO (United Service Organization) was set up to meet the recreational and religious needs of men and women in the armed forces off the posts. The USO is interested in the welfare of Negro as well as white soldiers. Wherever a facility is set up for white soldiers money is available for a facility for Negro soldiers in that area.

Bell said that there are about 40 USO facilities and centers in this region. It is his aim to determine whether they meet the needs of the thousands of men stationed in this area.

Negro communities near army camps may apply for USO aid through their local USO councils. If there is no local council and Negro persons see the need of a USO center, they may apply for assistance to USD regional office at 912 Baltimore in Kansas City.

Before joining the USO staff, Bell was executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League for 2 years. Bell is the son of Bishop W. Y. Bell of the C.M.E. church. He is a graduate of Northwestern university, holds the M. A. degree from the University of Pittsburgh and has had two years of religious training at Howard university.

Bell will be in this area until Sept. 3 or 4 and will go from here to a national USO conference in New York. He is stopping at the home of Mrs. Vallie Lamb.

Mrs. Dean Named To High USO Post

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.
9-12-43

Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean, a member of the faculty of the Atlanta University Laboratory School, has been appointed Program Specialist of the USO Headquarters Staff in Arts and Crafts. The position was recently created.

Mrs. Dean's headquarters are located in the Empire State Building, New York City. Her duties include the organizing and directing of arts and crafts programs for USO Clubs, and occasional lecturing at the USO Training Institute. The appointment is considered significant inasmuch as it is the first made irrespective of duties connected solely with Negroes.

Mrs. Dean's training and experience provide an excellent background for her new position. She engaged in the study of art at New York University, earning the bachelor's degree in fine arts. Subsequent graduate study, resulting in the master's degree in fine arts was obtained at Columbia University; and further study in this field was secured in European art centers.

Paintings by Mrs. Dean have exhibited in galleries in New York City; Atlanta, Georgia; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Nashville, Tennessee. For the past three years she was on the faculty of the Atlanta University Summer School serving as director of crafts in the arts and crafts workshop; and during the past two years she was on the staff of the Atlanta University Laboratory School. Prior to coming to Atlanta, Mrs. Dean taught art at Paine College in Augusta, and also at Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina.

The mother of two children, Mrs. Dean is the wife of Dr. William H. Dean of the Atlanta University economics department, who is now on leave serving as price executive and economic administrator for the Virgin Islands. She is the daughter of Dr. Channing H. Tobias, senior secretary for colored work of the National Council of the YMCA.

47c

With Blue Circuit Tabloid Troupes

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

147C
AUG 6 1943

Fetaque Sanders, Nashville's nationally-famous magician is now doing his bit for Uncle Sam as a member of the "Blue Cidcuit Tabloid Troupes, bringing good, worthwhile entertainment to men in uniform stationed at various army camps. The show consists of variety entertainment and features headline artists of the stage, screen and radio. [illegible] the troupe are: Pearl Bailey, Bobby Wallace, Ferdie and Flo, Basil Spears and Fetaque Sanders. They are empoyed by USO Camp Shows, Inc.

Fetaque says that soldiers make the finest audiences he has ever performed before and sends this word to the folks back home: "The thing uppermost in every soldier's mind is, "Have the folks at home forgotten about us?"

Fetaque was at Camp Maxey, Texas when heard from last week.

147C
AUG 6 1943

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USO

Civic Figure Visits Army Air Field

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 4 - 1943
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NOV 4 1943

Mrs. T. Arnold Hill (center), noted civic figure of New York City and a member of the A. W. V. S., with Mr. Roger Gordon, Field Director of the American Red Cross at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, and Mrs. B. B. Walcott of the Tuskegee Institute Office of Public Relations. The occasion was a recent visit to TAAF where Mrs. Hill's son, Charles, is an aviation cadet. She was the principal speaker last Sunday at the USO in Tuskegee, and was enthusiastic at the great strides made at TAAF.

MEMPHIS YMCA RECEIVES FUNDS FOR USO

47c
Courier Pittsburgh Pa
SEP 18 1943

Culminating a drive to establish USO quarters for servicemen in Memphis, Tenn., recently, members of the staff received $219 to furnish the first room for the fighting men. The USO is located at the corner of Lauderdale and Linden streets, Memphis, Tenn. Above, from left to right: C. R. Lawrence, secretary of the YMCA, receiving the $219 from Andrew Orr, president of the Claridge hotel Waiters' Thrift club; Fr. M. B. Cochran, member of the board, YMCA; J. L. Brinkley, Sr., second head waiter, Claridge hotel, J. H. Smith, advisor; Hollis Price, president of LeMoyne college, Shannon Little, secretary, of the Thrift club.

SEP 18 1943

Edward Williams Is Granted Leave

NC Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Edward B. Williams, a member of the economics faculty at Morehouse College, is on leave of absence from his position working as director of a USO Center at Tuskegee Institute Alabama. In preparation for his new field of service, Mr. Williams was enrolled in the USO orientation course at Teachers College, Columbia University, after which he spent two weeks observing at a USO Center, Tallahassee, Florida.

While at Teachers College, he was chosen one of three persons to formulate questions and policies which were submitted to the YMCA agency in training. He also was chosen one of three trainers to appear on a panel discussion at the closing meeting of the session.

Mr. Williams received the bachelor of arts degree from Morehouse College in 1927, and the master of arts degree from Atlanta University in 1937. He has completed all residence requirements for the Ph. D. degree at Columbia University.

NOV 4 1943

USO Volunteer Committee Meets

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Invitations went out this week for a general meeting of the USO Volunteer Committee for the Soldiers' Lounge at the Terminal Station to be held at the Recreation Room in University Homes at 668 Fair St., SW Tuesday night, December 14, at 8:00 p. m.

It may come as a surprise to many people to know that there are still over two hundred Atlantans who give some of their time each month to keep this facility open for our boys who are passing through Atlanta. However, practically all these volunteers are women. More men are needed to volunteer for this service and especially to take care of a problem that is causing the Committee much embarrassment right now. Due to the lack of men on the Committee, the Negro lounge closes at eleven o'clock while the white lounge remains open until twelve. If more men would volunteer, it would be possible to keep the colored lounge open that extra hour and give service to the soldiers who come in to Atlanta or leave on the late trains.

Here is a challenge to Atlanta's men who are out of uniform to do something for the men in uniform. Come out to the meeting Tuesday night and sign up for service at the Lounge, it is urged.

Gloster Accepts USO Position

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Hugh M. Gloster, a member of the English department of Morehouse College has been granted a leave of absence to accept a post as USO director. The announcement was made this week by President Benjamin E. Mays.

At the present time Dr. Gloster is in training for his new position in New York City. He expects to receive his placement late in August.

In a class of one hundred and fifty members, Dr. Gloster has been elected chairman of the group which contains twenty-five Negroes. He also has been chosen one of the two Y. M. C. A. representatives on the executive council for the class.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Gloster earned the A. B. degree at Morehouse College, the A. M. at Atlanta University, and the Ph. D. at New York University. He taught at LeMoyne College for [illegible] years before being appointed to Morehouse in 1941.

Dr. Gloster is the founder and first president of the Association of Teachers of Language in Negro Colleges, Associate Editor of the Sphinx and former Southern regional director of the "Education for Citizenship" campaign sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He is also a member for life of the executive committee of the Association of Teachers Language in Negro Colleges.

AUG 12 1943

47c

Bomber's Wife Heads Service Guild

Weekly Review

Mrs. Joe Louis A Champ In Her Own Right

SEP 25 1943

BY VIC[illegible]A S[illegible]

SHE'S neither a WAC nor a WAVE and she doesn't work in war plant, but Marva Louis is a champion in her own right like her husband, Joe Louis, the heavyweight boxing champion title holder. Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs. Louis doesn't follow Joe from camp to camp; in fact, she advises against that. She doesn't sit at home and pine while Joe's away; she's against that too.

But Mrs. Louis is one of the busiest woman in Chicago and wins the nomination for the "win-the-war" wife.

Besides caring for her young daughter, Jacqueline, Mrs. Louis finds time for many activities connected with winning the war on the home front while her husband takes his place on the fighting front. She is president of the Joe Louis Service Guild which has in its membership a varied group of women, including war workers, factory girls, school teachers, social workers, wives of professional men and just plain people.

SEP 25 1943

THE GUILD'S ACTIVITIES

SEP 25 1943

Guild members formerly made up a unit of the Women's Defense Corps of America that became independent when that organization refused to place a Negro woman on its executive board. But this severance of connections has not curtailed the activities of the guild at all.

Here are just a few of the things the Guild does to boost the morale of the men in service which, is a blueprint for a program of other women's groups that are seeking for a win-the-war program.

Each week the Guild sends an average of 150 Negro newspapers to the boys in service. Twice a month co[illegible] are sent to the armed forces. Regular contributions are made to servicemen's centers.

SEP 25 1943

Besides these contributions the Guild sponsors a number of entertainments for service men and sells war stamps and bonds in neighborhood theatres.

The guiding spirit of this group is Mrs. Louis who declares none of the Guild's success would have been posible if it had not been for the hard work of the girls who in almost every case are the wives, sweethearts, mothers or friends of men in the armed forces.

SEP 25 1943

Mrs. Louis's personal activities include visiting nearby U.S.O. Centers to address women hostesses, sponsoring dances at near by camps and demonstrating how a simple old black dress can be made attractive. (Marva loves beautiful clothes and wears them extremely well, but she realizes there is a war to be won and that the machines must not be deterred from turning out bombs, bullets which are much more important than new outfits).

Asked what she thought about women who follow their husbands to camp, Mrs. Louis declared:

"Occasional visits are all right but following your husband to camp just doesn't help to make him a good soldier. Service wives should find some work to do to help bring their men home sooner.

MOST IMPORTANT

SEP 25 1943

"Service wives should join a service organization or take a job in a war plant. They shouldn't just give up and wait until the war is over. They should help to win it."

"One way they can help is by buying bonds," she said.

At the last bond rally of the Guild, $100,000 in bonds were sold. One of the features of the rally was a prize of one of Joe's boxing gloves which brought $20,000.

SEP 25 1943

Regretfully, Mrs. Louis admitted she was saving the gloves for her grandchildren, but then the war came along and she parted with one of them to help raise money for the servicemen. She said somewhat ruefully:

"That's what happened to most of our relics. Joe says that some day he will come home to find that I have given away the house for bonds.

Another project which the Guild is planning is the opening of a nursery schol for children of mothers working in war industries in the South Side area.

"It is up to the women, all the women, to pitch right in and help win the war," Mrs. Louis declared.

National USO Head Visits Baltimore

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Chester I. Bernard, left center, white, national director of USO Clubs who made an inspection tour of the Gold Street branch in Baltimore last week. To his left is Fred S. A[illegible]nson, director of the branch.

OCT 30 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Why Shouldn't Races Dance Together? Boston Asks USO

NOV 27 1943

BOSTON—If the USO management of the Buddies Club insists on its rule that colored hostesses must refuse to dance with white service men when the latter request a dance, this town needs an international USO where all races will be free to mingle.

This was the proposal of Julian Steele, director of the Armstrong-Hemingway Foundation and president of the NAACP branch here, before USO directors Thursday.

At fi[illegible]his Buddies USO Club which [illegible] Boston [illegible]mon less than 50 feet from the spot where Crispus Attucks fell, barred colored hostesses, because 49 white hostesses would resign.

NOV 27 1943

USO directors forced the club to lift the ban. Next came the rule on interracial dancing, which a council of colored organizations is now fighting.

USO trustees under fire from all sides will meet this week.

The following persons were in attendance at the USO meeting:

NOV 27 1943

H. D. Hodgkinson, president of the Trustees of the Boston USO, white; Mrs. E. J. Driscoll, board member, white; Joseph R. Hamlen, Boston Red Cross, white; F. Frank Vorenberg, white; W. Duncan Russell, executive director of the Boston USO, white; Mrs. John W. Bartol, white; Noyes Collinson, white; Max Nelson, white; Saville Davis, Christian Science Monitor, white; Seaton Manning, Urban League; Julian Rainey; Ray W. [illegible]ld, president of the Colored Coordin[illegible] Committee for National Defense; Mrs. John [illegible]ll, chairman of colored hostesses; [illegible]ew W. Bullock, member of the board; Mrs. Esther H. Wilson; Julian Steele, president of the Boston NAACP; the Rev. R. M. Owens; Morris Taylor, Robert Gould S[illegible] House; John Lane, clerk, juvenile [illegible] [illegible]rs. Ruth Lane, and William

NOV 27 1943

OPEN HOUSE AT PASEO SERVICEMEN'S CLUB

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

AUG 28 1943

More than 800 persons, including 400 servicemen, attended the recent open house at the Paseo Servicemen's club of Kansas City, Mo. Among the new additions to the club are hardwood floors, maple furniture, newly painted walls, check room, lounge, reading room, snack bar, girls' powder room, new drapes, and many other things that will make the club more attractive and comfortable for the men in service.

Standing, left to right: [illegible] staff; Mrs. Cle[illegible]lor, USO secretary of staff; Mrs. L[illegible]ussell, recreation leader; Mrs. Thomas A. Jones, director: Dr. J. Edgar Perry, president of committee of management; Mrs. Sallie Dibble, vice chairman; Mrs. Robert L. Sweeney, board member; Miss Capitola Jones, secretary of board of management: Miss Ardella Starkes, board member; Miss Lucile Bluford, board member; Mrs. L. B. Pryor, and Mrs. Hazel Williams, board members.

AUG 28 1943

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USO

USO Volunteer Workers Provide Happy Evening For Soldiers

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

NOV 28 1943

Scenes of activities of USO Volunteer workers. Soldiers check their bags at USO Lounge, Union Station; Soldiers pinning flowers on mothers following Mother's Day program; Scene of a dance [illegible] entertainment for the soldiers.

USO-TRAVELERS' AIDE CASE WORKER

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 11 1943

Mrs. Audrey Du Conge Neal, who holds the Master of Social Work degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work, has recently been appointed case worker with the USO-Travelers' Aid, Montgomery, Ala.

Mrs. Neal has an excellent background of training and experience, having served in the following positions: Case worker with the Welfare Department, New Orleans, La.; case worker, Fisk University Social center, Nashville, Tenn.; instructor, Department of Social Sciences, Texas college, Tyler; case worker, Negro Child center of the Children's Bureau, Houston, Texas. Mrs. Neal also holds an A.B. degree from Texas college, and a Ph.C. from Xavier university, New Orleans, La.

PM
New York, N. Y

AUG 22 1943

The Halsey Article

Dear Editor:

While sitting here in camp reading PM [illegible] very warm sensation of gratitude from the article written by Margaret Halsey concerning colored men at the Stage Door Canteen. I salute her for myself and the human race. Many are the articles and books I have read concerning the everlasting Negro problem, yet none that was so to the point.

I've had the article posted on the bulletin board for all to peruse and expect to have mimeographed copies sent to all the companies in my outfit.

Taunton, Mass. Sgt. H. Brooks

* * *

I have just read a shocking and revolting article in the form of a memo to Junior Hostesses by a Margaret Halsey [illegible] consummation of [illegible] degraded thought that is contaminating our country.

Covington, Ky. R. J. Divine

* * *

I think Margaret [illegible] Memo to Junior Hostesses is one of the best statements on the subject and should be widely circulated.

Georgiana Birch

Silver Bay, N. Y

Redding Sees USO A Basis For Building Youth Culture

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 16 1943

(See "A Second Look"—Page 8)

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Vastly important spade work in community operations, welfare work and education is being done for the Negro servicemen, war workers, and other civilians at USO Centers. This is the conclusion drawn by J. Saunders Redding, Journal and Guide columnist and author of the best seller, "No Day of Triumph," who recently returned from a three weeks' tour of USO clubhouses which he took to gather material for a comprehensive article for a leading magazine on the care this organization is providing the Negro.

At his desk at USO headquarters Mr. Redding elaborated on this conclusion.

CLAN TENDENCY

"There is a strong tendency on the part of the Negro to be clannish in community operations, but I noticed a signal improvement in this respect in those communities where a USO clubhouse was located.

"Because club directors must call upon all reputable local organizations to fill the large order of providing entertainment and care for servicemen and their families, these organizations, if they wish to share in the war effort, are compelled to give up this greedy preservation of their own individuality and work cooperatively for a common good.

WELFARE WORK

"Home hospitality, such an important feature of USO programs, is provided largely through the churches, which are in contact with resident families, so that religious groups too must work in unity.

"No one faith or denomination can possibly supply all the needs to all the men, just as the resources of no one civic or fraternal organization can suffice. This inter-organizational and inter-church cooperation is a very important innovation in Negro life.

"The welfare work done by the directors is equally necessary. This type of work applies more to the centers for war workers than for service men. To these come thousands of young girls and young men who are thrown into a new community and a new life. USO not only provides healthful recreation for them but sees to it that they are respectably housed and hygienically

guarded. Negro social agencies are not yet organized thoroughly enough to do this work alone."

Mr. Redding believes that the benefits provided by USO in the cultural and educational field are perhaps the most vital contribution of all.

He declared himself particularly impressed by the courses in music appreciation and was amazed to see the eagerness with which the men listened to long symphonic recordings and those of operas and concert recitals.

DEVELOPS CULTURE

"There was still another phase of the educational work which impressed me," stated the author, "and that was the courses given the young hostesses who volunteer to dance with and entertain the men. Because there is a comparatively small leisure class among Negroes, many of these hostesses come from homes which have no cultural background.

"The club directors make a point of teaching these girls practical lessons in social behavior—how to approach the men in an easy, friendly, but not forward manner, how to conduct themselves in a courteous and gracious way, how to dance and dress in a becoming fashion. These girls are truly receiving instruction and experience which will stand them in good stead all their lives."

Mr. Redding also writes for such magazines as Harper's, the Atlantic Monthly and Mercury. He received his Phi Beta Kappa key at Brown University, Providence, R. I., and is a member of the English faculty at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.

Age

New York, N. Y.

Mrs. Mary T. Dean Appointed Program Specialist Of USO

SEP 18 1943

Mrs. M[illegible]bias Dean, a member of the faculty of the Atlanta University Laborator School, has been appointed Program Specialist of the USO Headquarters Staff in Arts and Crafts. The position was recently created.

Mrs. Dean's headquarters are located in the Empire State Building, New York City. Her duties include the organizing and directing of arts and crafts programs for USO Clubs, and occasional lecturing at the USO Training Institute. The appointment is considered significant inasmuch as it is the first made irrespective of duties connected solely with Negroes.

USO Specialist

Mrs. MARY T. DEAN

Mrs. Dean's training and experience provide an excellent background for her new position. She engaged in the study of art at New York University, earning the bachelor's degree in fine arts. Subsequent graduate study, resulting in the master's degree in fine arts was obtained at Columbia University; and further study in this field was secured in European art centers.

For the past three years she was on the faculty of the Atlanta University Summer School serving as director of crafts in the arts and crafts workshop, and during the past two years she was on the staff of the Atlanta University Laboratory School. Prior to coming to Atlanta, Mrs. Dean taught art at Paine College in Augusta, and also at Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina.

The mother of two children, Mrs. Dean is the wife of Dr. William H. Dean of the Atlanta University economics department, who is now on leave serving as price executive and economic administrator for the Virgin Islands. She is the daughter of Dr. Channing H. Tobias, senior secretary for colored work of the National Council of the YMCA.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

USO Regional Institute Meets

DEC 6 1943

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The USO Regional Institute workshop which convened here at Hotel Fort Des Moines from Dec. 9 through Dec. 13 drew over 160 workers here from Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri Oklahoma, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Among them thirteen were Negro representatives.

Henry W. Pope, of New York, director of services to Negroes in the national USO program, was one of the guest speakers during the sessions. He talked on Friday on the subject, "Services to Negroes."

Miss Mamie Davis of New York, assistant regional supervisor (Y.W C.A.) and Miss Mary Tobias Dean, national arts and crafts consultant for USO; Miss Vera C. Bush (Y.W C.A.) Manhattan, Kas.; Miss Mary Holman, (Y.W.C.A.) Oklahoma City, Okla.; Wayne Harshaw (Salvation Army), Lebanon, Mo.; William J. Neal (Salvation Army), Junction City, Kas.; William Walker, (Salvation Army) Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.; Earl M. West (Y.M.C.A.) Salina, Kas.; Miss Ann T. Wolfolk (Y.W.C.A.) Cheyenne, Wyo; Edward Wright (NCCS) Salt Lake City, Utah; Fred Young (Y.M.C.A.) Denver, Colo. Mrs. Ruth Williams, St. Louis, Mo.

Camp Blanding Musical Revue Makes A Big Hit

Chicago Defender

AUG 7 1943

CAMP BLANDING, Fla.—'Till Taps," the surprise musical revue with an all-Negro cast of stellar performers from the enlisted ranks at Camp Blanding, scored its second triumph Wednesday, July 28, before a capacity audience at the USO-NCCS club, Third and Mt Herman streets, Jacksonville.

Outstanding features of the show was the singing of Corporal Frederic Thomas, talented baritone who, before entering the service had appeared in recital in New York's Carnegie Chamber Music Hall. No less popular with the audience is the singing of Pct. Rudolph High, of New York, Cpl. Eddite Johnson, of New York, and Cpl. Charles Waterford of Chicago.

The all-soldier orchestra, made up of many former stars of name bands during their civilian life, also came in for wide acclaim with a modern arrangement of "Swampfire" and other numbers that brought rounds of applause.

Cpl. Thomas' big number was 'Stouthearted Men" with a choral background. Cpl. High was well received with "Round the World" songs on the guitar, with his feature number, "Hot Dogs, They are Very Fine." Cpl. Clarence Clayton, of Richmond, Va., demonstrated modern rhythm with a specialty tap dance. Cpl. Eddie Johnson gave a new interpretation to the well known Gershwin favorites, "Summertime." Cpl. Charles Waterford sang "Rose Ann of Charing Cr and "Charmaine." Cpl. Waterford was formerly with Andy Kirk's orchestra.

Pfc. Walter Pinkston was prominent throughout the show with piano offerings of quality. The orchestra under the direction of Sgt. Woodrow Williams of Orange, New Jersey, gave many impersonations of nationally known name bands and received an ovation from the audience. Sgt. Christopher Kemp, New York City, was featured in "One O'Clock Jump." Pvts. Allen Leggett and Sidney Williams, both of Starke, Fla., were presented in a red hot jam session.

Others who contributed largely to the success of "Till Taps" included Cpl. Millard Watkins, Richmond, Va.; Pvt. Joseph N. Blunt, Newark, N. J.; Pvt. Benjamin Maxwell, Savannah, Ga.; Pvt. John D. Speight, Johnstown, Pa.; Pvt. Franklin C. Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.; Pvt. Sidney B. Little, San Diego, Calif.; Pvt. James T. McBride, East St. Louis, Ill.; Cpl. Cedric R. Ryson, Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Lawrence A. Watson, Lynchburg, Va.; Sgt. Robert J. Fritz, New Orleans, La., and many others.

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

ONLY FOUR DAYS REMAI TO SPEED UP BOND SALES

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
September 22, 1943

BY INEZ STEWART TUGGLE

Only four days remain for Jefferson County to subscribe $3,918,000 to reach its quota of $31,918,000 in the Third War Loan drive.

Alabama has between now and midnight Saturday to raise $22,680,000 if it is to maintain its heretofore enviable record and rank with other states in the sale of War Bonds. The state Tuesday night ranked 26 in the nation's poll of states, with $85,320,000, or 79 per cent, of its $108,000,000 quota raised, according to a report from the U. S. Treasury Department, an Associated Press dispatch said.

Jefferson County's War Bond purchases continued to mount Tuesday, with $2,000,000 added to the county's total during the day, bringing to $28,000,000 the amount of bonds purchased since the drive opened Sept. 9.

In announcing Tuesday's total, Judge Clarence W. Allgood, Thomas Bowron and J. B. Haslam, Jefferson County drive leaders, issued a renewed appeal for more E. Bond purchases, pointing out that thousands of the county's residents have yet to buy an extra bond during the campaign.

Ed Leigh McMillan, Alabama's War Bond chairman, Tuesday continued to emphasize the necessity of individual participation in the "back-the-attack" Third War Loan program.

Asserting that the sacrifice for victory must be narrowed down to the individual Alabamian, Mr. McMillan said statistics indicated that a great number of the state's residents are not doing their own personal share in the drive.

"The records show," he said, "that many an Alabamian is letting others do his War Bond buying just as he is letting others do his fighting for him."

Gratified, however, by the response of many Jefferson County citizens and corporations, Jefferson County's drive leaders also stressed the need for additional purchases by the small investor.

"Every $100, $50, and $25 bond purchaser is important. It signifies his willingness to invest in the future security of the county and state," state and county leaders asserted.

Negroes Pass Quota

Having passed the $300,000 mark Sunday, Negro War Bond workers of Jefferson County Tuesday reported sales in their division had reached the sum of $331,500, adding that many groups were busy in special activities in connection with the Third War Loan drive.

Negro Red Cross Nurses Aids are selling War Stamps in theater lobbies and making house-to-house appeals, and an Avondale Negro School reported sale of $40.90 worth of stamps Monday, the largest sales for a single day in their records.

Heading the drive among Negro workers are S. J. Bennett, chairman, and C. W. Askew and W. H. Hollins, co-chairmen.

Part of the nationwide appeal for $15,000,000,000, the drive in Jefferson County and Alabama will be brought to a close at midnight Saturday.

ALL URGED TO INVEST

Asserting that the Treasury Department is concerned by the lag in individual purchases in the Third War Loan drive, Frank E. Tripp, chairman of the Allied Newspaper Council, asserted in an Associated Press dispatch from Washington Tuesday night that "the Third War Loan is as personal to us as a Nazi or Japanese bullet is to our son and neighbors' sons."

"Although the figures on the drive are good," Mr. Tripp's message continued, "the Third War Loan drive is an absolute failure for one who has not bought extra War Bonds. If we are thinking up excuses for not buying extra bonds, we don't deserve the sacrifices being made for us on the bloody beaches of Europe and the Pacific."

Hopewell Va. News
October 5, 1943

Colored People Aided War Bond Drive In City

The Colored people in this community were very active in the War Bond Drive during September, Mrs. Hugh T. Birchett, chairman of the Woman's Division of the War Finance Committee, said today.

Hopewell's colored population was responsible for a total of $387.10, representing the sale of bonds, stamps and corsages.

Mrs. Ethel Cunningham acted as general chairman of the committee in charge of the Bond Rally and the sale of War Stamps, while corsages were under the chairmanship of Mrs. Annie McCoy, Mrs. Birchett said.

A report of the Bond Rally showed $272 in War Bonds, $66.75 in War Stamps and $48.35 in Corsages.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

YES, THAT'S WHAT HE SAID" . . . $100,000 WAR BOND

SEP 24 1943

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (SNS) — "My, my!" exclaimed Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, of Jack Benny radio fame as he congratulated Lt. George W. Lee, general chairman of the Negro Division of the War Bond Sales Committee and E. L. Simon, of Atlanta, Ga., on purchases of $100,000 worth of war bonds for the Atlanta Life Insurance Co., during the big war bond rally at Ellis Auditorium Monday night of this week. Rochester is seen giving a victory hand shake to Mr. Simon, Assistant Agency Director of the Atlanta Life shortly after he received an eloquent introduction to a near capacity crowd of three thousand spectators in South Hall by Lt. Lee, (Facing camera), manager of the Memphis office of the Atlanta Life. Sam W. Qualls, Jr., left end, served as master of ceremonies. He autographed the Atlanta Life bonds and thousands of dollars worth of bonds for other admirers.

The noted comedian made a flying trip from Hollywood to be present for the rally. His arrival vie one of the flagships of the American Air Line was greeted by upward of fifty prominent citizens, including the Booker T. Washington high school band which swung out on the "Memphis Blues" as Rochester stepped from his plane.

Accelerated by the presence of Rochester, Monday was a "red letter day" in war bond sales with schools, business houses, and individuals bringing the aggregate since the beginning of the Third War Loan Drive up to over $800,000.00 among colored people of Memphis. Goal for Negro Memphis in this Drive is Two Million Dollars which the War Bond Sales Committee expects to reach by Monday of next week when William C. Handy, daddy of the blues, takes over as master of ceremonies at the greatest second of the two war bond sales rally at Ellis Auditorium, North Hall.

But Monday was "Rochester Day" in Memphis. The beloved comedian stayed in character as he greeted admirers up and down Beale Street, service men at Kennedy [illegible], the Variety Club, operated by theatre owners, and other show personalities; and at WREC raido station where he gave a brief radio program in the late afternoon.

Photo CLARENCE BLAKELEY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Warning Amid Celebration

SEP 18 1943

Celebration is widespread and justified over the magnificent triumph of Allied arms which has resulted in the capitulation of Italy.

Colored people, remembering Italy's unprovoked aggression against Ethiopia and [illegible] senseless slaughter of black patriots by Fascism in that unhappy land, are overjoyed at the swift turn of events.

Coupled with the good news from the Russian and Pacific fronts, these reports of military victory in the Mediterranean and devastating bombing of German industrial centers cannot help but arouse optimism concerning the ultimate outcome of the global struggle.

But it would be a mistake, of course, to think that the war is won.

The German European fortress is [illegible] intact though badly scarred.

We have done no more than take a few Japanese outposts in the Pacific.

Nevertheless, the war is closer to successful conclusion than it was a year or even six months ago, and we should begin to think more seriously about the tremendous problems that will come with the peace.

Almost every American able to work is now working and making more money than at any time since World War I.

With the coming of the peace, there cannot possibly be as many jobs available as there are today, and unless America undergoes a profound change in viewpoint, Negro workers will be among the first to feel the pinch of unemployment.

Under the circumstances, Negro workers will be wise to invest as much money in war bonds as they possibly can—and put the bonds a[illegible] in safe deposit boxes.

The current practice of cashing these war bonds as soon as the sixty days have elapsed after purchase is foolish and shortsighted, and those who have succumbed to the temptation to do so will come to regret their action, and perhaps sooner than they think.

Vast sums of money are being spent needlessly by war workers for inflation-priced goods and services with which they could do without.

The question which presents itself to every worker is whether to do without some of these exorbitantly priced goods and services now or to do without food, clothing, rent and education after the war is over.

The worker with a batch of war bonds at the end of the conflict will be able to stand unemployment for a long time without suffering.

The worker who has no war bonds will find himself or herself back on relief.

Negroes' Rally To Push Bonds

Columbus Ga [illegible]

November 15, 1943

The Negro Insurance Managers Council is sponsoring its second War Bond rally in front of the colored USO Army and Navy Y next Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 17, "to keep alive the fact that Americans at home must stand behind the man behind the gun," officials announced.

This second War Bond rally is under the direction of the Muscogee County Negro War Bond committee and is being held through the cooperation of the Regional Negro Defense Savings staff which is located at Tuskegee Institute and which works directly under the treasury department. The first rally, which was held in March of this year, netted well over $15,000 in war bonds and stamps.

The big parade of school children and Negro citizens of this community, will be led by the Tuskegee Army Air Force band which will end the program by giving a public band concert. It is possible that the Reception Center band as well as Spencer High school band will also participate in the entertainment and another big afternoon is promised to all who attend, the committee said.

This rally will be another of the civic programs fostered recently by the Negro Insurance Managers Council and a record crowd is expected to attend. A statement issued by the council Sunday urged "every citizen—whether white or colored—who believes in this war effort and who is willing to lend his money for this cause, be present at this rally along with his check book or his stamp book."

War Bond Show Opens Campaign

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16—The United States Treasury's 15-billion dollar Third War Loan drive got off to a [illegible] start last week with an exposition on the Washington Monument grounds here in which Negroes, in both the military and civilian aspects of the war effort, played an important part.

In a 16-acre tract, the Treasury has assembled an exhibition of every conceivable type of war weapon, and is running twice daily a performance of soldiers and war machines in action.

PITTSBURGH GIRL GIVES DEMONSTRATION

In both the exhibitions and the performances Negroes participate.

A Pittsburgh girl, Mrs. Ruth Austin Corbin, now working at the Army Air Depot at Middletown, Pa., is in the aeronautics show demonstrating delicate altimeter instruments. From the Anti-Aircraft school at Camp Tyson, Paris, Tennessee, four Negro [illegible]ers have been sent to demonstrate the use of army barrage balloons. They are Sgts. Lloyd D[illegible] of Ennis, Texas; Frank Patterson of Marianna, Ark.; Joseph Dorsey of New Orleans, and Pvt. George Heywood of Dallas, Texas.

In the army chapel, built as a replica of army chapels in thousands of army camps and posts, Major John DeVeaux, who accompanied Bishop Gregg on his South Pacific mission, has been assigned to conduct daily religious services together with white chaplains representing the Jewish and Catholic faiths.

"The Back The Attack" show, given twice daily, and seen already by more than 200,000 persons, gives a prominent part to a Negro quartermaster truck company and to a Negro cavalry squadron from Fort Myers, Va., under the command of [illegible] Sherman Sullivan. On smartly groomed cavalry mounts, the squadron stops the show as it goes through maneuvers ending in a swift cavalry charge.

Globe and Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

Recommends Thrift Clubs For Bond Buying

By Wm. Pickens (For ANP)

You know P. L. Prattis, of the Pittsburgh Courier. As he told me about [illegible] years ago, his initials can be remembered by thinking of "Poor Little" Prattis. Claude A. Barnett, of the Associated Negro Press, with which Prattis worked for many years, esteemed Prattis as "one of the best newspaper craftsmen in the country."

Well, Prattis has an idea which he is putting into operation in his city, and which we hand on here because it is workable in any city, town, hamlet or rural place, it is an idea of how to prepare for the difficult economic mal-adjustments (not to say "depression") which is sure to follow in the wake of this great war. It has to do with the purchase and holding of War Bonds. [illegible] so very simple: Let any respected and trusted leader of the community organize a thrift club, let us say (for example) of 100 members, each member pledging to buy for himself one $25 E-series Bond each month. In one year that $18.75 per month will have for each member a maturity value of $300, or for the 100 members $30,000. If they be so fortunate as to be able to buy these government Bonds for five years there will be for these 100 people a total [illegible] maturity value of $150,000. That will [illegible] great sum in the safest bank in the world—the treasury of the United States.

How to do it? Let us see how Prattis is conducting his club: each member buys his own Bond during the month, copies down its serial number in his own records, and to remove the temptation of cashing the Bonds for any temporary convenience, turns the Bond over to Mr. Prattis who deposits all of them in some safe government depository—like the federal reserve bank. But, mark you, it makes no difference in the end if a Bond be lost or burned or stolen: for each Bond is recorded at the treasury in the name of the one who purchased it, and only that one can cash it. And all he will have to do if it be lost is to properly identify himself. And we are asking each such leader to send us the serial numbers of the Bonds bought by his club members and deposited with him, each month, so that we can keep a file of them in the inter-racial section.

If these 100 members stand by for 10 years, they will own together the sum of $150,000 on purchases for the first five years of that time, and proportionately more if they have purchased Bonds in the 6th, 7th, and succeeding years.

That is a tidy sum for 100 people of any race to hold in their possession; but it will be very handy for a Negro group to tide itself over the period when 10 million of the "boys" will be returning from the front, and more than 20 million others will be let out of the war plants until private industry can re-absorb them. With a backing like that, those colored people will be able to negotiate that "first fired—last hired" hurdle. They may [illegible] organize a little business of their own,—for the club.

SPECIALIST

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

MRS. NELL HUNTER

On a cross-country tour to set up machinery for war saving programs, Mrs. Nell Hunter, one of the four Negro promotion specialists in the war finance division of the treasury department, spent several days in Des Moines this week.

Mrs. Hunter visited the WAC training center at Ft. Des Moines Sunday and on Monday met a group of bond and stamp selling workers in an effort to expand her program to reach every women's organization before the third war bond drive is launched in September.

She explained her committee as a "clearing house of all the Negro is doing in the war savings extra curricula buying."

Mrs. Hunter who was remembered by Des Moines citizens from her appearance as a soloist in the "Green Pastures" is holding her first non-musical job. A mezzo soprano she has not appeared on the concert stage since 1935, but sings whenever invited. She was soloist Sunday morning at the St. Paul A.M.E. church.

In an interview Monday Mrs. Hunter stressed the importance of mothers and housewives urging their husbands, fathers and brothers to "take a lead in building up a savings in the safest banking institution in the country, the United States government."

The other Negro specialists of this finance division are: William Pickens, Willard Allen and John Whitten.

The house guest of Atty. and Mrs. James B. Morris, Mrs. Hunter left the city Monday night on a tour to the coast.

COLORED CHILDREN BUYING WAR STAMPS

[illegible]

A plan was initiated by the supervisor of the first teachers' meeting whereby all school children, P. T. A. members, and patrons in all school commuuities might do their part by purchasing War Savings Stamps at the school on Tuesday morning of each week.

Ten cent stamp books have been placed in the hands of most of the children and a few twenty-five cent books were given to the teachers for the parents. On Tuesday morning of each week the mail carriers on the rural routes have been carrying stamps with them and the banker for the week in each school has been meeting the mail carrier at the box nearest the school in order to purchase stamps for the entire group.

The children have a great deal of fun watching their stamp book grow. The total amount purchased and reported since Oct. 1, was $12.40. Jerusalem led this month with a total of $4.80, Each month a total amount for the month will be published.

South Boston [illegible]

October 28, 1943

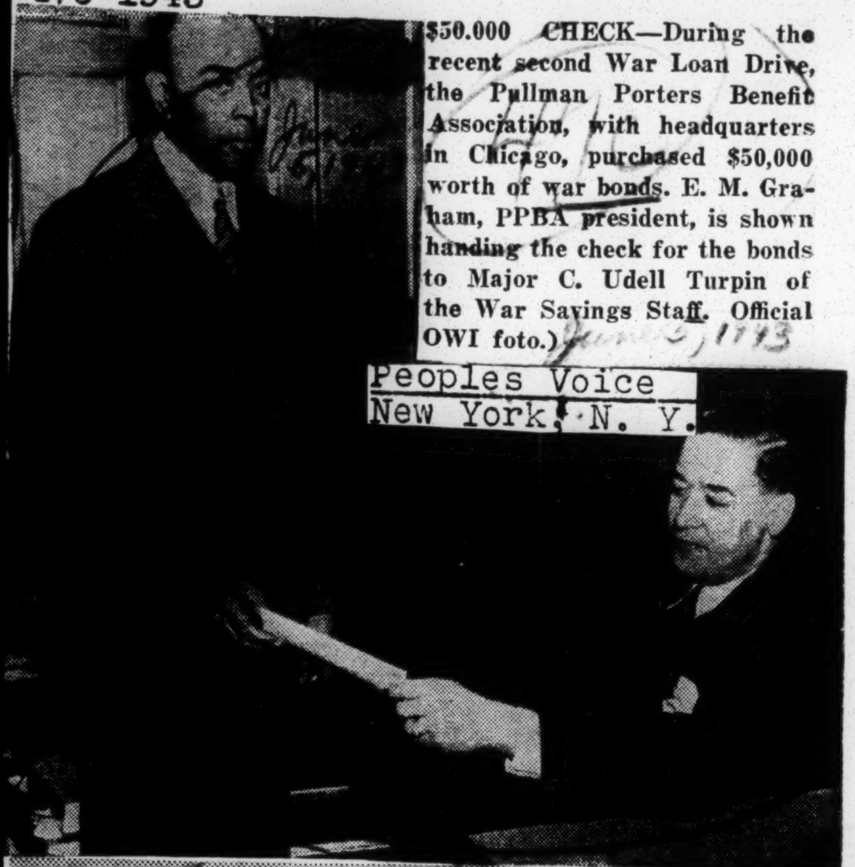
Negro Bond Auction Held Friday Night A Great Success

The giant Negro War Bond auction held in South Boston on Friday night, saw $25,570.00 worth of bonds bought by citizens of Halifax County both white and colored. Many valuable articles were auctioned off by W. L. Seymour, local white auctioneer, some bringing as high as $3,000.00. A large amount of missionary work was done by J. S. Carrington and his committee prior to the ahction, which was in reality a St. Luke War Bond Rally. Principal speakers were Mrs. Hattie N. F. Walker, of Richmond; Mrs. Marion C. Johnson, of Richmond; James F. Nicholas, of Richmond, State supervisor of Civilian Defense and C. A. Crocker, from the State War Bond office, who introduced to the crowd Sergeant Millard Arnold, who came here from the Government hospital at Staunton to help with the auction.

The St. Luke organization, through J. S. Carrington, purchased $7,500 in bonds; the Virginia Mutual Life Insurance Co., $2,500 through G. D. Crawford, and the Benevolent Eagle Society, $1,500 through George Ford.

J. S. Carrington, chairman of the Colored War Finance Committee of Halifar County, wishes to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the War Bond Auction a success, especially all of the committees.

47c-1943



$50.000 CHECK—During the recent second War Loan Drive, the Pullman Porters Benefit Association, with headquarters in Chicago, purchased $50,000 worth of war bonds. E. M. Graham, PPBA president, is shown handing the check for the bonds to Major C. Udell Turpin of the War Savings Staff. Official OWI foto.)

June 5, 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

JUL 8 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

A. G. Moron, housing manager for University Homes and John Hope Homes, sells a War Bond to Porter H. Hall, Jr., the lad who bought $700 worth of Bonds, then went into the Army the next morning. The picture was taken during the War Bond rally of the Atlanta Service Group, War Bond Committee and the Atlanta Council of Negro Women. In the background is Mrs. A. R. Hill, acting housing manager of the Henry Grady Homes. She assisted Mr. Moron in the sale of the War Bonds.—(Army Signal Corps Photo)

47c

War Bonds and Stamps

Purchases Of War Bonds Buy Jeep

JUN 19 1943

Informer
Houston, Tex.

47c

Off for a ride in the jeep which their war bond purchases help pay for are **ANNIE WHITE**, third grade student, who invested in two $25 bonds (front seat), **HENRY CRAWFORD, LaVERNE WELDON, JOSEPH KENDRICK**, and **ARTHUR MACK** (rear seat), all of whom purchased at least one $25 bond. During the ceremony the students and faculty of the 5th Avenue school, Columbus, Georgia, were ad-from Fort Benning, who praised them for participation in the war bond program. Shown wishing the children 'bon voyage' is **MISS VERNA L. HUDSON**, head of the school's war bond committee.

JUN 19 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Children Take Bonds of $263,146

CHICAGO, Ill. — Negro public school children of the South-Central District of Chicago set another record when they purchased $263,148.83 in War Bonds and Stamps in a special campaign which ended last month. Twenty-four schools participated.

The campaign was climaxed by a huge rally in Washington Park on June 4, which included a parade of 6,000 school children starting at 35th street and South Parkway.

Led by members of the ROTC, they marched to Washington Park where a joint check was presented to representatives of the Treasury and War Departments, with a request it be used to purchase 125 jeeps, two pursuit planes and a motorcycle for the fighting forces.

A feature of the exercises was the christening of several jeeps by school girls representing the bond purchasers.

Treasury awards, including the Minute Man Flag and merit certificates for each school, were presented by Major C. Udell Turpin, senior deputy of the Illinois War Bond sales staff, representing the Treasury Department.

Music was supplied by the band of DuSable High School.

47c

Columbia, S. C., State
September 7, 1943

Negroes Urged To Buy Bonds

The Negro Citizens committee of South Carolina is urging every Negro to enter whole-heartedly in the Third War Loan drive, and to purchase bonds to the fullest extent of his economic ability, E. A. Adams, chairman, said yesterday.

"It is the patriotic duty of all American citizens to support the war effort with each dollar that can be spared," Chairman Adams declared. "It should never be said that Negroes are not loyal and patriotic, for this is our country and we know no other, nor are we in sympathy with any other country. Our money should and must aid in helping to pay for the war effort."

"Negroes have a stake in this war," he continued, "for nearly every home has been touched in some manner by those inducted into the armed services of the country, and our money must send to them the things that are vitally necessary for winning the war. Negroes must not only realize they have a stake in the war, but must be willing to fight for that stake."

47c

Negro Goal In War Fund Set At $2,500

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
September 2, 1943

Twenty [illegible] hundred dollars was set as the goal for the negro division of the Sumter county War Fund drive, which will begin immedately, at a meeting of leading negro citizens which was held last Monday night at the Mt. Pisgah Methodist chhurch, it was announced this morning, by George D. Levy, chairman of the Sumter County War Fund.

Mr. Levy explained that this drive by the colored people of Sumter is not in connection with the combination War Fund and Community Chest Fund campaign which will be held in October.

After a full discussion of the scope and purpose of the War Fund the meeting adopted a resolution unanimously approving the fund and further promised support towards seeing to it that every colored citizen did their full share in the effort.

An organization was perfected by the election of the following officers and directors: Dr. E. C. Jones, chairman; Rev. R. L. Pope, vice-chairman; Mrs. Janie R. Howard, secretary; Dr. A. R. Howard, S. J. McDonald, Sr., E. P. Palmer, Rev. I. P. Pogue, Sam G. Green, Rev. J. L. Benbow, Rev. H. B. Brown, Prof. J. C. Prioleau, Miss N. I. Davis, Rev. P. E. Mingo, Miss Helen Usher, Rev. J. P. Garrick, Mrs. Pearl Spears, Miss Blanche Sampson, J. J. Slater, Rev. J. B. Jennings, Rev. J. J. Foster, Joseph Richardson, Mrs. S. S. Rice, Arthur Sanders, Prof. C. A. Lawson, W. T. Pleasant, J. T. McCain, I. C. Bracey, and Rev. E. C. Wright.

Also, Rev. D. J. McCollough, Rev. R. B. Martin, W. B. Keels, Rev. W. J. Nelson, Mrs. Annette Fortune, Derry Reese, Andrew Evans, F. J. DeLane, Hattie D. Taylor, Powell Robinson, Mrs. Lottie Atkinson, Elijah Romsey, Tom Sanders, Miss Marian McLester, Mrs. Rebecca Ramsey, Matthew Pleasant, Mrs. Viola B. Johnson, Macie DesChamps, Robert A. Green, Eddie Wright, Mrs. Anna J. Murray, J. W. Cain, Mrs. Elsie Wilson, Henry Anderson, Joe McMillan, James W. Brown, James Gass, and Mrs. Virginia Martin.

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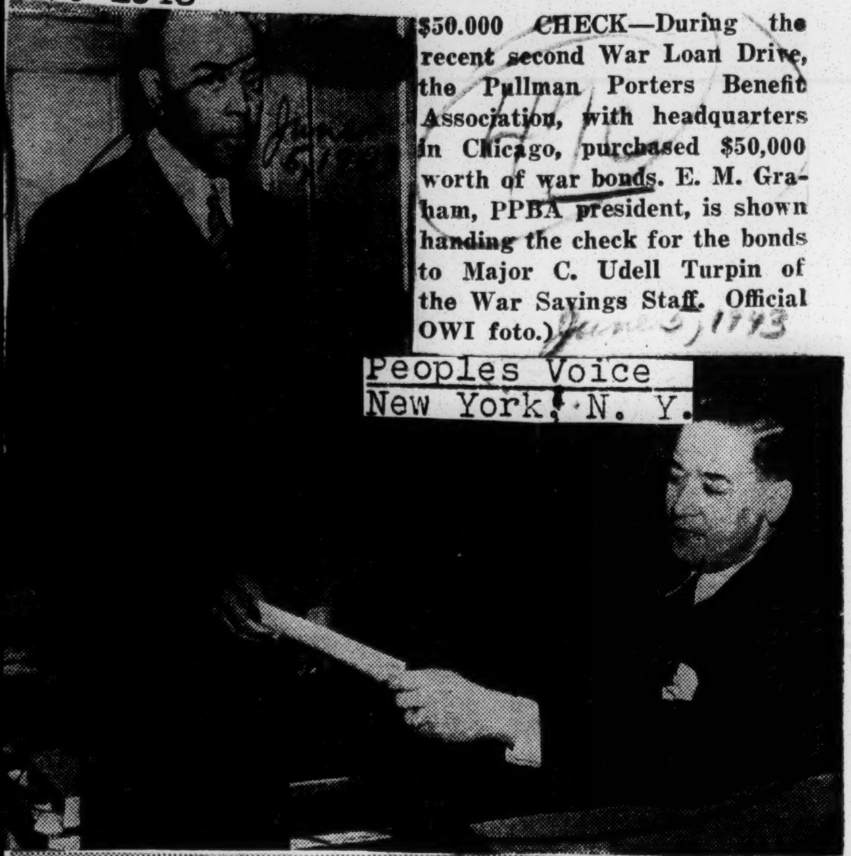

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Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

War Bonds and Stamps

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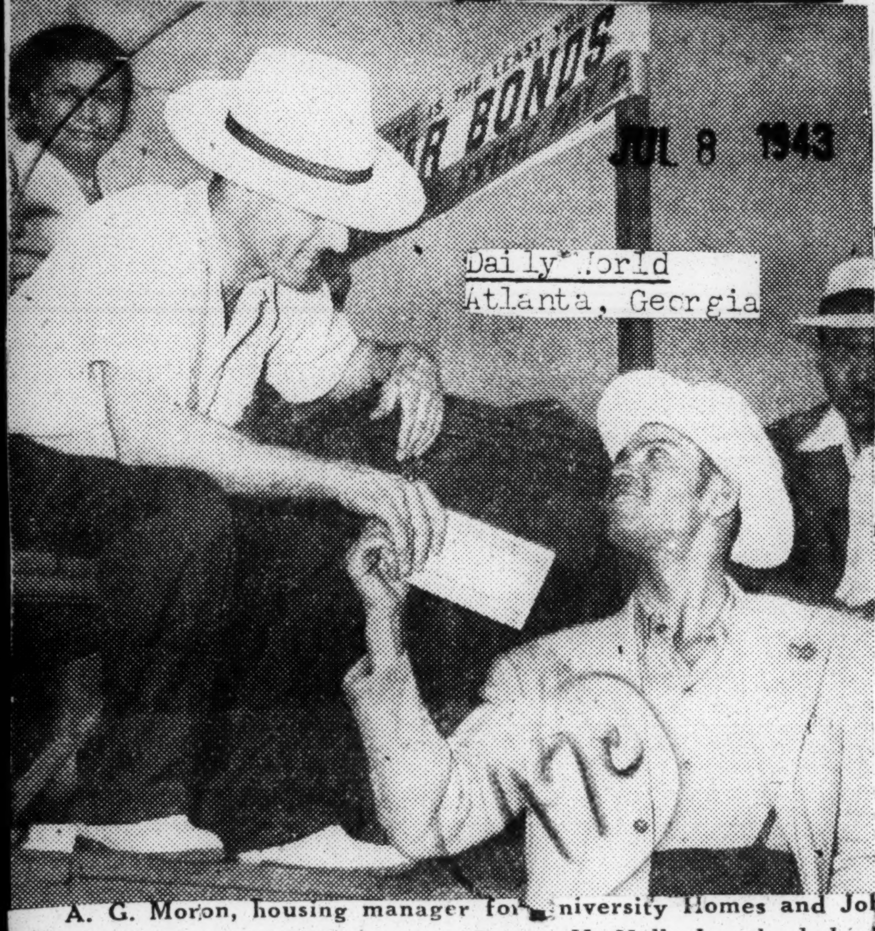
JUN 19 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



JUL 8 1943

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Children Take Bonds of $263,146

CHICAGO, Ill. — Negro public school children of the South-Central District of Chicago set another record when they purchased $263,148.83 in War Bonds and Stamps in a special campaign which ended last month. Twenty-four schools participated.

The campaign was climaxed by a huge rally in Washington Park on June 4, which included a parade of 6,000 school children starting at 35th street and South Parkway.

Led by members of the ROTC, they marched to Washington Park where a joint check was presented to representatives of the Treasury and War Departments, with a request it be used to purchase 125 jeeps, two pursuit planes and a motorcycle for the fighting forces.

A feature of the exercises was the christening of several jeeps by school girls representing the bond purchasers.

Treasury awards, including the Minute Man Flag and merit certificates for each school, were presented by Major C. Udell Turpin, senior deputy of the Illinois War Bond sales staff, representing the Treasury Department.

JUN 1943

Music was supplied by the band of DuSable High School.

Columbia, S. C., State
September 7. 1943

Negr es Urged To Buy Bonds

The Negro Citizens committee of South Carolina is urging every Negro to enter whole-heartedly in the Third War Loan drive, and to purchase bonds to the fullest extent of his economic ability, E. A. Adams, chairman, said yesterday.

"It is the patriotic duty of all American citizens to support the war effort with each dollar that can be spared," Chairman Adams declared. "It should never be said that Negroes are not loyal and patriotic, for this is our country and we know no other, nor are we in sympathy with any other country. Our money should and must aid in helping to pay for the war effort."

"Negroes have a stake in this war," he continued, "for nearly every home has been touched in some manner by those inducted into the armed services of the country, and our money must send to them the things that are vitally necessary for winning the war. Negroes must not only realize they have a stake in the war, but must be willing to fight for that stake.

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Negro 'Goal In War Fund Set At $2,500

Sum . C. Daily Item
Sep ber 2, 1943

Twenty hundred dollars was set as the goal for the negro division of the Sumter county War Fund drive, which will begin immedately, at a meeting of leading negro citizens which was held last Monday night at the Mt. Pisgah Methodist chhurch, it was announced this morning, by George D. Levy, chairman of the Sumter County War Fund.

Mr. Levy explained that this drive by the colored people of Sumter is not in connection with the combination War Fund and Community Chest Fund campaign which will be held in October.

After a full discussion of the scope and purpose of the War Fund the meeting adopted a resolution unanimously approving the fund and further promised support towards seeing to it that every colored citizen did their full share in the effort.

An organization was perfected by the election of the following officers and directors: Dr. E. C. Jones, chairman; Rev. R. L. Pope, vice-chairman; Mrs. Janie R. Howard, secretary; Dr. A. R. Howard, S. J. McDonald, Sr., E. P. Palmer, Rev. I. P. Pogue, Sam G. Green, Rev. J. L. Benbow, Rev. H. B. Brown, Prof. J. C. Prioleau, Miss N. I. Davis, Rev. P. E. Mingo, Miss Helen Usher, Rev. J. P. Garrick, Mrs. Pearl Spears, Miss Blanche Sampson, J. J. Slater, Rev. J. B. Jennings, Rev. J. J. Foster, Joseph Richardson, Mrs. S. S. Rice, Arthur Sanders, Prof. C. A. Lawson, W. T. Pleasant, J. T. McCain, I. C. Bracey, and Rev. E. C. Wright.

Also, Rev. D. J. McCollough, Rev. R. B. Martin, W. B. Keels, Rev. W. J. Nelson, Mrs. Annette Fortune, Derry Reese, Andrew Evans, F. J. DeLane, Hattie D. Taylor, Powell Robinson, Mrs. Lottie Atkinson, Elijah Romsey, Tom Sanders, Miss Marian McLester, Mrs. Rebecca Ramsey, Matthew Pleasant, Mrs. Viola B. Johnson, Macie DesChamps, Robert A. Green, Eddie Wright, Mrs. Anna J. Murray, J. W. Cain, Mrs. Elsie Wilson, Henry Anderson, Joe McMillan, James W. Brown, James Gass, and Mrs. Virginia Martin.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

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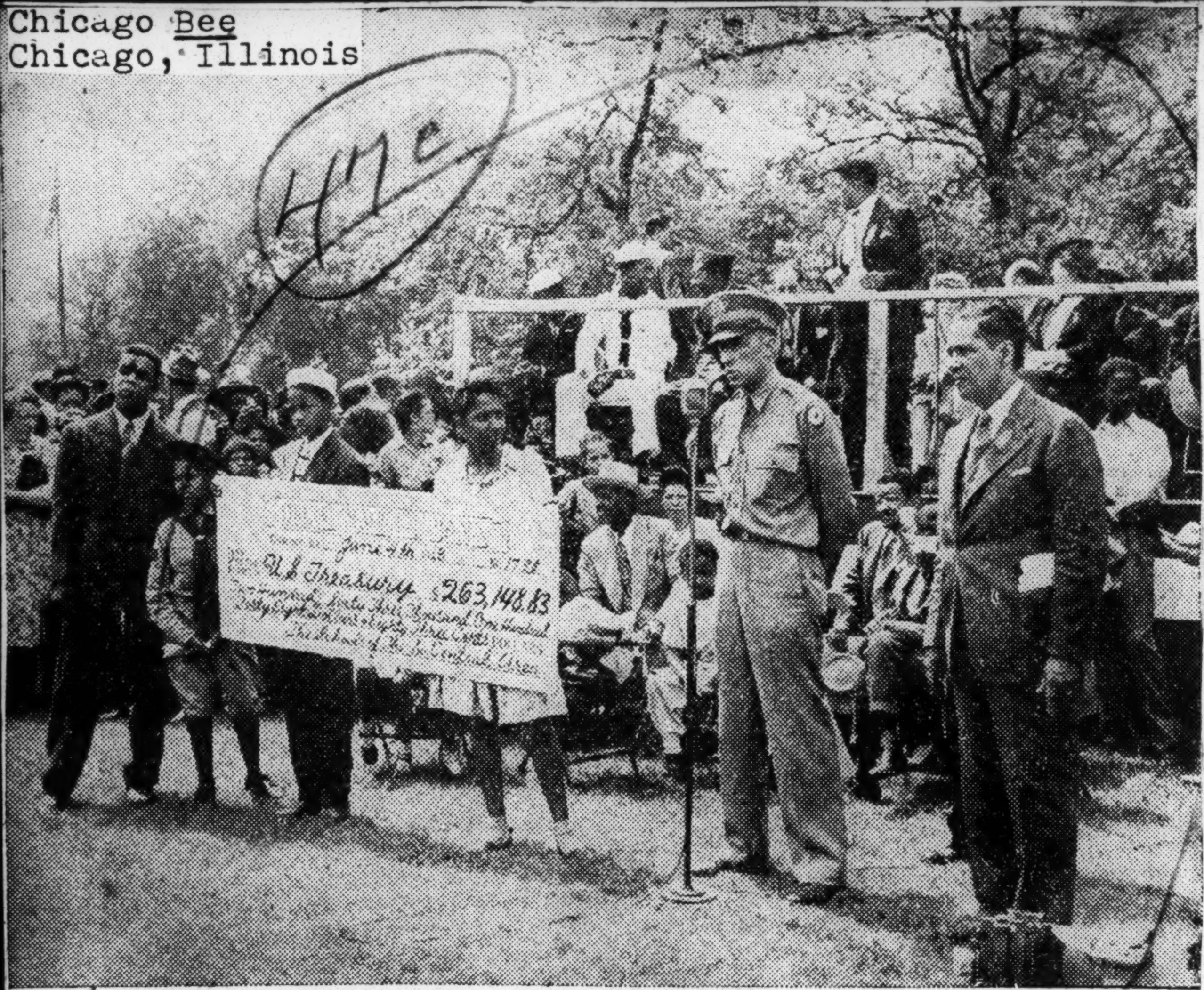

CHICAGO SCHOOL CHILDREN BUY $263,148.83 IN WAR BONDS.

In a special war bond campaign which ended last month, the public school children of the south central district of Chicago purchased $263,148.83 in war bonds and stamps. The campaign was climaxed with a rally in Washington park on June 4 at which time a huge check representing enough money for 125 jeeps, two pursuit planes and motorcycle was presented to Major C. Udell Turpin of the Illinois war bond sales staff, representing the Treasury department.—OWI Photo.

Tuskegee Band Helps Raise Million In Bonds

Defender Chicago, Ill

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Making over 52 personal appearances in the last 30 days, the military band of the Tuskegee army Air Field is probably the busiest band in the army.

Aside from local obligations on this field, First Lieutenant Frank L. Drye, of Tuskegee, director of the band, and his sixty-five musicians, have aided in raising more tha na million dollars in the state bond rally through civic organizations, schools, colleges and various institutions.

This bond rally began last October, when the stirring music of the TAAF band swelled out and down the streets of Luverne, Ala., and stimulated the purchase of $10,000 worth of bonds. This was merely the beginning. At Selma, the bond purchase soared to $25,000, and in Montgomery it went to $50,000.

Having traveled more than 3,000 miles throughout the state, there is hardly any city or town that the band has not visited on the "bond selling campaign." From this aggregation, the Post Orchestra, known as the Imperial Wings of Rhythm, under the direction of Sgt. Claude Garvey was organized; carrying the bond rally into schools, social organizations, clubs and numerous municipal institutions.

Working in connection with, and under the auspices of the National Division, War Saving Staff for Alabama, of which Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, is chairman, the TAAF band has enjoyed state-wide popularity.

T. M. Campbell, consultant; and Jesse O. Thomas, national organizations division director, both on the War Savings Staff for the State of Alabama, have aided in the success of this state-wide campaign.

The Tuskegee Army Air Forces Band, known officially as the 313th Army Air Forces Band, has the distinction of being the first Negro Air Forces band; having been activated April 21, 1942, by Captain Clyde H. Bynum, post adjutant. It already has established a reputation of having one of the best set of musicians in the armed forces. The TAAF military band's personnel is made up entirely of enlisted men.

JUN 5 1943

47c

P. and C. F.'s Buy Another $1,000 Bond

Savannah Ga. Tribune

The Plasterers and Cement Finishers Local, Union No. 15, has purchased an additional thousand dollars worth of War Bonds, making a total of two thousand dollars worth of bonds secured recently. A large part of the membership of the union is employed in local defense plants doing valuable work. The organization as a whole is 100 per cent behind the war effort in doing its part to help smash the axis.

Turner Solomon is president of the union and J. B. Hardrick is financial secretary.

47c

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Tennessee School Children Invest $1,365 In War Effort

(Picture on front page.)

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—(SNS)—AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM. The ninety-five boys and girls enrolled at Douglass Elemetary School in Johnson City, Tennessee have made a magnificent start on seeing that this well known phrase holds true for their immediate community.

With the aid of their teachers, $1,365.75 has been invested in war bonds and stamps during the past school year. The school has also been 100 percent active in the city-wide school savings bank system.

During the last days of school the fifth graders honored the sixth grade pupils with a formal banquet on the occasion of their being promoted to Junior High School. With the aid of the mothers, a wonderful affair resulted. Booklets contained the class colors, flower, motto, roll, faculty roster, program and menu. The banquet was carried out in real "grown up" style with after dinner talks being made by parents and students alike.

A splendid tribute to Mother was found in the annual Mother's day celebration of the school. Mrs. E. E. Ewing delivered the address on this occasion. All others numbers on the program were rendered by the pupils themselves.

An outstanding accomplishment of the year was the Douglass Chronicle, a publication of the school. Doris Earnest as Editor in Chief with a promising younf staff, included news, jokes, a crossword puzzle, honor rolls for the classes and recipes using food from the "Victory Gardens."

The project for the school PTA this summer will be the encouragement of parents and adult friends in the purchasing of stamps and bonds, and a Girl Scout Training Class which is to meet twice weekly.

The teachers of this school are Miss O. M. Claiborne, Mrs. E. S. Witten and Miss B. B. Ellis, principal.

JUN 17 1943

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T.A.A.F. Band Helps to Raise Over Million Dollars in War Bond Drive

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Making over fifty-two personal appearances in the last thirty days, the Military band of the Tuskegee Army Air Field is probably the busiest band in the army. Aside from local obligations on this field, First Lieutenant Frank L. Drye, of Tuskegee, Alabama, director of the band, and his sixty-five musicians, have aided in raising more than a million dollars in the state bond rally through civic organizations, schools, colleges and various institutions.

This inimitable fund raising rally began last October, when the stirring music on the TAAF band swelled out and down the streets of Luverne, Alabama, and stimulated the purchase of $10,000 worth of bonds. This was merely the beginning. At Selma, Alabama, the bond purchase soared to $25,000, and in Montgomery it went to $50,000.

Having traveled more than 3,000 miles through the state of Alabama, there is hardly any city or town that the band has not visited on the "bond selling campaign". From this aggregation, the Post Orchestra, known as the Imperial Wings of Rhythm, under the direction of Sgt. Claude Garvey was organized, carrying the bond rally into schools, social organizations, clubs and numerous municipal institutions.

Working in connections with, and under the auspices of the National Division, War Savings Staff for Alabama, of which Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, is chairman, the TAAF band has enjoyed state wide popularity. T. M. Campbell, consultant, and Mr. Jesse O. Thomas, national organizations division director, both on the War Savings Staff for the state of Alabama, have been most instrumental in the success of this state wide campaign.

The Tuskegee Army Air Forces Band, known officially as the 313th Army Air Forces Band, has the distinction of being the first Negro Air Forces band; having been activated April 21, 1942 by Captain Clyde H. Bynum, Post Adjutant. It already has established a reputation of having one of the best set of musicians in the armed forces.

The TAAF military band's personnel is made up entirely of enlisted men, all of whom came into the army with years of musical experience. Many of them were professionals, playing with big named bands. This group is truly a cross section of American people from many different walks of life.

JUN 1 1943

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WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Jackson, Miss., News
January 14, 1943

Colored School Teachers Sign Up For War Bonds

Every teacher in the colored schools of Jackson is now investing ten per cent or more of salary in War Bonds, according to a report made to the Hinds County War Savings Staff by E. W. Banks, chairman of the negro board.

Banks also reported that more than seventy per cent of college faculties were buying War Bonds and that ninety per cent of the professional men were making ten per cent investments.

During December the negro board sponsored programs in the P. T. A. organizations of the schools to explain the war savings work to the parents of students.

There has been a marked increase in war savings interest in the colored schools, according to Banks, and to date the 452 students have bought $1,159.40 in War Stamps and Bonds.

Regular booths are kept in operation by women's division of the Negro War Savings Board, and outstanding work has been done by these groups.

The excellent work of the negro board was complimented at the Hinds County War Savings Staff meeting on Monday, and a vote of appreciation given for the report made by Banks.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
January 20, 1943

Negro Elks Map Plans for Local War Bond Drive

Negro Elks, who have sold over $1,000,000 worth of War Bonds throughout the country, are organizing a unit in Nashville to further the drive, it was announced today.

A meeting Thursday night at Patton Brothers Funeral Home will complete the organization of the unit which will handle the Nashville bond drive.

National officers of the order who will be at the meeting are J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler, and James E. Kelly, grand secretary. Local members of the unit are: Dr. E. B. Jefferson, treasurer; Dr. R. B. Jackson, secretary; L. J. Lewis, grand organizer, and Jasper W. Patton, exalted ruler.

The local Negro Elks have set $10,000 as a tentative goal.

Americus (Ga.) Tri-County News
January 14, 1943

Colored Civic Club Sponsors War Bond Campaign Here

The sale of War Bonds and War Stamps among the colored population of the city and county is being sponsored by the Dunbar Civic and Welfare club, with the co-operation of schools and leadings citizens, it was announced Thursday.

The rally will be held at Staley High school Friday night, Jan. 29th, and a prominent out-of-town speaker will be present for the occasion, as well as other wholesome entertainment, including a moving picture, singing of patriotic songs by the school choir. There will be no admission, a spokesman explained.

Lenora L. Lamber is president of the organization sponsoring the patriotic drive; Eva Hoskin Dorsey is financial chairman; B. L. Hill is chairman of the program, and Ramon H. Williams is in charge of publicity for the civic group.

Mobile, Ala., Register
February 7, 1943

Negro Masons Buy $105,000 In War Bonds

Dr. Edward T. Belsaw, local colored dentist and state treasurer of Colored Masons, yesterday purchased $30,000 worth of war bonds, making a total of $105,000 worth purchased by the order of Colored Masons in the last two years.

Belsaw said, "The negro race as a whole in Mobile, the state and throughout the country is supporting the government's program."

All of the ten local Masonic lodges have bought bonds ranging in amounts from $200 to $1,000, he said. The local Colored Elks Lodge has bought $5,000 and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church $300 worth. Many other negro organizations and individuals are buying bonds reguarly, he said.

Prominent Negroes To Attend Rally Here

"Democrat" Reporter Ala.

A. A. Hicks, Negro county agent, and chairman of the Negro division in Clarke County for the sale of War Bonds, announces that a War Bond and Stamp Rally is planned for Clarke County February 4.

Hicks says that outstanding speakers have been invited and have promised to be present. T. M. Campbell, Field Agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and consultant for the Alabama Negro Division, and Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute and Chairman of the Negro Division for Alabama, will be present, as well as Jesse O. Thomas, of the Washington office. Jan 14, 1943

In order to make the day as colorful as possible, Hicks states that he is endeavoring to have the 99th Pursuit Flying Army Band here for the occasion.

Local representatives who will participate in the program are Hon. John E. Adams, County Co-Chairman of War Bond Sales, and Judge Coma Garrett, Jr.

Hicks says that he hopes to be able to report the sale of $3,000 worth of bonds and stamps on the day of the rally.

The rally will be held in the Loula Dunn Hall at the 4-H Club Camp.

LaGrange, N. C. News-Sentinel
February 11, 1943

Leaders Attend Negro Bond Rally

An OPA order removing all retrictions on having tires recapped or retreaded with camelback, effective about March 1, was expected this week.

The OPA was ordered to take the action by Rubber Director William Jeffers who said that there would be enough reclaimed rubber to carry out the program.

The order will not end the present rigid control over purchase of renovated tires but will permit car owners to have their own tires recapped without government authorization.

Jeffers asked that the order be issued as a rubber conservation measure. OPA sources explained that it would result in a saving of rubber since it is designed to encourage movement. There's no limit to the number of salaries the government could pay

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Charlotte, N. C. Observer
February 9, 1943

NEGROES, SHARE IN BOND BUYING

Dean McLaughlin Of A & T College Reports 100 Per Cent Co-operation By Negroes.

Special to The Observer.

GREENSBORO, Feb. 8. — Dean John C. McLaughlin of the Agricultural and Technical college, who is now serving as deputy administrator, Negro division, for the U. S. Treasury, war savings department, has announced that Negroes in all parts of North Carolina are co-operating 100 per cent in the government's war savings program.

Dean McLaughlin recently delivered two addresses in Charlotte, one at the Second Ward high school where he spoke to a large gathering of students and thrifty citizens, the other before the Hobby Lobby club, where he found the members enthusiastic about the buy-a-bond campaign.

Dean McLaughlin's plans include organization of clubs in the eastern and southern section of the state, and an intensive drive among North Carolina's Negro farmers, most of whom are said to be in excellent condition financially and so prepared to co-operate in a wholehearted manner with the bond campaign.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

DALLAS NEGROES PUSH BOND DRIVE

FEB 19 1943

SELMA, Ala., Feb. 18—Negroes of the Dallas County Farm Bureau and Home Demonstration Clubs for Colored were highly praised for what was called a magnificent response to a patriotic call in subscribing to $16.050 worth of bonds and stamps at the recent rally, held in two sessions at the Selma University for Negroes and the County Community House for Negroes in Selma.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Sell $303,306 in Bonds at Rally

JAN 29 1943

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — War bond sales totaled $303,306 at a war bond rally banquet held on Friday night at the Parkway ballroom for which admission was purchase of $100 in bonds. More than 1,200 attended.

First and largest purchase was by Robert E. Cole, president of the Metropolitan Funeral system, who bought $100,000 worth for himself and the system.

JAN 29 194

Maj. C. Odell Turpin, deputy state administrator, was in charge of the rally. Many officials including William Pickens from the U. S. Treasury in Washington, were present. Leading Negro and white radio, state and screen stars provided entertainment.

Franklin, Tenn., News
January 28, 1943

Colored People To Start Bond Drive Feb. 12th

The colored population of Franklin and Williamson County will launch its War Stamp and Bond drive on Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12, under the title of "Americans for Freedom War Bond Rally. Heading the movement are Prof. E. E. Pitts and County Supervisor Eva Meyers Lee. Co-chairmen. Prof. T. J. Meyers is secretary.

The drive will end on Booker T. Washington's birthday. April 6.

On February 12, a rally will be held at the Franklin Training School at 8 o'clock. All county P.-T. A.s are asked to bring articles to be auctioned off on this night. The admission will be the purchase of a 25-cent Stamp by adults and a 10-cent Stamp by children. It is hoped and urged that these stamps will be converted into bonds by the purchasers.

The program will consist of an address by one of the white War Bond officials, numbers by each county P.-T. A., and selections by the F. T. S. Band.

The regional committeemen will meet February 5 at the Franklin Training School at 8 p. m. This committee consists of the following:

Ab Scales, H. E. Starnes, John eale, John Gentry, Nannie Patton, Valter Dotson, Sr., Felix Lawrence, ndrew Rivers and Dyer Wainwright.

The publicity committee, headed by . G. Patton. consists of H. J. Ewing.

Mrs. D. M. Rose, Dr. O. B. Taylor and Mrs W. J. Moore will speak. The Austin High Schoolglee club will sing.

for 7:30 p. m. today at East port School on Bethel Street.

Executive Secretary C. V. Biddle of OCD said a new air raid warden class for Negroes probably would start soon as a result of the meeting.

Meeting Set

A meeting to stimulate interest among Negro air raid wardens of the Fourteenth District has been

r. C. C. Johnson; Nurse Zetta Co- Dr. J. W. Hudson, Eddie nnard.

er, Erwin Partee, Morton Thomas, hitsey.

imes Morton, Harvey Ewing, John

unford, T. H. Goosby, Theophilus

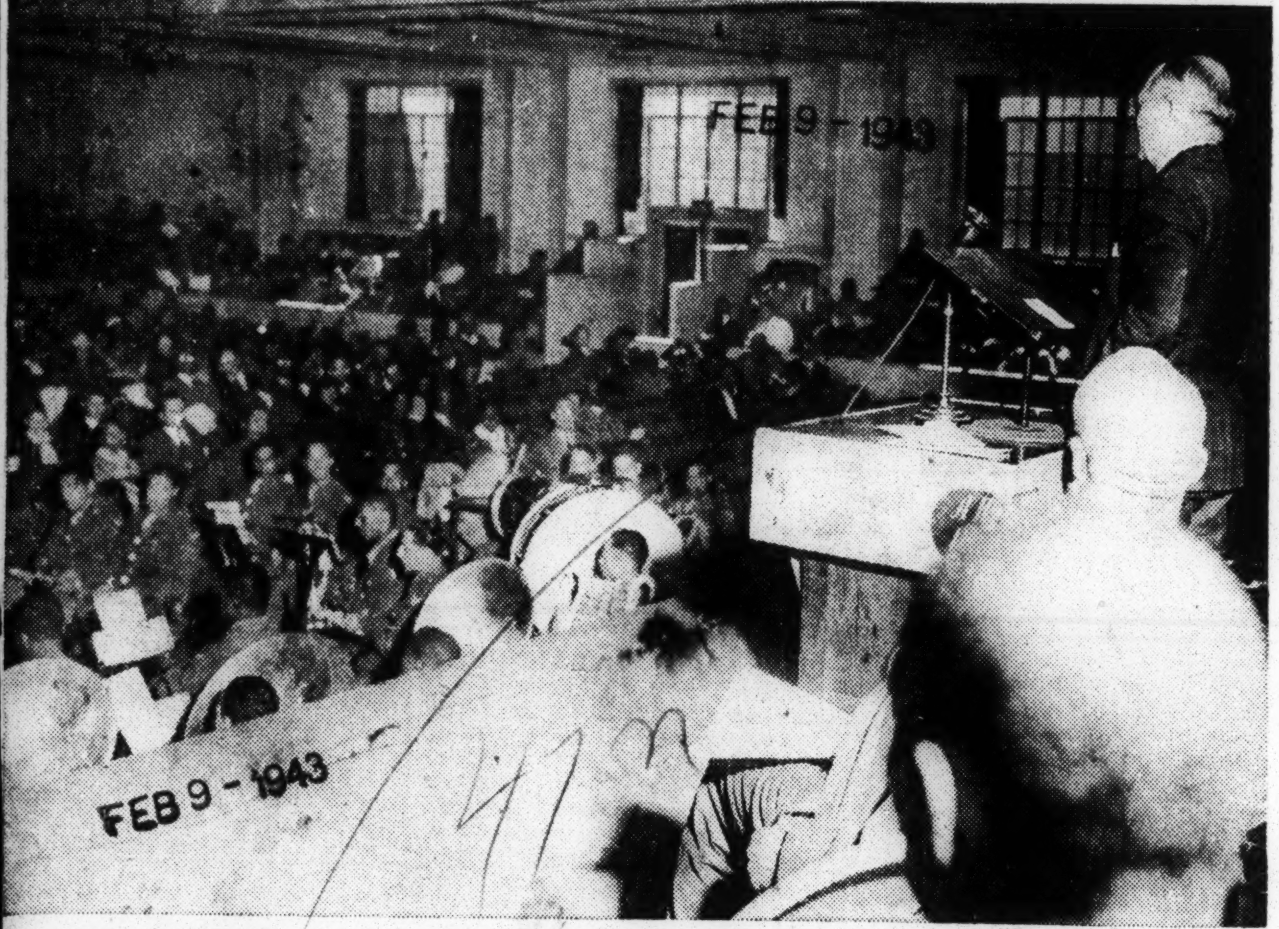
akemore, Rev. L. E. Coleman, Geo.

February 12, 1943

Negro Warden

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

SPARKS ADDRESSES BOND RALLY


FEB 9 - 1943

FEB 9 - 1943

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A War Bond rally for negroes at the City Auditorium was addressed by Gov. Chauncey Sparks (right), who told his audience: "Your place in democracy will be measured by your participation in the battle to preserve it." The rally, following a parade down Dexter Avenue, evoked enthusiastic response in the sale of war bonds. (State of Alabama News Bureau photo).

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

Negro Part in War Spotlighted as Houston Gives $85,749,884.24 for New Cruiser Houston and Carrier

John W. Rice On Platform As Notables From Washington Praise City for Effort In Raising Money In Bond Buying Campaign

Praise of notables from Washington, including Jesse Jones and Secretary Frank Knox of the navy, was given all races and creeds for the part the city played in raising, through bond sales, $85,749,884.24 with which to pay for a crusier Houston. The certificate for this huge amount was presented to Secretary Knox at ceremonies at the Coliseum Monday night before a crowd estimated at 6,000 enthusiastic and patriotic persons.

Seated on the platform with high naval, army and marine officers, senators, congressmen and city officials, was John W. Rice, Negro educator and state NYA Negro director.

Chosen to speak on unity, his speech evoked loud and prolonged applause. This is believed to be the first time in history of the South that a Negro has been chos speak to a patriotic meeting composed of 99 per cent white people.

Rice was the only Houstonian to speak on the program with the possible exception of Attorney Charles I. Francis, who served as master of ceremonies.

Negroes were proud of Rice because they felt that he had been selected to represent the city of Houston, whether of not this was the cause.

His address which will be found elsewhere in this issue was earily the keynote address.

DEC 26 1942

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Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

"BOND SALES AMONG NEGROES

Montgomery's Negro citizens are authority for the statement that their recent successful war bond selling rally proved a wonderful morale-builder. The war was brought home to them as never before and they were made to feel that they were part of it in a very impressive way.

The bond-selling campaign among colored citizens was sponsored by the Negro Civic and Improvement League, J. E. Pierce, chairman, and R. L. Battle secretary. It continued for one week and closed with a big parade, headed by the Tuskegee airport band, and a rally at the city auditorium, where Gov. Sparks made an inspirational address. At the end of the week it was announced that $47,850 worth of bonds and stamps had been sold, and this represented many hundreds of purchases by hundreds of people many of whom were making real and genuine sacrifice to do their part.

MAR 7 - 1943

Attention is called to this campaign at this time to encourage the hope of the Negro leaders that the good work will be continued and that subscriptions and purchases will continue to be made because of the continuing need.

MAR 7 - 1943

It would be gratifying to every citizen of Montgomery to know that the members of the Negro race in the community are showing such interest in this patriotic cause and are participating so heartily in the sacrifices that must be made by all to insure the great victory that is ahead.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Collects Back Pay, Buys War Bonds

MAR 4 - 1943

QUANTICO, Va.—(SNS)—A $21,269.29 check for back pay was received by Hugh F. Deakins, Marine QM clerk here. Deakins has been "in" 35 years and had allowed part of his salary to accumulate ever since. He had to collect because he became a warrant officer and when an enlisted man leaves the "ranks" his accounts must be settled. He bought $5,000 worth of War Bonds.

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
October 24, 1943

Rally, Dance At Payne Raises $9500 In Drive

A total of $9500 was raised for the Third War Loan Drive at a Negro Rally and Dance held at the Payne Avenue Center while the drive was in progress, Co-sponsors John Henderson and James Hardy announced yesterday.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

DEFENSE BOND
FOR VICTORY

JAN 23 1943

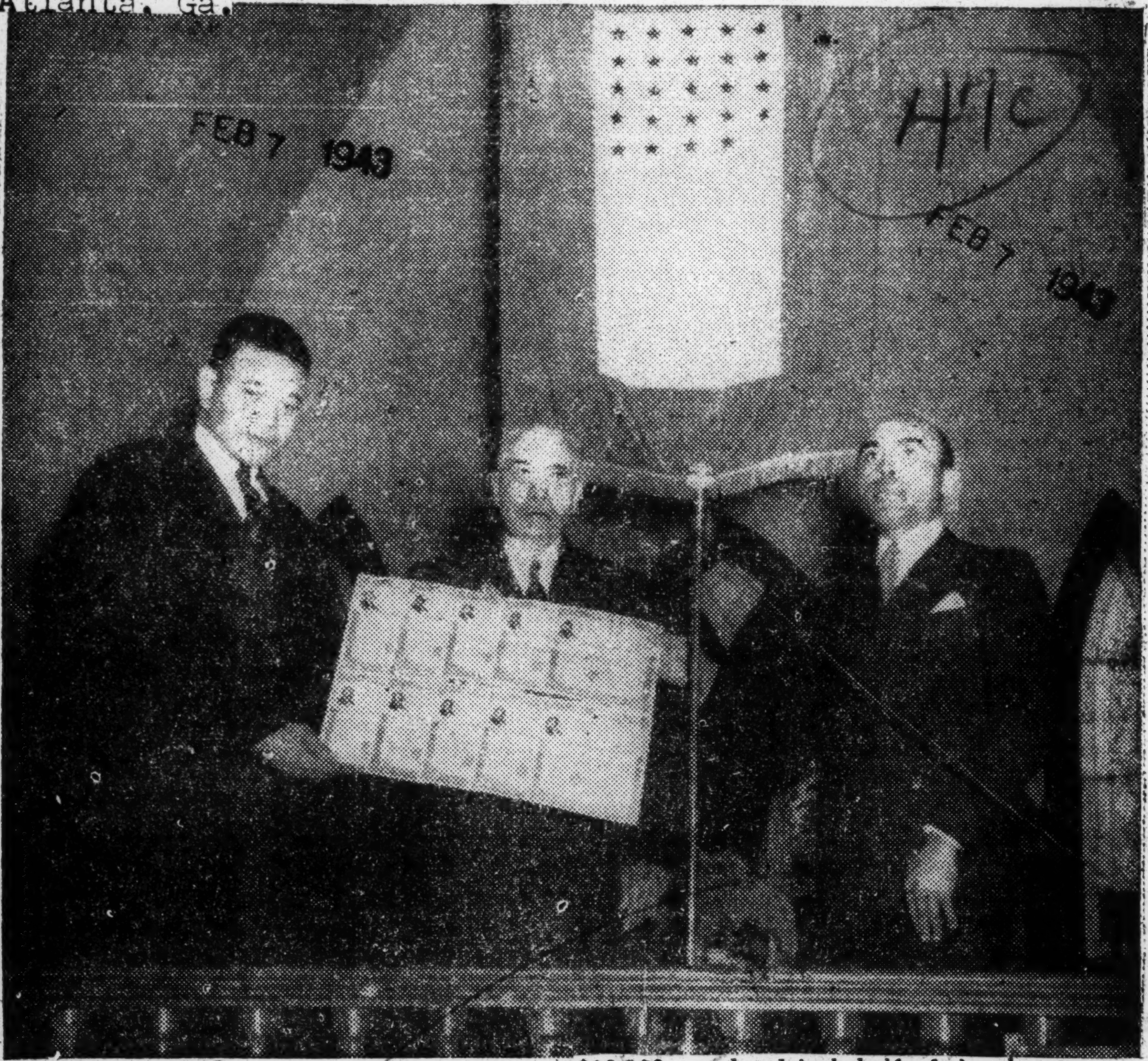
JAN 23 1943

JAN 23 1943

Chief Specialist Graham Jackson, famous Negro musician now stationed in the Atlanta Recruiting office of the United States Navy, receives from Captain Arthur Cheatham, senior deputy administrator of the U. S. Treasury, a citation praising his work in bond selling drives, thus becoming the first Negro in the southeast to be so honored.

Congregation Invests $10,000 In Bonds

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.



FEB 7 1943

BATON ROUGE, La.—(SNS)—Christian patriotism was displayed here Sunday, January 31, when Dr. J. S. Clark, president emeritus of Southern University and recently elected director of the trustee board of the Mt. Zion Baptist church presented the Rev. Gardner C. Taylor, pastor, with a $10,000 war bond in behalf of the church congregation. The money will be used for a new building after the war. Pictured, l o r, are Rev. Mr. Taylor, Dr. Clark and William Baker, secretary-treasurer of the building fund.

The three church leaders said they believed their act was representative of the spirit that should prevail on the nation's home front in backing the front-line war effort, and expressed the hope it might serve as an inspiration to others toward unselfishness for Christianity and democracy.

Let the Japs put this in their opium pipe and smoke it.

Paris, Tenn., Post-Intelligencer
February 2, 1943

Colored Clubs Buy $195.05 In War Stamps

A total of $195.05 in War Stamps was bought by the Colored Community Clubs during the month of January, it was reported today.

The clubs meet once a month and each time attempt to increase the sale of Bonds and Stamps. Those buying bonds in January were B. W. Brown, Noel Payne and O. B. Riggs.

The clubs purchased the following amounts:

Blake, $30.45; Barr's Chapel, $6.60; Cedar Hill, $24.15; Evergreen, $5.65; Henry, $103.00; the sophomore class of Central High School, $24.60.

Gulfport, Miss. Herald
February 8, 1943

SHOW THEIR FAITH IN USA

Speaking of conscientious objectors and the "Black Pacific Movement of the Eastern World," said to be engineered by the Japanese to toll the Negroes from allegiance to the United States, one finds an answer to both in the decision of the members of the Mount Zion Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, Louisiana (Negro). They had saved money by the hardest until they accumulated $10,000 to gratify a long-cherished desire to build a new church. Hearing that a few of the misled of their race were going off after strange Japanese gods, they decided to show how and where they stood in this war, so they bought $10,000 war bonds.

Franklin, Tenn., Review Appeal
January 28, 1943

~~COLORED WAR BOND~~ RALLY HERE FEB. 12

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The colored population of Franklin and Williamson County will launch its War Stamp & Bond drive on Lincoln's birthday, February 12, under the title of "Americans For Freedom War Bond Rally." Heading the movement are Prof. E. E. Pitts and County Supervisor Eva Meyers Lee, co-chairmen. Prof. T. J. Meyers is secretary.

The drive will end on Booker T. Washington's birthday, April 6.

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The program will consist of an address by one of the White War Bond officials, members by each County PTA, and selections by the F. T. S. band.

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The Publicity Committee headed by T. G. Patton, consists of H. J. Ewing, Dr. C. C. Johnson, nurse Zetta Comer, Ervin Partee, Morton Thomas, James Morton, Harvey Ewing, John Sanford, T. H. Goosby, Theophulus Blakemore, Rev. L. E. Coleman, Geo. Kinnard, Dr. J. W. Hudson and Eddie Whitsey.

Cairo, Ga., Messenger
February 12, 1943

Negroes Here Parade Monday Afternoon for War Stamp Purchases

Cairo's 500 Negro students of Washington High School, their teachers and other leaders in the Negro organization supporting the War Bond and Stamp campaign formed an impressive parade last Monday afternoon and bought War Stamps from the Cairo post office. The parade, which was promoted by Green Johnson and other leaders, attracted much interest as it proceeded through the city.

The long column of students was replete with color-bearers and numerous student-made posters containing timely war slogans and splendid cartoons of Hitler, Tojo and other Axis leaders. "A War Stamp a Day Will Keep the Japs Away" was a popular slogan.

A special booth was arranged in front of the post office where Clerk Frank Lane sold the stamps. The teachers made the purchases for the students in each grade so as to expedite the sales. Every student purchased at least one stamp and a considerable total was realized.

Green Johnson, one of the leaders, swelled the purchases by buying a bond to give his wife for a birthday anniversary present and she then bought a bond, also.

He said steady purchases by local Negroes will be maintained and stimulated by means of a contest, plans for which are now being completed.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Big Sales Mark War Bond Rally In Windy City

JAN 30 1943

War bond sales totaled $303,306 at a war bond rally banquet held Friday night at the Parkway ballroom for which the admission was the purchase of $100 in bonds. More than 1,200 attended.

First and largest purchase was by Robert E. Cole, president of the Metropolitan Funeral System, who bought $100,000 worth for himself and the system.

Major C. Udell Turpin, deputy state administrator, was in charge of the rally. Many officials including William Pickens from the U.S. Treasury in Washington were present. Leading Negro and white radio, state and screen stars provided entertainment.

Film Stars Aid Coast Drive To Buy Bomber

Chicago, Ill. Defender

LOS ANGELES—A drive, sponsored by the local chapter of Phi Beta Sigma, headed by Clarence Muse, star of the stage, screen and radio, has been launched to acquire $175,000 in war bonds for the purchase of an Army medium bomber to be christened in honor of the colored people. Other stars active in the Bond drive are Lena Horne, Hattie McDaniel and Rex Ingram. The bomber fund will be under supervision of the Negro War Savings committee, of which Paul Williams, famed architect, is chairman.

The campaign started officially on June 7.

Youth Groups Map War Bond Campaign

FEB 20 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh. PA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18—Emphasizing the need of war time self-denial for younger members of the community to aid in the war effort, Negro youth organizations of the country will conduct a War Bond sales campaign to mark the birthday anniversaries of two great Americans and benefactors of the Negro race, Abraham Lincoln and Booker T. Washington. The campaign opened on February 12th, the birthday of the Great Emancipator, and closes on April 6, the anniversary of the birthday of the renowned Negro educator.

Among those actively engaged in the drive in co-operation with William Pickens and Jesse O. Thomas of the inter-racial section of the War Savings Staff are:

Miss Esther V. Cooper, executive secretary, Southern Negro Youth Congress, Birmingham, Alabama; Miss Ann Tannyhill, director, Vocational Opportunity Campaign, New York City; Charles M. Campbell, president American Federation of Negro College Students, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Richard N. Dixon, assistant Scout executive, Boy Scouts of America, Washington, D. .; Madison S. Jones Jr., youth director, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City; Dr. Arthur D. Wright, president Southern Education Foundation, Washington, D. C.; Stanley Harris, chairman, Inter-racial Section, National Boy Scouts, New York City, and Dr. Charles P. Browning, assistant director, Negro Division, National Youth Administration.

FEB 20 1943

COLLEGES PARTICIPATE

Colleges which have outlined plans to take part in the campaign include: Miles, Birmingham, Alabama; Alabama State A. and M., Normal, Alabama; Talladega, Talladega, Alabama; Tuskegee, Tuskegee, Alabama; A. and M., Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Howard university, Washington, D. C.; Florida A. and M., Tallahasee, Florida; Morehouse, Atlanta, Georgia; Kentucky State, Frankfort, Kentucky; Louisville Municipal, Louisville, Kentucky; Morgan State, Baltimore, Maryland; Alcorn A. and M., Alcorn, Mississippi; Tougaloo, Tougaloo, Mississippi; Stowe Teachers', St. Louis, Missouri; North Carolina A. and T., Greensboro, North Carolina; Shaw university, Raleigh, North Carolina; Livingstone, Salisbury, North Carolina; Wilberforce university, Wilberforce Ohio; Voorhees, N. and I., Denmark, South Carolina; Friendship Junior, Rock Hill, South Carolina; Morris, Sumter, South Carolina; Tennesse A. and I. State, Nashville, Tennessee; Meharry Medical college, Nashville, Tennessee; Wiley, Marshall, Texas; Prairie View State, Prairie View, Texas; St. Philip's Jr., San Antonio, Texas; Bishop Payne Divinity school, Petersburg, Virginia; West Virginia State, Bluefield, West Virginia; North Carolina State Teachers', Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Cairo, Ga., Messenger
February 5, 1943

NEGROES PLAN WAR BOND PARADE MONDAY.

Green Johnson and other local Negro leaders this week completed plans for a War Bond and Stamp parade of Negro residents, including school children, here next Monday, Feb. 8th.

It is planned to form the parade at Washington High School and to March to the Cairo post office for purchases of War Bonds and Stamps.

Local Negro residents have been actively supporting the War Bond and Stamp campaign for some time.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Sell $303,306 In War Bonds At South Side Rally

JAN 31 1943

War bond sales totaled $303,306 at a war bond rally banquet held Friday night at the Parkway ballroom for which admission was purchase of $100 in bonds. More than 1,200 attended.

First and largest purchase was by Robert E. Cole, president of the Metropolitan Funeral system, who bought $100,000 worth for himself and the system.

Maj. C. Udell Turpin, deputy state administrator, was in charge of the rally. Many officials, including William Pickens from the U.S. Treasury in Washington, were present.

JAN 31 1943

Leading Negro and white radio, stage and screen stars provided entertainment.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

BRICKLAYERS BUY BONDS. AID TEACHERS' PAY FIGHT

MAR 4 - 1943

Atlanta labor unions are taking the lead in civic activities if the record of the Bricklayers and Masons Subordinate Union No. 9 is any example.

MAR 4 - 1943

This group of Negro craftsmen has just contributed $25 to the Citizens Committee to be used in the teachers fight for equalization of salaries, an action which shows the interest of Negro craftsmen in the struggles of other Negro organizations to secure decent wages.

The action was interpreted by many as a distinct challenge to those teachers who have so far given nothing to their own fight since the bricklayers have nothing to gain themselves.

Showing that the organization is interested also in general affairs. President W. E. Newman has also announced the purchase of $1,000 in bonds for the new U. S. Steamship Atlanta.

MAR 4 - 1943

In commenting on the action of his local, A. V. Jett, financial secretary, said that "If what we have done will serve in any way to create more interest and enthusiasm in the furtherance of the teachers fight for equalization of salaries, we feel honored and proud that we are able to help."

Officers of the union which has set this pace in civic activities are, in addition to President Newman, the Rev. L. C. Clack, vice-presiden; the Rev. J. Allen James, recording secretary; A. V. Jett, financial and recording secretary and Robert Norwood, treasurer.

DEFENSE WORKER SETS FINE EAMPLE

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

NATIONAL CITY, Cal., June 10—More than 300 Negroes are employed here at the Concrete Construction Yard. The majority are working as laborers. Along with hundreds of others they are engaged in construction of concrete cargo carriers.

1943

Coming in for a share of praise recently was Abe Taylor, employee, who purchased $200 worth of War Bonds during the past two months and who has set his goal as $100 for each month to come.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Negroes Launch War Loan Drive

APR 19 1943

Negro citizens of Montgomery yesterday completed organization for their participation in the Second War Loan after an address by Judge Eugene Carter before the Colored Civic and Improvement League Friday night.

Today the organization will swing into action. Radio talks will be made by Dr. H. Council Trenholm at 5:15 p.m., and C. R. Williams at 5:30 p.m. Bonds will be on sale for the convenience of colored purchasers at the Atlanta Life Insurance Company, Gilmer Grocery Store, N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company, Pilgrim Life Insurance Company, People's Life Insurance Company, Goldstucker's, Pitts Drugstore, Blair Dry Cleaning Company, and Aaron Harris Dry Cleaning Company.

A steering committe was announced last night with the following members: T. H. Randall, R. B. Stewart, T. C. Smiley, W. P. Nelson, R. W. Brown, C. R. Williams, C. C. Beverly, Rev. F. E. Churchill, Secretary P. M. Gibbs, J. S. Burch, Rev. W. M. Smith, and J. E. Pierce, chairman.

APR 19 1943

This committee will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m., in Paterson Hall, State Teachers' College, to make final plans to be presented to workers who will assemble in the same place at 8 o'clock.

Bee [redacted]
Chicago. Ill.

Negro Bank Subscribes For $200,000 in Bonds

MAY 16 1943

PHILADELPHIA, May 13—(ANP)—The Citizens and Southern Trust company, the only Negro bank North of Washington, subscribed for $200,000 worth of bonds during the recent Victory Loan drive.

MAY 16 1943

"We as citizens and patriots must do our duty and provide the means to send the axis forces to eternal defeat," said President R. R. Wright, Sr. President Wright had a long and distinguished army career himself having been one of the few Negroes to attain the position of paymaster which carried with it the rank of major. He retired a score of years ago.

Bystander
Des Moines. Iowa

DORIC LODGE SUBSCRIBES FOR $500 BOND

Doric Lodge No. 30 A. F. & A. M. (Prince Hall Affiliation) subscribed for a five-hundred dollar War Bond at their meeting on April 15 and sent the subscription by one of their members, J. A Wilson, who was one of the leaders in the drive.

In the Colored Division, Dr. F. D. Patterson, assisted by Harry Simms, S. J. Phillips, T. M. Campbell and Dr. Eugene Dibble, created wide interest and support among Negroes for the Second War Loan. The issuing agencies were the Tuskegee Institute Postoffice, Tuskegee Building and Loan Compnay and the Co-op Store, all of which did good work.

News
Tuskegee, Ala.
May 6, 1943

Col. Noel Parrish, commandant of the Air Base, not only was praised for his part in stimulating sale of bonds but for his cooperation in furnishing jeeps and army trucks for rallies of school children in the county.

News

MAY 6 1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Macon's Bond-Stamp July Quota $76,500

TUSKEGEE, July 22.—Macon County has been given a bond and stamp quota of $76,500 for July, a figure approximately double its average monthly quota, and redoubled efforts by the public are needed if this total is to be reached.

This was announced this week by H. A. Vaughan, county war savings chairman, who explained that for the first time the county has been given a stamp quota. This quota of $29,300 representing purchases of $1 per person in the county is added to the Series E Bond quota of $39,200 and the Series F and G quota of $8,000.

Williston, S. C. Way
May 21, 1943

Negroes Invest Funds In Stamps

For the second time in recent weeks, a negro organization had weeks a negro organization in Barnwell County has purchased war savings stamps with monies in their treasury instead of buying bonds. The Sweetwater Baptist Church is the most recent group to make a purchase of this kind and they follow the lead of the Barnwell Negro Masonic Lodge, which purchased stamps several weeks ago.

In this most recent case, as was true in the first, the members making the purchase for the organization stated that they were doing it in order that Uncle Sam would have the use of their money in fighting the war without having to pay interest, as would be the case if was savings bonds were bought. The darkies are thus showing their patriotism by letting the government use their money and not obtaining the interest on it which is offered through the purchase of bonds.

47c-1943

LOCAL WAR LOAN CONTINUES TO LAG; NEGROES OVER TOP

Macon, Ga., News
September 25, 1943

As the Third War Loan drive rolls into its final week Monday, Georgia and Bibb county lag sadly behind their quota, according to a report issued in Atlanta this morning. Georgia as a whole ranked 39th in the nation while in Bibb county only $2,544,128 worth of bonds had been sold, a little more than half its quota of $5,628,000.

Meanwhile, however, the Negro War Bond committee has exceeded its goal by 25 per cent, Frank Hutchings, chairman, reported.

This group has sold $38,800 worth of War Bonds although its goal was only $30,000.

"We're shooting at $50,000 now and I believe we are going to make it," he said.

* * *

MAMIE REDDING CLEMONS, 107 Franklin street, gave the campaign a big boost when she purchased a $20,000 bond in honor of her former music students now in the armed forces.

Hutchings just about had his hands full Tuesday totin' the money for a $5,000 bond bought by another Negro.

"He keeps his money around the house and called me up and told me to come and get it," the chairman related. "He said to bring something along for the change so I just took two regular money bags.

"However, when I got there he was counting out $570 in nickles, dimes and pennies and I didn't have anywhere to put it all.

"So he loaned me a couple of flour sacks to fill with this change and small bills. I had quite a load when I left."

Other members of this committee are Minnie Singleton, Prof. J. L. Page, Agnes May, Bessie Russell, Lottie Price and the Rev. Theodore Randall.

Pierce, Fla., News & Tribune
September 28, 1943

Central Life Ins. Company Purchases $5,000 Worth Bonds

The Central Life Insurance Co., Florida colored insurance company with headquarters in Tampa, Monday night purchased through the Fort Pierce office $5,000 worth of bonds to help along St. Lucie county's third war bond drive.

The purchase was made through Franklin A. Ajaye, local district manager, who delivered a check for the amount of purchase.

The company, Ajaye stated, had purchased $101,570 worth of bonds prior to January of 1943, and $131,525 worth from January to Sept. 23, a total of $233,095.

Capitalized at $500,000, the company is headed by G. D. Rogers as president, operates only in Florida and was organized 22 years ago. The local office is at 423 North 8th street.

47c

Canton, Miss. Herald
September 17, 1943

Negro Committees Report Good Progress

The various committees of negro citizens working on War Bond Sales, report $8,675 sold up to Wednesday.

Sam Mackie and his wife have sold $1,675 worth of bonds.

The committees are working hard and deserve a lot of credit.

47c

Jackson, T. N. Sun
October [illegible] 1943

COLORED CHURCH INVESTS HEAVILY IN WAR BONDS

The St. John No. 2 Baptist Church of Denmark, Tenn., has been putting a large portion of its financial receipts into War Bonds. To date the church has $1,128.50 in War Bonds. The annual October drive ended with a total of $638.84 collected and $500 of this amount went into War Bonds.

Rev. L. Nelson, pastor of this church, feels grateful to the members of his congregation who have earnestly cooperated with his plans. He feels that all have been greatly blessed in both a financial and spiritual way because of this.

Columbia, S. C. State
September 28, 1943

$5,000 Bond Bought in Negro Drive

A $5,000 war bond was purchased here yesterday through Dr. S. R. Higgins, president of Allen university and members of the Negro war bond committee, by the Columbia district of the

War Bonds and Stamps

Pilgrim Life and Health Insurance company, to give impetus to the bond drive being conducted among Columbia Negro residents.

M. A. Entzminger, chairman of the drive, expressed his appreciation of the purchase.

J. H. Hinton, district manager of the Pilgrim company, said its purchases including yesterday's bond was $340,000.

47c

Americus [illegible]
October [illegible]

Negro Leaders Thank War Bond Supporters

Oscar Maxwell general chairman of the Third War Loan drive for the negroes in Americus and Jury Clark, president, Sumter County Negro Farm Board and all of the leaders of the campaign is Sumter county express their sincere and deep appreciation for the hearty support and excellent work done by the men and women of the various committees who went out and contacted the individuals.

According to records available approximately $8000.00 were invested by the negroes of Sumter County in War Bonds and Stamps during the drive.

47c

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

NAT WILLIAMS ON WAR LOAN STAFF

Memphis, Tenn.—Nat D. Williams, Chicago Defender correspondent in Memphis, was added to the staff of the Third War Loan News Room this week.

Williams, who is also editor of Service Magazine, a trade journal published by Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., will assist the department in publicizing the activities of Negroes in the Third War Loan drive which opened September 9.

Working in cooperation with the news bureau, Office of War Information, the Third War Loan News Room will attempt to obtain full coverage of the contributions of Negroes to the loan in national and local publications. The news room will also cooperate fully with Negro newspapers which are sponsoring local drives in various communities.

47c

Milledgeville, Ga., [illegible]
September 16, 1943

LOCAL NEGRO SOLDIER BUYS WAR BOND MONTHLY

Private Henry Scott, Negro soldier of this city, has found a way to purchase a $25 War Bond each month from his monthly pay check.

According to his mother, Patsy Scott, she receives by mail one $25 bond each month. Scott, who left Milledgeville this past spring, is stationed at Camp Ellis, Ill.

47c

Franklinton, L. [illegible] Leader
September [illegible] 1943

ANGIE NEGROES AID IN 3rd BOND DRIVE; SELL $2,200 WORTH OF BONDS

The negro population of the Angie community have purchased $2,200 worth of War Bonds up to Wednesday afternoon. The colored population of the parish have been given a quota of $25,000, and the leaders feel confident that they will exceed their quota.

To date Angie community is the only group making a report. Reports from the various negro organizations in other sections of the parish are expected to start coming in before Saturday.

W. H. Grant, principal at Angie Colored School, chairman, assisted by Harvey Jefferson, is responsible for the success of the Angie group. The efforts of these two leaders is a challenge to other colored leaders of the parish.

47c

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Airfield Boosts War Bond Sales

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Climaxing what has been the most successful War Bond drive in the history of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, it was announced at a mammoth mass meeting that sales had reached the unprecedented high of $91,000, far in advance of the quota of $75,000. It is expected that before the final tabulation is made, that sales will swell the amount of $100,000.

Most of the success for the Tuskegee showing in the War Bond Drive may be attributed to the salesmanship of First Lt. Alexander B. Rose, Post War Bond Officer, who would greet you most any time of the day with, "How about some 'Jack' to back the attack?"

The title, "The Organization Purchasing The Largest Number of War Bonds," befell the 309th Sub-Depot Supply.

Prior to the rally, the 313th AAF Band headed a parade of the entire personnel of the Sub-Depot Supply. n the van of this marching column rolled a 'jeep' gayly bedecked with colorful posters commemorating the Third War Loan Drive. Seated in the "jeep" were a trio of lovelies representing the feminine pulchritude on display at the Sub-Depot.

Among those lending impetus to the gathering was the Post Commander, Colonel Noel F Parrish, who tendered bonds in the $1,000 class, of which Finley P. Tester, general foreman of the Sub-Depot, was the leading purchaser with two to his credit. H. A. Vaughn, Macon County Bond chairman, expressed his thanks to the 309th Sub-Depot Supply and Tuskegee Army Air Field, as a whole for their splendid effort in helping surpass the Macon County War Bond quota by over $300,000.

47c

Jackson, Miss. News
September 22, 1943

Blind Negro Peanut Vendor Buys First Greenville Bond

The touching story of how an aged, blind and ragged, but war-conscious delta negro—a peanut vendor—at Greenville saved pennies, nickles and dimes in order to be the first to buy a bond in Washington county's Third War Loan drive reached state headquarters today.

The negro, John Henry Harriss, known to Greenville citizens as "Blind Johnny," has been a peanut peddler in town for years, having supported his wife and four children from the sale of five-cent sacks of peanuts alone. His family roasts and sacks the peanuts, while "Blind Johnny" stays on the streets pushing his business. Soldiers at the new Greenville air base boosted his income, and for the first time in his life, Blind Johnny's able to more than pay for "meat and bread for my wife and chillun."

In the fall of 1942, "Blind Johnny" went to bond headquarters and bought his first bond, which he still owns. When he heard about the Third War Loan he went to Alfred Mitchell, Washington war loan chairman, and told Mr. Mitchell he was saving money to buy the first bond in Washington county on September 9th.

Early on the 9th, Mr. Mitchell and Albert Cason, another war worker went to the negro's selling spot and told him the drive was on. "Blind Johnny" then took from an old sack, 995 pennies, and from a peanut sack he emptied out $8.75 in dimes and nickles. This left only a nickle necessary for a $25 bond. Walking over to a tree where his coat was hanging, the old negro scrapped up the extra nickle and purchased his bond.

"I'se still got that bond I bought last fall, and wants to buy this'n to help get the war over," the old negro grinned as he bought the bond. "I knows that money will come in powerfully handy when times ain't so good."

"If this blind negro can put every extra penny into bonds and still feel good about it, then there is no reason why the more fortunate can't buy," headquarters said. "The little he loaned isn't much in dollars and cents, but it represents a lot to him, and is a challenge to all of us to 'back the attack' to the best of our ability."

47c

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

ATTEND WAR BOND RALLY IN K. C.

SEP 30 1943

Kansas City, Mo.—Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., fresh from the air battles over North Africa and Sicily, and Mrs. Marva Louis, wife of Sgt. Joe Louis, appeared here at the Brown Bomber rally in the music hall of the municipal auditorium Friday night before a crowd of war bond buyers.

47c

FARMERS $1,000 WAR BOND CLUB IN LEE COUNTY INCREASES DAILY

Farmers of Community Gaining On Their Bond Quota—$110,000

Bishopville, S. C., Messenger
September 30, 1943

$67,750.00 Solicited

47c

Remember our goal is 75 farmers in Lee County buying at least $1,000 worth of bonds.

Bond Club members are as follows:

- H. W. Woodward
- John F. Reames
- J. Andrew Harker
- W. H. Shiver
- Pete Player
- R. E. McLendon
- W. C. King
- W. G. DesChamps
- J. C. Heriot and family
- E. P. Stephenson farm
- Tom Clyburn
- W. J. Josey
- Thornwell Clyburn
- W. McD. Jones
- Hugh Witherspoon
- Mrs. Louise T. Jones
- Jno. M. McCutchen
- Mrs. S. B. DuBose
- Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Smith
- J. W .Willis
- Mrs. J. H. Dickinson
- L. F. Josey
- C. A. Vincent
- E. L. Prince (Colored).

If you have bought a $1,000.00 bond or more, or intend to do so, enroll with the County Agent the first time you are in town.

Colored Farmer Joins $1,000 Bond Club

It has always been our policy and creed to give credit to whom credit is due. So, we take our hats off to E. L. Prince, colored farmer in the Woodrow community in Lee County. He is the first negro to join the $1,000 bond club. A very welcome member—there should be many more of them.

Elijah is an honest, dirt farmer who has lived on his own farm for about 25 years. He makes as good a living on his 125 acre farm as any white man, and he is backing the attack with War Bonds. "Buying bonds is a small way to help win the war; we are just lending our money" declared Elijah.

Dick Heriot, 4-H club boy, contacted this colored farmer and that amount will be accredited to the 4-H Lever Liberty ship for South

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Negroes Of County Push Bond Drive In Giant Parade, Rally

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 25, 1943

Tuskegee Air Base, Sibert Bands Will Play; Cooper Green Is Main Speaker At Auditorium

47c

Negro Americans of Jefferson County take the field Sunday in the Third War Loan drive with a giant parade at 3 p.m. and a city-wide rally in the Municipal Auditorium at 4 p.m.

The Tuskegee Army Air Base Band and the band from Camp Sibert will lead the parade and play for the rally which is to feature distinguished speakers and a widely varied program of music.

Mayor W. Cooper Green will make the chief address and others speaking will be Judge Clarence Allgood, chairman of the Jefferson County War Finance Committee; A. G. Gaston, Negro division bomber chairman, and Oscar Adams, supreme chancellor Knights of Pythias.

H. D. Coke is chairman of the program which will include musical numbers by Moments of Meditation, Alabama Israelite Four, Gospel Harmoneers, the Rhythm Four Queens of Harmony, Little Leroy Brannon, the Hayes Trio and the two Army bands.

The parade will form at 2:30 p.m at Ingram Park, Sixth Avenue and 16th Street, North.

All Third War Loan Negro leaders are asked to march in the parade, and Capt. John Atkinson, head of the Jefferson County Protective Corps, has announced that those who are also OCD representatives will wear their arm bands and uniforms.

The parade to move from Sixth Avenue to Fourth, along Fourth to 18th Street, along 18 to Eighth Avenue and thence to the Municipal Auditorium, will be led by the Tuskegee and Sibert bands. Also playing will be the Parker High, Rosedale and Fairfield Industrial High bands.

Augusta, Ga., Herald
October 10, 1943

47c

In two days a special team, composed of members of the Augusta Civic and Business League, sold to Negro citizens of Augusta the total of $126.975 in U. S. Treasury Bonds. This effort climaxed the final days of the Third War Loan Drive. Up to this time no canvass had been made previously to the Negro group and for that reason hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of bonds were not credited to our group.

According to the reports from the executive committee the following persons reported sales:

Rev. M. J. Sherard	$ 50
Rebecca Gray	125
Rev. A. C. Griggs	575
L. D. Perry	3,525
W. S. Harris	5.025
W. S. Hornsby & A. M. Carter	117.675
Total	$126.975

BUTLER GOES OVER TOP IN 3rd WAR LOAN DRIVE

County Quota Reached And Exceeded On Last Day Of September

47c

The 3rd War Loan drive in Butler county went over the top on the last day of the official campaign, September 30th, making the extra two days allowed unnecessary for this county to exceed the quota of $578,000. This quota was considered high for the county, in proportion to that assigned to others, but that fact never deterred the efforts of the War Savings Staff in going after the goal and in exceeding the amount assessed for Butler.

Col. Jeff P. Beeland, County Chairman, makes this statement regarding the successful campaign:

"The 3rd War Loan in Butler county was a success, due to the untiring efforts of the patriotic citizens. Every committee did its part, and as a result our men in the armed forces of the nation know that we do 'Back the Attack.'

"It will be several days before the final figures are released from the Treasury Department," Col. Beeland continues, "but a conservative figure is that we bought and sold more than $610,000 worth of bonds, exceeding our quota by more than $30,000.

"The beat committees did unusually fine work, as we realize that we have a very short cotton crop and no peanuts have been put on the market yet, which means that every farmer buying bonds truly made a sacrifice to buy.

"Those who work in the industrial plants doubled up to buy; especially so at the Merrimac, Alabama Mills and W. T. Smith Lumber Co. Many employees of these concerns bought more than twice their quota.

"The ladies' committee in Greenville sold more than $85,000, and the ladies' committees in every beat worked hard. The Negroes bought and sold more than $18,000 worth of Bonds and War Savings Stamps.

"Corporation buyers in large amounts in the county were the Alabama Power Co., Alabama Mills, Merrimac Hat Corp., and W. T. Smith Lumber Co.

"Individual purchases were actively reflected by the interest of the children who bought more than $300.00 worth one Thursday, and then more than $500.00 the following Tuesday."

Col. Beeland continues: "We put our shoulders to the wheel and together went over the top. With this fine spirit of cooperation and determination we can continue to win and be proud that we live in Butler county, where by joining hands success is won. Finally, by your work, and our work, all inclusive, we won!

"The figures for each beat are still incomplete, and as it is not fair to publish any until they are all in, it will be necessary to wait until the next issue of The Advocate to list them," he concludes.

Mrs. Calvin Poole, chairman of the ladies' division, thanks all who helped in the successful campaign. She states that she and her co-chairman, Mrs. Jo[illegible]d, are especially grateful [illegible] the women in Greenville who assisted in the "Door-Knocker" campaign here, when $85,000 worth of bonds were sold.

Negro Bond Sale Group Thanks Public For Aid

[illegible] Ga., Banner-Herald
October 26, 1943

47c

The members of the Fortnighters Club are directing this word of thanks and appreciation to the public for its interest and active part in the Third War Bond drive which closed recently. Committees composed of different representatives from various organizations, worked through a general steering committee and were thus able to reach and get response from individuals and business firms throughout the city.

It was through the efforts and full cooperation of these groups that the drive was successfully closed with a total of $56,750.00 in bond sales to the credit of the negro citizens of Athens, though the major portion of this amount was bought by local insurance firms.

The members of this Club, therefore, wish to express their gratitude and to highly commend all churches, schools, club groups, business organizations, and individuals for the genuine interest and true spirit of patriotism throughout the Third War Bond Drive.

Ga. Farmer Digs Up Old Dollar Bills To Buy Bonds

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
OCT 1943

WASHINGTON—Old style U. S. currency buried for years was dug up and used to purchase a $1,000 war bond by a Negro farmer residing just outside a small community in rural Georgia.

A spokesman for the Georgia State War Finance committee reported to the treasury this week that James A. Ragan, 54, a Negro veteran of the last war and a small farmer, walked into the war loan headquarters in Perry, Ga., carrying a dirt-caked flour sack in his hand.

He told the attendants he wanted to buy a War Bond. Assuming that he wanted one of the $25 bonds, the attendant offered him one and waited for the money. Rogan stated, however, that he wanted to buy a $1000 bond.

Then the amazed bond sellers watched the farmer open his soiled flour sack and pour out $750, all in old $5 bills (the bills were the larger sized one used prior to the current $5 bill). Ragan paid for his bond, explaining that he had been saving the money ever since he had first been mustered out of service after the first war. He had put it away bit by bit in a flour sack buried on the land he farms.

His story so impressed the Georgia war finance officials that it was broadcast over a national network.

Club Women Sell Stamps And War Bonds

Des Moines, Iowa
SEP 30 1943
Bystander

Mrs. Cecil Taylor, who headed the sale of war savings bonds and stamps for the City Association Monday night at the Southland Echoes concert at the Shrine auditorium, reported that her committee sold a total of $207.25 in stamps and bonds.

Two $100 bonds were purchased by the Scholarship Loan committee of the Iowa State Association of Colored Women, and other bonds were bought by Mrs. C. Chapman, and Mrs. J. B. Morris.

Other members of the committee who sold were: Mesdames Sarah Jett, Goldie Fant, Olevia Hayes, and the following girls who served as "minute maids": Elaine Chapman, Frances Carter, Emma Ratton, Delores Ratton and Madelyn Josephs.

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

"NO TIME TO ROCK BOAT" INSURANCE MAN TELLS PRESS

AUG 13 1943

C. C. Spaulding Volunteers Advice to Colored Editors

Washington.— Aug 12— (ANP) —Chatting with a group of young government executives representatives of the trained, keen young men who have been increasingly finding their way into government during this past decade, C. C. Spaulding. prominent insurance and business leader, made a number of observations last Monday as he paused for a few hours here.

"I should like to say to the Negro press which has done such an excellent job of keeping us informed during this period," said Mr. Spaulding, "that this is no time to rock the boat."

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"Our newspapers," he continued, "are not only our most efficient sources of information but they are our most effective moulders of opinion. They are doing a job of education.

"This means that great power rests in the hands of the editor and great responsibility is his also. As he directs our thinking, as he interprets happenings, so will the masses believe so that consciously or unconsciously the newspaper is responsible for many of the acts of the mass whose imagination and spirit it influences.

"I find that many white people who are really friends of the Negro and who are doing everything they can to improve conditions, are in some instances becoming disheartened. They are discouraged too by critics of their own race.

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"I maintain that there are three sides to this race question. These are: (1) the Negro's side: (2) the white man's side; (3) the right side, and I think we should be more interested in the right side at this particular time than any other."

Albany, Ga., Herald
November 20.

A FINE PARADE.

Albany's Negro citizens staged a bond rally parade Friday afternoon that would have done credit to any community. Participated in by school units and other local organizations, it typified the patriotic spirit and civic consciousness of this community's Negro citizens and brought words of praise from all observers. Behind the parade itself were days of planning and hard work, and the pride of sponsors and marchers was fully justified.

It is no news to any Albanian that our Negro citizens have given loyal and effective support to the war program. Schools, churches, clubs and patriotic societies have responded to every call. Individuals have been steady buyers of War Bonds and Stamps. They have given of both time and money, and Friday's fine parade to the Municipal Auditorium, where the bond rally was held, was in line with repeated manifestations of patriotism and pride of citizenship.

47c

Birmingham, Ala., News
November 28. 1943

Negro Board Selected To Increase War Bond Purchases In County

Benefits Of Holding Investments Until War Is Over To Be Stressed

Preparing for a further appeal for the purchase of War Bonds from Negro citizens, A. G. Gaston has been elected chairman of the Jefferson County Negro war finance advisory board, and the committee will meet Tuesday to select a chairman of the Negro division of the war savings staff and to name committees, assuring representation of every section and group in the county.

Gaston expressed confidence in the ability of citizens to buy more bonds and of the entire board to provide the leadership. He said that special stress will be laid on the purchase of War Savings Stamps with an education program designed to teach the many benefits of saving bonds after the war.

Harry Simms, of Tuskegee Institute, associate administrator of the war finance division for Alabama, announced at last week's meeting that a definite quota would be given all counties and monthly reports will be released to the public on their activities. Local citizens were congratulated by Simms on their successful work in the past drive.

E. J. Oliver, Fairfield principal, was elected vice chairman of the Negro war finance advisory board, L. W. Brown, photographer, secretary, and Father J. Clyde Perry, USO leader, treasurer. Board members are Oscar W. Adams, S. J. Bennett, A. D. Shores, C. J. Greene, the Rev. W. D. Hargrove, John Henry Smith, H. D. Coke, W. B. Johnson, L. L. Britt, Ebb Cox, Bishop D. Ward Nichols, E. Paul Jones, the Rev. J. W. Goodgame and Mrs. Ruth Jackson.

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FAMOUS NEGRO BAND IN CITY

Americus, Ga., Recorder
November 18, 1943

Bond Rally Attracts Large Crowd

Thousands of Sumter county and Americus Negro citizens were in town today to join in the bond parade behind the crack Tuskegee Army Air Force band.

Starting at two o'clock, at the Staley high school, on Lee street, the long parade moved through the crowd-lined business district to the Ball Park, where city, band, and American Legion officials together with local and state Negro leaders told of the urgent need for "backing the attack" with war bonds and stamp purchases.

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The Tuskegee Army Band, one of the outstanding service bands in the country, thrilled the huge crowd gathered at the Ball Park, with a varied concert ranging from Sousie's choicest to "Pistol Packing Mamma".

Enthusiasm for war bond and stamp buying is high today among Americus and Sumter county colored people. Staley High and McKay Hill schools had exceeded expectations in stamp and bond purchases before the parade started.

Scores of farm families are expected to invest some of their cotton and peanut money in bonds before the day closes.

Indications are that many town people will transfer some of their savings to war bonds and stamps investments.

The Negro Central Planning committee, the Farmer's Advisory Council, and the Rural teachers organizations have done a fine job in organizing and arousing interest and activity in this whole phase of the war's prosecution.

Columbus, Ga., Ledger
November 18, 1943

Negroes' Bond Sales Net $25,000

More than $25,000 worth of bonds were sold Wednesday afternoon at the second War Bond Rally, sponsored by the Negro Insurance Managers' Council. The rally was held in front of the Colored USO-YMCA at 3 o'clock.

47c

The sales began with a parade led by the color guard and the Tuskegee Air Force band. Following came a company of troops and the Reception Center band Next in order was the Spencer High school band and the Victory Corps.

School children from the Claflin and Fifth Avenue schools completed the procession which wound through the Negro section down Broadway and ended in front of the USO.

Jack Key, chairman of the Muscogee County War Savings committee, was the principal speaker. Others appearing on the program were E. E. Farley of the USO, Prof. Lampkin, principal of Spencer High school and Prof. Sims and Prof. Campbell of Tuskegee Institute, who head the regional War Savings staff for Negroes.

This rally was held not only to encourage the sale of stamps and bonds, but also to urge those who are already buying to keep them until the time of their maturity.

Roanoke, Va., Times
November 27, 1943

HOPES NEGROES CAN HONOR SERVICE MEN

Dr. L. C. Downing, Negro member of the Roanoke war finance committee, announced yesterday that plans are being considered by which it is hoped that Negro citizens of the city will have an opportunity to pay tribute to the memory of local service men who have been killed in this war.

The physician, who is chairman of the Negro citizens' war activities committee, said the committee will meet some time next week ot discuss plans for the fourth war loan drive, beginning January 18.

"It has been suggested," he said, "that $50,000 would be a suitable goal for Roanoke Negroes during the campaign. It has also been suggested that the money should be used to buy a bomber plane, which would be named in honor of Lt. LeRoi Williams, killed some time ago in a crash on an army flying field, and any other Roanoke Negroes who have given their lives. I understand that $50,000 would be only a fraction of the sum needed to pay for such a plane, but the committee hopes to find some appropriate, workable ways of aiding the drive by appealing to our Negro citizens' patriotic emotions."

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The committee consists, besides Dr. Downing, of S. F. Scott, principal of Lucy Addison high school, vice chairman; Mrs. L. K. Fox, secretary; Mrs. Azalia Williams, assistant secretary, and the Rev. William Scott, the Rev. A. L. James, Mrs. L. C. Downing, L. A. Lee, the Rev. S. F. Alexander, William Jones, Miss Queen Williams and Miss Sadie Lawson.

NEGROES PUSH WAR BOND DRIVE

Birmingham, Alabama

Hope To Sell $300,000 Worth and Name Bomber For Elsberry

SEP 21 1943

Birmingham Post

Negro War Bond leaders today anounced that Negro purchases of bonds had passed $125,000, in the drive to sell $300,000 worth among Negro citizens of Jefferson County. Negroes plan a rally and parade here next Sunday.

A bomber is to be named for a Negro war hero, Julius Elsberry, first Jefferson County man to be killed at Pearl Harbor, if the $300,000-mark is reached. Campaign chiefs express confidence that the amount will be subscribed. Negroes of Jefferson "will invest every extra dollar in extra bonds this week," drive chairmen expect.

SEP 21 1943

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Thousands of dollars worth of bonds have already been purchased by Jefferson Negroes who were unable to give their organizations credit for their buying, leaders say.

Various committee chairmen named to assist in the drive include S. J. Bennett, Negro division chairman; A. G. Gaston, "bomber chairman;" E. O. Jackson, publicity; C. W. Askew, bands and quartets; C. W. Hayes, schools; C. J. Green, executive; Oscar Adams, finance; H. D. Coke, program; H. E. Baker and V. L. Harris, auditing; Ruth Jackson-Odum, parade; Rev. W. L. Cash, churches; Prof. B. M. Montgomery, Homewood; Rev. W. J. Dowdell, Bessemer: W. E. Shortridge, Ensley; Dr. A. S. Mitchell, North Birmingham; and Rev. E. W. Williams and E. J. Oliver, Fairfield.

SEP 21 1943

The parade is to begin at 3 p. m. Sunday. It will be led by the famous 60-piece band of the Tuskegee Air Base. The big show and rally at the Auditorium will begin at 4 p. m. Cooper Green, president of City Commission, will speak during the program.

SEP 21 1943

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"Bomber headquarters" have been established at Smith & Gaston, 1530 Fifth-av, n. Negro citizens are asked to report their bond purchases to the firm at that address, where bonds for the campaign are also being sold.

Americus, Ga., Recorder
November 19, 1943

NEGRO RALLY GREAT EVENT

$5,000 In War Bonds Purchased

Thousands of Sumter county negroes flocked to Americus Thursday afternoon for the Harvest War Bond and Stamp Rally. It was the greatest patriotic demonstration ever staged by the negroes of Sumter county. The municipal ball park was jammed for the concert by the Tuskegee Army Air Force band which preceeded the actual selling of the bonds. Incomplete reports Thursday night showed that more than $5,000 in bonds and stamps had been purchased.

47c

The program for the day started with a chicken and barbecue dinner for the visiting band served by the entertainment committee headed by Mabel Barnum and Henry Harris. It was acclaimed by Lt. Frank Doyle as the best ever served his organization.

Under the direction of Charlie Brown, the parade was a great success. Horses, mules, jeeps, cars, trucks, citizens rolled slowly and majestically to the tempo of music of the famous band. The band received applause after applause as they marched through the streets of Americus in perfect cadence and precise piston-like motion.

The program started promptly at 3 o'clock, with "America", which was led by Frankie Harvey.

Scripture was read by Rev. G. A. Roberts, pastor of Campbell A.M.E. Church, which was followed by invocation offered by Rev. Mack Anthony, pastor of the First Methodist Church. With J. B. Dorsey, presiding, T. M. Campbell, field agent and consultant for war savings, in a manner exclusively his own, with feeling and expression led the huge audience in singing "Old Time Religion", one of the melodies that made the American negro famous. Short but impressive remarks were made by Honorable H. O. Jones, mayor of the city, H. W. Moon, vice-commander department of Georgia American Legion; J. T. Warren, chairman Sumter County War Savings committee and T. M. Campbell, Jury Clarke and Lieut. Frank Doyle, band master of the famous Tuskegee band; Nicholas Kollock, P. H. Stone, Alexander Huse and other visitors were introduced. During the program, the famous band furnished selections that kept the audience spellbound.

After the pronouncement of benediction by Rev. Tom Broner, stamps and bonds were sold under the direction of W. R. Burleigh, chairman of the finance committee, A. J. Bell of the post office. Burleigh announced that according to available and accessible records over $5,000 worth of stamps and bonds were sold yesterday and that many were sold for which records are not available.

The committees responsible for the program and rally wish to express their sincere appreciation to the local press, the officials of the city, the police force, the liberal white friends who made contributions, the post office officials and to every person, white and colored who so nobly supported the efforts which was climaxed with brilliant success.

NEGROES PASS WAR BOND GOAL

$312,000 Is Subscribed To Date; Praise Given At Rally

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Jefferson County's Negro citizens have swelled their War Bond sales past their $300,000 quota to $312,000, it was announced today after their rally at Municipal Auditorium yesterday afternoon, during which more than $34,000 worth of bonds were sold.

More than 4000 jammed the auditorium for a rousing meeting, following a parade, in which were two Army and three high school bands, traversed downtown streets. Principal speaker was W. Cooper Green, president of Birmingham City Commission.

SEP 27 1943

A Liberator bomber [illegible] to be named for Julius Ellsberry, Jefferson Negro Army hero, killed at Pearl Harbor. He was the first of Jefferson's sons in the service to meet death there.

Will Pass $312,000

Subscriptions at the auditorium yesterday were all in cash, according to Master of Ceremonies H. D. Coke. A number of purchases by checks were to be totalled today, and will send the totals past the $312,000 that has been tabulated. One of the biggest of the checks is for $1000, from the Rev. W. D. Hargrove, for the Union Bethel Independent Methodist Church.

In his speech, Mr. Green declared he feels confident the Negroes of this city and county will continue to support such patriotic movements in the future as they have done in the past, and praised them for their co-operation in the bond campaign.

Others who spoke briefly were Judge Clarence W. Allgoood, county bond drive chief; A. G. Gaston, "bomber chairman" for the teams; S. J. Ph[illegible] Harry Sims, C. J. Greene [illegible] McCormack.

SEP 27 1943

Bomber For Homewood

A Liberator bomber was to be chirstened "The Homewood Avenger" in ceremonies at Bechtel-McCone Parsons plant today at 12:30 p. m., honoring Homewood's War Bond teams for overshooting their bond quota of $200,000, in sales that have run the campaign totals near the $600,000 mark.

The warplane is to be christened by Mrs. A. C. Grundmann, mother of Lieut. Hugh Grundmann, who has been "missing in action" for 13 months. The gallant Homewood flier won the Distinguished Flying Cross before his disappearance.

Far Over Goal

Homewood teams expect bond sales to soar far beyond the $600,000 mark, it was stated this morning. "If anybody in Homewood is going to keep from buying bonds, he will have to stay away from home, for they are still going from house to house knocking on doors to sell bonds," [illegible] worker declared this morning.

SEP 27 1943

Homewood's spirit [illegible] reflected by hundreds of other crews of bond salesmen throughout Jefferson County and the entire state as they started driving down the stretch this morning in the final week of the campaign.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

Woman's Will Leaves $11,000 To Purchase War Bonds

SEP 25 1943

Even funds of the dead are going into Uncle Sam's war chest during [illegible] Third War Loan, a Memphis War Bond Committee said this week.

G. W. Lee, head of activities of the Memphis War Finance Committee, reported to the Treasury that Mrs. R. J. Mixon, administratrix of the estate of her deceased friend, Mrs. Ella Robinson, walked into the Beale Street War Bond headquarters and purchased $11,000 worth in accordance with a stipulation in Mrs. Robinson's will.

Mrs. Robinson, who died recently, was a widely known Memphis citizen and owned considerable property.

In making the bequest she said that she was doing so "in recognition of the worth and work of the local post of the American Legion (Autress Russell Post No. 97)." The $11,000 purchase was credited to the quota set for the Memphis Negro Legion post.

SEP 25 1943

"Mrs. [illegible] an indication that her last thoughts were of her country and what it has meant to her. Her act is typical of what thousands of others are doing and want to do to insure complete victory in this all-out war," said Chairman Lee.

Memphis Negroes have set a Third War Loan quota of $2,000,000 themselves.

Memphis Negro Legionaires Get $11,000 Bond Legacy

Autress Russell Post No. 97 Named In Robinson Will

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

NEGRO WOMAN SHOWS FAITH IN AMERICAN FUTURE

SEP 25 1943

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SEP 25 1943

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SEP 25 1943

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The Hope Of The World

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. SEP 1 - 1943

We are the Hope of the World. Through our sweat and blood on the battle fields and at home, peace and freedom will some day belong to all races of men all over the world. To millions of fear-ridden peoples, the Stars and Stripes are symbol of the Four Freedoms. With our Allies, we have been given the privilege of upholding that symbol so that civilization may ever remember our generation and its place in history. But this task is far too great, to allow any of us time for the luxurious living most Americans enjoyed during pre-war days, nor can we afford the cost. This war is costing America many billions of dollars, and before victory is won, it is certain that it will cost many billions more. Our dollars are needed to buy essential weapons for the protection and defense of our honor and liberty. These have never been cheaply bought.

To share in the promise of the immortal Atlantic Charter, we must cheerfully give every bit of endurance and fortitude, and every extra dollar above actual living costs. Every American citizen, regardless of race or creed, must fight, work and give. Victory is high, but we can and will pay! Back the attack. Buy a share of victory in War Bonds and Stamps, regularly.—T. M. Fields.

SEP 1 - 1943

Capital Leaders Back Third War Loan

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 29 1943

One of the largest Negro organizations sponsoring the Third War Loan in the nation's capital is the A. W. V. S. (American Women's Volunteer Service). More than 250 Washington women are lending their efforts under the organization's sponsorship. Bond selling booths with A. W. V. S. representatives in charge are maintained in the lobbies of all the leading Negro theatres in the capital.

Leaders of the organization and its War Bond activities are: left to right: Miss Francis Hill, chairman of the Bonds and Stamps Division; Mrs. Elinor H. McGuire, vice-chairman; Mrs. Therese L. Robinson, chairman of the Cosmos branch of A. W. V. S., and Mrs. Nell Hunter, Promotions Specialist U. S. Treasury War Finance Division.

Third War Loan Club Plans Set

SEP 11 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—Enlistment of at least 5,000,000 Negroes in War Bond Savings Clubs is the goal toward which the Inter-Racial Unit of the Treasury's War Finance Division is aiming in the $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan, the Treasury Department said Friday.

The Inter-Racial Unit, with Willard W. Allen, Baltimore Business leader, handling this phase of activties, is at work on a program for the organization of the clubs, with 100 members each, in Negro communities throughout the country The plan is for each club to make reglar monthly purchases of at least one $25 War Bond.

WIDE INTEREST IN PLAN

Mr. Allen reported wide interest in the plan has already been revealed by letters of inquiry and comment coming to his office from all over the country. Several nationally-organized Negro groups have already gone on record in favor of the plan and have announced the adoption of it by their organizations. The National Negro Busienss Insurance Association are among the groups which have adopted the program.

Sixty-five Masonic lodges in Maryand, and about as many other organizations in the country have already adopted the movement; and it is growing fast, Mr. Allen said "Many Negro churches and the Baptist and Methodist councils have endorsed the idea," he added

The War Bond Saving Clubs program is known in many circles as the Prattis Plan, inasmuch as it was first outlined by P. L. Prattis, executive editor of the nationally circulated Pittsburgh Courier.

PRATTIS COLUMN REPORTED

In a column appearing in the Courier May 1, Mr. Prattis wrote:

"A bond-buying program would increase the Negro's wealth in this country. Suppose that 5,000,000 American Negroes could be persuaded to purchase an average of one $25 bond each month. That would mean the purchase of $125,000,000 cold cash each month. In eight months, these 5,000,000 Negroes would purchase $1,000,000,000 worth of cash. In 16 months, the amount would be $2,000,000,000. In two years, they would have had added $3,000,000,000 of wealth to the race total, or more than they did in 75 years after slavery."

Mr. Allen pointed out that the Prattis Plan is designed not only to integrate the Negro into this coutry's plans for financing the war, but also to provide the Negro with a nationally planned and directed program of thrift and group accumulatio of savings.

He said: "It is a post-war plan for the Negro race, who should plan for 200 years from today. The Negro needs to sit down and map out some concrete plans for the future. For with everything changing, due to science, he will be left outside if he doesn't plan. No one can do for the Negro what he can do for himself. His will and desire to do must come from within."

Elks Buy $30,000 War Bonds Sunday

AUG 28 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By ALMA A. POLK
(Staff Reporter)

The Central Baptist church was packed to capacity Sunday morning as part of the expected 15,000 delegates of the much heralded 44th annual united convention of the I.B.P.E.O of W. met for their opening annual baccalaureate sermon.

Many distinguished city officials were present including County Commisisoners Kane, Rankin and Herron. The educational message was brought by the Rev. J. C. Austin of Chicago. The Rev. Mr. Austin also delivered the annual opening sermon of the order at the Ebenezer Baptist church at night.

Preceding the services the combined senior choir and gospel chorus of Central Baptist church furnished the music. One of the most impressive sights of the morning was the department of education marching down the aisles in its gray caps and gowns.

Judge W. C. Hueston, head of the department of education, was master of ceremonies. The Honorable J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler, introduced the Rev. Mr. Austin.

GIVES BACKGROUND OF NEGROES

In picturing the Negro and his educational background, the Rev. Austin pointed out "Our background as Negroes has been overlooked by the educational system of America." He further said "The wheel of progress must turn and as surely as the black man gave to civilization the alphabet, just as surely will the black man again come to the forefront in the educational system.

"We as Negroes must get set right," the speaker pointed out, "and come to a decision as to who we are—what we are—why we are—and where we are going."

Moving on scheduled time, the Elks proceeded to Forbes field to witness one of the star attractions of the week, the baseball game featuring the famous Dizzy Dean.

A 15-minute dedication program preceded the ball game with the Honorable J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler; Judge W. C. Hueston, commissioner of education; Chester L. Washington, assistant business manager of The Pittsburgh Courier; "Diz" Dean, formerly of the Saint Louis Cardinals and star attraction for the Honus Wagner All Stars, and other promiment citizens taking part on the program.

Attractive women in pinafores and men in purple ties and arm bands circulated through the large crowd and sold war bonds and corsages made of war savings stamps to the tune of $30,000.

BEGAN ARRIVING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

AUG 28 1943

Crowds of the antlered herd began arriving as early as Thursday. Although some delegates had a hard time reaching the headquarters at 2207 Wylie avenue, because of the taxicab situation in Pittsburgh, they were quickly placed by the housing committee in some of the more than 1,000 homes prepared to house the large crowd.

J. Finley Wilson Now $1-A-Year Man For U. S.

AUG 4 - 1943

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — J. Finley Wilson is a dollar-a-year man for Uncle Sam now.

The grand exalted ruler of the Elks was sworn in last Friday as a member of the interracial section of the war finance staff, the treasury department announced, to help put over the third war loan drive among Negro fraternal groups. He will roll up his sleeves on Sept. 9, official opening date for the drive, and keep them rolled for three weeks.

The Elk big-wig, a Washingtonian and long-standing Republican, will tour the country for the treasury department speaking in behalf of the loan drive.

BACKING THE ATTACK IN ARMY SHOW

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SEP 25 1943

SEP 25 1943

SEP 25 1943

Negro troops and war workers are playing an important part in the mammoth "Back The Attack" Army Show which is sparking the $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan drive in Washington, D.C. More than a half million persons witnessed the show on the Washington Monument Grounds during its first week. (Upper left) A Negro cavalry unit from Fort Myers, Va., led by Staff Sergeant Sherman Sullivan, is shown about to enter the arena for its daily participation in the military spectacle. At lower left, Truman K. Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, visits the Army Air Corps Forces display where Mrs. Ruth Austin Corbin of the Middletown (Pa.) Air Depot demonstrates how altimeters are maintained and repaired in the general instrument department. At right, a crack Negro barrage balloon outfit from Camp Tyson, Tenn., are a great attraction at the show. Shown left to right are Sgt. Lloyd Dubose, Ennis, T[illegible]; Sgt. [illegible]ph Dorsey, New Orleans, La.; Pfc. George Haywood, Dallas, Texas, and Sgt. Frank Patterson, Marianna, Ark. These troops demonstrate to the crowds how barrage balloons are used to protect convoys, ammunition dumps, cities and installations from low-flying straffing planes.

SEP 25 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Our Dutv As Citizens

During the month of September our government is conducting the Third War Loan campaign with a goal of 15 billion dollars. The money thusly secured will be expended to equip, ship and maintain our fighting forces, wherever they might be and the figure, when added to previously conducted loans give one something of the idea what it costs to wage war.

We colored citizens often say we are not permitted the chance to perform our duties as citizens. But here is one grand and glorious thing all Americans can share in alike, The government is not asking for "donations". It asks, and mark the word "asks", only to borrow your money under a guarantee to repay at reasonable interest that it might defend your home and your way of life at its expense.

It is our unquestionable duty to rally to our government FIRST. There are many of us who because of financial circumstances who may not be able to buy one or more War Bonds each pay day or each month. But there is none of us who can not make purchases in War Stamps and save these towards investing in a Bond. It is our duty to do this as religiously as those boys of ours are performing their duties on the battlefront. Buy that Bond today and keep on buying them.

War Heroes Aid Third War Bond Drive

Amsterdam Star-News New York, N. Y.

SEP 18 1943

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LAUNCHING THIRD WAR LOAN DRIVE—Justice Myles A. Paige is pictured above as he delivers the principal address at the gigantic War Bond Rally at Grant's Square, Brooklyn, on Wednesday. The soldiers photoed above are heroes of the current world conflict.

SIX REASONS WHY NEGROES SHOULD SUPPORT WAR LOAN

From time to time we have urged Negroes to invest their money in government bonds. We have unashamedly placed more emphasis upon the selfish motive of personal retrenchment than upon the more unselfish motive of patriotism. Now that the Third War Loan drive has been launched, we cite six definite reasons why Negroes should support it.

1. America is the Negro's home. Despite sundry grievances, this is our native land.

2. All citizens must share the cost of war both physically and financially in proportion to their group number and several other abilities. Physically we are supplying man and woman power. We must protect those who are protecting us by providing necessary equipment.

3. Negroes need financial stability. The best way to lay away a good nest egg is to put all one can spare into saving bonds. As a group we are great borrowers, and interest payers. The more one saves the less he has to borrow, the fewer foreclosures he has to suffer, and the more independent is he.

4. Government bonds are safe, and are interest bearing. In case of necessity they can be turned into cash.

5. Post war adjustment usually means occupational shifting. Negroes are not always the first to be chosen, nor retained on jobs. The possession of cash during the trying period of post war adjustment will be a source of great comfort.

6. Prices are high, goods are scarce, jobs are plentiful, and salaries are good. Money will buy more values after the war.

47c

SEP 11 1943

Helping Back The Attack

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

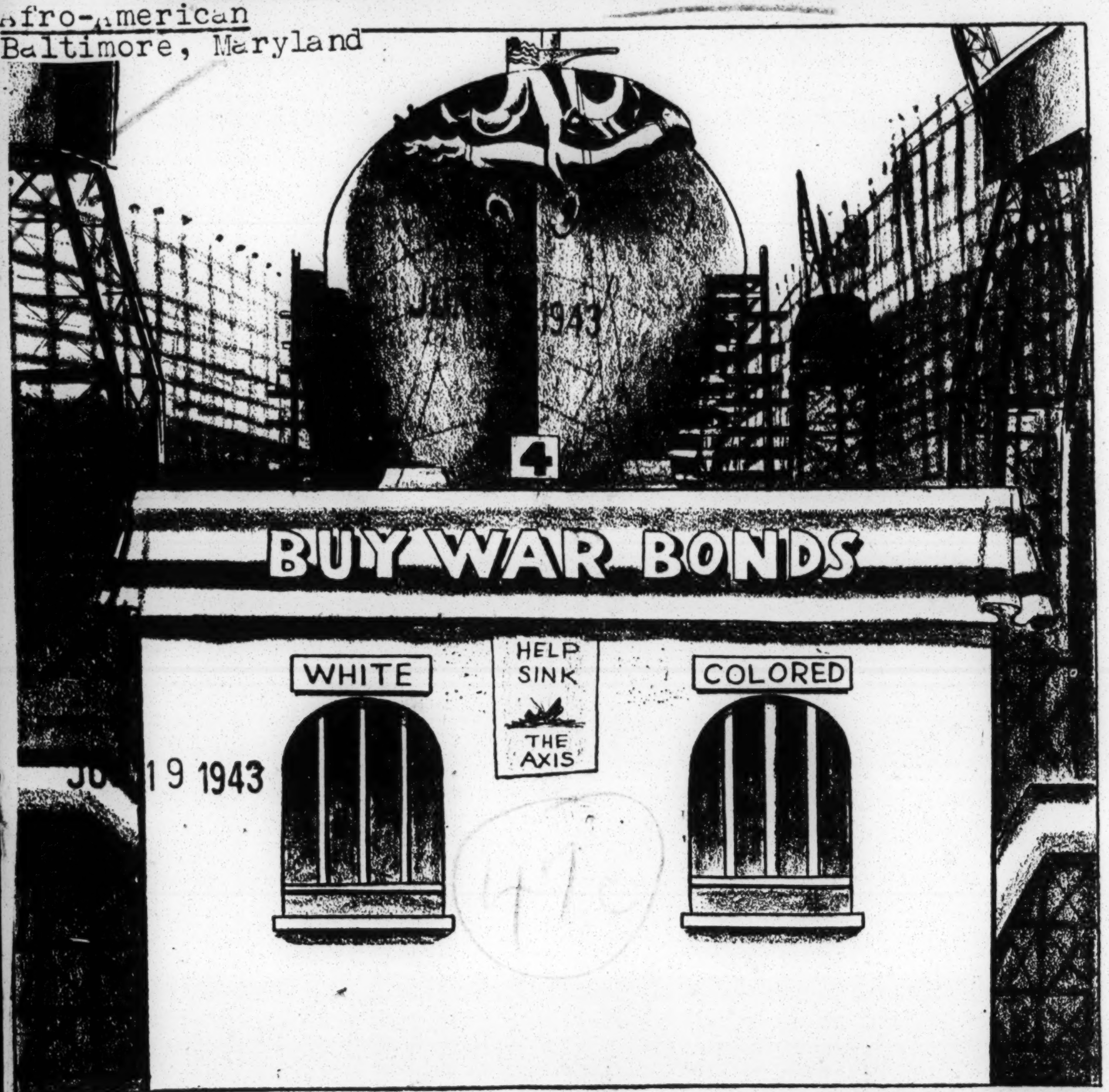
SEP 27 1943

DR. CHANNING H. TOBIAS—Chairman of the Negro Activities branch of the War Finance Committee for New York State, congratulates Ma[illegible] Kurtz, wife of Lt. Colonel Frank Kurtz, pilot of the famous Flying Fortress, "The Swoose," and hero of the best seller, "Queens Die Proudly," upon her stirring plea for support of the Third War Loan at a meeting conducted by New York's Negro population at the War Center, 50th St., West of Sixth Avenue. Besides Mrs. Kurtz and Dr. Tobias, W. Randolph Burgess, Chairman of the New York War Finance Committee, addressed the rally. Entertainment was provided by Bill Robinson, Ralph Cooper, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Conrad Nagel and a host of other Negro and white stars.

47c

SEGREGATION FOR WAR BONDS TOO

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland



JUL 19 1943

News item: Separate booths are set up side by side in the Mobile, Alabama, Shipbuilding Yards for the sale of U.S. war bonds.

Million-Dollar Investment In Bonds Made By Race Concern

SEP 23 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Life Earns Distinction Of Largest Single Negro Purchaser

By NAT WILLIAMS
(Working-Press Reporter, Third War Loan)

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — In what is probably the largest single investment in War Bonds to be reported in one purchase by an individual Negro business, the Atlanta Life Insurance Company of Atlanta announced last Monday to the U. S. Treasury Department the purchase of almost a million dollars in the Third War Loan Bonds.

Through one of its vice presidents, Lt. G. W. Lee, of the Memphis, Tennessee District, the company's Home Office disclosed that it has made available $600,000 to be divided among various key districts for the purpose of "purchasing War Bonds and at the same time stimulating others to do likewise."

The concern, one of the largest Negro-owned businesses in the world, also announced another unprecedented move among Negro businesses relative to helping to finance the war. E. L. Simon, assistant agency director for the company, has been released from all duties for the company, and directed to devote all of his time for the duration of the war to the promotion of sales of War Bonds.

TO VISIT DISTRICTS

Mr. Simon will visit districts in each of the nine states in which the company operates. He had already started on his tour to help in the closing stages of the Third War Loan drive. He wfll go to Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Ohio.

In explaining the allocation of the company's $600,000 for Third War Loan Bonds among its districts, Mr. Lee said that $100,000 has been sent to the "all-out" drive he is heading among Negro citizens there. The sum of $300,000 will be spent for Third War Laon Bonds in the Atlanta, Georgia District, $100,000 will go to help in the Kansas City, Mo., "Brown Bomber" Third War Loan Drive. Another $100,000 will be used to buy bonds in the state of Texas.

HERNDON VIEW GIVEN

Mr. Lee said that Norris B. Herndon, president of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company, in authorizing the expenditure of the $600,000 for the bond purchase, based his action on a desire not to only encourage thrift among Negroes but also to stimulate and implement the Negro's natural patriotism and desire to aid in the war effort.

One thousand of the company's agents in eighty-two districts of the nine states named have been organized and instructed to carry the message of the Third War Loan to the thousands of the company's policyholders they contact daily. The agents have been welded into a permanent organization prepared to do a similar job in all subsequent campaigns to help finance the war.

Mr. Lee reported that the Memphis Negro division's Third War Loan goal of $3,000,000 has been nearly two-thirds reached.

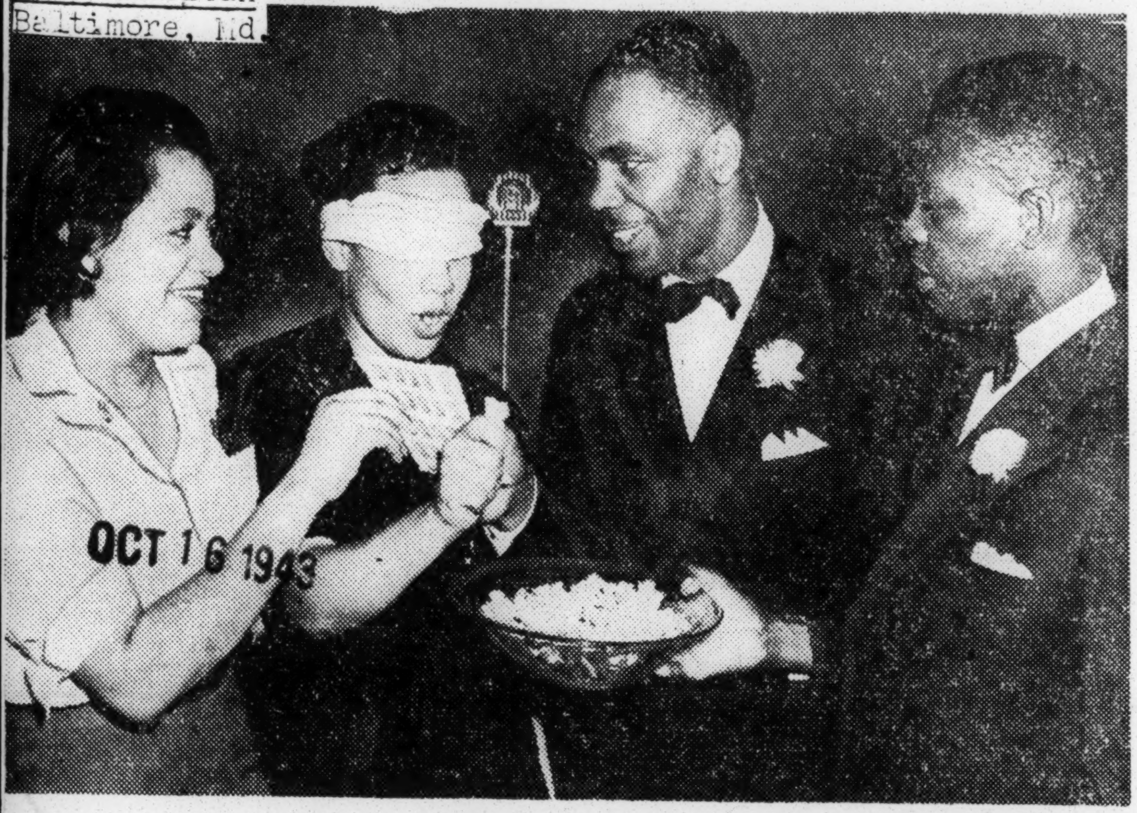
SEP 23 1943

47c-1943

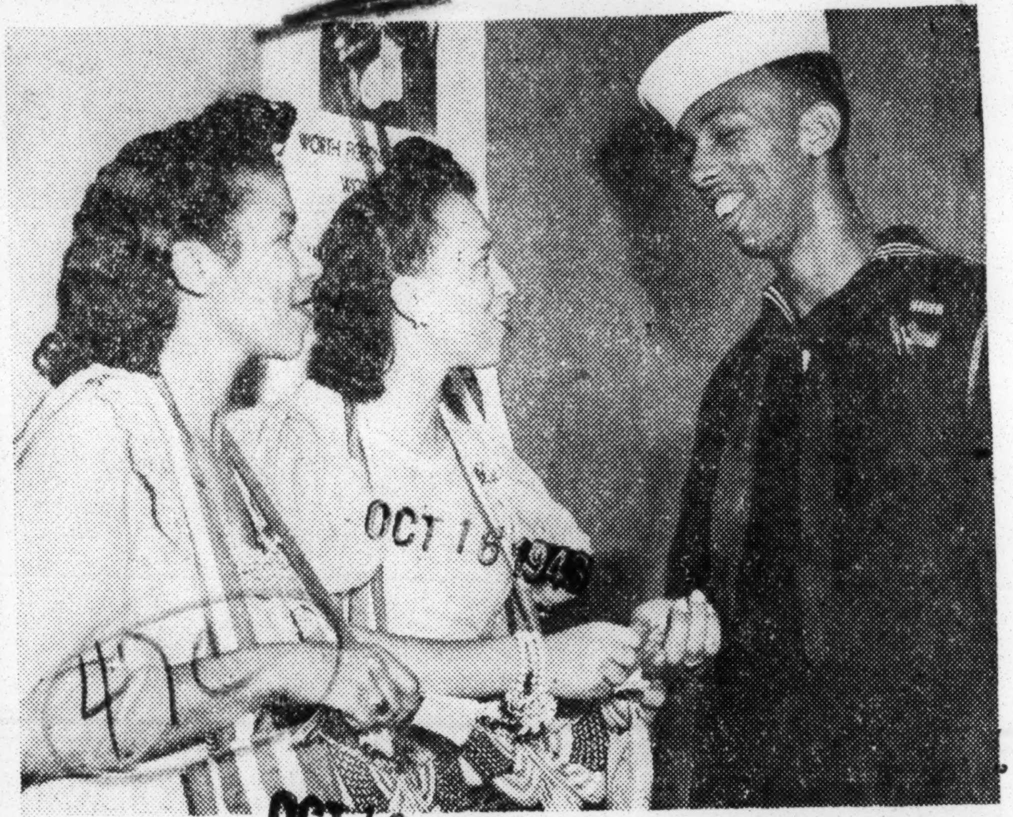
WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Capital Socialites Back War Effort with Bond Rallies

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



OCT 16 1943



OCT 16 1943

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OCT 16 1943

Washington society has taken on a patriotic aspect, with war bond and stamp drawings featuring many of the affairs. At left are shown members of the Thrifty 7 Social Club who gave a prize bond dance at the Odd Fellows' Hall recently. Miss Virginia Pinkney, at the extreme left, was first prize winner of a $25 bond. Next is Miss Audrey Sales, shown drawing a number; then George Frye and James Baker. Picture at right shows Misses Othelia R. Ennie and Mary E. Hillman selling stamps to Joseph N. Johnson, fire- e fiscal branch of the War Department at the Lincoln Colonnade Saturday.

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
September 13, 1943

Payne Center Dance Promotes Bond Sale

A Negro War Bond rally dance will be held at the Payne Avenue Recreation Center Sept. 24, it was announced Saturday by John Henderson and J. H. Hardy, supervisors.

Price of admission will be the purchase of a War Bond or War Stamps.

Music will be furnished by two orchestras, the Clouds of Rhythm and the Easy Rhythm Aces. Dr. J. H. Presnell will speak.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
September 13, 1943

Negro Division To Be Organized

The negro division of the Third War Loan drive in Charleston will be organized at a meeting tomorrow at 8 p. m. in Dart Hall.

L. H. Bennett is chairman of the division.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

Sell $100,000 In War Bonds At Rally

CHICAGO, ILL., July 20—More than 400 Negro Bluejackets of the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lages, Ill., "went ashore" recently, to attend a bond rally dance at the Savoy Ballroom in Chicago as guests of the Joe Louis Service Guild.

The dance closed a three-week bond campaign conducted by the service organizations, with the assistsance of fourteen Chicago clubs, during which more than $100,000 worth of bonds were sold Mr. Joe Louis, wife of the world's heavyweight boxing champion, is president of the Guild.

More than 3,000 persons purchased a war bbond or a $1 savings stamp to gain admittance to the ballroom.

The Bluejacket swing band from Camp Robert Smalls, and talent from various Chicago night clubs appeared on the program.

JUL 23 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

$25,000 War Bond Bought By Porters

NEW YORK, N. Y.—WHO, Des Moines broadcasting station affiliated with NBO, announced on May 28 the purchase of a $25,000 War Bond by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

JUN 19 1943

This purchase raised to $50,000 the total amount of Canadian and United States War Bonds held by this brotherhood, which is the only international trade organization of Negroes affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Columbia, S. C., Record
September 15, 1943

Negro Schools Help In Newberry's Bond Drive

NEWBERRY, Sept. 15.—The Negro schools in Newberry county are concentrating their main efforts to raising the quota for the Third War Loan Drive, which is underway, U. S. Gallman, supervisor of Negro schools in Newberry county, said.

The majority of the schools are closing in order to gather the cotton and to plant grains, the supervisor said.

There are 40 Negro schools in the county, 30 of them being Rosenwald buildings, and nearly all of the schools are having hot lunches this year, "which makes for better work," Gallman noted. Gallman has been supervisor for a number of years and the schools for the Negroes have advanced much during these years.

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appea
September 15, 1943

Negro Bond Sellers Book Special Events

Handy and Russwood Parks will be the scenes of special War Bond rallies Saturday and Sunday as the negro division of the local drive augment their efforts to sell bonds and stamps.

Saturday noon Clyde Beatty and several of his trained animals will perform at Henry Park. Sunday afternoon at the Red Sox-Black Yankee baseball game in Russwood special inducements will be offered patrons in the form of four $50 bonds, which will be hidden about the park. Preceding the game will be a bond sale.

Negro Parks Buy Jeep

Buy Enough War Bonds for Vehicle

A jeep certificate, signifying the purchase of war stamps sufficient to provide the Army with a jeep, will be presented to the Negro playgrounds of Charlotte at the "Awards Night" program tonight at the City Armory-Auditorium.

Lula Mae White, director of Negro activities of the Park and Recreation Commission, announced that close to $1,100 worth of war stamps hal been bought by the Negro playgrounds and that Charles McLean, of the North Carolina A. & T. College at Greensboro, who who is war bond director for the Negro race in this state, will be present at tonight's ceremonies and formally present the jeep certificate.

Awards to various winners will be made as the Summer playground program draws to a close. Charles H. Stone, chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission, will present the Commissioners Award. Dr. E E. Blackman and J. E. Colston will make the other awards.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Princess Anne School Has Fine War Bond Record

NORFOLK—The Princess Anne County Training School at Euclid, Va., closed its 1942-43 session with one of the most outstanding records for the sales of War Savings Stamps and Bonds of any school organization of it's size in this area.

JUN 12 1943

H. H. Harrison, director of Stamp and Bonds Sales for the Lichtman agency in Norfolk, announced this week that the school's record indicates total stamp sales in excess of $3,500 and bond sales of nearly $2,000 for the school year just past.

EXPRESSED GRATITUDE

Thaddeus Clay Smith, who heads the school expressed great satisfaction in the results obtained by Miss Frederica E. Rogers, who served as the school's agent throughout the year.

Dovetailing this activity beautifully along with the school's regular program and with the cooperation of the faculty and community organizations, Miss Rogers amassed bond sales that figure an average of a bond for every two students enrolled.

Working entirely outside of school hours in procuring the stamps and bonds, she has been entirely unselfish in giving her time to this patriotic cause. All the stamps and bonds were purchased through the Lichtman stamp and bond agency at the Booker-T Theatre.

JUN 12 1943

Columbia, S. C., State
September 12, 1943

Negroes Urged

Buy WarBonds

The Negro Citizens' committee has gone on record as urging the Negroes of South Carolina to "enter wholeheartedly into the Third War Bond sale" and to "purchase bonds to the fullest extent of their economic ability."

The following letter has been received by The State from E. A. Adams, president, and James M. Hinton, secretary, with the request that it be published:

"The Negro Citizens' committee is urging Negroes to enter wholeheartedly into the Third War Bond sale, and to purchase bonds to the fullest extent of their economic ability. It is the patriotic duty of all American citizens to support the war effort with each dollar that can be spared for such a worthy cause. It should never be said 'that Negroes are not loyal and patriotic,' for this is 'our country,' and we know no other, nor are we in sympathy with any other country. Our money should and must aid in helping to pay for the war effort.

"Negroes have a stake in this war, for nearly every home has been touched in some manner by those inducted into the armed services of the country, and our money must send to them the things that are vitally necessary for winning the war. Negroes must not only realize they have a stake in the war, but must be willing to fight for that stake, pay for that stake, and if necessary die for that stake. The untarnished record for loyalty and patriotism to the United States must remain unchanged. May we again urge every Negro to purchase one or more bonds in this Third War Bond drive, since these bonds are the safest investment one can make."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Cruiser Bond Sale Set From 11:30 To 2 P. M.

Many Plan To Invest In New Atlanta Cruiser

Thousands of Atlantans, colored and white, will turn aside from their routine duties this morning to witness and participate in the Big Bond Rally, which will swing into action promptly at 11:30 on "sweet Auburn Avenue," in front of historic Bethel AME Church.

This patriotic Rallyy, being a part of the general City-wide drive to rebuild the Atlanta Cruiser, will last only from 11:30 in the morning until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The famous Washington High Band will furnish patriotic music for the enjoyment of the many thousands of spectators.

Business and professional groups, civic and social clubs, individuals and, in two known instances churches have signified their intentions of sending the Bonds and Stamps total to a new and higher heights. One business organization alone will purchase outright, a flat $100,000 worth of Bonds. Other firms, though not stating how much they plan to invest, are familiarly associated with the biggest and most forward looking business in Atlanta.

T. M. Alexander, President of Alexander and Co. and popular civic and social leader, is general chairman of the insurance groups and will have charge of the program and direct the sales activities this morning. He has announced that each buyer this morning will be permitted to autograph the huge Bombshell, which will be on display.

APR 20 1943

Mr. J. B. Blayton, business man and University Professor, is head of the Negro Division for Rebuilding the Atlanta Cruiser, and is making a special appeal to all citizens to turn out this morning and give vigorous support to this move by investing in these Bonds and Stamps materially.

Jackson, Miss. News
September 13, 1943

Negroes Setting Bond Buying Mark

TCHULA—(Special)—Negro employees of a hardwood lumber mill here believe they are setting some kind of a record for others of their race to top during the Third War Loan drive.

Fifty of them have already voluntarily signed up to have their employer buy one $50 bond apiece for them during September, deducting from their salaries during the month additional amounts needed for the bond, over and above the regular payroll allotment amounts.

The payroll savings plan for the firm as a whole averages better than 11 per cent and purchases normally run $1,000 per month. This month bond purchases will run better than $3,000—all the prospects have not yet been contacted by the employees committee.

Since the amount to the credit of each employee varies at various times, the additional amount needed for the extra Third War Loan bond will run from the regular deduction to as high as 40 per cent of the salary due, company officials advised State Chairman Rex Brown of Jackson.

J. C. Allen of the company advised Mr. Brown that a checkup taken to refute rumors that a lot of bonds bought by negroes are cashed in soon after purchase, shows that 70 per cent of the bonds bought by negro employees, are still held by them. All white employees still hold all bonds bought by them.

Every letter sent out by the company carries this line, "Our Employees 100 per cent Invest 10 per cent or More for Freedom."

Columbia, S. C., State
October 16, 1943

Rallies Yield $30,681 in Bonds

The Columbia Production Credit association issued a total of $30,681 in war bonds at ten rural war bond rallies and at one Negro rally on Taylor street, according to Frank P. McGowan, Richland county chairman of the War Finance committee.

The bonds were issued by Allen Brown, secretary-treasurer of the Columbia PCA, Mary E. Mabry and W. H. Henry, assistant secretary-treasurers. At the Negro USO dance, Brown and G. L. Painter, of the Federal Land bank, issued the bonds. All of the bond rallies were held at night.

"As chairman of the Richland County War Finance committee, I should like to express my thanks for the work these patriotic citizens rendered," McGowan said yesterday.

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

TUSKEGEE'S WAR BOND DRIVE RAISES $91,000

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The TAAF, with a $[illegible] war bond quota, recently raised $91,000.

Macon, Ga., News
September 23, 1943

BUYS $20,000 WAR BOND—Frank Hutchings, chairman of the Negro committee for the Third War Loan, hands Mamie Redding Clemons the $20,000 War Bond she purchased in honor of her former music students now in the armed forces. Negroes have purchased approximately $40,000 in War Bonds, while their quota was only $30,000. Sales for the county, however, are about 40 per cent behind the quota. [Drinnon Photo].

MARINES HONOR CIVILIANS FOR BOND PURCHASES

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

Civilian employees at Parris Island Marine post in South Carolina are officially honored by Marines for their record purchase of War Savings Bonds. Civilians led a mass formation of Marines in a ceremony awarding a Secretary of the Navy's Flag, the first presentation of its kind to be given a unit of Marine civilian employees. A section of the group is shown here on a Parris Island drill field, with several thousand Marine "boots" in the backgrounds.—U.S. Marine Corps Photo from OWI.

JUL 24 1943

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 23, 1943

NEGRO BOND BUYERS

To the Editor The News:

We Americans, white and black, face a serious situation today. The aggressor nations across the seas are dedicated to the proposition of enslaving and destroying us, as well as all of those who fight for freedom under the banner of the United Nations. Negro soldiers are at this moment standing ready to pour their blood on the altar of freedom in 32 countries, to defeat those who would enslave all of us as our Negro ancestors were never enslaved prior to 1865.

We may not enjoy the freedom we deserve, but it is better than that which my grandfather and grandmother experienced. We enjoy liberties and opportunities for development unknown to nobles in the not too far distant past. I know we would rather render whatever service we are called upon to render in the defense of our homeland than to have the yoke of totalitarian slavery riveted around our neck.

The country calls upon us to "Back the Attack" our soldiers are making today—all over the world—for freedom. This is not a day when victory may be had by way of oratory or protest. The Negro citizens of Jefferson County have dedicated themselves to the task of buying $300,000 worth of War Bonds this week. When the count is taken at the big Bond Rally at the City Auditorium this Sunday afternoon, the success of the effort will depend upon the contribution each individual will have made in the purchase of War Bonds this week.

Let us face the need of this hour and the future, ready to spend and be spent, to defend our households, trusting in God. Let us manifest our love for liberty, justice and tolerance, so much so that when called upon to make the greatest sacrifice for the highest ideals, we will join with Emile Zola who, when reminded that he might lose his life in his fight for the very thing for which America is fighting, cried out, "I am not important, it is the ideal of liberty for which I fight!" Men may come and men may go, good or bad, but we must never forget we belong to a destiny that has a right to demand of us a manifestation of the greatest love for liberty and justice as we can express by the War Bonds we buy now.

Our boys out there in the bloody theaters of war are crying out to us, "Give us the tools, and we will do the job." In this way Negroes share the grandeur of those Negro captives who, when they faced the slave auction block at Ebos Landing and contemplated the horrors of just such slavery as Hitler and his henchmen would shackle the world with, turned about and marched out into the sea and to death with a song upon their lips.

Negro men and women, this is your country, too! Wherever you are, on the farm, in the factory, in the mine or in the mill, remember that the first blood spilled for this country was that of Chrispus Attucks, a Negro; remember that Lincoln, the emancipator, died because of the spirit he expressed in his Gettysburg address. Do not do anything to reflect upon the sacrifices these and others made in order that we might enjoy freedom of speech, the freedom to go as high in life as our ability permits, and the right to worship God under our own vine and fig tree.

Your liberty was purchased with the blood of those who believed as we must believe—in you and in America—in God. For these things, buy bonds. Others are dying for these same things. Do not submit by default to the yoke of slavery which is the lot of those who have fallen prey to Hitler and his mad men—a slavery 77 times more hideous than our grandparents ever knew.

ROBERT DURR,
Editor The Weekly Review.

Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

BACK TO MEMPHIS HANDY WENT, TO RAISE MONEY FOR BONDS, HE WAS SENT, AND THERE HE PLAYED THE MEMPHIS BLUES, 'TILL THE FOLKS GOT SO ENTHUSED, THEY PAWNED THEIR SHOES.

Memphis, Tenn.—Aging W. C. Handy, "daddy of the blues" has been summoned back to Memphis Beale Street, "where the blues began", to help in the drive to raise the more than $2,000,000 the Negro volunteer bond workers have set for themselves.

"Memphis folk," Chairman Lee pointed out, "have a penchant for getting bombing planes dedicated with the bonds they buy. At the close of the Second War Loan Negro citizens bought over $303,000 in War Bonds.

"We heard that 'Memphis Blues' had been shot down on one of the fighting fronts and the Negro division for the Third War Loan has determined to raise enough money through War Bonds to replace it with another Fortress bearing the same name."

In support of this objective a series of events, city-wide in scope, has been planned to cover the duration of the Third War Loan campaign. Among them will be the War Bond Out-Door Barn Show, the Clyde Beatty Circus in Handy's Square, located in the heart of Beale Street, Mrs. Tom Mix will make regular rides and elephants, clowns and other circus features will deploy for the first time in the center of the Negro business district.

Mr. Handy began September 18 to climax the drive with a mammoth parade, the Naval Training School band, school drum and bugle corps and bands, civic groups, marching units, and church organizations.

SEP 23 1943

Wytheville [illegible] Enterprise
October [illegible] 1943

Wytheville Colored People Buy $1100 In U. S. War Bonds

We take this opportunity to thank all the patriotic colored citizens of Wytheville and County, who cooperated with the committee in the "Third War Loan Drive."

Amount raised—$1,100.00

Committee,
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Smith,
Mrs. Homer Hairston,
Mr. David S. Smith, Chairman

Grove Hill Ala. Democrat
November 4, 1943

AGED NEGRO BUYS WAR STAMPS REGULARLY

"Uncle" Wallis Coats, who was 85 years of age on the 22nd of July, buys War Stamps regularly at the Grove Hill post office out of the pittance that he receives from the Welfare Department. He now lacks only $3.75 of having a bond paid for. His example is worthy of emulation by many who would not have to make a sacrifice to do what he is doing.

47c-1943

Buys That Cruiser May Fight

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

47c
JUN 19 1943

Douglas Clark, local laborer and fraternalist, convinces Miss Valena E. Minor, a recent addition to the Journal and Guide news staff, that he is anxious to boost the sales of the Norfolk Cruiser Committtee in order that a cruiser bearing the name of the city may sail and fight with the United States Navy. Mr. Clark, through the Colored Cruiser Committee headed by S. H. Bell, purchased $2,000 in War Savings Bonds. He displays the Bonds to the writer.

DOCKERS BUY WAR BONDS

47c

Chi go Defender
Chicago, Illinois

The purchase of $30,000 worth of war bonds in the Second War Loan drive by the AFL General Longshore Workers Union, Local 1419 is the largest single purchase of bonds made by a Negro organization in New Orleans. Shown in the picture (left to right) are: John Perkins, secretary of the union signing the order, and J. Harvey Netter, president of the union.—Photo by Buckell.

APR 24 1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

47c
JUN 27 1943

BUY $10,000 WAR BOND—Miss Beatrice Penman, of Kansas City, Kansas, grand treasurer of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority is shown buying a $10,000 war bond for the sorority. William Pickens, head of the promotion effort among colored people came to Kansas City from Washington to participate in the occasion. Shown also is Jesse G. Boomer, cashier of the Guaranty State Bank who delivered the bond. Atty. Elsie Austin is grand president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Low Income Farmers Receive Federal Aid

SEP 18 1943

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 — A novel plan to enable low income Negro farmers in the South to Purchase War Bonds is receiving renewed interest in rural areas under the impetus of the Third War Loan drive, the Treasury department said last week.

The plan was formulated and presented by Harry Simms, associate administor for the War Finance Division for the State of Alabama.

FARM-AID PLAN

The Simms plan suggests ways of securing extra money on the low-income farm for War Savings, which should enable every man, woman and child of school age, on the farm, to buy at least one $25 War Bond in the course of a year.

SEP 18 1943

This is how the plan will work out:

.40 earned each week or $1.60 per month will buy one $25 Bond a year.

.80 earned each week or $3.20 per month will buy two $25 Bonds a year.

1.20 earned each week or $4.80 per month will buy three $25 Bonds a year.

1.60 earned each week or $6.40 per month will buy four $25 Bonds a year.

WHAT IT WILL MEAN

SEP 18 1943

There are 62 counties in the State of Alabama with a population of 78,188 Negro farm families. If each of these families earn and save only 40 cents per week, it will amount to $31,275.20 per week; $125,100 per month; and $1,501,209.60 per year.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Five Million To Back The Attack

Willard W. Allen Heads Drive For U. S. War Bond Savings Clubs

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Enlistment of at least 5,000,000 Negroes in War Bond Savings Clubs is the goal toward which the Inter-Racial Unit of the Treasury's War Finance Division is aiming in the $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan, the Treasury Department said last week end. The Inter-Racial Unit, with Willard W. Allen, Baltimore business leader, as chairman, is at work on a program for the organization of the clubs, with 100 members each, in Negro communities throughout the country.

Each club member makes regular monthly purchases of at least one $25 war bond.

SEP 18 1943

INTEREST INTENSE

Mr. Allen reported wide interest in the plan has already been revealed in letters of inquiry and comment coming to his office from all over the country. Several nationally-organized groups have already gone on record in favor of the plan and have announced the adoption of it by their organizations.

The National Negro Business league, the Bishops' Council of the AME church, and the National Negro Insurance association are among the groups which have adopted the program.

Sixty-five Masonic lodges in Maryland, and about as many other organizations in the country have already adopted the movement; and it is growing fast, Mr. Allen said. "Many Negro churches and the Baptist and Methodist councils have endorsed the idea," he added.

OUTLINED [illegible]

The War Bond Savings clubs' program is known in many circles as the Prattis Plan, inasmuch as it was first outlined by P. L.

OFFERS CIGAR FOR WAR BOND

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Aug. 19—One of the happiest men in America today is Freddie Jones, clerk in the American Railway Express office here, who holds as his most prized possession one of Prime Minister Churchill's famous [illegible]. But Freddie does not smoke, so he revealed his plans to auction the cigar off to the highest bidder when he made an appearance over "We, the People" program Sunday night.

"I don't want this cigar to just go up in smoke," declared Jones. "I want Mr. Churchill to know that his cigar will buy bombs and bullets to crush the enemy."

GIVES "V" SALUTE

Jones will offer the cigar to the highest war bond bidder. The auction will [illegible] at [illegible] Stanley theatre here, and is [illegible] opened to "We, the People" radio audience who will write Mr. Jones in care of the program.

As the Prime Minister boarded his special train for the trip to President Roosevelt's Hyde Park home, Jones was one of the crowd gathered around the observation platform. When Mr. Churchill took one of the long, black cigars from his pocket, Jones yelled, "Give me that cigar, Mr. Churchill!"

Smiling, the Prime Minister said, "I won't give you this one, but I will give you another." Reaching into his pocket, Mr. Churchill pulled out the "stogie" and tossed it to Jones. And as the train pulled out, the British leader gave Mr Jones the famous "V" salute.

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Kansas City Opens Brown Bombers War Bond Drive

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — "A Brown Bomber for Our Brown Flyers" is the goal which Negro volunteer Third War Loan workers set for themselves as they launched their $250,000 "Brown Bomber War Bond Drive" in Kansas City this week.

Behind the leadership of C. A. Franklin, publisher and editor, whose newspaper, the Kansas City Call, is spearheading the drive, Negro Kansas Citians plan to buy enough bonds durin gthe current campaign to defray the cost of one of the Flying Fortresses, now so busily flaying the Axis on scattered war fronts.

47c

Harlem Beauticians Substitute 'Bonds For Beauty'

OCT 2 1943

MR.
YA
Buy WAR STAMPS Here
B.V.C. BONDADIER
COME ON MOVIEGOERS
BACK THE ATTACK
BUY YOUR BOND STAMPS HERE

The New York Beauticians Volunteer Corps works towards its $1,000,000 Third War Loan goal, with Harlem's leading beauticians taking the lead in keeping the Drive at top pitch.

Organized by Mrs. Maude Gadsen in August 1942, the organization was endorsed by Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia, and others. During the first and second Bond drives the Corps grossed over $300,000 in sales. The B. V. C. also maintain a canteen for servicemen at their headquarters in Harlem. The sale of bonds takes place in the various beauty shops, theatres, churches, schools, and other places.

Shown (L. to R.) are: (1) Mrs. Maude Gadsen, founder and president; (2) Mrs. Gadsen giving last minute instruction to a few of the 250 members of the B. V. C. at the start of their Third War Loan drive; (3) Katherine Burton (in booth), top saleswoman of group, has sold so far in Third War Loan over $7,000 worth of bonds . . . she is Corps "Bondadier" . . . shown buying bonds are Mrs. Sarah Davis, widow of a merchant seaman, and Mrs. Evelyn Jackson, second ranking saleswoman; (4) Young bond purchaser at theater.

Guardian
Boston, Mass

KANSAS CITIANS TO BUY "BROWN BOMBER"

SEP 9 1943

Kansas City, Mo.—"A Brown Bomber for Our Brown Flyers" is the goal which Negro volunteer Third War Loan workers set for themselves as they launched their $250,000 "Brown Bomber War Bond Drive" in Kansas City this week.

Behind the leadership of C, A. Franklin, publisher and editor whose newspaper, the Kansas City Call, is spearheading the drive, Negro Kansas Citians plan to buy enough bonds during the current campaign to defray the cost of one of the Flying Fortresses, now so busily flaying the Axis on scattered war fronts.

Women Elks Put $110,000 In War Bonds

Secretary Buena Kelley Berry Of Norfolk, Reports

SEP 4 1943

(Special to Journal and Guide)

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—That over $110,000 in War Bonds and Stamps had been purchased by women Elks and that nearly four thousand of them are active in war time agencies were facts highlighting the annual report of the grand daughter secretary, Mrs. Beuna Kelley Berry of Norfolk, at the 41st annual session held here last week.

The report showed that there are 72[illegible] women in government service, 1,81[illegible] in defense industries, 1,160 in volunteer services, 28 air raid wardens, 10 female auxiliary police, 221 nurses, and 5 WACs.

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

In addition to this imposing statistical achievement by the Grand Temple, widening of its social welfare program is indicated in the annual report of Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon, grand daughter ruler, who urged an extension of the child welfare department, contacting social service workers, truant officers, attendance officers, court officials, probation officers, and institution superintendents.

The annual session was presided over by [illegible] D. R. Gordon of Washington, D. C.

The Grand Temple attended the joint public session addressed by the Governor of Pennsylvania and the mayor of Pittsburgh, when Maj. R. R. Wright of Philadelphia purchased War Bonds of $125,000 maturity value.

Highlights of the session included was the Grand Temple Pageant, "Forty Years of Progress" staged by Beuna Kelley Berry and Mandonia W. Porter of Norfolk, Va., and the bathing beauty contest.

CONTEST WINNERS

Contest winners were: Miss Beale Street. Estelle Adams, first prize; Miss North Carolina, Agnes Stokes, second prize; Miss California, Naomi Smith, third prize. Contestants were graded on form, walk, personality, posture and bathing suit worn.

The following officers were unanimously reelected: Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Gordon, Washington, D. C., grand daughter ruler; Mrs. Lucy Dorsey, Bridgeport, Conn., grand vice daughter ruler; Mrs. Maggie Hill, Asbury Park, N. J., grand assistant daughter ruler; Mrs. Mer[illegible] Robinson, New York, grand chaplain; Mrs. Beuna Kelley Berry, Norfolk, grand daughter secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Kimbough, Brooklyn, grand treasurer; Mrs. Daisy O. Harris, Richmond, grand escort; Mrs. Lucille Ellett, Pittsburgh, grand gate keeper.

Mrs. Sarah Blackwell, Atlantic City, was reelected grand trustee, together with Mrs. Sadie Grant of New York; Mrs. Cora Miles of Philadelphia; Mrs. Bessie Brown of Denver and Mrs. Alethya B. Williams of Washington, D. C.

Others elected were Mrs. Kayte Steele, Chicago, grand recorder; Mrs. Ida R. Cummings, Baltimore, grand assistant recorder; Mrs. Nettie R. Carter, Staten Island, grand doorkeeper and Miss Agnes Reid, New York, grand organist.

Mrs. Ann Webster Childress, Gary, Ind., and Mrs. Isabelle Fultz, Philadelphia, were re-elected as grand directress and secretary-treasurer of arts and crafts.

In the education department, Mrs. Minnie T. Wright, Boston, was re-elected grand directress; Mrs. Ethel Charleston, Philadelphia, first assistant; Mrs. Pearl Brown, Baltimore, second assistant; Mrs. Margaret Kelson, Washington, third assistant.

Numerous awards were given at the grand ball.

A voice and vote in the Grand Temple for life were given Mrs. Mattie L. Howell, of Norfolk, and Mrs. Margaret Wooden of Hackensack, N. J.

The following were made honorary past grand trustees: Mrs. Agnes Garrett, Baltimore; honorary past grand chaplain, Rev. Josephine Becton, Washington, D. C.

Dispensation was granted J. Finley Wilson to speak for the Grand Temple February 1, at Philadelphia, on "Freedom Day."

The Grand Temple voted to reinstate in National Council of Negro Wo[illegible]

Installation of Grand Temple officers was done by Madams Edna Haynes, Rosa L. Blocker, Margaret Stoute, Effie Stewart, and Susie B. Williams.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGROES RALLY TO BUY $350,000 IN WAR BONDS

AUG 16 1943

More than $3[illegible] in war bonds and stamps were subscribed by Negro firms and individuals at a bond rally Saturday afternoon in Washington park.

The rally was part of the 14th annual Chicago Defender Bud Billiken club parade and picnic. It was estimated more than 400,000 persons saw the parade, which formed at 34th street and Michigan avenue and included 1,000 Negro soldiers, sailors, and WACs.

Admission to the rally was $1 in war stamps. Nearly 2,500 crowded into the park swimming pool pavilion for a two-hour floor show. Members of the South Side Merchants' association contributed $125,000 to the total bond sale, which was conducted by Maj. C. Udell Turpin of the treasury department and David W. Kellum, city editor of the Defender.

The New York Age Is Given Two Citations For War Bond Advts.

Age

New York, N.Y.

JUN 5 1943

The New York Age received two citations last week from the United States Treasury Department in connection with War Bond advertising and promotion.

From Washington came the U. S. Treasury Department citation signed by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., which read:

"For distinguished services rendered in behalf of the War Savings Program this citation is awarded to The New York Age."

From New York came another citation signed by Nevil F. Ford, state adminsitrator, and his staff which read:

"In recognition of patriotic service through personal and untiring effort, The New York Age has earned the grateful appreciation of the War Savings Staff for an effective contribution to the outsanding record • New York State."

New York Times

New York, N. Y.

NEGRO SERVANTS ACT TO SELL WAR STAMPS

Group Holds Rallies Among the Colored of Atlanta

JUL 4 1943

ATLANTA, July 3 (AP)—W. Allen Murphy is a 45-year-old Negro waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club. He's tall, spectacled, quietly dignified, earnest in thought and action.

You won't find his name on the list of people who have set records in sales of war bonds. Most of the purchases he wins are in stamps—25 cents, 50 cents each. Amounts like that don't add up very fast. But Murphy works with people to whom a quarter or a half-dollar is a sizeable slice of their income.

Murphy thinks and works constantly for the improvement of his race. His theory is that if, "just plain folks" want to get ahead, they must do their own planning and acting.

He took his ideas to others of his profession, to members of other service occupations, and so has emerged the Atlanta Service Group, an organization of 100 waiters, chauffeurs, cooks, Pullman porters, and other public and private workers who make their living by service.

The first aim of the service group is to get each of the 21,000 families of Negroes in Atlanta to put at least $1 a week into war savings stamps.

Back in March, the service group held a stamp-selling rally, with entertainment by Negro musicians and singers from near by Army posts. The sales were $2,000, all in stamps, and 500 families signed the $1-a-week pledge.

On Monday a much larger rally will be held. It, too, will center around the Negro housing projects in which live 2,200 families. It will be a progressive rally, starting at one of the projects, and moving parade fashion from there to the other five, with a half-hour stop at each.

For the first time, there will be an effort to sell bonds. There will be a "bond wagon" from which the bonds can be delivered immediately by authorized sellers. The Army is considering lending two bands and has been asked, also, to let bond buyers ride in jeeps during the parade.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser

September 12, 1943

Capital Buys $250,000 More Bonds

Still $8,625,856 Short Of Its Final Objective; Everybody Gets Busy

Lions Enter Field

Army Of Quarter Million Hurled Into Drive By Civilian Defense Groups

The sale of $250,000 worth of additional war bonds yesterday brought Montgomery's total last night to $1,344,144 in the third war loan drive which began Thursday at noon.

The figures were released yesterday afternoon by Judge Eugene W. Carter, Montgomery County war finance chairman.

Meanwhile, reports began to come in from all over the State indicating full speed ahead in the war bond campaign.

Haygood Paterson, executive director of the Alabama Defense Council, said yesterday that his agency had been receiving reports from the various counties which indicate the full force of more than 250,000 members of civilian defense groups in Alabama have volunteered for work in the war bond sale.

Air Raid Wardens Busy

A report from Cullman County to Mr. Paterson was to the effect that every air raid warden in the county had volunteered to assist in the sale of war bonds. Other counties have made similarly gratifying reports. Mr. Paterson himself has enlisted in the work and opened the Dale County drive with a speech at Ozark Thursday night.

"There is no more important work the civilian defense groups could do at this time," Mr. Paterson said, "than aiding whenever and wherever possible in the sale of war bonds. And they are enlisting."

Judge Carter addressed two rural groups from Montgomery County yesterday at the courthouse. The white community chairmen and co-chairmen taking the lead in all war work in this county for the duration heard from Judge Carter the importance of buying war bonds and had additional encouragement from Lem A. Edmonson, county farm agent, and Mrs. Mamie C. Thorington, county home agent, in mapping plans for systematic purchase of bonds and a house-to-house canvass. Following his talk in the east courtroom to the white farm group, Judge Carter moved to the west courtroom and addressed a group of negro farm leaders, assembled by Annie Mae Boynton, negro home agent, and Farm Agent Alexander.

Leading Negroes Help

Judge Carter addressed a group of 40 leading negro citizens at Atlanta Life Insurance Hall Friday night preliminary to their setting up a sale group to promote the third war loan campaign among their own race.

Lions Club members, in their regular weekly meeting Friday at the Whitley Hotel, pledged an "all out" effort to the third war loan. They adopted a plan to organize a drive in each office and firm represented by their membership. Employes of each establishment will be called together, a campaign manager selected, and committees for each department appointed. Their goal is to sell to each employe an extra $25, $50 or $100 bond in addition to regular payroll purchases. The establishment, firm members, and family will be asked to buy bonds through the Lions Club.

Meanwhile, the Exchange Club has set up its war bond show in the Hudson Building at Lawrence and Dexter and invites everyone to visit it and see the exhibit consisting of a B-24 (Liberator) motor and propeller; top gun turret with 50-caliber machine guns, 30-caliber machine guns, carbine rifle, Thompson sub-machine gun, Garand rifle, 45 automatic pistol, bazooka rocket gun (tank destroyer), Winter or high-flying clothes, parachutes and a 250-pound bomb. Also shown is a Jap flag, a canteen taken by the U. S. Marines at Guadalcanal, pictures of planes and an amphibious jeep.

The public is said to be showing much interest in this exhibit and through Saturday afternoon visitors were said to have bought $105 worth of war stamps and $121,725 in war bonds.

Admission is a 25-cent war stamp for children and a $1 war stamp for adults. The public is invited to buy war bonds and stamps while at the exhibit.

"Buy," Urges Grant

Praising the home front effort in the second congressional district, Representative George Grant, of Troy, left behind one plea—buy more war bonds to help keep down inflation—as he departed yesterday for Washington and the reopening of Congress on Tuesday.

Representative Grant, who completed a round of all the counties in his district during the Summer recess, opening offices in county seats of each for several days, said that he was looking for a very busy session for the nation's lawmakers.

He said that his constituents didn't have any particular bones to pick, but that all were interested in the U. S. war effort, many citing the home front activities in their communities.

In speaking of the purchase of war bonds, Mr. Grant said, "We must look after the home front as well as the battlefront. The purchase of war bonds kills both birds in one shot."

Zebulon [illegible]

September 10, 1943

Negroes to Raise $20,000 in Drive

Garland Crews, director of the Negro Division of the 3rd War Bond Drive ,has completed his organization. The Little River District Negro quota is $20,000.00.

The communities of Zebulon, White Oak, Wrighttown and Riley Hill are participating wholeheartedly in the effort. Schools, churches and clubs are all doing their utmost to exceed the quota asked of the Negro citizens of Little River Township.

The following workers are acting as chairmen and sponsors in their several communities and organizations:

Schools:

Zebulon-Wakefeld: J. T. Locke, chairman.

Riley Hill: G. D. Vinson, chairman.

White Oak: Mrs. J. T. Locke, chairman.

Churches:

Zebulon - Wakefield: J. A. Gresham, R. P. Richardson, S. H. High, Leamon Wright, Earl Wright.

Riley Hill: Guyon Perry, U. G. Jones, C. H. High, E. C. High, John Parks, T. L. Ellis.

White Oak: Frank Perry, Mrs. Etta Baker.

P. T. A. and Clubs:

Mrs. Ethel Hopkins, D. W. Wiggins.

Jackson, Tenn., Sun

September 14, 1943

War Bond Sales Are Moving Along Satisfactorily

Chairman Pearson Is Urging Redoubling Of Effort

Sales big and small, bonds bought with dimes and pennies and big checks, all continued to swell the total raised to date in the effort here to push to a successful conclusion the raising of $2,572,700 in the Third War Loan Campaign.

Herron Pearson, regional chairman, Tuesday called on each of the divisions in the campaign to double all efforts, and also as far as possible to make regular reports of sales. The Women's Division, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Walter Baker Harris, was one of the first divisions to make an initial report, their total secured to date being $15,000.

Wednesday at 7:30 P. M., the big "Extra War Bond Premiere," sponsored by the Lions Club, will be held at the Paramount theatre. Milt Slosser, the most outstanding theatre organist in America will be on the stage in person, and the movie attraction will be "Holy Matrimony" starring Monty Wooley and Gracie Fields. No admission will be charged, but persons attending must pledge themselves to buy an extra war bond this month. Pledge forms are available at uptown drug stores and The Little White House.

Monday, the Victory Committeemen, under the direction of Tom Hillsman and Miss Mildred Pierce, commenced the farm-to-farm canvass that will reach every rural home in Madison County. The quota set for this division is $500,000, of which $100,000 has been allotted to the colored farm division.

W. C. Hanafee, chairman of the manufacturing division, said that each manufacturer in Jackson was being contacted, and that emphasis was being placed on the sale of Series C Treasury Savings Notes, which mature in three years, but are usable in paying Federal income taxes. He said also that indications are that the seven-eights per cent Treasury Certificates are proving popular.

Saturday night, a War Bond Auction Sale will be held at the Bemis Theatre, as a part of the Bemis all out effort. Horace Coyne, Bemis chairman, said that all arrangements have been completed. The sale is under the sponsorship of th Pilot Club. A big auction sale for Jackson will be held at the Armory September 24th, sponsored by the B'nai Brith Brotherhood.

Louis Englert, chairman of the General Features Division, said Tuesday that arrangements are being made for special entertainment features for the big auction sale here, that a parade is being planned, and also various stage events.

ANOTHE RSTATEMENT

Prayer and the purchase of war bonds were urged by Cartmell Thomas, Circuit Court Clerk, in a statement issued in support of the Third War Loan Campaign.

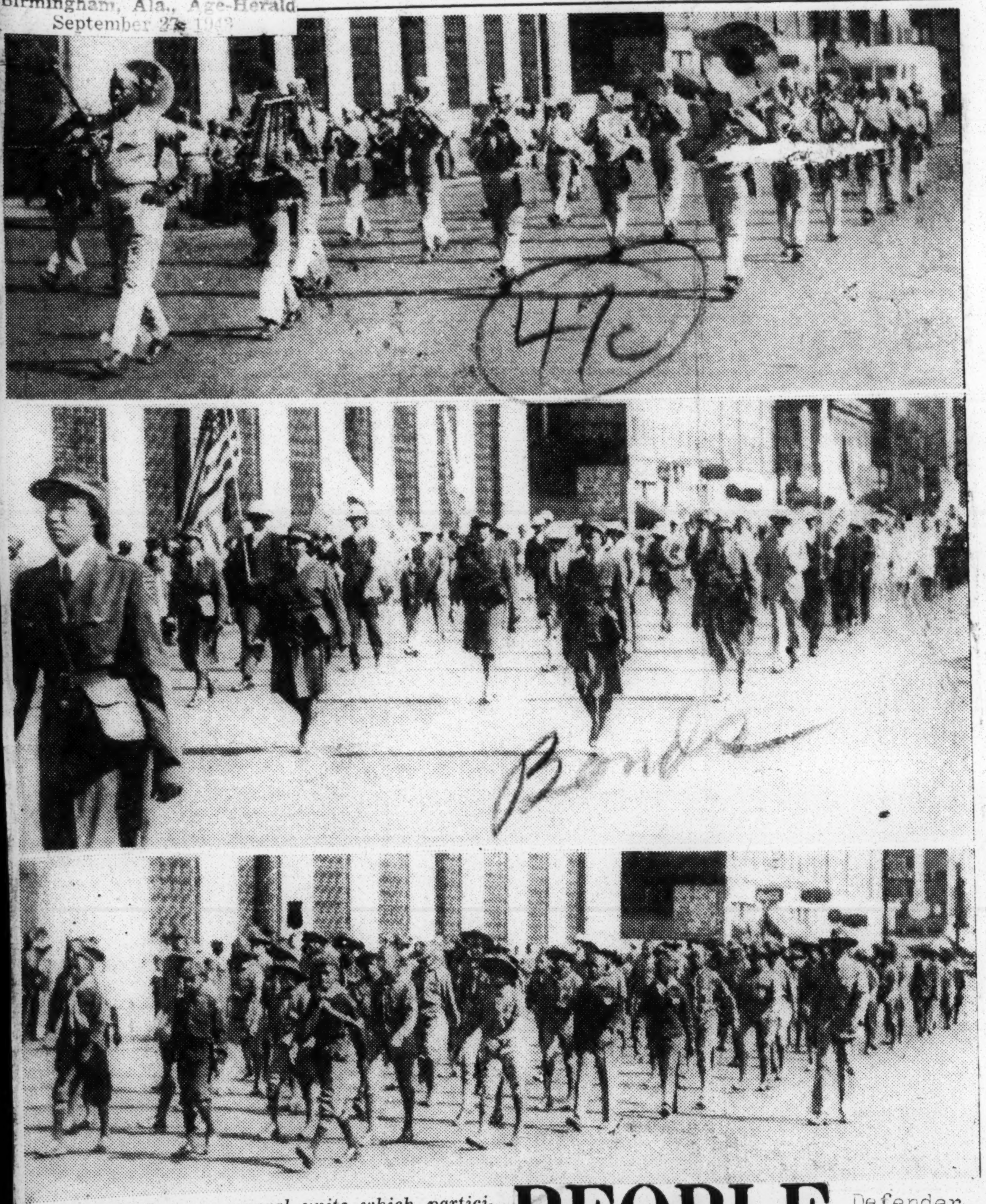
"As more of our boys pay the supreme sacrifice and others actively engaged in this global conflict are disabled, the war comes closer home to us day by day," Mr. Townes said.

"Unfortunately there are still some of our people that have done little or nothing in aiding the war effort. Of necessity some can do much less than others; we often hear the question: What can I do"

"May I suggest that we can all pray and we can all help pay for the War. As our church bells ring to call us to prayer for our boys. I urge you to pray more earnestly and as the present War Bond Sale progresses to buy Bonds and Stamps. We must buy in proportion to our ability."

Negro Units Parade In War Bond Rally

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
September 27, 1943



47c

Bonds

Shown above are several units which participated in the Sunday afternoon parade through downtown Birmingham, preceding a bond buying rally sponsored at the Municipal Auditorium by the Jefferson County War Savings Board, Negro division. At top is the Fourth Provisional Regiment band from Camp Sibert, Ala., as it marched north on 18th Street. In the middle are members of the Beauticians Volunteer Corps followed by white-helmeted air raid wardens of the county OCD. At the bottom are Boy Scouts representing Negro troops in the city and county.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By WALTER WHITE

I Try to Sell Bonds

THE WAYS of white folks, as Langston Hughes once said, are often beyond understanding. And when one understands their fears and doubts, the riddle is all the more incomprehensible since they so often duck and dodge in fear of a straw man. Such were my somewhat depressed feelings as I left the radio studio recently after doing a coast-to-coast broadcast urging the purchase of War Bonds.

Walter White

"You can say anything you choose," they had assured me on extending the invitation, and the words and tone were full of sincerity. Taking them at their word I had done what seemed to me a relatively inocuous statement which I believed would not only induce some Negroes to buy bonds but which also might encourage white people to do so.

I pointed out that though Negroes were still lynched in the United States, though they still were barred from some jobs even in defense plants because some employers and some labor unions were prejudiced, though Negroes were still segregated in the Army and Navy and their blood by the Red Cross, and though in Southern states most of them were still denied the right to vote, nevertheless the Negro was still loyal to America.

I pointed out that nearly a million of them were fighting on battlefronts all over the world or were being trained to fight and that in proportion to his means the Negro at home was buying bonds at about the same rate as his white fellow-Americans.

Thumbs Down At Studio

WHEN I REACHED the studio and turned over my script it was received with cordiality — until they read it. I felt sorry for the official who was charged in a huddle to break the news to me that they could not let me say what I had written because, he assured me, "there has been no controversy in any of the speeches to sell bonds."

He thought me flippant or not quite bright, apparently, when I suggested that they might sell **more** bonds if they dealt with the truth, even though controversial, instead of pouring out gutless treacle which would bore their listeners.

I pointed out that my presence in the series of speakers was obviously to try to sell bonds particularly to members of my own race and that, not being immodest, I knew them a bit better than he did. With this, of course, he agreed but he countered with the statement that we were on a nation-wide circuit and many white people were listening too.

"What of it?" I asked. "There are lots of decent white people who might, on hearing that Negroes were buying bonds and dying for a democracy they were often denied, might buy bonds or increase the amount of their purchases."

"That may be true," he answered doubtfully. "But we've got a lot of Southern stations tuned in and these programs will go on to midnight. The Southern stations would cut us off."

"Let them do so," I urged, somewhat mercilessly, "and thus let the rest of the country see that the South places its race prejudices above its patriotism. Lots of Americans — white and colored — would be so shocked they would make up for the loss of sales in the South."

Dixie Dominates Nation

I MIGHT as well have been talking to the Sphinx so far as my argument had any effect. I suggested that I not go on the air at all but it was then perilously close to the minute I was to speak. So I hastily pounded out on a type writer a more inocuous version in which I said that "although the Negro is still barred from jobs . . . and although. etc., etc." But the words "lynching," "employers and labor unions," "Red Cross" had to come out.

I wonder how many bonds, if any, the bowdlerized version sold. And how many would have been sold or kept from being sold by the original text. But even more I wondered at the way in which the the rest of the country and the world when it comes to this problem of race.

Carthage, N. C., News
October 28, 1943

Colored People Buy $2,150 Bonds in Drive

47c

The colored people of Moore county subscribed to a total of $2,150 in the Third War Loan drive, according to the report of Rev. J. R. Funderburk of Southern Pines, chairman of this division.

Names of the co-chairmen, together with the amount of bonds each sold in their community, follow:

Haw Branch School, Mrs. Ollie S. Harrington, $50.00; Long Leaf School, Mrs. J. Barrett, $50.00; Bellview School, Elizabeth Blalock, $5.00; Academy Heights School (Pinehurst), S. C. Cureton, $75.00; Eastwood School, Mrs. Edna B. Taylor, $50.00; Berkely High School (Aberdeen), J. H. Floyd, $75.00; Cameron School, G. L. Turner, $75.00; W. Southern Pines High School, P R. Brown, $50.00; Mt. Zion School, Thomas C. Jackson, $100.00.

Pinehurst—Mrs. Gladys Caldwell, $75.00; Rev. S. L. Brown, $25.00.

Jackson-Hamlet—Rev. E. B. Nel-oms, $25.00; G. H. Dawkins, $50.00; Mrs. Annie R. Rose, $50.00; Rev. Z. D. McRae, $25.00; Mrs. Annie R. Rivers, $100.00; Nathan Foster, $225.00.

Southern Pines — Charles Boggan, $100.00; T. R. Goins, $50.00; J. W. Bethea, $25.00; C. H. Strickland, $125.00; John Lytch, $75.00; D. E. Wilson, $25.00; Rev. E. B. Lipsey, $75.00; Mrs. Loretta Hines, $75.00.

Carthage—Mrs. Dayte Blue, $225.00

Aberdeen—Mrs. Georgia M. Lashley, $125.00; W. H. Byrd, Sr., $50.00

Vass—Sam McCall, $25.00.

Glendon—Robt. L. Foushee, $25.00.

Total, $2,150.00.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

NOV 13 1943

NOV 13 1943

PETERSBURGERS CONDUCT WAR BOND RALLY PARADE—In opening a November War Bond and Stamps Sale rally, citizens of Petersburg staged a parade on October 31. The line of march was marshalled by Charles A. Griffin. Organizations of the city, aided by groups from Camp Lee, Richmond, and Norfolk took part in the parade.

Above is pictured the Army Band from Camp Lee. A soldier regiment also marched. Below is shown a fraternal leader fronting a visiting band.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Board Selected To Increase War Bond Purchases In County

Benefits Of Holding Investments Until War Is Over To Be Stressed

NOV 28 1943

Preparing for a further appeal for the purchase of War Bonds from Negro citizens, A. G. Gaston has been elected chairman of the Jefferson County Negro war finance advisory board, and the committee will meet Tuesday to select a chairman of the Negro division of the war [illegible] staff, and to name committees, assuring representation of every section and group in the county.

Gaston expressed confidence in the ability of citizens to buy more bonds and of the entire board to provide the leadership. He said that special stress will be laid on the purchase of War Savings Stamps with an education program designed to teach the many benefits of saving bonds after the war.

Harry Simms, of Tuskegee Institute, associate administrator of the war finance division for Alabama, announced at last week's meeting that a definite quota would be given all counties and monthly reports will be released to the public on their activities. Local citizens were congratulated by Simms on their successful work in the past drive.

E. J. Oliver, Fairfield principal, was elected vice chairman of the Negro war finance advisory board, L. W. Brown, photographer, secretary, and Father J. Clyde Perry, USO leader, treasurer. Board members are Oscar W. Adams, S. J. Bennett, A. D. Shores, C. J. Greene, the Rev. W. D. Hargrove, John Henry Smith, H. D. Coke, W. B. Johnson, L. L. Britt, Ebb Cox, Bishop D. Ward Nichols, E. Paul Jones, the Rev. J. W. Goodgame and Mrs. Ruth Jackson.

Memphians To Buy Another Big Bomber

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

"Memphis Blues" Shot Down On Fighting Front

By NAT WILLIAMS
(Memphis WORLD Reporter)

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—War Bonds have replaced the "blues" in interest on Beale Street.

A determination to keep high the prestige of one of their best known "blues" songs is one of the moving forces behind intense Third War Loan activities of the Negro Division of the Memphis War finance committee, according to George W. Lee, chairman of the organization.

Aging W. C. Handy, "Daddy of the Blues" has been summoned back to Memphis, Beale Street, "where the Blues began," to help in the drive to raise the more than $2,000,000 the Negro volunteer Bond workers have set for themselves.

47c

SEP 16 1943

LIKE TO BUY BOMBERS

"Memphis folk," chairman Lee pointed out, "have a penchant for getting bombing planes dedicated with the Bonds they buy. At the close of the Second War Loan, Negro, citizens bought over $303,000 in War Bonds and had them dedicated to a consolidated liberator bomber known as the "Spirit of Beale Street." Prior to that another group of Memphians had a flying fortress dedicated and named the "Memphis Blues."

"We heard that 'Memphis Blues' had been shot down on one of the fighting fronts, and the Negro division for the Third War Loan has determined to raise enough money through war bonds to replace it with another fortress bearing the same name, and thus keep those deathless tunes that came straight from the unhappy heart of the Black man."

In support of this objective a series of events, city-wide in scope, has been planned to cover the duration of the Third War Loan campaign. In addition to a variety of daily activities, such as door-to-door canvassing, Bond booths in theatres and other key centers, and special Bond days for different organizations and institutions, several major events have been scheduled.

Among them will be the War Bond out-door barn show, in which the features will be the appearance of the Clyde Beatty Curcus in Handy's Square, located in the heart of Beale Street. Mrs. Tom Mix, widow of the movie idol, will spearhead the Bond sales with regular rides through the crowded thoroughfare. Elephants, clowns, and other Circus features will deploy for the first time in the center of the Negro business district.

HANDY GOES TO MEMPHIS

Mr. Handy is scheduled to remain in the city an entire week, starting September 18, to climax the drive. He will lead a mammoth parade consisting of the Millington, Tenn., Naval Training School band, school drum and bugle corps and bands, civic groups, marching units, and church organizations. Mr. Handy will also visit various industrial plants in Memphis to make an appeal for Bond purchases by Negro workers.

Plans are also under way to have Eddie Anderson, Rochester to millions of radio fans, present at a mammoth dance and Bond auction which will climax the drive.

The work of the Women's Unit of the Negro division of volunteer Bond workers is under the direction of Mrs. Addie Dandridge Jones, public school teacher.

Chairman Lee reported that already more than a third of his division's $2,000,000 goal has been reached.

Bond Drive Enters Final Week; Negroes Surpass Bomber Total

News
Birmingham, Ala.

SEP 2? 1943

While the Fighting Fifth thrust ahead in Italy, the men and women at home, the working people who face no threat of shell or bomb, moved into the final week of the Third War Loan drive.

In Jefferson County, in every county in Alabama, there are those who have not yet bought an extra War Bond during this three-week drive. Each citizen who lets Oct. 1 arrive without buying an extra bond has failed in the war effort just as surely as though he had removed the bullets from a soldier's machine gun, as though he had taken the gasoline from a Flying Fortress fighting for the chance to bomb Berlin.

Negro Americans—some 4,000 strong—rolled their special bomber total well above the $312,000 mark in a rally Sunday at the Municipal Auditorium to launch their climactic efforts in the Third War Loan.

AMONG THOS[illegible]ING PART were the bands of Parker High School, the Fourth Provisional Regiment of Camp Sibert and Fairfield Industrial High School, Knights of Pythias and the Court of Calamite, the Beauticians Volunteer Corps, Jones Valley Lodge No. 14 of the Independent Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World and its auxiliary, Red Cross nurses.

GUNTER SOLDIERS AID

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (AP) —Alabama's Third War Loan drive was $255,050 nearer the goal Monday as a result of a Sabbath Day's work by volunteer Army personnel of Gunter Field.

The soldiers, led by Mrs. Raymond L. Winn, wife of Col. Raymond L. Winn, commanding officer, took over a Montgomery radio station Sunday and [illegible] amount in War Bonds between 6:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

The War Bond Rally at the auditorium, which represented only a section of the Negro division's Third War Loan program, featured addresses by Mayor C[illegible] Green, Judge Clarence A[illegible] chairman of the Jefferson County War Finance Committee; A. G. Gaston, Negro division chairman; suprem chancellor, Knights of Pythias; S J. Phillips, Harry Sims, C. J Greene and WSGN Announcer Jac McCormack. H. D. Coke was maste of ceremonies.

One $1[illegible] War Bond investmen was made by the Rev. W. D. Ha grove on behalf of Union Bethel Independent Methodist Church.

CASH SALES AT THE RALLY which followed an elaborate parad through downtown Birmingham amounted to $34,175 which swelle the total of $278,000 safely into th $300,000 brackets. This assures th christening of a Liberator bombe in honor of Julius Ellsberry, Birmingham Negro, who was Jefferson County's first casualty at Pear Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

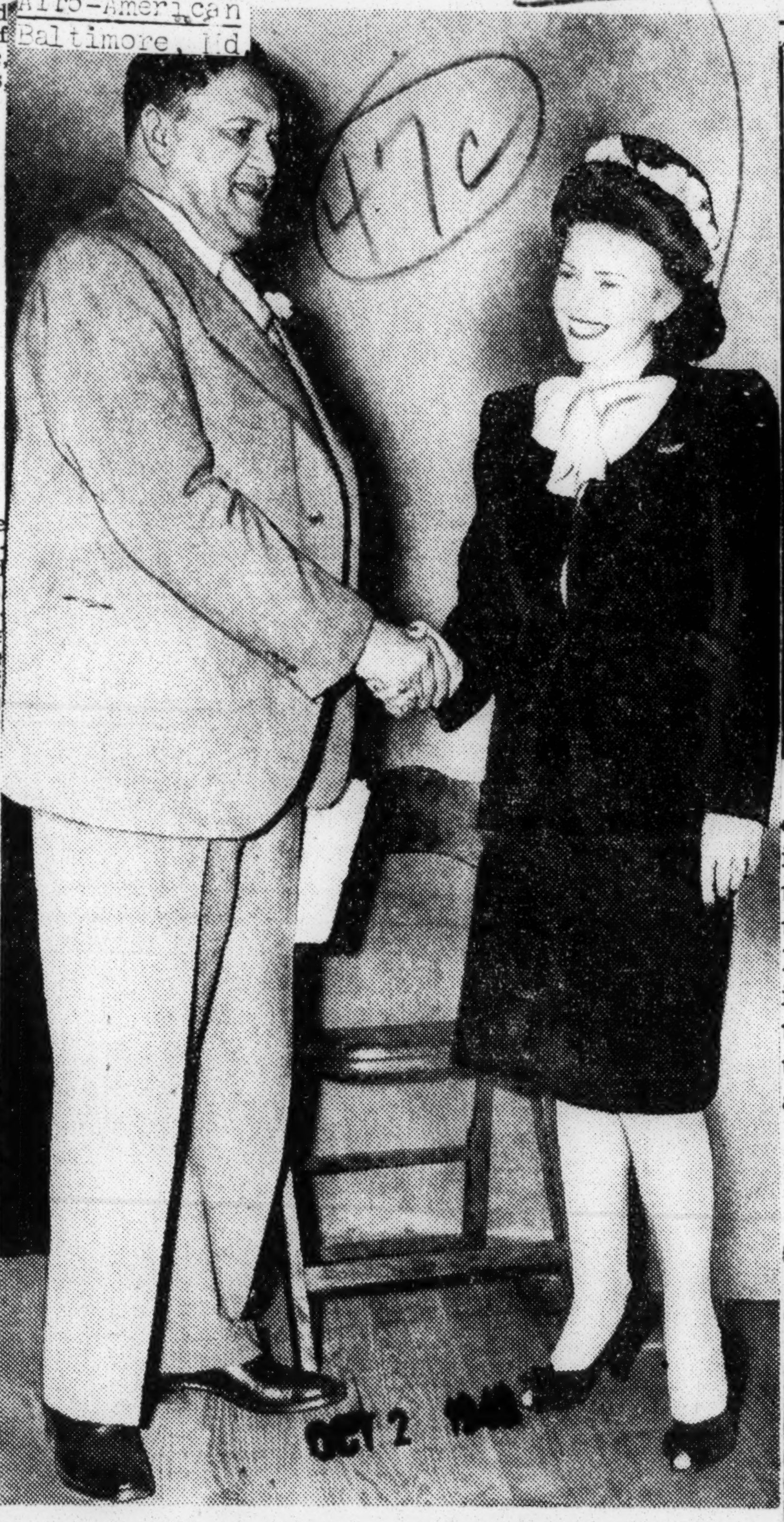
War Bond purchases by check were being added Monday and Negro leaders expected their total t climb considerably during the day.

The crack Tuskegee Army Ai Base Band led the parade from it origin at 16th Street and Sixth Avenue, North, in a winding course through the city to the Municipa Auditorium.

Uniform civilian defense officials, volunteer groups, civic organizations and Boy and Girl Scouts marched in the parade.

Races Mix at N.Y. War Bond Rally

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



OCT 2 1943

Dr. Channing H. Tobias, chairman of the Colored Activities Branch of the War Finance Committee for New York State, congratulates Margo Kurtz, wife of Lieut. Colonel Frank Kurtz, pilot of the famous flying Fortress, "The Swoose," and hero of the best seller, "Queens Die Proudly," upon her plea for support of the Third War Loan at a meeting conducted at the War Center, Fiftieth [illegible] West of Sixth Avenue. W. Randolph Surgess, chairman [illegible] York War Finance Committee, also addressed the [illegible] Entertainment was provided by Bill Robinson, Ralph Cooper, El[illegible]itzgerald, Duke Ellington, Conrad Nagel and a host of other stars of both races.

CHAMPION WAR BOND BUYERS

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Attack
WITH

Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Shief, Jr., well-known residents of Washington, D.C., have the unique distinction of having purchased $200 in War Bonds each for 18 consecutive months, using 75% of their individual salaries for the purpose. Mr. S[illegible] is a clerk i[illegible]e Procurement Division of the U.S. Treasury and Mrs. Shief is a clerk in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. They pledged to buy a $1,000 Third War Loan Bond. Both are graduates of Howard University and active in the professional and social life of the nation's capital.

Daily World
Atlanta. Georgia

Lean Years Will Come Again

Of the 27,375,000 families in the United States in 1929, 5,750,000 had no savings whatever. The early part of 1935, the sixth year of the financial collapse, more than 20,000,000 persons, almost one in five of the total population, were on relief rolls. Of these, 8,000,000 were children, and something less than 1,000,000 were persons of sixty-five years of age or over. During the last quarter of 1934 the number of unemployed in the United States ranged close to 11,000,000, according to estimates by the American Federation of Labor.

AUG 9 1943

Those facts in themselves offer some indications why Negroes, perhaps more than any other group of citizens, should consider now the insecurity which is certain to come in the wake of another depression. Even in ordinary times the vast majority of Negroes are oppressed by the dread of the grim spectre of unemployment, loss of savings, illness, and old age. Always and everywhere life presents the possibility of illness, accident and sudden death. That is why, in these fat years and times, we urge upon Negro workers everywhere to lay by some of the money they are making.

AUG 9 1943

More is involved in the breakdown of man's earning capacity than his personal inconvenience and suffering. The collapse carries with it the tragic consequences of neglected children, underfed families, together with other human sufferings which may stand as an indictment to any man who is privileged to work and prosper in these halcyon years of war and plenty.

Moreover, we cannot remind Negro People too often of the importance, not only of saving now for the future, but likewise in holding on to and buying even more war bonds, against the day when these learn years will again deal paralyzing blows to all of us without material means by which to live. It is said that Negroes can do more with less and less with more than any group of citizens. But here again is the [illegible]like attitude of Negroes burying their heads in the sands assuming that good times will last forever.

47c-1943

Look Ahead

AUG 19 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily World

Let's dream a little, look ahead to the future and plan for the day our boys will return home from the war. A very pleasant day that should be, and it is within our power to make it a very happy one. If we who are left here at home, will willingly serve our country, working a hard for victory as our soldiers are every day, we may reasonably expect to share in the glory of that victory.

When the day comes, we will be very proud of the brave American soldiers for their part in winning the toughest war in history's annals. Will they be proud of us? That question can be answered by our doing our best in hastening the day of victory. We must supply the arms and munitions, the ships the planes, the tanks so vital to the winning of the war and provide a backlog of savings for the peace to follow, by regular and large purchases of War Bonds and Stamps. Then we must keep these investments in our country's future. Purchasing securities in August, and cashing them in several months later, will definitely not be a contribution to the war effort. For the sa[illegible]asons that our soldiers cannot afford to rest [illegible] suffering the horrors and privations of war, so we ca[illegible]t afford to refuse to lend our government the money it needs to keep the armies equipped for the duration.

AUG 19 1943

The voluntary savings plan was not inaugurated just for the purpose of giving every citizen a part in the war effort. It is an urgent need to prevent rising prices, black markets and inflation during the post-war period. There are 45 billion extra dollars in the pockets of American wage earners. These extra dollars if saved, will make our dream of victory come true. Look ahead and invest them regularly in United States War Bonds.

A Roosevelt Idea For Bond-Buying Drives

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

By WILLIAM PICKENS

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT, son of the President, was introduced to the assembly of workers in the war finance staff, in the Washington Building on the morning of July 28. Col. Roosevelt has made a great name for himself photographing objectives for the united nations' forces in North Africa, and over Pantelleria, and Sicily.

His work has described the targets weeks and months before the attacks, and long before invasion attempts. Having seen so much of the war in the Mediterranean (photographing air fighting, invasion forces, precision bombing), he had some good ideas to add to our bond-selling campaign plans. We have had campaigns for jeeps, bombers, destroyers, cruisers, battleships, and for a Shangri-La. These concrete objectives stimulate bond buying.

AUG 30 1943

BOMBS FOR P[illegible]ES

Mr. Roosevelt gave some suggestions about using the air forces as objectives in bond campaigns: bombs for planes, bombs for a certain squadron. Then the government could be asked to send to the group (city, organization, or district) a photograph of the bombs bought by that district, as those bombs hurled down toward the enemy target—as we see it done every day in our moving picture houses.

Suppose, for example the colored people of New York City should raise sufficient funds in war finance to buy the necessary bombs for a raid by the Negro squadron operatingin the Mediterranean, then when pictures were made showing Col. Davis and his men letting those bombs fly toward objectives in Messina or Naples, a set of those pictures could be sent to the New York committee.

Such a moving picture film ("Our Bombs Strike Naples") would be thrilling and of great historic value to the colored people of New York for generations to come.

OPPORTUNITY IS GREAT

Negro groups are looking for definite objectives for their campaigns: The American Association of Negro College students wants a good objective; New York City, St. Louis, Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta, New Orleans, and many other

War Bonds and Stamps

communities would welcome objectives for their bond-investments. The Odd Fellows, the Elks, and other organizations might want to buy machine gun ammunition for the 99th pursuit squadron, depth charges for the Booker T. Washington, cannon for the George Washington Carver, demolition bombs for a Negro-American aviation unit.

And there are not only bomber and fighter squadrons, but coastal patrol aircraft. And not only may lodges and business leagues inaugurate such campaigns, but there may be some militant religious organization or church group which wants to pass the ammunition and praise the Lord.

We Americans are a great democracy and a free people. That means not uniforminty but great variety. Some will want to work in one way, others in other ways. The third war loan which aims at 15 billions of dollars should be oversubscribed. Elliott Roosevelt says that the failure of a war loan drive would lower the morale of our boys in Sicily. We do our part here. They will not fail us. We must not fail them.

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

Sept. 18, 1943

WASHINGTON — Enlistment of at least 5,000,000 Negroes in War Bond Savings Clubs is the goal toward which the Inter-Racial Unit of the Treasury's War Finance Division is aiming in the $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan, the Treasury Department said this week.

The Inter-Racial Unit, with Willard W. Allen, Baltimore Business leader, handling this phase of activities, is at work on a program for the organization of the clubs with 100 members each, in Negro communities throughout the country. The plan is for each club to make regular monthly purchases of at least one $25 War Bond.

Widespread Interest

Mr. Allen reported wide interest in the plan has already been revealed by letters of inquiry and comment coming to his office from all over the country. Several nationally-organized Negro groups have already gone on record in favor of the plan and have announced the adoption of it by their organizations. The National Negro Business League, the Bishops' Council of the AME Church, and the National Negro Insurance Association are among the groups which have adopted the program.

Sixty-five Masonic lodges in Maryland, and about as many other organizations in the country have already adopted the movement; and it is growing fast, Mr. Allen said. "Many Negro churches and the Baptist and Methodist councils have endorsed the idea," he added.

The War Bond Savings Clubs program is known in many circles as the Prattis Plan, inasmuch as it was first outlined by P. L. Prattis, executive editor of the nationally circulated Pittsburgh Courier.

In a column appearing in the Courier last May 1, Mr. Prattis wrote:

Purpose of Plan

"A bond-buying program would increase the Negro's wealth in this country. Suppose that 5,000,000 American Negroes could be persuaded to purchase an average of one $25 bond each month. That would mean the purchase of $125,000,000 cold cash each month. In eight months, the amount would be $2,000,000,000. In two years, they would have had added $3,000,000,000 of wealth to the race total, or more than they did in 75 years after slavery."

Mr. Allen pointed out that the Prattis Plan is designed not only to integrate the Negro into this country's plans for financing the war, but also to provide the Negro with a nationally planned and directed program of thrift and group accumulation of savings.

Post-War Plans

He said: "It is a post-war plan for the Negro race, who should plan for 200 years from today. The Negro needs to sit down and map out some concrete plans for the future. For with everything changing, due to science, he will be left outside if he doesn't plan. No one can do for the Negro what he can do for himself. His will and desire to do must come from within."

PICKENS LAUDS PRATTIS' PLAN

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Courier

Warm and enthusiastic praise has come from Dean William Pickens, for a novel plan suggested by P. L. Prattis, executive editor of The Pittsburgh Courier, in a recent editorial column. The plan was later submitted to, approved and accepted by the U. S. Treasury Department.

When Mr. Prattis' plan for national war bonds savings clubs among Negroes on a nation-wide basis was outlined to the Treasury Department, he pointed out that the 13,000,000 Negroes of America owned only $2,000,000,000 worth of property in this country, but that, if 5,000,000 of them could be persuaded to buy a $25 war bond every month, they would, within just two years, save $3,000,000,000 —more than they did in the 75 years following slavery.

Watermelon Farmer Buys Many War Bonds

Daily World

SEP 17 1943

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—G. L. Archie, Negro farmer of Hempstead, Texas, had bought $1,600 worth of War Bonds up until last month, out of his profits from raising watermelons.

As for his Third War Loan activities, Archie likes farming "on halyes" with Uncle Sam and plans to keep it up for the duration.

According to the Department of Agriculture, Archie "may not be the watermelon king, but he certainly is a runner-up for the title, because last year three-fourths of his $5[illegible] income came from melon[illegible] year, with prices up a bit, he stands [illegible]crease his watermelon earnings.

SEP 17 1943

A few years ago, Farmer Archie got the idea that, "Well, what's the use of planting cotton all the time; why not try my hand at a new kind of crop?"

Like the rest of his neighbors he had grown a few melons each year. "So, why not put in a whole crop of 'em?" Archie asked himself.

By last year he was planting more than half of his worty-acre farm in watermelons. To be exact, he put in twenty-three acres from which he sold $3,300 worth of melons. He used the rest of his land, that is, all but a few acres, to grow feed for his livestock, mostly cattle. From this he grossed $1,027.

Although Farmer Archie isn't farming on shares, he believes in sharing equally with the Government. The year before he had built himself a comfortable home at a cost [illegible]1,600; so now it was Uncle Sam[illegible]rn. Whenever he sold his melons he would [illegible]ays stop by the bank on the [illegible] home; deposit some and use some to buy a share in America—War Bonds. He has planned to buy an extra 'share' during the Third War Loan.

SEP 17 1943

Negro Workers Set Bond Buying Record

Atlanta, Ga.

SEP 17 1943

Daily World

TCHULA, Miss—Negro workers, employed of a hardwood mill here feel that they are.. setting some kind of a recrod for others to top during the Third War Loan Drive. Fifty of them have already voluntarily signed up to have their employer buy a $50 Bond apiece for them during the month of September, deducting from their salary during the month additional amounts over and above the regular payroll allotments.

J. C. Allen, of the company has advised Mr. Rex I. Brown, State Chairman of the Third War Loan Drive, that [illegible]eck-up taken to refute rumors that a l[illegible] bonds bought by Negroes are ca[illegible]ed soon after purchase shows that 70 per cent of the bonds bought by Negro employees are still held by them.

SEP 17 1943

The payroll allotment plan for the firm as a whole, which also employs a large number of white workers, averages better than 11 per cent, and purchases normally run to about $10[illegible] per month.

Every letter sent out by the company carries this line. "Our Employees 100 [illegible]ent invest 10 per cent or more [illegible]r Freedom."

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

NOV 13 1943

BOND RALLY NETS $15,000—A War Bond rally which netted $15,000 highlighted the 19th Triennial Session of the United Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction held in Washington, D. C., October 17-19. James L. Houghteling, National Organizations Division of the Treasury Department, was the principal speaker. Mr. Houghteling is shown standing between Willard W. Allen, Sovereign Grand Commander, and Dr. William J. Thompkins, Recorder of Deeds (in center of photo). Among others in the photo are Dr. J. E. Walker, National Negro Business League; J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World; Dr. Sumner A. Furniss, Sovereign Grand Commander, Northern Jurisdiction; Dr. Conwell Banton, Secretary-General, Northern Jurisdiction; Dr. Charles Wesley, president of Wilberforce University; Bishop M. H. Davis, of the A. M. E. Church; Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois; James T. Beason, Secretary-General, Southern Jurisdiction; and William Pickens, of the Treasury's War Bond sales staff; Dr. George Singleton, of Philadelphia; Mr. William Carter, of New York; Mr. J. E. Dickson, of South Carolina; Cicero A. Lee, of Washington, D. C.; John L. Webb, of Mississippi; John W. Dobbs, of Atlanta, Ga.; T. L. Brewster, of Tennessee; Allen C. Griffin, of District of Columbia; E. T. Belsaw, of Mobile, Ala.; and Charles D. Freeman, of Washington, D. C. (Official Treasury Department Photo from OWI.)

NOV 13 1943

HERE
For the BROWN BOMBER DRIVE
WAR BONDS
OCT 8-194

Call
Kansas City, Mo

NORTH AMERICAN WORKERS BUY BONDS FROM CELEBRITIES.—When Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and Mrs. Marva Louis toured the North American Aviation plant Friday, September 24, they officiated a few moments at the War Bond booth set up in the plant and are shown here selling a bond to Miss Eloise Abraham, who has been in charge of the booth at night. Behind Miss Abraham is Miss Lena Smith, day attendant at the booth. The visit of Col. Davis and the wife of Sgt. Joe Louis, who came to Kansas City for the Brown Bomber rally Friday night, sped the purchase of war bonds among the workers at the plant where the "Brown Bomber" plane will be built. Ollie Williams, a production worker, and Harvey Baldwin, service department foremen, are chairmen of the Brown Bomber drive at the bomber plant, where $10,285 in bonds was reported.

—North American Aviation photo.

OCT 8 1943

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stms

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
October 1, 1943

Negroes Over Top In Bond Campaign

"Lunch money" and jingling coins from "piggie banks" joined in with more substantial sums to put the negro division in the Third War Loan drive over the top here, it was announced last night.

A total of $258,000 had been reached as of yesterday, $8,000 over the assigned quota, and a final accounting is expected to push the figure even higher, it was stated.

Negro farmers shared in the Farmer's Day effort, their offerings bringing in more than $6,000 in bond sales, while a 30-minute radio broadcast over Radio Station WJHP accounted for $38,500 in securities which will help to "Back the Attack", according to Chairman J. Leonard Lewis.

Serving on the committee with Lewis were:

J. W. Sweat, J. B. Jenkins, Joseph D. Brooks, George W. Powell, Arnolta Williams, John T. Betsch, Carl Ford, S. D. McGill, G. B. Washington, James H. Lewis, Rev. Dykes A. Brookins, Joe H. James, John A. Sims, Ethel Powell, Nellie F. Lewis, Hattie I. James, Joseph Higdon, Buleah Wright, William L. Butler, Clifford Davis and William Sweet.

Greenville, Ala., Advocate
September 23, 1943

Colored Citizens Launch Drive To Meet Quota

Colored County Agent Elliot Robbins, serving as director for the Third War Loan Drive for the colored population of Butler county, announces the program now under way: Thirty-one community chairmen have been appointed to make a house-to-house canvass in every beat of the county. These chairmen have been supplied with receipt books and pay envelopes, and co-chairmen have also been appointed to assist in this effort. The names of all chairmen are given in a circular letter recently mailed to all colored citizens.

The procedure follows: the First National Bank of Greenville, the Citizens Bank of Georgiana, along with Postmasters of Forest Home, Bolling, Chapman, Garland, McKenzie and Pigeon Creek, have consented to assist in this effort by receiving all funds collected by chairmen or anyone making the canvass. These officials will issue bonds and stamps in accordance with the money turned in. For example: if W. J. Lawson, chairman for McKenzie, should receive from Rev. E. P. Pugh, $2.00 for stamps, then Chairman Lawson puts the $2.00 in his pay envelope with Rev. Pugh's name on back of same, after which he files same with the postmaster at McKenzie, Mr. B. F. Beesley, and too, a receipt is given Rev. Pugh, which will be submitted to the postmaster there for his stamps. The original receipt is kept by Chairman Lawson for his report. The same procedure will be used by all chairmen.

Through the courtesy of Col. Jeff P. Beeland, County Chairman, War Savings Staff, three prizes will be given to any solicitor reporting the highest amount of bonds and stamps sold during this drive: 1st prize, a $25.00 War Bond; 2nd prize, $3.00 worth of stamps, and 3rd prize, $2.00 worth of stamps. Volunteer solicitors are eligible. Contact your chairman.

Colored Citizens' Meeting On Sunday

Newberry, [illegible] Herald

There will be a citizen's meeting Sunday, October 3rd, at 4 o'clock at Calvary Presbyterian church. All captains and solicitors of the Third War Loan drive are asked to be present.

Urge all pledgers to purchase their bonds not later than Friday, October 1.

Other citizens who have not bought bonds come prepared to do so at this meeting. Arrangements have been made to take applications for bonds and have them delivered next day.

We are glad to report we have raised our quota of $20,000, but we must do more.

Remember our boys with the armed forces are depending on you to back the attack by buying bonds now.

Your Committee: J. B. Williams, Chairman; Prof. U. S. Gallman, Dr. J. E. Grant, Dr. G. W. Singleton, Prof. R. F. Gladden, Simmon Allen, Prof. Carel Jones, Secretary.

Albany, Ga., Herald
October 2, 1943

Many Bonds Sold at Negro Rally in Camilla

CAMILLA, Oct. 2.—At a War Bond rally held by the Negro citizens of Camilla at the Rockdale School last Tuesday night more than $900 worth of bonds were bought and by the end of the week a total of $2,050.

Among the Negro leaders of the War Bond Committee were J. C Sanders, county agent; Loretha Gilmore, county school supervisor; Mary Clarke, county home demonstration agent; and Prof. M. Sanders, superintendent of Rockdale school. They were assisted by their preachers in Camilla and the vicinity, including the Revs. Johnson, Renfroe, Williams, Davis, Watson and Brown.

The patriotic committee leaders have announced that they intend to hold bond selling rallies every two months until the war is over.

Negro Citizens Buy Bonds For $1,709.50 At Westside Rally

Talladega [illegible] Home
Octo[illegible]

Negro citizens of Talladega purchased war bonds in amount of $1,709.50 at the bond rally and dance held at Westside School Thursday night.

The total, of course, is in addition to purchases made by Negro citizens during the entire period of the Third War Loan campaign, which ends at midnight Saturday.

The program for the evening was mapped by a committee of workers who have given generously of their time to the success of the sale in North Talladega County.

Reids[illegible]
September 16, 1943

Negroes To Hold Bond Rally Parade Today

In an effort to boost the spirit in the Third War Loan Drive among negroes in the city of Reidsville, a parade featuring the "376" Aviation Squadron and the 21-piece B. T. C. 10 band will be held here, beginning at 6:30 p. m. Other organizations including the American Legion, Boy and Girl Scouts, Nurse Auxiliary, Air Raid Wardens, etc.

The group will assemble at Smothers' warehouse on Piedmont street and head north up Scales street to Morehead street, then east to East Market and thence south on East Market street, disbanding at Smothers warehouse.

Dean McLaughlin, member of War Saving Staff of A. and T. T. College, Greensboro, will be present to give a short bond rally talk.

COLORED K OF P, DRILL CORPS AND LEGION BUY BONDS

Jackson, Tenn., Sun
October 3, 1943

War Bonds were purchased during the Third War Loan rally by the Colored Knights of Pythias Magnolia Lodge No. 4. East Jackson Star Lodge No. 37. in the amount of $400. Bonds were also purchased by the Williamson Trice Post No 31. Colored American Legion. and the Colored Pre-Induction Drill Corps.

Officials of these organizations are, Dr. W. D. Holder and J. W. Lane. Chancellor Commanders. K. of P.; F. W. Smith. commander. W. A. Light, adjutant, Post No. 31: Leon Batchelor, director, P. L. Harden, commander, and Luther Trotter and Wallace Greer, assistants, Drill Corps.

The Corps will meet at 7 p. m. Monday for instruction by Lieut. James Frank Estes. The Legion Post will meet Friday at 7:30 p. m. to lay plans for starting construction on the Post-Drill Corps building for which WPB approval has been received.

Negro Schools To Observe "Tag Day" On Thursday

Valdosta Ga., Daily Times
October 12, 1943

The Negro schools of Valdosta will observe Thursday as "Tag Day" for the current War Fund effort. The teachers are sponsoring candidates for the title of "Miss Valdosta" and the successful contestant will be crowned Thursday night at the entertainment at the Dasher High School.

The Junior Hostesses of the Nebro Service Center and the Women's Auxilary Defense Council are participating in the drive. J. L. Lomax and C. R. Hudson have been named as chairmen of the Negro division of the War Fund drive.

$2,000 In Bonds Bought At Allen

Columbia, S. C., Record
September [illegible]

The Negro War Bond held last night at Allen University netted $2,000 to the total receipts of the Third War Loan Drive. M. A. Entzminger, chairman of the Negro drive in Richland County said this morning.

The Negro Bricklayers Union No. 5 bought a $1,000 bond at the rally, Entzminger said, and the owners of the College Inn Negro Hotel added a $500 bond to the sales.

Officials at the rally asked the people to contact the schools nearest them when they wished to purchase a bond, and announced that a representative would call for their applications.

Frank P. McGowan, chairman of the War Finance committee for the Third War Loan Drive in Richland county, today commended the Negroes in the county for their part in the drive. "They are right with us in this job", he said this morning.

New [illegible] Gazette
September [illegible]

COLORED CITIZENS HOLD BIG BOND RALLY TUESDAY

Colored citizens of the county held a big bond rally at the colored Methodist church in this city on Tuesday when leaders from over the county reported their sales and pledges of Third War Loan Bonds. The meeting was held under the leadership of Rev. M. Tolbert, chairman.

Thomas E. Goodman, Postmaster of New Albany, was present with stenographers to assist in making out the bonds. As the name of each community was called, the chairman came forward and purchased bonds for their people. For more than two hours Bonds were written as fast as the stenographers could work. Approximately $3,000 in Bonds were reported and written up at the meeting.

Other lists were reported of pledges to be purchased at the banks. All-told the purchases of the colored citizens of Union County will exceed $5,000.

Mr. J. G. Houston, County Chairman of the drive, congratulated those present upon their excellent showing and the fine, patriotic spirit displayed throughout the campaign.

Rev. M. Tolbert was ably assisted by Rev. J. L. Tolbert, Isom Brown, J. V. Ballard, J. W. Jones and Prof. B. F. Ford, Albert Simpson, Hettie Newton and others.

Ashland, Ala., Progress
October 7, 1943

Clay County Negroes Take Active Part In Recent Bond Drive

"Backing the Attack" was the slogan demonstrated by the Negroes and white friends of Clay county as they bought bonds in the Third War Loan Drive. Every necessary sacrifice to support our forces everywhere was happily made by the humblest individual.

The county was organized into three sections. The colored schools were the headquarters and each principal was local chairman. At the Bunker Hill Junior High School $675 worth of bonds were sold, actual cash $506.25. At the Ashland Junior High School $750 worth of Bonds were sold, actual cash $562.50. At the Clay County Training School $1125 worth of Bonds were sold, actual cash $843.75. Total amount of Bonds sold $2550.75, actual cash $1912.50.

Supt. George D. Martin was the main speaker at the Bunker Hill Bond Rally. Bonds were sold by Messrs. H. W. Sims and E. F. Ingram.

Mr. C. M. Pruet was the main speaker at the Ashland rally. Prof. Menrie Smith and Mrs. Ruby G. King made applications for War Bonds.

Mr. Geo. D. Martin and Mr. W. E. Carpenter were the principal speakers at the Lineville Rally. Mr. J. B. Hull and Mr. C. T. Stewart sold the Bonds.

We are grateful to our white friends for the fine manner in which they explained the purpose and importance of all people buying bonds. The explanations were plainly made. As a result the colored people of Clay county made a better showing as a whole, than at any other time during this present war crisis.

Much credit is due the following persons for the fine spirit of cooperation shown in this Third War Loan Drive: Prof. W. E. Nall, Principal of Bunker Hill Junior High; Prof. Menrie Smith, Principal Ashland Junior High; Miss Geraldine Hastings, Home Ec Teacher, Clay County Training

School: Mrs. Amanda C. Scott, Principal Clay County Training School.

Many thanks to all for the work you have done. Let's keep it up until Victory is won.

DAVID E. SCOTT,
County Chmn. War Bonds
for Negroes.

COLORED BOND AUCTION NETS $25.570.00

South Boston, Va. News
October 26, 1943

Many Valuable Items Go To War Bond Buyers

The giant Negro War Bond auction held in South Boston on Friday night, saw $25,570.00 worth of bonds bought by citizens of Halifax County, both white and colored. Many valuable articles were auctioned off by W. L. Seymour, local white auctioneer, some bringing as high as $3,000.00. A large amount of missionary work was done by J. S. Carrington and his committee prior to the auction, which was in reality a St. Luke War Bond rally. Principal speakers were Mrs. Hattie N. F. Walker, of Richmond; Mrs. Marion C. Johnson, of Richmond; James F. Nicholas, of Richmond, State supervisor of Civilian Defense, and C. A. Crocker, from the State War Bond office, who introduced to the crowd Sergeant Millard Arnold, who came here from the Government hospital at Stauton to help with the auction.

The St. Luke organization, through J. S. Carrington, purchased $7,500 in bonds; the Virginia Mutual Life Insurance Co., $2,500 through G. D. Crawford, and the Benevolent Eagle Society, $1,500 through George Ford.

J. S. Carrington, chairman of the Colored War Finance Committee of Halifax County, wishes to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the War Bond Auction a success, especially all of the committees.

The list of those who contributed to the auction will be published next week.

South Boston, Va. Gazette
October 28, 1943

Negro Bond Auction Held Friday Night A Great Success

The giant Negro War Bond auction held in South Boston on Friday night, saw $25,570.00 worth of bonds bought by citizens of Halifax County both white and colored. Many valuable articles were auctioned off by W. L. Seymour, local white auctioneer, some bringing as high as $3,000.00. A large amount of missionary work was done by J. S. Carrington and his committee prior to the ahction, which was in reality a St. Luke War Bond Rally. Principal speakers were Mrs. Hattie N. F. Walker, of Richmond; Mrs. Marion C. Johnson, of Richmond; James F. Nicholas, of Richmond, State supervisor of Civilian Defense and C. A. Crocker, from the State War Bond office, who introduced to the crowd Sergeant Millard Arnold, who came here from the Government hospital at Staunton to help with the auction.

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J. S. Carrington, chairman of the Colored War Finance Committee of Halifar County, wishes to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the War Bond Auction a success, especially all of the committees.

Marion, S. C., Star
October 15, 1943

Colored Citizens Hold War Bond Drive

A committee of colored citizens, working in the interest of the Third War Bond Drive, held a War Bond Rally at the Marion County Training School on Friday evening, Oct. 1st. As a result $2793.25 was raised in the purchasing of War Bonds. This amount represents the purchase price and not maturity value.

During the Drive the school pupils purchased $90.05 worth of Defense Stamps. This makes a total of $2883.30.

Halifax, Va., Advertiser
October 28, 1943

COLORED BOND AUCTION NETS $25,570.00

Many Valuable Items Go To War Bond Buyers

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Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

The Beauticians Volunteer Corps of Chapter No. Sixty-four, National Beauty Culturists League raised over $7,000 when they held a Victory Bond Rally last Sunday at the Southwest Branch Y. W. C. A. Seated left to right—Sarah Johnson, Marie S. Smith, Sgt. Frank Roberts, an injured war veteran who spoke, Cordelia G. Johnson, president of the National Beauty Culturists League and Mary Johnson. Standing—Irma Graham, Anna B. Jones, Christine Dorman, Isabelle Hill, Blanche Park, Essie Davidson and Iphengia Taylor.

OCT 2 1943

News
Birmingham, Ala

SEP 23 1943

NEGRO BOND BUYERS

To the Editor The News:

We Americans, white and black, face a serious situation today. [illegible] aggressor nations across the seas are dedicated to the proposition of enslaving and destroying us, as well as all of those who fight for freedom under the banner of the United Nations. Negro soldiers are at this moment standing ready to pour their blood on the altar of freedom in 32 countries, to defeat those who would enslave all of us as our Negro ancestors were never enslaved prior to 1865.

We may not enjoy the freedom we deserve, but it is better than that which my grandfather and grandmother experienced. We enjoy liberties and opportunities for development unknown to nobles in the not too far distant past. I know we would rather render whatever service we are called upon to render in the defense of our homeland than to have the yoke of totalitarian slavery riveted around our neck.

The country calls upon us to "Back the Attack" our soldiers are making today—all over the world—for freedom. This is not a day when victory may be had by way of oratory or protest. The Negro citizens of Jefferson County have dedicated themselves to the task of buying $300,000 worth of War Bonds this week. When the count is taken at the big Bond Rally at the City Auditorium this Sunday afternoon, the success of the effort will depend upon the contribution each individual will have made in the purchase of War Bonds this week.

Let us face the need of this hour and the future, ready to spend and be spent, to defend our households, trusting in God. Let us manifest our love for liberty, justice and tolerance, so much so that when called upon to make the greatest sacrifice for the highest ideals, we will join with Emile Zola who, when reminded that he might lose his life in his fight for the very thing for which America is fighting, cried out, "I am not important, it is the ideal of liberty for which I fight!" Men may come and men may go, good or bad, but we must never forget we belong to a destiny that has a right to demand of us a manifestation of the greatest love for liberty and justice as we can express by the War Bonds we buy now.

Our boys out there in the bloody theaters of war are crying out to us, "Give us the tools, and we will do the job." In this way Negroes share the grandeur of those Negro captives who, when they faced the slave auction block at Ebos Landing and contemplated the horrors of just such slavery as Hitler and his henchmen would shackle the world with, turned about and marched out into the sea and to death with a song upon their lips.

Negro men and women, this is your country, too! Wherever you are, on the farm, in the factory, in the mine or in the mill, remember that the first blood spilled for this country was that of Chrispus Attucks, a Negro; remember that Lincoln, the emancipator, died because of the spirit he expressed in his Gettysburg address. Do not do anything to reflect upon the sacrifices these and others made in order that we might enjoy freedom of speech, the freedom to go as high in life as our ability permits, and the right to worship God under our own vine and fig tree.

Your liberty was purchased with the blood of those who believed as we must believe—in you and in America—in God. For these things, buy bonds. Others are dying for these same things. Do not submit by default to the yoke of slavery which is the lot of those who have fallen prey to Hitler and his mad men—a slavery [illegible] times more hideous than our grandparents ever knew.

ROBERT DURR,
Editor The Weekly Review.

SEP 23 1943

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Americus [illegible]
April 9, 1943

Negro War Fund Is Near $1,000 Mark; Drive To Continue

T Negro Red Cross War Fund drive in Sumter county has reached a total of $911.69. The campaign will be continued till the end of the week in an effort to reach the $1,000 goal according to Oscar Maxwell, drive chairman.

Appreciation for the co-operation of the public is expressed in a letter today by Maxwell. It follows:

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the people of Americus and Sumter county for their loyalty and hearty co-operation given in making our War Fund Campaign a success.

The daily and weekly press have been very courteous to us in publicity. The City officials were very kind and co-operated on the day of the parade. The Red Cross general chairman, Mrs.. J. T. Warren did everything possible to keep us supplied in material and was always ready to check in the cash whether she was at home or at the Red Cross room. She furnished us with flags and posters for our parade and assisted us in every way possible to make the parade a success.

Chairman, Rev. Mack Anthony was always at our service. He started the ball rolling for us when he got Mr. Haggard to stop his men at the basket factory a few minutes to hear a talk from Rev. Boliva Davis, . pastor of Bethesda Baptist church and also Rev. Anthony, himself. When they finished every man and woman agreed to $1.00 taken from their pay check for the Red Cross. The total amount was $160. for the negroes.

There are other businesses that Chairman Anthony contacted and they also gave. Workers among the white gave us credit for all that they collected from our group.

As for the negro workers in the city as well as in the county, they did a good job of it and some are still working.

The young girls from Staley Hill who had booths on the streets did an excellent job by collecting $44.89, after the parade.

We wish to thank everyone who did even the least thing in help- [illegible] on to success with the parade as well as the drive.

Since we lack only $89.00 having $1,000, the workers have agreed to work on until Saturday when we hope to complete the $1,000. It can be done, and we are going to do it.

The Staley High school girls will be back on the streets again with booths selling Red Cross tags. Please help these girls as they are anxious to raise $50 on that day.

The total amount collected, to date is $911.69. Of this amount the county teachers raised $252.86, two white ladies $2, Dayton Veneer Mill and other sources $210.85 and Staley High booth workers $44.89, city teachers with civilian workers $401.09.

Again I wish to say thanks to one and all.

Sincerely,
Oscar Maxwell.

Greenville, Ala., Advocate
May 27, 1943

Colored Citizens Buy Bond Quota

Patterson Addresses Rally When Local Colored People "Go Over The Top"

An estimated crowd of 3,000 colored citizens and farmers of Butler county attended the climaxing program of the War Bond and Stamp Rally which was held in the Greenville stadium on Wednesday of the past week. Featuring the day's activities was a street parade, led by the Tuskegee Army Air Corps band, an all-Negro unit, under the direction of Lt. Frank L. Drye, commanding.

During the band concert at the stadium, colored citizens purchased $2,063.95 worth of War Bonds and Stamps at the gate. This, with $9,240.45 worth of bonds and stamps sold prior to the program, gives a total of $11,304.40 worth sold up-to-date.

Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and state chairman for the War Savings Staff for Negroes made the principal address. Dr. Patterson emphasized the importance of buying War Bonds as the surest and safest investment a person can make while the country is at war. He also pointed out how an investor can be protected from breadlines in the event another depression should follow after the war.

Brief addresses and remarks were also made by T. M. Campbell, Field Agent with the U. S. Department of Agriculture; Nicholas Kollock, State Extension Agent with headquarters at Tuskegee, and Lieut. Drye, bandmaster. Harry Sims, Field Agent for Tuskegee Institute, gave an interesting demonstration on how a farmer can take native materials and products grown on the farm, such as corncobs and broom sage, and convert them into useful articles as a means of earning money with which to buy bonds and stamps.

S. J. Phillips, business expert of Tuskegee, and president of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency, came to Greenville and decorated the large number of cars taking part in the parade, with war posters, which were symbols of the occasion.

Wiley Crenshaw, prosperous colored farmer of the Bragg Hill community, officially opened the campaign by buying the first $1,000 War Bond, which was the highest denomination for the rural population. Prof. Javoil Dent, principal of the City Colored School, led the City of Greenville, in purchasing the second $1,000 bond. Lizzie Bedgood, Route 2, Greenville, $600; Mattie Bedgood, also of Route 2, $500; Joe Crittenden and wife, Mary Bell, $475. Any number of other persons purchased $100 bonds.

The largest amount reported for the communities was made by W. T. Smith Lumber Company colored employees, in the amount of $3,756.07.

Col. Jeff P. Beeland, county chairman, and Calvin Poole conveyed their best wishes for a successful rally through a telegram from St. Louis, Mo., where they were attending the Rotary convention.

James Herbert, chairman, Greenville Citizens' Committee, and Rev. J. H. Browder participated in the program, which was in charge of Rev. D. B. Bennett, county chairman. Elliot Robbins, colored Farm Agent, and W. C. Patton, president, Greenville Civic Club, served as co-chairmen. Robbins, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, also served as master of ceremonies. The colored committee members state that they wish to express appreciation for the assistance given by our white citizens and to all who helped to make the rally a success.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
March 26, 1943

nning Cast Scores in Show For War Bonds

Several thousand persons last night gave an enthusiastic reception to the performance of the Army Musical Show of the Reception Center at Fort Benning, held at the municipal auditorium under sponsorship of the Atlanta Service Group of the War Bond Committee.

Colonel Fonville McWhorter, representing the War Saving Staff of the Treasury Department, spoke briefly and complimented the Atlanta Negro community for its war bond efforts. The slogan of the Service Group is "One stamp each week by each Negro family in Atlanta for the duration."

Featured acts included Mitchell and Shaw, tap dancers; Jack and Mack, comics, and solos by Rawn Spearman, tenor, whose concert tour was cut short by entrance into the service. Florence Warwick, Atlanta dance teacher, contributed a dance number.

W. Allen Murphy was chairman, and Hugh H. Homes, co-chairman. A wide variety of entertainment was presented. Many men in the group formerly were musicians with name bands.

NEGRO SCHOOLS HELP IN DRIVE

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
March 3, 1943

Educational Units Sold $2,047 During Period From February 4 to 25.

Negro schools of Charlotte during the three-week period from February 4 through February 25 sold $2,047.50 worth of United States war bonds and stamps, J. Frank Hanley, chairman of the committee on war bonds and stamp sales among the Negroes of Mecklenburg county, reported yesterday to R. E. Kerr, chairman of sales in the county.

"We are delighted at the results obtained by the workers in the various Negro schools of the city," said Mr. Kerr. "The members of the committee have worked hard and faithfully and we feel they deserve the thanks and congratulations of the citizens of the county. The county war bonds and stamps sales committee is proud of the results the Negro leaders have obtained among the schools."

Total sales, as reported by Chairman Hanley, were divided among the Negro schools as follows:

Alexander street, $175; Biddleville, $926.50; Isabella Wyche, $315; Myers street, $185; Fairview, $271; Morgan, $75; West Charlotte high $50; and Second Ward high, $50.

[illegible]een, Ala., Courant
April 1, 1943

Schools Way Over In March Bond Drive

Mrs. L. W. Price, secretary for the Conecuh County War Bond and Stamp Committee, announced this week that the March campaign to sell War Bonds and Stamps which has been sponsored by the school children was a great success. Up to March the 23, sales for the month were reported at $27,993.75 and it is known that many more were sold during the latter part of the week. For instance in the sale conducted at the Pix Theatre Tuesday night of this week, a total of $5,437.50 of bonds were sold. This amount added to the above figure would raise the grand total to $33,431.25. However, there were many other purchases which it was impossible to get information on besides the ones mentioned. It is safe to predict that the total for the month will probably be well over $35,000.00. The quota assigned the county for March was $24,300.

The Negroes of Conecuh County are sponsoring the drive for the month of April and they have already done quite a lot of work. They plan to bring their part in the drive to a brilliant close on April 17 with a county wide rally. At this rally they have secured the services of a number of outstanding speakers including Dr. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute. Elsewhere in this issue is a statement from J. B. Jordan, who is serving as chairman of the drive for the Negroes. Readers will be interested in reading what he says regarding the campaign.

COLORED BOND RALLY A SUCCESS

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The beginning of the Colored War Bond & Stamp Drive on Lincoln's birthday was marked by overwhelming enthusiasm and success. The following is the first of many reports to be made before April 6, 1943 (Booker T. Washington's birthday): $1,266.95 in Bonds sold and pledged at the rally last Friday night; the 127 colored employees of Dortch's Foundry have purchased $3,252.42 in Bonds during a (9) nine week period; $50.00 in Bonds since Friday night, making a total of reported sales of $4,569.37 to date.

In order to cotninue the drive all members of all committees are asked to meet at the Franklin Training School Friday night, February 26, at 8 p. m.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
April 22, 1943

$15,000 Bonds Sold In Negro Campaign Here

War bond sales of $15,000 cash were made yesterday by Columbus Negroes during their rally and parade, it was reported last night by B. F. Moseley, vice-chairman of the drive.

"We are going to go far beyond our quota of $25,000," Vice-Chairman Moseley declared. "Patriotism is what counts," he said, "and we are calling on everyone to buy."

Credit was given to the enthusiasm of leaders and individual workers for the success of the selling staff yesterday. Spencer High school abnd took part in the program.

Other leaders in the campaign to sell bonds to Negro investors in Columbus are P. L. Taylor, chairman; Dr. R. H. Cobb and Prof. E. H. Price.

Raise More Than $10,000 In Alabama War Bond Rally

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

June 5, 1943

GREENVILLE, Ala., June 3—An estimated crowd of 3000 citizens, including residents of Greenville and farmers of Butler county, attended the closing program of the War Bond and Stamp rally which was held in the Greenville baseball park and stadium last week.

Featuring the five days activities was a street parade led by the Tuskegee Army Air Corps band, an all-Negro unit, under the direction of Lieutenant Frank L. Drye. Under the inspiration of thrilling music rendered by this band, colored citizens purchased War Bonds and Stamps to the amount of $2,063.95, thus bringing the total for the period of the rally up to $11,304.40.

JUDGE SPEAKS

The meeting was opened by remarks by Judge A. E. Gamble, representing the white citizens of Greenville. Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and state chairman of the Negro War Savings Staff made the principal address. The largest investor was Wiley Crenshaw, prosperous colored farmer of Bragg Hill community, who bought a $1000 bond. Closely following were Mrs. Lizzie Bedgood with a purchase of $600 in bonds, Mrs. Mattie Bedgood with $500 in bonds and Joe Crittendon and wife, $475. The largest sum reported for the communities was made by C. J. Newton Chapman, W. T. Smith Lumber company in the amount of $3,756.07 worth of bonds sold to the colored employees. The success of the rally was due to the untiring efforts of James Herbert, chairman, Greenville Citizens' committee, Rev. J. H. Browder, Rev. D. B. Bennett, county chairman, Elliott Robbins, Negro farm agent and co-chairman, and W. C. Patton, president, Greenville Civic club.

Paris Tenn. Intelligencer
April 15, 1943

Colored Schools Aid Bond Drive

With the permision of the County Superintendent, Mr. L. B. Browning, and at the request of Optress Broach, Jeans Teacher of Negro schools in Henry County, the Colored teachers gave their support in launching a County-wide War Bond and Stamp Drive. The campaign began on Abraham Lincoln's birthday, February 12, and closed on Booker T. Washington's birthday, April 6. During this drive, every Negro school child in Henry County was urged to buy stamps and bonds. The pupils were asked to make certain self-denials and do certain special work during the drive in order to purchase more stamps and bonds. Some self-denials that each pupil made were as follows:

1. Refrain from smoking cigarettes during the drive.
2. Refrain from attending and participating in commercial dances.
3. Refrain from chewing gum.
4. Refrain from buying knick-knacks and refreshments as a supplement to regular meals, such as candy, soft drinks, etc.
5. Refrain from riding when the distance could be reached on foot.

As a result of the effort, the following report was given:

Barr's Chapel School, Virginia Lee, teacher, $27.30; Bird's Creek School, Mignon Gardner, teacher, 50.00; Blake School, Georgia D. Riggs, teacher, 45.00; Dogwood School, Valeria Riggs, teacher, 134.60; Evergreen School, Herman Travis, teacher 26.00; Henry School, Cauzie Reynolds and Ruth Palmer, teacher, 80.20; McWherter School, Clida Mai Bobo, teacher, 123.40; New Hope School, Kirby Teague, Orangia Cook and Gladys Crawford 88.40; Oak Grove School, Fuller Green & Mildred Sparks, teachers, 135.50; Providence School, Elizabeth Diggs, teacher, 34.00; Puryear School, Lucy B. Allen Olive, teacher, 72.00; Salem School, Johnnie Ruth Teague, teacher, 1.00.

Total amount raised from all schools—$818.70.

News Among Negroes

The Negro Bond and Stamp Rally

The Negro Bond and Stamp Committee met Monday at 4:30 p.m. April 5, 1943 in the office of the Negro farm and home agents. Reports were made on just how the bond and stamp drive was progressing, and it was learned that the drive is getting close to a $5,000.00 mark. It is hoped that on the 17th, which is the day of the big rally, that we will not fall short of the $5,000.00.

We are asking everybody, both White and Negroes; those that are planning to buy bonds in the month of April, please wait and buy on our big rally day. We don't want our guest, Dr. F. D. Patterson, and the rest of the party to come all the way down here, and see us fall short. We must prove it by actions that we are real loyal Americans, and that we Will stand by our country.

The committee want it to be understood that we are expecting our white friends to be on hand to hear our program. There will be seating space for them.

We are asking every Negro teacher to bring his or her students, or see to it that they will be on hand for the big parade, that will start at noon, not one minute later. The fact is we want everybody to get in this big parade and let the world know what side you are on.

My friends how must we do the Right, by putting our hearts and mind right. Without Victory in this cause everything else is vain. Every beautiful American dream will mock us as a ghost. Every grand American Achievement will taunt us a cathedral turned into a slave market. What are our schools? Our homes, what are our courts, our town meetings? Our law-makers? What our radios, our papers and our movies—if slave drivers rule the world? Every river in our land would be as the bitter waters of Babylon. Our every homes would be places of exile. We would be as spiritual chain gangs manacled by a power we woud not muster will to resist, moving in a darkness created by our own desire not to see. To prevent that, Will be our first step. Whatever it may cost, we shall take it. And buying bonds will be our next step. Won't you take it? I am,

John B. Jordan,
Chairman Conecuh's War Savings
Staff For Negroes.

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28 Negro Schools Aid War Program

Cooperation by the Negro schools of Albemarle County through the collection of scrap materials, the purchase of War Bonds and special training programs is revealed in the results of a survey covering activities of the past six months, made public by Isaac D. Faulkner, president of the Albemarle County Teachers Association.

Scrap was collected through the 28 Negro schools in the six month period as follows: 3[illegible],840 lbs. iron, 4,218 lbs. rubber, 6,680 lbs. tin, 470 lbs. rags, 34 lbs. aluminum, 109 lbs waste fats, and 75 lbs. nylon hosiery.

In the same period the schools sold $5,425 worth of War Bonds and $1,020.65 worth of War Savings Stamps.

Seventeen of the schools are active in the Junior Red Cross and many of the teachers participate in first aid, home nursing, nutrition, school garden and 4-H club activities.

May 6, 1943

B. C. T. S. SOLD $32,850 BONDS

Prof. Sidney Harris, principal of the Bedford County Training School, reports that the results of the recent contest among colored schools was very satisfactory. He reports for Bedford County Training School a total of $32.850 in bonds and $227.10 in stamps.

Negro Division Bond Drive Nets $4463.25

Covington, Tenn., Leader
May 6, 1943

Final reports of the Negro Division of the Second War Loan drive in Tipton county show a total of $4463.25 in bonds bought by the negro population of the county, according to Chairman G. W. Brooks. The Salem community led with a total of $1331.25, and Covington was second with $1040.

C. P. Noell, chairman of solicitation for the county, had high praise for the Negro Division. "No quotas were assigned," Mr. Noell said, "but we are highly pleased with the results of the drive made by the Negro Division. They deserve a lot of credit for the fine showing they made."

The results of the drive by communities are as follows:

Covington, $1040; Tipton County Colored Teachers Association, G. W. Brooks, $74; Collins Chapel C. M. E. Church, F. F. Mitchell, $525; Canaan Baptist Church, A. L. Dyson, $243.25; Frazier High School, faculty and students, $205.75.

Salem, Dr. W. W. Mason, $1331.25; Plummer's Grove, Rev. D. W. Bolden, $18.75; Quito, Alberta Brooks, $37.50; Burlison, Lois Yarbrough $131.25; Melrose, Evelyn Turner, $18.75; St. John Baptist Church (Atoka) Rev. P. F. Flowers, $18.50; St. Luke, John Teamer, $855.50; Willow Grove Baptist Church. Etta Neal, $18.50.

St. John (Covington) Rev. P. F. Flowers, $93.50; Union Grove Baptist Church, Rev. J. H. Porter, $168.75; Mt. Carmel and King's Hill, Alline Price, $487.50; Rialto, Edgar L. Burnett, $168.50; Petty Grove, Mae Selden, $75; total $4463.25.

NEGRO STUDENTS SPONSORING WAR BOND PURCHASES

Newton, N. C., News-Enterprise
February 23, 1943

Colored People Attending Display Large Amount of Stamps and Bonds

$530.20 SHOWN

NFA Chapter At Rosenwald School Holds Program In Bond Campaign

Colored people of the Rosenwald school district in Catawba community displayed $530.20 worth of War Bonds and Stamps during a program held at the school building this past week. The meeting was the first in a series being held in promoting bond and stamp sales among the colored people there.

A teacher from the school announced today that this is only the beginning, however, and it is hoped several such events will be sponsored.

Persons were admitted to the auditorium upon presenting their stamps and bonds for inspection. The sponsor organization is the Negro Farmer chapter.

The entertainment was a quiz program. Four students who have excelled in High school work were allowed to compete. They finished in this order: Molene Hill, first; Clara Evans, second; Dimple Tyson, third; and Isaiah Springs, fourth. The Unity High school boys' quartet and the Catawba High school glee club appeared on the program, also.

All students appearing in the entertainment were given War Stamps.

HAYWOOD COUNTY COLORED SCHOOLS SELL WAR STAMPS

The Haywood County Colored schools, under the direction of Algie C. Outlaw, visiting teacher, report the sale of $1082.25 in War Stamps and Bonds during the special effort campaign from February 12 to April 6.

Butler, Ga., Herald
September 23, 1943

It is gratifying to note that in some sections of Georgia negroes are taking an active interest in the purchase of War Bonds. There is room for improvement in that respect in Taylor county. Many of our colored citizens are receiving government aid in various ways and spend the money for things they could well afford to do without as in the past.

Columbia S. C. State
April 25, 1943

The Negro bond committee for Columbia and Richland county at its initial meeting, when this group subscribed $11,950 in bonds to launch the campaign.

Negro Bond Drive Starts in County

47c

The second bond drive got off to a good start among Negroes in this community when the local Negro committee along with 41 other leaders met in the Allen University auditorium.

The meeting was opened with short talks by W. H. Harvey, chairman of the committee and Mrs. M. M. Simkins. Both speakers spoke of the necessity of purchasing bonds and stamps to the limit of the individual's funds and gave some points on salesmanship that might be used in selling bonds and stamps to others.

A number of persons were appointed as speakers to organize groups. Others were selected as personal solicitors in the sale of bonds and stamps during this second bond drive.

James H. Hinton, manager of the Pilgrim Life Insurance Company in this state and W. H. Harvey, manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in this district are requiring all their agents to spend a part of their time on the field attempting to place war bonds in every home where the agent makes collections. Other individuals present who represented organizations where group purchase would be encouraged were President Higgins of Allen university, Mrs. J. J. Starks of Benedict college, and T. J. Miles, director of playground activities among the colored people of Columbia.

The persons present came prepared to start the drive by making their personal purchases at this first meeting. Dean G. E. Nelson, secretary of the committee, announces that the 53 persons present bought and he has already delivered to them $11,950 worth of bonds. Several hundred dollars have been reported since the initial meeting.

More bonds have been sold every day since the meeting and the campaign will continue until May 1. Agents will canvass the city and the entire county. Much of the soliciting will be done in the county by letter, because the gasoline shortage prevents the use of cars for personal visits.

COLORED SCHOOL HAS GOOD REPORT

Poplar Springs Buys Bonds, Improves School

February 19, 1943

47c

Poplar Springs Colored School has made an excellent record on funds raised for improvements, on War Bonds and Stamps bought by patrons and students, and in other activities.

Oliver W. Ford, School Principal, gives the following report:

"The colored people of Poplar Springs are very proud of their accomplishments for the past four and a half months. They have made every effort they could in aiding the war effort. Not only have they willingly given their sons, but have purchased more than $700 worth of war stamps and bonds. In addition, they have found time to raise money for the improvement of their school. By using the suggestion given to the Poplar Springs PTA by their principal, the patrons of the community were divided into five groups. Four of the teachers of the school were made chairmen of four groups, the fifth group being headed by Nettie Cole, a patron of the school. Beginning January 1 and continuing to February 15, these groups were in a contest with each other and raised the sum of $282.32.

The amount each group raised is as follows: Sarah Ray, $21.78; Sadie Monegan, $15.41; Erie L. Jackson, $106.85; Alma C. Ford, $35.45; Nettie Cole, $103.83. Other money raised for the school during its present term was $193.26, making a grand total of $475.58, to date.

The Poplar Springs colored school expresses great appreciation for the liberal contributions made by white friends of Philadelphia. Special thanks goes to the white schools that donated them number of discarded books.

[illegible], Ala., Courant
April 1, 1943

Bonds And Stamps Drive Among The Negroes

47c

Monday, March 29th, John B. Jordan, Negro Farm Agent, and also chairman of the bond and stamp committee, called the committee together to further discuss plans for the big bond and stamp rally that will be held here on Saturday, April 17, 1943.

The chairman made it known to the committee that Jesse O. Thomas, a member of the War Savings Staff, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., Dr. F. D. Patterson, chairman of the War Savings Staff, for Negroes of Alabama, president of the Tuskegee's Institute, Alabama, and T. M. Campbell, Consultant, War Savings Staff, for Negroes of the low south, also Field Agent, U.S.D.A., Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, will be the speakers on the program for said rally. Along with them there will be the Tuskegee Army Flying School Band, headed by Lt. Frank L. Drye, Band Master.

The committee requests all Negroes of Conecuh County to exhaust every effort at his or her command, to be on hand that day, to have a real part in this big rally. Both white and Negroes are asked to stand by in taking care of those people for dinner. We must not let this chance of doing a big thing for our government, as well as for ourselves pass without giving it our wholehearted support. We truly believe that our white friends will not let us down. It will take $40.00 to give the group dinner. There will be sixty four people in the party.

It was agreed in the committee meetings that we must aid in this great struggle for world freedom, that we must exhaust every means that we have to stand by our great America, and our boys that are fighting our cause. And too "when the lights go on again, all over the world, our boys will be home again, all over the world, and the ships will sail again, all over the world," we will need a little savings to tide us over while the world is going through the readjustment period.

The committee reported over $4,000.00 worth of pledges already.

J. B. Jordan.

Farmville, N. C., Enterprise
May 14, 1943

Farmville Negro Elks Buy More War Bonds

47c

Calumet Lodge No. 273, I. B. P. O. E., of Farmville, has recently helped to throw another big bomb into Nazism by the purchase of $400.00 in War Bonds.

This lodge, composed of high type colored citizens, has always shown its patriotism in deeds rather than words whenever occasion demanded it, and is recognized as the strongest in Eastern North Carolina. It has always held up the tradition of the order: "Friendship, Benevolence and Brotherly Love."

This lodge has always demonstrated its loyalty to its country by strict obedience to its laws and an unstinted support of every principal for which this great government stands. Its motto is "Our country, all for one and one for all, in peace or war, we are solidly behind you.

Officers of the lodge are J. B. Gorham, J. W. Taylor and L. T. Artis, trustees; H. Sanders, exalted ruler; J. A. Blount, secretary; J. E. Artis, treasurer.

COLORED PEOPLE IN STAMP RALLY

Program Given With War Stamps As Admission; $78.70 Worth Bought

47c

Central colored school had another successful War Stamp rally last Thursday night when the primary grades gave a patriotic play. "This Is Our Country," with the admission being a minimum of one ten-cent stamp for children and two stamps for adults as the admission.

The stamps were sold the people attending, so they actually saw a free show and still have their stamps.

Taft Broome, principal, said a sale of $75 worth of stamps was anticipated, but that all stamps on hand were sold out and orders for others were taken, bringing the total to $78.70 for the evening.

The combination fourth and fifth grade room of Gladys Smyre took first place for stamp sales and Fannie Headen's third graders placed second.

Professor Broome said the event was very colorful and was enjoyed extremely by the school children and patrons.

The colored people have extended thanks to Yount Lumber company for materials used in arranging the stage and to Mrs. Ernest Crouch for miniature flags presented the school.

May 7, 1943

Negro School Buys $800 In Bonds.

The Enterprise Academy, local school for colored students, purchased 800.00 in War Bonds during the drive which ended on April 30. During the past school year the school has raised more than one thousand dollars, which was to be used for school house improvement, but since material and labor has not been available, it wisely concluded to invest a major portion of the sum in War Bonds.

James W. Jenkins, principal of the school, has done a fine work since succeeding W. M. Donald, deceased.

47c

Negro Schools Sell $6,015.10 In Bonds, Stamps

Efforts Draw Praise Of Jack B. Key And War Savings Staff

The participation of the Negro school children and their teachers in the Muscogee county War Bond and Stamp campaigns drew praise Saturday from Chairman Jack B. Key and his War Savings staff, who said their efforts showed a combined total of $6,015 in investments from September, 1942, to March 19, 1943.

Of this, the students purchased $3,761.75, and the teachers bought $2,253.35.

A complete report on the colored schools' activity was compiled by F. R. Lampkin, principal of Spencer High school. The various schools participating, which represent 100 per cent of the local colored schools, and the amounts sold at each were submitted by the principals as follows:

Brooksville school, Lydia Haywood, principal, students, $30; teachers, $565.75.

Claflin school, R. P. Smith, principal, students, $450.20; teachers, $410.45.

Fifth Avenue school, B. H. Price, principal, students, $923; teachers, $300.

Manly Taylor school, Ida A. Jones, principal, students, $270.50; teachers, $132.25.

Pou Street school, Ollie W. White, principal, students, $21.10; teachers, $24.50.

Spencer High school, F. R. Lampkin, principal, students, $2,066.95; teachers, $820.40.

Total, $6,015.10.

47c

SHELBY'S BOND GOAL IS BELIEVED TOPPED

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
March 6, 1943

Nichols Says $1,700,000 Will Be Month's Quota Again

Shelby County probably went over the top in the sale of Series E, War Savings Bonds during February, Doddridge Nichols, chairman of the Shelby County War Savings staff, said yesterday.

Bond sales during the first three weeks totaled $1,233,807. Figures for the fourth week are not yet available, but it is believed that the county easily reached its quota of $1,700,000.

The March quota for Shelby County also will be $1,700,000, Mr. Nichols said. The March quota for Tennessee has been set at $8,300,000.

The Negro Chambe of Commerce has just conclu ed a War Savings Bond drive w ich resulted in the sale of $1 ,000 worth of the securities, Mr. Nichols announced.

"This is particularly good," Mr. Nichols said, "becaus the drive followed a negro cam aign directed by Lieut. George W. Lee, in which $302,000 worth of War Savings Bonds were sold."

47c

Negroes Here Support Two War Drives Well

Cairo, Ga., Messenger
April 2, 1943

Cairoites and Grady countians have been doing well on war calls, generally, but if the white people supported the various drives as well according to their means as the Negroes the record here would be still better.

This was indicated this week when the second monthly War Bond and Stamp parade of the Negroes resulted in the sale of $356.50 in War Bonds and Stamps, with nearly all of the 500 Negro school children here having a part. Of course, this was not their monthly total, by any means. Green Johnson and Lottie Jordan, the chairmen, reported that Monday's parade and sales event was much more enthusiastic than the one last month.

Moreover, Green Johnson and other leaders in the Negro Red Cross drive this week turned in an additional $111 in Red Cross contributions, even though $113 had already been turned in. This was about seven per cent of the total which sent the county well over its goal last week. Local Negroes are unquestionably doing an excellent job of supporting the war effort.

47c

Negro Division War Loan Drive Set Up

A War Bond committee has been appointed in every community of Tipton county to make a house to house canvass and to contact all churches, schools and individuals, G. W. Brooks, chairman of the Negro Division of the Second War Loan drive, announced following a meeting held Monday night at Frazier High School.

The negro Division of the War Loan Drive is headed by a planning committee of 12, to assist Chairman Brooks. Its members are: Rev. P. F. Flowers, Rev. J. H. Porter, Rev. D. W. Bolton, F. F. Mitchell, Mae Seldon, Edgar Burnett Dr. W. W. Mason, C. D. Haley, Cecil Clement, A. L. Price, Stella Epp e and A. L. Dyson.

A meeting of the planning committee has been set for Monday night, April 26, at Frazier High School at 8 p. m. for the purpose of getting a report on the progress of the drive. Chairman Brooks has asked every committee in the county to mail reports in to him Monday night, provided representatives cannot attend.

The drive will close Friday night, April 30, with a musical program given by the Frazier High School Girls' Glee Club, the Canaan Baptist and the Collins Chapel churches and the Church of God in Christ. The planning committee has expressed an optimistic outlook for the drive.

47c

Canton, Miss. Herald
June 18, 1943

Negro County Council Purchases War Bonds

The Negro Council purchased $150 in Bonds last week. This is an unincorporated organization, and has a membership of 52, composed of men and women.

The members of the council raised the money through donations and entertainments to purchase their first bonds and plan to buy more in the future.

Maggie E. Burton is the president of the organization and Cleveland Johnson is the treasurer. The county agents are Flora D. Parrish and R. M. Mackey.

47c

Negroes Will Have Big Bond Rally Here

Climaxing their big War Bond and Stamp campaign which has been in progress since the beginning of April, the Negroes of Conecuh County will stage a big rally here next Saturday, April 17th, at the county court house. The program will begin promptly at 1:00 P. M., according to J. B. Jordan, Negro County Agent, who is chairman of the War Bond and Stamp Committee for the Negroes.

Appearing on the program will be Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute for Negroes and Jesse O. Thomas, member of the War Saving Staff. The Tuskegee Flying School Band will render several selections as will the Conecuh County Training School Chorus. T. M. Campbell, consultant War Saving Staff will also be here.

Beginning promptly at 12 o'clock a big parade will be staged led by the Tuskegee Flying School Band. Teachers and students representing the several Negro schools of the county are urged to be on hand for this parade.

47

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
July 1, 1943

Negroes To Hold Five Bond Rallies

Bond rallies at each of the five Negro housing projects, topped off by a mammoth bond rally at Morris Brown College, and featuring a jeep parade downtown, will be staged by the Atlanta Service Group war bond committee and the Atlanta Council of Negro Women Monday, it was announced yesterday.

Observing "We Serve America Week," representatives of practically every Negro organization in the city will participate in the parade at the college.

Jeep rides will be given those persons who convert their stamp books into bonds on Independent Day. Private automobile rides will be given to those who are not able to fill their books, but who can buy five dollars worth of stamps.

47c

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

DAVIS APPOINTED

WASHINGTON—Jesse O. Thomas, a member of the national organization of the War Savings staff, has announced the appointment of President John W. Davis of West Virginia State college as associate state administrator for that state.

MAR 27 1943

47c

Birmingham, Ala., News
June 30, 1943

Negro Business Men To Sponsor Bond Rally

Negro citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County will gather for a $10,000 War Bond rally at Camp Lamardge, on the Cahaba River, at 9 a.m., July 5, in a bond sale planned and sponsored by the Negro Business Men's Club.

Transportation to the river will be furnished by the Masonic Temple or Little Savoy Cafe. Persons reporting to either center between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., July 5, will be furnished rides.

Swimming, boating and barbecue will be entertainment, and the sale of War Bonds will be held at the river's edge, according to the committee, which includes Clarence Price, Robert Williams and S. J. Bennett.

The rally is being held in cooperation with the Negro Division, Jefferson County War Savings Staff.

47c

Franklin, Tenn., News
June 24, 1943

Negro School Boys Purchase Stamps To Amount of Bond

Are you buying bonds?

At the beginning of the school year fourteen negro boys in the eighth grade agreed among themselves to buy war stamps every week until they had each bought a war bond. They have worked and saved their money and at the present time all fourteen of them possess a war bond.

47c

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
July 11, 1943

Negro Council Sells $4,038 in War Bonds

The Atlanta Council of Negro Women reported yesterday their section had sold $4,038.03 worth of bonds during the "We Serve America" celebration which began with a mass rally at Wheat Street Baptist church last Sunday and ended yesterday.

Actual purchases totaled $4,793.68 in bonds and $19.35 in stamps, with pledges for $1,225. Also taking part in the campaign was the service group war bond committee, which reported sales of $3,875 in the Negro housing projects Monday.

47c

Oxford, N. C. Ledger
September 28, 1943

Colored Citizens To Put On Bond Drive

T. A. Hamme is chairman of the
Negro Committee of the Granville school to put on a big drive here
War Bond Committee and final m [illegible] colored city
plans were made at a meeting [illegible] bers of the executive com-
Monday night at Mary Pottermittee are Dr. E. E. [illegible]ney, Eugene Ridley and W. E. Baptiste.

The city has been divided into sections with committees assigned to work in each section.

Ransome, G. C. Hawley, Rev. H. S. Davis, Rev. G. W. Watkins, Rev. J. W. Hall, J. R. Redding, William

47c-1943

Negroes Hit $1,000,000 Goal In Giant War Bond Auction

Speeches, a spectacular parade down Beale Street and a grand War Bond auction climaxed the million-dollar campaign of the Colored Division of the Shelby County War Finance Committee last night.

Lieut. George Washington Lee, chairman, reported that purchases totaling $611,250 were counted before the auction results were tabulated and without counting pay roll deductions.

Drive Photographed

"We feel confident we have exceeded the $1,000,000 goal," he said.

Photographers of the Office of War Information were dispatched to record various phases of the enthusiastic campaign.

Roscoe Cinkling Simmons, negro orator from Chicago, declared that Memphis is the most advanced city in the South and has done more for its negro population than any other city.

"Its educational system for colored people is the finest in the land," he said. "Its centers of negro health are incomparable. Its parks for colored people surpass any park system to be found anywhere.

"What Memphis has done, Memphis was expected to do. It is our chief city, for from its famous streets rose the genius to undo the myriad frowns of often oppressive scorn," he continued.

2000 Attend Program

"I do not wonder that colored Memphis leads the Nation in the purchase of War Bonds, for in the Memphis spirit white and black march together in war as in peace."

More than 2000 attended the program in Booker T. Washington High School where Prof. Nat D. Williams was master of ceremonies. Leading off the festivities was the patriotic parade including 35 units of 3000 marchers and the bands from Booker T. Washington and Manassas High Schools, the Melrose and Hamilton Junior High Schools and of the Letter Carriers.

Columbia, S. C. State

May 9, 1943

Hartsville School Children Buy Bonds, Stamps Totalling $11,346

Hartsville, May 8 —(Special)— The Hartsville city schools responded magnificently in the war bond drive. Called upon to buy stamps and bonds for the purchase of a "peep", they took care of six plus, raising $5,640.45.

The boys and girls of the high school sold bonds and stamps amounting to $3,263.15. Butler Negro school purchased $2,442.50. To date the total adds up for the Hartsville city schools to $11,346.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Aged Bootblack Saves for Bonds

JUN 6 1943

PORTLAND, Ore.—Freedom has real meaning for Tom Howell, 90-year-old Negro bootblack.

For Tom, who was born a slave, makes buying war bonds his hobby. He admits that it "isn't easy, saving all my money, but I got to do what I can."

The aged bootblack, who has had his stand in a Portland office building since 1914, has two special reasons for war bond purchases. One of his sons, a lieutenant, is in an Army hospital in Australia with an arm blown off. The other, a captain, is in Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D. C., with a hole in his head received in North Africa.

"The only way we can win it is by getting more stuff over there," Tom explained. "Maybe if we'd had more stuff over there my boys wouldn't be hurt now."

Howell has done a mite of fighting himself. He began as a drummer boy in Sherman's Army in the Civil War, served 30 years in the Army during the Indian wars and was pensioned in 1900 while fighting at Peking, China.

"My country's been mighty good to me," Tom said, "and I got to do what I can for it—and for my boys. We all got to do what we can."

Tom's "ole woman" thinks the country has been pretty good to her, too. When her boy in Washington was delirious and called for her, the government sent her back to the nation's capital to be at his side.

Birmingham, Ala. News

March 10, 1943

Parker High's Bonds Bring Visit By Jeep

With sale of approximately $2,000 in War Bonds since Jan. 12, Parker High School Wednesday became the first Negro school to be visited by one of the Army Air Base jeeps. The high school total sales are sufficient to add more than two jeeps to the equipment of Uncle Sam's Army.

The Parker High campaign was part of the Buy-a-Jeep drive being conducted throughout the Negro school system under leadership of S. J. Bennett, chairman, and C. W. Askew, cochairman of the Negro division, Jefferson County War Savings Committee.

The campaign is being carried out in cooperation with the women's division of which Mrs. Joseph W. Eshelman is chairman.

In Parker High, Principal W. B. Johnson and a student committee promoted the War Bond sales, under chairmanship of Mrs. M. J. Thompson. Student leaders include Joe Parks, Birmingham News-Age-Herald carrier salesman who has personally bought $625 worth; Eumon Broxton, Mary Pitts, Ann Pitts, James Jones, Rose Marie [illegible]ington, John Tubbs, Lytdia [illegible]kson, Maurice Wimbs, Jam[illegible]ones, Ernest Starling and Hen[illegible] Ellington.

Parker High Scho[illegible]dents have bought more th[illegible]0 worth of War Bonds si[illegible] Harbor.

Columbus, [illegible]

April [illegible]

First War Bond In Drive Bought At White House

WASHINGTON, April 7—(AP) A veteran Negro messenger shoved $18.75 into the hands of President Roosevelt today and bought the first war bond as the White House "jumped the gun" on a $13,000,000,000 second war loan drive which starts Monday.

The purchaser was John H. Pye, a White House messenger for 10 years and Mr. Roosevelt's chauffeur for five years when the chief executive was assistant navy secretary.

In a ceremony on the portico outside Mr. Roosevelt's office, White House employes gathered around to buy bonds and Secretary Morgenthau told the chief executive:

"On the 12th of April the treasury department is offering the people of America the opportunity to lend their support to our fighting men in the great spring offensive by subscribing $13,000,000,000 to our second war loan."

"Mr Secretary, this is just a small cross-section of the White House staff" the president replied, "but this is like a great many other American houses throughout the country. Most of us have got some member of the family in the fighting forces of the United States.

"And we back home are trying to do our bit too. We subscribe. If I might paraphrase the slogan of this new drive to maintain the war and turn out things for our troops at the front—the slogan is for us: They give their lives. We lend our money."

War Bonds and Stamps
Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

Sims Is Named To Head Negro Unit In Bond Campaign

APR 22 1943

Appointment of Harry Sims to direct the Negro Division of the Second War Loan campaign in Macon County was announced this week by F. D. Patterson, chairman of the Negro Division of the Alabama War Saving Staff. Sims was named to direct the drive among Negro citizens of the county at the request of H. A. Vaughan, chairman of the Macon County War Savings Committee.

In assuring responsibility for

In assuring responsibility for Negro citizens in the Macon County campaign for $297,000, Sims will have the support of the Tuskegee Institute faculty, the Extension Service, the Vocational Education Service, the Farm Security Administration, the U. S. Veterans Facility, the Tuskegee Army Flying School, the Macon County colored schools, the Ministerial Alliance and other groups.

APR 22 1943

In announcing the appointment of Sims, Chairman Vaughan expressed the hope that he will have the enthusiastic and whole-hearted support of all leaders of the Negro race in the county.

Winnsboro, S. C.
News & Herald,
Feb. 11.1943

Negroes Continue War Bonds and Stamps Campaign

The program launched by a group of Negro leaders January 9, 1943, to buy War Bonds and Stamps has continued with a reasonable degree of success. The leaders went out to get their neighbors to pledge part of their income to be invested in War bonds and stamps.

Two weeks ago, three school teachers reported that their classes were buying stamps every week.

R. D. Harrison, employed at the Mill, displayed his patriotic services when he reported his success with the Colored who are working at the Mill. Many of the employees had pledged to invest in Stamps had failed to come up to their promise. R. D. Harrison explained the value of buying Stamps and Bonds was an investment to meet future needs. His report showed that he contacted 84 persons: 66 pledged to invest $72.20 in stamps weekly, 14 buying 10 per cent of their weekly income, and 4 were unable. This is a remarkable piece of work and R. D. Harrison should be congratulated for his unselfish service. He also met with the local Union Sunday afternoon to further explain the value of this investment.

Thomas People of Blairs reported that he had contacted 25 persons and found that only 6 pledged to invest $2.95 in Stamps weekly.

Some of the Home Demonstration clubs are buying Stamps.

Camden, [illegible] Herald

April 2, 1943

Negro Farmer Uses Most Of His Savings to Buy A War Bond

W. L. Singleton, a negro farmer living near Camden, worked hard last year and when he had sold his cotton and paid his debts had five hundred and sixteen dollars left in the bank.

A few ays ago he came to town and told banker Howell at the First National Bank that he wanted to buy a War Bond and help his country win the war.

The banker asked him how much he wanted to spend for a bond and he said he would like to buy one of the $500 denomination "E" bonds. The price of this bond is $375 and when reminded by the banker that this would leave him only $141 to make his crop on, Singleton, said "Yes sir, but I can do without a lot of things and get by and I want to buy the bond."

Here's hoping that Singleton does "get by" and that he lives to cash in his bond for $500 when it matures. Such patriotism and self-sacrifice is a worthy example for all Americans to follow.

Columbia, S. C. [illegible]

May [illegible] 1943

NEWBERRY, May 3.—Newberry went "over the top" again in the campaign to sell $400,000 in war bonds today after a two week's campaign with the fine cooperation of Newberry people, white and colored alike, from every section of the county, Chairman Ned Purcell announced today.

The total amount sold was over $600,000, or $200,000 above the quota of $400,000 set by the government.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

BUY $25,000 BOND

JUN 17 1943

NEW YORK. — The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters have purchased another $25,000 war bond. The porters bought $25,000 worth of bonds last year.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

March 11, 1943

Negro Students Stage 'Victory March' On P. O.

A large group of Negro students from the Fifth Avenue school staged a "victory" march on the Columbus post-office Tuesday, purchasing $130.35 in War Stamps.

"The current campaign for stamp sales began early this semester," B. H. Price, principal, said.

"To date we have bought $700 in War Stamps. Our goal is $1,000."

A permanent stamp booth has been set up in the school where the students may purchase stamps every Monday and Tuesday. V. L. Hudson is chairman of the War Stamp committee, and W. R. Brown, secretary.

Jack Key, Muscogee county chairman for the sale of War Bonds and Stamps, said that this was a "remarkable showing for the Negro children of our community."

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
April 25, 1943

TO THE EDITOR

A Negro Pleads For All His People To Support The Nation In This Crisis

To The Commercial Appeal:

May I, a negro man, have a little space on your editorial page to say a few things to my people?

The Commercial Appeal has, on a number of occasions, been a real friend to my people, a fact for which I am deeply grateful. Here is what I would like to say:

Listen fellows: This is our load of lumber. Our pay checks are all tied up in it. It's up to us to help put it over the hill and into town.

Several years ago I worked at a sawmill in Webster County about nine miles west of Eupora, which was our leading market center. At that time our main highway ran across upper Sand Creek and then up a long incline commonly known to people of that vicinity as Susan's Hill.

At the mill where I worked it was the practice of our employer to knock off Saturday at noon, load his truck with lumber and mill hands, drive to town where he would sell the lumber and pay off.

On a particular Saturday evening we started to town with an unusually heavy load. We crossed South Creek bottom and got about halfway up Susan's Hill and there the motor quit. There was nothing wrong with the motor; it was overloaded and the uphill strain was too great.

Our employer said our only chance was to unload part of our lumber, take the rest to the top of the hill, unload it, come back for the rest, etc. That meant getting to town several hours later, and every true native and lover of Dixie knows how that sounded on Saturday evening with payday pending. We decided we could beat that. There were six of us. Every one of us hit the ground, got our shoulders under that load and yelled to our employer at the wheel to "step on it."

It was a long crawl, but not once did we stop. Soon we were on top and in a fraction of the time it would have otherwise required we were in town and had our pay. Our employer was so pleased by our initiative he paid us an extra bonus.

Now listen, fellows, our American way of life, our free democracy, America with all its resources: that is our truck. Our chief Government center in Washington is the engine. Our President is at the wheel. The responsibility of winning this war and placing the advantages of the four freedoms in reach of all nations is a terrible load and the engine is strained to the limit. Remember, fellows, this is our load, too. Our paydays are all tied up in it.

Our very existence, our inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, all these are our pay days; and they are all tied up in the destinies of America.

The Axis dictators are struggling like rabid wildcats to make us unload, not temporarily but for all time.

This is our load of lumber; there is something everyone of us can do to put it over the top. Our Government has outlined our programs. Some of us must fight, others must work in the fields, factories, on the highways and waterways, and thousands of other occupations depending on our individual qualifications. But whether we mix dough or cement we must put our very souls into it. We must invest every spare penny in war bonds and stamps during the war bond drive from now on. We can forego an occasional soft drink, and hard one to, and put the savings in stamps for our next bond.

And we must pray.

This is America, thank God, and here we do not have to smuggle out a prayer to our maker and the answer to our prayers do not have to be smuggled or bootlegged in. Our faith in God is not affected by budget or point rationing and His love for mankind is beyond measure.

The responsibility is extremely heavy, but we must not unload it. We must get behind it heart and soul, bayonet and broom. We must put this truck load of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness on top of Susan's Hill. We must, because there is too much at stake —our pay checks.

Once over the top we can 'go to town' get our pay checks, wave their red, white and blue signatures in the faces of those dictators who would enslave the world, tell them to go to blazes and be whanged.

What about it, fellows?

All together now, let's her 'er hard and let 'er roll.

JOHNNIE A. JONES.
Drew, Miss.

Alexandria, La., Gazette
March [illegible], 1943

Negroes Give $125 To War Fund Drive

A total of $135 in special gifts has been contributed to Alexandria's $29,000 War Fund Drive as a result of the canvass among Negroes, Mrs. Evelyn Dillard, special gifts chairman, reported today.

Alexandria Elks Lodge No. 48 donated $25. Ten dollar contributors were William Batton, William Watson, John L. Clairborne, The Esquire Club, John W. Jackson, George Webster, Arnold and Poole Undertakers, Herbert P. Tancil, O. D. Durant. Five dollar donations were given by James Webster, Alfred H. Collins, Dr. A. C. Lindo, and Mrs. Bessie Blue.

Employes of the Rosslyn Gas Company contributed $290 to the fund while Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Patterson gave $100.

Other special contributions are: the faculty of St. Agnes School, $45.50; Mrs. Arthur Herbert, $25; George Mason Hotel, $25; John Barton Phillips, $10; George H. Evans, $10; Mrs. William Mitchell, $10; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Hall, $10; Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Nyce, $10; J. T. Serey, $5; Charles Staples, $5, and Martin Greene, $5.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 2, 1943

WAR BOND RALLY SLATED AT CAMP

Sponsored by the Negro Business Men's Club, a $10,000 War Bond rally will be held by Negro citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County at Camp Lamardge, on the Cahaba River, at 9 a.m. Monday.

The Masonic Temple and the Little Savoy Cafe will furnish transportation to the river, and persons reporting to either center between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. will be furnished rides.

Swimming, boating and barbecue will be featured at the rally, and the sale of War Bonds will be held at the river's edge, according to the committee, which includes Clarence Price, Robert Williams and S. J. Bennett.

The Negro Division, Jefferson County War Savings Staff, is cooperating in the rally.

Atlanta Negroes Boost Bond Sales

ATLANTA, July 6. —(AP)—The Atlanta Service Group War Bond Committee, composed of approximately 100 negro cooks, porters, waiters and chauffeurs, held a War Bond rally here yesterday, complete with bands and jeep rides.

The parade visited each of the city's negro housing projects, giving jeep rides to those who bought a bond or who had the purchase price of a bond in War Savings Stamps.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MAR 2 1943

Alabama Bond Sales Net $47,830

MAR 27 1943

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The planning committee for the Negro War Bond Rally for Montgomery city and county which terminated with a public meeting held recently at city auditorium, announced this week that a total of $47,830 was raised.

This figure in sales is as of February 12, and does not include money which will come in the future in sales of war bonds and stamps as a result of purchasers who pledged 10 per cent of their monthly earnings. Gov. Sparks and other leading citizens of both races helped in making the big rally a success.

One week of concentrated effort netted the sales. During this week members of the committee received daily cooperation from Montgomery's white dailies, her two Negro weeklies, and radio stations WCOV and WSFA. Five minutes were allotted each day by WCOV and WSFA for a member of the committee to place the cause before the people of the city and county.

The steering committee of the program was composed of Dr. F. D. Patterson, State chairman of the Negro Division of War Bonds and Stamps, Dr. T. M. Campbell, regional consultant, Rev. Ralph W. Riley, Montgomery County Chairman of colored Division, Prof. J. E. Pierce, local chairman, R. L. Battle, general secretary, J. S. Burch, Robert W. Brown, and J. T. Alexander.

An overall committee was composed of the following: Miss A. M. Boynton, Mrs. R. W. Riley, Mrs. W. C. Clayton, the Rev. M. C. Cleveland, A. W. Wilson, Stewart, Willie Smith, E. G. Jackson, C. R. Williams, Turner S. Lowe, C. C. Beverly, Wm. Lee, W. C. Lee, S. J. Phillips, Dr. C. T. Simpson, and Dr. R. T. Adair.

In addition, the committee reported, 2,100 negro families each pledged to buy one dollar's worth of War Savings Stamps weekly.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

1500 Hear Dorie Miller at Tex Church

FEB 6 1943

By CPL. J. C. HUTCHINSON

AUSTIN, Tex. — A war bond and stamp rally held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church on Sunday attracted 1500 colored and white persons who heard Dorie Miller, who was awarded the Navy Cross for bravery at Pearl Harbor, relate highlights of the attack.

Among local and State officials present were Mayor Miller, State Administrator Cunningham, Deputy State Administrator Colbert Glenn and others. Many soldiers from Camp Swift weer also present.

Japs Are Fanatics

During a short question period during which he was asked what he thinks of the Japs, he said: "The Japs are very persistent. They do not give up and won't quit until the last one is dead."

The Rev. J. C. Lott, pastor of the church was master of ceremonies and brief remarks were made by State Administrator Cunningham and Dr. Givens. Miller, a native of Waco, Tex., was honoree at a reception at the Eleventh Street USO Club following the rally.

Negro Planter Buys First $1,000 Bond

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., April 10.—Daniel R. Richburg, a successful and prosperous negro farmer made the first purchase of a $1,000 bond, opening the big war bond and stamp drive held Saturday at Luverne. His children purchased sizeable bonds, and pledged to support the war effort by the purchase of additional bonds.

T. M. Campbell, field agent service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, made the principal address, representing J. O. Thomas, U. S. Treasury Department, Washington, who was unable to be present. Campbell brought greetings from Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and chairman for sale of bonds and stamps among negroes in Alabama.

Dr. Patterson was to have spoken, but was called away from the Institute on matters in connection with the war effort.

Harry Simms, Tuskegee Institute, who followed Campbell, illustrated his remarks with various woods, nuts and plants gathered from the farms. He showed how farmers with little effort could use these products as a source of cash income to buy war bonds and stamps.

Hundreds of school children and farmers took part in the rally which was sponsored by T. J. Foreman, Tuskegee graduate, county agent, Crenshaw County.

Music was furnished by the crack band, Tuskegee, Army Flying School, Lieut. Frank L. Drye, director.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Negro Business Men To Sponsor Bond Rally

Negro citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County will gather for a $10,000 War Bond rally at Camp Lamardge, on the Cahaba River, at 9 a.m., July 5, in a bond sale planned and sponsored by the Negro Business Men's Club.

Transportation to the river will be furnished by the Masonic Temple or Little Savoy Cafe. Persons reporting to either center between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., July 5, will be furnished rides.

Swimming, boating and barbecue will be entertainment, and the sale of War Bonds will be held at the river's edge, according to the committee, which includes Clarence Price, Robert Williams and S. J. Bennett.

The rally is being held in cooperation with the Negro Division, Jefferson County War Savings Staff.

CHICAGO STUDENTS SET BOND RECORD

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

CHICAGO, June 17—Negro public school children of the South-Central district of Chicago set another record when they purchased $263,148.83 in war bonds and stamps in a special campaign which ended last month. Twenty-four schools participated.

47c-1943

COLORED CITIZENS BUSY IN WAR BOND SALES CAMPAIGN

Oxford, N. C. Ledger

Auction Sale to Be Held at Court House Friday Night at 7 o'Clock—House to House Drive is Being Made

October 1, 1943

A committee of colored citizens, in a meeting Monday night at Mary Potter School, further developed plans for the War Bond sale which they are making in the city this week, to be climaxed with an auction sale at the court house at 7 o'clock tonight, Friday. James Gregory was designated as chairman of the War Bond Auction Sale.

The committee was holding another meeting Thursday night at Mary Potter to check up on progress of the campaign during the week and to plan the work for the remaining two days of the drive, T. A. Hamme, general chairman, said. Members of the committee are W. E. Baptiste, William Ridley, J. R. Redding, Rev. J. W. Hall, Rev. G. W. Watkins, Rev. H. S. Davis, G. C. Hawley, Eugene Ransome, and Dr. E. E. Toney.

B. S. Royster, Jr., in a stirring appeal at the Monday night meeting, struck a key-note as he urged the members of the committee and volunteer workers to "do their best, not only for themselves, but for their town, county, state and nation." County Chairman W. T. Yancey and Judge B. K. Lassiter also attended the meeting and spoke concerning the program.

Following are the workers: Henderson Road to College Street: R. L. Lewis, captain, G. R. King, Mrs. Florence Morse, Mrs. B. B. Green, Mrs. Willia Hawley, Sandy Boyd.

College Street to Hillsboro, including Graball and Browntown: Ira Smith, captain, Mrs. Ruth A. Davis, Mrs. Adelle Green, Samuel Graham, H. E. Goore.

Hillsboro Street to Hancock to Main Street, including churches graded school and hospital: Edward Littlejohn, captain, William Ridley, lieutenant, Mrs. Maude Lassiter, James Gregory, Edward Boyd, Mrs. Beecher Williamson, Dr. H. V. Hicks, Mrs. Ollie Johnson, Mrs. Marie Cureton, Mrs. Annie Rogers.

Raleigh Road to Henderson Road: Dr. Eugene Ransome, captain, Mrs. T. A. Hamme, Mrs. Lena Smith, Mrs. Catherine McGhee, Mrs. Bessie Ransome, Mrs. Elizabeth Shepard. Mrs. Albert Cousins.

47c

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
September 22, 1943

Negro Leader Assists With Bond Drives

TALLAHASSEE, Sept. 21.—President J. R. E. Lee of the Florida A. and M. College for negroes and director of the negro division of the Florida War Finance Committee attended a conference today at headquarters of the committee in Jacksonville.

President Lee has traveled more than 24,000 miles in Florida since January in the interests of the State Defense Council and the War Finance Committee activities, and is scheduled to attend three rallies of negroes in Florida on behalf of the defense council and the War Finance Committee next week.

He will address meetings at Jasper on Friday, Gainesville on Sunday and West Palm Beach on Monday.

Vice Chairman John L. Fahs of the Florida War Finance Committee has complimented the war work being done by President Lee among negroes of the State.

47c

Old Time Negro Music and Songs Fri.

Athens, Ala., Courier
September 23, 1943

A real treat is in store for everyone who loves to hear old time negro music next Friday afternoon September 24th at 2 o'clock when the Tuskegee Military band will be in Athens. This 76 piece band is one of the best negro bands in the entire South.

Dr. F. D. Patterson President of Tuskegee will be chief speaker

Come out and listen and buy a BOND and help put Limestone county over the top.

47c

[illegible] Journal
[illegible] 1943

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

A white elephant sale is being planned for September 25 when everyone having anything of value to sell may bring it to Seneca and have it sold for them. The only requirement will be that the seller must accept payment for the things sold in WAR STAMPS and BONDS. Place for display for these items will be announced in Next Week's Journal.

War Bonds and Stamps

COMMITTEES IN CHARGE

Mrs. Kenneth Richardson is head of the bond drive in Seneca. Working with her on the committee of arrangements is Otis Hallman, chairman, E. F. Lewis, John Knox, T. B. Jones, and F. S. Holleman. Committee on Auction, F. S. Halleman, J. L. Byrd, J. B. Russell, Roy Adams and C. V. Stribling. The committee on the white elephant sale is composed of Mrs. Edgar Dillard, Mrs. Elmer Smith and Mrs. G. W. Gignilliat. The motion picture and advertising committee is composed of Kenneth Richardson and Perry Ford. The Negro committee for the bond drive is composed of Dr. B. S. Sharp, Fleta Williams, W. D. Addison, Mary Sloan, and H. E. Hill.

47c

Brownsville [illegible] Graphic
October 1, 1943

WILL WE REACH OUR QUOTA?

A quota of $100,000 is asked to be loaned the U. S. Government by the negroes of Haywood county. Help keep out record 100 percent by purchasing this quota. We owe it to our fighting men and women. It will build a heritage that we can some day look to with proud hearts.

Each church community in Haywood county has a sub-quota of $2,000 to be purchased in bonds. Help your community to report 100 per cent.

The communities listed below have obtained the $2,000 quota:

Macedonia, Douglass, St. Luke, Snipes Grove, First Baptist Church (city), and the C. M. E. Church (city).

Buy Bonds and help keep America safe!

C. A. Rawls, Co. Chairman; J. "Rip" Taylor, Pub. Chairman.

Urge All Negroes To Buy War Bonds

Mount Airy, N. C. Times
September 17, 1943

Special Appeal Made To Negro Citizens To Back War Effort By Buying Bonds During Third Loan Drive

A special appeal was voiced to the negroes of Mount Airy and Surry county this week to join heartily in support of the Third War Loan Drive, purchasing bonds to the limit of their ability. The appeal was voiced by Charles A McLean, special deputy administrator, who sent out literature to negro chairmen in the drive.

The negro War Bond units have been organized under the direction of Mr. McLean and Dean J. C. McLaughlin, of A. & T. College, Greensboro. Both men are members of the War Finance organization.

It was pointed out that negro citizens of the United States have already bought millions of dollars worth of War Bonds and Stamps, which guarantees increased economic security for negroes after the war. It was pointed out that the negroes are learning about investing money in this manner.

47c

Committeemen Busy With Bond Quotas In County

Jackson, Tenn. Sun
September 17, 1943

Victory Committeemen are working in every community in Madison County to obtain the goal set in the Third War Loan Drive. They are contacting each family in their respective community to help meet the rural areas goal of $400,000 by buying bonds to the limit, during the month of September.

These voluntary workers are showing keen interest in reaching their community goals and a progress report will be obtained from each Victory Committeemen as to the amount subscribed.

The 4-H club members with their leaders, Miss Mildred Pierce, county agent and M. H. Luttrell, assistant county agent, are making complete solicitations of all members in the county.

The Negro Victory Committeemen will meet Saturday to complete plans for their $100,000 alloted to the colored farmers of the county. A. A. Dobbins, assistant agent in the negro work, is heading the rural drive of the county with the colored farmers.

T. W. Hillsman, county agent, will attend this meeting Saturday and help them get started on the way for their quota.

47c

Colored Division Makes Fine Record

Wetumpka, Ala., Herald
September 30, 1943

Saturday bond sales on Bond Day was an encouraging lift in the total investments for victory. The program on the Court House plaza by the colored division, under the direction of Louis Peak, chairman, attracted busy Saturday shoppers, and gave a ride on the jeep to bond buyers.

There has been set up an agreement between Louis Peak, executive chairman of war bond sales, and the First National Bank, for bonds to be issued and mailed to individuals, societies, or organizations of colored people upon presentation of money, or applications properly signed. If the bond buyer desires, the bank will hold for safe keeping all bonds purchased during the drive.

The colored division of the Executive Committee of war bond sales will issue and mail, or will hold in safe keeping all bonds purchased by colored people, individuals or groups, upon application properly signed, according to Louis Peak, chairman.

Next week's Wetumpka Herald will carry the total sales for the month of September.

47c

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
September 29, 1943

NEGROES BUY BONDS

LAKELAND, Sept. 28—(Special)—The third war loan rally sponsored by Negroes of Polk county with the cooperation of the Elk lodges of Florence Villa, Lakeland, Bartow, at the First Baptist Institutional church, added $15,647 to the Polk county quota. The Elk lodges sponsored a girl to compete for the title of "Miss Victory." Ida Julia Stewart McDowell was the honoree, representing Rose Height Lodge 318, of Lakeland.

Negro Citizens Are Carrying Forward War Bond Campaign

Talladega, Ala., Mountain Home
September 22, 1943

Carrying on whole-heartedly in the current war loan drive, a committee of Talladega's Negro citizens met Monday night to plan activities.

The program will reach into a number of fields, all of them designed to further the success of the campaign now being waged here.

Selected girls will sell war bonds and stamps on the street Saturday, the committee announced.

Children of Westside and Knoxville schools will bend their efforts toward purchases large enough to insure the purchase of a jeep to add to Uncle Sam's fighting strength.

On the evening of Oct. 1 a patriotic program and dance will feature a war bond rally to be given at Westside schools. Speakers will appear on the program.

47c

Negros Make Plans For Part In 3rd War Loan Drive

Americus (Ga.) Tri-County News
September 28, 1943
(Controbuted)

Americus Negroes met Wednesday night, Sept. 22, at Friendship Baptist church and completed the organization for the Third War Bond Drive. This drive will come to a close on next Wednesday night at Staley High School, at which time a big bond rally will be staged. The city has been divided into 12 districts. A special contact committee headed by W. R. Burleigh will work in any of the districts where there are certain prospects.

Every Negro should loan Uncle Sam his or her money to help win the war. Unless we win the war, all will be lost. You don't have to wait until Wednesday night for the Bond Rally, but you can buy bonds fro mthe postoffice or the banks at any time. They will be glad to sell you and give you any information concerning the bonds. Oscar Maxwell is general chairman for the Negro campaign.

Negroes Organize to Help Put Over War Bond Drive

Augusta, Ga., Herald
October 1, 1943

By WALTER S. HARRIS

Aroused over the uncertainty of Augusta reaching its goal in the current War Bond campaign, a special called meeting of the Negro Civic and Business League executive committee was held yesterday afternoon in the offices of the Pilgrim Insurance Company, where plans were outlined for a last-minute drive among the Negro citizens to help raise Richmond County's quota of $5,041,000 by Saturday night. The meeting grew out of a conference yesterday morning, headed by Walter S. Hornsby, chairman of the Civic and Business League Committee, with Elbert Peabody chairman of the Third War Loan Drive.

While local colored citizens have participated in the drive in a large way, it was said that no direct effort was made to prosecute the campaign among them, no organization was set up and no representatives were authorized to solicit the sale of bonds among the Negroes. Those responding to the campaign were moved to do so through the newspapers and radio as a patriotic duty. Through organization more direct personal contacts could have been made and better results obtained as was in Columbus, Ga., where the Negroes were assigned a quota, which was over-subscribed, one women purchasing $20,000 worth of bonds.

However, with only two more days of the drive left the Negroes set up a whirlwind machinery in motion to make contacts in person and by telephone, today and Saturday, in order to help the county reach its quota, Hornsby stated, and the cooperation of every Negro citizen is urged.

The league's executive committee, composed of the following members, was assigned the last-minute task: Chairman Hornsby, C. W. Hickson, Dr. A. E. Maxwell, A. M. Carter, George M. Johnson, Rebecca V. Gray, L. D. Perry, Walter S. Harris, Rev. A. C. Griggs, J. W. Wallace and Rev. M. J. Sherard.

Citizens are urged to make contacts with the committee by telephone or in person.

• NEGRO NEWS •

Louisville, Miss. Journal
October 1, 1943

Negro Bond Rally a Success

Everyone of us on the Committee as well as those persons in charge weere made feel mighty fine for the very fine way which you loyal colored people turned out, sang and bought war bonds, on Saturday Sept. 25 at the Courthouse. Over $4100.00 worth of bonds were bought. Still others have bought since the drive closed Saturday evening. Continue to do all that you can. Every little bit helps and is highly appreciated by all.

Schedule of Meetings

Monday night Oct. 4 — Mt. Sinia, 8:00 p. m.

Thursday night Oct. 7 — Mt. Pleasant, 8 p. m.

Friday afternoon Oct. 8 — 1:00 p. m., Mt. Calvary; 2:30 p. m., Hopewell. (This meeting was not held last week).

Saturday afternoon 2 p. m. — Leaders meeting at Agent's office.

M. E. DEAN,
Negro County Agent.

Negroes Hold Bond Dance In City Tonight

Columbia, S. C., Record

Alumni members of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity living in Columbia will sponsor a bond dance tonight at the Taylor Street USO Club. It is the first Greek letter organized groups of Negroes in the city of Columbia to undertake the task of aiding in the sale of war bonds and it is hoped that public response will contribute to the success of the undertaking.

Admission to the dance will be the purchase of a bond at the door or the presentation of a bond of any series bought during the month of September.

Local alumni of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, a national collegiate fraternity, with undergraduate and alumni chapters throughout the country are: J. E. Dickson, agricultural demonstration agent; W. F. obinson, chief clerk, Ration Board 40-2; Dr. H. G. Thompson, dentist; M. A. Entzminger, manager Allen-Benedict Housing project; and E. C. Surplock, director Taylor Street USO Club.

Dancing will be from 11 p. m. to 2 a. m.

Valterboro, S. C. Press & Standard
September 16, 1943

Colored Committee named—

To carry the need for the purchase of war bonds, especially at this time when a drive is on for the third war loan, the following colored persons have been named as a committee to canvass the county in this drive. William Hamilton, chairman; Thelma Odom, Gussie Godlock, Olivia Moultrie, Ivenia Brown, Rebecca Brooks, Helen Williams, and the Rev. J. I. Hamilton. These plan to visit each colored residence in the town, and as many as possible in the county.

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
September 26, 1943

SAVINGS BUY BONDS

PERRY, Ga., Sept. 25.—(AP)—James A. Ragan, 54-year-old Negro veteran of World war I, dumped a flour sack before the cashier's cage of the Perry Loan and Savings company and said he wanted to buy a war bond. The result was two five-hundred dollar bonds, bought with the savings which Ragan had accumulated since his return from the last war. The money was all in five-dollar bills, the great majority of them the old big-size bills.

MORE WAR BOND PLANES NAMED

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 5, 1943

'Spirit Of East Lake' Gets Sendoff: Two Others To Be Launched

Although the Third War Loan drive closed officially at midnight Saturday with Jefferson County and Alabama soaring well over their quotas in War Bond purchases, echoes of drive activities were still in evidence here Monday, with a bomber launching at 12:30 p.m. Monday and preparations complete for launching ceremonies of two other bombers.

Alabama Monday had rolled up a total of $123,100,000 in its drive for $108,000,000, it was announced Monday night by Ed Leigh McMillan, state drive leader. This latest figure was the tabulation of Alabama War Bond sales released by the Federal Reserve Bank at Atlanta, Mr. McMillan said.

Jefferson County had passed the $42,000,000 mark when the drive was closed officially at midnight Saturday, leaders here announced. Final totals will be released within the next few days, Judge Clarence W. Allgood, Jefferson County chairman, said.

The "Spirit of East Lake" took off at Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Corporation modification plant at 12:30 p.m. Monday and the "Fairfield Avenger" will receive its name officially at ceremonies at the same hour Tuesday.

Bringing to a close bomber launchings as a result of the drive will be ceremonies at which the "Julius Ellsberry," purchased through efforts of the Negro division, will be dedicated at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Jennings B. Mitchell was drive chairman for East Lake and was assisted by Mrs. M. D. McRae, co-chairman. Christening the bomber for that locality was Mrs. Thomas McKinney.

Mrs. Willa W. Demaris, widow of Chief [illegible] Officer W. W. Demaris who lo[illegible]s life when the aircraft carrier [illegible]ngley went down, will christen [illegible] Fairfield plane.

With [illegible]T. Bennett and C. W. Askew, Negro drive leaders, in charge of plans, Negroes of the city will see their bomber launched in honor of one of the first Negro heroes of the war, Julius Ellsberry, who was serving at Pearl Harbor when the attack was made there.

Negroes Praised For War Bond Efforts

Athens, Ala., Courier

Negro citizens of Limestone Couunty have made a fine contribution in the drive to raise the county quota of war bonds according to W. A. Caughran, chairman of the County War Saving Staff and B. F. Hall, negro county agent, chairman of the negro county committee in this county.

Interest was stimulated among the colored population of the county by the appearance last Friday on the courthouse square of the 76-piece Tuskegee band, one of the finest musical units that has visited here in some time according to local observers.

After a number of selections by the well known band and brief statements by several well known local citizens, T. M. Campbell, negro extension leader in Tuskegee and Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute addressed the crowd of several hundred assembled on the east side of the court house. **September 30, 1943**

Following the meeting several thousand dollars worth of bonds were sold at booths set up at convenient places for the negro citizens who were present.

Teh committee in charge of the county drive among the negroes consisted of B. F. Hill, chairman, G. R. Bridgeforth, Ella McKissack, and E. K. Gray while the Athens committee consisted of Rev. G. H. Holmes, Rev. A. H. Harris, Rev. F. D. Sowell, Maxie Allen, the Rev. Judson King and the faculty of Trinity school and Maggie Watkins and her faculty members.

Goal Sighted As Close of Third War Loan Nears

[illegible], Ala., News
September 30, 1943

Two Days Remain For Macon County To Attain Quota

With only two more days remaining until the close of the Third War Loan, scheduled for next Saturday night, county leaders in the campaign redoubled their efforts to put Macon County over the top. Late reports on progress of the drive indicated that, although the goal is not yet assured, the county may reach its quota if every worker makes a last minute effort during the remainder of the drive.

County Chairman H. A. Vaughan, admitting that prospect of reaching the quota look brighter than they did last week, said only that the "Goal is in sight" but warned that it would not be reached if anyone relaxes during the remaining two days.

"We can see the end of the road now," said Chairman Vaughan, "but it is not at all certain that we will reach it unless every worker in the county makes a last minute effort. I want to make an urgent appeal for all who have solicitation lists to make another try at seeing every person on these lists. Also in many cases persons who have already bought bonds will be willing to make additional purchases if approached."

Mr. Vaughan also pointed out that mere pledges will not count toward the county's total and he urged that everyone who hed pledged to buy bonds to make their purchases before Saturday night. Only in this way, he said, will their purchases count in the final tabulation of the Third War Loan.

Pointing out that the county had a heavy quota, Mr. Vaughan said that he has been confident all the time that the county would go over the top, although he admitted some concern at the slow start made in bond purchases.

Prospects for success of the campaign here took a brighter turn earlier this week when the City of Tuskegee invested $100,000 in bonds and Tuskegee Institute took $50,000 in bonds. These two purchases represent more than one-fifth of the quota.

Colored Folk Go Over Top in War Bond Drive

Bonifay, Fla., Advertiser
October 1, 1943

Our Third War Bond drive went over the top Saturday. Our neighbors and friends cooperated nicely. We are all very proud that we could cooperate so well in such a worthwhile undertaking.

We were very grateful for the music of the Holmes County High School Band which came and played for us, and we were delighted to have the Honorable J. C. Waits and Mrs. Parker Grant to come and tell us of our patriotic needs. We also appreciate the interest that Mrs. Caudle and the other ladies took in helping us to sell bonds and stamps.

We also thank the three white soldiers for coming and taking the children and the grown-ups for rides in the Jeeps.

V. C. Burnett,
Anna Masalane
and Helpers.

The following purchased bonds and stamps:

L. A. Brunson, 25c; Alice Ruth Lone, 25c; Cora Gainer $1; Lee Gainer $1; Anna Massaline $1; James Lutley, 25c; Arthur Robinson, 10c; Alta Robinson, 25; Ace Jr. Macant 60c; Agnes Brockton, 25; Jessie Flowers 60c; Annie Mae Moore 10c; Lillian Williams 10c; Marie Wooten 30c; Clennon Lewis 30c; Mavien Richardson 20c; Ilcye Lee White, $1; Cheddie Moore, $1; Mary Catherine Woods $1; Kinnice Bell 10c; Annie Spires 25c; Willie J. Harris $1; Hardy Bromlett 25c; Eddie James Harris $1; Mary Alice Harris $1; Dred Speights $2.50; Josephine Potter, 30c; Charlie J. Burgess 10c; Malo Speight $1; W. R. Moore $25 bond; Bernice Burgess $1; Alice Pepper, 20c; Ransom Smith $50 bond, Mrs. Sweetie Niles $25 bond; Clifford Jean Griffin 50c; Nora Smith, $50 bond; Mackie Bryant $1; Cliffie Griffin, $3.10; Sweetie Niles $1.20. It should be remembered that bonds purchased by the colored men through their employment offices are not included in this list.

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Negroes Buy Many Bonds In Drive

Columbia, S. C., State

Chairman Maceo Entzminger of the Richland county Negro committee for the third war loan drive reported yesterday that he has encountered a very high degree of enthusiasm among the Negro population of Columbia and sounding communities.

His committee, he reported is co-operating in a fine manner, and he expressed the opinion that the results achieved will be far beyond his fondest anticipation. Chairman Entzminger was unstinting in his praise of the work that has bene done by Principal John Whiteman of the Waverly graded school, who is chairman of the school group co-operating in the drive. Due to his capable leadership the Negro teachers in the several city schools have purchased bonds in percentage as follows: Booker T. Washigton high, 88.6; Carver junior high, 100; Waverly graded, 100; Howard graded, 100; Saxon graded, 100; Ridgewood graded, 100; Booker T. Washington Heights graded, 100. September 26, 1943

Chairman Entzminger expressed his gratitude to Principals Simmons, Whiteman, Rogers, Madden, Nance and Burton for their activity in the matter. He believes that this spirit of patriotic sacrifice on the part of the teachers of our youth, who for the most part have been spending rather than earning during the past several weeks, many in the endeavor to better equip themselves to serve the educational needs of their pupils, will serve to stimulate the Negro citizenry in the by and large to buy bonds to an extent they have not thought of doing before. There is a deep-seated consciousness on the part of Columbia Negroes that this is their war, and that they must back to the utmost those fine young Negro men and women who are actively participating in the war so that when the fighting is all over they may return to a really democratic Columbia which those whom they left behind made possible because they backed the attack by buying war bonds.

There will be a mammoth bond rally at Allen university Monday evening. The program will be featured by music rendered by the band of the 339 from the Columbia Air Base. Among the scheduled speakers will be Special Service Officer Lieutenant Kennedy and Chaplain Lieutenant Thornhill of Fort Jackson. It is expected that many commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers and service men in general will be in attendance. Leading civilians from all walks of life will be present to lend their support. A capacity house is assured. There is no doubt in the mind of Chairman Entzminger that Columbia's Negro citizens will back the attack to the limit of their resources, and then some.

Elder Michaux, Major Wright Spur Bond Rally

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Religious Meet Is Turned Into Patriotic Event

By NAT WILLIAMS
Memphis WORLD
(Written for U. S. Treasury's Third War Loan Drive)

WASHINGTON—(S N S) — The tramp of marching feet attuned to martial music mingled with the melody of hymns and gospel at Griffith Stadium here as Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux, famous Negro evangelist, turned over the first half of his huge outdoor religious meeting to a War Bond Rally.

The pageant-like opening ceremonies featured the music of an American Legion Band, heading the line of march, followed by a uniformed company of WACs, soldiers bearing rifles, and uniformed members of the local Negro unit of American Women's Volunteer Service. Additional color was lent to the processional when the 'Happy Am I" choir, 156 men and women, garbed in white satin robes, marched to the center of the stadium and took their seats. Elder Michaux led the choir in a special demonstration in behalf of the Third War Loan, singing songs dedicated to the war effort.

Major R. R. Wright, 86-year banker of Philadephia, was introduced and appealed to the thousands of persons in the audience to buy War Bonds immediately, or sign pledges to do so. Major Wright, veteran of two wars, was described as having sold, individually over $2,500,000 in War Bonds since the First War Loan. At the conclusion of his speech, members of the AWVS went among the audience taking orders for War Bonds, or passing out and collecting pledges for them.

Elder Michaux concluded his plea with the remark, "The word is not lost, just confused, and if we Buy Bonds we'll straighten this thing out."

P. D. Davis Names War Bonds

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

PROVIDES REVOLVING FUND FOR WAR STAMP PURCHASE

Of interest to all Smithfield residents and to those persons whose traffic takes them near the corner of Eighth Avenue and John St., No., where the Davis Grocery is located, is the fact that Mr. P. D. Davis the thoughtful proprietor-owner has created a Revolving Fund in cooperation with the Third War Loan by which method, children, parents and citizens in general can purchase their war stamps at his store. This patriotic gesture on the part of Mr. Davis is to be highly commended. It will be remembered that Mr. Davis during World War I was secretary of the Speakers Bureau for Four Minute Men in Jefferson Copnty and Negro chairman of the Fourth Liberty Bond Loan Drive.

NAMES SPECIAL BONDS

Mr. Davis purchased a War Bond on the day of the Invasion of Italy and another one the day that Italy surrendered to the Allies. These Bonds, he has named respectively, his "Invasion Bond" and "Surrender Bond." This unique idea sets an example to other patriotic citizens especially the younger set who attend Parker High School near by. The all-out purchase of war stamps brings nearer the day when our boys will be home with us again.

The Annual Men's Day Address at Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church Sunday Sept. 12 at 8 P. M., will be delivered by Mr. Davis whose subject for this occasion is "Thinking and Planning For Better Living When Peace Comes." It promises to inspire as well as instruct.

Negroes Feel Special Kinship To Russia, Says Granger In Endorsing War Fund Drive

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

"Negroes in this country feel a special kinship with the brave Russian people, not only because the Russians' record of physical and emotional suffering during the centuries matches that of the American Negroes, but also because the Soviet Union has succeeded in stamping out racial prejudice from its national life."

Thus spoke Lester B. Granger, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, this week when he endorsed the National War Fund's coming drive as it relates to the Russian War Relief, Inc.

The Russian War Relief, with 15 other war service and relief agencies will share in the funds collected during the National War Fund campaign to be launched on a national scale in conjunction with united community campaigns in October and November. Funds collected during this national campaign will provide aid for milliosn of Russian civilians who have lost all their worldly belongings. They need food, seed, medical supplies and clothing.

Among the agencies which merged to form the National War Fund in order to conserve time and cut down overhead expenses are a number in which Negroes have a direct and vital interest and which they read great benefits, namely: the USO, through which hundreds of thousands of Negro servicemen are entertained and made comfortable; the United Seamen's Service, which serves over 9,000 Negro merchant seamen; and the French and Belgian Relief Societies, whose funds are spent on millions of Negro French and Belgian subjects in Africa, supplying them with clothing, hospitalization, medical and other equipment.

Colored Citizens Buys War Bonds

Hazlehurst, Ga., Cracker
October 7, 1943

At a patriotic rally at the Tallahassee Junior High School, (colored) on last week, the colored citizens met and subscribed for $1,000.00 in War Bonds.

Tom Grady, one of the leading colored citizens of that community, leading the list with $600.00.

This is one of the most patriotic colore dsections of Jeff Davis county, it furnishing men for the armed forces and backing their sons with their money. The colored people of this community pledged their every effort in winning the war.

Colored Population Raises $12,000 In Third War Loan

Franklinton Leader
October

The Third War Loan Drive among the colored population of Washington Parish terminated Saturday with a very interesting and enthusiastic parade under the leadership of F. E. Dyson, assisted by R. H. Tucker of Bogalusa. The parade began at the colored A. M. E. Church and came through the town and ended on the hill at the Washington Parish Training School where the program got under way. Rev. Ira Flowers of the Centenary Methodist Church, Franklinton, was the principal speaker. Colored speakers appearing on the program included J. E. Burris of the Vernon community; Rev. J. F. Marshall of the A. M. E. Church, and Rev. L. H Norris, Methodist Church, both of Franklinton.

Over the three week period of the Third War Loan the colored population outside the Bogalusa area have purchased bonds and stamps amounting to $12,000. The largest contribution made by any one community was from Wesley Ray near Angie. Their total was $3,000, followed by the Vernon community whose total was $800. The largest contribution by any colored organization was made by the Teachers and Parents Federal Credit Union by purchasing bonds in the amount of $6,000.

Among those appearing on the program at the school Saturday was "Aunt Sarah" Watson, who was given quite an ovation when it was made known that six of her sons are now serving in the armed forces of their country.

T. W. Barker, chairman of the drive states that without the splendid cooperation of both white and colored the drive could not have been the success it was and he wishes to thank each firm and individual who took part in making the drive a success.

Bastrop, La.- Enterprise
Oct. 7, 1943.

Bonita Colored People Plan Bond Selling Festivities

The colored people of the Bonita community are to be commended on their efforts to raise money to buy war bonds.

Rev. W. L. Debro, pastor of St. Joe A. M. E. church at Bonita, is the originator of a plan which is going over big, and shows that our colored friends are both resourceful and patriotic.

Members of St. Joe church worked a crop on the church land, and have set aside one 500 lb. bale of cotton for a drawing to be held on October 17.

Printed tickets or chances are being sold at $1.00 each, and when the drawing takes place somebody is going to win a bale of cotton with the lucky number. The money will be invested in bonds and later, probably after the war, it will be used to help build a new church.

—Bonita corres.

Columbia, S. C., Record
September 16, 1943

Bond Premiere Picture For Colored People

HARTSVILLE, Sept. 16 — The colored people of Hartsville will gave a bond premiere picture showing of "Pilot No. 5," at the Temple Theater, Thursday night, September 23, 8 o'clock. Every person who purchases as much as $5 in stamps or an $18.75 war bond, will be admitted free to see the spectacular film mentioned above.

In talking with H. C. Brewer and H. H. Butler, it was learned today they plan a special canvass of the entire colored part of city in order to fill the Temple Theater next Thursday night.

$21,000 In War Bonds Sold At Colored Rally

Jackson, Tenn. Sun

September 29, 1943

A total of $21,000 in war bonds was reached in the auction sale Tuesday night by the Colored Division in the Third War Loan effort here, more than twice as much as the goal set for the rally. With the cooperation of leaders in the campaign here, the sale was held at Merry High school, with the Camp Tyson colored military band furnishing a major portion of the entertainment.

The high bid of the sale was made by Prof. George F. Porter, $5,700 for a small pig. The Rev. W. P. Pipkin made the second high purchase of $3,100 and Dr. J. F. Lane, chairman of the Colored Division, was third with a purchase at $1,800. The colored Methodist Publishing House made a purchase of $1,000.

The auditorium of the high school was so crowded that auctioneers T. R. White and W. R. Bell at times had difficulty in making themselves heard. The service flag of the school was unveiled with appropriate exercises, and the Lane College Glee Club and the Merry High Glee Club furnished entertainment also.

Herron Pearson, regional chairman for Madison, Gibson, Crockett and Haywood counties in the campaign, expressed himself as being delighted with the results of the sale, the original goal for the sale being set at $10,000.

COUNTY GOES OVER TOP IN 3RD BOND LOAN

Wetumpka, Ala., Herald

October 7, 1943

More Than A Million Dollars Raised In Bond Campaign

Inspired by a determination to maintain their record, the people of Elmore County, under the leadership of S. B. Reneau, Executive Chairman, oversubscribed their quota by approximately $100,000, and everyone responded generously and enthusiastically in the Third War Bond Finance Program. Mr. Reneau stated that he would like to find time to write a personal letter to everyone who helped put over this war bond drive.

This was an outstanding achievement, since the quota of $1,044,000 was $200,000 above the quotas of other counties of equal population and wealth. In spite of the fact that the quota was a tremendous one, our people accepted their responsibility, and raised a total of $1,144,000 during the month of September.

The distribution of "E", "F", and "G" bonds, which the government asked us to buy, was better than during the Second War Loan Drive.

The War Finance Committee received a letter dated October 2, signed by Marc Ray Clement, State Manager, stating that Elmore County's performance in exceeding the Third War Loan quota was next to a miracle. He congratulated and commended each one for the fine record made by Elmore County.

Mr. S. B. Reneau, Executive Chairman, stated that he was most grateful for the cooperation and loyal support given him by the members of the War Finance Committee, the civic clubs, particularly the Rotary and Lions Clubs of Wetumpka and Tallassee, the Men's Civic Club, of Millbrook, and the Federation of Women's Clubs throughout the county.

Many individual families deserve special mention. Thanks go out to men like Mr. D. W. Speigner, who bought bonds of substantial value for each of his children, grandchildren, his wife, and himself. Many outstanding patriotic family groups could be mentioned.

The negro division, under the leadership of Louis Peake, did an outstanding piece of work, and the wave of patriotism pervaded their many achievements in interesting their own people to lend the government their money.

Elmore County is proud to lend her money for buying the many shells that will go to storm Hitler's European fortress, furnish fighter planes, tanks, jeeps, and bombers that will shorten the invasion time and return our weary boys to their restful homes.

All Alabama Counties Over

Every county in Alabama met its quota in the Third War Loan Campaign, rolling up sales of $119,300,000 with many more millions yet to be reported officially.

"Alabama has certainly done a magnificent job in the Third War Loan," said State War Finance Committee Chairman Ed Leigh McMillan, "and I know the fact that not one single county failed to measure up to what was asked of it is going to win national recognition for Alabama."

"We Alabamians can look proudly into the eyes of our fighting men now and tell them that we, too, are in the fight, that we have Backed the Attack," Mr. McMillan said.

"Alabamians, in the traditional spirit, have invested unstintingly of their dollars, going beyond the quota set for them in response to their country's call for funds.

"Such a record as Alabama has made in the Third War Loan could not have been possible without the help of hundreds of groups and thousands of people. On behalf of the men and women now in uniform, I wish to thank every person in Alabama who had a part in rolling up the State's magnificant total of Bond purchases so that we here at home could do our full share to 'Back the Attack.'"

NEGROES HOLD BOND MEETING

Yazoo, Miss. Sentinel

September 3, 1943

$22,925 PLEDGED FOR DRIVE BEGINNING SEPTEMBER NINTH

Group Expects To Raise One-Tenth Of Total Quota For Yazoo County

A meeting of the Negro Central War Bond committee was held in the Afro-Auditorium Tuesday evening, August 31, at 3:30 P. M., to discuss and perfect plans for the Third War Bond drive, according to a statement issued by D. W. Lindsey, Negro County Agent, and chairman for the drive among Negroes in the County. The meeting was very interesting and was highlighted by members of the committee making their pledges for the drive which will be launched September 9, at the offset. A total of $22,925.00 was pledged. Of this amount the Afro-American Sons and Daughters pledged $15,000.00 Names of persons composing the Central Committee are as follows: D. W. Lindsey, Chairman, Prof. N. D. Taylor, E. B. Miller, Laura E. Powell, R. J. Pierce, T. J. Huddleston, Sr., T. J. Huddleston, Jr., C. E. Galloway, James Henderson, H. A. Davis, Joe Howard, George Stutts, Dr. L. T. Miller, Dr. R. W. Harrison, Dazeil Johnson, Louise A. Howard, Alma Johnson, Ethel Henderson, and Tom Stutts.

The Central committee was divided into the followinb subcommittees: Business and Professional groups, Prof. N. D. Taylor, Chairman: House to House canvass (Yazoo City), E. B. Miller, Chairman.

Our people of this County purchased over $100,000.00 worth of bonds in the second War Bond drive and it is our hope that we can break this record in our third effort.

All Negroes, tenants, farm operators, and business and professional men are urged to give their support to this most worthy cause.

"Julius Ellsberry" And "Spirit Of Tuskegee" Christened

Weekly Review 43

Birmingham, Ala.

Twelve Negroes from the large group taking part in the Jefferson County Negro War Bond Sales Campaign to raise $300,000 in War Bond Sales and who are responsible for upwards of a million dollars in bond sales, assembled last Tuesday Morning at Bechtel McCone-Parson's giant Airplane Modification Plant to dedicate the "Julius Elsberry" Bomber

Among those taking part in the dedication were: S. J. Bennett, A. G. Gaston, Charles J. Greene, Oscar W. Adams, Rev. W. D. Hargrove, Mrs. A. G Gaston, Mrs. Ruth Jackson-Odum, Mr. L. K. Shivery, H. D. Coke, E. O. Jackson and Robert Durr. Mrs. Florence Ellsberry, mother of Julius Ellsberry, who after remarks made by Messers Bennett and Gaston, spoke some quite awe inspiring words expressing the same type of hope for Victory that her son's death testified to, and as is the attitude of all the Negro citizens of Birmingham who made the big bond rally a success

"Spirit of Tuskegee" Christened

Following the dedication of the Julius Ellsberry Bomber, a group of officials of Tuskegee including Dr. F. D. Patterson, Chairman of the Negro Division War Savings Staff of Alabama, Prof. T. M. Campbell, Mr. Harry Sims and two or three army officials from Tuskegee arrived to participate in the dedication of "The Spirit of Tuskegee" another Giant-60 Bomber, which shows that through the leaders at Tuskegee more than three hundred thousand dollars worth of War Bonds and Stamps have been sold.

The dedicatory ceremonies were broadcast via WAPI. Photographs and further details will appear in an early issue of this newspaper.

The event at BMP Wednesday was a significant, history-making one which destroys all grounds for the current argument in some quarters as to the extent to which Negroes are buying War Bonds and Stamps.—The dedication of the two 60-ton bombers, both of which are "avengers" destined to put sting in the attack on those who have attacked the things for which this nation stands and to plow the earth in order that the flowers of freedom may grow and the lights go on again all over the world for all lovers of freedom, justice and unity

FRANKLIN COUNTY GOES OVER

Louisburg, N. C. Times

October 8, 1943

LOUISBURG & FRANKLINTON LEAD

Youngsville and Dunn Also Go Over; Colored Citizens Do Fine Work; Chairman Beam Very Grateful

Franklinton, Youngsville, Louisburg and Dunn No. 1 districts have oversold their quotas in the Third War Loan by over one hundred thousand dollars, Third War Loan Chairman Gaither M. Beam announced Thursday. Beam also said the county itself had overbought the $327,000 quota by around $3,000 according to an unofficial summary of sales made this week.

Leader in the group of townships going over their quota was Louisburg with approximately $85,000 over the township quota of $68,000. Franklinton was next in line under the leadership of Leonard Henderson who reports sales of $88,458, or about 23,000 over their quota of $65,000. J. L. Brown, Youngsville chairman, revealed that Youngsville went over the top on September 29 with sales of $38,800 to top that townships quota by over $8,000.

O. G. Thompson, chairman of Dunn No. 1 District sent in sales of $18,700 in bonds and $87.75 in stamps to top that district's quota by over $2,000.

Beam said that other townships were doing equally good jobs but at press time Thursday there were no other reports of townships over the top.

In the Negro division, Co-chairmen Carl A. Harris and the Rev. J. P. Mangum announced that their division had sold $5,825 to date and that returns were not all in. Leaders in the Negro division were Louisburg with sales of $3,000, Franklinton, with $2,000, Sandy Creek-Gold Mine with $300 and Dunn-Harris with $225.

Chairman beam urged township chairmen to keep selling bonds as many and as often as they could until the drive ends next week and to sell the bonds possible to insure the future of our people and our country.

Beam also expressed thanks to the many men and women who have given their time, scarce gasoline and tires to the all-out selling effort that put the county over the top. He also expressed appreciation to the cooperation of the merchants who gave invaluable assistance in the bond auctions and to the bond buyers themselves who accepted the county's quota as a challenge. "The Treasury challenged Franklin County with a high quota during a poor crop season but the county met that challenge," Beam said. "Franklin County folks know a good buy when they see it."

Colored Workers Sell Over $7,000 In Bonds

October 7, 194

Colored workers of Scott county sold $7,127.75 worth of war bonds during the Third War Loan Drive, it was announced by V. R. Lackey, county chairman.

Colored workers taking part included E. T. Hawkins, chairman; and A. L. Graves, Maude Crawford, Betty Mae Jack, Will Ringo, Robert Lovelady, and Rev. P. A. Taylor.

47c-1943

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

War Bond Queens

A trio of War Bond Queens representing all shifts was elected at Plant B, Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Corporation's Harbor Island plant at Seattle, to preside over a "Back the Attack" rally. From left to right they are Marie Brown, swing shift Ship Scaler; Betty Shannon, day shift sheet metal helper; and Lucille Wall, graveyard shift sheet metal helper. The yard workers dealt a blow at Jim-Crowism by giving a big hand to Marie Brown, young Negro war worker who recently arrived from the South to help Northwest yards turn out warships to sink the Axis.

County's Negroes Exceed War Bond Quota Of $300,000

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
September 2[illegible], 1943

Goal Is Surpassed At City Auditorium Rally Attended By 4,000 After Downtown Street Parade

BY INGRAM BLANDING

More than 4,000 Jefferson County Negroes attended a bond buying rally at the Municipal Auditorium Sunday afternoon to over-subscribe their $300,000 quota. Cash sales at the rally totaled $34,175, which swelled the more than $278,000 already raised by the Negro division of the Jefferson County War Savings Board to above the $312,000 mark.

This assures that christening of a Liberator bomber in the name of Julius Ellsberry, Birmingham Negro, who was killed at Pearl Harbor the day it was attacked by Japan.

Parade Precedes Rally

The rally was preceded by a colorful parade through downtown Birmingham in which four Negro bands, benevolent and civic organizations and protective corps units of the OCD participated.

Master of Ceremonies H. D. Coke said subscriptions at the auditorium consisted of cash only and that many purchases by checks remained to be totaled Monday. One of the largest of the latter was for $1,000, tendered by the Rev. W. D. Hargrove on behalf of the Union Bethel Independent Methodist Church.

Mayor Addresses Rally

Principal speaker at the rally was Mayor Cooper Green, who expressed assurance that the Negroes of the city and county would continue to give the support they have given in the past. Others who spoke briefly were Judge Clarence W. Allgood, county chairman of the bond drive; Jack McCormack, WSGN announcer; A. G. Gaston, chairman of the Negro Division; S. J. Phillips, Harry Sims and C. J. Greene.

Led by the Tuskegee Army Air Base Band, the parade formed at Sixth Avenue, North, on 16th Street, marched south to Fourth Avenue, east to 18th Street and thence to the auditorium.

Other groups participating included the Beauticians Volunteer

War Bonds and Stamps

Corps of the CVD, Jones Valley Lodge No. 14 of the Independent Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, and its auxiliary, Red Cross nurses, Boy Scouts, and bands from Parker High School, the Fourth Provisional Regiment, Camp Sibert and Fairfield Industrial High School.

County Still Short Of Goal

Meanwhile, week-end totals for the Jefferson County War Loan drive were boosted to $25,500,000 while the state reported totals of $78,300,000.

At the Negro rally it was pointed out that the sales recorded by the bomber committee represented only a part of the total Negro purchases, as many bonds are being bought through neighborhood postoffices, payroll deductions and other authorized agencies, for which there is no official check.

Byrnes Urges Individuals To Purchase War Bonds

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—(AP)—War Mobilization Director Byrnes appealed Sunday night to individuals to buy more war bonds, declaring that "foolish indeed is the man who when the sun is shining does not save money for a rainy day."

Byrnes, in an address broadcast by NBC from the Army's War Bond Show here, said that while total bond sales in the $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan had reached $13,305,000,000, individuals had purchased only $2,800,000,000 or about 56 per cent of the goal set for them.

"As never before," he said, "the sunshine of high wages and spendable income is bearing down throughout this land. Our national income is approaching the all-time high level of $150,000,000,000."

Of the income, he estimated, Americans will have left over to spend or invest about $40,000,000,000 after paying taxes and buying all available goods and services.

"It is only common sense to invest a large portion of this in war bonds and hold them for a rainy day," he continued. "If we spend this surplus bidding up prices in an effort to get more than our fair share of the available goods, it will be impossible to hold ceiling prices. We will make black markets. We will start an inflation spiral that will impoverish the people."

Negroes Win Praise for War Loan Work

Columbia, S. C., State
October 2[illegible], 1943

"During the Third War Loan drive the Negroes of Richland county showed much enthusiasm, not only making a splendid showing but cooperating in every way," Frank P. McGowan, county chairman of the drive, said yesterday.

The Richland County Negro War Finance committee put forth an effort to reach every Negro in the county by holding rallies at the various city schools, making individual contacts, sponsoring a bond dance at the Taylor Street USO club, and giving a rally at Allen university, he added.

County rallies, conducted by J. E. Dickson, Richland County Agricultural Extension agent, resulted in the sale of $3,000 in war bonds. The rally at Allen university was held by the Negro committee, raising $2,000 for bond purchases.

The bond dance at the Taylor Street USO was sponsored by graduate members of Kappa Alpha Psi, Negro collegiate fraternity. It netted $5,500.

Through its combined work the Negro committee sold $39,900 worth of war bonds, Mr. McGowan said. This figure does not include the bonds bought by Negroes regularly by the payroll savings plan.

The committee, who, Mr. McGowan reported, worked "hard and faithfully," had its headquarters at Allen-Benedict court. Members of the group were the following: M. A. Entzminger, chairman; J. E. Dickson, Richland County Agricultural Extension agent; E. A. Adams, president of the Victory Savings bank; C. A. Johnson, supervisor of the Columbia Negro schools; H. E. Lindsay, real estate operator; J. C. Artemus, business agent, Carpenters Local No. 2260; C. W. Madden, principal, Howard and Saxon schools; Dr. S. R. Higgins, president Allen university; Dr. J. J. Starks, president Benedict college; and W. H. Harvey, manager, North Carolina Mutual Insurance company.

W. C. HANDY TO HELP NEGROES' BOND DRIVE

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
September 25, 1943

'Beale Street Blues' Author Will Arrive Tonight

The negro division of the Third War Loan Drive will be given added impetus when W. C. Handy arrives in town at 9:30 o'clock tonight.

Tomorrow at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon he will speak at Russwood Park, where the local baseball game between the Memphis Red Sox and Cincinnati Clowns will be played. Bond pledge cards will be distributed by negro school girls and Dr. B. B. Martin, president of the Red Sox, will give away four $50 bonds.

At 8 o'clock Monday night, the nationally known author of "The Beale Street Blues" will address a rally at Ellis Auditorium, Lieut. G. W. Lee, division chairman, said. Two hundred negro sailors from Millington and a company of soldiers from Camp Tyson, Tenn., will parade down town preceding the rally at 6:30 o'clock.

No admission will be charged at the all-negro show at the Auditorium but no one will be admitted who has not bought a bond. Anyone who has made application but has not received his bond will be admitted on showing the application form.

Handy will remain in Memphis through Sept. 30 to aid the division in its drive.

Negro Citizens Association To Meet on Monday

Clarksdale, Miss., Register
October 9, 1943

The third war loan drive has passed into history and the colored people of Clarksdale and Coahoma county are delighted over the fact that they have done their full duty in the quota of $1,620,000 allocated to Clarksdale and Coahoma county has been raised to help our government to "Back the Attack," as per our national slogan.

In this drive, the Coahoma County Negro Citizens Association, composed of negroes of the city and county, has been very active in sponsoring this great cause. We are now putting on a membership drive, beginning Monday night, October 11 at the Myrtle Hall school of this city, and we are urging that all members and prospective members to avail themselves of opportunity to be present, and help keep alive this well worthwhile organization.

The actual figures in dollars and cents that we raised in the third war bond drive will be given to us within the next few days, by Mr. James Meadows, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, and the amount will be immediately passed on to you.

Coahoma County Negro Citizens
Association,
Dr. P. W. Hill, chairman,
M. M. Reid, secretary.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
September 2[illegible], 1943

Negroes Reach Goal

Before long a Liberator bomber will

be christened here bearing the name of Julius Ellsberry, Birmingham Negro who was Jefferson County's first casualty of the war, at Pearl Harbor on that fateful December day in 1941. This christening was assured at a rally Sunday at the Municipal Auditorium attended by some 4,000 colored citizens and at which cash sales of $34,175 swelled the previous total of $278,000 well into the $300,000 bracket. This total was expected to be increased through later sales.

Thus Ellsberry was an inspiration to the members of his race whereby they not only honored his memory but reflected much credit upon themselves as patriotic Americans. Much praise is due to the local Negro leaders in the War Bond campaign for their untiring efforts to make the drive here a success and for individual responses to the appeal.

Colored Citizens Urged Buy Bonds

Fayetteville, Tenn., News
September 22, 1943

James Lemons Is County Chairman

To The Colored Citizens Of Lincoln County:

We have been asked to purchase $25,000.00 in War Bonds by October 1. Let us show to all that we are loyal to our Government and our country by purchasing this amount and more.

We have been in this war from the start, and since that December day at Pearl Harbor the blood of our beloved ones has been running down beside that of other races that are fighting for Freedom, and out of this disaster, heroes of our race have also been born.

This war is not only the soldier's war on the battlefield, but for every loyal citizen of these great United States. Surely that makes it yours and mine.

It is like three men putting roofing on a house — the man on the housetop is the soldier, the man on the scaffold is like the man in the munition plant who gives to the man on the top which is the soldier to utilize, and the one on the ground is you and I, who with our purchasing of War Bonds keeps the man on the scaffold with material to hand to the man on the top so when the rain comes it is not one but all's responsibility if the top is not completed and not one but all will get credit if it is completed.

Let us purchase a Bond today to overrun that quota of $25,000.00.—Your country chairman, James Lemons.

Negro Bond Committee Formed For Bibb County

—v—

The Negroes of Bibb County Are Called Upon To "Back The Attack" By Being Represented One Hundred Per Cent In The Third War Bond Drive.

West Blocton, Ala., Enterprise
September 23, 1943

Due to the fact that the negroes of Bibb County have shown an unusual amount of interest in the purchase of War Bonds and Stamps, the Bond Committee for Bibb County has appointed a Colored Committee to conduct the drive for War Bond sales to the colored population of this County.

The following colored committee has been appointed:

Rev. J. M. Wesley, Chairman.

Lelia M. Travis, Co-Chairman.

Prof. C. H. Thurston, Chairman of the Farm Group.

Prof. H. D. Davidson, Centreville; Prof. U. C. Osborn, Piper; Prof. N. B. Wesley, Marvel; Rev. E. G. Massey, Rev. Wm. Brown, Prof. Wm. L. Savage, West Blocton; Prof. T. R. Maynor, Belle Ellen; Prof. J. F. Davidson, Woodstock; Prof. C. L. Kynerd, Brent, Rt.; Rev. L. A. Billups, Brent; Mary Smitherman, West Blocton. Blocton.

J. M. Wesley, the Chairman issued the following appeal to the colored population of Bibb County:

"A special appeal is made to the Negroes of Bibb County to wake up and realize that it is our patriotic duty to purchase war bonds. Tomorrow might be too late to save the lives of our boys on the fighting fronts.

This Third Bond Drive closes October first. We cannot afford to not take advantage of this opportunity to render a real service to our boys, to our country and to ourselves.

Bonds may be purchased at The Peoples Bank, Ritz Theatre in Centreville; Brent Banking Company in Brent, and at any Post-Office in Bibb County.

Be sure that you purchase your bonds in Bibb County, in order for Bibb County to receive credit.

Durham, N. C. Herald
October 7, 1943

Division Assistant

William J. Walker Jr., (above) is first assistant to Chairman J. W. Goodloe of the Negro division of the Community War Fund which will hold a "zero hour" conference at Hillside High School tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

Negro Division Of Fund Campaign To Hold Meet Tonight

Conference To Be Conducted At 7:30 At Hillside School

Officers and captains of the Negro division of the Durham Community War Fund will hold a "zero hour" conference tonight at 7:30 at Hillside High School. Final preparations will be made for the division's solicitation drive which begins tomorrow.

Durham is one of the few cities in the nation in which a Negro division has been included in actual participation since community funds were established. Each year the division here has steadily increased the amount of money it raises and its leaders are confident this year's drive will establish a still higher record.

Members of the division are as follows:

Chairman, J. W. Goodloe; first assistant, William J. Walker Jr.; second assistant, J. S. Stewart; secretary, Miss Artelia Tennessee.

Advisory committee: C. C. Spaulding Sr., the Rev. J. A. Valentine, the Rev. Miles M. Fisher, the Rev. C. E. McLester, Haywood Williams, Dr. J. E. Shepard, J. H. Wheeler and R. L. McDougald.

Special gifts committee: W. J. Kennedy Jr. and W. D. Hill, co-captains; the Rev. A. S. Crooms, J. J. Henderson, E. R. Merrick, J. J. Sansom Jr., Kelly Bryant, Dr. J. H. Taylor, Charles Holmes, Donald Watson, Louis Laster, Miss D. M. Bridgeforth, Mrs. Dorothy S. Manely, Miss Rupert Blanchard, R. N. Harris, A. Moore Shearin, D. F. Spaulding, D. B. Martin, J. W. Harris, Mrs. Estelle T. Nixon, Mrs. Gertrude E. Taylor, W. G. Pearson and G. W. Cox.

District chairmen: Mrs. E. M. Butler, J. J. Sansom Jr., Hayti; the Rev. J. C. Gray, Walltown; Miss Doris M. Williams, Mrs. Rosetta H. Webb and Mrs. Martha Williams, Hickstown; G. W. White and Willie Jones, Lyon Park; Mrs. Wilma Milum and B. B. Rogers, East End-North Durham; Mrs. M. B. Buller, Mrs. Hallie Davis, Dooms Hill; Mrs. Lizzie Cannady, Mrs. Roase Gilchrist, Pearsontown; Miss M. E. Stephens, Miss M. L. Stephens, West End-West Durham; A. J. Stanley, J. A. Barbee, East Durham; Mrs. Margaret Satterfield, Albright; Miss Virgie L. Jones, B. W. Kennedy, College Heights; and R. E. Flake, Hayestown.

STATE WAR LOAN QUOTA IS PASSED

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 6, 1943

Total Of $125,280,000 Raised; Bomber Is Named For Hero

Alabama's Third War Loan drive total continued to increase Tuesday, with a total of $125,280,000 being released Tuesday night by the U. S. Treasury Department, an Associated Press disptach from Washington said. With a quota of $108,000,000, the state had acquired 116 per cent of that figure, the dispatch added.

In Tuesday's tabulation, Alabama joined the seven previously announced states which had gone over their quota in individual sales. A total of $56,000,000 of the original quota was prescribed for purchase of War Bonds by individuals. The state had raised more than $57,000,000 through this source. In the state-by-state poll of those raising or surpassing their general quotas, Alabama was ranked 12th.

Announcing a final tabulation of War Bond sales in the Third War Loan drive amounting to $431,000, leaders of the Negro division in Jefferson County Tuesday made final preparations to honor Julius Ellsberry, one of their race who lost his life at Pearl Harbor, when a Liberator bomber is dedicated to his memory at ceremonies at Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Corporation modification plant Wednesday.

The launching ceremony will take place at 12:30 p.m., with the mother of the war hero, Florence Ellsberry, acting as christening official of the bomber.

A. G. Gaston, bomber committee chairman, pointed out in announcing the total figure that many War Bonds purchased through banks, postoffices and other issuing agencies were not included in the total of $431,000. Negro leaders, he said, estimate that actual purchases would reach more than $1,000,000.

36 States Pass Quota In War Loan Campaign

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—(AP)—With 36 states over their Third War Loan goals, the national total went to $17,733,000,000 Tuesday night—a $349,000,000 one-day gain.

Seven new states—Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Washington and Wisconsin—moved up to the 100 per cent or better class, and four more states—Alabama, Arkansas, Montana and Oregon—joined the seven previously over their quotas for individual sales.

Only four states, part of a fifth and the possessions are short of their assignments for corporate investments. They are Arkansas at 82 per cent; Northern California, 87; Kansas, 97; Kentucky, 84; Vermont, 91, and the Possessions, 85. New Mexico led all states in that division. Its $2,000,000 quota was 330 per cent oversubscribed.

Negro Division Bond Drive Nears $20,000

Covington, Tenn., Leader

The negro division of the Third War Loan drive in Tipton county had pushed close to the $20,000 mark Wednesday night with a total of $18,872.25 reported. Chairman George Brooks said the community chairmen had been doing good work and he believed that when all the reports are in the total would be over $20,000 in bonds sold.

Mason led all other communities of the negro division with a total of $7,468.50. Tabernacle-St. Luke was second with $2,566.75. Covington had bought $1,143.25 in bonds Wednesday night.

Reports by communities were as follows: September 30, 1943

Covington	$ 1,143.25
Avery Chapel	150.00
Union Grove	149.25
Plummer Grove	2,187.50
Rialto	75.00
Salem	544.75
Tabernacle-St. Luke	2,566.75
Mt. Carmel	206.25
Petty Grove	93.75
Mason	7,468.50
St. John (Covington)	18.75
Union Hill	656.25
Center	
St. Paul	
Quito	37.50
Tipton and Atoka	262.25
Burlison	243.75
Brighton	
St. Matthews	
Melrose	
Gainsville	581.25
Canaan Grove	412.50
Jamestown	37.50
Antioch	2,000.00
Munford	37.50
Total	$18,872.25

Moncks Corner, S. C., Democrat
September 30, 1943

Negro Farmer With 11 Children Has $650 In War Bonds

Joe Young, a Negro FSA borrower from Clarender County—a man with a wife and eleven children—has definitely proven that the small farmer can be depended upon not only to buy his proportionate share of war bonds, but also to produce his full quota of livestock and foodstuffs vital to the war effort.

In the fall of 1942, Young invested $650 in war bonds, and this year he plans not only to pay his total debt and set aside his operating capital for 1944, but to invest $350 in war bonds during the Third War Loan drive.

"I want to bring that last year bond up to a thousand dollar one," the Negro farmer declared. "When I complete the sale of my crops and meet all of my other obligations, I am going to invest what is left in bonds." And he added, "I want to buy as many as I can so that we can invest in a farm of our own when this war is over."

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Colored War Bond Workers Organize

Carthage, Miss. Carthaginian
September 16, 1943

There was a large meeting of colored War Bond workers and other leaders at the Courthouse Saturday afternoon, Sept. 11, at which time an organization was effected for the thorough canvassing of this group in Leake County for the purpose of selling war bonds.

The meeting was opened with prayer and impressive singing. Mrs. J. J. Paschal and Mrs. J. H. Sasser made talks after which there were questions from the audience about the work.

Ten of these leaders made three minute inspirational talks and pledged themselves and all their group to work to make this drive a success in Leake County.

Following is a list of those who have been appointed to work in their respective neighborhoods:

Chester Johnson, Johnson School; Maggie Sanders, Harmony; L. C. Gray, Mt. Bethel; Hazel Smith, Francis Dier, and F. M. Carson, Ofahoma; Magnolia Wilder, Dossville; A. V. Williams, W. C. Harrelson, Mattie Sanders and Oda Kirkland, Gallilee; May Hanna, Conway; Ethel May Fortune, Johnson; Elsie Smith, Ofahoma; V. H. Gee, Marydell; Laura Leflore, and Florence Whittington, Carthage; Oda Gates, M. L. Coleman, and Q. L. Jones, Walnut Grove; Henry Sharkey, Conway; E L. Barron, Lena; Emma Rushing, Carthage; Essix Myrick, Dossville; P. H. Whalen, Thomastown.

Aleda McGowan Jones, County-at-large.

Great things are expected of this patriotic group, and there is every evidence that they will live up to these high expectations.

WAITER URGES NEGRO HOUSE SERVANTS TO STICK TO JOBS

Bishopville, S. C., Messenger

August, Ga., Sept. 20.—W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter and war bond salesman extraordinary, urges Negro servants to think of their post war future before throwing up their jobs for higher paying industrial positions. October 14, 1943

"In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher salary demands are agreed upon," Murphy declared in an article written for the Augusta Chronicle.

This attitude, he said, may provide Negroes "a temporary feeling of relief today, but it is a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace."

Murphy, as chairman of the Atlanta service group war bond committee, was a leader in a July 5 war bond rally among Atlanta Negroes which sold $10,000 in bonds within a few hours. Murphy is a waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club in Atlanta.

Murphy wrote that it seemed to him "the domestic field offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve well and profitably.

"The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come, with its peace. . . We shall need many friends after this war is over. Most of us have to depend upon our friends for all we need. Why can't we let them depend upon us now for what they need?"

NEGROES UNITE FOR WAR BOND CAMPAIGN HERE

Haynesville (La.) News
September 16, 1943

The colored people of Haynesville have united in an undivided effort to sell bonds for the third war loan, which opened last week. G. C. Jones was selected as chairman of this division at a meeting held Sunday afternoon at the colored school building, and reports that an all-out effort will be made to sell bonds to his race of people in this area.

Every citizen is being asked to buy bonds in the treasury's third war loan campaign which opened a few days ago. There are two fronts in this war, the battlefront and the home front. The battlefronts all over the world have gone the flower of America's youth to stem and throw back the tide of enemy aggression. For these youth there is no choice but to meet the challenge of sacrifice as it comes to them. Every Emerican soldier abroad must face the risk of death and privation for the sake of those who remain at home.

We all know that it takes money and still more money, to buy the rifles, ammunition and the thousands of other things needed to win a war. If our fighting men do not have these tools, their attack may fail, no matter how strong their hearts may be. They need the tools to win and to protect their own lives. Our government has devised the best method of raising that money any could want. They are not taking it away from you or forcing you to give it to them. They are simply asking you to lend it to them, to be repaid with interest. The little sum of money you put into War Bonds each month or each year will grow into large amounts that will provide a fine nest egg for you later on. Perhaps you have already bought a Bond, or even two. Fine. Buy some more. Buy all you can. If the Axis wins, your money won't be worth anything.

Someone once said: "If I should strike you with one finger, I would hardly get any results; if I should strike you with two fingers, I would get a bit more; if I should strike you with five fingers, I would get no more than a slap; but if I should organize those same five fingers into a fist I would get a blow that would be substantial." So let us buy all the Bonds we can to see how hard our blow will be against the enemy.

Buy all the extra War Bonds you can in this Third War Loan Campaign. Buy them to help your son, husband or brother. Buy them so that America may win and our boys may return to help build the greater America of the future.

COLORED CITIZENS SOLD $65,560 WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Springfield

A great effort on the part of the War Bond Committee of the colored citizens, during the Third War Loan Drive, resulted in the sale of $65,100 in bonds and $460 in stamps. Serving on this committee with Sidney W. Harris, chairman, was Mrs. T. L. Smith, Mrs. Cornelia Thompson, L. J. Thompson, Dr. R. L. Suggs and Rev. H. E. Taylor, who have voiced their appreciation for the support of citizens in purchases made from them.

Realizing that possibly other drives may come in the future, this committee, if selected to serve as in the past, is asking the same cooperation.

Colored Citizens Go Over Top

Greenville, Ala., Advocate

$13,597.10 Worth Of War Bonds, Stamps Bought In Campaign

Approximately 300 colored citizens and community chairmen met at St. Paul Baptist Church on Thursday of the past week and almost doubled the quota of $7,500.00, when $13,597.10 worth of War Bonds and Stamps were sold to the colored people, together with several business firms of Greenville.

Featuring the activities of the program held at St. Paul were two short motion pictures entitled, "Let My People Live" and "Farmer Henry Browne." This presentation was given free of charge by the Negro Division of the Alabama Extension Service under the direction of R. R. Bell, Movable School Agent of Tuskegee Institute.

The following officials also participated in the program on Thursday: Col. Jeff P. Beeland, County Chairman War Savings Staff; Rev. D. B. Bennett, Chairman Colored County Committee; James Herbert, Co-Chairman County Committee and Elliott Robbins, Director of the Drive.

Through the courtesy of the War Savings Staff, the following prizes were awarded to solicitors reporting the highest amount of War Bonds and Stamps sold during the drive: First prize, a $25.00 War Bond, awarded to A. B. Johnson and wife, Leviticus Johnson, of Greenville for having sold $5,025.00 worth of War Bonds and Stamps; second prize. $3.00 worth of Stamps awarded to Edward aldwell, of Greenville for having sold $514.50 worth of War Bonds and Stamps; third prize, $2.00 worth of Stamps, awarded to C. J. Newton, of Chapman, for having sold $337.50 worth of War Bonds and Stamps.

Runners-up in the contest also reported as follows: Rev. E. P. Pugh, of Georgiana, $303.25; Johnnie Womack, of Ridgeville, $275.00; and Edward Crittenden, of Greenville, $231.40. Rev. Bennett stated that his community, Mt. Zion, would not be eligible for a prize in view of the fact that he is serving as county chairman. However, he purchased more than $700.00 worth of War Bonds for his community. M. I. Brewer, Colored Jeanes Supervisor, and the following teachers of the county assisted in making the official tabulation: Ophelia Caldwell, Mary Faddis, Lillian Gregory, M. J. Dent, and Eddie B. Stanford.

The colored county committee is grateful to all county officials and agencies for such a fine spirit of cooperation and support during this drive. The committee also wishes to express thanks to the colored citizens of Butler county for having made such a creditable showing in this effort, says Elliott Robbins.

Negroes Given Two Weeks Extension Of Time in War Loan Drive

Livingston, Ala., Home

Despite the very low income bracket that most of the negroes of Sumter County live in, it is encouraging to note how they rallied to the call of Uncle Sam in the Third War Loan Drive. The interest seems to have been very low on their part at first, but after it was explained to them that it was not a gift that the government was asking for, but a loan that would be repaid with interest, and it was economically sound their attitude changed, and so much interest had been worked up among them at the closing date that George H. Paris, Chairman of the negro division, was given an extension of two weeks. It is felt that within the next two weeks we will be able to sell several more hundred dollars worth of war bonds. October 7, 1943

A partial report follows:

Livingston	$1,346 25
Hamner	1,200.00
Panola	918.75
Bellamy-Whitfield	850.00
Cuba	686.45
Gainesville	680.00
Coatopa	608.25
Ward	537.00
McDowell	518.75
York	362.00
Epes	342.50
Belmont	166.90
Geiger	127.50
Emelle	75.00
Grand total	$8,419.35

McConald Hughes,
Member Negro Division War Loan Drive.

NEGRO PEOPLE DOING THEIR PART

Franklin, Tenn., Review-Appeal
September 23, 1943

In the effort to raise the county's

quota in the Third War Bond Drivetist Neck on Natchez Street, on Tues-county may not reach but pass its to peacetime pursuits.
the colored people are endeavoring today purchased a hundred dollar bondquota and in this way do their part The effort certainly will be well
do their part. and Sunday he expects to call to thein helping the boys from their con-worth while and it is believed the
Rev. L. E. Coleman, for ten yearsattention of his congregation the im-gregation and others to more speed-shepherd of the flock will by his ex-
pastor of the Baptist Church in Bap-portance of purchasing bonds that theily overcome the enemy and returnample lead his people to follow if

not with a hundred dollar bond to buy as large ones as they possibly can.

Colored Committee InW ar Bond Drive

Brownsville, Tenn., States-Graphic
September 17, 1943

Leaders and committees in Third War Loan Campaign:

Publicity Committees:
Juanita Patten
Algie C. Outlaw
Prof. James Taylor
Evelane William
Mary B. Love

Church Committees:
Rev. Love
John R. Bond
Larue Cleaves Outlaw
Maggie O. Moore
J. W. Leigh
Prof. Jeffries
Joe Nixon

Sale Committees:
Frank Outlaw
Alma Taylor
Dr. Thomas
T. T. Reeves
J. S. Hopson

St. Luke:
Rev. I. H. Fenner
Allen Claybrooks
M. B. Love
Izona Young

Woodlawn:
Rev. J. C. Caldwell
Mable Lee
Willie Tolliver
Vernal Evans

Hickory Grove:
Louis T. Minor
Jessie Pugh
Rev. Abe Campbell

St. John:
Rev. N. H. Ellison
Will Dotson
Lee Vaulx
Early Caldwell

Prospect C. M. E.:
Ed Valux
Walter Fouse
Jim Holloway
Rev. Mosby

Good Hope:
Orange Short
Earl Turner
Pastor in Charge

Taylor's Chapel:
Isra Hess
Cy Taylor
Rev. V. L. Smith

Cane Creek:
Neil Bond
Jim Bonds
Handy Rice
Pastor

Brown's Creek:
Buster Pender
Frank Thaxton
Jerry Anthony
Henry Anthony
Rev. P. E. Cooperwood

London Branch:
Rev. M. Williams and Com.

Macedonia:
Rev. A. W. Watson
Joe Nixon
Frank Otulaw
Ethel Outlaw

Mercy:
Rev. Robert L. Reed
John R. Bond
W. T. Bond
Geo. Odneal
Tom Sanderlie

Prospect:
Rev. Douglass
Elbert Austin
Alex Meaweather

Salem:
Rev. B. W. Bowers
William Gray
Mike Jones

Friendship:
Bob Batchelor
John Sloan
Will Bond
Rev. Smith

Willow Grove:
Jim Springfield
Charlie Rice
Buddy Purdle
Rev. C. H. Smith

St. Peter:
Ed Currie
Spencer Duke
Mary J. Willis
Johnnie Miller
Rev. Douglass

Fredonia:
James Maclin
Jessie Giles
Pastor in charge

St. Paul:
Joe Roger
Noah Cooper
Jimmie Joe Hay
Rev. Barkin

Lower Salem:
Tal Taylor
John Nunn
Rev. Jackson

New Hope:
Rev. Donald
Johnnnie Bond Jr.
John Outlaw
Virginia Young

Snipes Grove:
Winston Snipes
Marshall Bradford
Amos Helm
Rev. Abe Campbell

Antioch:
John Jacock
West Elleison
Rev. Jarmen

Adams Chapel:
Joe Broadnix
James Maclin

Douglass Chapel:
Charlie Boles
Will Walker
T. T. Reeves
Rev. W. E. Selby

Chapel Hill:
Charlie Mann
Archie Buchanaon
Rev. G. W. Tyus

Mt. Zion:
Rev. Braham

Dancyville Church:
Rev. W. E. Shelby
Jess Hopson
Will Douglas
Richard Ragland

Bluff Creek:
Rev. Clingham
Lewis William
Allen Duckworth
Jim Lewis
Jessie Rivers and Theus

First Baptist Church, (Brownsville)
Rev. W. S. Vance
Dr. Evans
Alma Taylor
Mrs. Jeffries

Church of God in Christ (Brownsville)
Rev. Sis. Going
Geo. Hill
Matt Will

Methodist Church (Brownsville)
Rev. W. L. Love
Earl Taliaferro
Walter Hilliard
Larue Cleaves Outlaw
Doc Davis

Special Rally Called For Negro Workers Promoting Bond Sales

Birmingham, Ala., News

Parade For Colored People Planned; Green To Address Participants

September 22, 1943

A special pep rally for Negro War Bond workers has been called for 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Smithfield Court when F. D. McArthur will be the speaker.

The two agencies at "Bomber Headquarters" already have tabulated $150,000 War Bond purchases by Negroes toward the $300,000 goal set for colored people, but the total will run considerably over the half-mark figure when tabulation difficulties are adjusted, it is pointed out.

All colored people who have purchased War Bonds or stamps through agencies other than the "Bomber Headquarters" agencies are urged to call 4-3581 and report the amount of their investments and the agencies through which they have made the purchases.

Following the Thursday night pep rally at Smithfield Court, Birmingham Negroes will hold their mammoth War Bond parade Sunday afternoon, climaxing the event with a War Bond rally at the Municipal Auditorium at 4 p.m. when Mayor Cooper Green will be the speaker.

All groups who will participate in the parade are requested to be at Ingram Park, corner Sixth Avenue and North 16th Street, promptly at 2:15 p.m. Sunday.

War Bond Rally At Merry High School Tuesday

Jackson, Tenn. Sun
September 24, 1943

A War Bond Rally and auction sale at Merry High school has been scheduled for Tuesday night at 8 as the final effort in the drive to reach the quota of $80,000, set for the Colored Division of the Third War Loan Campaign, it was announced Friday by Dr. J. F. Lane, chairman.

Announcement was made today that the famous Negro band from Camp Tyson, which is said to be one of the crack military bands of the country, has been promised for the occasion. Additional entertainment will be furnished by the Lane College Glee Club and the Merry High School chorus, the Jackson orchestra and the Merry High school band.

No admission will be charged. Prizes are being donated by various local business firms, institutions and individuals.

The committee in charge of the Colored Division, and also all arrangements for the campaign, includes Prof. George F. Porter, the Rev. A. L. Bratcher, the Rev. M. H Ribbin, J. E. Ballard, Prof. C. N. Berry, Prof. T. R. White and Dr. Lane. All Negro ministers have been asked to announce the rally from their pulpits. The committee in charge of solicitation for prizes is composed of Prof. Berry, Dr. W. P. Pepkins and Rev. Bratcher.

Colored War Bond Rally To Be Held Tuesday Night

Jackson, Tenn. Sun

Considerable enthusiasm has been generated by plans for a war bond auction sale to be held by the Colored Division of Jackson Tuesday at 8 P. M., in the auditorium of Merry High school. A pig, groceries, clothing and dozens of other articles will go to the high bidders for bonds in an effort to reach the quota of $80,000 set for the Colored Division in the Third War Loan Campaign.

Prof. T. R. White will serve as auctioneer, with Dr. W. R Bell as his assistant Dr. J. F. Lane, chairman of the Division, announced that a service flag of the high school will be unveiled with appropriate exercises under the direction of Prof A. J. Payne.

September 27, 1943

Entertainment for the sale will be furnished by the crack Camp Tyson Colored military band, by the Jackson orchestra, and the glee clubs of Lane College and Merry High school. The Camp Tyson band, which is billed as the outstanding feature of the rally, is composed of about thirty pieces, and is regarded as one of the best military bands in the country.

Dr. Lane said that considerable progress has been made in the solicitation of prizes from local merchants and individuals, and also that the committee in charge of his division was highly pleased with general results n their campaign,

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Colored People War Bond Drive

Will Hold Bond Rally at Wagram Friday Night, Dr. Marx Will Be Speaker. Laurel Hill Meeting Monday Night.

Laurinburg, N. C. Exchange
September 16, 1943

Scotland county colored citizens are rallying to the Third War Loan with community meetings and an active participation in the campaign. I. H. Smith of the Laurinburg Institute is county chairman for Negro War Savings.

Friday night of this week the colored people of Spring Hill township will have a War Loan rally at Wagram and have planned a special program. There will be quartet singing, local speakers will take part, and Dr. L. A. Marx of the State Sanatorium, Sanatorium, N. C., will be the principal speaker. They expect to sell at least $1,000 of War Bonds and stamps at this meeting.

On September 27 a War Bond rally will be held at the Laurel Hill colored school. Sexter Long, chairman for the community, reports that a large crowd is expected at this meeting. The colored people are getting behind the Third War Loan and expect to make a fine showing by the end of September.

Helena, Ga., Free Press
October 29, 1943

COLORED PEOPLE OVER THE TOP IN WAR FUND DRIVE

Our people of Telfair County will share my pleasure, I am sure, in knowing that our colored citizens have gone way over the top in the United War Fund drive.

Chairman A. L. Spaulding accepted for the colored people of the county a quota of $500.00. I at the time thought this was rather high, though he was optimistic. He immediately organized his people throughout the county, and he and his solicitors have reported to date contributions aggregating $696.04, and funds are still coming in.

I congratulate Chairman Spaulding and his committee of solicitors. His and their patriotism and cooperative spirit and the like patriotism, spirit and liberal contributions of all of our colored people is greatly appreciated and will be remembered with pride.

W. S. MANN,
Chairman Fourteen District
United War Fund Drive
of Georgia.

Florence, Ala., Herald
October 1, 1943

Negro Bond Rally Was Big Success

A large, enthusiastic crowd was in attendance at the bond rally held Saturday afternoon for the negroes on the lawn of the Lauderdale county courthouse under the auspices of the negro division of the county war finance committee, when a total of $66,044.50 worth of bonds was sold as a direct result of the rally.

Featuring the occasion was the inspiring music furnished by the band from the negro air field at Tuskegee; the beautiful rendition of "America" by the negro soprano, Mildred Meadows, demonstration agent for negroes for Lauderdale and Colbert counties, and the group singing of "Old Time Religion" effectively led by T. M. Campbell of Tuskegee, negro field extension agent for the U. S. department of agriculture.

The Lauderdale county negroes have made a fine response whenever a call has come for their help in the present emergency and the response is always a generous one that shows their patriotism and loyalty.

Pascagoula, Miss. Star
October 1, 1943

Colored Organization More Than Doubles 3rd War Loan Quota

Council No. 4, Knights of Peter Claver, a colored Catholic benefit society, has more than doubled its quota in the Third War Loan Drive, according to an announcement made this week.

The Council was given a quota of $500, but reports up to the early part of this week, with three more working days left, showed total sales of $1,100, Edward B. Wright, grand knight of the organization, reported.

47c-1943

War Bonds and Stamps

Sorority Purchases $1,000 War Bond

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAY 12 1943
Mosley
PHILADELPHIA

MAY 12 1943

—The National Sorority of the Phi Delta Kappa purchased a $1,000 War Bond in Philadelphia, Pa., at the Citizens' and Southern Bank and Trust Co. Shown in the picture are Mrs. Olivia S. Henry National Publicity Chairman, Philadelphia; Major R. R. Wright, President of Citizens' and Southern Bank and Trust Company; Mrs. Alma G. Jackson, Supreme Tamias, Camden, N. J., and Mrs. Nan Wooding, Supreme Taniouchos, Atlantic City N. J.—(ANP) MAY 12 1943

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
July [illegible], 1943

Negro Groups Will Sponsor Parade Floats

Negro groups will sponsor several floats and a number of other entries in the "Gasless Parade" which the Retailers for Victory Committee will stage Saturday afternoon in connection with their July War Bond and Stamp drive. Mrs. M. V. Binga is chairman of the parade entries for this group and has arranged an OCD canning float showing Richmonders how to preserve the fruits of their Victory Gardens. The Sabbath Glee Club, under the direction of Joseph Matthews, will ride on another float and sing the spirituals for which they are famed. Negro riders and a bicycle group also will be in this division.

The Negro band from Camp Pickett, one of the four military bands which will provide patriotic theme songs for the procession, will be entertained by the Negro committee on Saturday afternoon at the Monroe Center.

The first three days of the street booths, with only 10 of the 20 scheduled booths in operation, netted more than $1,800 in stamps, George C. Robinson, secretary of the Retail Merchants' Association, reported. The other 10 block-buster booths will be erected and staffed by members of the Volunteer Service Bureau by Saturday. Construction difficulties prevented the 20 booths being in readiness on the drive's opening days, Mr. Robinson said, praising the volunteers who, under the direction of Miss Claire McCarthy and Mrs. Irving Thomas, have sold the stamps and bonds.

Bicyclists who intend to ride in the parade have been asked to register at the block busters or with committee chairman or to fill in the coupon which appeared in Sunday's Times-Dispatch. This division, which will be the largest in the parade, is headed by Charles Pennell. Cyclists are wracking their brains and spending time and money decorating wheels in spectacular and elaborate ways for this group.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 6, 1943

Bond Rally Held By Negroes

ATLANTA—(AP)—The Atlanta service group War Bond committee, composed of approximately 100 Negro cooks, porters, waiters and chauffeurs, held a War Bond rally here Monday, complete with bands and jeep rides.

The parade visited each of the city's Negro housing projects giving jeep rides to those who bought a bond or who had the purchase price of a bond in War Savings Stamps.

In addition, the committee reported, 2,100 Negro families each pledged to buy one dollar's worth of War Stanmps weekly.

Greenville, Ala., Advocate
June 24, 1943

WITH THE COLORED AGENTS

War Bond Rally Gets National Recognition

In keeping with our countywide War Bond Rally, which was held in Greenville during May. Mr. William Pickens, Chief of the Inter-racial Section, National Organizations Division, with the U. S. Treasury Department at Washington, has expressed thanks and appreciation to the War Savings Staff of Tuskegee and to the colored citizens of Butler county in making the War Bond Rally a success. His letter was addressed to Field Agent T. M. Campbell, of Tuskegee. Agent Campbell, who is also consultant for the War Savings Staff of the Treasury Department, sent copies of Mr. Pickens' letter to the Colored Committee the past week. The Colored Committee on behalf of the colored citizens of Butler county are grateful for the honor recently received from Washington.

Extension Service Review

In an effort to produce more food and feed for home consumption, and to support the war effort, a series of evening classes were started the past fall in cooperation with the Butler County Board of Education. In this effort, a story with full details of the work accomplished through the spring of this year came out in The Negro Farmer, our monthly publication for April.

A brief story also came out in the Extension Service Review, a monthly publication of the Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., entitled, "To Help Negroes Grow More Food." One paragraph which came out in June's issue follows: "At a class held at Pine Level under the direction of Dave Marlow, community leader of Simpson Chapel, a fire-heated hotbed was built and one bushel of sweet potatoes bedded.

At the request of the County Superintendent of Education, the names of 18 Negro community and neighborhood leaders have been approved to teach classes in foods, poultry, victory gardens, egg production, peanut production, and milk, swine and beef production in their respective communities. The first three schools started have increased from 37 to 120 men and women in attendance as given in April's report."

At present there are 29 evening classes in progress in 20 communities of the county in charge of trained leaders, with an enrollment of approximately 350 adults. Each leader is given a unit of instruction, together with demonstration material which is furnished by the Board of Education.

These classes have proved very helpful according to reports coming from leaders, and we feel that they will help every farmer to produce more food during 1943. These leaders are at present teaching classes in food preservation, peanut production, swine, poultry and milk production and Victory gardens.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
October 2, 1943

Dillon Negro Buys Bonds

Dillon, Oct. 1.—Special: Pete McRae, a negro tenant farmer of Dillon county, came to town last week and bought five "F" bonds in the Third War Loan drive.

He is 55 years old. His only two sons are in the army. Eddie David at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., and Cecil on foreign duty.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
March 7, 1943

BOND SALES AMONG NEGROES

Montgomery's Negro citizens are authority for the statement that their recent successful war bond selling rally proved a wonderful morale-builder. The war was brought home to them as never before and they were made to feel that they were part of it in a very impressive way.

The bond-selling campaign among colored citizens was sponsored by the Negro Civic and Improvement League, J. E. Pierce, chairman, and R. L. Battle secretary. It continued for one week and closed with a big parade, headed by the Tuskegee airport band, and a rally at the city auditorium, where Gov. Sparks made an inspirational address. At the end of the week it was announced that $47,850 worth of bonds and stamps had been sold, and this represented many hundreds of purchases by hundreds of people many of whom were making real and genuine sacrifice to do their part.

Attention is called to this campaign at this time to encourage the hope of the Negro leaders that the good work will be continued and that subscriptions and purchases will continue to be made because of the continuing need.

It would be gratifying to every citizen of Montgomery to know that the members of the Negro race in the community are showing such interest in this patriotic cause and are participating so heartily in the sacrifices that must be made by all to insure the great victory that is ahead.

Negro Committee For War Bonds Organized

Prof. H. B. Perry of Monroe Will Head Division to Push Sales.

July 30, 1943

Announcement is made by Mr. R. F. Beasley, Jr., county War Finance Committee charman, of the organization of a Negro division for Union county and the appointment of Prof. H. B. Perry of Monroe as its chairman. Included on the committee are Rev. C. C. Johnson and Prof. L. A. Baker, vice-chairman; Mrs. Bertha Blue, secretary; Mrs. Mary Chambers, Dr. H. H. Creft and J. J. Dennis.

Chairman Perry has appointed the following as members from the various communities:

Monroe unit: Prof. J. W. Graham, Sylvester V. McManus, Raymond Rorie, L. W. Welsh, Samuel Taylor, Minor Richardson, Will Gaither, Wesley Gatewood, Mrs. M. C. Moss.

Waxhaw unit: Mrs. L. L. Asbury, principal of school; Mrs. W. H. Henry, assistant; Rev. B. Fulwood, S. J. Dunlap, Tom Gaston.

Mineral Springs: Miss B. M. Brooks, Ed Massey, Rev. T. B. Thompson, P. W. Brown, Floyd Truesdale.

Wingate unit: Prof. Theodore Little, Mrs. Annie Montgomery, Wilse Deese, William Barrino, Prof. Peter Baucom, H. C. Broadway.

Marvin: Prof. J. W. Brown, Goldie Deese, J. M. McFadden.

Gulledge (Booker T. Washington); Mrs. Pearl Chambers, principal; Jeff Rivers, Anderson Huntley, Will Perry, Eli Chambers, Perk Autry.

Rock Hill: Miss Margaret Williams, H. W. Haigler, P. H. Harrison, Ben-

ne Heath.

Marshville unit: Prof. D. A. Oglesby, principal of the school; Mrs. Ida Chambers, Rev. A. Lyttle, Robert P. Simmons, R. H. Sturdivant, Brady Bivens.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal
July 4, 1943

WALTER MURPHY SELLS WAR AIMS TO 'PLAIN FOLKS'

By Associated Press

W. Allen Murphy is a 45-year-old Negro waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club. He's tall, spectacled, quietly dignified, earnest in thought and action.

You won't find his name on the list of people who have set records in sales of War Bonds. Most of the purchases he wins are in stamps—25 cents, 50 cents each. Amounts like that don't add up very fast. But Murphy works with people to whom a quarter or a half dollar is a sizeable slice of their income.

Murphy thinks and works constantly for the improvement of his race. His theory is that if "just plain folks" want to get ahead, they must do their own planning and acting.

He took his ideas to others of his profession, to members other service occupations, and so has emerged the Atlanta Service Group, an organization of 100 waiters, chauffeurs, cooks, Pullman porters and other public and private workers who make their living by service.

Aim of Group

The first aim of the service group is to get each of the 21,000 families of Negroes in Atlanta to put at least $1 a week into War Savings Stamps. That's a modest goal, but Murphy explains it:

Many of the families should be able to buy more than one dollar's worth of stamps a week, but "with the service people, an average of $1 a week for each family would be good with the income they have."

Back in March, the service group held a stamp selling rally, with entertainment by Negro musicians and signers from nearby Army posts. The sales were 2,200 families. It will be a proilies signed the $1-a-week pledge.

On Monday, July 5, a much larger rally will be held. It, too, will center around the Negro housing projects in which live 2,200 families. It will bea progressive rally, starting at one of the projects, and moving parade-fashion from there to the other five, with a half-hour stop at each.

For the first time, there will be an effort to sell bonds. There will be a "bond wagon" from which the bonds can be delivered immediately by authorized sellers. The Army is considering lending two bands and has been asked, also, to let bond buyers ride in jeeps during the parade.

Murphy says the stamp drive has a double-purpose—"to teach our people about government, and to make them save money."

As for saving money, he says only "after all this war is over, they're going to need it. They've got to save now."

As for teaching them about government, he holds "most of our people now consider that government is something that they have no connection with at all. They feel that they are not part of the government.

Teach Citizenship

"We've got to teach them that whatever citizenship rights they have now are just so much advanced beyond what they would have under any of the Axis powers. And we've got to teach them that rights of citizenship carry responsibilities."

Stamp sales through rallies are not the only means Murphy and his group will use. There's the large matter of Negro clubs. As Murphy says, "everybody who is anybody belongs to some kind of a club."

Already the social clubs of the six housing projects have been enlisted in the movement. The selling of stamps weekly will become something like paying dues to the club—a regular obligation to meet. And there are clubs throughout the city—"from high to low," Murphy says.

Churches, too, will be enlisted. Murphy himself is superintendent of a Sunday school and district superintendent for Atlanta in the colored Methodist Episcopal Church. Preachers, he says, can do a lot of good in telling their congregations why stamps and bonds should be bought.

Norfolk, Va. Post
July 9, 1943

Negroes Double Quota of Sales In Cruiser Fund

The Negroes of Norfolk have more than doubled their war bond quota for the Cruiser Norfolk fund, it was reported yesterday by F. E. Turin, general chairman. Having started out to raise $100,000, the Negro committee already has reported the sale of $202,973 worth of Government securities, and has pledged itself to continue working until enough bonds have been sold to have a new destroyer named in honor of a Portsmouth naval hero.

S. H. Bell is chairman of the Negro committee, with Horace G. Christopher, F. W. Merritt and H. C. Holman as co-chairman. Major Turin reported last Sunday that unofficial figures showed Norfolk had oversubscribed $37,500,000 to pay for a new cruiser to be christened the USS Norfolk. Official confirmation will have to come from the Secretary of the Navy after the Treasury Department reports have been canvassed.

June 26, 1943

Bonds & Stamps Sold At City Playgrounds

Park And Recreation Commission Reports On New Activity

War bonds and stamps in the sum of $1,351.95 were sold on the Charlotte playgrounds this week in a special campaign at the play centers.

Announcement of the results of this special campaign among the children by the children was made today at the office of the Park and Recreation and showed that $991.45 in bonds and $360.50 in stamps were bought.

High praise for the showing of the Negro playgrounds was voiced by Mrs. Mary Brackman Sills, recreation director, who pointed out that the total stamps bought at the Negro centers was $237.80. The total at the white centers was $122.70. At the Alexander Street Negro center $250 worth of bonds were brought and at Myers Street, also a Negro center, $125 worth of bonds were bought.

The Bethune center purchased $616.45 in bonds to be the only white center handling bonds.

The record in stamp sales at the different playgrounds was as follows:

Independence $20, Piedmont Courts $3.30, Bethune $51.50, North Charlotte $23, Glenwood $2.10, Cordelia $10.20, Wesley Heights $4.50, Latta Park $8.10. Total, white grounds, $122.70.

Alexander Street $100, Biddleville $19.50, Fairview Homes $37.90, Isabella Wyche $1.20, Morgan $20, Myers Street $55.20, West Charlotte $4. Total, Negro grounds, $237.70.

Bonds: Bethune playground $616.45; Alexander Street $250; Myers Street $125. Total $991.45.

Durham, N. C. Herald
August 13, 1943

J. W. Goodloe Will Head Negro Division In War Fund Drive

Early Meeting Of Leaders Scheduled By Group Colonel

Ernest S. Booth, general chairman of the 1943 Community War Fund campaign, has appointed J. W. Goodloe, assistant secretary of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, to head the Negro Division as sixth colonel in the campaign machinery, it was announced last night.

Goodloe has participated in the Community Fund drives ever since their establishment in Durham. He has already begun his selection of division leaders and will call the initial meeting of his group the first week of September.

Last year the Negro Division made one of the finest records of all divisions in the Community Fund drive when it doubled the amount it had raised the previous year.

Goal for this year's drive will be $160,583.80 and it will get under way Oct. 25.

The five other colonels appointed over divisions in the 1943 campaign are the following: Marvin Fowler, Business Division; Dr. Frank T. deVyver, Industrial Division; V. J. Ashbaugh, Special Gifts Division; W. M. Jenkins, Rural Division, and W. F. Warren, City School Division.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

NEGRO AFL WORKERS PLAN BOND RALLY

Birmingham Auditorium is the place and Labor Day is the time for the big War Bond show to be staged by colored A. F. of L. union members of Birmingham, it is announced. White A. F. of L. unionists will have their big War Bond show at the Auditorium Labor Day night, following the Negro rally in the afternoon.

Famous Negro bands, singers and entertainers are to be features of the rally.

Efforts are being made to get the nationally famous Tuskegee Institute band and choir to appear.

AUG 4 1943

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

DATE OF NEGRO WAR BOND RALLY CHANGED

Saturday night, Sept. 4, is the date for the War Bond rally to be staged by Negro members of A. F. of L. unions in Jefferson and Birmingham, instead of Labor Day, Sept. 6, as previously announced, union chiefs said today.

The rally will be staged at the Municipal Auditorium here. The white unions of the A. F. of L. will stage their War Bond show and rally at the Auditorium Labor Day night.

The rallies are part of the program to sell $500,000,000 worth of War Bonds, labor leaders announced.

AUG 5 1943

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

WAR BOND RALLY SLATED AT CAMP

Sponsored by the Negro Business Men's Club, a $10,000 War Bond rally will be held by Negro citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County at Camp Lamardge, on the Cahaba River, at 9 a.m. Monday.

The Masonic Temple and the Little Savoy Cafe will furnish transportation to the river, and persons reporting to either center between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. will be furnished rides.

Swimming, boating and barbecue will be featured at the rally, and the sale of War Bonds will be held at the river's edge, according to the committee, which includes Clarence Price, Robert Williams and S. J. Bennett.

The Negro Division, Jefferson County War Savings Staff, is cooperating in the rally.

JUL 9 1943
JUL 2 1943

Local Colored Boy Buys War Bonds In Africa

William Miller, Jr., (colored), who is in North Africa, is not only fighting for his country but buying War Bonds as well. In a recent letter to his mother he wrote: **"I am saving my money so I will have something when I come home. I think I will buy $100.00 worth of War Bonds this pay day and send them to you to keep for me."** He goes on to say: **"So far the war is just about over here. There have been two small air raids in a place I just left, but no one was hurt. There are some fine cities over here and I live in one of the biggest ones. I have a lot to tell you when I come home, and I don't think it will be so very long."**

Columbia, S. C., State
September 8, 1943

Entzminger Heads Negro Bond Workers

M. A. Entzminger, manager of Allen-Benedict Court for the Housing authority of Columbia, was yesterday named chairman of the Richland county war finance Negro committee, the immediate objective of which is participation in the third war loan campaign, which opens tomorrow.

At the same time that Chairman Frank F. McGowan announced Chairman Entzminger's appointment, and acceptance, the latter made public the personnel of the full committee as follows: Dr. C. A. Johnson, supervisor of Negro school in Columbia; Professor C. W. Madden, principal of Howard and Saxon schools; J. E. Dickson, farm demonstration agent; Dr. A. E. Adams, president of Victory Savings bank and national secretary of education for the AME church; Dr. J. J. Starks, president of Benedict college; H. E. Lindsay, real estate; W. H. Harvey, manager for the North Carolina Mutual Insurance company, and J. C. Artemus, business agent for the Negro carpenters' union.

Chairman Entzminger announced that his committee would meet at 8:30 tonight in the administration building at Allen-Benedict Court. The committee is composed, as the list above shows, of well known men who represent various phases of their race's civic, religious and education life in Columbia.

Chairman Entzminger, born in Lexington county, moved to Columbia with his parents when a small boy. He was educated at Lincoln university, Pennsylvania. He entered business with his father, T. J. Entzminger, contractor, and later taught carpentry in Booker Washington high school. When University Terrace, Columbia's first low-cost house project, was opened in 1937, he became its maintenance supervisor, and when Allen-Benedict Court, with its 244 units, was opened he was chosen by the housing authority to be its manager.

Columbia, S. C., State
October 1, 1943

Hartsville Negroes Buy $8,050 War Bonds

Hartsville—(Special)—The Negro premiere bond showing of "Pilot No. 5," was a financial success. H. C. Brewer, chairman, and H. H. Butler, co-chairman, did a most creditable job. They had a large committee of helpers and these people canvassed the entire Negro district and as a result the sum of $8,050 was realized.

War Bonds and Stamps

47c-1943

Kiddies Buy 1976 'Jeeps'

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

47c
JUN 22 1943

Major General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., Chief of Ordnance and Major General LeRoy Lutes, Director of Operations Army Service Forces present a plaque to Miss Rosebud Manning in recognition of the purchase of 1976 'Jeeps' which have been bought by pupils and teachers in the schools of Virginia with war bonds and stamps. Miss Manning is a recent graduate of the Maggie Walker High School of Richmond, Virginia and was valedictorian of her class. The "Jeep" shown in the picture is symbolic being one of 39,000 such vehicles that have been purchased by both white and colored school children with war bonds and stamps.

JUN 22 1943

Negro Units Add Color To Parade

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

APR 20 1943

The longest and most brilliant parade seen in Atlanta passed down Peachtree Street Monday night as the city and metropolitan area pushed forward the mammoth bond drive.

The Negro units won the acclaim of the thousands who lined the path of the parade which wound for an hour down the Gate City's most famous thoroughfare.

The Naval Air Base band was the first colored unit seen in the parade. Proudly it played and led the Naval unit from Georgia Tech and the local contingents of WAVES and SPARS, as well as other representatives from Naval divisions.

The crack 70-piece Booker T. Washington High School band brought cheers from the throng as it played and marched under direction of Prof. Earl A. Starling. Following it were the 500 soldiers from the Atlanta University Air Corps Administration School marching proudly and in perfect ranks, local Boy Scouts and representatives of the Colored Division of the Civilian Defense.

47c

It was the first time colored units had participated in a parade marking a unified effort to stir up public interest in a local bond campaign. Atlantans have promised to meet their quota in the treasury bond sales effort.

Represented in the parade were numerous civic and private enterprises whose floats and banners bore the message from the Treasury Department, telling Americans to do their best in aiding the war effort and "They give their lives; you give your money."

1943

WAR BOND SALES HERE TOP $9,000,000 MARK

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal

Total Represents More Than One-Fourth Of Goal

September 16, 1943.

'ROCHESTER' COMING HERE

War Bond sales in Memphis rolled along yesterday past the $9,000,000 mark—more than one-fourth of the goal—as volunteer salesmen canvassed the city like Government cansus takers.

Doddridge Nichols, general chairman of the drive, said workers from practically every industry and business in Memphis were working "overtime" to assure that Memphis would reach her goal of $33,023,500 in the Third War Loan Drive.

$147,194 In Week

Local liquor dealers glanced at their almost whisky-less shelves last week and entered the campaign as bond sellers. Their first week's results were tabulated at $477,194 last night by Charles Garibaldi and Charles Murphy, co-chairmen of the Memphis Liquor Industry Committee.

R. A. Trippeer, vice chairman of the committee, declared that the wholesale and retail liquor dealers were working during their spare time and offtime and not only were selling bonds across the counter, but were canvassing their home neighborhoods and friends as well.

Reports from other fronts revealed that both large and small sales were being made in increased amounts. W. T. Buckner, in charge of the Insurance Division, in charge of selling to buyers of small denominations, declared that more small sales are being made now than during the Second War Loan Drive.

Sells Himself Bond

Neely Bowen, in charge of the Real Estate Division, became so engrossed and convinced with his salesmanship yesterday that he purchased a $50,000 bond himself.

Meanwhile large purchasers were encouraged with news that American Airlines, Inc., had allotted $50,000 of its national bond purchasing fund for use in Memphis. The Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana has appropriated $150,000 to be used on the local bond market, C. L. Williams, executive assistant in charge of the local office, announced last night.

Another $50,000 sale will be made to the General Shoe Corp. of Nashville, it was learned last night. Anderson Spickard, assistant treasurer of the shoe firm, promised that that amount would be spent here out of the $1,000,000 total to be used for War Bonds.

Extra Bond Stressed

Officials of the drive here are stressing the importance of extra bond buying through the pay roll deduction plan, and each firm is being urged to have every employe increase his purchase this month by at least one extra bond.

Hugh Stanton, chairman of the Pay Roll Division, met with executives of Memphis firms last night at the Peabody and explained the need for the added buying of bonds by average Mr. and Mrs. Memphis.

That has been brought out by Mr. Nichols and national Treasury representatives as the one "must" to reach the national goal of $15,000,000,000.

Memphis' negro population is "backing the attack" with dimes and dollars and yesterday afternoon Mayor Chandler addressed 200 members of the Negro Division of the Shelby County War Finance Committee at the Beale Street Auditorium, lauding them for their response to the drive.

Matthew Thornton, Beale Street "mayor," reported another $5000 sale of bonds. Mayor Thornton said the bonds were bought by negro postal workers, who had pledged to purchase more before Sept. 30.

"Rochester" Coming

Lieut. G. W. Lee, chairman of the Negro Division, announced that Eddie Anderson, Jack Benny's "Rochester" and scene stealer, would appear next Monday night at Ellis Auditorium. An unannounced film player will be on the program with "Rochester."

Pupils of Manassas High School have bought $600 in bonds and $202 in War Savings Stamps, the Education Committee reported. Negro school principals and teachers unfolded plans for the 20,000 negro students to make a house to house canvass.

Special sermons on the bond drive will be preached in each negro church next Sunday, Rev. W. H. Brewster Sr. said.

The landing fleet scoreboard at the Victory House is rapidly being blacked out. As bonds are sold across the counter of the Victory House a black pencil is traced over the section of the scoreboard which represents the sale, and Mrs. W. B. Fowler, chairman of the house, hopes soon to cover the 10 landing craft on the board.

81 Names Added

Eighty-one new names, to be placed on the permanent honor roll of members of the armed forces, were added to the rapidly growing list yesterday, Mrs. Fowler said. The scroll of Memphis heroes will be displayed at the courthouse.

Names added yesterday were: Ben V. Rittelmeyer, Ebb Kitchens Jr., Lieut. C. H. Poland Jr., Herbert S. Ballentine Jr., Wilbert E. Remmers, Lieut. (j. g.) Granville Sherman Jr., Pfc. Harry E. Scroggins, Lieut. W. S. Craddock, Corp. Allen B. Scroggins, Lieut. Philip H. Sherman.

Pvt. Roy A. Fuhrer, Pvt. Earl Ross, E. M. Roy, L. Golightly, Clifford Schoone, Lieut. William W. Mitchell, Paul M. Boyer, Sergt. E. L. O'Mealey, Blake F. Boyer, Corp. James Gilbert Heaton, Pvt. Henry Clay Mitchell, Ensign Eugene Greener Jr., C. M. Oliver, Maj. W. P. Grace Jr., Pfc. Roland F. Witsell.

Others Go On List

J. M. Newberry, Lieut. William A. Ragland, Lawrence Busby Jr., Ila S. Jehl Jr., Hubert R. Haaga, Campbell Murray, Harmond Newton, Pfc. Joseph R. Woods Jr., John Paul Newton, Corp. Alfred W. Hooper, Walter N. Wright, Harold Eulene Golightly, Ensign A. E. Morehead, Capt. Robert Bruce Ewing.

James E. Grantham, John Guinozzo, Nick L. Frederick, Corp. Charles A. Marenghi, Capt. Joseph Levenson, Sergt. Allen R. Bryant, Lieut. Carl T. Starks, Pfc. Alfred T. Schultz, J. A. Banks, Pvt. William Edward Routt, John E. Richards, Pfc. Ralph Berle Stagg.

Lieut. (j. g.) Leroy Cooper, Lieut. Eugene L. Stagg Jr., Carroll Cooper, Corp. Willard Hawkins, William E. Harlan, Joseph R. Millard, Lieut. Comdr. J. P. Long Jr., Corp J. P. Henry Jr., Lieut. (j. g.) H. F. Sinclair, Lieut. Clyde H. Wright, William B. West, Lieut. Porter E. Cooper.

More Bonds Bought

Coxswain Virgil L. White, Pvt. William Lloyd McGlocklin, Pvt. C. F. Riley, Corp. J. T. Saunders, Pvt. Richard H. Lake, Lieut. Lawrence McCormick, Ensign Henry Loeb, Pvt. William M. Hall Sr., Sergt. John Mitchell Kuser, Ensign Rivers Payne Grove.

Corp. Harry E. Howard, Lieut. Gino J. Tuni, Pvt. James L. Harrison, Phillip Nash, L. E. Bailey, Maj. Ben Goodman Jr., Pfc. Robert E. Johnston, Lieut. Andrew C. Pearson, Lieut. Comdr. Douglas S. Cleveland.

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 30, 1943

PRATT CITY has sold $122,225 in War Bonds during the drive, according to Chairman C. A. Carter, and Wylam, with a total in hand of $90,300, will stage a rally Saturday night, according to announcement by Wylam Chairman J. F. Sanford.

Fairfield workers had totaled more than $500,000 by Wednesday afternoon, Chairman Leford Smith reports.

Bessemer's sales have passed the $2,000,000 mark.

* * *

THE JULIUS ELLSBERRY bomber will be christened by the Negro division of the Jefferson County War Finance Committee, Wednesday, Oct. 6, at the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Corporation modification plant. Named in honor of the Birmingham Negro who was killed at Pearl Harbor, the bomber will be christened by the hero's mother, Mrs. Florence Ellsberry, according to Negro Division Chairman S. J. Bennett, ~~and~~ Co-Chairmen C. W. Askew and W. H. Hollins. A. G. Gaston is bomber chairman.

With two sons fighting somewhere in Africa, Mrs. Lula Howe, 70-year-old widow from Bessemer, Wednesday put her savings into a War Bond.

Lincoln School reported War Bond and Stamp sales of $628.90 Monday and Tuesday, and Parker High has totaled $6,200 during the campaign.

* * *

WEST END DISTRICT will raise enough for two bombers, according to estimates made by T. F. Gossett, district chairman. The first bomber will be christened "The West End Lions Club" at exercises Friday.

* * *

BECAUSE HIS CONSCIENCE "would not let him fail to have a part in the Third War Loan drive, because I know what the men on the fighting front are undergoing," Charles E. Sims, of 1560 Bessemer Road, an employe of the T. C. I. foundry department, Wednesday invested in a $1,000 War Bond. Veteran of World War I, he served overseas during the heat of campaign, and now has 10 nephews in World War II, three of whom are in combat zones.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
October 1, 1943

Negroes Reach $47,000 Mark In Bond Sale

Macon Negroes will have contributed more than $50,000 toward the Third War Loan Drive, Chairman Hutchings said yesterday, stating that the sales of War Bonds had already passed the $47,000 mark late yesterday afternoon.

Hutchings said that the drive "had meant a lot of hard work and a lot of time given by a lot of

47c

folks," but that the goal was reached and passed and almost reached again. Due to the last minute rush of bond buyers, it has been almost impossible to get the bonds as quickly as it was earlier in the drive, it was stated. Fifty-four applications were taken to one of the banks early Thursday morning, and the officials placed a special stenographer on the job, but all the bonds were not ready late in the afternoon.

Those who have bought bonds and have not received them were asked by the chairman to be patient for a day or so, as all bonds will be delivered by Monday.

"It was a case of everybody at home trying to do something to help win the war," the Negro bond chairman said. "This was proven by the fact that well over a hundred $25.00 bonds were bought. And it again proves that if the colored people are given a fair chance to do their part, they will do it and then do some more."

It is believed that when the schools make their reports the grand total will be more than $50,000, Hutching stated.

Negroes of City To Hold Bond Rally on Wednesday Night

Americus, Ga., Recorder
September 28, 1943—

At a meeting held by the Negroes at Campbell A. M. E., church last evening final touches were put on the machine for intensifying the campaign of the Third War Loan. This meeting, presided over by Oscar Maxwell, general chairman, was attended by various chairmen who were previously appointed to make house to house campaign to to explain the program and every individual to purchase bonds and stamps in September, at the Post Office and the local banks. The committeemen present reported progress in this effort.

Wednesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock, a grand bond rally will be staged in the auditorium of the Staley high school, at which time a short program will be rendered and bonds will be sold by a representative from the local Post Office. Another feature of the evening's activities will be the presentation of free double feature patriotic movies. The public is cordially invited.

NEGRO GROUP SELLS BONDS

Dublin, Ga., Citizen
—September 16, 1943

H. H. Dudley has been named chairman and C. L. Harrison co-chairman of the committee to work among Negroes in the Third War Loan Drive, it was announced today by Lehman H. Keen, chairman, and John Mahoney, co-chairman, of the Laurens County War Finance Committee.

Colored people have set up their own organization and have made a definite promise that the results of bond buying among their race will be a credit to the county. The War Finance committee has commended the enthuiastic organization of Negro citizens for their patriotism, so often manifest in the past.

The committee, which is composed of leading colored citizens, prominent in civic, educational and religious affairs, includes:

Emery C. Thomas, Lucius T. Bacote, E. S. Myers, W. T. Jenkins, Rev. J. D. Seay, Prof. Marcus A. Ingram, Rev. N. T. Young, Frankie Davis, Dr. H. T. Jones, Tom Griffin, Frank Howard, Bonnie Thomas, Monroe Harris, Otis Green, Charlie Knight, Caeser Moore, Reese Stone, Henry Burch and Lee Hooks.

Negro Workers Organize For War Bond Drive

Americus Ga., Recorder
September 17, 1943

A pledge to contact every colored family in Americus was made by a representative group of Americus negroes who gathered at the Sumter court house Thursday night to formulate plans for the Third War Bond campaign. J. T. Warren county war finance chairman and S. R. Heys, chairman of the rural division were present and addressed the gathering.

"Back the Attack and Carry the Blitz to Berlin" is to be the slogan of the negro workers as they urged every colored family in the county to buy bonds and savings stamps.

Following is a list of officers and committees elected and appointed:

Oscar Maxwell, general chairman; Lenora Lambert and W. R. Burleigh, co-chairmen; V. Peggie Harris, secretary; Eddie Bryant, Rubye Pughsley, Willie Mae Crawford, committee on planning; J. C. Reese, J. E. Brown, school committee; F. M. Staley, publicity.

The planning committee is scheduled to meet Monday evening, September 21 at 6:30 o'clock at Campbell A. M. E. Church. Wednesday evening, September 22, the general committee and other interested negroes will meet at Friendship Baptist Church to put the finishing touches on definite working plans. Sunday delegated representatives will visit all of the churches in the city at which time the program will be explained and everybody will be urged to participate.

Negro Women War Bonds Sales $18,000

Jackson, Miss., News
October [illegible], 1943

The Women's Division of the Hinds County Negro War Finance Committee with M. M. Hubert, staff representative, L. M. Patton, County Chairman, and Esther Sampson, City Chairman sold $18,301.36 in War Bonds during the 3rd War Loan Bond Drive.

The women brought their efforts to a climax with a "Million Dollar Luncheon and Auction," Doris Hall in charge, at the U. S. O. Center. Back of these women were E. W. Banks, Chairman, Hinds County Negro War Finance Committee, and the special 3rd War Loan Bond Drive Chairman, Rev. A. Buxton Keeling, rector St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Doris Hall was awarded a $25.00 War Bond prize for selling the highest amount—$8,072.00 in War Bonds. Chairman Keeling says this $18,301.36 is over and above the thousands of dollars in War Bonds bought by negroes through the Post Office, banks, railroads, school system, industries and other organizations in the city and county.

Sumter School Pupils Triple War Bond Quota

[illegible] S. C., State

Special) — Sumter's school pupils trebled their goal in the Third War Loan campaign as they sold nearly a third of a million dollars in war bonds to average approximately $150 per pupil, Superintendent William Henry Shaw said today.

The junior high school led the parade, amassing a total of $137,870.25. The elementary schools edged out Edmunds high, bringing in $85,447.25, while the senior group collected $85,187.25. The Lincoln Negro school sold $3,093.25. Competing for three $25 war bonds offered by Sumter business firms and $50 in cash given by the schools, the pupils sold through Friday a total of $311,598.00 in bonds.

A day's holiday was assured the students when they passed their $100,000 goal earlier in the week.

Negroes Working For War Fund

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
September 30, 1943

The colored citiezns of Sumte and Sumter county have launche a special drive for $2,500 for th War Relief Fund.

The drive is headed by one o Sumter's colored dentists, Dr. Edward Cornelius Jones. Dr. Jone has more than 150 leading citizen from the city and county authorized to make collections from the public throughout the city and county. He is asking all colored citizens to respond liberally when the call is made for this money, because it is our patriotic duty as American citizens to stand as men among men. He further states that the goal must be met, and feels that it will be reached by the time the final reports are made.

Beale Street Does Flip-Flop As Rochester Comes To Town

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
September 21, 1943 By LILLARD M'GEE

Eddie Anderson, Rochester of the radio and motion pictures, came to Beale Street yesterday and in just no time at all, an eight-inch cigar cocked between his teeth, turned the old street over.

Here for the big negro War Savings Bond rally last night in Ellis Auditorium, Rochester stayed in character. He was the same witty character that wrestles with Carmichael, Jack Benny's bear; with Mr. Benny in regard to money, and with sin in his motion picture "Cabin in The Sky."

Beale Street, he said, is not altogether a strange place to him. "I was here last Spring on my way from a USO camp show at Camp Campbell, Ky., and saw the old street after dark. Also had some of those famous Beale Street ribs and took whole sides of them home to my wife."

Asked how many bonds he expected to sell at the rally last night, Rochester reckoned he could dispose of at least a "dollah and a half" worth of stamps.

"You know," he said suddenly, "I used to be a newspaper man myself."

Sold Papers On Coast

"Uh, Huh," the interviewer said without enthusiasm, thinking, "good gosh, Rochester too."

"Yes, suh," he went on, "I sold papers down by the Ferry Building in San Francisco. Before that I had a route for one day in Oakland. They give me that book with all the names and addresses. I went along lookin' at the book and throwin' papers. Then it started to get dark, so I began throwin' two papers at every house. Then it got darker, and I threw three, finally four. It got real dark and I began gettin' rid of them by armfuls. The next day they didn't seem to want me to carry papers."

It was by selling papers that Rochester got his start in the entertainment field, a field that both his father and mother had followed.

"Used to go out to the Presidio to sell papers to the soldiers. They kept wanting me to sing and dance for them, and for the sick men in the hospitals."

From this start, Rochester went on to the vaudeville circuits with two partners who called themselves "The Anderson Brothers, Dispensers of Syncopated Sunshine." "We wore big straw hats and coats with big stripes," Rochester grinned. "Co'n, just pure Co'n."

Will Start Seventh Season

From vaudeville he went to bit parts in pictures and then got on the program with Jack Benny as Benny's valet. He will be starting his seventh season on the air around Oct. 10. He's also just made a new picture, "Broadway Rhythm," which stars George Murphy, Ginny Simms, Charles Winninger and Thomas Dorsey's Orchestra.

At a special "Rochester" bond rally yesterday morning students of Manassas High School sold $2800 worth of bonds. The rally was staged by J. A. Hayes, principal of the school. Students of Carnes School accounted for $681.15 in sales, $400 of which was sold by Eighth Grade pupils.

Lieut. George Lee estimated that total sales yesterday by the negro division would amount to well over $200,000, including the Atlanta Life purchase. Largest individual salesman was Matthew Thornton, mayor of Beale Street, with $6000. Other large sales included the $10,000 by Dixie Homes and $9500 by T. H. Hayes.

3000 See Show

Official tabulations of sales yesterday by the negro group will be completed today. Lieutenant Lee said that over 3000 persons crowded the Auditorium to see Rochester.

In connection with the bond rally at the Auditorium last night, Lieut. Lee announced the firm he represents here, the Atlanta Life Insurance Co., had sent E. L. Simon of the home office here with a check for $100,000 to invest in bonds at the rally. The company is buying $600,000 worth of bonds in all.

"We want," Lieutenant Lee said, "to raise $2,000,000 on Beale Street to go toward the purchase of a Flying Fortress to replace the 'Memphis Blues' which was shot down over France. We'll need $2,500,000 to do this, but W. C. Handy is coming in Friday to remain a week and help us with the drive and we expect to borrow the other $500,000 from Mr. Handy's white friends."

Columbus, Ga., Ledger
October 12, 1943

850 NEGRO CHILDREN STAGE 'BOND' M CH

Approximately 850 Negro children from the Fifth Avenu school marched in line today t the postoffice and purchased $25 in war stamps.

"Our goal is a bomber," explained Principal B. H. Price. "Last year we bought four jeeps but the children have their hear set on a bomber this year. To-day the purchases were 2,369 ten cent stamps, forty-five 25c stamps, one 50c stamp, three $1 stamps, and two $25 bonds.

Since school opened the Fifth Avenue school has purchased $818 in stamps and bonds. It has been awarded the School at War Flag for 90 per cent participation. Only one other school in Columbus has so far been awarded this honor, said Principal Price.

Derna L. Hudus is chairman of the stamp committee.

Americus Ga., Recorder
October 2, 1943

Negroes Sell $5,800 In Third War Loan

According to an announcement from Oscar Maxwell, general chairman Third War Loan Drive to date the Negroes of Americus have purchased $5800.00 in war bonds and stamps. Many Negroes participated. The individuals who purchased the largest denominations were: Eddie Bryant, amounting to $1100.00 and Norman Coles $1000.00.

Jury Clark, chairman the Negro Farmer's Board stated that 13 chairmen out of 37 have made full reports. To date, the Negro farmers have purchased $1,901.45 worth of stamps and bonds. He is expecting full reports from farmers today.

Columbia, S. C., State
September 29, 1943

Negro War Bond Rally Adds to County Total

Two thousand dollars in war bonds were sold Monday night at the Negro rally held in the Columbia Township auditorium, sponsored by the Negro war bond committee.

A $1,000 bond was purchased by the Negro Bricklayers' union.

The owners of the College inn, Negro hotel, bought a $500 bond.

The committee is increasing its efforts.

A further impetus to the drive was given this week when Andrew W. Simkins, business man and real estate owner, purchased $1,500 more in war bonds.

47c-1943

Bonds

Brotherhood Buys $1250 Bonds

Tribune
adelphia, Pa.

JUN 12 1943

The Hotel Brotherhood, U. S. A., Bond Drive Committee bought $1250 of War Bonds last week at the Victory Booth, Broad and South streets. Reading from left to right: Magistrate Edward W. Henry, [illegible], Birdell Lilley, president of the Hotel Brotherhood; Robert C. Church, financial secretary; James Taylor, Samuel Johnson, William E. Fields, Hubert Foster and Walter E. Hunter.

JUN 12 1943

Homer, La., Journal
Sept. 16, 1943

COLORED PEOPLE ARE PUSHING WAR BOND SALES

Mr. J. Melton Oakes, Parish Finance Chairman,, informed us yesterday that the colored people have turned in over 300 pledges to date.

David Butler, who is in the services, in writing to his mother, says: 'Well mother if you all buy bonds and stamps, we do this job.'

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

War Bond Drive Nears $10,000 Mark In Atlanta

Credit Women With Selling $6,000 Worth

JUL 7 1943

The Atlanta Council of Negro Women reported Tuesday that the face value of bonds and stamps sold by their section in the special campaign launched in the joint rally Independence Day totaled $6,038.03.

Actual purchases totaled $4,793.68 in bonds and $19.35 in stamps, with reliable promise purchases in bonds of $1,225.

The Atlanta Service Group, War Bond Committee, reported sales of $3,875 in the housing project Monday afternoon.

Mrs. D. H. Stanton, chairman of the Council of Women's Bond drive and her helpers urged all Council members to buy at least one bond and to urge their friends to buy bonds and stamps as the drive extends through Saturday, July 10.

Bonds may be bought on Auburn Avenue at the Citizens' Trust Company and the Atlanta Mutual Savings and Loan Association. Whatever purchase is made will be to the credit of the Atlanta Council of Women, Mrs. Julia Pate Borders, president, which is in the midst of "We Serve America Week" celebration

JUL 7 1943

Negroes To Take Big Role In Second War Loan Drive

Chicago, Ill. Defender

WASHINGTON. — With millions of dollars already invested in war bonds and stamps, Negro organizations and individuals are expected to play an important part in making the Second War Loan the greatest financial drive in the history of the United States, the Office of War Information announced this week.

Calling attention to substantial Negro contributions as the Second War Loan drive opened on April 12, the OWI pointed out that America's gigantic war machine can be kept in successful action only if sacrifices on the home front match those of American service men fighting all over the world.

Typical of Negro participation in previous campaigns the OWI pointed out, was the action of Negro insurance companies in purchasing and sponsoring the purchase of war bonds and stamps.

Reports to the Treasury department indicate that since May 1, 1941, 18 Negro insurance companies have invested more than $3,650,000 in war bonds alone, including more than $1,380,000 in F Series and $1,098,100 in G Series. Thirty-two similar companies have also made investments in war securities, although statistical reports had not been received by the treasury.

Purchases by individual Negro organizations before April 1, 1943 included $462,535 by the Supreme Camp, American Woodmen, Denver, Colo.; $337,500 by the North Carolina Mutual Insurance company, Durham, N. C.; $292,000 by the Southern Aid Society, Richmond, Va.; $250,000 by the Domestic Life and Accident company, Louisville, Ky., and $200,000 by the Universal Life Insurance company in Memphis.

Other companies purchasing more than $100,000 worth of bonds prior to the Second War Loan included the Mammouth Life of Louisville, Ky.; the Afro-American Life of Jacksonville, Fla., the Richmond Beneficial Life of Richmond, Va.; the Metropolitan Funeral System of Chicago, Ill.; the Southern Life of Baltimore, Md.; the Golden State Mutual of Los Angeles, Calif.; the Supreme Liberty of Chicago, and the Great Lakes Mutual of Detroit, Mich.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

B. S. C. P. $25,000 WAR BOND PURCHASE BROADCASTED OVER NBC NETWORK STATION W H O DES MOINES, IOWA

Here is a copy of the broadcasted recognition of their $25,00.00 War Bond purchase night of May 28.

"This 50-thousand-watt voice for victory tonight salutes the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. . .which has made a 25-thousand dollar war-bond investment through our mighty-club-to-beat-the-axis.

"That order was placed through the union's executive committee, meeting in Chicago. . . and raised to 55-thousand dollars the total amount of Canadian and United States war-bonds held by this brotherhood, which is the only international trade organization of Negroes affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

"Headed by A. Philip Randolph, an outstanding Negro citizen, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters includes maids, attendants, pullman, chair and coach car porters operating throughout the United States Canada and Mexico. Organized in 1925, the union received its first bargaining contract in 1937.

"International secretary-treasurer. . .when making the bond purchase. . .declared: 'I am sure it will encourage other units, most especially Negroes, to do their bit toawrd the war effort.' We are proud that the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters chose W-H-O's bond-club as its medium for striking this 25-thousand dollar blow against the enemies of human freedom and self-respect."

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
September 12, 1943

NEW 'MEMPHIS BLUES' WILL BE AXIS DIRGE

W. C. Handy And City Negroes To Push Bond Sale

THEY'LL BUY A BOMBER

The first "Memphis Blues," shot down in a raid over Europe, has been lost but another "Memphis Blues"—even more deadly to the Nazis—is going to fly the same skies on its mission of liberty, Lieut. George W. Lee, chairman of the Negro Division of the Third War Loan Drive, promised yesterday.

Coming to aid the campaign for the bomber's purchase is Prof. W. C. Handy, composer of the famous tune that has rung around the world, who declared that he intends to purchase a $1000 bond for this purpose. Professor Handy so notified Lieutenant Lee in a telegram yesterday, stating he would arrive in Memphis from New York shortly after Sept. 19.

Will Provide Bomber

"The colored people of Memphis are glad of this opportunity to provide another bomber," Lieutenant Lee said yesterday. "The first ship which met such an unfortunate end was manned by a young Southern officer and a crew of Southern men. There will be another."

When Professor Handy comes there will be a big bond rally on Beale Street, where he first penciled, on a cigar counter, the lines of that sad, sweet song that came straight from the heart of the Southern black man. Also, said Lieutenant Lee, it is possible that Eddie Anderson, otherwise "Rochester," Jack Benny's radio and screen comedian, will be present.

Already the drive has started and the Colored Division of the War Finance Committee has raised $200,000 toward putting "The Memphis Blues" back in the air. The most unique sale came yesterday when Marie J. Nixon, of Hyde Park School, acting as administratrix for Ella Robinson, a negro woman who died recently, invested $11,000 of the estate in Government Bonds in accordance with her wishes. Autress Russell Post of the American Legion, named in honor of a negro hero of World War I, received credit for the sale.

A permanent scroll in honor of members of his race who purchase bonds will be erected in the Beale Street Auditorium, Lieutenant Lee said.

Largest purchase to date has been $100,000 by Dr. J. E. Walker, president of the Universal Life Insurance Co. Largest sale through the Fraternal Group was $2000, made by Morris Hulbert. Largest purchase through the Women's Division has been $1000, reported by J. E. Bell. Booker T. Washington

High School pupils purchased $500 in bonds and stamps on the first day of the drive, and Prof. Blair T. Hunt and Prof. J. A. Hayes, cochairmen of the Schools Division, report it has only begun.

Report Due Wednesday

Under the direction of D. H. Hancock, of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., and H. D. Whalum, of the Union Protective Assurance Co., cochairman of the Negro Underwriters Division, 125 agents have pledged sales of $500,000 in a door-to-door campaign. Vice chairmen are P. W. Thornton Jr., O. W. Westbrook, A. J. Lewis, John Bluford Jr., R. L. Johnson, S. L. Johnson, Robert Davidson, J. L. Redditte, L. F. Simpkins, C. W. Cox and E. M. Stevens.

First general report will be made Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock at Beale Street Auditorium, when the committee will be addressed by Mayor Chandler.

"The Third War Loan campaign," said Lieutenant Lee, himself a veteran of World War I, "not only gives to the colored people of Memphis the opportunity to perform a simple patriotic duty, but also offers them the chance to save money which can be used after the war for the purchase of homes and farms and business establishments. We are confident that the members of our race in Memphis will reach their goal by Sept. 30."

Livingston, Ala., Home
September 23, 1943

Negro Third War Loan In Sumter County

47c

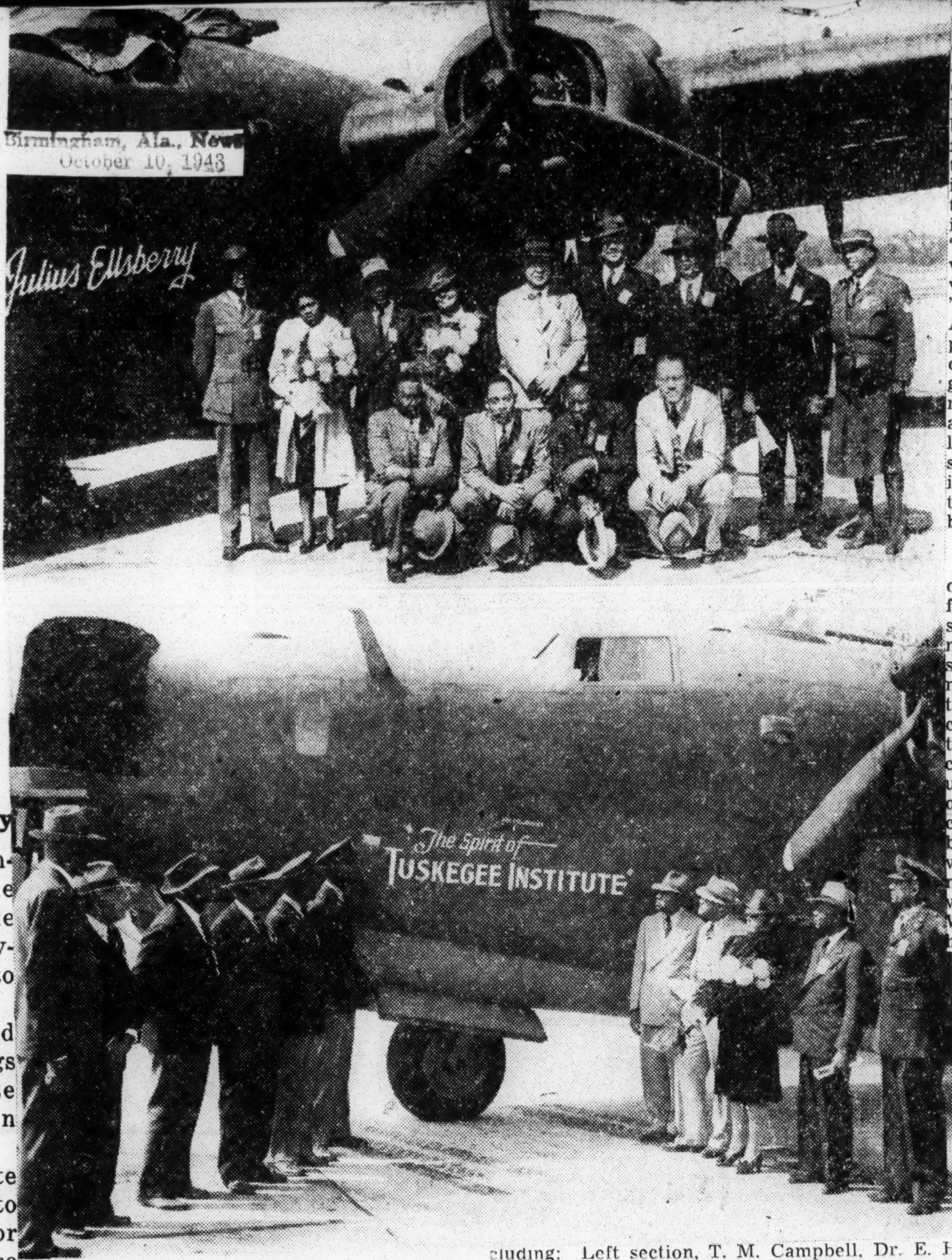
The negro citizens of Sumter County have realized the importance of loaning Uncle Sam their extra dollars by buying war bonds and stamps to the limit of their ability.

A series of community and neighborhood group meetings have been held to organize committeemen in each town and each locality.

We are asking our white friends to please report to their nearest committee men or Geore Paris, Chairman negro Division War Finance Committee at Livingston, any bonds purchased by negroes that may or may not have been counted in the negro quota.

After all points have been reached and all negroes contacted, it is felt that we will more than reach our quota of $25,000 in purchases of bonds and stamps by October 1.

George Paris,
Chairman Negro Division War Finance Committee.


Julius Ellsberry
The Spirit of TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

Birmingham, Ala., News
October 10, 1943

THIRD WAR LOAN BOMBERS CHRISTENED—Birmingham aind Alabama Negroes put hundreds of thousands of dollars into War Bonds during the Third War Loan Drive and climaxed their War Bond sales programs with launching of Liberator bombers at the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons modification plant in Birmingham.

47c

The Julius Ellsberry (top scene) was dedicated by the Jefferson County Negro Division, which totaled more than $1,000,000 in War Bond sales, to the memory of the first Negro from the county to lose his life in World War I. Taking part were, left to right: Standing, L. K. Shivery, Florence Ellsberry, A. G. Gaston, Mrs. A. G. Gaston, Oscar W. Adams, C. J. Greene, W. D. Hargrove, Robert Durr, Mrs. Ruth Jackson Odum. Kneeling, S. J. Bennett, H. D. Coke, E. O. Jackson, Dr. F. D. Patterson.

The Tuskegee Institute was christened by a group from the institute and Army Air Base including: Left section, T. M. Campbell, Dr. E. H. Dibble, Victor C. Turner, N. Kollock, Lt. Carl B. Taylor, Lt. Rose. Right section, Harry Sims, Tuskegee President F. D. Patterson; Mrs. A. G. Gaston, both of Birmingham; and Capt. Roscoe P. Burton.

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 30, 1943

The Coal Bin

BY HENRY VANCE

SOMETHING FROM THE BRIEFCASE

Did any of you readers (even one out of the six) know that there is a "Swap Day" observed weekly in a certain Alabama town, with one day in the year the biggest swap day of all? Didn't think you did. The fellow that told me about it allowed that he figured it had been going on one day a week almost back to the days of the Civil War, and that interest had never lagged, and swappings had never failed to take place. It's nothing at all like Hitler's barter system, you can bet on that. The little city of Scottsboro is the municipality that inaugurated the innovation and every Monday even during wartimes, "Swap Day" is on the boards in Scottsboro. Everything from giant bulldozers to puddle-jumpers, acreage to a 50-foot city lot, a sawmill to a paper of pins, all these may change hands during "Swap Day" in Scottsboro. The fellow on the little end of the show must give certain boot, of course. My informant ventured the guess that Scottsboro's "Swap Day" was originated way back yonder when folks came into town by horse-drawn wagon or by saddle horse. They got the habit 'way back then, and they've never given it up. And you can't blame 'em, because "Swap Day" produces a certain trade stimulus that would otherwise be missing. The chief shoveler is glad for the tipoff, because before next Summer arrives he's going up, sit in on the party, and see if he can't trade a typewriter for a lawnmower in working condition, and a year's subscription to a certain magazine that he owns in fee simple for about 50 feet of garden hose that won't spout like Old Faithful somewhere between the hydrant and the nozzle.

* * *

The chief shoveler helped out on the bond campaign during the Third War Loan Drive from what he laughingly called an oratoracle standpoint. His assignment was to face the microphone each day and tell the people on a state hookup the figures reached to that moment by Jefferson and the other counties, and to narrate certain interesting features that the campaign brought out. I believe the most interesting story I had to tell throughout the campaign was about the old Negro who marched up to the stage of the auditorium and poured out $500 in nickels and dimes. To this small change he added a couple of hundred dollar bills and walked away from the auditorium with $700 in War Bonds in his valise. A testimonial to one's faith in Uncle Sam like that would and probably did more to accelerate War Bond sales than anything that could have happened during the campaign.

47c

Birmingham, Ala., News
September 28, 1943

Small Bond Buyers

It is upon the common people that there now rests the major burden of carrying the Third War Loan drive to success.

Individual bond buyers had reached only 56 per cent of the goal set for them, it was declared Sunday night. If they reach their goal, the drive, the largest ever made by any nation, will be a success.

The person particularly called upon to buy a bond in the remaining days of the drive is the man with a swollen war pay envelope. He is the man who thronged the nation's football games last Saturday. He is the man who is helping to set new attendance records at picture shows. He is the man who has more money for luxuries than ever before. She is the woman who buys unneeded things for the home.

47c

Birmingham's Negroes have shown how it can be done. They have surpassed the quota set for them.

If all the white people of Jefferson County with small means do their full duty, the remaining portion of this county's quota will be subscribed before the deadline at the end of this week.

It can be done. But it can be done only by everybody doing his share.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

SEP 16 1943

NO TIME TO HOARD MONEY, SAYS SPAULDING

Washington, D. C.—"This is no time for hoarding money" C. C. Spaulding, president of the big Negro-o[illegible] and operated North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, Durham, N. C., this week advised Americans engaged in the Third War Loan.

Mr. Spaulding listed "Five Golden Rules for Winning the War": 1. Loyalty on the part of everybody. 2. Sacrifice to the limit. 3. Put all of your surplus earnings in war bonds and stamps. 4. Hold bonds to maturity. 5. Be generous in the support of all war efforts.

SEP 16 1943

The business leader amplified these rules with the declarations that "It is better to be taxed to the bone by our government than to submit to Hitlerism. After all, it isn't a matter of what we can afford to do but rather of what we cannot afford not to do."

47c

47d-1943

Army to Observe Jimcro Customs, Order Declares

People's Voice New York, N. Y.

DEC 4 - 1943

Ordinarily, when anyone tries to p[illegible] War Department down on jimcro of colored soldiers in this army, he is met with denials, evasions, runarounds. This War Department memo, issued to colored soldiers in training at Flora Miss., tosses aside all pretenses, tells the trainees bluntly that they must abide by Dixie segregation laws, that the US uniform is no guarantee of democratic right—THE EDITORS.

**HEADQUARTERS ORDNANCE
UNIT TRAINING CENTER
FLORA, MISSISSIPPI**

MEMORANDUM—

Subject: Adjustment of Personnel to local customs, laws and ordinances.

• Military personnel are required to obey the laws of the community in which they may be. Violation of such laws render military personnel liable to trial by court-martial as such violations either constitute disorder to the prejudice of good order and military discipline or bring discredit on the military service in violation [illegible] the 96th [illegible] of War. Conditi[illegible] they exist in the communities in which military personnel are located must be recognized and a practical viewpoint taken with respect to these matters.

• The laws of this community differ in many respects from the laws in force in the communities from which many members of this command have come. It is necessary that all personnel familiarize themselves with those statutes and ordinances in order that a breach of law through ignorance may be avoided.

• The following sections of the Mississippi Code are quoted for the information [illegible] all concerned.

DEC 4 - 1943

Section 7079, Mississippi Code of 1930, provides that all railroad stations shall provide equal but separate waiting rooms and other facilities in connection therewith.

Section 6132-6135 provides equal but separate accommodations on trains for white and colored races, and also designates to the conductor the power to assign each passenger to the respective accommodations used for the race to which he belongs.

Section [illegible] prohibits [illegible] one from prin[illegible] or publishing any matter intended to promote social equality for the white and colored races.

DEC 4 - 1943

• In addition to these laws the following customs must be observed:

• in buses white patrons shall seat from the front to the rear and colored patrons shall seat from the rear to the front.

• separate taxicabs are provided for white and colored patrons and the mixing of passengers is not accepted in the community.

• at moving picture houses where separate accommodations are provided for the races, patrons will join the line and occupy the area provided people for their race.

• it is not customary for people to frequent places of AMUSEMENT, RESTAURANTS, or assembly places operated for the benefit of the race other than that of which they are members.

DEC 4 - 1943

• it is not customary for persons to frequent neighborhoods populated by persons of other races.

• The Army did not establish these customs but military personnel recognize their existence and conform with them in order to avoid friction with the civil population.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

D. C. Daily Challenges Army To Act

AUG 28

"Inferior Status" Idea, Humiliation, Violences Called Out-Out Shame!

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — In a fortright editorial statement, the Washington Post, leading capital daily, last week charged that the "humiliation" and "violence" visited against Negro soldiers by both white soldiers and civilians, and the consigning of colored troopers to an "inferior status" is "one more manifestation of a dangerous disregard for dem[illegible] values which has [illegible] carried over from civilian life [illegible] the armed services."

AUG 28 1943

Inescapable Duty

Declaring it the inescapable duty of the army to "promote among its enlisted personnel a decent regard for the rights and feelings" of Negroes in the service, the Post suggested launching of an educational program among whites to afford a "greater knowledge of the Negro's contribution to the war effort of his legitimate aspirations. They simply cannot effectively wage a united nations war with color prejudices in their minds."

Continuing the widely read daily stated:

"Efforts must be made at the same time to make Negroes feel that their contribution is appreciated. They have shared in some of the toughest fighting in this war. They are entitled to hope that this world struggle for human liberation will open up to them richer opportunities for advancement and education than they [illegible] hitherto enjoyed. Th[illegible] scarcely be expected to give full devotion to the democratic cause unless it affords some recognition to their legitimate aspirations.

AUG 28 1943

"Any such program of education obviously must be accompanied by a firm insistence on the part of the army that Negro rights be respected by men in uniform and civilian alike. There are many ways in which any intelligent camp commander can act to erase the causes of friction between white and colored troops.

Glorifies Jim Crow

"He can see to it, if Negroes are segregated, that adequate recreational facilities are available to them, not only inside the camp but also in the community near which the camp is located. He can act to secure reasonable transportation service for his colored soldiers in places where jim crow traditions prevail. And, above all, he can insist that civilians show respect to the uniform his men we[illegible]ever the color of [illegible]kins. Officers should not be placed in command of Negro troops unless they have a sympathy for them and a willingness to safeguard their rgihts.

AUG 28 1943

"It is no part of the army's business, to be sure, to remedy all the defects of American life. But it is a part of the army's business to set an example of devotion to democratic principles. And it is high time now for the army to do this in regard to its Negro soldiers."

Cites New Prejudice In Air Corps

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 31 1943

NEW YORK. — Specific cases in which skilled Negroes are being denied opportunity for training and technical service in the Army Air Forces are cited by Roy Wilkins, assistant NAACP secretary, in the most recent protest against racial discrimination in the armed services.

JUL 31 1943

In one cas[illegible] pointed out that four Negro enlisted men of the air corps, one the top man and all ranking students in their class in photography, were rejected for advanced training leading to higher ratings and commissions in this field, while white classmates whom they had out-ranked were selected.

The pretext for this discrimination was the charge by one of their officers that Yale university, where the advanced training is offered, "is not ready to accept Negroes."

Wilkins also cited the case of a Negro soldier, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of a leading university, with advanced study in biology and bio-chemistry, who was first denied assignment to laboratory work in an army hospital, then especially trained as an air corps armourer and finally sent to an air field to work as a laborer.

JUL 31 1943

In presenting the matter to Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy, Mr. Wilkins thus summarized the position of the NAACP by stating: "While the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks for remedial action in the cases above cited, we are even more concerned that by more careful and frequent checks and inspections, and by disciplinary action against particular commanders as may be merited, the War Department actually enforce [illegible] of assigning, training and advancing the skilled Negro soldier on the basis of his merit and potential usefulness, rather than wasting and demoralizing him, as is all too often the case at present."

War Worker's Family Forced Out of 'Home'

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Nowhere to Go as Living Quarters at Fairfield Condemned

UNSANITARY, SAYS CITY HEALTH DEPT.

Blamed for Death of Grandchild; 2 Boys in the Armed Forces

AUG 28 1943

BALTIMORE

The eleven members of the family of Martin Molock, sheet metal worker at the Maryland Dry Dock Company, facing eviction from their condemned four-room "home" this afternoon (Friday) at 4 p.m., have no place to go.

Mr. Molock, who lives at 3310 Fairfield Road, said Thursday he has sought the help of the welfare and health departments and War Housing Center, but to no avail. He knows of no other agencies that can help him and has no idea under whose roof his family will sleep tonight.

The removal order was issued Wednesday by Magistrate Sol Liss, in Southern District police court, who admitted it was a cruel edict, but indicated that he felt it was the responsibility of Mayor McKeldin and [illegible] city to house war workers.

AUG 28 1943

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The mayor has refused to approve a site near Herring Run Park for a housing development for colored war workers like Mr. Molock.]

Another Family Ordered Out

At the same time, Magistrate Liss ordered the eviction of the family of Mrs. Nettie Graham from their 3-room one story house at 3304 Fairfield Road.

Mr. Graham is employed at Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard. They have three children.

Mr. Molock said that his application for tenacy in the Somerset Homes, Central Avenue and Orleans Street, has been approved and that he will be able to move there in October. He asked that the eviction be stayed until that time.

The house in which Mr. Molock lives is a 2-story frame building and was condemned by the health department two years ago after a fire in an adjoining structure caused damage to the place.

Has No Running Water

The house has no running water and a faucet in the rear for the house has been cut off for two weeks. The house has open air sanitary facilities, and Mr. Molock says he had made repeated requests to his landlady for improvements, all of which have been ignored.

AUG 28 1943

Only Three Bedrooms

The house's four rooms include a kitchen with a stove and tables, and a 12 by 16 bedroom, both on the first floor. In the first floor bedroom, Mr. and Mrs. Molock and their one-year-old daughter sleep.

On the second floor are two bedrooms. In the smaller of the two, which is about 11 by 12, three daughters, ranging in age from 4 to 16 sleep on two delapidated beds.

In the other room, the 5 sons, ranging in age from 8 to 18, share two beds and a cot. This room is about 12 by 16.

Residents of the Molock House showed an AFRO reporter leaks in the roof, broken windows where rain pours in and holes where rats and mice have ample opportunity to invade their home.

Last week a granddaughter of Mr. Molock died, her death being attributed to the unsanitary conditions under which she lived, according to testimony before Magistrate Liss.

AUG 28 1943

Forced to Leave Work

Three weeks ago, he said, the health department ordered him to vacate and since that time he has been futilely scouring the city in search of a new home. During the past six days he did not work and devoted all his time to this task, he added.

Mr. Molock has one son already serving in the army and another who was recently inducted will report for duty next week. The family has resided in Baltimore for the past twenty years—the last four at the Fairfield Road address.

PM
New York. N. Y.

The Levy 'Victory'

NOV 19 1943

Dear Editor:

I disagree with Morris Milgrim that the release of Alton Levy is a victory for democratic principles. Alton Levy was released for "good behavior" without restoration of his rank of sergeant.

There would be victory for democracy if not only Levy were restored to [illegible] and compensated for his sentence, but [illegible] those who are directly or indirectly responsible for his conviction were punished and all the records of Levy's trial made public.

E. RAPOPORT
Alexandria, Va.

NOV 19 1943

Dubinsky Asks Inquiry Of Levy Court-Martial

PM
New York, N. Y.

OCT 8 1943

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
PM's National Editor

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, today urged Sen. Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead (D., N. Y.) to intervene in behalf of Alton Levy, former ILGWU organizer who was court-martialed, convicted and sentenced to four months at hard labor at the Lincoln Airbase.

In a telegram to the two senators Dubinsky declared that "a grievous error of justice" was indicated in the treatment accorded Levy. Describing Levy as a competent and responsible person, the ILGWU president asked Wagner and Mead to throw their weight behind demands for a full-fledged investigation of the case.

"Wide accounts of case accentuate angle of prejudice toward Levy because of his trade union connections and strong sentiments against Negro discrimination," Dubinsky wired.

Text of Message

The telegram was sent from the American Federation of Labor Convention in Boston which Dubinsky is attending. The full page of his message follows:

"Grievous failure of justice, complicated by reported reversal of judgment, is indicated in the court-martialing and conviction of Sgt. Alton Levy at Lincoln Airbase, Neb., to four months of hard labor and demotion to a private on alleged charges of making false statements about mistreatment of Negro soldiers.

"Sgt. Levy formerly was organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and is known to us as a competent and responsible person. Wide accounts of case accentuate angle of prejudice toward Levy because of his trade union connections and strong sentiments against Negro discrimination.

"I urgently request you to lend your influence to the end that the Alton Levy case be given thorough investigation by the War Dept. or other proper agencies of Government whereby a full opportunity be given the convicted Levy to be heard in defense of his status as a soldier and rights as a citizen.

Others Appeal

Levy was found guilty of circulating slanderous remarks about the commanding officer and of making "false statements" about treatment of Negroes at Lincoln Base.

Appeals for airing of the facts in Levy's court-martial have been made by a number of organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Workers Defense League, Freedom House, the American Labor Party, and by prominent individuals connected with these gorups.

PM
New York, N. Y.

CIO Demands Levy Vindication

NOV 5 1943

Staff Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—The CIO voted last night to demand vindication for Alton Levy, onetime AFL organizer who was court-martialed after expressing concern for democratic treatment of Negroes in the Army.

The CIO convention, citing the Levy case as a specific example of racial discrimination in the U. S. A., called on all Americans to reject the "'Master Race theory" for this Nation as well as for Nazi Europe.

NOV 5 1943

The CIO's anti-discrimination resolution set up a specific program:

¶ Supporting the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

¶ Urging all CIO affiliates to increase their support of the work of the National CIO Committee to abolish racial discrimination.

¶ Asking President Roosevelt to prosecute immediately those groups and hatelers seeking to foment racial discord.

NOV 5 1943

¶ Calling upon FDR to end the Army policy of segregation of Negro troops. The resolution said that discriminatory practices against any group aid the enemy "by creating division, dissension and confusion."

Soldiers In Alaska Refused Passes; Seek Investigation

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

OCT 23 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—An investigation by the War Department of the treatment of colored troops stationed in Alaska was sought last week by the NAACP.

In a letter to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, the NAACP stated that it had received from a number of sources reports alleging that colored troops in Alaska are victim of widespread discriminatory treatment.

One allegation has it that the troops are confined to camp and have been denied passes to visit some Alaskan cities. It is asserted that this condition has extended far beyond any quarantine period and is an established practice.

It is also reported that the men are discriminated against within Army camps in that they are segregated [illegible] a theatre "for, colored" and refused service at post exchanges except one designated "for colored."

OCT 23 1943

One unidentified soldier returning to the States from Alaska is alleged to have told his relatives, "So far as treatment is concerned, I would [illegible] be in Georgia than Alaska."

The NAACP urged an immediate investigation and asked that if these allegations are found to be true corrective measures be taken without delay.

PM

The 82d Day

New York, N. Y.

NOV 4 1943

This is the 82d day that Alton Levy is serving at hard labor in the stockade at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base. The War Dept. has refused to make public the report of his trial or to explain why a verdict of guilty was returned 48 hours after the court declared him to be innocent.

Cites Bias Tactics In Navy Setup

NOV 27 1943

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Complaints From Two Cities State That Negro and White CPO's Wear Different Badges

A protest against an order forbidding Negro Chief Stewards and Chief Cooks, with the rating of Chief Petty Officers, from wearing the regular insignia for Chief Petty Oficers in the Navy, has been lodged with Secretary Frank Knox.

Complaints from San Francisco and Norfolk assert that the Negro CPOs had been ordered to wear a crescent with four straight bars underneath, whereas all other CPOs in the Navy wear three red chevrons surmounted by an eagle.

The NAACP has come into possession of a [illegible] signed by Commander C. Adams, executive officer at the Naval Air Station at Norfolk, one paragraph of which reads:

NOV 27 1943

"It is noted that Chief Cooks and Chief Stewards on this station are wearing the wrong rating badge on their uniforms. The proper rating badge for these ratings is the crescent with four horizontal bars underneath, similar to first class ratings with an additional horizontal bar. Non-regulation rating badges will be removed immediately."

Cites Other Complaints

In its letters to Secretary Knox the NAACP mentioned other complaints:

"We are informed that the colored Chief Petty Officers were told that they must remove the regular insignia from their white caps and substitute the letters USN. They were also told not to wear brass buttons and to wear bow ties instead of four-in-hand ties.

"All these orders seem designed but for one reason and that is to prevent the colored Chief Petty Officers from resembling in any degree the white Chief Petty Officers.

NOV 27 1943

"We are also informed that within the **limits of the** Norfolk Naval Air Station, Negro Navy men are segregated into the rear seats of buses operated to carry personnel from one part of the station to another.

"We urge the speedy abolition of these discriminatory rules and regulations."

NOV 27 1943

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

Pamphleteering– Good And Bad.

AUG 29 1943

THE British Government Office of War Information has circulated widely a pamphlet—"Meet The United States Army." Restaurants, stores, transport workers, specifically—and all classes of British citizens generally have been given these pamphlets with a view of improving relations between particularly the Negro element in the U. S. Army.

The British felt prompted to do this because many Negrophobes in our army had attempted to have the British treat the Negro soldiers inferiorly just as they had been treated as civilians and soldiers in the states.

The pamphlet among other things, suggests the use of words which are inoffensive to Negroes and sounds a note of equality of treatment for Negro soldiers wherever they happen to be in the British Isles. Mention was also made of the pleasant manners exhibited by our boys. Whatever may be the shortcomings of this effort it does represent a civilized approach to a vexing problem, made largely so by American Negrophobes.

AUG 29 1943

In contrast to this approach of creating a genuinely finer structure of interrace relations, Brig. General E. A. Stockton, commanding the Anti-aircraft Training Center at Camp Stewart, Ga., has drawn up a training report captioned: "Educational Program for Colored Troops".

This "educational" program might better be described as a conditioning program to harden further the crystallized pattern of southern segregation. Witness these gems: Negroes are reminded not to expect "to go everywhere the white folks go in Georgia. . . It is your duty to do exactly as the law says and accept the customs of the people while you are in Georgia. . . . Be polite and respectful in any talk you may have with white people. . . . . Don't try to start conversations with white strangers."

Or in other words, the general is simply trying to say, "stay in your place for custom has crystallized segregation into law in Georgia and the fact that you are preparing to fight to preserve the nation will not alter your treatment or your status."

AUG 29 1943

47d-1943

War Department Adamant Against Mixed Units

Boston, Mass.

Guardian

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Reaffirming its stubbornly maintained position that it will not retreat from a policy of segregation in the armed forces, the War Department in a letter to Walter White, NAACP secretary, declared that "the suggestion contained in your recent letter for the formation of mixed units has been considered at various times by the War Department and the decision reached that such action would be inadvisable". The letter was signed by John J McCloy, Acting Secretary of War.

Mr. White, in releasing the above information, revealed also that recently he had visited McCloy and thanked him for the establishment of non-segregated training for colored bombardiers, pilots and navigators, and had at that time expressed the hope that after they had received this training in mixed units, colored aviators would be permitted to fight in mixed units. The negative answer recorded above is Mr McCloy's reply.

Jim Crow In Houston

PM

New York, N. Y.

Special Correspondence

PM Exclusive

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 21.—Some members of this city's Port Area Committee—setup in several localities by the United Seamen's Service to manage entertainment and housing for U. S. merchant seamen—are attempting to establish Jim Crow in the treatment of seamen here.

This attempt is in direct violation of the national policy of non-discrimination established by the United Seamen's Service, which the Government has formed through the co-operation of the U. S. Maritime Commission, ship owners and the National Maritime Union, CIO.

When the local branch of the United Seamen's Service acquired the Brazos Hotel here to house and entertain seamen without regard to race, some members of Houston's Port Area Committee, despite the fact that their only job was to carry out this program for the seamen, issued a bulletin to the entire Committee to determine whether discrimination should be practiced.

The notice, sent out by Chairman Robert E. Smith, admitted that the national policy of the United Seamen's Service was to offer its services to all seamen, regardless of race, creed or union affiliation, but said some Committee members felt "this policy must be amended to cover our local situation."

Members were asked to indicate whether they preferred to adhere to the national policy, or set up the program on the basis of racial segregation, or permit Negro seamen to use rooms in the Brazos Hotel but deny them the right to participate "in social activities involving both sexes."

Arthur J. Mandell, one of the Committee members and a Houston attorney, promptly wrote Smith that he felt no discrimination should be allowed, and said that if the second alternative outlined in the bulletin were passed, he would resign.

"Millions of colored people throughout the world," Mandell declared, "are involved in the outcome of this war. They look to our actions for the true meaning of our proclaimed Four Freedoms. We must not let actions such as these undermine the test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting."

At the same time, Mandell wrote Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee), hailing the non-discriminatory policy of the NMU in regard to its own members and asking the FEPC to call on Adm. Emory S. Land, head of the Maritime Commission, "and other persons who may be of aid in stopping this shameful procedure."

Philadelphia Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

Expensive Training Wasted: Men Bitter

By ALBERT ANDERSON

CHICAGO, Oct. (ANP)—Is it [illegible] the United States army [illegible] deliberately breaking up well trained Negro combat units and distributing them among service outfits rather than sending them across to do battle? The statistics would seem to bear out an affirmative answer to this question. The sometimes plaintive, frequently disgusted and bitter complaints of them who have been part of these fighting outfits likewise point to such a conclusion.

Trained up to the minute, proud of their organizations, ready for the big [illegible] soldiers report [illegible] their regiments, battalions or brigades, just as they feel they are ready to be sent across, broken up except for small leaders or units, which are then used as a basis for traini[illegible] groups.

In opinions expre[illegible] often not to have considerable veracity, these tactics seem to disclose a ruthless determination to prohibit Negroes, trained in actual fighting, from reaching any of the front lines where they might gain glory and prestige for themselves or their race, or where they might engage in killing white men even if they be Nazis.

Pra[illegible] every combat unit in the [illegible] exception of the two all-Negro divisions, the 93rd and 92d and the veteran 24th Infantry, reputedly in the Southwest Pacific, has been broken up in this fashion. There are said to be a few airbases protective units whose business is to protect airbases but the real fighting units of which the army is proud are conspicuous by their absence on the fronts.

The almost total lack of Negro casualties, while not to be prayed for, bears out the truth of these statements. Just where the 9th and 10th cavalry regiments are, few seem to know. Reports are that part of them are in a camp at Texas training newer recruits with some at Fort Riley where they engage in more common tasks.

Cites Negro Units Broken Up

To recite the names of a few units which have been "busted" in the fashion described:

The 78th Field artillery regiment at Fort Bragg; four zattalions, white officers, well trained. Disbanded all but a small group. Highly efficient men sent to quartermaster and engineer groups.

350th and 351st Artillery regiments, both of Camp Livingston, La. A few men were taken from these two outfits and made the basis for the new 350th Artillery group composed for the most part of new recruits. The men [illegible] regiments who had been [illegible] a year and a half had that training thrown to the winds. They went to engineering and quartermaster corps. Those outfits had white officers with a few colored second lieutenants. Some of these latter remain with the raw troops just starting training. Others went to the 92d and 93d divisions.

The 846 Tank Destroyer battalion, the oldest of the tank groups in point of service, broken with all new men to train over. The 828th Tank Destroyer battalion also at Camp Hood, Texas, broke up after it had gotten as far as California and had desert-training. Sent to Vancouver barracks wore more than 400 men as quartermasters. The balance went in the same category to Camp Swift, Texas. Those boys were crack soldiers. Even their wwhite officers hated to see the change and privately expressed themselves as disgusted, according to some of the men.

The 759th Tank Destroyer battalion, Camp Hood, Col. Thee Mann, a tough officer whom every white fellow officers respected, commanded this outfit, which was activated at Fort Custer, Mich. The 759th was busted. Col Mann is out in the woods in Texas with a small group of men, marking time according to reports. His men, who had been trained, went to quartermaster and engineer corps

The 184th, crack national guard regiment from Illinois. This group trained at Fort Custer also and was broken up there into two battalions. New training methods in the army call for smaller units, the explanation said. The regiment became two units, the 931st Field Artillery battalion, led by Lt. Col. Marcus Ray of Chicago, an officer idolized by his men, and the 930th Field Artillery battalion, Commanded by Lt. Col. Wendell T. Derrick. All three of these commanders were Negroes as, of course were the officers under them. A time honored ritual of the army prevents placing white officers under Negro commanders if it can ever be avoided.

Expensive Training For Naught

The training of those artillery groups proceeded apace. Days upon days they learned to manipulate their batteries of 155's, firing shells which cost $27 every time a gun spoke. As soon as they were hard as nails and really fit, their range records being outstanding, the order came stripping the majority of the men from the regiments.

The 930th F. A. batta[illegible] now at Camp But[illegible] Durham, N. C., with just a handful of its original men and a lot of new recruits whom it will take a year to whip into any sort of shape. The same is true of the 931st. It is now at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, the camp named so proudly for the famed rebel general of the Civil war. It too had an handful of its old personnel, the balance shanghaied to service units.

The army breaks these groups up but never abolishes them. They leave small segments, cadres. These, rumors says, serve the purpose of p[illegible]mitting the army to still boast that it has Negroes in every branch of the service. The army knows these boys are crack shots, that they have mastered the function, nomenclature and handling of numerous firearms, that they are potentially superior soldiers. It knows they have stamina because down in Texas, it is said that while Red Cross ambulances trail white troops to pick up soldiers unable to stand the heat and the grind, such is rarely true of Negro soldiers.

Put Negro Troops on Guard

The two national guard outfits are presumably combat troops. Actually, they are guard units according to reliable information. The 366th up at Camp Devens, Mass., under Col. McQueen is reported not to have been trained in any true sense for combat duty. It guards points on the New England coast. One battalion goes out on guard for two or three weeks. It returns and the other battalion goes out on guard for two or three weeks. It returns and the other battalio[illegible] its place. Observers expect it to [illegible] in this [illegible]y for the duration.

The 372d in New York City. It, too, a proud national guard outfit, is doing guard duty in New York City. Its role is important but no one ever pretends it has been put into any shape for arduous front line battle ordeal. It's a guard regiment but is expected to remain in New York until the war is over.

The 369th Anti-aircraft regiment at Hawaii is outside the country and in an important spot. It, with 24th and the gallant Tuskegee flyers now on convoy duty somewhere off North Africa, presumably are the only Negro troops which can really lay claim to being combat and the 369th in one sense is doing guard duty also. Guarding a key defense area but still guarding.

Quartermasters and Engineers

....The 93rd is ready. It has been so for many weeks according to information trickling back from the men who are part of it. The division has had desert training, specialized training, is as hard as nails and would like nothing [illegible] to get a few [illegible] of Nordic supremacy out in front of it, but it still languishes "somewhere in California." Why, no statement has so far indicated.

The 92d is preceding to get into shape. Under the rigorous hand of Maj. Gen. Almond it is expected to either of the divisions into the quar-glory, have every bit as much danger tion of the use of Negro troops in
be in high fettle. ere the year is termaster or engineering groups. to confront as any other troops. They congress. Whether it materializes or
gone. Those in it say they either will None of these men has disdain for have to keep up the supply lines, an what comes of it is a question for the
be ready or exhausted for Gen. Al-the quartermaster or engineer regi-important factor in [illegible] warfare. future It is reported that colored
mond is determined to make them fit, ments except they are not the com-They build the ro[illegible]s [illegible] chief dif- friends of Sen. Downey will approach
Just what part these two block di-bat duty outfits for which they ference is [illegible] carry boxes and Congressman William L. Dawson,
visions will be permitted to play is were trained, and they fear some shovels a[illegible]picks with their guns be- only Negro congressman, in an ef-
a matter of speculation. Whether deep dyed, diabolical plot within of-ing only incidental. That appears to fort or have Dawson sponsor a simi-
they will go to Europe or against the ficialdom is bent on not letting Ne-some to be the policy of the grand lar resolution in the house of repre-
colored Japanese is another question. gro troops get a break. As a matter old American army. sentatives.
It would seem quite the height of fol-of fact the engineers and the quarter- Sen. Downey of California is to
ly and waste of manpower to turn masters, while they don't get the launch a request for an investiga-

SEP 25 1943
SEP 25 1943
DEC 22 1943
OCT 23 1943

Comment on General Stockton's Order

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AUG 14 1943

Camp Stewart Commander's Directive Called Stupid and Un-American

Leaders of Baltimore civic organizations, the Urban League and NAACP, not only disagreed with General Stockton's views, but described the directive and method of presentation as "revolting," "stupid," and "un-American."

Urban League Head Speaks

J. Harvey Kerns, executive secretary of the Urban League said this about the directive:

"In my opinion, it is one of the most revolting orders conceivable. The order itself breaks down the very thing the General proposes to do — build "the best damned outfit."

"The General evidently knows very little about the ability of colored people to assimilate knowledge, for he opens an old argument long ago exploded by reputable authorities as a myth—regarding the superior ability of one group to assimilate in contrast to another.

"The suggestion of developing 'stooges' in his company will do more to produce disunity than all the propaganda of Axis agents. Any colored soldier who could hear such an order and maintain his morale as a real American fighting man, is worthy of a Congressional medal.

"The General by such an order, is not building soldiers, but cringing submissive subjects. Every red-blooded American should protest any such order being read to colored soldiers.

Join the NAACP

The opinion of Randall Tyus, NAACP executive secretary was this:

"General Stockton's directive is stupid and un-American. It's stupid because he makes some very inaccurate and elementary statements about the colored man being less intelligent than the white.

"Then he ventures to give out material for a talk to officers of colored organizations, which is entirely out of his field and in a field where he's got no business as a military officer.

"The directive is un-American in that while colored soldiers are contributing as much as anyone, white or otherwise to this all out fight for victory—he is discrediting them, trying to subdue them, cow them down, and lower their morale.

"In a democracy we have no room for segregation and discrimination. It is practiced, I know, but at a time like this he is preaching it and enforcing it and glorifying it, when the people to whom he is talking, colored soldiers, are doing everything they can to help preserve the so-called democracy.

"He is actually practicing Hitlerism — probably knows more about it than Adolph does himself. The General's directive is the rankest piece of work I have heard of lately."

PM
New York, N. Y.

Air Base Clears Up Mystery of Surprise Release

NOV 15 1943

Alton Levy served only 88 days of his 120-day sentence in the stockade at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base, simply because he had earned time off for good behavior.

The Public Relations Office at the Air Base cleared up the mystery of the "surprise" release of the former labor organizer in a telephone conversation with PM.

In the first mouth in the stockade, under conviction by a military tribunal on charges of making "false statements" about the treatment of Negro soldiers at the base and "circulating rumors" about Brig. Gen. Early Duncan, commanding officer at the base, and his wife, Levy committed some minor breach of the prison rules and lost his automatic "good behavior" time for that month, the Public Relations Office said. But subsequently, it reported, he was a model prisoner and earned his full complement of days off.

Infraction

(Leon Despres of Chicago, Levy's attorney, told PM on the telephone that on a recent visit to the Air Base at Lincoln he had learned that the infraction of the prison rules which cost Levy several days of his "good behavior" time consisted in passing to a soldier who had visited him a slip containing the name and address of his father, to whom he asked the soldier to write.)

He thus has served out his sentence and has been restored to active service "with the same standing as any soldier." He has, however, been transferred to another base, where, in the words of the Public Relations Office, he "probably already has started on a new job."

Since Levy served his full term (less time off for good behavior) it may be adduced that efforts by the Workers Defense League and other liberal agencies to obtain his release played no part in the curtailment of his sentence.

Seeks Vindication

Attorney Despres said he would continue his efforts to obtain vindication for Levy. Through Sen. Wagner of New York he is attempting to intercede with President Roosevelt.

"We should like to obtain for Levy not only vindication, but restoration of his rank as sergeant and reimbursement of lost pay," he said.

First word of Levy's release came late Friday when he telegraphed his father, Morris Levy, of The Bronx, from Kansas City, Mo., that he was on a train and would write. Harriet Levy, his sister, told PM last night that the family had had no further word from Alton but were not worried, as they hardly had expected a letter before today at the earliest.

May Demand Parliament Note Color Bar

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

SEP 18 1943

LONDON —(ANP)— That government action to eliminate the color bar biases of London establishments will be demanded when parliament reconvenes, was indicated recently follow[illegible]e forced removal of [illegible] Constantine, a West In[illegible] cricket player and employee of the Ministry of Labor, from a popular hostelry. The hotel manager asked Constantine to vacate his rooms because white guests might object to his presence.

Dr. H. Moody, president of the League of Colored People, has given details of the case to the Colonial Office and Constantine is said to have consulted lawyers for possible legal action. The league is seeking to promote legislation to end discriminations against Britishers of color.

"The government should make it illegal for any hotel to discriminate against the colored people," declared Dr. Moody.

TELLS OF INCIDENT

Constanstine, whose position with the labor office requires that he protect [illegible] welfare of hundreds of [illegible] Indians working at the Merseyside docks, came here recently to participate in a cricket tournament between England and Empire teams. His account of the incident was that:

"I booked rooms for four days at a London hotel for my wife, daughter, two friends, and their secretary. After taking over the rooms I was called to the manager's office and told we could stay for one night only.

"When I threatened to hold the management to the four nights' contract, I was asked to accept alternative accommodations at a near-by hotel. We moved on the advice of a Ministry of Labor official in the interests of peace and dignity." The hotel manager said that "There were some guests in the hotel who thought the atmosphere not congenial. Constantine saw my feeli[illegible]d after I had said there were alternative accommodations he left."

During the conversations the manager is reported to have discussed "another nation and its racial problems." It is believed the United States was the unnamed country.

A spokesman for the Colonial Office deplored the situation and declared that "any discourtesy shown to our Colonial fellow citizens should not be allowed."

47d-1943

RAILROADS AND LABOR UNIONS RECOGNIZE NO LAW AFFECTING NEGROES

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

DEC 15 1943

WASHINGTON. — The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, openly challenged on constitutional grounds by 16 southern railroads, appeared today to be marking time on a West Coast Federal Court action for clarification of its powers.

In the railroad case, F. E. P. C. held that the southern carriers and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen were discriminating against Negroes under terms of an operating contract described by the committee as barring Negro workers from promotion and seniority rights. Adjusments were requested.

Find Action in Doubt

The southern railroads, in a joint letter of F. E. P. C. yesterday said the agency was wholly without constitutional authority to issue or enforce orders forbidding discrimination against Negros or any other group. The union has made no public reply.

F. E. P. C. reported today the final course of action in this matter had not been determined. No regular meeting of the committee is scheduled until December 27.

However, it was learned that the hearing now under way in Federal District Court at San Francisco would have a vital bearing on any further F. E. P. C. action.

In this action, 18 discharged Negro shipyard employees have petitioned District Judge Michael J. Roche for a permanent injunction against the Marinship Corporation and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, an American Federation of Labor

Some 200 policemen were posted around the Point Breeze plant, where several hundred cat-calling pickets appeared when the shift changed this morning. No violence was reported, and hundreds of workers, white and Negro, passed through the picket line.

Company officials said the working force on the midnight to 8 a. m. shift at Point Breeze was cut about 50 per cent but had no immediate figure on the day shift.

Vernon L. Dorsey, union organization director, asserted 75 per cent of the day working force was idle.

In Washington the War Labor Board ordered the strikers to return to work immediately and warned that if they did not, the board would invoke the sanctions of the War Labor Board Disputes Act.

Under the Labor Disputes Act, the government could seize the plant and then institute criminal prosecution of any individual who encouraged the strike.

REVEALS HOW HE HAD BEEN IGNORED

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE
(Recently Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War)

FEB 6 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4— Reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes were the immediate cause of my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

The Army Air Forces are growing in importance and independence. In the post war period they may become the greatest single component of the armed services. Biased policies and harmful practices established in this branch of the Army can all too easily infect other branches as well. The situation had become critical. Yet, the whole course of my dealings with the Army Air Forces convinced me that further expression of my views in the form of recommendations within the Department would be futile. I, therefore, took the only course which can, I believe, bring results. Public opinion is still the strongest force in American life.

To the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking, I say with all the force and sincerity at my command that the man in uniform must get his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside of the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places within the military establishment who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him. But only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won.

When I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action. In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit piolts at Tuskegee. I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. What information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals for recommendations, I volunteered them.

SEGREGATED SCHOOL BROUGHT CLIMAX

This situation reached its climax in late December, 1942, when I learned through Army press releases sent out from St. Louis and from the War Department in Washington that the Air Command was about to establish a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to train Negro officers for ground duty with the Army Air Forces. Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation. Moreover, I had actually written to the Air Command several weeks earlier in an attempt to find out what was brewing at Jefferson Barracks. The Air Command replied as late as December 17, 1942, giving not even the slightest hint of any plan for a segregated officer candidate school. It is inconceivable to me that consideration of such a project had not then advanced far enough for my office to have been consulted, even if I had not made specific inquiry. The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes.

But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. Moreover, even now the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the field of aviation. This attitude is the result of wholly unscinetific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity, the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces.

AVIATION SQUADRONS ONLY LABOR UNITS

The Negro program of the Air Forces began some two years ago with the organization of several so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)". These units now greatly increased in number, were organized to serve no specific military need. They have never had a defined function. Except as individual commanders on their own initiative have found some military function for particular small groups of men, the characteristic assignment of the "Aviation Suadron (Separate)" has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. There are no equivalent white organizations. "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces. Reluctant to use Negroes at all, the Air Command started off on the wrong foot by organizing some Negro labor units, while every effort was being made to recruit white volunteers with mechanical ability for skilled service.

Somewhat later, in order to provide enlisted technicians for the new air base at Tuskegee, a few Negro soldiers were accepted for technical training at Chanute Field where a large school is maintained. The men were well received and did excellent work. I urged the importance of continuing such training of Negroes in this existing unsegregated school. But the program stopped with the first group. The Air Forces then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

SERVICE PILOTS REJECTED

The Air Forces also are rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers in other highly specialized technical fields. A few such men were trained for Tuskegee. But for a period of more than six months, all qualified Negro candidates have had their completed applications returned to them with the information that the Air Forces need no more Negro weather officers. The Air Forces, however, do need large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army. Yet, it is unthinkable to those in authority that a Negro officer can fill such a position except at Tuskegee. The same situation exists in armament and engineering, both ground specialties for which the Air Forces have been accepting cadets generally, but refusing Negroes.

To date, all Negro applicants, a number of them well and fully qualified, for appointment as Army service pilots have been prejudiced. Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes. I am advised that this matter is receiving further study. The simple fact is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

AVIATION FUTURE IN DANGER

Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field. Even the branch school program in which it is represented that Negro officers share without discrimination is in fact discriminatory. Many white officers enrolled at branch schools of aviation medicine have the opportunity of full time resident study. The Negro officer is permitted to commute periodically from his home station at Tuskegee for work at the Maxwell Field branch school. Such grudging partial tender of makeshift schemes may be expected to continue unless a genuine change of racial attitude and policy occurs in the Air Command.

While Negro trainees and cadets at the Tuskegee Air Base have done well from a strictly technical point of view, they have suffered such demoralizing discrimination and segregation that, in my judgment, the entire future of the Negro in combat aviation is in danger. Men cannot be humiliated over a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency.

Specifically, Negro and white officers serving at Tuskegee in the common enterprise of training Negroes for air combat have separate messes. They are not permitted to have quarters in the same building. Separate toilet facilities have been provided. If the group of white officers at Tuskegee insist upon this and I have no evidence that they do—they are psychologically unsuited to train Negroes for combat. If they do not so insist, the racial attitude of the local commander or of higher authority is all the more apparent.

POLICE DISARMS SOLDIER-GUARD

Despite original design to advance Negro officers and to place them in posts of administrative responsibility at Tuskegee as rapidly as they should qualify, that design is not being carried out in the post administration, except in the station hospital.

Early in the history of the Tuskegee project, a Negro soldier guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian. From then on friction continued. A new commander was appointed. He disarmed Negro military policemen assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. A recent member of the Alabama state police force was assigned to Tuskegee as an Army officer with duties related to his civilian experience. The Negro soldier was embittered, but the prejudiced community was somewhat mollified.

Fundamentally, it seems to me the Air Command has either failed to comprehend or failed to care that its policies and practices are tending to tear down rather than build up the pride, dignity and self respect which Negro soldiers, like all other soldiers must possess if they are to achieve maximum combat efficiency. Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road.

Protest Discrimination In Air Corps Examination

DEC 10 1943

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The St. Louis branch of the N.A.A.C.P. has filed a protest with the War Department against the policy, recently made known, of requiring one type of examination for Negro applicants and another type for white applicants.

OCT 23 1943

The discriminatory policy was brought to light when Russell H. Jackson Jr., who applied for aviation cadet training, received a letter from the Aviation Cadet Examining Board in St. Louis reading as follows:

"Dear Sir:

"This is to advise that it will be necessary for you to report for another physical examination as all colored applicants must have a Form 64 fine type physical for flying. Through an error you were given the physical on the Form 63.

"You may report to Room C-1, First Floor, New Federal Bldg., 12th and Market Sts., St. Louis, Mo., any Monday, Wednesday or Friday and you will be sent to Jefferson Barracks for another physical examination."

OCT 23 1943

The letter was signed by Sgt. Fred A. Bauer. DEML-RS.

Jackson first applied for aviation training on Nov. 23, 1942. He was rejected for "defective color vision." His score on the mental test was 128, the highest in the group of 250 taking the examination, only two of whom were colored.

OCT 23 1943

Jackson retook the physical examination Oct. 29, 1943 on Form 63 and passed without qualification. It was after this examination that Sgt. Bauer notified him that he had been given the exam on the wrong form.

DEC 10 194

Jackson then retook the examination on Form 64 and passed without qualification. His papers now have been sent to Washington where action on applications takes from four to five weeks.

Jackson is formerly from Kansas City where for four months he taught aircraft sheet metal courses at the Lathrop War Training center. He is now attending Stowe Teachers college here. He has the A. B. degree from the Ohio State university.

The N.A.A.C.P. branch of which Sidney R. Redmond is president feels certain that Jackson will be accepted for aviation cadet training but wants to clarify a policy which requires one type of examination for Negroes and another for whites.

Flay Red Cross Blood Segregation

DEC 4 1943

Several months ago there appeared in the Chicago Defender an article on the Red Cross policy of blood segregation and on the protest campaign which the Committee of Racial Equality was waging against this discriminatory practice. C.O.R.E. is still carrying on this program, which has consisted chiefly of leaflet distribution in front of the Chicago Red Cross blood donor center at 5 N. Wabash avenue. But this must be a program participated in by everyone interested in the cause of democracy.

Defender

The policy of the American Red Cross on blood donations, also maintained by the local Chicago chapter, is, as verified with Joseph H. King, first vice-chairman, that "The blood will be processed separately so that those receiving transfusions may be given plasma from the blood of their own race." The purpose of the blood banks is to receive blood to help our wounded men in service, men who are fighting for the democratic principles on which this country is founded.

Can we ask our men to go abroad to carry on this struggle — to give of their lives if need be — when we on our own home front allow race discrimination in such things as blood banks or in any other phase of our daily lives. These blood banks are a very essential part of our present day struggle against intolerance in other countries, and we all recognize the need for them and the merit of their work, but at the same time we must not remain silent on this policy of blood segregation, which is unscientific, undemocratic, and harmful to national morale.

Chicago, Ill

The medical science has time and again spoken forth against the unscientific basis for blood segregation. In the Journal of the American Medical Association, issue of July 4, 1942, the committee of race relations of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists states: "There is no evidence that the blood of Negroes differs in any significant respect from that of white persons. The successful transfusions with whole blood from white persons to Negroes or vice versa can be accomplished quite as readily as between members of the same race . . . The segregation of the blood of Negroes in the blood banks is therefore not only unscientific but is a grievous affront to the largest minority in our country . . ."

The Negro delegation to the American Red Cross on Sept. 1, 1942, claimed that "The segregation of Negro blood in the blood plasma project is the principle thing affecting adversely the Negro's morale today."

New York's PM on May 20, 1942, declared, "The Red Cross is a great agency for good. It should be big enough to admit its blunders when they occur, and to correct them. It should be big enough to admit that its present policy of segregating the blood of Negro donors in its plasma banks is a bad mistake. That policy should be repudiated in the interests of science, humanity, and national morale."

In 1941 it was only through constant public pressure and protests that the American Red Cross began accepting Negro blood. We can and must do the same again. The Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross needs your blood donations and we heartily encourage your participation in their program, but in giving your blood, register also your protest against their Jim Crow policy. — Sylvia Barger, Committee of Racial Equality.

B. and O. Still Clinging to Nazi Policy on Brakemen

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

FEPC Order Ignored, Although Drive for Recruits Lily-White, It's Backed by WMC

DEC 18 1943

BALTIMORE

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad steadfastly clung to its aged color ban this week in its refusal of colored applicants for brakemen and freight handler jobs in the face of serious wartime traffic delays.

DEC 18 1943

In a desperate effort to alleviate the manpower shortage this week, company officials:

Secured War and Navy Department permission to use men during off-hours;

Urged clerical workers in jimcrow office building positions to work in extra hours;

Began accelerated courses for brakemen and freight handler recruits;

Extended its campaign to attract men from outlying States such as Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Ignores FEPC Directive

B. and O. officials acknowledged receipt of a directive last week from the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) to cease discriminatory employment practices, but continued its campaign "for white men only" to ease the labor shortage.

F. G. Hoskins, white, general manager of the Eastern lines, told the AFRO the matter of hiring colored men was still under consideration Tuesday.

Despite the ban on colored help, management warned that unless workers answered the call for brakemen and freight handler jobs, passage of freight through Baltimore will be slowed up, war production delayed, and movement of finished war material through the port hampered.

The campaign designed to publicise the acute shortage of railroad workers and the subsequent need of help is being sponsored by the War Manpower Commission, the railways and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

The latest victim of the com-Jones, 31, of 812 W. Fairmount pany's employment bias is Paul Street, who, on application Monday, was told by a white woman clerk that colored persons were not being hired for the job.

Applications are being accepted at the Baltimore and Ohio employment office, 212 Camden Street.

47d-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

NOV 13 1943

Navy's Out-of-Bounds Ruling In Norfolk

THE Navy, in a most amazing order, has forbidden the entry of any white military personnel under its jurisdiction into the major Negro section of Norfolk between sunset and sunrise. In this outlawing of the section the Army has joined. Why has this been done? The Navy has not taken the public into its confidence. It merely stated that if all the purported facts were known that the public would understand. Further than this, the Navy has merely been cagey, offering in justification of its action "the mutual protection of all concerned."

It is common knowledge, of course, that some fracases have taken place in colored sections in which white servicemen were involved. It is common knowledge that these same servicemen, in search of questionable "recreation" and alcoholic stimulants, have made forays into the colored areas. There have been one or two fatalities, occasional holdups, some reported "rollings" so-called, and at least one recent reported criminal attack upon the female companion of a white serviceman after they had by mistake wandered into the section.

FOR those who follow the papers at all, it is also common knowledge that similar, or worse, incidents have taken place in virtually every section of the city, among them some of the generally regarded best white sections, including suburban and beach districts.

A portion of Main street used exclusively for white living quarters and businesses was outlawed, but several contingent blocks of Main street that are not ideal, to say the least, were not outlawed. Nor were any of the other sections, where activities against the welfare of the servicemen have been noted, similarly outlawed.

Other measures presumably will be used for those districts in combatting the problem. Let it be thoroughly understood now that sound Negro opinion does not for a moment condone vicious conditions nor lawlessness in any form, regardless of the race or color or creed of the offenders. It is a hard problem, as has been pointed out by our morning contemporary in Norfolk, and the solution found is admittedly a hard solution, as the Virginian-Pilot observes. Our conviction is that the solution is not only hard, but harsh, hasty, inept, and uncalled for. It may be, from the Navy viewpoint, a solution—but it is definitely not a solution that solves the fundamental and underlying problems.

BY MAKING out-of-bounds the entire Negro business district and the adjacent residential sections—as well as those more outlying areas which can be reached only by passage through the outlawed sections, the official edict puts all of Negro Norfolk outside the pale of decency, makes it suspect, and by inference labels it as unfit for contact by decent service men; that is, white wearers of uniforms.

If things are so bad, what of colored service men? Is no thought to be given to them? Are they to be left to the dangers and vices of the section that are implicit in the outlawing order? Or doesn't the Navy care? If the Navy is to be strictly logical, its orders should apply to service men as such, without racial distinctions. The trouble is, it has not been logical or thoughtful in its initial action.

By its action, joined in by the Army, the Navy has given the Negroes of Norfolk, **as such, a black** eye. It has **damned the good Negroes with the bad without distinction. It is making the innocent suffer along with the guilty. This is against the civilized conception of justice and equity. And it certainly does nothing to enhance good relations between the military services and the Negro citizens.**

What has happened here is merely another example of the hasty and inept action, relating to Negroes, consistently taken by the Navy, without consultation with any of the affected population. In this, as in so many of its past actions, the Navy, particularly, seems to have no compunction in stigmatizing the Negro.

NOTHING has happened in Norfolk that could not have been controlled by proper policing by civilian and military authorities. Some months ago a similar out-of-bounds order was issued affecting Norfolk County. Prompt action by the law-enforcement authorities got at the root of the trouble and revealed the order's unfairness to the county as a whole—and the order was rescinded. It is significant that the ranking officer in this Naval District was moved to another command shortly after the Norfolk County order was issued. Perhaps his transfer was coincidental, but it is not to be lost sight of as possibly related to his responsibility for blanketing the good people with the bad in the county.

The outlawing of the colored section here reflects also upon the city of Norfolk officially. It is of interest to note that Chief of Police Wood has not taken to it happily and has sought some modifications of an unrevealed nature. The city, with the Navy sharing joint responsibility, has let conditions get to a state where such a sweeping out-of-bounds order could be promulgated.

One contributing reason has been the inadequate policing of the city, with this particularly true of the section now outlawed. The police authorities themselves are prompt to admit the policing inadequacy because of manpower shortages.

Some years ago an officially sponsored Crime Conference here voiced support of the use of colored policemen. Before that, and in the subsequent years, this newspaper and various civic organizations, including most recently the Junior Chamber of Commerce, have advocated affirmative action in this respect.

Only a few months ago the Journal and Guide took occasion to commend the especially fine service rendered by the colored Auxiliary Police force here, not only in civilian defense functions but in dozens of special assignments; and we pointed out then that from this body of patriotic and now experienced men the city had a reservoir of prospects for augmenting the undermanned city police force.

But apparently the city is too timid to act on this score. It seems not to realize that Negro policemen have long been used in many southern cities. Only last week Greensboro joined the several North Carolina cities that in the past two or three years have appointed Negro policemen and found them entirely satisfactory.

FURTHERMORE, by this action the military authorities imply that the races, even in such vital defense areas as Norfolk, cannot harmoniously get along side by side. They can, if proper and firm and socially-conscious leadership is provided. The military authorities have provided the Axis with excellent propaganda material.

As a matter of fact, they have adopted one of the ghetto-making policies of the arch racist of the Axis, Hitler himself.

The whole policy of the Navy, when it embraces the Negro, is arbitrary and undemocratic. And it is very ironical that certain white persons are always fearful of the supposed desire of the Negro to socialize with members of their race, without the desire being reciprocated, but that this order seems necessary, at least partly, in order to stop the movement of whites into the non-white sections.

Highlighting the nature of the order is the fact that in the affected area are many of the largest Negro churches, at least two white churches and one white servicemen's center, and recognized social agencies for Negroes which occasionally have white speakers, including servicemen, and other white program participants. But they too must bear the onus of the order.

Further, despite the able leadership provided our police department by Chief Wood and despite the generally able city government, they are certain pitfalls that are permitted to exist with impunity. It is hardly to be believed that they exist without the knowledge of the authorities.

What the Navy has achieved, with the concurrence of the Army, in the matter of branding Negro Norfolk with the sweeping out-of-bounds order; what they and the city have not done to remove reasons, even to have considered such an order; and what they still can do, whether the out-of-bounds order stands or is rescinded, but decline to do — all this constitutes ways NOT to keep the peace or respect-

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ably conduct a war to guarantee the Four Freedoms.

Hines Hospital Discrimination Hit

Defender

I am a veteran of World War II. I have been in the army for three years and was overseas during that time. Now I am a patient at Hines Veterans hospital, where they are still fighting the Civil War. I was surprised to find such gross discrimination and segregation right here on the outskirts of Chicago, a supposedly democratic city, is worse than the deepest South. I wonder what's happening to this democracy I was fighting for?

Filipinos, Chinese, Mexicans and Japs all are put in rooms with other Americans; only Negroes are segregated. We have special lavatories to use. They come right out and ask us not to use the other lavatories as they are "for white patients." Some of the crackers even try to segregate us in the dining room.

One of our boys from a receiving ward reported to a surgical ward for a bed. The nurse said she only had "white beds." I don't know what color she thought he wanted.

I think something should be done about these conditions. A wounded Negro soldier overseas cannot expect very much if these things happen to veterans right at your doorstep. I know — A Returned Soldier, Hines, Ill.

Chicago, Ill

Army Making England Like South

Weekly Review

Soldiers Bitter Over Dixie Officer's Rule

SEP 4 1943

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Birmingham, Ala.

NEW YORK, Sept.— (ANP) — From confidential sources which the Associated Negro Press has every reason to believe competent and reliable, and which the Associated Negro Press will not reveal, the following account of the American Negro soldiers in England has been secretly received.

"The conditions over here are getting like those in the States. White officers are doing a fair job in convincing some British people about the race problem. Most Negro troops are gradually being moved out of and away from the cities to isolated camps. White MP's are usually placed in these vicinities and intimidate Negro soldiers as well as the girls who are seen with them.

"Last week, there were at least two riots over here. Another one on July 1st and the last of May. During the last of May, two Negroes were reported killed, more wounded and a white officer also wounded. Had an awful time throughout the night. One Negro officer practically took charge of the camp. He collected about 600 rifles in two days. Started when a white MP shot a Negro soldier.

"Last week, one started when fights broke out between Negro and white soldiers in a small city in northern England when white soldiers are reported to have resented British girls being with Negro soldiers. In a southern England city, there were a number of fights that started when white lieutenants made remarks about some "Nigger soldiers" and merchant men" who were passing. The soldiers resented it. A riot was prevented by some of the few Negro MP's who came up and rescued the officer. Yet an MP sergeant (white) at the same time insulted a Negro officer who had tried to quiet the soldiers. At MP headquarters, the Negro officer said that he was insulted by the provost officer (white) in front of the other MP's, who were enlisted men, and arrested as being drunk. The coolness of the four Negro lieutenants, the colored MP's and the colored American Red Cross personnel prevented a probable riot during the night.

"Riots are much more frequent than the press can publish. The troops break into the gun rooms and get their rifles and ammunition to protect themselves often. If something is not done by the U. S. Army soon, I would not be surprised to see a major battle between Negro and white American soldiers. It seems that some top people want southern U.S.A. transferred over here. Even Mr. Bondy from the American Red Cross is over here trying to find reasons for moving the colored clubs (clubs staffed by Negroes) out of certain cities, because it is said that certain people must be satisfied. One of them is Mr. Gibson, the American Red Cross commissioner in Great Britian. One of his excuses is that he understood that the Negro personnel were too highly skilled in their jobs.

"White officers are behind most of the trouble. They have even canvassed communities, telling the residents and business people not to serve or associate with the Negroes (whom they command and get their promotions off) The few Negro officers are treated as bad by their fellow officers. There are some fair minded officers, but they are not permitted to do much because they are not promoted and are shifted in many instances from place to place.

"Have seen a couple of colonels who were very good, but their executive officers are rotten and slip many things over. The Negro soldier is doing a job. All he wants is to be treated like a soldier. Negro soldiers want Negro women who have dedicated to carry on and it was plain that this has had marked affect because the Rising school building where the exercises were held was packed and jammed with people crowding the halls.

"If you can convince the white officer that each Negro soldier wants to get home to his colored wife or friend, you can do a good job. These boys are not excited by the white girls even though they are sought out by the girls in many cases. And the whole thing seems to hinge on the friendship of the Negro and the white girl. Many soldiers are in a very low frame of mind, and if they were not real soldiers, I am convinced that the enemy would be trying to work on them. However, it is possible that the enemy is helping these riots to break out since the tension is so great.

"The American Negro soldier is often fined his salary or more for the smallest infraction. Oftimes they must travel 20 miles to another town to have a little fun. The Negro Red Cross worker is being resented because the soldiers look to them for leadership. Also the American Red Cross workers are not wearing badnana handkerchiefs. The U. S. army is to blame for most of the trouble not the fifth column. The officers won't give the fifth column a chance."

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HIT JIM CROW NAVY BADGES

Defender
Chicago, Ill

NOV 27 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A protest against an order forbidding Negro chief stewards and chief cooks, with the rating of chief petty officers, from wearing the regular insignia for chief petty officers in the navy, has been lodged with Secretary Frank Knox by the NAACP.

Complaints from San Francisco and Norfolk assert that the Negro CPOs had been ordered to wear a crescent with four straight bars underneath, whereas all other CPOs in the navy wear three red chevrons surmounted by an eagle.

The NAACP has come into possession of a copy of an order signed by Commander C. Adair, executive officer at the Naval Air Station at Norfolk, one paragraph of which reads:

"It is noted that chief cooks and chief stewards on this station are wearing the wrong rating badge on their uniforms. The proper rating badge for these ratings is the crescent with four horizontal bars underneath, similar to first class rating with an additional horizontal bar. Non-regulation rating badges will be removed immediately."

In its letter to Secretary Knox the NAACP mentioned other complaints:

"We are informed that the colored chief petty officers were told that they must remove the regular insignia from their white caps and substitute the letters USN. They were also told not to wear brass buttons and to wear bow ties instead of four-in-hand ties.

"All these petty orders seem designed but for one reason and that is to prevent the colored chief petty officers from resembling in any degree the white chief petty officers.

"We are also informed that within the limits of the Norfolk Naval Air Station, Negro navy men are segregated into the rear seats of buses operated to carry personnel from one part of the station to another.

"We urge the speedy abolition of these discriminatory rules and regulations."

Port Security Head Blamed for Jim Crow

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American

Coast Guard Officer Tells AFRO He Can't Order Policy Change

EXPRESSES FEAR OF RACIAL OUTBREAKS

Baltimore, Md

BALTIMORE

The responsibility for the ban against colored applicants for the Baltimore Port Security Regiment was charged Wednesday to Commander Howard A. Kelly, head of the local unit, by Capt. A. C. Marts, commandant of the coast guard.

While the regular coast guard sets up machinery for the organization of port security forces, they are composed of civilians, and recruitment of their personnel is left entirely to the discretion of local authorities, Captain Marts said.

In Baltimore, he said, Commander Kelly fixes the policy in regard to the selection of personnel. The regular coast guard as such exercises no control over his policy.

Commander Kelly, who told the AFRO in October that the only duty assigned to his unit was guarding piers, said that colored men were unacceptable because they would have to give orders to white stevedores, "and that wouldn't work in Baltimore." He declared that he would not change this policy unless ordered to do so.

Colored Used in Other Posts

The issue of jim-crow in the local regiment was discussed by Captain Marts with AFRO representatives at the U.S. Customs House, Gay and Lombard Streets. Commander Carl H. Abel, captain of the port, also attended the conference.

Representing the AFRO were Furman Templeton, personnel director, and W. A. Brower, staff writer.

Pointing out that the regular coast guard uses both colored enlisted men and officers without discrimination, Captain Marts admitted that colored volunteers are used in port security forces in Boston and other Northern ports.

Gov't Issue Equipment

Despite the fact that the Government issues arms, uniforms, and other equipment, he insisted that the coast guard could not prevail upon local authorities to change the policy here.

"Commander Kelly has given a great deal of his time without money and if we try to tell him how to run his organization he may quit," Captain Marts added.

Fear Racial Outbreak

Both he and Commander Abel professed fear that the acceptance of colored applicants would engender racial conflict. "Don't you think that the introduction of colored men will be a disturbing element?" Commander Abel asked.

Mr. Templeton pointed out that for more than fifty years colored and white stevedores have worked on local docks without mass conflicts, and that white stevedores daily take orders from colored gang carriers (foremen).

He also pointed out that color or race should not be regarded as a qualification for enrolling in the regiment. To this, Commander Abel replied

Reaction to Color Important

"Psychological reaction against color is a very definite qualification."

It was first revealed four months ago that colored applicants were restricted from enrolling in the Baltimore unit.

Since that time at least eight qualified colored men have applied for enrollment and all have been summarily refused.

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Bans J.C. in Post Theatres

Afro-American

DEC 18 1943

Baltimore, Md

CAMP DAVIS, N.C.—Although there are no express regulations concerning the seating of officers in camp theatres, the written policy bars erection of signs and seating by race, the War Department informed the AFRO recently.

It is pointed out here, however, that through a loophole in the regulations which permit the seating of men by organization, the same result is obtained because of the army's basic policy of segregation. This rule, however, does not apply to officers.

Smith Case Raises Point

The point was raised in connection with the case of Lieut. Robert Smith, executive officer of Battery C here, who was ordered recently by an M.P. not to sit in the section reserved for officers in the post theatre.

Battery C also figured in another incident at Camp Davis recently when the men, charging that they were not given enough to eat, refused to leave the mess hall on one occasion until they were sufficiently fed.

Since that time no further incidents of this nature have been reported.

47d-1943

Defender
Chicago. Ill

HEADQUARTERS

48th College Training Detachment (Air Crew)
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia

NOV 27 1943

10 November 1943

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DISCIPLINARY BULLETIN)
NO. 2)

NOV 27 1943

1. A Summary Court-Martial duly appointed by Par. 1, SO 78, this Headquarters, dated 7 November 1943, met this date to review the following case and submits the following review of trial:

a) In that Pvt (A/S) Herman F. Suiter, ASN 35106791, did, in Morgantown, W. Va. on or about 5 November 1943, while attending a dance at the Morgan Hotel Ball Room, willfully and wrongfully to the prejudice of good order and military discipline conduct himself in a manner to bring discredit upon the military service by dancing with a colored girl in view of those present.

b) Punishment awarded in the case of the above named Aviation Student is "to have two-thirds (2/3) of his pay deducted for a period not to exceed one (1) month".

NOV 27 1943

2. The information as listed above in the results of this trial will be recorded on the Service Record and will become a permanent part of the Army records for this Aviation Student. This record will seriously impair his opportunity of being classified as an Aviation Cadet at the Classification Center and will be used in any future case against this Aviation Student during his entire Army career.

3. Further, any recurrence of this or any other act against the Military Code, regulations or traditions of the Service will result in immediate elimination from air crew training and transfer to a Basic Training Center without recommendation for further advancement in the Service.

By order of CAPT TROUTMAN,

BARKER TUNSTALL, JR.,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

NOV 27 1943

Army, Dixie Cops at Odds Over Arrest, Beating of Lieutenant

DEC 11 1943

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

Indicted by County Jury, Army Won't Surrender Him for Trial

COLUMBUS, Ga. (ANP)—The case of Lieut. William H. Webb, commander of a truck regiment here, allegedly arrested, beaten and forced to put up $50 bond to obtain his freedom, threatened this week to develop into a cause celebre between military and civil law officials.

The army officer was reportedly arrested by Muskogee County police inside the Fort Benning reservation, hustled back to the Columbus jail, allegedly abused and maltreated, then forced to put up $50 collateral to obtain his release on a speeding charge.

The smouldering resentment between Fort Benning commanding officers and county authorities broke into the open Sunday when County Attorney Bentley Chappell revealed the heated exchange of correspondence resulting from Lieutenant Webb's arrest.

Army Won't Give Him Up

In disclosing the correspondence, Chappell raised the ancient issue of civil versus military law and sought to justify the treatment accorded Lieutenant Webb, who since the forfeiture of the $50 bond had been indicted by the Muskegee grand jury. Military authorities, however, refuse to surrender the officer for trial.

Chappell made public the letters after Col. William H. Hobson, commander of Fort Benning, criticized the treatment of soldiers at the hands of civilian police during an address before the Columbus Rotary Club. The case of Lieutenant Webb was cited as an example.

The arrest, made September 8 in the presence of military policemen, aroused the ire of military authorities and was given official attention when L. R. Aldridge, of the Muskogee County Commission, received a letter from Col. J. P. Edgerly protesting the action.

Facts of Case Cited

The letter cited the fact that the arrest took place on a military reservation, the alleged assault on the lieutenant, forcibly taken from his auto and jailed for an hour, and that one of the arresting officers who drove the lieutenant's car into town damaged it on the trip.

"It further appears," the letter said, "that during Lieutenant Webb's period of confinement in the county jail he was subjected to other indignities and finally intimidated into putting up a cash bond ($50) and was advised that it would probably cost him much more if he appeared in court."

Drastic Demands Made

The letter demanded the return of Lieutenant Webb's $50, that his arrest and incarceration be expunged from the record, reimbursement for damage to his auto and local officers be instructed as to their lack of authority to make arrests on the military reservation.

It also advised that civil officers be instructed as to the proper method of arresting any soldier, whether he be colored or white.

DEC 11 1943

Men in Aviation Unit in Texas Denied Chance to Advance, Say

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

Segregation, Discrimination Rampant; Abused by Local Cops, Superior Officers, War Department Told

PAMPA, Tex.—Members of the 328th Aviation Squadron and the 908th Quartermaster Company are denied any chance of advancement and are assigned to menial jobs, soldiers on this port charged in a recent letter to the War Department.

The soldiers declare that they are "absolutely fed up and disappointed with the bad treatment, discrimination and injustices imposed upon us," adding, "We are proud to serve our country but would prefer to serve in a more important capacity."

They charge that they have been stationed here ten months (since February), have had six weeks of basic training, very little drilling, and that the only arms they've seen are the .45's carried by white military policemen.

Humiliation Constant Lot

Humiliation is their constant lot, the men say, charging that white soldiers and officers hurl **all kinds of vile epithets at them** with impunity and that their commanding officer, an Easterner, never sides with them on questions of discrimination.

They point out that while K.P. pushers (head K.P.'s) are made corporals and sergeants, K.P.'s on the whole—their permanent rank—are "a miserable bunch, worked like slaves without ratings."

"We are confined to these jobs," they charge, "not because we are not fitted for anything else, but because we are dark. We are referred to on this post as 'that n----r squadron at the end of the field.'"

"Segregated in Everything"

Charging that they are discriminated against, and segregated in, everything—in the post theatre, in the hospital and in the gym, they state that they are often forced to forego their nights off to wait on white officers and cadets on the post.

Nights sometimes alloted to them to play games in the gym are later taken away from them and assigned to white officers and cadets or enlisted men for dances or other social functions at which they must "serve as flunkies and be subjected to all kinds of abusive language."

Many men in the squadron, they contend, have passed the test for O.C.S. and aviation cadet but have been denied training, and add that the majority of the men are well educated and capable of performing more important tasks.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The War Department reports that most of the men in the group made low average scores in the army general classification test. "There is no record of any man who has qualified as an aviation cadet in that unit who has not been called up for service," it declared.)

DEC 25 1943

Dancing With Negro Servicemen At The Stage Door Canteen

Informer

Informer Houston Texas

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Declaring that the Stage Door Canteen's policy about Negroes is based on he famous quotation . . . "all men are created equal," Margaret Halsey, whtie, author, and captain of junior hostesses at SDC, in a memorandum to all junior hostesses titled "Dancing with Negro Servicemen at the Stage Door Canteen," said that the real reason back of the refusal of some whites to mingle with Negroes at the canteen is based on economic and historical facts and not on sexual or psychological reasons.

SEP 11 1943

"The canteen's policy about Negroes is based on a quotation which runs as follows: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal. . . .'

SEP 11 1943

"The canteen's policy about Negroes is the based on the 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution of the United States, in which it is specifically stated that nobody is to be denied the rights, privileges and immunities of American citizenship on account of race, creed or color.

"One hears a good deal of talk, in some circles, about the Reds and long-haired radicals who want to tear down the constitution. The Reds and long-haired radicals only WANT to tear it down. The people who deny Negroes democratic equality actually ARE tearing it down.

"I know that some of you on our shift are very deeply prejudiced against accepting Negroes as your social equals. You can't be blamed for having that prejudice in the first place. It was taught to you when you were too young and helpless to be critical.

SEP 11 1943

"But you certainly can be blamed for hanging on to the prejudice when: (a) you are now old enough to know better; (b) you are being given, in the canteen, a golden opportunity to come into contact with Negroes under the best possible circumstances and find out what they are really like.

SEP 11 1943

"There is no scientific basis for the notion that Negroes are inferior to white people. A scientist, given a collection of human brains picked in alcohol, cannot tell which ones belonged to Negroes and which to white people. You can check this statement in any good reference library. Intelligence depends on the number and fineness of the convolutions in the brain. It has absolutely nothing to do with the amount of pigment in your skin. If it had, you would all be much stupider when you are sunburned.

"Actually, I don't believe any of you are very deeply concerned with Negro intelligence. What worries you more is the fear of rape. You unconsciously, but very arrogantly, assume that no male Negro can so much as glance at you without wanting to get you with child. The truth is, that while you are an extremely attractive group of young women, there isn't one single one of you who's that good. Negro males react to you no more and no less than white males. As women, you know in your hearts that men of any description respond to you pretty much as you intend them to respond. This is especially true in the canteen, which has hardly any points of resemblance at all to a lonely, moonlit shrubbery.

SEP 11 1943

"The real basis of prejudice against Negroes is economic and historical, not sexual or psychological. The people who talk about 'keeping the niggers in their place' never admit this, because it doesn't show them in an entirely favorable light. Such people prefer to fall back on more melodramatic arguments, usually (1) the honor of their women and (2) the danger of a Negro revolt. Neither of these two arguments stands up very well under close inspection.

SEP 11 1943

"As long as you treat Negroes as sub-humans, you don't have to pay them so much. When you refuse to dance with Negro servicemen at the canteen, you are neither protecting your honor nor making sure that white southerners won't have their homes burned down around their ears. All you are doing is making it possible for employers all over the country to get Negroes to work for them for less money than these employers would have to pay.

SEP 11 1943

"You don't live in a romantic age. You live in a machine age, and it's getting more machinery every day. In the old days, large groups of people could live out their entire lives without ever finding out what other large groups of people were doing. That is no longer possible. Unless you can de-vent the aeroplane and cause it to fall into general disuse, you are going to spend an increasing amount of your time mingling with Negroes, Russians, Chinamen, Patagonians and all sorts of hitherto unfamiliar people this side of accredited lepers. You might as well get used to it here and now, on Sunday nights at the canteen. It will save you a lot of trouble later on.

SEP 11 1943

"There's only one possible basis for getting along with other sorts of people, and that basis is equality. Real, genuine, three-ply, copper-bottomed, equality. If we have any secret yearning to think of ourselves as a master race, we have only to pick up a newspaper to see that nobody is giving odds on master races these days.

SEP 11 1943

"One word of warning before I close. Don't be surprised if you find some of the Negro servicemen sullen and unresponsive and some of them aggressive and too responsive. This war has put the Negroes in a hell of a spot. We need them in the war effort, so we've been forced to give them more equality than we were ever willing to concede before. They aren't used to it, and neither are we. There are bound to be awkardness and mistakes on both sides. If there are, remember that they are inevitable and take them in your stride.

"When a Negro goes into the canteen, he has no reason to suppose he won't be snubbed by one of the girls on our shift or openly insulted by a southern soldier whose 'superiority' has not been noticeably enhanced by rye with beer chasers.

SEP 11 1943

"The main thing to remember is this: The Negroes aren't under any obligation to behave better than we do. They didn't come to this country because they wanted to. We brought them here in chains. They didn't write the Declaration of Independence or the constitution. We wrote those documents, and if we now wave them in the Negroes' faces and say, "Ha-ha-Practical joke!", we must expect to meet the customary fate of practical jokers.

SEP 11 1943

"We kept the Negroes in official slavery until 1864 and we've kept them in unofficial slavery ever since. If you meet a Negro serviceman at the canteen whose conduct doesn't come up to your delicate and exacting standards of behavior, just don't forget this one thing—whatever he is, you made him that way.

SEP 11 1943

"As a matter of fact, you meet plenty of white servicemen whose conduct fails to enthrall. Few outsiders realize, but all of us know, that being a Junior Hostess and entertain unselected strangers for three and a half hours is difficult at best. You only make it more difficult when you artifically set aside a portion of these strangers as targets for unreasonable, unscientific and undemocratic emotion. If you'd just relax and keep your pores open, there wouldn't be any 'Negro problem.'

47d-1943

Tuskegee Gets Mess Of Pottage From Air Force

MAR 28 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUDGE WILLIAM H. HASTIE

THE ARMY AIR FORCES just announced a new program of five months academic training in selected colleges to be given to soldiers before the begin army flying training. The men will be taught by the college faculties and will live on the campus. Over a hundred schools over the country have been selected to provide this preliminary college training. But eligible Negro soldiers are to be segregated and all of them sent to Tuskegee Institute to study physics, mathematics, history, English and Geography.

Men from all parts of the country, with varying educational background, a large number of them already graduates of first rate liberal arts colleges, must be sent to Tuskegee Institute for five months of undergraduate training, just because they happen to be colored.

MAR 28 1943

Even if Tuskegee were an outstanding liberal arts college which it is not, this newest and wholly unnecessary Jim Crow scheme would be inexcusable. In all the circumstances the plan is outrageous. The time has come when the unholy alliance between Tuskegee Institute and the Army Air Forces must be publicly denounced and condemned.

NO VALUABLE SERVICE

Let there be no mistake. Tuskegee is rendering valuable service to the war effort in this latest step in its effort to concentrate a black aviation program on and around the Tuskegee campus. With callous indifference to the best interests of the Negro and to the importance of democracy in the war effort, Tuskegee Institute is looking out for Tuskegee.

The school gets its mess of pottage and the Air Forces have a willing and valuable accomplice in their design of keeping Negro soldiers out of all segregated colleges.

Several hundred Negroes may be affected by this scheme almost immediately. Early in March the Air Forces called to active duty the entire waiting list of several hundred qualified Negro Aviation cadet applicants. I am sure of this because of my personal acquaintance with several men who were near the bottom of the list and have been called to duty. These are the men who, after the usual preliminary processing, undergraduate study at Tuskegee, before they begin aviation training.

MAR 28 1943

UNSUPPORTED RUMOR

It still remains to be seen what will be done with these men after they finish five months of college study at Tuskegee Institute. A report was sent from Tuskegee to a leading newspaper that some of these men are to become bombardiers and navigators. There is no apparent truth to this report. I can find no evidence from any source of any plan to train Negroes for bombardment aviation.

It seems to me that some one has tried to take the curse off of this latest Tuskegee outrage by circulating the false report that new opportunity is being provided for Negroes in the field of bombardment aviation. The whole thing smells very bad.

There is one further question which we must ask and continue to ask until answer is given. What about new Negro applicants for aviation cadet training now that the waiting list is exhausted? I do not know of any plan of the Air Forces for accepting or using additional Negro applicants. Will they be accepted? If so will they go on a waiting list to remain there until 1944?

Hastie Replies On Delays in War Allotments

The People's Voice
New York N.Y

JAN 30 1943

(Below *PV* presents the reply of William H. Hastie, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, to queries arising from complaints received by this paper involving delay in payment of salary allotments made by officers of the 369th Coast Artillery to their wives. (Since this letter was sent, Hastie has announced his resignation from the War Department post, withholding explanation of same until he actually leaves his desk Jan. 31.—Ed)

Facts in summary as outlined in Hastie's letter are:

JAN 30 1943

In the case of Mrs. Charlotte Charity, the allotment which was authorized in the amount of $150.00 commencing with July, 1942, was paid for July, August, and September, 1942. Through a regrettable error no further payments were made on the allotment, but a check in the amount of $450.00, covering the arrearage was mailed to Mrs. Charity on January 11, 1943.

JAN 30 1943

In the case of Mrs. Dorothy Wilson, the records show that the allotment authorized to commence in June, 1942, in the amount of $85.00 was paid in that amount for June and July, 1942.

The allotment for $85.00 was discontinued by Lieutenant Wilson and a new allotment was authorized for $65.00 to commence in August, 1942. Payments of $65.00 were made on this allotment for August and September, 1942. The $65.00 allotment was discontinued by Lieutenant Wilson and a new allotment was authorized commencing with October, 1942, in the amount of $175.00. For this month $65.00 was paid as in the preceding month and the balance was mailed to Mrs. Wilson on January 11, 1943. Payment of the allotment for November and December, 1942, was made in the amount of $175.00, the latter check being mailed on January 1, 1943.

Payment for the month of January, 1943, and for subsequent months, will be made soon after the first of the month following the month in which they become due.

These cases undoubtedly involve errors on the part of clerical personnel which should not have occurred. At the same time I think it is only fair to say that in the handling of a million or more cases in recent months, the Office of Dependency Benefits has accomplished a tremendous task with relatively few mistakes of this character, particularly when it is considered that the present organization of several thousand employees was built from the ground up less than a year ago.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Ugly Picture Of Wasted Man Power, Undemocratic Action, He Claims

MAR 5 1943

The following is the 5th and concluding statement of William H. Hastie, recently Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, concerning conditions affecting Negroes in the Army Air Forces.

In four statements, one published each week in February I have tried to give the public a picture of racial discrimination and segregation as I have known them in the Army Air Forces for more than two years. It has been an ugly picture of wasted manpower and undemocratic action.

Thus at a given time, there have been more Negro applicants for appointment as weather and engineering officers than there were existing vacancies in Negro units. At the same time, there may be less Negro radio mechanics available than are required for existing Negro units. It has been shown that service pilots do a type of work which does not fit into the segregated pattern. It is too wasteful of men and money to have segregated training in all phases of aviation work, so the individual Negro is assigned, not where he fits best, but where there is a Negro vacancy. Negro flyers are ready, but insufficient Negro ground crews have been trained.

New white units are balanced by the mingling of experienced and inexperienced men. But since all Negroes in the Air Forces are new and inexperienced, and since the Army insists upon segregation, there is no leaven of veteran pilots or enlisted technicians in which Negro organizations. Thus the 99th Fighter Squadron will go into combat without a single veteran pilot and with no mechanics who have years of Army experience. It is for such reasons that the segregated training and assignment program cannot make the most effective use of available manpower.

Moreover, it is a tremendous job trying to set up the segregated scheme. An unbelievably large amount of time and energy is spent in the War Department and in the field trying to work out and to carry out plans for using Negroes and at the same time keeping them separated from whites. A year and a half was wasted making and discarding and remaking d discarding again various schemes for the segregated training of Negro mechanics and other technicians for aviation ground crews. More than two years have passed since the Tuskegee training plan was announced and not one man trained there is yet in combat. Truly the mountain labors and brings forth a mouse. Wars are not won this way.

The difficulty of the segregated program is increased by the fact that the Negro has had less opportunity for education and skilled work experience in civilian life than has the white man. Thus, relatively less Negro soldiers than whites are fitted by prior training and experience for technical work. But the same is true of white men from Mississippi or Arkansas as contrasted with white men from Wisconsin or New York. If all white Arkansans were put into separate organizations disproportionately large numbers of untrained and unskilled men would create a problem. But white Arkansans and New Yorkers are mingled so that the individual capacity of each man can be used where he will fit best. Only with the Negro is the uneven distribution of skills made a problem by putting all Negroes together.

Many of the above observations apply to the entire Army, not just to the Air Forces. Some people have wondered why I have confined my public statements to the Air Forces. In the first place, discrimination and segregation have been much worse in the Air Forces than elsewhere. Moreover, I have believed and still believe that it is possible to make progress by sitting down and reasoning with many members of the Army High Command. But not so with those who control the Air Forces. Confident of their self-sufficiency they view themselves as the elite of the Army. They believe that no one but a professional in their field can understand their problems or improve their program.

They do, however, understand the importance of public opinion. Just as public opinion has been so skillfully built up in favor of increasing independence for the Air Forces, public opinion can also be effective in curbing the foolish, harmful and unfair racial practices described in my several statements.

MAR 5 1943

Within the last month I have seen some indications of improvement in the Air program for 1943 as it affects Negroes. The proposed segregated officer candidate school for Negro ground officers of the Air Forces seems to have been abandoned. At any rate, the school did not open as scheduled and increasing numbers of Negro candidates are attending the general administrative officer candidate school of the Air Forces at Miami.

Although the 18 months already lost while no Negro enlisted men were being trained for ground crew service can never be regained, there is some indication that substantial numbers of Negroes will be trained as technicians and mechanics in 1943. During the last few weeks, we have seen in the press and in newsreels the first large group of Negro soldiers sent to the general training center for aviation radio technicians. From an officer now teaching at one of the centers for training airplane mechanics word comes that several newly assigned Negro soldiers are showing aptitude in work on airplane engines. A number of Negro civilian instructors who have been marking time at Chanute Field for six months have been scattered all over the country at various training centers. They are teaching white as well as colored soldiers. Some of the mare teaching classes entirely made up of white soldiers.

We shouid be encouraged by these gains. At the same time we cannot afford to let up in public discussions or in public protest against the many remaining injustices and against the basic falacy of segregated training and organiation.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Ill-Judged Action

Governor John C. Vivian, of Colorado, v ill-advised when he ordered immediate h to military induction of any Colorado m actively engaged in agriculture. He clai authority for this action in a clause in the tional selective service act which reads: "The Governor of each state shall have charge of the administration of the selective service law in his state."

MAR 23 1943

The error involved in this act by Colorado's governor has nothing to do with the desirability or otherwise of exempting farmers and farm workers from military service. It was wrong because it introduces the element of inequality into selective service, a matter which is based entirely upon the democratic principle of equality of opportunity and responsibility in the bearing of arms for the national defense.

If it is conducive to the winning of the war that all agricultural workers be exempt from military service, that exemption should apply equally in all states. If the need for men for the armed services demands that a given proportion of farm workers serve their country in uniform, the proportion of such men inducted and the proportion of those occupationally exempted should be the same in every state.

It is high privilege to be chosen to bear arms for such a nation as this in such a war as we are now fighting. To say to any young man that he is denied that privilege because he is needed to work on a farm is a bitter pill for most young Americans to swallow. Yet, if food production requirements are of greater urgency than the Army's need for men, some of the rural youth of the nation must swallow that pill of disappointment.

To create special discriminations by states only makes that difficult situation, both for the individuals affected and for the nation as a whole, the more difficult. It tends to arouse resentment, both among potential inductees in the other states and in Colorado itself. For it involves inequality of treatment, a thing which American youth, called on to serve their nation in one capacity or the other, will rightfully resent.

Furthermore, it is highly contributive to a spirit of national disunity, which is one of the most dangerous threats to victory we could possibly face. There should be no hint of special privilege in respect to any wartime duties, responsibilities, restrictions or sacrifice.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

No Mistake Possible—Job "Altogether For White"

DURHAM, N. C.—Despite the President's Executive Order No. 8802 prohibiting discrimination in war industry, and urgent calls for labor in shipyards over the nation, the following classified advertisement was recently published in a daily here, calling for white applicants only to work in Atlantic Coast Shipyards:

MAR 6 1943

"$65 to $126 PER WEEK to start with in shipyards on Atlantic Coast. $25 per day after you go on production in these yards. Three weeks private training on individual machines required. Positions in Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, Panama City, Florida. You have choice of either place in shipbuilding. If you are not in war work and want to change to war work, see Mr. Lineback, today at Washington Duke Hotel, Room 219. Hours 11 a. m., 3 p. m., 8 p. m. Girls 17 to 40, Boys 17 18, and men 21 to 60. ALTOGETHER FOR WHITE. No one in 1-A accepted. No telephone calls."

MAR 6 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia. Pa.

Walter White Tells Senate Service Bill Perils Negro Labor

Apr. 10, 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congress must halt practices of racial discrimination against workers in war industries before it undertakes legislation for compulsory employment, Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, told Senate Military Affairs committee last week.

White testified against the Austin-Wadsworth bill which provides for "the successful prosecution of the war thru a system of civil selective war service." 4-10-43

White pointed out that the bill is based on a false assumption, for there still exists a huge reservoir of voluntary man and womanpower which has not yet been utilized because of racial prejudice.

He cited the bill's failure to compel employers to accept all workers who volunteer or are drafted regardless of the worker's race or color as one of its most glaring faults. White added that the bill contains no adequate safeguards to protect workers from arbitrary action by employers or local draft boards.

Apr. 10, 1943

Charles H. Houston, attorney, spoke for the National Non-Partisan Council of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and supplemented the testimony of Mr. White.

The bill provides that the President through the Chairman of War Manpower Commission, may issue a call for volunteers specifying the number of persons required with their qualifications and the places where their work would be performed. "But," said White, "it creates no obligation on the employer to accept such volunteers."

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

MEANEST TRICK

MAY 5 1943

A lot of pettiness along the color line has come to light in this war, but it seems to us that an incident reported by an eye-witness in Rocky Mount, N. C., takes the prize. Many troop trains pass through the town. The good white ladies maintain a free refreshment service for soldiers at the railroad station. But the refreshments are for white soldiers only.

MAY 5 1943

The day our informant was in the station on his way to Washington, between fifty and one hundred Negro soldiers were overflowing the 'colored" waiting room out onto the platform. They had been waiting for hours for a train. The first section of the train arrived, but without any jim crow car "for colored." The dark soldiers were hungry and fretful. Before their eyes gallons of coffee and soft drinks and candy and cigarettes were being handed out to white men in uniform. They oculd not get any refreshments — in fact were told bluntly that these were for white soldiers — and they could not get out of town, for four section of the train passed through without any accomodations for Negroes Nobody gave them any information. Finally, on the fifth section to arrive there was one jim crow car, already packed to overflowing. Many of the Negro soldiers could not be jammed into the restricted space and simply had to be AWOL.

MAY 5 1943

There they were, soldiers of democracy, not in Hitlerland, but in the greatest democracy in the world, in their own native land, branded, callously mistreated, humiliated. Looking about them in North Carolina, would it be any wonder if they had little enthusiasm for destroying the Master Race — in Berlin and Tokyo?

— THE CRISIS.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

PROTEST RACIAL ATTACKS

Lawyers Urge Punishment for Violence Against Negro Soldiers

WASHINGTON, July 19 (U.P.)—The National Lawyers Guild made an attack today on "continued civilian violence, particularly by police officers, against the Negro soldiers and accused Attorney General Biddle of failing to prosecute offenders even when requested to do so by military authorities.

JUL 20 1943

Citing the slaying or wounding of five Negro soldiers in this country during the first three months of 1943, the guild declared that such violence might well be the greatest single factor now operating to make 13,000,000 Negroes bitter and resentful and to undermine the fighting spirit of three-quarters of a million Negroes in arms."

JUL 20 1943

The guild presented its views in a report on shootings of Negroes prepared by its vice president, William S. Hastie, former civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

47d-1943

Leaders Of United Nations Disagree On Post-War Status Of Colored Races

Philadelphia Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in his latest radio broadcast, took much time to repeat his often-stated pledge that a victorious United Nations would have no truck with Fascism in any way, shape or manner. He emphatically declared that:

AUG 7 1943

"The liberated peoples would have the hard-won privilege of choosing their own governments and learning the meaning of Democracy."

It is significant that this official declaration by our President followed shortly after a statefent made a few days previously by Lord Harlech, British High Commissioner to the South African Republic. Lord Harlech was addressing a London Conference composed of American, British and other United Nations' newspaper correspondents. He stated that:

"The European populations have no intention of voluntarily granting the franchise to the blacks of South Africa out of fear that such an extension of political democracy would lead to the end of white civilization in South Africa."

This declaration by Lord Harlech is exactly in line with the statement made by Mr. Churchill earlier in the war, in which he bluntly exclaimed "**that he did not become Prime Minister to liquidate the British Empire!**"

This is evidence of confusion among the leaders of the British and American governments concerning what policy to follow toward the subjugated peoples of Asia and Africa and other Colonial dependencies.

That is a question which must be answered immediately. The color question looms large on the horizon of world affairs. To dodge it now may lead to future disaster.

ARMY BRUTALITY AGAIN

The suicide of the young soldier in Brooklyn adds a sad dramatic note to the protests which repeatedly have been made to the President and the War Department concerning the mistreatment of colored soldiers in Southern camps. His self-destruction is startling testimony to Army humiliation and brutality which he could not otherwise expose because of army regulations and the fear of punishment. Conditions must be unbearable when a soldier would rather die than be subjected to them. In peace-time many Northern bred colored people shrink from setting foot in Dixie because of Southern arrogance, conceit and general ill-breeding. What indeed must be the revulsion of feeling in a soldier from New York in time of war as he is tossed about, insulted and bullied by "crackers" who from infancy has been indoctrinated with the "poor" notion that his sallow skin makes him a superior somebody?

SEP 4 1943

Guardian
Boston, Mass

The bullied and beaten soldier has no redress. He is worse off than a slave; fora slave could run away to freedom. Army rules have heavy penalties for "talking out of school." Only interested civilians can bring the army outrages to the attention of the Commander-in-Chief and the Secretary of War. The President and Secretary Stimson personally should act to wipe out Army brutality. After all, it is the people's army. The great majority of the American people will not condone ill treatment of any of their soldiers. In taking action to suppress brutality in the armed forces, the President will have almost universal support.

SEP 4 1943

A STRONGER FEPC

Guardian
Boston, Mass

At last a step has been taken to give the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) some semblance of force to use in pushing its war against segregation in industry. This step is an agreement between the FEPC and the powerful War Manpower Commission establishing jurisdictional procedure under which the FEPC may prosecute violators of the President's Executive Order 8802 (prohibiting segregation). Under this arrangement in cases where the full power of the FEPC is not established or is disputed, jurisdiction may be determined by agreement with the Manpower Commission, decision of a committee of members of both bodies, ruling by the Attorney-General, or order of the President.

AUG 14 1943

The great amount of work done by the President's Committee in overcoming color prejudice has been warmly commended. Without power to enforce its decisions it has won notable results by "moral suasion," by appeals to patriotism, by emphasizing the immediate need of the utmost production to win the war. Of course there have been delays, disappointments and rebuffs and in general the process of breaking down discrimination in employment has been irksome though encouragingly successful. Now it seems the Committee is prepared, if need be, to put direct pressure upon slow-moving employers, and results should be quicker.

O.W.I. - British and American

George Padmore's story from London in last week's Pittsburgh Courier about the British Office of War Information pamphlet, widely circulated in England, instructing citizens on the proper manner in which to treat American Negro soldiers, arouses speculation about the strange inaction of our O.W.I. in this connection.

This pamphlet is reported to discourage the use of words insulting to Aframericans, and to sound the need for treating them on a basis of equality with other soldiers.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

We submit that such a pamphlet is needed a thousand times more in the United States than in Great Britain, and yet the Office of War Information here has refused to live up to its responsibility and print a similar one for the white public.

AUG 28 1943

Our O.W.I. has used a mountain of paper explaining what insignia and medals mean, why we should not talk, and depicting the heroism of our armed men in battle, but not a single pamphlet or poster has it published and distributed to deal with the worst social cancer in this country.

The U. S. Army abroad has printed pamphlets on how American soldiers should act toward Englishmen, North Africans and Sicilians,—but none on how they should act toward their buddies a shade or two darker in color, although there have been repeated demands for some such education of Army personnel.

Considering the gross mistreatment and humiliation of colored Americans by whites in and out of the services, such mass education in tolerance is obviously needed.

THE LEVY CASE

Afro-American

The War Department has a hot potato—Alton Levy, a sergeant in charge of instruction of colored illiterates at a Lincoln, Neb., air base, is serving a four-month sentence following conviction by a court-martial on charges of circulating slanderous statements about his commanding officer and false rumors concerning mistreatment of colored soldiers.

Sergeant Levy, a Jew, was a former labor organizer, and opposed race discrimination. There is ground for belief that the army court couldn't resist the temptation to make an example of such a soldier.

Baltimore, Md.

JUL 30 1943

The Ladies' Garment Workers, the Workers' Defense League and the Socialist party have descended on the White House and something is going to be done about the Levy case.

All soldiers talk about a commanding officer behind his back, and what they say isn't always complimentary. Levy's comments should have been ignored.

Nor is the fact that Levy's statements concerning mistreatment of colored soldiers were not correct of grave importance.

OCT 30 1943

If the army is going to imprison every soldier who takes a drink and says the wrong things, the jails are going to be full.

Negro Killed By Maxwell Field MP

Montgomery, Ala

An unidentified negro soldier was fatally shot and a negro civilian was wounded in the leg by shots fired by a Military Policeman on Monroe between Perry and Lawrence Streets early last night.

Military Police at police headquarters said that they were unauthorized to give a statement of facts concerning the shooting, but admitted that an M. P. had shot a negro soldier and a stray bullet had struck a negro civilian.

The Provost Marshal at Maxwell Field was unavailable for details of the shooting. However, a witness to the shooting said that the M. P. had remonstrated with the soldier and after a conversation in which the negro is alleged to have cursed the M. P. and then charged him. The M. P. is said to have wielded his night stick until it was wrested from his grip by the soldier. He then pulled his service automatic and fired twice, one bullet striking the soldier below the chest and the other hitting the civilian in the leg.

It was believed that the negro was carried to Maxwell Field in an Army ambulance and the M. P. placed under arrest pending an investigation.

If You Want to Join a New Uniformed Auxiliary, Your Man Must Be a White Merchant Marine Officer

The NMU Finds the WAAMMS Mysterious and Undemocratic

By [illegible]

PM Exclusive

There's a new women's organization on the books today—a uniform-wearing, bugle-blowing, parade-loving group, whose purpose, according to their executive director and founder, is to "help the families of the merchant seamen."

This is the Women's Auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, Inc. (WAAMMS), headed by Mrs. Ada Mae Roll of New York City.

In a statement issued last week, Mrs. Terry Riggs Penman, national director of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Maritime Union, warned seamen's wives against the WAAMMS.

"The formation of the WAAMMS," said M[illegible]nman, [illegible]ded to confusion [illegible] the wives and families of NMU members. From what the Women's Auxiliary has been able to learn of the WAAMMS through attendance at two meetings and a conference with one of its sponsors, it impresses us as a thoroughly undemocratic, unrepresentative and mysterious body, which should be shunned by the wives of all seamen."

Some Facts

Here are the facts PM has learned about the recently chartered WAAMMS:

¶ A check with the War Shipping Administration, the United Seamen's Service, the Propeller Club and the National Maritime Union, shows the WAAMMS are apparently unaffiliated with, and unrecognized by, any established Merchant Marine or Navy welfare organization.

¶ Although its purpose is "to help the families of the merchant seamen," no plans have been made in this direc[illegible]and no statement has been ma[illegible] to [illegible] will be done, other than Mrs. Roll's: "We're going to try to cheer them up."

These are WAAMMS. A WAAMM is a member of a new organization set up with a Jim Crow twist—women relatives of Merchant Marine officers, and officers only, may belong. That's the qualification for "whites." As for Negroes, a Negro woman, even if her husband is a captain, can't join the WAAMMS. Leaders of the new group include, left to right: Drum-Majorette Arlene Powers; Florence Lindhurst, first vice president; Mary Ricker, second vice president.

Mrs. Ada Mae Roll

¶ Supposedly a democratic organization, the membership rules, as quoted by Mrs. Roll, allow only relatives of Merchant Marine *officers* to join. Seamen's wives will be permitted to work for the WAAMMS, but not to become members.

"Our husbands don't associate with the seamen on board ship," said Mrs. Roll, "and we can't do any different."

¶ Although Negroes make up about 20 per cent of the men at sea today, no Negro women are eligible for membership in the WAAMMS.

From the South

"I'm from the South, myself," said Mrs. Florence Lindhurst, first vice presi[illegible]of the WAAMMS. "You understand, I cou[illegible]ever mix with colored."

¶ All members of the WAAMMS *must* own all three of the official WAAMMS uniforms, designed by Mrs. Roll. These consist of a Winter uniform, costing about $100; a Fall and Spring uniform, about $50; and a Summer white, about $50. In addition, there's a formal gown, of WAAMMS design, which is a must for all WAAMMS affairs.

¶ No statement has been made on how the WAAMMS will finance themselves, but Mrs. Roll anticipates that dues will be $25 a year, plus a $100 initiation fee. All expenses up to now, including rent for the WAAMMS office at 152 W. 42d St., says Mrs. Roll, have been paid by herself.

¶ To d[illegible] the only activities of the WAAMMS have been to march in two parades and to form a drum and bugle corps of about 20 Merchant Marine youngsters, all in uniform. Mrs. Roll hopes the corps will eventually grow to include 100 drums, 100 bugles and 100 drum majore[illegible]

"We officers' wives are sponsoring this," said Mrs. Roll, "to help out the seamen's families, because we realize that our men can't take a ship out unless they have their crew. We're going to work with the families, visit the sick; do what we can to comfort them. And we're going to have banquets, dances and clubrooms.

"We hope to have every officer in the merchant service soon. We don't want to let one of them run loose."

Mrs[illegible] a small, thin woman in her middle 40s, is [illegible] wife of a chief mate in the Merchant Marine. Her son also is a Merchant Marine officer.

SEP 12 1943

Mixed Division Is Again Turned Down By Army

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga

Refusal Sent In Reply To Letter From The NAACP

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Reaffirming its stubbornly maintained position that it will not retreat from a policy of segregation in the armed forces, the War Department, in a letter under date of September 4, to Walter White, NAACP secretary, declared that "The suggestion contained in your letter (of July 14) for the formation of mixed units has been considered at various times by the War Department and the decision reached that such action would be inadvisable."

The letter was signed by John J. McCloy, Acting Secretary of War.

Mr. White, is releasing the above information, revealed also that recently he had visited McCloy and thanked him on behalf of Negroes for the establishment of non-segregated training for Negro bombardiers, pilots, and navigators, and had at that time expressed the hope that after they had received this training in mixed units, Negro aviators would be permitted to fight in mixed units. The negative answer recorded above is Mr. McCloy's reply.

Negro Group Asks Pardon For Schappes

The Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

The National Negro Congress yesterday urged Governor Thomas E. Dewey to grant an immediate pardon to Morris Schappes, loyal teacher unionist and anti-fascist fighter, sentenced to serve a two year prison term on charges of "perjury" growing out of the witch-hunt trials of the Rapp-Coudert Committee more than two years ago.

In requesting the Governor to pardon Schappes, Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, called attention to the "inconsistency of Schappes imprisonment today in the midst of an all-out struggle against [illegible]cism," and called upon Negro [illegible]ple to rally to the defense of Schappes.

Mr. Strong [illegible]cated his belief that Schappes had been unjustly convicted on the charge of "perjury" because the Rapp-Coudert Committee failed miserably in trying to convict the great anti-fascist fighter for un-American activities.

"Morris Schappes has been one of the staunchest supporters of the Negro people and all minority groups," Mr. Strong stated.

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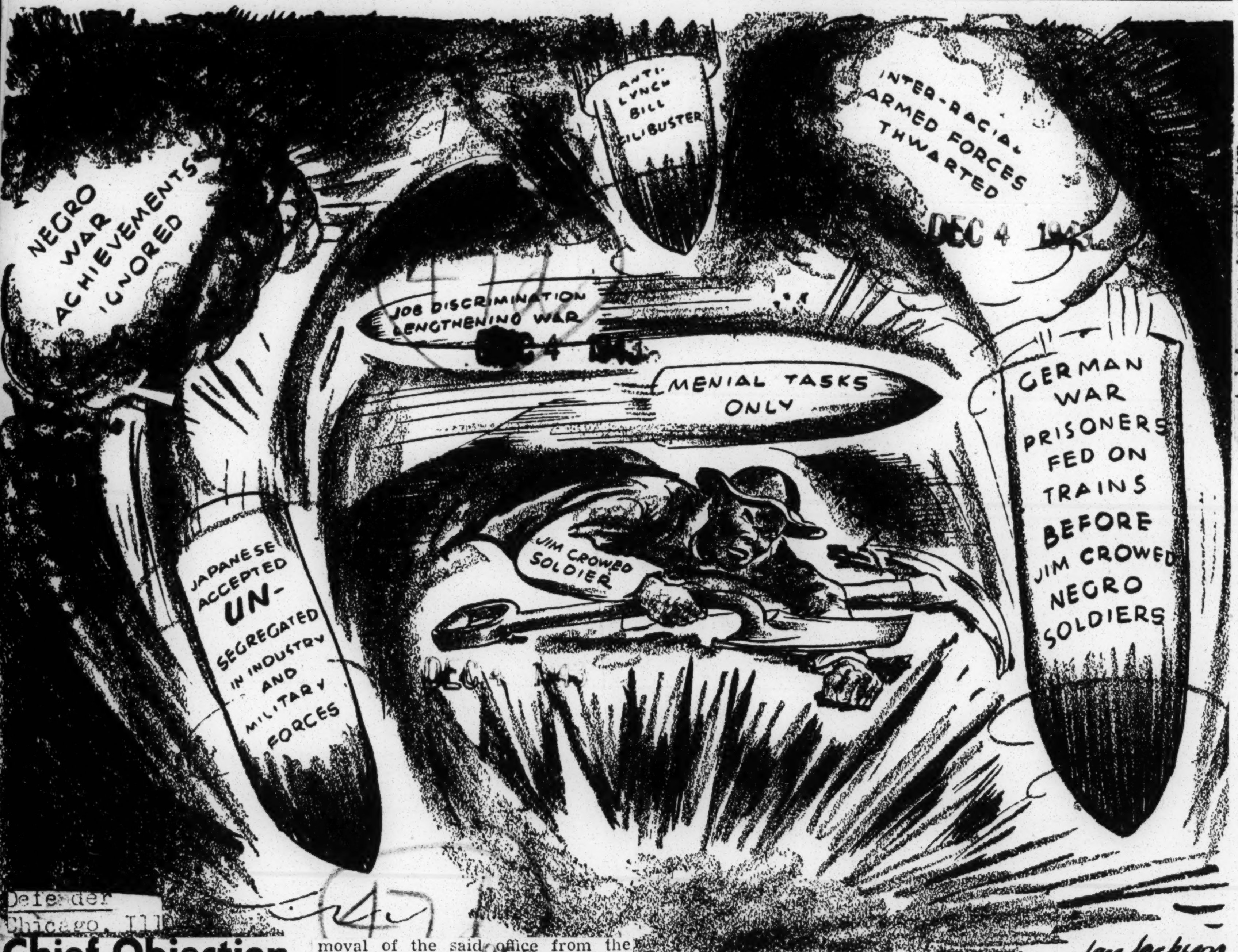
No Man's Land


NEGRO WAR ACHIEVEMENTS IGNORED
ANTI-LYNCH BILL FILIBUSTER
INTER-RACIAL ARMED FORCES THWARTED
DEC 4 1943
JOB DISCRIMINATION LENGTHENING WAR
DEC 4 1943
MENIAL TASKS ONLY
GERMAN WAR PRISONERS FED ON TRAINS BEFORE JIM CROWED NEGRO SOLDIERS
JAPANESE ACCEPTED UN-SEGREGATED IN INDUSTRY AND MILITARY FORCES
JIM CROWED SOLDIER
Jay Jackson

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Informer
Houston, Texas

Chief Objection Is Employment Of Mixed Race

DEC 18 1943

WASHINGTON ([illegible]) — While there was no official reaction at the Fair Employment Practice committee to the order of the Atlanta City Council telling the regional office of the FEPC to "get out of town," considerable concern has been shown for the ultimatum.

Handlew by Local People

It was on Monday night that the council unanimously adopted a resolution in which it said "the race situation can best be handled by local people," and calling upon "our representatives in the national congress to insist upon the removal of the said office from the city of Atlanta."

Chief objection was that "mixed employment of the races" was untenable. The office, with jurisdiction over Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, was opened on Nov. 24 with A. Bruce Hunt, Virginia-born and educated, as the regional director.

Hunt had not even organized his staff when the council passed the resolution. It was planned to hire two field examiners. The offices are located in Atlanta's one skyscraper.

All the papers in Atlanta carried the story and, according to information received here, the local radio stations plugged the action all day.

Hearing of the resolution, Chairman Malcolm Ross of FEPC declined to discuss it. The committee was awaiting a "crystallizing" of sentiment in Atlanta.

From a reliable source, however, it was learned that Ross had contacted the White House, but it could not be determined what was said or done or with whom he talked since the President was known to be out of the country.

Received no Copy

It is also understood that he called upon Rep. Robert Ramspect of Georgia to discuss the resolution. Ross would neither confirm nor deny this, and when reached for comment, Congressman Ramspect said he had not yet received a copy of the resolution and therefore could say nothing.

There is apprehension in some quarters that a concerted move might be developing to kill FEPC. On Dec. 3 Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi declared on the house floor the committee "is doing everything it possibly can to drive the white people of the south out of the Democratic party."

"When they go out and attempt to force every private enterprise in the south to accept Negroes, force them to employ Negroes and promote them," he declared, "they are simply creating dissension." Further he added: "This so-called Fair Employment Practice committee is really a rump organization without any legal authority, and should be abolished at once."

No Difficulty in Dallas

While objection is being raised in Atlanta to mixed staffing of the regional office, Carlos Castaneda, acting regional director operating out of Dallas, is proceeding with no apparent difficulty. The case load there is 120.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By HAROLD PREECE

An Open Letter

YOUR HONOR:

I am not quite sure how I should address you. Titles have never meant very much to me, and I have always felt that pl[illegible]r." was good [illegible]gh for most men.

But I am very sure of what I want to say.

I am saying that I am worried as much about democracy in my state of Tennessee as I am about democracy in Germany.

I am more than a little bit worried about the democracy of the War Department to which you are attached as a high official with the power of life and death over the boys who step across the tight bounds of Army regulations.

And as you can guess, Mr. Judge Advocate General, I have an axe to grind. I want to know what is going to happen to the 64 Negro soldiers court martialed at Paris, Tenn., given long sentences at hard labor for playfully taking a couple of army trucks and stepping on the gas for an AWOL holiday.

Now, I know something of the military temperament even if I am a 4-F and a turn-down myself. If I ever got past the Maginot line of lieutenants and colonels in your office and got in to see you, I can imagine your telling [illegible]ething like this:

"War is [illegible]nd regulations a regulations whatever sentimenta journalists may think about it. The men were convicted for misuse of government property by a court of commissioned officers. I have no choice but to sign these papers locking them up for from one to five years apiece."

You probably have the impatience of most old soldiers for newspapermen. You would probably end up by pressing a button and having some gorgeous gentleman wearing gold braid and military hairbrushes show me the door. Then you would take your pen and sing those commitment papers in the same impersonal manner with which you would light a cigar.

But before you have the gentleman with the hairbrushes bounce me out, before you turn the key on those boys by signing those papers, let me say my piece.

Rules Of Law

I AGREE with you, Mr. Judge Advocate General, that a soldier has to obey rules and orders. We are fighting an enemy who has turned his men into deadly machines without mercy and without conscience.

Not only our amry has to maintain strict discipline. So does our civilian population in these last, tense months before we rip through the heavy armor of the enemy to pierce the evil heart that has already brought death to more than forty millions of the world's people.

But I believe that discipline can be maintained longer in a democracy than in autocracy because the courts of democracy are bound by three essential rules [illegible] civilized law which have [illegible] wiped off the books [illegible] the carrion courts of the Nazis. [illegible]ese rules are:

That the severity of the punish-

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ment must be tempered to the seriousness of the offense.

That justice must be tempered with mercy.

That justice must be equal for all people — whether they pray in a church or synagogue, whether they be people with white skins or people with black skins.

Mr. Judge Advocate General, I can find nothing in my own troubled heart to convince me that any of these rules were followed by that court martial which convened to try these young Negroes in the army camp near Paris, Tenn I strongly suspect that these boys in uniform were convicted before they were ever tried.

"If a black man steals a chicken in the South," so a preacher friend remarked to me once, "they give him 90 days. If a white man steals a chicken in the South, they give him a setting of eggs."

These men are black, so they were given long days of shame and disgrace for breaking loose from the inhuman and insulting restrictions of a jim crow army camp.

The men were black and the men could go to jail. Long live the memory of Crispus Attucks and Dorie Miller.

The man was black, and the man was shot. That's what happened at Lewistown, Ill., when some white men who lynched a Negro soldier were acquitted by a jury their "peers" — jurors who themselves thirsted for black [illegible] and hungered [illegible] black flesh.

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Broom — Not A Whip

I KNOW Lewistown, Ill., as I know Paris, Tenn., Mr. Judge Advocate General. I'm not worried about what black men will do for democracy — I've been able to get in words edgewise with Negro soldiers riding the jim crow busses of Tennessee with me.

I've ridden with men doomed to die on the far-flung battle fields of the United Nations — men who will die cheerfully because they feel that their deaths will mean a new day for Tennessee and Georgia.

These men carry in their souls that great phrase of Vice President Henry Wallace: "Our victory must bring in its train the liberation of all peoples."

The sharecropper draftee from Georgia realizes this even if he can barely sign his name. He knows that this war must free the [illegible] wading knee [illegible] in the stagnant water of the Philippine rice fields, must free the pregnant women dragging the hundred pound sacks of cotton on the great plantations of the Mississippi Delta.

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I'm not worried about what black men will do for democracy. They will die for it.

But I am worried about what places like Paris, Tenn., and Lewistown, Ill., will do to democracy if the ingrown, senseless hatreds of Paris, Tenn. and Lewistown, Ill., continue to dictate the policy of the War Department and of local courts when dealing with Negroes in uniforms or Negroes in overalls.

And I now know how I would feel if I were black and cooped up in a jim crow camp where I was forced to tip my hat to Negro-hating white officers from the South. I know how I would feel if I were insulted and shunted off to the side streets when I got a pass to go into town.

I'd feel mad as hell. And I'd get so fed up on it that I'd probably bust loose and raise a little hell.

But that would be no cause for sending me off to jail for the duration. It would be a sign that I had raised the danger flag and that my superiors had better get down the broom instead of the whip.

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White Soldier Fined For Dancing With Negro Girl

NOV 27 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill

(Photo on Page 2)

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—Because he danced with a colored girl "in view of those present," a white aviation student at the U.S. Army pre-flight training center located at West Virginia university, was deprived of two-thirds of his pay by a prejudiced commanding officer here last week.

The soldier, Private Herman P. Suiter, however, was spared the punishment when the commanding officer's decision was reversed by his superiors. Ironically, Suiter is a native of Louisville, Ky. The officer involved, Capt. Walter C. Troutman, is from Athens, Ga., and his repudiation came from the Eastern Flying Command at Montgomery, Ala. The girl who caused the disturbance, Miss Dorothy Johnson, is a Negro hotel maid.

According to the story, Capt. Troutman, who came here recently from a post at Lynchburg, Va., to head the 48th College Training Detachment, an air crew, imposed the sentence on Suiter after the latter had invited the girl to dance at a reception being held in the Morgan Hotel ballroom, on Nov. 5. Suiter had been declared the winner of a jitterbug contest at a previous dance, and he and the young woman caused a mild furore when they indulged in a sensational interpretation of the fad.

Three days later, Capt. Troutman ordered deduction of the better part of Suiter's pay for a month, basing his action on the charge that the soldier "wilfully and wrongfully to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, conducted himself in a manner to bring discredit upon the military service by dancing with a colored girl in public view of those present."

In addition to the penalty on his salary of $50 per month, Suiter was confined to his quarters by the captain's order. Other excerpts from Capt. Troutman's bulletin read:

"The information as listed above in the results of this trial will be recorded on the service record and will become a permanent part of the army records for this aviation student. This record will seriously impair his opportunity of being classified as an aviation cadet at the classification center and will be used in any further case against this aviation student during his entire career.

"Further, any recurrence of this or any other act against the military code, regulations or traditions of the service will result in immediate elimination from air crew training and transfer to a basic training center without recommendation for further advancement in the service."

Immediately upon receipt of Capt. Troutman's report at flying command headquarters, the officer was dealt a rebuke. He was overruled and the sentence was ordered vacated.

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In a statement following the action of his superiors, Capt. Troutman, who is a former University of Georgia football star, declared:

"The case was handled improperly on my part. The only issue with me was Pvt. Suiter's action in bringing in an uninvited person who was improperly dressed to the party. But the whole case is now closed and there's no sentence against the boy."

Troutman explained that he had taken the action "to discipline a boy who was out of line." He said he would have imposed the same sentence if the girl had been a white girl.

NOV 27 1943

WE CAN'T EVEN GET JUSTICE IN COURT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Is "Army Justice" a mockery? Are the military courts dealing fairly and impartially with all cases which come under their surveillance?

47b

This question is being asked on all sides following two startling military court - martial actions which were disclosed here last week.

In the first case—at Paris, Tenn.—64 Negro soldiers have been sentenced by a court-martial to from one to five years at hard labor, for making an "unauthorized expedition" to Jackson, Tenn., last October 10.

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In the second case, Lt. William Sammons (white) of Camp Swift, Texas, convicted several weeks ago by general court-martial of stabbing a Negro private under his command, was merely given a reprimand, according to a War Department disclosure.

In the case of the white lieutenant, the punishment meted out by the court-martial has been approved by the Judge Advocate General, it was stated.

In the case of the 64 Negro soldiers, Col. William M. Dunham, Jr., commanding officer of the Barrage Balloon Training Center at Paris, Tenn., said the court decisions had been submitted to the Judge Advocate General here for final ruling.

Col. Dunham, in explaining the incident, said the soldiers took two army trucks and other government equipment, without permission, and headed for Jackson, Tenn. Officials of the camp learned of the mission and notified Jackson police.

The soldiers, seeing police gathered at the city limits, turned their trucks and started the other way. Military police caught them at Henry, Tenn.

In the case of Lieutenant Sammons, the maximum punishment in the Manual for Courts-Martial could have been a dishonorable discharge and a sentence to a prison term of five years at hard labor, for his offense.

But Lieutenant Sammons, although reprimanded, still retains his commission and still is in charge of Negro troops, according to all available information.

So . . . for stabbing a Negro soldier, a white officer in Texas, is given a figurative "slap on the wrist" . . . while 64 soldiers, who sought a bit of fun and a surcease from the bonds of segregation and discrimination which constantly surround them in Dixie, must serve from one to five years AT HARD LABOR for their offense.

The exceedingly light treatment accorded Lieutenant Sammons serves to recall similar handling of the case of Col. William Colman who, while drunk, shot a Negro private at Selfridge Feld, Mich. Colman was reduced in rank by the court-martial to his permanent rank of captain. Later he retired, but he still gets a captain's pension.

This case also tends to revive the General Patton eposide. Although the story was "broken" as an instance of "democracy at work" and although the general was sharply reprimanded by his superior and later publicly apologized, both principals in the latter affair were white.

On the record as shown thus far, Negroes are forced to the conclusion that there is no "real justice" for them, even in military courts.

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"SORE SPOTS" AROUND U. S.

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"Sore Spots" which should be checked immediately are:

PARIS, Tenn. . . . where 64 Negro soldiers were court-martialed and sentenced to from one to five years of hard labor. Cause: An unauthorized "joy-ride" in two Army trucks.

CAMP SWIFT, Tex. . . . where a white Army lieutenant, William Sammons, convicted by court-martial of stabbing a Negro private under his command, was merely reprimanded and returned to duty.

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STARKSVILLE, Miss. . . . where a Negro soldier, Pvt. Rieves Bell, was beaten by four whites, and was later sentenced to three and a half years by a Mississippi court because he refused to take off his uniform.

FORT BENNING, Ga. . . . where First Lt. William H. Webb, Negro commander of a truck regiment, was arrested inside the military reservation, taken back to Columbus, Ga., slapped into jail, allegedly abused and mistreated, and then forced to put up a $50 cash bond to obtain his freedom.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Patterson Probes "Rape" Conviction In New Caledonia

DEC 11 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War, has requested a "full report" on the conviction and life imprisonment of Pvts. Edward R. Lowry and Frank Fisher, Jr., on a charge of raping Louise Mounien, a New Caledonia woman.

Lowry and Fisher were found guilt by a general court-martial of violating the 92nd Article of War, dishonorably discharged from the service, and ordered to be confined at hard labor for life. They are now in the U.S. penitentiary at McNeil Island, Washington.

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White Texas Soldier Sees No Hope for End of Army Jim Crow

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Sa[illegible] Northerners Are Too Busy Making Money to Run the Army

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is a story of a white fellow who thinks nothing can be done at present to change segregation. Southerners thought nothing could be done about slavery either. They were wrong then and are wrong now. If in this war the nation's life becomes at stake, as it was in 1862, we shall have of necessity a new emancipation.]

By JEHU JASPER

(Special to the AFRO)

EL PASO, Tex. — The United States Army is fundamentally a prejudiced army, and it will remain so as long as the American way of life retains its present mould.

That is the opinion of Edward Spencer, 23, a white Decatur, Tex., discharged soldier, as it was given to me on a train pulling into this town last week.

Uninhibited, he talked freely as we sat in a crowded diner speeding eastward across the Southern tip of New Mexico. He attracted my attention by engaging me in conversation.

This struck me as somewhat odd because the moment he opened his mouth I could literally smell the h[illegible] grits and beaten biscuits.

Hated Blindly in [illegible]

"When I was a kid," Spencer declared, "in my early 'teens, I followed the pattern of my parents and my associates. They didn't like your people and I didn't either. As a matter of fact, I guess it would be safe to say I was a 'Negro-hater.' To me, the black man represented some form of parasite that had been permitted to multiply in a land that belonged to me and mine.

"Then something happened. I don't know what it was, but somewhere between the time that I reached the age of 19, and when I joined the army, I began to break through the web that had been woven around my thinking.

View Changes Slowly

"I know that sounds right bookish but that's really the best way I can describe it. Anyway, I began to figure things out for myself, and this without any direct contact with colored people, too.

"It became clear to me that much of the weeping and moaning attributed to your [illegible]eople had some justification. I began to see them as [illegible] beings the same as I was, an[illegible]egan questioning myself as to what was my reason for hating them in the first place.

"They had done nothing to me and since there were none among the 2,578 inhabitants of my home town, what could they have done to the other folks there to provoke such a strong dislike?

"I guess being told by the army doctors a couple of weeks ago that I wasn't fit for service just about capped it off. I realized then that I wasn't such a great shucks after all, even though I was white."

Soldier vs Money-Grabber

Concerning [illegible]army, Spencer had this to sa[illegible]

"The United States Army is fundamentally Southern. Therefore it is fundamentally projudiced.

"The professional soldier in this country is the Southerner. He is the man who helps to make up three-fourths of the regular army in peace time and, naturally, he is the man most qualified to lead the troops when war breaks out.

"On the other hand, the Northern white man is too busy making money, and trying to figure out new ways of taking people's money, to be concerned with what goes on in the nation's defense machinery.

Way of Life Must Change

"The result is that when war comes the available military leaders are overwhelmingly Southern. As a consequence, then, the South has an uncontrolled voice in dictating the po[illegible] of the country's military.

"There never will be any change until the American way of life is changed. Things will continue to be the same as long as the 'cracker' is the professional soldier and the Yankee is the professional money-grabber."

Special Trades Ignored

Some of the men, it is contended, have special trades at which they worked before induction, others have finished cooks' and bakers' schools, schools for mechanics, returned here and are now doing K[illegible] duty for white units.

They charge that the bus company that holds a contract with the army post to carry the men to and from camp segregates them, confining colored soldiers to four seats (room for eight men) and that all others are forced to stand whether the bus is loaded or not.

"If we don't get on first," [illegible] letter states, "all stand and like it. No protesting over the number of seats allotted to us. It's take that and like it or have one of these Texas M.P.'s crack your skull with a .45 or a stick.

Mutually Hate Each Other

"White civilians hate us and we in turn despise them, because they abuse us in any way they see fit. City police have abused our boys on many occasions, pulling them out of government cars and trucks on some occasions, and beating them up."

The letter cited the case of one soldier who was badly beaten, then given thirty days in the guard house, fifteen of them in solitary confinement, while in the hospital as a result of the beating.

After asking the [illegible]er about the affair, it is reported, the commanding officer stopped him in the midst of his story to declare, "That's not the way I heard it." Seeing that his superior sided with his accusers, the soldier said no more.

The adjutant of the squadron, the letter charges, "wanted to beat him up again because the boy resented the attitude they took toward his case."

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DEC 25 1943

Blast Jim Crow At Md. Seamen's Service Club

Defender
Chicago, Ill

BALTIMORE — (ANP) — An investigation of the policy of the local committee of the United Seamen's service by the national [illegible]dquarters was reported unde[illegible] this week after the disclosure that colored seamen are not allowed to use the lodging and recreational facilities of the Seamen's Service club here.

The color bar was exposed by Archie Jenkins, 73-year-old merchant marine cook, who had just returned from a voyage to a war zone. Mr. Jenkins reported making a visit to the club to secure accommodations for overnight just as two white seamen were checking out and he was told colored seamen were not provided lodging.

That the club does have a ban against colored seamen using the facilities was later admitted by Victor W. Bowyer, white, port executive, who is in charge of the club.

Mr. Boyd said that [illegible]ort committee had enunciat[illegible] the policy for the club and in doing so had taken into consideration local traditions. He added that "we over at the club are in a difficult spot" in the matter.

The committee here is composed of representatives from shipping interests, maritime unions and the War Shipping administration.

James Drury, white, port agent for the CIO National Maritime union, asserted this week that some steps to eradicate the discrimination at the club are already begun. He added:

"The question of denying the [illegible]se of facilities of the club to colored seamen was raised by a representative of the shipping industry and vigorously opposed by the union, backed by representatives of the War Shipping administration.

"The matter was referred to the National United Seamen's Service

OCT 5 1943

Shameful Conditions Revealed

Informer Houston Tex

Tuscon, Ariz. — (ANP) — Confidential information has been obtained by the Associated Negro Press of startling and sensational discriminatory practices imposed upon soldiers of the 92nd infantry division stationed at Fort Huachuca. Sources cannot be revealed fo[illegible] of reprisals upon the in[illegible]ants.

Particularly bitter are the men over the statements accredited to Atty. Truman K. Gibson and Gen. Benjamin O. Davis that conditions are "in excellent shape," training "good," morale "high" and the overall picture "gratifying." Enlisted men who said the two high officials were at Fort Huachuca recently to investigate the post must have known that the reservation is a "keg of d[illegible]mite" if they had their eyes open.

Conditions Disgraceful

The shameful situation threatens to develop into a national scandal, and more important, according to observers, unless the federal government and the army high command takes immediate, forthright action to correct the disgraceful conditions, it is believed that all the fury of an overseas battlefield will explode in this desert community.

Black American soldiers who a few months before had entered the U. S. army filled with patriotic determination to help win the war for democracy, even to the point of sacrificing their lives, are now reported to be enmeshed in the doldrums of frustration and despair as a direct result of the heartbreaking, inhuman treatment meted out to them by [illegible]manding [illegible]ral and white officers alike.

Charges made

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort are:

1. That the commanding general, E. M. Almond, of Anniston, Ala., refers to his Negro charges both in and [illegible] their presence as "niggers."

2. That the commanding general is formulating plans to convince the war department to ship the division overseas for combat duty, although the division is miserably unprepared for such service.

. . That Gen. Almond is not a top flight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications. The war department foisted him upon the Negro group it is charged because it was necessary to place him somewhere.

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

5. That a quota system operates in the making and promotion of Negro officers with few ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

Information has trickled out of the camp that several white officers including one colonel have been severely beaten up or killed in altercations with enlisted personnel. The officers are also said to stand far behind the lines during firing practice with live ammunition, because they fear a sharpshooter might train his sights upon them and revenge mistreatment.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern methods of warfare. Instead, training consists almost exclusively of marches and drills around the confines of the army post.

7. That the food served in mess halls at Fort Huachuca is the "worst in the army."

"This information was received from one of the patients plus my own observations."

Armed with that complaint and such other information as we could dig up from our files, Doris Hollis of the Dallas Express office got the assignment to go to Kerrville, San

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Antonio and other places where she might need to go to get information. Her report follows:

Food Major Complaint

Thirteen patients were interviewed. Among them were bed patients, rest patients and employed recuperates. The major complaint is about th food, and the first utteerance of all the patients is that it is terrible.

SEP 1943

Here the reporter gives a vivid picture through direct answers from the patients themselves:

Q. "What makes it so terrible?" (Meaning the food.)

A. "It isn't cooked right; the beans seem to be cooked in clear water, the meat is always goat meat and it is tough. We have the same thing all the time. Bugs are often in the beans and greens. We never get fresh vegetables and they are always canned greens. We can tell by the color, taste and smell. The ham sandwiches we get for Sunday night dinner are often made of spoiled ham, and the bread (light [illegible]) too hard to be eaten.

SEP 1943

Q. "What does breakfast usually consist of? Dinner? Supper? Do you ever get fruit juices or milk between meals?"

A. "For breakfast we usually have grits or oatmeal, a cup of milk and a piece of dry toast, a half peach or some other fruit. For dinner, the usual menu is beans, goat meat (most of time in stew with potatoes), cornbread (Nearly always, with light bread occasionally), a glass of milk, and sometimes bread pudding for dessert. The dinners are varied with squash or greens. Generally supper consists of some of the same things we had for dinner."

According to the patients, the bed patients are given the same food as the others and there is no difference made even to the very sick patients. The only way they get fruit juices is to buy them personally, or to have a friend in the kitchen who would provide them. When asked whether complaints had been made to the doctor in charge or the nurses, the answer was yes, but they had been told that they had no better at home, that they did not have to stay there (at the sanatorium), and that they could send to town and get what they wanted and have it cooked in the kitchen.

SEP 1943

Medical Attention Ample

All of the patients said that they thought they got enough medical attention when it was needed, saying that the doctor visited the women twice a day and made the same number of visits to the men, while the nurses visited them three times daily. It was also stated that patients who are supposed to have recuperated wait on the other patients. Some of those who are ill feel that these recuperates should not have care of them, thinking that they do not know enough about how to care for themselves in treating the disease. It was also said that many times those who were supposed to be well broke down under the strain of trying to care for those who were more ill than they.

Recreation is provided in the form of dominoes, checkers and a few other games.

Nurses and Head Doctor Interviewed

The nurses when interviewed said it was true that the patients did not seem to enjoy their food, not from lack of appetite but that they complained that they did not like it. But they also added that tubercular patients seem awfully sensitive and grouchy, anyway.

An interview with the head doctor disclosed that there are four nurses, three Negro and one white. There is only one Negro registered nurse. The white nurse, who supervises the nurses and has charge of the X-ray, and is also technician, is a registered nurse. The doctor said he thought he had sufficient nurses, and was not anxious to have any more registered nurses. He explained this statement by saying they did not work until they saw him coming.

SEP 1943

He has a shortage of doctors as he says he cannot get more. There is only one old surgeon who assists him. He said he had two colored doctors but they both have gone. According to him the services of the colored doctors were all right, the trouble was keeping them.

When the question of the employment of patients who are themselves just getting well was raised, the doctor shied away from answering and the reporter said she could not bring him back to it no matter how she approachtd it. She was inteersted in this because the patients resent having someone wait on them who is not well and who the feel do not know enough about the disease to try to treat it.

SEP 1943

Salaries

As to salaries, the registered nurse receives $60 per month, the practical nurse, $25; orderlies, $25; kitchen help, $30; and the dietician, $75. When asked if the dietician were trained, the doctor replied that she was not, but that she did better than the trained dietician he had. According to him, the employees are all slated for a raise at the beginning of the fiscal year in Septemeber.

SEP 1943

The Patients

He also said that the patients grumbled about the food, but that he ate the same things and they tasted all right to him. He also said he gave them the privilege of sending to town for what they wanted and it would be prepared for them. They were not given fruit juices because the sanatorium had not been able to get any for several months, but he thought conditions would be better beginning this month. When queried about the very sick patients' being given the same diet as the others, he said that when he knew a patient was going to die he let him have anything and everything he (the patient) wanted. It was also his opinion that tubercular patients are generally irritable and grouchy.

SEP 1943

There are between 175 and 180 beds.

Percentage of Cures

According to the doctor, their percentage of cures is above the average. He explained that they lost some but they were generally patients who were better and permitted to go home. They are given instructions when they leave on how to care for themselves, and to report to the institution for checkups. However, instead of following instructions they believe they are well because they look fat and fine and either work too hard or dissipate and then go back to the sanatorium almost dying. He said it was not their custom to accept patients back in that condition but sometimes they slipped in and were too ill to do anything but stay there.

SEP 1943

The doctor himself performs all the operations. He stated in the course of the interview that he had had tuberculosis in its worst stage 26 years ago but had gotten well.

General Conditions

The men's dormitory seemed to be more clean and orderly than the women's. The children's ward was not as clean as it could have been. The X-ray room seemed to have new and necessary equipment as far as the reporter could judge.

Another problem, the doctor stated, is that of keeping the men and women separated. He thought that a dormitory would eliminate that. One of the women patients in commenting on the food had also said if one allowed the kitchen men hang around in their rooms she could get better food.

A Word About the Doctor

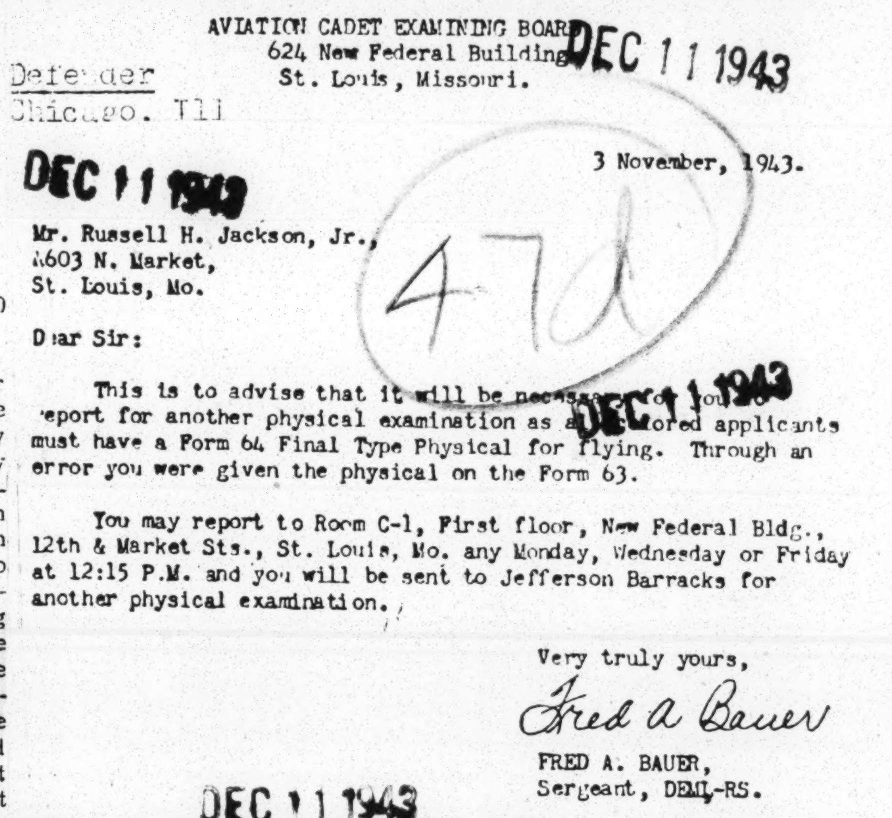
The head doctor is a native of Yazoo, Mississippi. He seems to be informed himself so far as treating chest tuberculosis is concerned. However, otherwise his knowledge seems to be limited. The reporter said he impressed her as not caring for or valuing Negro training or efficiency for jobs or positions. He seemed to think that an honest, good Negro could do the work without an education as well as or better than someone who had been trained. He has a plantation down in Mississippi and boasted of how he treats his help there with kindness.

Information
Houston Texas

SPECIAL EXAM FOR COLORED

Defender
Chicago, Ill

DEC 11 1943



AVIATION CADET EXAMINING BOARD
624 New Federal Building
St. Louis, Missouri.

3 November, 1943.

Mr. Russell H. Jackson, Jr.,
4603 N. Market,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that it will be necessary for you to report for another physical examination as all colored applicants must have a Form 64 Final Type Physical for flying. Through an error you were given the physical on the Form 63.

You may report to Room C-1, First floor, New Federal Bldg., 12th & Market Sts., St. Louis, Mo. any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 12:15 P.M. and you will be sent to Jefferson Barracks for another physical examination.

Very truly yours,

Fred A Bauer

FRED A. BAUER,
Sergeant, DEML-RS.

47d

Here is the letter that Russell H. Jackson Jr., of St. Louis got when he was given a physical examination for whites by mistake in applying for aviation cadet status. (See story on this page.)

REBELS AT LARGE

Defender
Chicago, Ill

DEC 18 1943

FEP — Fair Employment Practice. That is what the President's committee headed by Malcolm Ross is trying to give America.

But demagogues of Dixie don't like the word "fair" any more than they care for the word "equal." And again we have the spectacle of the old South rising once more with a rebel shout to attempt to kill FEPC.

Why? Because the FEPC under Malcolm Ross is doing its most effective job since its inception. The best sign is that the South is making the most noise now about FEPC.

The Dixie railroads rise up in righteous indignation and cite the Constitution to keep Negroes from the right to a decent job in a locomotive cab.

The Atlanta City Council yells: "Throw 'em out!"

Stiff-collared Rep. Howard Smith is in a purge mood and his House committee is out to kill FEPC.

With this unholy cabal out for the "kill," now is the time for every American — white and Negro — to come to the aid of FEPC, letters which have become synonymous with USA. FEPC is making the United States really united by breaking down phony color lines in employment.

Wire, phone or write the President to tell him what a good job FEPC is doing.

47d

47d-1943

Writes Letter To President

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

Rev. J. N. C. Davis Protest Limitaton On Soldiers

March 13, 1943

New York City
March 1, 1943

To His Excellency
Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

March 13, 1943

Dear Sir:

The news has come to me from Fort Huachuca, Arizona that the Commanding Officer of the 93rd Division stated to his Negro Officers flatly that the War Department orders had come limiting promotion of Negro Officers to First Lieutenants and that no Negro Officer would be promoted beyond that rank. Now Mr. President if this is the plan of procedure of your administration to hamper and handicap the aspirations of our Negro soldiers it will tend to break down the democracy for which we are now fighting and dying, also nulify the Four Freedoms that was planned in the Atlantic Charter and lower the morals of the Negro soldier, especially those who are to be drafted in the future.

Now Mr. President I have been a staunch advocate of you and your administration and especially your order that established the Fair Employment Practice Committee which gave a sense of democracy to the Negro of America, and now to hear and read that Negro soldiers would not be advanced beyond First Lieutenants shocked me. I express the minds of 15 million Negroes in America, when I say that we expect and demand the equality and rank with every other man regardless of race. This order coming at a time when citizens are expected to be patriotic, it seem to me that every encouragement should be given. The lynchings and discriminations that are taking place including the above mentioned order should be discouraged and democracy should be practiced. Therefore, may I ask your kindest consideration and co-operation to this end, and will you please let me know if this order is authentic, if not, will it be banished? For our soldiers desire to fight and prove to the world as in other wars, their worth therefore I am anxious that the rank and file of the American Army will not be disturbed by the undemocratic practices of Officers in charge of their welfare. I trust you will see my point of view and give me your answer by return mail.

Your truly,

J. N. C. Davis,

Minister (Member of Local Rationing Board.)

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Hastie Gives Cause For Resignation

Air Forces' Policy Of Discrimination His Chief Reason

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, JR.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Judge William H. Hastie resigned from the War Department post of civilian aide to the Secretary of War because of "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes," he declared in a prepared statement, amplified in an interview, here Saturday.

He relinquished the post in protest, he said, as the "only course which [illegible] bring results," since "public opinion is still the strongest force in American life."

DENT DECLINES POST

Meanwhile, it was authoritatively but not officially revealed that Albert W. Dent, president of Dillard University in New Orleans, La., was offered the post of civilian aide but declined it last weekend.

FEB 6 1943

It was reported that a leave of absence was not available to Mr. Dent from the Rockefeller Foundation, the General Education Board, and the Julius Rosenwald Fund which contribute heavily to Negro education, and that this was a factor in his turning down the War Department offer to succeed Judge Hastie.

In addition, a report current here was that after Mr. Dent flew to the cap[illegible]r a conference with War Department officials and left for New York to get a release from his post at Dillard, a heavy barrage was laid down on the department to forestall his appointment.

Meanwhile, Secretary of War Stimson said at a press conference as late as January 28 that the vacancy had not been filled.

HASTY DECISION UNLIKELY

It is not likely that another hasty decision will be made on filling the position in view of the figurative bombardment of protests received by War Department officials as a result of the offer to Mr. Dent.

It was learned here Saturday that strong representations have also been made against selection of a successor to Mr. Hastie without consultation with representatives of colored organizations, newspapers, and a cross section of national leaders.

FEB 6

HASTIE'S PLANS

In some quarters the desire is being expressed to have the differences between Mr. Hastie and he War Department composed nd to have him return to his ormer post. Those who have ollowed Army expansion believe hat he has done an excellent job. Iis impasse with the Air Forces ;as his major obstacle and he esigned largely because of that.

Whether Mr. Hastie would reurn to the post is uncertain, but e indicated in a press interview ere Saturday that his sole purose in resigning was to be in a osition to bring the force of pubic opinion to bear on the condiions complained of and to have hem improved.

"My plans for the immediate future are not final," he declared. "I am going to rest for at least two weeks ."

'OULD HASTIE RETURN?

But it is not illogical to assume at, if the Air Forces modified policy and met other condins implicit in his resignation d subsequent statement, Mr. stie could and would return. h action would be a distinct ory for him and would give office greater usefulness than r before.

Asked if any Negro could ith self-respect accept the ffice now, Mr. Hastie unhesiatingly said "yes."

Ie explained: "Since my resigion the presence of shock, so speak, has been noticeable in right quarters. I am conined to believe that those in hority are in a mood to listen reason. Any successor in the ce would have this advantage start with."

HER BRANCHES BETTER

Ir. Hastie's statement giving reasons for resigning disclosed t only with the Army Air ces were there irreconcile differences, and not with er arms or branches of the itary establishment.

VE IGNORED DIRECTIVES

f the Army Air Forces will form to the directives of the retary of War and submit to questions of policy respecting red personnel, expand its ning program for colored ets, and abandon the idea of jim-crow officer candidate ool (for administrative offi-) at Jefferson Barracks, Misi, it is possible that he would consider returning to the War Department.

Moreover, it was pointed out by experience observers here, the two years of experience he gained as civilian aide to the Secretary of War are invaluable to the department and to colored people in particular.

HIGHLIGHTS OF STATEMENT

"The situation has become critical," Mr. Hastie pointed out in his five and one half page typewritten statement. He added that he was convinced "that further expression of my veiws in the form of recommendations within the department would be futile."

ADVICE TO SERVICE MEN

Mr. Hastie took particular pains to urge "the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking . . . to grit his teeth, square his shoulders, and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places within the military establishment, who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him."

He gave this forceful and sincere advice, he explained, because "only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won."

SECY. OF WAR'S ORDER

Mr. Hastie recalled that "when I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action."

He pointed out that he was from the beginning opposed to the separate training of Negro combat pilots, but "my views were disregarded."

OFFICER TRAINING

Then late in last December he learned of the proposed establishment of a segregated officer candidate school by the Air Command at Jefferson Barracks.

"Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation," he said.

Reciting his efforts to confirm the plan and be given an opportunity to advise regarding it, Mr. Hastie says: "The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes."

He charged that "from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel" and that "resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since."

INADEQUATE GROUND CREWS

Mr. Hastie also scored the inadequate and, at present, the segregated training of ground crews and other non-flying units of the Air Forces, pointing out that "the characteristic assignment of the 'Aviation Squadron (Separate)' units has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor."

As a result, he stated, "the prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available."

The air corps is rejecting applicants for weather officers or officers in other highly specialized fields, and as service (transport) pilots, he revealed.

SERVICE PILOTS REJECTED

"Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes," he said.

Further, he pointed out, Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available and which they should have if they are to properly attend to men in the Air Forces.

"Demoralizing discrimination and segregation" is the way he described conditions at Tuskegee Army Flying School. He was particularly concerned because, he said, "men cannot be humiliated over a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency."

RUINS MORALE

He explained: "Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road."

In his statement he said that at Tuskegee Flying School "a Negro soldier guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian in the line of duty.

"From then on friction continued. A new commander was appointed. He disarmed Negro military policemen assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. A recent member of the Alabama state police force was assigned to Tuskegee as an Army office with duties related to his civilian experience. The Negro soldier was embittered, but the prejudiced community was somewhat mollified."

4½

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

WLB Ends Negro Pay Differential

Order in Texas Case Puts Workers on Equal Basis With Whites

JUN 7 1943

The War Labor Board yesterday abolished pay differentials between white and Negro workers for a Texas company, saying in a broad opinion that "economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program."

The board directed the Southport Petroleum Co. of Texas City, Tex., to give pay increases to Negro employes which will "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification." The board added that "to the credit of the company, this decision" was accepted by the management in good faith and spirit.

The board's opinion, written by Dr. Frank P. Graham, public member and president of the University of North Carolina, said that:

"In this small but significant case the National War Labor Board abolishes the classifications 'colored laborer' and 'white laborer' and reclassifies both simply as "laborers' with the same rates of pay for all that classification without discrimination on account of color.

"This wage increase is made without regard to the 'Little Steel' formula, but with regard simply for the democratic formula of equal pay for work equal in quantity and quality in the same classification. This equalization of economic opportunity is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skills. It is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound American principle of equal pay for equal work as one of the equal rights in the promise of American democracy regardless of color, race, sex, religion or national origin."

The company was directed to institute a reclassification system and to grant in each classification a wage increase of either 5 per cent or 5 cents, whichever is higher, the increases, the board said, will not bring the rates for the Southport field above the minimum bracket prevailing for other fields in the area.

JUN 7 1943

WMC Faces Problem of Smashing Jimcrow Bars

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

JUN 19 1943

WASHINGTON, June 18.—One of the biggest jobs facing Clinton S. Golden, one of the two labor vice chairmen appointed recently to the War Production Board, is to assure the greater utilization of Negroes in war industry.

Golden, who is on leave from his post as assistant to President Philip Murray of the United Steel Workers, is in charge of tying together the manpower and production programs. He will serve in a similar capacity as vice chairman of the War Manpower Commission.

A recent survey made by WMC's Bureau of Program Requirements shows that discrimination against Negroes is still a major bottleneck causing unnecessary manpower shortages.

At least 500,000 Negro workers who could be used in war industry are barred from employment by discriminatory practises, the WMC survey reveals.

EMPLOYMENT STILL LAGS

According to the report, Negro workers now constitute 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers in 16,000 plants reporting to the United States Employment Service on their March 1943 payrolls.

This shows something of an increase over a similar survey made in July, 1942 which revealed that only 5.8 per cent of the workers in the plants reporting were Negroes.

But the report also makes it clear that Negro employment in war industry is not in line with the proportion of Negroes to the population and to the total labor force.

Negroes are estimated at about 10 per cent of the total population in the United States, and are taken into the Army at about this rate.

But they constitute only 6.7 per cent of the workers in war industry. In other words, the number of Negroes in war industry to reach their proper proportion to the total labor force should be increased by at least 3.3 per cent or a minimum of 500,000 workers.

Geographical distribution is cited by WMC as one of the principal reasons for the relatively small number of Negroes in war industry. Two-thirds of the Negro labor force is in the South where only 13.5 per cent of war contracts have been placed.

But the WMC also cites discrimination against Negroes by employers and in some cases by workers as one of the principal factors involved.

Wide-spread discrimination was found not only in the hiring of Negroes but also in the menial nature of their work after being hired.

"In practically every section of the country," the WMC report said, "even where Negroes are freely employed, they are frequently engaged only in lower classifications and have relatively little opportunity for upgrading. This is especially true in the South."

One of the reasons for this is the discrimination against Negroes in all types of training and upgrading programs.

On March 31, 1943 there were only 14,000 Negroes in preemployment training courses and another 6,000 in supplementary training courses. This represents an increase over the year before, but the number is still pitifully low.

WMC found increases of Negroes spotty, with substantial progress in some industries and practically none in others.

The number of Negroes employed in tank factories more than doubled in the nine month period under survey, while the total number of workers increased only 31.3 per cent. in comparison with a total employment increase of only 35.4 per cent.

But the latest figures showed that Negroes still constitutes less than one per cent of the workers in the fireworks industry and less than two per cent in the electrical equipment and metal working industry.

AREAS OF PROGRESS

Industrial areas which WMC said had made greatest progress in hiring Negro workers were Los Angeles, Baltimore, Hampton Roads, Virginia, and Mobile, Alabama.

Observers here pointed out that part of the responsibility for underemployment of Negroes rests on WMC which has not had a functioning set-up to deal with this problem.

WMC chairman Paul McNutt passed the buck to the Fed. Fair Employment Practices Committee which he helped make practically defunct for many months until the President recently reconstituted the agency.

In any event, FEPC is set up to deal with cases of discrimination after they occur rather than with developing positive programs to assure employment of Negroes in manpower shortage areas.

WMC's Bureau of Program Requirements had been preparing to tackle the problem, but this bureau is now threatened with extinction as a result of cuts in WMC's appropriation funds by the House Appropriations Committee.

So both Negro and labor groups are looking to Clinton Golden as vice chairman of both WPB and WMC to give serious consideration to greater utilization of Negro workers as one of the biggest manpower problems.

JUN 19 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Soldiers Strike In Mississippi

JUN 16 1943

FLORA, Miss. — (ANP) — Negro soldiers in training at the Mississipi Ordnance plant a few miles north of this town, according to authoritative reports reaching here, went on strike Thursday morning following disorders in Jackson, the state capital, Wednesday night.

The immediate cause of the strike is said to have been the alleged [illegible] beating of one of their number, and the alleged abuse of several of their wives and women companions, a number of whom were put in jail by civilian policemen in Jackson Wednesday night.

Rumors to the effect that the soldier who had been beaten in Jackson Wednesday night had died, which quickly spread through out the city, have since been proved false. It was learned from reliable sources that the soldier was being treated at the camp while suffering from one or two scalp wounds.

During the Thursday morning demonstrations at the camp, it was reported that three Negro military policemen from whom the wounded soldier was taken by civilian police and beaten, had to be rushed out of camp for safety because of threats made by the soldiers who held them at fault for giving the soldier over to the custody of white civilian officers.

47d-1943

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

By WALTER WHITE

FEB 20 1943

The Real Story of 99th Jim Crow

JUDGE HASTIE'S resignation from the War Department sets a new yardstick for courage and integrity whose repercussions will be felt for a long time.

Behind the scenes in official Washington, bewilderment is widespread at a Negro giving up a fat salary and the prestige which goes with a high War Department post solely as a matter of principle. Most of these officials have believed that the Negro was so pauperized that he would swallow anything to hold on to a juicy pay check.

Walter White

Unhappily, these officials have had numerous instances to justify their low opinion of Negro mentality and integrity. But Judge Hastie has demonstrated that the Negro of today is willing to make any sacrifice for the substance instead of the glitter of democracy.

Had not Tuskegee Institute asked that a Jim Crow air training base be established there, the Negro flier today might conceivably have been much farther along the road towards being a real flier. The blame for segregation does not, therefore, rest wholly on the shoulders of white people. As long as we have Negroes who ask to be segregated, just so long are we as a race going to face the intolerable conditions which are now being revealed by Judge Hastie.

Behind the Scenes Story

HERE IS a bit of the background. Long before the United States entered the war, Negro and interracial organizations, newspapers and individuals had been hammering away at the color line in the United States Army. This pressure was beginning to have its effect even on the reactionary Southerners in the War Department.

Consideration was being seriously given to the innovation of admitting a few Negroes to non-segregated Army flying schools. There was bitter resistance to this, of course, by the unreconstructed Southerners in the War Department. But pressure chiefly from Negroes themselves was having its effect.

But quietly, behind the scenes, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee, was urging upon the War Department the establishment of a Jim Crow project at Tuskegee. On January 3, 1941, he telegraphed me asking that I arrange a "conference on aviation" for him with Under-Secretary of War Robert Patterson, Judge Hastie, and myself.

I wired in reply, "Before attempting to arrange conference, wish you understand I must oppose any proposal for segregated training of Negroes. Please advise."

To this Dr. Patterson telegraphed, "My interest in making available largest possible opportunity for participation of Negroes in all branches of service. Regard question of segregation as academic and unnecessary to be considered in conference. Tuskegee Institute interested in securing Army aviation unit in this area for Negroes. Your endorsement need not be given if same will jeopardize your position."

Sorry Experience At Tuskegee

I WIRED Dr. Patterson that I could not participate in any conference asking for a segregated flying school. However, he went forward with the enterprise on his own. War Department officials who were opposed to the breaking down of the color line by admitting Negroes to white Army schools eagerly embraced the proposal to set up a segregated flying school. Meanwhile, at the famous Maxwell Field a few miles from Tuskegee and at new fields being established throughout that area, training programs were developing into which the Negro could have been integrated.

Instead, there came into being the bottleneck at Tuskegee which gave the arrogant Air Corps justification for its policy of exclusion which has helped to create the sorry mess in the War Department which forced Judge Hastie to resign in disgust and protest and which, far more important, led to the vicious treatment Negro soldiers are undergoing in Southern camps.

FEB 20 1943

Dr. Patterson would be one of the last persons in the United States to want such results whatever the benefit to the school of which he is the head. But the pattern fixed by the laws and mores and prejudices of Alabama spread to the entire country through acts like his. They intensify the viciousness of Alabama.

Tuskegee's sorry experience which is the calamity of Negroes all over the country must and should be a warning to other heads of Southern Negro colleges who seek, as a means of preserving their schools, to have their schools designated by the government for war purposes.

Dewey Is Ready to Nullify Job Discrimination Agency

PM
New York, N. Y.

Bureau, Staffed by Lehman Holdovers, Faces Drastic Appropriation Cut

By Leo J. Margolin

Gov. Dewey is ready to cut the appropriation of the State War Council's Committee on Discrimination from $58,000 to $10,000 when the Council meets today in Albany. The staff members are all Lehman holdovers.

JUN 1943

The Committee is the only agency in the state that has done anything tangible about discrimination in employment. It has placed thousands in war work who were previously barred because of race or religion.

One of the Committee's most important achievements was the integration of thousands of able-bodied Negroes into war industry.

Hundreds of industries throughout the U. S. A. are using the Committee's blueprint for integrating Negroes into plants where before they were used for menial, unskilled jobs exclusively.

What the Committee could do with $10,000 is probably very little, but this in part is what it did with $58,000:

¶ Investigated over 500 firms, defense training schools and employment agencies.

¶ Increased the number of Negroes working in Buffalo war plants from 3633 to 7823.

¶ Increased the number of Negroes working in New York City war industries from 422 to more than 1300.

¶ Issued a booklet, *How Management Can Integrate Negroes in War Industry*, a the first practical solution to the problem.

¶ Held hearings on discriminatory employment practices for the first time in the state and revealed widespread discrimination in employment agencies serving war industries. About 800 agencies are now being investigated.

¶ Helped to remove the word *religion* from hundreds of employment applications.

¶ Helped to get members of minority groups like Jews, Negroes and Italians into firms where none had been employed before.

Although protests already have been made by organizations like the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, the emasculation of the Committee will be quietly performed behind closed doors.

Since the Committee is part of the State War Council's budget, the pruning can be done in a closed Council meeting without too much trouble because it would never show up publicly.

Dewey is Chairman ex-officio of the Council. He will receive from Algernon D. Black, chairman of the City-Wide Citizens' Committee a detailed memorandum on the problem of racial discrimination, which, "war or no, continues," according to Black.

Treatment of Camp Stewart Negro Soldiers In Report

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

JUL 10 1943

The deplorable conditions of Negro soldiers at Camp Stewart, Ga., as revealed by a recent NAACP investigation was reported this week to the War Department. Camp Stewart accommodates some 25,000 white soldiers and 15,000 colored soldiers.

The War Department was informed that an investigator from the national office of the NAACP who "has talked with large numbers of soldiers and civilians in Savannah and neighboring communities and at Camp Stewart itself, has found three principal causes of unrest and tension."

The first of the causes the report stated, has to do with the limited quantity and segregated pattern of recreational service facilities on the post. The second concerns the inadequacy of transportation facilities. The third is the attitude and policy of certain ranking white officers.

JUL 10 1943

The report pointed out that Negro soldiers have a service club covering a ground space of approximately 100 x 200 feet while the white service club covers a ground space of 350 x 500 feet.

For white officers, there is a club, but for Negro officers there are no recreational facilities at all.

IS U. S. IGNORING PRIVATE COLLEGES?

Pittsburgh, Pa Courier

Policy of U. S. in Choosing Negro Tax Supported Institutions for Army, Navy Specialized Training Is Criticized

Negro liberal arts colleges have been neglected by Government officials as sites for basic training in the specialized Army, Navy courses, according to an observation received by The Pittsburgh Courier this week.

MAR 13 1943

The War Manpower Committee, which includes representatives from the Army, the Navy and the War Manpower Commission, designated Prairie View, West Virginia State, Howard, Hampton. Tuskegee, Virginia State, A. and T. (Greensboro) and Wilberforce universities to participate in the training program.

All of these schools are ROTC centers and are, for the most part, either state or government supported institutions, with the exception of Hampton and Tuskegee, stated our informant.

CITIES' WHITE SCHOOLS CHOSEN

This is not the case with the white institutions, he said. Out of approximately 500 white institutions selected for specialized work, a great number are strictly liberal arts colleges.

"The basic training will consist of courses in mathematics, physics, chemistry, history, geography and English and all schools that are qualified to teach these subjects and that have the facilities for feeding and housing the men are eligible," he continued, "and although Negro liberal arts colleges meet these requirements they have been ignored."

It was pointed out to The Courier, that in addition to rendering a specialized service for the Government, the colleges selected also have a better chance to survive than those not selected. Government financial assistance and consideration are the factors involved here.

"If this is discrimination, it has far reaching results, and should be called to the attention of authorities," was the conclusion reached by our informant, who happens to be a highly rated American educator.

Downey Demands Probe Of Negro Soldiers' Status

~~Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.~~

APR 17 1943

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HASTIE AIDED IN DRAFTING BILL

It is known also that Senator Warren Austin, ranking Republican member of the Senate Military Affairs committee is favorable to the passage of the resolution.

The Downey resolution, the first draft of which was prepared by Judge William H. Hastie, who resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War in protest against Army Jim-Crowism, provides that the Senate Military Affairs committee or a sub-committee consisting of five senators, shall investigate the extent to which the Army has complied with provisions of the draft act that selection and training for Army service be accomplished without discrimination.

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At the conclusion of its investigation the committee is directed by the terms of the resolution to report its findings to the Senate, together with such proposals for legislation as it considers necessary.

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"By the end of this year there will be more than 1,000,000 Negro Americans serving their country in our armed forces. They will represent more than 10 per cent of all Americans under arms. Their heroism, their loyalty is unquestioned. The records of such Negro heroes as Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

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Calling attention to the protest resignation of Judge Hastie, the California Senator stated: "It is important to note that specific complaints registered against the various branches of the armed forces indicate that members of the Negro race and of other minority groups find themselves practically excluded from certain branches of the armed service especially from the air forces of our country."

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In the hearing against Chaplain Fuller, The Courier has been reliably informed, the crux of the issue was not that the conditions or acts alleged by Chaplain Fuller were not true but that he was guilty of making an unauthorized statement. Efforts to establish the chaplain as a "radical" were unimpressive, according to information.

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47d-1943

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

FEB 4 - 1943

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Of his explanation,
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HONORABLE WM. H. HASTIE LAYS HIS CARDS ON THE TABLE !

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To the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking, I say with all the force and sincerity at my command that the man in uniform must grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside of the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places within the military establishment, who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him. But only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won.

When I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action. In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee. I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. What information I obtained, I had to seek out. where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them.

This situation reached its climax in late December, 1942, when I learned through Army press releases sent out from St. Louis and from the War Department in Washington that the Air Command was about to establish a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to train Negro officers for ground duty with the Army Air Forces. Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation. Moreover, I had actually written to the Air Command several weeks earlier in an attempt to find out what was brewing at Jefferson Barracks. The Air Command replied as late as December 17, 1942, giving not even the slightest hint of any plan for a segregated officer candidate school. It is inconceivable to me that consideration of such a project had not then advanced far enough for my office to have been consulted, even if I had not made specific inquiry. The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes.

JUDGE HASTIE'S STATEMENT

The People's Voice New York NY

FEB 6 1943

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NEGROES NOT WANTED

But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. **Moreover, even now the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the** field of aviation. This attitude is the result of wholly unscientific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity, the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces.

The Negro program of the Air Forces began some two years ago with the organization of several so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)." These units, now greatly increased in number, were organized to serve no specific military need. They have never had a defined function. Except as individual commanders on their own initiative have found some military function for particular small groups of men, the characteristic assignment of the "Aviation Squadron (Separate)" has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields.

There are no equivalent white organizations. "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces. Reluctant to use Negroes at all, the Air Command started off on the wrong foot by organizing some Negro labor units, while every effort was being made to recruit white volunteers with mechanical ability for skilled service.

Somewhat later, in order to provide enlisted technicians for the new air base at Tuskegee, a few Negro soldiers were accepted for technical training at Chanute Field where a large school is maintained. The men were well received and did excellent work. I urged the importance of continuing such training of Negroes in this existing unsegregated school. But the program stopped with the first group. The Air Forces then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered.

NO GROUND CREWS

Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

The Air Forces also are rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields. A few such men were trained for Tuskegee. But for a period of more than six months, all qualified Negro candidates have had their completed applications returned to them with the information that the Air Forces need no more Negro weather officers.

The Air Forces, however, do need large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army. Yet, it is unthinkable to those in authority that a Negro officer can fill such a position except at Tuskegee. The same situation exists in armament and engineering, both ground specialties for which the Air Forces have been accepting cadets generally, but refusing Negroes.

To date, all Negro applicants, a number of them well and fully qualified for appointment as Army service pilots, have been rejected. Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes. I am advised that this matter is receiving further study. The simple fact is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

TRAINING INCOMPLETE

Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field. Even the branch school program in which it is represented that Negro officers share without discrimination is in fact discriminatory. Many white officers enrolled at branch schools of aviation medicine have the opportunity of full time resident study. The

Negro officer is permitted to commute periodically from his home station at Tuskegee for work at the Maxwell Field branch school. Such grudging partial tender of makeshift schemes may be expected to continue unless a genuine change of racial attitude and policy occurs in the Air Command.

FEB 6 1943

While Negro trainees and cadets at the Tuskegee Air Base have done well from a strictly technical point of view, they have suffered such demoralizing discrimination and segregation that, in my judgment, the entire future of the Negro in combat aviation is in danger. Men cannot be humiliated over a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency.

Specifically, Negro and white officers serving at Tuskegee in the common enterprise of training Negroes for air combat have separate messes. They are not permitted to have quarters in the same building. Separate toilet facilities have been provided. If the group of white officers at Tuskegee insist upon this—and I have no evidence that they do—they are psychologically unsuited to train Negroes for combat. If they do not so insist, the racial attitude of the local commander or of higher authority is all the more apparent.

Despite original design to advance Negro officers and to place them in posts of administrative responsibility at Tuskegee as rapidly as they should qualify, that design is not being carried out in the post administration, except in the station hospital.

Fundamentally, it seems to me the Air Command has either failed to comprehend or failed to care that its policies and practices are tending to tear down rather than build up the pride, dignity and self respect which Negro soldiers, like all other soldiers, must possess if they are to achieve maximum combat efficiency. Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road.

FEB 6 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Race Teachers For Whites In Dixie—But Not For Long

(Special to the Defender)

BILOXI, Miss. — Negro teachers at an all-white school in the heart of Mississippi! Sounds impossible?

Well, it happened here but not for long.

MAR 20 1943

A small group of Negro civilian instructors of Army Air Corps who have been teaching white students here and at Gulfport ground crew work for the past several weeks have been given their transfers . . .

way up north of the Mason and Dixon line.

"Insubordination" was the reason given at Keesler field here for the transfers but that's the way Negro-hating Southern officers described that instructors' protests against being kept idle for days at a time while important work remained undone.

MAR 20 1943

The instructors complained to the commanding officer at Keesler field that they had been given no assignments. The transfer came through shortly afterwards.

It was reported that the colonel in charge is a typical Negro-hating Southerner and friend of Senator (Back to Africa) Bilbo. The officer, it is said, opposed the Negro instructors from the very day of their arrival, and soon thereafter, the only Negro who had been giving instruction to the whites stationed there, was relieved of his duties.

MAR 20 1943

Later, after repeated protests to their immediate superior, one of the instructors was given a job painting a fence!

The Negro civilian instructors, who had all completed a six-months rigid training period at Chanute Field, were assigned to Keesler Field to train white enlisted men of the Army Air corps as members of ground crews assigned to the maintenance and repair of Army airplanes.

These colored men were experts in carburetion work, in the upkeep and repair of planes and in the technical inspection of aircraft. As civilian instructors they were to impart this knowledge to student enlisted men so that the latter in turn would be qualified to serve as crew chiefs of ground crews at various Army Air fields, wherever located.

MAR 20 1943

According to reports from Biloxi, when these skilled civilians arrived at Keesler Field, there was only one Negro serving as instructor in aircraft maintenance. After weeks of inactivity, with nothing to do but while away the time, the instructors are said to have counselled together and decided to write a letter of protest to the colonel, in command at the flying field.

MAR 20 1943

The men stationed at Keesler field were the following: John P. Davies, Jr., Cleveland J. Franks, Herbert P. Hibler, William G. Isaam, Lennie Lyons, Grover C. Nash (pilot) and the only colored pilot at the field: Millard C. Williams, James V. Cheeks, and Miss Ada Harney, only woman instructor at the field.

In marked contrast to the treatment accorded the men at Keesler Field was the friendly and cordial manner in which the Negro instructors at Gulfport Field were welcomed by both officers and civilians.

MAR 20 1943

Treated Well At Gulfport

The men at Gulfport Field, only six miles from Biloxi, declare they were extended every courtesy by Colonel Jewett, commanding officer. They received full cooperation from both officers and men and they couldn't have been better treated in any city in the North.

The mayor of Gulfport, citizens there say, assured the colored instructors soon after their arrival that they would be treated as gentlemen befitting their rank and training. This was done by all concerned and the instructors at Gulfport gave such a good account of themselves and did their job so well that they were thanked personally by the commanding officer.

But the repercussion of the Jim Crow attitude of the commanding officer at Keesler Field in Biloxi, somehow found lodgement at Gulfport, the result being that when the removal order came through for the Negro instructors, those at Gulfport were also transferred.

The men at Keesler Field, it is reported, have been transferred back to Chanute Field, those at Gulfport, to Lincoln Field, Nebraska. The instructors at Gulfport were headed by Col. John Robinson, an expert in aerodynamics and a noted flyer, who reportedly had 1,000 hours of combat duty while with the air force of Emperor Haile Selassie in Ethiopia.

Others of Colonel Robinson's crew at Gulfport, were: Lloyd A. Williams, Jr., Charles F. Bailey, Simon N. Davis, Jr., William L. Evans, Jr., L. Goudea, Alvin Harrison, Alfred Kelker, Robert Lucas, Walter F. Murray Samuel E. Watson, Radcliffe Woolford and Ware Pendleton.

MAR 20 1943

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

WHY TRAINED NEGRO UNITS REMAIN AT DES MOINES?

New York, N. Y.—Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby was asked this week by the NAACP to verify reports of discrimination against Negro WACS at Des Moines.

JUL 22 1943

A telegram from the Chicago NAACP, stating that all Negro recruiting officers in the WAC have been relieved from all recruiting duties in the United States and ordered back to camp was referred to Colonel Hobby. This is not true of white WAC officers who are recruiting.

The complaint from the Chicago NAACP stated that though many of the Negro personnel at Des Moines completed all required training weeks ago they are kept at Des Moines doing almost nothing. On the other hand, the Chicago branch charges, the white personnel is sent out immediately upon completion of training. It was pointed out that the situation, if it exists—is destructive to the morale of Negro WAC and will breed confusion and discontent.

JUL 22 1943

Somebody Ain't a Gentleman

The People's Voice

Negro Glider Pilot Grounded

New York

According to an article by P. J. Andrews in the San Antonio *Register* the prevailing pampering of the South by the Army lost the glider forces a qualified pilot when First Lieut. James W. Redden was returned to the infantry because of some apparently mysterious "trouble" that took place in the small Texas town of Hamilton where Redden was being trained for glider service.

The Andrews article states that Lt. Redden was graduated from Wilberforce University in 1936 with a reserve officer commission. Before being called to active duty in March of 1941 when he was assigned to the 372nd Infantry in New York, he had been an instructor of German at Virginia State College.

MAR 6 1943

Last fall he qualified as a glider pilot student officer and was assigned to Hondo, Texas, for training. He was later sent to the small town of Hamilton where he was to get further training. Soon after he arrived in Hamilton his commanding officer told him "some town-person" had remarked "the sun has never set on a Negro in Hamilton, and we don't want it to start now." The C. O. told Redden to report any unusual incidents.

NO APPARENT TROUBLE

MAR 6 1943

Redden encountered no trouble getting lodging in a white tourist court, the Brown House, where accommodations were excellent, and the townspeople he came into contact with seemed friendly and to all indications, voiced no objections to his presence.

MAR 6 1943

Nevertheless, on the fourth day of his stay, the proprietress of the tourist court told him she was "very, very sorry" but she would have to ask him to move, as some "objections" were being raised about his living in the house.

When the young lieutenant ported this to his commanding officer, he was told he'd better go to San Antonio while an adjustment was being made of the situation. He received these orders on *October* 27, but the fact remains that he got orders from the War Department, *dated October* 26, directing him to rejoin his regiment in New York apparently because of the "trouble" in Hamilton on *October* 27.

MAR 6 1943

The article states further that after "much palaver with bigwigs at Randolph Field, the conclusion was reached that Lieut. Redden would be confronted everywhere with the same difficulty he'd experienced in Hamilton, as all glider training stations were in little Dixie towns of under 2500 population, and all would object to a Negro's presence.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Draftee Arrives In Camp With Bloody Head Caused By Policeman's Blackjack

MAY 8 1943

AUGUSTA, Ga., (ANP) — When 75 young men, two bus loads, left here this month for induction at Fort Benning preparatory to fight a way for democracy, they never dreamed that one of their leaders would land in camp with a bloody wound on his head, inflicted by a Columbus policeman.

The drives of one of the bus- s became angered when the en requested him to stop so ten. Instead of going direct- to camp he drove to Colum- s and summoned the aid of policeman.

MAY 8 1943

The driver accused one of the leaders of drawing a knife on him but upon search no such instrument was found.

Someone had to suffer for angering the driver so it was Isaac Eubanks, one of the leaders, who was driven to the police station. The cop demanded the boy take off his hat; he looked at it and said, "I ain't to wear a hat like this," and proceeded to strike him on the head with his club.

The boy went on to camp, still wondering what they'll have to fight for.

47d-1943
Richmond Va. Times-Dispatch
February 1, 1943

47

Stimson's Negro Civilian Aide Quits in Protest of Policy

WASHINGTON, (AP)—William H. Hastie, Negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, said yesterday he had resigned in protest against "discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes."

He recalled in a statement that a training center for Negro pilots had been established at Tuskegee University in Alabama over his protests against segregation. Since then, he said, adequate provisions have not been made for ground troops to work with qualified Negro pilots.

"The simple fact," he commented, "is that the air command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

Was Law Dean

Hastie, dean of law at Howard University here, said that when he took office "the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action.

"In December, 1940, the air forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee," he said. "I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the air command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. Whatever information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them. . . .

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the air forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the air command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since."

Do Labor Jobs

He described Negro ground troops assigned to aviation as "so-called 'aviation squadrons (separate)'" and said they "have never had a defined function." They are assigned, he reported, to "odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. The units," he continued, "would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the air forces."

Hastie said that "a few" Negroes were accepted for ground force technical training at Chanute Field, Ill., and "did excellent work," but that training stopped with the first group.

"The air forces," he continued, "then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available."

He asserted also that Negro applicants for assignment as weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields were rejected, although the air forces needs "large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the army."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

44

Skilled Men Are Used As Stevedores

JAN 9 - 1943

1500 At Pearl Harbor Are Given Choice As Labor Or Messman

SAN FRANCISCO—Crude racial prejudice by high-ranking U. S. Naval officials is sabotaging the U. S. Navy's program at Pearl Harbor more effectively than any group of Axis agents could.

That startling accusation was made here this week by a Negro sailor just back from Pearl Harbor, where the skill of hundreds of technically trained Negroes is being discarded because of discrimination.

All are being forced to work as stevedores or messmen!

What is happening, the sailor said, amounts to open defiance of Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, who early last year announced a new policy of training of Negro seamen for skilled work in the Navy.

Abused by Southerners

While the Navy has been going through with its new program by training Negroes for skilled assignments at Camp Robert Smalls, in Illinois, and at Hampton Institute, in Virginia, southern white officers in Hawaii are restricting them to stevedore and messmen's jobs.

Further, the sailor disclosed, Negro seamen are being subjected to all types of abuse by southern white sailors. Appeals made to officers for protection from this abuse fall on deaf ears.

JAN 9 - 1943

The resident population of the islands, he said, was at first inclined to accord to Negro sailors the same courtesy, hospitality and privileges granted white sailors.

However, to offset this, the informant said the southern white sailors who resent this display of racial democracy are actively propagandizing the residents by threatening to boycott establishments where Negroes are served.

Minor Clashes

There have been several minor clashes between white and Negro sailors. One, he said, occurred at a movie and while it could not be shown that Negroes were responsible, they were restricted to quarters for three weeks.

Some 1,500 trained Negro sailors, enlisted under the new policy, were sent to Hawaii, it was disclosed.

No effort was made to place them in the jobs for which they were trained. All were assigned as stevedores. When they complained, they were offered the alternative of becoming messmen. Seventy-five, the Defender informant said, accepted.

Friends of his in Hawaii, when they learned he was coming here, urged him to contact the Chicago Defender and air the situation so that it might become known to high naval officials in Washington.

JAN 9 - 1943

See Dangers

Because the majority of the navy officers in Hawaii are southerners, especially the higher ranking ones, they see no injustice because the treatment of the Negro sailors is in conformity with either navy tradition or in the provincial southern pattern with which they are familiar.

The seaman said he knew he was violating regulations but he felt himself justified since telling the story to the press seemed the only way to bring the matter to the attention of responsible persons.

Because of the unrest, and low morale of the Negro sailors, he predicted a serious racial crisis unless steps are taken to immediately remedy the situation.

"The boys," he said, referring to the Negro sailors, "would be very susceptible to the propaganda of any person offering them relief from all the Hell they're going through. I look forward with dread to the day when I'll have to return, and if I can I'm going to try to stay right here."

Time for Action By War Dep't

The worker New York, N.Y

By Ben Davis, Jr.

Public attention was turned upon the system of discrimination in our armed forces by the dramatic resignation last week of William H. Hastie, Negro, former Federal Judge and Dean of the Howard University Law School, from the post of Civilian Aide to Secretary of War Stimson.

According to newspaper reports, Hastie gave as his reason for withdrawing, the "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices" against Negroes in the Army Air Forces. "This attitude" (of discrimination.—B. D.), Hastie went on to say, "is the result of wholly unscientific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. . . . The Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air forces."

FEB 7 - 1943

According to the newspaper account, when Hastie was first appointed, all plans relating to Negro troops were to be referred to his office for approval; but that when he opposed one segregated project, nothing else was referred to him. And finally, the straw that broke the camel's back was the proposal of another jim-crow officer-candidate school in Missouri, which culminated a whole series of discriminatory pin-pricks and sledge-hammer blows against the principle of equality in the armed forces.

No one can deny that discrimination still exists to a stupid and dangerous degree in the armed forces, and that this discrimination impairs the national morale and the fighting spirit of our heroic armed forces. The evil stands out all the more because the trend in the country is the other way. Labor and the people are learning—in the course of a total people's war—that jim-crow helps Hitler and hurts them.

President Roosevelt's executive order against discrimination in industry establishes the principle of a progressive policy on Negro rights, although that policy is not being applied with vigor and impartiality.

The hitherto lily-whie air service now has Negro members, the 99th Pursuit Squadron. The bars against Negroes in the Marines have been broken down and the ban against Negroes in the Navy in any except mess service was cracked by the sentiment of the people, the patriotic generosity of Joe Louis, and the "disobedient" heroism of Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor, who manned a machine gun when he was supposed to confine his services to waiting tables. Negroes and whites are trained for officers commission in even one Southern camp, and the world has not come to an end.

These new opportunities for colored citizens to serve their country and to bring their talents into play have been opened up although they are still marred by discrimination, segregation, and "token" acceptance of Negroes in the newly opened fields.

MORE ATROCITIES

FEB 7 - 1943

The fundamental reason why atrocities take place in our armed forces against Negroes and why needless antagonism and frayed tempers occasionally arise among Negro and white troops, is because of the system of segregation, which is but another form of discrimination. For wherever there's segregation, the Negro comes out on the little end of the horn.

This has been particularly true on public carriers, where a Negro army nurse recently was beaten because she refused to vacate the rear seat of a bus in Alabama. Similar occurrences have taken place against Negro soldiers. An able discussion of this issue in the Lawyers Guild Review of November, 1942, correctly points out that the Office of Defense Transportation should assure Negro soldiers equality in public carriers.

In Louisiana, last November, a Negro military policeman, Raymond Carr, was killed while on duty by a state policeman because the Negro MP refused to disobey his military orders. And the state policeman was given the harsh punishment of suspension for a day! White soldiers are killed in these fracases all because the segregated system sets the stage for all sorts of white supremacy—fifth column propaganda—which mocks the very ideals and objectives for which the war is being fought.

FEB 7 - 194

WAR DEPARTMENT MUST ACT

Appeasement of the poll tax—defeatist forces, is dangerous to our victory effort, whether it's in reference to the anti-poll tax bill or to our armed forces. Any lynch attack upon a Negro who wears the uniform of our country, should be considered as a direct insult upon the government—and upon the government of our nation fighting for its life!

The recent defeat of the poll tax in Tennessee, the indictment of five lynchers for the first time in Mississippi, the recent AFL convention in Atlanta, Ga., show the progressive trends for national unity in the deep South. The fact that there are mixed Negro and white regiments in the Coast Guard, shows that it works. The fact that the Navy Department reversed its policy of not permitting Negroes in naval combat service, shows that it can be done.

In respect to our armed forces, it is necessary for the Commander-in-Chief and the War Department to establish an anti-jim crow policy and then consistently fight for it, as a necessity for hastening victory.

Confer on Negroes

PM 2/16/43 *PM's Bureau*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt will meet Friday with leaders of Negro organizations to discuss plans for a new Government anti-discrimination commission to replace the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Feb 16, 1943

McNutt disclosed yesterday that "a number of proposals" were being weighed and that he wanted to obtain the views of outside leaders before reaching any final decision.

Tentative plans formulated by Administration officials, it is reported, call for establishment of a full-time anti-discrimination commission, patterned after the National Labor Relations Board.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Uniformed Jimcro in City:

'LILY WHITE' WAVES OUST HUNTER STUDENTS

Sweeping New York and spreading throughout the nation, a wave of protest at use of tax-supported Hunter College buildings by the WAVES (women's auxiliary of the navy) crystallized into definite action this week. Negro women are not accepted into the WAVES nor into the SPARS (women's auxiliary to the Coast Guard The Bronx buildings of Hunter College are to be taken over by the two female service groups as of Feb. 1, present students being transferred elsewhere.

The move of the NYC Board of Higher Education (BHE) in approving the arrangement whereby taxpayers children are to be turned out to make way for discriminatory organization has been branded as a violation of the spirit and intent of the NY State civil rights law and the NY City Council's ordinance prohibiting such contracts.

The NAACP, through Executive Secretary Walter White, expressed national attitude when it declared the act to be..."the introduction of a pattern of segregation and discrimination of the deep South into Northern and border states where up to this time there has been no such segregation or discrimination."

Jan 23 1943

Immediately upon hearing of this move a protest group was formed by white and Negro members of Hunter College alumnae who wrote Ordway Tead, president of the BHE, "...We ask you to use your influence to persuade the BHE to refuse the use of Hunter to the WAVES until its policy of discrimination is abandoned."

Councilman Adam Powell jr, Tuesday, presented a resolution to the City Council reading in part: "WHEREAS the City of New York has leased to those two discriminatory services (WAVES and SPARS) the property of Hunter College, Bronx; and whereas this property with an assessed valuation of five million five hundred thousanddollars was bought, paid for, and used, by all races; and whereas such an agreement between the City of New York, the laws of the State of New York, the philosophy of our Democracy and the announced purposes of this war: BE IT RESOLVED THat the Council ask the US Navy to reconsider its policy as it affects the WAVES and the SPARS."

The Council further resolved that the Mayor, the Board of Estimate and the BHE "shall consult with the proper Naval authorities with a view of urging the changing of these policies;"

National leaders endorsing this resolution were Walter White, NAACP; Lester Granger, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League and Elmer Catter, former editor of "Opportunity". Other organizations working toward this same end are the Alpha Kapa Alpha Sorority, and the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Ruth Handy, President of the NANBPWC, informed PV that she had sent a telegram to the Navy Department vigorously protesting the action of the Navy in permitting the WAVES to bar Negro women and that she received an answer saying that the WAVES are taking the place of officers in the Navy and since Negro men have no such status there is no place at present for Negro women. They said: "Rest assured the problem is being worked on."

PV could not get a statement from local WAVE authorities nor could President George M. Shuster be contacted. His office, however, said he would answer a written inquiry.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Judge Hastie Resigns

We learned with regret that Judge William H. Hastie has resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War. He had a difficult job and he performed it well.

JAN 29 194

As the Negro's "friend at court," Judge Hastie helped solve many of the problems involving Negro service men. Negro people had a feeling of confidence when the war department sent him to investigate situations in which it appeared Negroes were being treated unfairly.

Hastie fought relentlessly for the inclusion of Negroes in every branch of the army and he leaves office with this accomplished. The Army's policy o real democracy in the Officer Candidate Schools are a tribute to Hastie, whether or not he directly is responsible for it.

As he enters private life again, Hastie has the respect of Negro citizens for his forthright stand for democratic principles.

JAN 29 1943

The man who succeeds Hastie will have a solid foundation upon which to build. His task should be easier because of the sound program begun by the former federal judge.

47d-1943

Noted Negro Pleads For Tolerance In U. S.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

APR 17 1943

Judge W. H. Hastie Gives Address At Meeting Here Of State's Colored Teachers

Youthful, serious-minded Judge William H. Hastie, who resigned last January as Negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, believes that "if we are to win this war Americans will have to become more tolerant."

Here yesterday to address members of the Kentucky Negro Education Association, he disclosed in an interview that he will receive the Spingran Medal as the "Negro of 1943" from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People some time in June.

It was on January 31 that Judge Hastie protested against "discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting the Negroes."

Opposes Segregation.

He is against a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots. Hastie said that "a few" Negroes were accepted for ground force technical training and proved excellent pilots at Chanute Field, Ill., but after the first group no more were taken.

In spite of the restrictions against training Negro pilots, Hastie predicts that they will be ready faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

Served As District Judge.

Believing that intolerance is a byproduct of ignorance, the judge is cheered by the fact that as our horizons become broader, so also will our viewpoint. The Army found that soldiers were woefully ignorant of the foreign lands and people where they are sent, he pointed out. The soldiers overseas are getting new interests which should be capitalized while the time is ripe, he believes.

At present dean of Howard University's Law School, Judge Hestie served from 1937 to 1939 as judge of the District Court of the Virgin Islands, the only Negro appointed to such a position. He says there is a great similarity between the island communities and smaller towns in the United States. One difference, however, commented the judge, is that people on the islands are more lawabiding than are people here and they try to settle their civil controversies without going to court.

Speaking last night to Negro teachers and school administrators on the subject "Lessons to Educators From the War," Judge Hastie said that one of the foremost shortcomings of education lies in our ignorance of other peoples.

He said that present Army records show an alarming difference between the stated educational level of young people and the actual level found. Now is the time, the judge remarked in concluding, to add to our concept of education, the real education of people, both domestic and foreign.

Report Is Approved.

Delegates to the K.N.E.A. meeting at Beecher Terrace yesterday heard Marshall J. Murphree, former resident of Rhodesia, Africa, speak concerning the customs of that country, after an address of welcome by Blyden Jackson, president of the Louisville Association of Teachers at Colored Schools.

Approved at the afternoon session was the report of the legislative committee, which recommended that the Anderson-Mayer Act be so amended that the maximum sum for any individual Negro student be increased to $300 for each school year. The committee favored a follow-up on the Thomas-Hill bill, which proposed federal aid to reduce inequality in education. Proposed also was a wartime measure for the removal of inequality in the training of Negro boys and girls for skilled and technical war work.

JUDGE W. H. HASTIE

All officers of the association for 1942-1943 were re-elected to serve throughout 1944. They are H. E. Goodloe, principal of Bate High School, Danville, president; Mrs. Grace Sullivan Morton, Frankfort, first vice president; T. J. Long, Louisville, second vice president, and W. H. Perry, Jr., Louisville, secretary-treasurer.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

APR 10 1943

"Democratic" Segregation

Dear Sirs: The army has brought Jim Crow not only to this camp but also to the local community. The colored troops have to keep out of "white" places and we have also been given instructions not to associate with Negro soldiers or to frequent particular bars and cafes set aside for Negroes. This was military "democratic" segregation, for both groups had their places. Segregation was practically unheard of in the town before the army established this camp.

The Negro barracks are at an extreme end of the post. And strangely enough, the only democratic barracks are the guardhouse. Here the military does not differentiate—all *poor* soldiers. But why not all good soldiers? My two-day visit was my first opportunity to fraternize with a colored soldier. He was unable to understand "how I'm good enough to die for this democracy and freedom talk but not good enough to die alongside a white American."

My total fury in regard to racial hatred arose when I was advised during my basic training in the South to *"tie my shoestring"* when a colored officer appeared. If you did meet one face to face, you would *just have* to salute him. I wanted to fight alongside "Bigger"!

March 15

PRIVATE ——
U. S. Army Air Force

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

MAR 27 1943

Hastie Blasts Segregated Training For Colored Soldiers

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE

The Army Air Forces have just announced a new program of five months academic training in selected colleges to be given to soldiers before they begin army flying training. The men will be taught by the college faculties and will live on the campus. Over a hundred schools all over the country have been selected to provide this preliminary college training. But eligible colored soldiers are to be segregated and all of them sent to Tuskegee Institute to study physics, mathematics, history, English and Geography. Men from all parts of the country, men with varying education background, a large number of them already graduates of first rate liberal arts colleges, must be sent to Tuskegee Institute for five months of undergraduate training, just because they happen to be colored.

Even if Tuskegee were an outstanding liberal arts college, which it is not, this newest and wholly unnecessary Jim Crow scheme would be inexcusable. In all the circumstances the plan is outrageous. The time has come when the unholy alliance between Tuskegee Institute and the Army Air Forces must be publicly denounced and condemned. Let there be no mistake. Tuskegee is rendering no valuable service to the war effort in this latest step in its effort to concentrate a black aviation program on and around the Tuskegee campus. With calious indifference to the best interests of colored Americans and to the importance of democracy in the war effort, Tuskegee Institute is looking out for Tuskegee. The school gets its mess of pottage and the Air Forces have a willing and valuable accomplice in their design of keeping colored soldiers out of unsegregated colleges.

Several hundred colored may be affected by this scheme almost immediately. Early in March the Air Forces called to active duty the entire waiting list of several hunlred qualified colored aviation cadet applicants. I am sure of this because of my personal acquaintance with several of the men who were near the bottom of the list and have been called to duty. These are the men who, after the usual preliminary processing, face the prospect of fiv emonths undergraduate study at Tuskegee before they begin aviation trainig.

It still remians to be seen what will be done with these men after they finish five months of college study at Tuskegee Institute. A report was sent from Tuskegee to a leading newspaper that some of these men are to become bomgardiers and navigators. There is no apparent truth to this report. I can find no evidence from any source of any plan to train colored for bombardment aviation. It seems to me that someone has tried to take the curse off of this latest Tuskegee outrage by circulating the false report that new opportunity is being provided for colored in the field of bombardment aviation. The whole thing smells very bad.

There is one further question which we must ask and continue to ask until an answer is given. What about new colored applicants for aviation cadet training now that the waiting list is exhausted? I do not know of any plan of the Air Forces for accepting or using additional colored applicants. Will they be accepted? If so will they go on a waiting list to remain there until 1944? I know from experience that the Air Command makes piecemeal special plans for colored to meet the emergency at hand and then lets the matter drop until another emergency arises. There is grave danger, unless the public keeps the issue constantly alive, that after the group called to duty in March, no additional colored aviation cadets will be trained for a long time to come.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Committee to Investigate Status of Negro in WAACs, WAVES, SPARS, Marines

APR 15 1943

APR 15 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

Washington (ANP)—The senate committee on military affairs will hold preliminary hearings into the charges of racial discrimination in the armed forces preparatory to the appointment of a five-man subcommittee to undertake a full-dress investigation into the matter.

This is the procedure which will be followed as a result of a resolution introduced in the senate last Thursday by Sen. Sheridan V. Downey (D) of California calling upon that committee to conduct a full and complete study and investigation with respect to the status of he Negro and other minority groups in the armed services as well as the WAACs, WAVES, SPARS, and marines, women's auxiliaries.

APR 15 1943

Complaints

Introducing his resolution Sen. Downey declared on the floor that complaints of violations of the non-discrimination provisions of the Selective Training and Service act of 1940 had been made by responsible persons, notably William H. H tie, the civilian aide to Secy. of War Henry L. Stimson who resigned in protest, which complaints have created "anxious concern among large segments of our people."

APR 15 1943

The senator made it clear in his remarks that he is not now attempting to judge the veracity of the charges but rather to point out the intent of the President and the legislation establish selective service that the objective be attained without racial discrimination. He pointed out that Negroes are greatly restricted in the armed forces, particularly in the air corps.

"By the end of this year there will be more than one million Negro Americans serving their country in uor armed forces," he told the senate. "They will represent more than 10 per cent of all Americans under

arcs. Their heroism, their loyalty is unquestioned. The records of such Negro heroes as Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

APR 15 1943

To Protect Morale

"It becomes vital to the successful prosecution of American's war of survival that the morale of the Negro Americans in our armed forces and of the 12,000,000 more who are working on the home front, be not impaired by failure of any government agency to live up to the letter and spirit of existing laws against discrimination. It is essential that there be full and unhindered use of all America's manpofer in the conduct of the war."

APR 15 1943

Informed of the senator's resolution, Judge Hastie commented that "public hearings of the facts is in the best tradition of the American wav of doing things."

Nation
New York, N. Y.

Jim Crow in the Camps

MAR 20 1943

Dear Sirs: I just read the article The Novel Case of Winfred Lynn in your issue of February 20. The facts complained of are generally prevalent throughout military training camps in the Southern area. Take our own camp here. We have separate colored training detachments. These detachments are located at the extreme ends of the camp. Mingling of white and colored troops is distinctly frowned upon. The USO shows visiting camp always stage an extra performance "for colored only" at one of the post theaters. It is considered something of a misdemeanor for a white private to fraternize with his colored comrades in arms.

Thousands of Northern boys undergoing training here unconsciously acquire the habit of Jim Crow—a habit it may be hard to break down at the end of the war. Nothing is being done by the army to help break down the barriers of racial misunderstanding in order to pave the way for interracial harmony in the post-war future.

MAR 20 1943

PRIVATE, U. S. ARMY
Somewhere in the U. S., February 28

Air Force Jim Crow Is Cited

Atlanta Daily World
FEB 1 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)— Reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces were given Sunday by Judge William H. Hastie as the motive behind his resignation as civilan aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

FEB 1 1943

As proof of his charges Judge Hastie in the statement handed newsmen cited the following eight points:

(1) The setting up of a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., to train Negro officers for ground duty, the first of its kind in the whole United States Army. The school was established without his knowledge although all matters pertaining to Negro personnel were under the orders of the Secretary of War supposed to have been cleared through his office.

(2) The organization of so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" to make some provision for Negro enlisted men in the air forces. The Negro squadrons are nothing more than labor battalions. There are no equivalent white organizations.

(3) The failure to provide training facilities for Negro ground crew has stymied the use of Negro pilots being trained at Tuskegee.

(4) The Air Force is rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields, although this type of personnel is badly needed.

(5) The refusal of the Air Command to consider Negroes' for positions as Army service pilots for the simple reason that it does not want "Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping, and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

(6) Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only a part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are denied admission to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field.

(7) The establishment of wholesale segregation at the Tuskegee Army Flying School which Negro and white officers are forced to have separate quarters, separate toilets, separate mess.

FEB 1 1943

(8) The failure to do anything about the hostile attitude of white civilians toward Negro personnel stationed at the Tuskegee field, including the disarming of Negro military police and the appointment at Tuskegee of a former member of the Alabama State Police as an army officer with duties related to his civilian experience.

"No Negro Nurses Wanted In Navy" N. Y. Woman Finds

FEB 13 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

By EVELYN SHERRER

NEW YORK CITY, Feb. 11—The story of a young Negro nurse who was among the first to answer that organization's call for nurses for the Army and Navy last week was but a reiteration of the policy that would place Negroes distinct and apart from persons of other races.

FEB 13 1943

Mrs Margaret Behagan, of Brooklyn, and now employed in the New York City House of Detention for Women, was perhaps the first Negro to make application at the new recruiting center for nurses for the Army and Navy at 139 East 36th street, established under the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross. Mrs. Behagan was particularly under the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross. Mrs. Behagan was particularly interested in serving in the Navy because of the various Naval branches that have been open to Negroes in recent months. Upon expressing her preference she was told by the interviewer that "the Navy is not accepting Negro nurses."

Mrs. Behagan, a persistent young woman who knows what she wants, insisted upon learning exactly why she could not be admitted into the Navy.

FEB 13 1943

"Nurses in the Navy," she was told, "serve in a supervisory capacity. They act as instructors to the seamen and on few occasions are they called upon to administer directly to the sick. In the Army it is just the opposite. The responsibiilties of a nurse are more akin to the work they have been in the habit of performing; that is, they tend and nurse the sick; they feed, wash and aid the patient directly. So you see there is really no necessity of having Negro nurses in the Navy."

Mrs. Behagan, because of her experience and abiilty, was assured that the "Army needs her very badly." Despite that fact she pointed out that the presence of Negroes in the Naval forces would warrant the appointment of at least a few Negro nurses to the Navy, she had to be content with a statement that "there aren't enough Negroes in the Navy."

Other "facts" gathered at the interview were that Negro nurses will "absolutely" work exclusively with Negro outfits; that in most cases the chief nurse will be colored, although there are at present groups of Negro nurses under the supervision of white chiefs; that the number of Negroes serving overseas, "if there are any," was not known at the recruiting office because "application and papers of Red Cross nurses do not mention race or color."

47d-1943

Greensboro, Ala., Watchman
September 25, 1943

Negro Leader Urges Segregation Proclamation

A. Phillip Randolph, the negro who heads the all-negro union of sleeping car porters, wants President Roosevelt to emulate Abraham Lincoln by issuing a proclamation in behalf of his race. Pointing out that Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Randolph (also head of the March-On-Washington Movement) wants President Roosevelt to issue some sort of proclamation ending all segregation in the armed forces.

"The fight for the abolition of segregation in the armed forces has become the central and dominating issue in the life of the negro people in America today," Randolph said. "In view of the world struggle against the Axis tyranny of Germany and Japan for the salvation of democracy and freedom, there can be no compromise on the question of the fight to destroy the spirit of Fascism and Naziism in America."

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

"Tribute to Gallantry" Doesn't Include Negr

"Tribute To Gallantry" is the name of the pageant being put on by the New York Committee of the National War Fund at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, Tuesday evening, October 5.

All citizens and civic organizations are being asked to support the National War Fund, excluding Negro individuals and groups.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Ask President To Act In Levy Case

OMAHA, Neb. — Twenty outstanding citizens of this city have sent a joint telegram to President Roosevelt, urging action in the case of Alton Levy.

The telegram follows:

"We, citizens of Omaha, Nebraska, meeting October 11 at the Omaha Guide office, respectfully petition you to name an impartial civilian committee to publicly reopen case of Private Alton Levy, convicted on charges including a statement that Negro soldiers are discriminated against at the Lincoln Army Base. We believe this action vital."

PM
New York, N. Y.

The 74th Day

This is the 74th day that Alton Levy is serving at hard labor in he guardhouse at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base. The War Dept. has refused to make public the report of his trial or to explain why a verdict of guilty was returned 48 hours after the court declared him to be innocent.

Alton Levy

PM
New York, N. Y.

Levy Allowed To See Sister

Alton Levy's sister has been granted permission to visit him in the guardhouse at the Army Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base, it was learned today.

Notification that she would be admitted was contained in a telegram received from the Commanding officer at the Base late Monday night. The permission was extended after publication of charges that Levy was being held incommunicado, with visitors barred and mail withheld as a result of protests over his court-martial.

His sister—Harriet Levy—plans to leave Sunday night for Lincoln, a Workers Defense League spokesman said.

Levy Case Arouses Nation's Interest

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

National Campaign Begins To End Jim Crow in Armed Services After White Soldier is Court-Martialed For Protesting Treatment Accorded Negro Soldiers

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—A nationwide campaign "to end jim crow in the United States Army," and "to secure a full and impartial investigation of the case of Pvt. Alton Levy, Bronx, N. Y.," was inaugurated here today by the Workers Defense league, a national non-partisan labor defense agency.

Because of his protests that Negro soldiers at the Lincoln Air Base, Lincoln, Neb., "are treated like dogs," Pvt. Levy was recently charged with conduct unbecoming a soldier, court-martialed, reduced from the rank of staff sergeant and sentenced to four months in the guard house at hard labor with an $18 a month reduction of pay.

APPEAL TO FDR

Convinced by the growing mass of evidence that Levy was convicted simply for his questioning the treatment of colored troops at the base, a group of nationally known civic and labor leaders last week appealed to President Roosevelt to re-open Levy's case. Their communication follows in part:

"In vew of the fact that the major charges against Levy seem to have been his criticism of the treatment of Negroes in the camp, we feel that it is extremely important that you conduct a full review of this case and a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding it.

"This is needed to prevent a miscarriage of justice which would not only hurt a single individual, but also would re-act unfavorably upon democratic morale within the Army and the civilian population. The existing racial tensions in this nation are so great that we must be extremely careful not to penalize those who seek to establish better relationships between the races."

Among the signatories of the plea were:

Irving Abramson, president, New Jersey State CIO; William M. Agar, director, Freedom House; Roger N. Baldwin, director, American Civil Liberties union; Rev. William C. Kernan, Lester Granger, secretary, National Urban league; A. Philip Randolph, international president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Charles S. Zimmerman, chairman, Trade Union council, American Labor Party, New York State; Layle Lane, columnist, The New York Age; Morris Milgram, national secretary, Workers Defense league; John Chamberlain, author; Daniel Bell, managing editor, New Leader; Harry Lorin Binsse, editor, Commonweal; Julius Hochman, vice president, International Ladies Garment Workers union, and many others.

Levy is a former organizer of the latter union.

ASKS ORGANIZATIONS

TO BACK FIGHT

Copies of the plea were sent to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, and other high Army officials.

Nathaniel M. Minkoff, director of the WDL Committee on Discrimination, announced today that his organization has scheduled widespread appeals to labor unions, interracial and civic groups for support of the campaign to democratize the jim crow aspect of the military services and to endeavor to secure a reversal of Private Levy's conviction.

Levy's own description of the conditions under which Negro soldiers at the Lincoln Air Base are serving their country, is contained in a series of letters written to a New York friend.

ANP REVEALS RACE PREJUDICE IS RIFF AT FT. HUACHUCA, ARIZ.

Globe and
Independent

News Service Finds "Brass Hats" Of Army Practising Discrimination Against Soldiers of 92nd Infantry Division

Nashville, Tenn.

Tuscon, Ariz., Sept. 9—(ANP)—Confidential information has been obtained by the Associated Negro Press of startling and sensational discriminatory practices imposed upon soldiers of the 92nd Infantry Division stationed at Fort Huachuca. Sources cannot be revealed for fear of reprisals upon the informants.

The shameful situation threatens to develop into a national scandal, and more important, according to observers, unless the federal government and the army high command takes immediate, forthright action to correct the disgraceful conditions, it is believed that all the fury of an overseas battlefield will explode in this desert community.

Black American soldiers who a few months before had entered the U. S. Army filled with patriotic determination to help win the war for democracy, even to the point of sacrificing their lives, are now reported to be enmeshed in the doldrums of frustration and despair as a direct result of the heartbreaking, inhuman treatment meted out to them by commanding general and white officers alike.

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort are:

1. That the commanding general, E. M. Almond, of Anniston, Ala., refers to his Negro charges both in and out of their presence as "niggers."

2. That the commanding general is formulating plans to convince the war department to ship the division overseas for combat duty, although the division is miserably unprepared for such service.

3. That Gen. Almond is not a top flight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications. The war department foisted him upon the Negro group it is charged because it was necessary to place him somewhere.

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

5. That a quota system operates in making a promotion of Negro officers with few ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

Information has trickled out of the camp that several white officers including one colonel have been severely beaten up or killed in altercation with enlisted personnel. The officers are also said to stand far behind the lines during firing practice with live ammunition, because they fear a sharpshooter might train his sight upon them and revenge mistreatment.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern methods of warfare. Instead, training consists almost exclusively of marches and drills around the confines of the army post.

7. That the food served in mess halls at Fort Huachuca is the "worst in the army."

8. That although present conditions on the military reservation have existed ever since the division moved into Arizona last May, Atty. Truman K. Gibson, Jr., acting civilain aide to the secretary of war, and Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, inspecting general from the inspector general's office, Washington, on a recent inspection here found conditions to be "in excellent shape," morale "high," training "goid," and the overal picture "gratifying."

Personnel of the army post are said to be greatly puzzled over how

SEP 10 1943

they can reconcile the [illegible]ous dictums of Gen. Almond and his staff of white officers to preachments of a nation pledged in a war to carry the four freedoms and democracy to the far corners of the world.

Rumors are being circulated in Tuscon that the soldiers are so restive under the "slaveocracy" rule at the camp that a flareup of serious proportions is expected almost momentarily. Only positive intervention of the federal government with drastic punishment delivered upon the heads of responsible authorities is seen as a possible preventative.

Soldiers complain that at a recent meeting of mess officers and mess sergeants, Gen. Almond deplored the alleged waste of food and declared before the mixed group:

"There is too much waste in these mess halls. These niggers eat too damn much meat and bread and not enough vegetables."

Added to this stinging insult are the alleged plans of Gen. Almond to heighten his stature in the army by [illegible] unprepared men overseas as a fighting unit. One army private said "If the Japs or Germans saw us coming they would laugh themselves to death."

"Instead of training for combat through the techniques of handling issued weapons, the men are trained to walk miles upon miles over the rocky mountainous terrain," charged a disgusted soldier.

Morale of the men is exceeding low, according to an informant, because it is popularly believed at the post tha tGen. Almond was not considered capable of handling a white unit and was assigned to the 92nd division where he spews his spleen of disappointment on the helpless Negro soldiers. Further evidence of the contempt the commander holds for his charges was found in the allegation that he sends his post Gestapo to uncover suspected hidden bullets used in live ammunition practice because he fears an uprising of protest.

Reports are current in Tuscon that several officers, one of whom was a colonel have been severely baten or killed by the non-commissioned victims of their race hate and venom. These sinister raids usually occurring in the middle of the night have revealed that some of the soldiers are concealing arms to protect themselves from further indignities and in many instances to save their lives.

Another extremely sore spot with the men is the restriction in rank of colored officers. It was pointed out that when the organization was formed in World War I, the articles of war stated that "All officers above the ranks of 1st lieutenant will be white." There has been but slight deviation from that order, it is charged.

"All of the white officers, who joined the division about 19 days earlier than the Negroes after the division was reactivated in Oct., 1942 have been made 1st lieutenants and captains," informed a camp soldier. "In the 365th Infantry Regiment particularly three Negroes have made the 1st lieutenant grade. When we arrived here the general started a development school for backward officers. In a class of 50 officers whom it was felt needed some "policing up on" all were Negroes.

"This does not represent a situation of inability as it affects one group," continued the servicemen, "it is out and out discrimination. Those 50 men can never expect to get beyond their present grade."

It was pointed out that the educational background of the Negro officers was generally higher than that of white officers, yet the Negroes have been persistently passed over in promotions.

Post officials apparently don't think that Negro s oldiers need regulation field ration sto maintain their maximum health, it was charged, and as a result the food served in mess is a constant source of nausea to the men. Negro officers, it was stated, are so browbeaten and coerced that they dare not object to any of the varied discriminations and irregularities for fear of being "broken."

Particularly bitter are the men over the statements accredited to Atty. Truman K. Gibson and Gen. Benjamin O. Davis that conditions are "in excellent shape" training "good," morale "high' and the listed men who said the two high officials were at Fort Huachuca recently to investigate the post must have known that the reservation is a 'key of dynamite" if they had their eyes open.

Vanguard Of The Disillusioned

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG

SEVERAL factors, some definitely encouraging, and others foreboding disaster, are immediately evident to an observant newspaperman while talking to wounded American Negro soldiers who have been returned from the North African Theatre of Operations for treatment at the War Department's new Fletcher General hospital at Cambridge, Ohio.

The sympathetic attention and the policy of non-segregation at Fletcher are encouraging. The men appreciate them.

But, the poignant memories of the men speak ill for the American future. These soldiers are disillusioned soldiers. They have seen their comrades in arms killed. By the Axis enemy? . . . Yes . . . but also by fellow Americans attempting to forcibly perpetuate the vicious American custom of discrimination and segregation in housing . . . in recreation . . . in transportation . . . and, in general social intercourse, even in far-off North Africa. And in some instances, they allege, the persons to whom they looked for protection, namely, the white commissioned officers, failed them in the crisis.

PERHAPS, violent incidents, such as the killing of an American soldier by another American soldier, are to be expected in the course of a great upheaval. But what of the day by day insults, about which we have heard so much from time to time, and concerning which, these men at Fletcher hospital, and those who are arriving with increasing frequency, will continue to bring to their parents, friends, and other newspapermen?

The story of the treatment of the Negro soldier abroad cannot be hushed. These men form the VANGUARD OF THE DISILLUSIONED. And therein lies danger for the future.

What will happen upon the mass return of the victorious American Army? What will happen, when men, white and colored, are thrown into the keen, post-war, economic competition for jobs, and, perhaps, these jobs will not exist? What will happen in the great cities of the North and South, still tense from the trials and tribulations of a recent war?

We know the answer to these questions. Detroit was a dress rehearsal. But MUST it happen? Would it not be logical for the War department to realize that the stereotype response to inquiries of this kind . . . "The Army is not a sociological laboratory" . . . is ridiculously inadequate. The truth is, that the United States Army is the greatest sociological laboratory ever organized!

THE MEN in it are still human beings. Regardless of military discipline they are not robots. And even if they were, we must anticipate that some day soon, they will return to a civilian society in which we hope the civilian processes of law will continue to function. With present attitudes, which seem prevalent abroad, there is a possibility that civilian law agencies will be powerless to cope with lawlessness, which has been, and still is being, ignored by the United States Army.

We are again referring to the laxity in the protection of the American Negro soldier from insults while stationed abroad.

It was our impression at Fletcher General hospital that the news of race riots, strikes, and production lags at home had very little effect on the Negro soldier in the foreign theatre. He was too preoccupied in coping with race riots, disdain for human courtesies, and halts in the war effort due to racial conflicts, abroad. — Stanley Roberts.

Boston USO's Policy Is No Interracial Dancing

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. NOV 20 1943

BOSTON — The policy of refusing to permit colored junior hostesses to dance with white service men at the Buddies' Bay State Clubs on Boston Common was attacked this week by Ray W. Guild, local attorney.

Mr. Guild, who is president of the Co-ordinating Council of Colored Organizations for National Defense, pointed out that colored Bostonians were not concerned over mixed dancing, but that such restrictions on the hostesses were in contradiction to any democratic principles.

Leaders O.K. Plan

He said that the policy was approved unanimously by the board of directors of the Greater Boston USO Committee of which Matthew Bullock, attorney, is a member, and apparently was sanctioned by one of Boston's leading matrons, Mrs. John B. Hall.

Instructions that colored junior hostesses were not to dance with white service men under any circumstances were given by a white senior hostess to five girls at a meeting last week at the Hotel Touraine.

The girls had been selected from a group of eighteen who were certified as junior hostesses in August as result of a fight led by Mr. Guild when the Buddies' Bay State Club refused to admit colored hostesses in July.

W. Duncan Russell, white, executive director of the Boston USO Committee is reported as saying that Mrs. Hall agreed to the jim-crow arrangement.

H. D. Hodgkinson, white, head of the USO board of directors, told Mr. Guild that his motion in July for coolred hostesses would never have been approved if the committee had thought that mixed dancing was involved.

Army 'Scottsboro Case Is Uncovered

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 4 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Declaring that there appears to be a "Scottsboro case in the army," Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP) of New York has asked the war department to set a time when he might file an appeal in behalf of two Negro soldiers now serving life terms in prison allegedly for raping a white woman in the Southwest Pacific.

The men are Pvts. Ernest R. Loury, inducted at Fort Custer, Mich., and Frank Fisher, Jr., of Little Rock, Ark.

According to the New York congressman, the boys had landed with their units on New Caledonia island, a French possession. While there, they were accused of raping a French woman of "questionable character", and having done so in front of a white officer who they said had told them "it was okay." The imprisoned soldiers also said they gave the woman $3.00, which she accepted.

Later when the rape charge was made against Loury and Fisher, the first investigating officer is reported to have recommended that the charges be dropped. Nevertheless, they were tried before a court martial, found guilty and were dishonorably discharged from the army. In addition, they were sentenced to life imprisonment and sent to McNeil island, state of Washington.

On Oct. 2, they wrote Congressman Marcantonio and asked him to take their case. Marcantonio said he examined the record, considered that the boys had been "framed" and so on Saturday wrote Under Secretary William Patterson asking for a date when the case might be appealed.

Coast Guard Unit Turns Down 3 More Volunteers

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NOV 20 1943

Men Answered Radio Appeals; National Head Asked for Statement of Policy

BALTIMORE

Three more colored volunteers for the Coast Guard Port Security Regiment were turned down this week when they applied at the recruiting headquarters, 17 South Street, they told the AFRO Wednesday.

NOV 20 1943

The three, who said they were informed by an officer that col-colored applicants are barred from enrolling in the regiment, are:

Rufus Nimmons, post office employee of 1018 N. Carrollton Avenue; Francis Kent, shipyard worker of 1011 N. Arlington Avenue, and James Webster, of 1214 Riggs Avenue, employed at Western Electric.

Heard Radio Appeals

According to their account, they went to the recruiting headquarters after hearing appeals on the radio for applicants.

After waiting several minutes they were referred to an officer who told them that the outfit already formed was for white only, they said. The officer, according to the trio, requested that they leave their names so that in the event a colored unit is organized they may be assigned to it.

The three said they refused, because such a unit would be only a labor battalion.

AFRO Exposed Policy

The policy of barring colored volunteers from enrolling in the regiment was exposed by the AFRO in August.

Commander Howard A. Kelly, Jr., commanding officer of the unit, said at that time that they were unacceptable, because the only duties assigned to the outfit were guarding harbor piers and that colored members would have to give orders to white stevedores. This "wouldn't work in Baltimore," he declared.

Later, Commander Kelly reiterated his stand, adding that he would not change it unless ordered to do so.

Meanwhile, the AFRO has written Capt. A. C. Marts, national commander of the Volunteer Coast Guard Port Security Regiment, in Philadelphia, requesting him to issue a statement of policy on the matter.

47d-1943

Liberal Leaders Appe[illegible] His Case to Roosevelt

PM New York, N. Y
SEP 8 1943

By Gordon H. Cole
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Alton Levy of the Bronx is in the guardhouse today at Lincoln, Neb.

Pvt. Levy didn't like the discrimination against Negroes at the Lincoln Air Base, and because he had been an organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers, AFL, he said so—in staff meetings and out. He was a staff sergeant then.

Levy was recently charged with conduct unbecoming a soldier, court-martialed, reduced to the rank of private, and sentenced to four months [illegible] guardhouse at hard labor with an $18-a-month forfeiture of pay.

A group of 20 liberal leaders headed by William M. Agar, director of Freedom House, and Roger N. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Morris Midgram, of the Workers' Defense League, appealed Levy's case to President Roosevelt today.

Investigation Asked

In a letter to the Chief Executive, these men reported:

"In view of the fact that the major charges against Levy seem to have been his criticism of the treatment of Negroes in the camp, we feel that it is extremely important that you conduct a full review of this case and a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding it."

The Army's side of the case can't be told today. Capt. Carroll West, public relations offi[illegible] at Lincoln Air Base, explain[illegible] that the findings o[illegible] court-martial have not yet been published and until they are, Army regulations forbid comment.

The other side, Pvt. Levy's, can be told now from letters he wrote his girl friend before and during the court-martial.

Tells of Conditions

Levy, who is 29, attended De Witt Clinton High School and night classes at City College of New York. He is an amateur writer of songs and skits some of which have toured Army posts. His biggest hit is *G I Love You*.

Here is his story:

"July 28, 1943.

"I told you, I [illegible] that we have about [illegible] Negro illiterates we are training. Well—they finally segregated them in barracks about two miles from where we stay.

"Most of the whites in charge of them are Southerners. Naturally, as a result, they are treated like dogs. They are kept in camp while the others are allowed out. They sleep on old canvas cots while the others sleep on the new Army cots with mattresses and 'all the trimmin's.' And they are hounded and harassed and yelled at and cursed and insulted and generally treated abominably.

"They're afraid to move. They get no sympathy and no help. It's unbelievable. I have had ever so many fights about it. I've argued and protested but all in vain. Today, the commanding officer asked me if I wanted to take charge of the office th[illegible] set up in the Negro are[illegible] I immediately said yes and was assigned there.

"I have moved down here and am, so far, the only white living in the area. I don't know how much good I'll be able to do for them. I may be able to get them more passes and a recreation hall for themselves. Treatment is usually a reflection of the officer in charge so changes will depend upon his attitude.

"I have been protesting against the treatment they have been getting ever since I arrived here. At staff meetings and in sessions with the officers I have made my criticism clear. In fact, while I have not been the only one to feel this way, I have been the only one to make my feelings public to officers and enlisted men.

"Already I am called 'nigger lover,' etc."

SEP 8 1943

Groups Battle

"Aug. 5, 1943.

"As I feared, a blow-up finally did take place. The other night a group of our boys tangled with a group of Mexican illiterates in the latrine. Knives were used and when they proved insufficient they broke toilet seats in half and beat each other's brains out.

"Four men were seriously hurt—in the hospital. Scores more have bumps, bruises, black eyes and sundry marks of battle. At 2:30 in the morning they found a staff sergeant unconscious on the road, his face and body slashed and his head battered. He's not expected to live.

"It was quite a row! It took a major, two captains, three lieutenants and 15 MPs with machine guns to break it up finally. This time, it just so happens that it was a fight between the Negroes and Mexicans. The next time the whites will be involved. It must be. The treatment they get has so aroused them that some slight incident [illegible] off the sparks . . ."

Quizzed by Army

Early in August, shortly after the riot, Levy wrote that he had been examined by Intelligence officers about objections he was supposed to have made to the treatment of Negroes.

Levy admitted that he had made the statements about the Negroes, but denied other charges which included an allegation that he had termed the general a "drunkard." On Aug. 13, Levy was tried. Chief testimony against him was given by Cpl. Helen Perkins of the WAC, and another girl, whom Levy and other soldiers had met socially. Cpl. Perkins also gave evidence against four other soldiers she had "dated." The others turned in were named Rothman, Greenbaum, Josephson and Bolton.

Cpl. Perkins testified that she had been shocked at the "unpatriotic" and "reprehensible" statements of Levy about the treatment of Negroes.

Levy denied all the charges except the statements about mistreatment of Negroes. As to them, Levy said: "I wouldn't deny them if I could. I said them and I still say them."

The court-martial found Levy guilty on all charges.

WDL Wats Rank Restored to Levy

Afro-American

NEW [illegible] DEC 4 1943 —The Workers' Defense League recently asked liberals to sign a letter to the President seeking his aid in the restoration of a sergeant's rank to Pvt. Alton Levy, Jewish soldier, who allegedly condemned army discrimination.

The War Department contends that Private Levy was court martialed for making slanderous remarks concerning his commanding officer. But it is popularly believed that he [illegible] prosecuted because he decried racial bias at his air base.

Baltimore, Md

The letter charged that since the commanding officer allegedly involved had himself appointed to the court martial, any rulings made by the body are therefore invalid.

Loses Active Status

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

CHAPLAIN LUTHER M. FULLER,
who has been placed on the inactive list because he exposed mistreatment of colored soldiers in the South Pacific, according to the Rev. W. H. Jernagin of Washington, head of the Commission on Chaplains of the Baptists.

OCT 30 1943

The Rev. Mr. Jernagin has protested to the War Department and to Chief of Chaplains Arnold, on the basis of what he says are reliable reports that the chaplain was removed from active duty by his commanding officer on orders from the War Department.

Lieut. Fuller is said to be "under observation" at the post hospital at Fort Dix, N.J., allowed to communicate only with his pastor, or his lawyer, and not permitted to use the telephone.

Fuller Ouster Irks Chaplains' Chief

Afro-American
Baltimore Maryland

WASHINGTON

Deeply concerned over letters he has received from all over the country in protest to the decision of the War Department to put Chaplain [illegible] on inactive status, Chief of Chaplains Arnold called a meeting this week to answer critics.

Denies Charges

He denied having asked for Chaplain Fuller's discharge without a trial, and said that he was sending a letter to a minister to that effect.

Of a letter signed by a woman in New Jersey, who charged that he was "unfit to serve as Chief of Chaplains and should be removed at once," Chapla[illegible] stated that had gone too far.

Among persons attending this meeting were Dr. William H. Jernagin, who serves on the Army and Navy Commission of Chaplains, and Truman Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Hastie Writes On [illegible] Crow

Daily Worker
New York. N.
AUG 3 1943

"On Clipped Wings," a pamphlet by Judge William H. Hastie, dealing with Jim Crow in the U. S. Army Air Corps, has just been published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Hastie, who resigned early this year as Civilian Aide to Secretary of War Stimson, served for more than a year in the War Department, and in this pamphlet brings into remarkably sharp focus conditions as he found them there. The pamphlet is, as he explains in an introductory passage, a rearrangement and supplementation of the several public statements he had previously issued on the subject of discriminatory practices in the Army Air Corps, and is replete with incident after incident of the nature which he acknowledges frankly were "the immediate cause of my resignation."

AUG 31 1943

Protests Bias Shown Negroes; Court-Martialled

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa
1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Chief of Staff George Marshall and Judge Advocate General Cramer were asked, by letter last week, to conduct a full review of the court-martial and conviction of Sgt. Alton Levy at Lincoln Air Base, Lincoln, Neb., who allegedly has been convicted on the testimony of a white WAC that he protested the mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the base.

The letter was signed by a number of Negro and labor leaders, including Walter White of the NAACP; Lester B. Granger of the National Urban League, and others.

SAID WAC BETRAYED HIM

Letters from Levy, a Jewish soldier from New York, to a friend give a vivid description of his side of the case. He charged that the WAC, whom he dated socially "turned him in"—with three other Jewish soldiers—for protesting the mistreatment of Negro soldiers.

The court-marital found Levy guilty, sentenced him to four months in the guardhouse at hard labor and reduced him to the rank of private with an $18 forfeiture of pay for four months.

The letter to the U.S. War department officials said in part, "In view of the fact that the major charges against Levy seem to have been his criticism of the treatment of Negroes in camp, we feel that it is extremely important that you conduct a full review of this case and a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding it."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Chi War Plant Has Jim-Crow Recreation

CHICAGO—(ANP)—George C. Moore, ANP writer, resigned from the Thordarson Electric Company, a war plant which hires 3,000 people, 200 of which are colored, because the plant has a recreational program requiring colored to use separate YMCA facilities.

Robert Smalls' Hometown Forgets Race On Navy Day

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

BEAUFORT, S. C. —Beaufort,

the home of Robert Smalls, for whom a Naval Training camp has been named and whose daring command of a ship in the Charleston Harbor played a big part in the war between the states, forgot about Small's race in giant Navy Day celebration here last Wednesday.

In the street parade were Marines, Sailors and other fighters. There were even war dogs on parade and a galaxy of dignitaries but nowhere was there a colored American not even a chauffeur. Civic leaders here reported that many coolred sailors and Marines are stationed at nearby Parris Island and at the Army Air Base. None of these participated.

What proved most heart-breaking to loyal colored citizens was the fact that they closed down their business houses and hung out fresh and new flags for the occasion. After it had ended, they went back to work, their flags still waving. Among those on the Steering Committee were Representative Calhoun Thomas and Senator W Brantley Harvey

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Levy Not Demoted for Liberal Fight, Says War Dept.

Baltimore, Md GTON.

Pvt. Alton Levy, white, was convicted of making false statements with intent to bring discredit upon the military service and not as a reprisal for his alleged concern over the treatment of colored troops, according to official War Department sources.

The Workers' Defense League is asking President Roosevelt to set aside Levy's conviction on the ground that his imprisonment was the result of his expressed disapproval of the treatment of colored troops at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base. Afro-American

Four Months at Hard Labor

A special court martial on August 16, found Levy guilty of three offenses charged against him under the Ninety-sixth Article of War and sentenced him to four months at hard labor at the Lincoln Air Base.

He also was demoted from sergeant to private and ordered to forfeit $18 of his pay monthly for the period of his imprisonment.

Records in the case disclose that only one of the offenses with which Levy was charged concerned colored troops. Two of the specifications charged Levy with making derogatory statements about the commanding general and his wife.

The Case of Alton Levy

New Republic New York. N. Y

SIR: As the president of a trade union, as a member of the Negro race and, above all, as an American, the Constitution of the United States has always seemed to me to provide a lasting hope for a better world. All of us know how unceasingly we must fight to preserve that constitution with all of its promise. Our men are dying abroad for the spirit of democracy embodied in that constitution; we must, living at home, preserve not only the spirit but the body of democracy so that those who return will find a living, not a moribund being.

It is because of my concern for democracy—a democracy which works for all, regardless of race, color, religion or national origin—that I write now to urge your readers to write the President, requesting him to order a review of the case of Alton Levy, formerly a sergeant in the United States Army stationed at the Lincoln, Nebraska, Air Base. Pvt. Alton Levy, demoted in rank and deprived of $18 a month's pay for four months, is now in the guardhouse at Lincoln serving a sentence of four months at hard labor. Because he exercised, within army discipline, the democratic right to speak frequently and openly at staff meetings against the discriminatory treatment of the Negro troops stationed about a mile and a half from the main army base, Alton Levy was charged with "conduct unbecoming a soldier."

We feel strongly that *any other conduct* but the one employed by Pvt. Levy would have been "conduct unbecoming a soldier."

Private Levy, as I know the details of the case, had at no time employed any unsoldierly methods whatsoever, but openly expressed his opposition to the discrimination against Negro American citizens in the army. Until the hearings of the trial, Alton Levy had a meritorious record of service in the army and had been steadily advanced since his enlistment. A man of his caliber constitutes, in the army and outside of it, the forces we need to fight for and build a better world.

All those who share my concern for democracy should write at once to the President requesting a full and immediate review of the case of Pvt. Alton Levy, citizen and soldier of democracy.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, International President,
New York City Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Brooklyn Navy Yard Head Denies Charges of Bias

Afro-American Baltimore. Md

NEW YORK—The commandant of Brooklyn Navy Yard refused last week to discuss with the National Negro Congress charges of gross discrimination at the yard, saying that such a discussion "could serve no useful purpose" and would be only a "rehash of generalities."

This statement from Rear Admiral Kelly was in reply to a request for a conference to discuss alleged discriminations practiced at the yard against colored women workers. The commandant denied that such discrimination existed.

Workers report that they are forced to work under conditions detrimental to their health, and on assignments not in line with their work classifications and abilities.

A drive is now under way to get these complaints registered through the New York office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Negro Soldiers v. White Civilians

New Republic

SIR: Your readers may be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter I have just sent to the editor of my home-town paper, The Richmond, Virginia, Times-Dispatch.

Camp Polk, La. LT. HENRY I. TRAGLE

The attitude of the civilian population toward the Negro soldiers in Louisiana and Texas was a surprise and a disappointment to me. There are thousands of men who wear the uniform of the Army of the United States, and perform their duties as soldiers faithfully and well, but who are treated in their civilian contacts as outcasts and as untouchables. I have talked with many of them in recent months, and almost to a man they agree that the army's treatment of them is fair and just and that they get along very well on the whole with the white soldiers. The treatment they receive from the people of the towns near which they are quartered is another story.

I have seen Negro troops unable to buy cigarettes, razor blades or newspapers in a town of several thousand people where there were half a dozen stores. I have seen Negro troops, after a week or more of maneuvers in the field, denied a few hours' pass to go into town because the authorities indicated that they did not want them on the street. I have seen what could easily have developed into a bloody riot stemmed because a Negro non-commissioned officer was man enough and soldier enough to call his men to attention and march them out of a store after they had been cursed and insulted because one of their number had taken a drink of water from a public drinking fountain. These are not isolated occurrences, they are day-to-day happenings, and as such have become a festering sore that time has done nothing to heal.

I do not pretend to know the answer to the problem, but I am very conscious of its existence and of the extreme need for intelligent coöperative action in combating it. I do know that such action cannot be fostered by hush-hush methods, that we must cease being tolerant of such gross intolerance, and that such bigoted prejudice must be fought by every educational means available. These men are doing their job and serving their country and they deserve to fare better at the hands of those among whom they must temporarily live. I look forward to the day when I may ask, as I did recently of a volunteer woman worker at a recreational center in a small Louisiana town, "What facilities are there for the colored troops?" and receive, in reply, more than a stare of blank incredulity.

Maritime Union Charges Auxiliary with Prejudice

Afro-American Baltimore. Md

NEW YORK—Mrs. Terry Riggs Penman, national director of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Maritime Union, warned in a statement issued today that the recently chartered Women's Auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, Inc., is a "thoroughly undemocratic, unrepresentative and mysterious body which should be shunned by the wives of all seamen."

Mrs. Penman's statement follows:

"The newspapers last Sunday carried news of the chartering in New York State of a Women's Auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, Inc., dedicated to the aid of merchant marine men and their families. Mrs. Ida M. Roll is described as the founder of the 'Waamms' and the designer of a uniform for its members.

Prejudice Charged

"There has been no statement issued as to who is eligible for membership in the Waamms. The auxiliary was informed by one person who had been connected with the Waamms that there were to be separate officers for branches that includes wives of officers, wives of unlicensed men and wives of port captains and shoreside people.

"Does this mean that there are to be different grades of aid for the different classes of membership? The NMU openly declares that this is evidence of the undemocratic and unrepresentative nature of this alleged organization to aid seamen.

"The Women's Auxiliary of the NMU has been told that there might be some prejudice against colored people. Colored seamen comprise about 20 per cent of the seamen today. Are their wives and families to be denied aid by Mrs. Roll and her elect group of uniformed members?

Should Be Avoided

"The formation of the Waamms has led to confusion in the minds of the wives and families of NMU members. From what the Women's Auxiliary has been able to learn of the Waamms through attendance at two meetings and a conference with one of its sponsors, Lieut. Charles Hopkins, it impresses us as a thoroughly undemocratic, unrepresentative, and mysterious body, which should be shunned by the wives of all seamen."

47d-1943

PHILLY IN UPROAR OVER CANTEEN FOR NEGROES

"New York age" N.Y.

New York, N.Y.

JAN 1 6 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The Negro colony of this Quaker City these days represents an armed camp, divided into two distinct and hostile sections.

One section is in favor of the newly-opened "Victory Canteen" for Negro soldiers, backed by prominent Negroes of the city.

The other is 'agin" the idea, violently declaring that it represents the very segregation which Negroes in America are fighting during the course of a people's war.

The recreation center's creation was prompted by the contention of some of Philly's Negro leaders that although there are no restrictions against Negroes going to the city's Stage Door Canteen in the Academy of Music, "colored boys don't feel at home there."

Leader in the movement for the spot for Negro servicemen is Thomas (Duke) Morgan, a porter in the model agency operated by Gwen Schoch, and member of the Committee of the American Theatre Wing's Stage Door Canteen.

Defending his position in the matter, Morgan says: •

"I feel that someone ought to be doing something for our own boys. That's why I opened the Negro canteen. As soon as the USO does something, I'll close my place up."

A large group of Philadelphians are incensed at Morgan's move, arguing that it will "encourage segregation."

JAN 1 6 1943

Another development in the much-debated affair has been the failure of prominent whites to cooperate as Morgan had expected. In broadcasting plans for the "Negro canteen," Morgan had advertised that the entire committee of the "white canteen" had pledged its support and would attend the opening ceremonies held last Sunday, in a body.

When the ceremonies came off, however, there was no one present from the Theatre Wing setup. Negro entertainers from the local night spots attended and did their bit, but not one white entertainer showed up to perform.

Incensed at this snub, Morgan said that officials of the Negro union of musicians in Philadelphia are contemplating boycotting requests for donating their services at the Theatre Wing Canteen in retaliation. Authentic sources said, however, that whites had snubbed the "jim-crow" canteen because they had been warned by influential Negroes who oppose it "not to have anything to do with the place."

JAN 1 6 1943

A Negro USO project is slated to open in South Philadelphia this month. The controversial "Victory Canteen" is located in the "Elates Club," South Philadelphia.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Jim Crow Signs Are Removed

JAN 1 - 1943

Committee Gets Quick Action From Officer

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

PORT HUENEME, California.—Signs designating separation of Negro and white sailors in training here were ordered taken down last Monday by the commander of the base, Captain R. N. Needham, when apprised of the conditions by a committee representing the press, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Los Angeles Ministerial Alliance.

Commander Needham, who is new at the Port Hueneme base, was very cooperative toward the committee in hearing the reports and endeavoring to get rapidly at the facts and a solution of the reported problem.

The committee consisted of this writer, Herman Hill, newspaperman, and the Rev. A. Wendell Ross, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist church, and president of the Los Angeles Ministerial Alliance.

The report carried charges of a "systematic employment of southern practices against the Negro sailors by segregative and discriminatory methods designed to insure white supremacy, at the camp."

JAN 1 - 1943

Officers Used Insulting Names

These charges heard from the lips of Negro sailors who filtered into Los Angeles on leave, included those that officers and petty officers "freely used the term 'nigger' in referring to them,"; that signs designating races to use only "various camp facilities and convenience were displayed"; that white petty officers assumed a "domineering attitude toward them, and, that men had been thrown into the brig because they expressed their resentment against these policies."

Lt. Com. J. P. McBean Jr., commander of the 34th battalion of the construction battalion, known as the Seebees, of which all 1,200 of the Negro sailors here are members, expressed surprise at most of the charges, and questioned the committee as to the identity of the men making the charges.

JAN 1 - 1943

The committee refused to do this, explaining that some time ago when a few Negro sailors aboard a ship had complained of treatment at the hands of their superiors, their names were published in a paper. After the identity of the men was learned, they were all subsequently disciplined.

The commander denied ever hearing any officer use other than courteous language toward any enlisted man. He did admit, however, that signs segregating the men by race had been tacked in a number of places about the camp.

JAN 1 - 1943

He explained the reason for their presence, by saying that 80 percent of the Negro sailors came from the deep South, and that a large percentage of the whites also came from the same section of the nation. He said the men from the South understood the separated status of the races in the South and preferred its maintenance.

JAN 1 - 1943

At this point these remarks were challenged by the Rev. Mr. Ross, who denied the Negro favored segregation. He countered the officer's claim by stating: "I couldn't attempt to break the law or the custom of the South, but I do, and every other sensible thinking Negro in this state does also, resent and challenge men of the South who come here to bring their southern system to prevail on California."

The minister cautioned against any further stifling of the rights of American citizens merely because of their race and color during the perilous times of the present global war.

The minister went on to point out the tremendous task that has befallen the Negro press and the pulpit to keep up the morale of the Negro in face of such attitudes toward them, which appear to be increasing rather than decreasing.

Signs Must Come Down

The committee closely questioned Commander McBean, on charges that Negro Sea Bees had been restricted to limited areas of a few block in the nearby city of Oxnard, and were being declared "out of bounds" by members of the short patrol when found anywhere else. The officer denied any knowledge of this.

At the conclusion of the 2-hour interview, Commander Needham addressed Commander McBean on the segregative signs, and reminded him that the signs must come down. To this the officer assented.

The base commander also informed Commander McBean to address the officer and petty officers to refrain from addressing men under them other than by their name or as "sailor". It is generally believed by the committee, that conditions in the camp now that Commander Needham has taken a hand, will greatly improve in the near future.

The Negro See Bee's here are declared by Commanding Officer McBean to be of the highest type of men in the navy. They are improving during the short period of their base training at a very comfortable rate.

Att[illegible] Thomas L. Griffith, branch [illegible] AACP, was unable to attend t[illegible] conference, and was represented by the writer and Mr. Hill.

Aluminum Company of America Agrees To End Its Discrimination Against Negro Workers

"New York age" N.Y.

JAN 1 6 1943

New York, N.Y.

Fairfield, Conn.—An agreement to end immediately [illegible] of discrimination against Negro workers was reached here Friday, between representatives of the Aluminum Company of America and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice of the War Manpower Commission, following a conference in which the executive board of Local 24, Aluminum Workers of America, participated.

The company, which is one of the largest employers of Negro labor in the Connecticut area, has been charged on numerous occasions with biased practices in its hiring and promotional practices. It is alleged have refused (1) to employ qualified Negro workers for open jobs in many departments, (2) to promote eligible Negro employees to openings in certain departments where colored workers were not ordinarily used, and (3) to employ Negro women.

The company was asked to correct these practices immediately, by an FEPC representative who arranged the conference. Through its general superintendent, Alfred Hinton, it agreed to do so. Instructions were issued to the personnel department to hire colored men to work in departments from which they previously had been barred, and to hire colored women whose qualifications are equal to those of white women now being employed. Details of the procedure to be used in promoting and transferring present Negro employees into departments hitherto closed to them will be worked out in a labor-mangement conference scheduled for early next week.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

JERSEY PLANT ON STRIKE

'Jim Crow' Conditions Blamed by Negro Workers

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

JAN 2 6 1943

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Jan. 25—A strike of 500 Negro workers protesting against alleged "Jim Crow" conditions at the cigarette manufacturing plant of P. Lorillard Company at 111 First Street, this city, suspended all operations this morning when 1,200 white employes were forced to quit work as a result of the stoppage of certain key machinery operated by the Negroes.

Later in the afternoon, both groups, members of Local 218, Tobacco Workers International Union, A. F. of L., held a mass meeting in the Polish Home nearby and voted to "stand together" but to return to work tomorrow morning pending the outcome of negotiations in Washington among representatives of the company, the union and the War Labor Board.

The strikers charged that they were being paid less than white workers and were forced to eat in one of two cafeterias, segregated from the whites. They said they were further angered when they learned that the union had been negotiating in Washington over certain grievances without their knowledge.

A conference will be held in Washington on Feb. 2, it was reported, and the Negroes' complaints will be discussed then.

Capital Transit Reneges

"Washington Tribune"
Sat. Jan. 16, 1943

Several weeks ago, the Fair Employment Practice Committee directed the Capital Transit Company to hire Negroes as bus and street car operators. To date, the company has not complied.

Capital Transit had frequently boasted that it would never hire Negro operators, and we believe it intends to make good that boast. While announcing that it would comply with the FEPC directive, the company sent out an appeal for women applicants, and to date has hired 18 white women as bus and street car operators.

In a further effort to evade the FEPC order, the transit company has announced that preference will be given to relatives and friends of present company employees, all of whom are white, and to top it all, the company announced that future jobs applicants would have to submit to blood tests.

While it laughs in the face of the FEPC, the transit company continues to advertise in the daily papers, street cars and buses, and out of town, for bus and street car operators. In the meantime, hundreds of street cars and buses are in the barns because they have no operators.

The FEPC should be tired of fooling with the Capital Transit Company. It should compel them to begin hiring Negroes right away, or recommend to the President that the Government take the company and operate it as an emergency measure.

With the gas shortage, and pleasure driving eliminated, the street cars and buses are becoming more crowded than ever, and service is at its worse.

Officials of the transit company would rather everyone walk than to give in to Negro groups who have demanded that Negroes be hired to operate street cars here.

If the FEPC permits the Capital Transit Company to get away with this contempt, it may expect other corporations to thumb noses when ordered to hire Negroes.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

MAY COMPANY WILL SELL US WAR STAMPS BUT NO SOLDIERS' GIFTS

DEC 26 1942

A young woman entered the May Company's store on Howard Street this week and purchased a quantity of defense stamps, but because she is colored, white clerks refused to wait on her when she expressed a desire to buy for her friend, now serving in the U.S. Army, an article displayed as a suggested gift for men in military service.

E. H. Pierce, white, manager of the store, told the young woman in answer to her protests that it was the policy of his store not to serve colored persons. She reminded him that she had just been served in the war bonds and defense stamps department and asked whether this alone was the only one open to members of her race.

Mr. Pierce said he did not know.

He said he did know, though, that his sales staff had been instructed to serve colored men wearing the uniform of the country's armed forces.

The young woman asked whether the management of his store did not consider a colored American citizen holding a vital job in a war industry as essential to the defense of this country as a colored soldier.

DEC 26 1942

Mr. Pierce repeated that it was the policy of his store not to serve colored people.

Langston Hughes is the author of a book, "The Ways of White Folks."

'Reopen Hearing,' Negro Editors Say

"Daily Worker," N. York, N.Y.

JAN 25 1943

The Negro people and their newspapers "are 100 per cent behind the war effort," in their protest to Manpower Commissioner McNutt against postponement of hearings by the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

This was made clear in a statement issued this morning preceding a meeting of Negro editors and publishers here. They will plan a campaign for the continuation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee as an independent government agency to investigate discrimination against American citizens in war industries.

The conference of editors and publishers will be held this afternoon in the office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Ave.

The statement read in part:

"We request the President to direct the Fair Employment Practice Committee to rescheduled the public hearings which Chairman McNutt cancelled. Wiping out the color line in war industries is not only necessary for the full use of the nation's man power, but is also equally important as a pledge to our non-white allies of the good faith of the American government in its proclamation of freedom and democracy as the objectives of the war.

JAN 25 1943

"The attempts of reactionary forces in Congress and certain high-placed government officers to preserve the color line in war industries furnish fuel for Nazi and Japanese propaganda in Africa and Asia that the four freedoms do not apply to the colored races. The Negro people and the Negro press are one hundred per cent behind the war effort but are determined that democracy shall function at home as well as be a policy laid down for foreign consumption."

Among those attending the conference were Ira F. Lewis, Pittsburgh; Chester A. Franklin, Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas W. Young, Jr., Norfolk, Va.; Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City; C. B. Powell, A. C. Powell, and Ludlow Werner, New York City John Segestacke, Chicago; A. G. Shields, Little Rock, Ark.; Carl Murphy, Baltimore; Louis Martin, Detroit; and Claude Barnett, Chicago.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Will Give Reasons Later

JAN 22 1943

Stimson's Aide Urges Assistants To Remain on Job

JAN 22

WASHINGTON, D. C. — William H. Hastie has resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War effective at the end of January, 1943.

In announcing his resignation in a statement to the press Saturday, January 16, Hastie said: "I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

The entire text of Hastie's statement:

JAN 22 1943

Asks Lautier to Stay

"In the past, replying to inquiries prompted by rumors and speculation, I have stated that, if and when I should leave the War department, the press would receive direct and authoritative information.

"Accordingly, the press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as civilian aide to the Secretary of War, effective at the end of January, 1943.

"I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with matters involving civilian personnel, to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of thousands of Negroes and the satisfactory adjustment of many employe grievances.

JAN 22 1943

Wants Work to Continue

"I have also asked Mr. Truman K. Gibson Jr., assistant civilian aide, to remain at his post, at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity of effort in matters which have been undertaken by this office.

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of support and cooperation which my office has received from the press.

JAN 22

"I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

Hastie was appointed civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson in October, 1940, at the same time that Bejamin O. Davis, then colonel, was made brigadier general, becoming the first Negro general in the U. S. army.

Before his appointment to the war department, Hastie was dean of the law school of Howard university, a position to which he returned when he resigned as federal judge in the Virgin Islands.

He was appointed to the federal bench by President Roosevelt, the first Negro to serve as a U. S. judge.

JAN 22 1943

47d-1943
Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

JAN 2 1943

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

By E. WASHINGTON RHODES

RACIAL SEGREGATION STUPID, COSTLY

I AM unable to prove with scientific accuracy just how much money and how many lives racial segregation has cost the United States during the present war, but I risk the guess that millions of dollars and thousands of lives have been squandered by this nonsense. It might be an excellent idea for Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of War Information, to dig up the exact figures. If they were properly presented, America might be shocked into action to destroy the policy.

RHODES

Here is how it adds up in dollars and cents: America needs an Army with millions of fighting men. The officials "must" always keep separate lists for colored and white soldiers. "There "must" be separate training camps; and if there are not absolutely separate camps, then there "must" be separate reservations in the same camps. Instead of one theatre, there are two—one for white and one for colored; two sets of drinking fountains; two sets of toilets and mess halls. That is just the beginning of the extra expense. Officials "must" plan in advance ,so that "never the twain" shall meet on transportation and at induction centers. If colored trainees are fit for aviation, the Navy or the Marine Corps, there "must" be special places for them to receive their training. That costs money.

Now a colored man who has plenty of brains, courage and ability may be fit for an officer's rating in the Navy but, he "must" be a mess attendant. There is manpower wasted. During a battle lives must be sacrificed because of the refusal to train a man properly on account of his color. In assigning men for duty, officers "must" use great care to see that colored and white men do no get mixed up. Imagine the time and energy lost in the process. Soldiers are to be sent to North Africa, the ship is all ready to sail, the officer gets his orders mixed and white and colored soldiers are in the same quarters. The whole convoy would have to be stopped until this "horrible" situation could be straightened out. Perhaps the whole timetable has been upset because of the custom of segregation. Perhaps a battle which could have been won has been lost while we worried about segregation.

JAN 2 1943

Believe it or not, industrialists engaged in filling war contracts have refused to employ colored women needed to speed up production until they could build extra special toilets for colored workers. Money squandered, time lost, lives placed in jeopardy, all because of a stupid policy. War plants crying for skilled workers keep well trained colored workers on unskilled jobs. Separate housing facilities must be erected, separate schools "must" be built. In Philadelphia there is a Stage Door Canteen in the 200 block on south Broad street for white soldiers and sailors and three blocks away on the same street another for colored. It does not make sense, but it exists and it is costing every American citizen plenty of hard earned dollars to maintain two classes of citizens in America.

The cost of this war is stupendous. No decent patriotic citizen will object to paying his rightful share of the price of victory. But to place the extra cost of segregation upon the shoulders of all taxpayers, simply to satisfy the yelps of bigots who still think the Civil War is going on, is contrary to the democratic way of life. Make no mistake about it, the dual system which operates in America is costing every man, woman and child, of every class, of every color, and of every creed, plenty of money, blood and sweat. And aside from being wrong it is so unnecessary.

"Cooling Off" Period Slated For Committee

"Atlanta World"
Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 17, 1943

Rumor Says White House Sent Down Going Over Order

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) —The War Manpower commission's Fair Employment Practice committee is slated for a thorough overhauling and until this is perfected, its functions are to be subjected to a "cooling off" period, it was reported around Washington early this week.

A decision to reorganize the committee, which has been investigating war industries believed practicing discriminatory methods, is said to have emanated from the White House.

It is said the committee's recent adamant stand against the Capital Transit company and its extensive and thorough preparations for the now defunct railroad hearings caused the White House considerable concern.

Jan. 17, 1943

TO BE CHANGED

Considerable speculation has arisen over the action of the committee when it meets next. The complexion of the committee is due for a change because of the attitudes of certain members. However, to date, none has tendered his resignation.

Jan. 17, 1943

At the next meeting, the members will be told that their functions will be shelved pending a reorganization.

Paul McNutt has made no additional statements as to the future of the commitee, nor has he implemented his initial statement on the calling off of the railroad hearings.

The shock of the announcement has not fully subsided in Washington yet and there are those who are hopeful of reviving the issue later.

What the governor meant when he said the manpower commission would have the opportunity to test its power to the fullest now and that the problem would be solved in a normal manner leaves plenty to the imagination as to what transpired behind the scenes.

The full committee is expected to meet on January 25 at which time action will be taken as to what it intends doing and how it expects to function in the future.

NAACP Again Hits Jim Crow In Services

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
JAN 7 - 194

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Repeated attempts on the part of southern Army and Navy personnel to enforce Southern race patterns on non-Southern areas were assailed again this week by Walter White, executive secretary to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In a letter to the Secretary of War Stimson, White said:

"We submit again that the War Department needs to speed up the formulation of a more clearly defined program in accordance with the highest standards of democracy to avert further trouble and to serve notice upon bigots that the decent thoughtful people of the United States, who constitute the overwhelming majority, are going to determine the patterns of action of the country as a whole and not the bigots themselves."

JAN 7 - 19

The NAACP called Stimson's attention to a memorandum issued by order of Major Ralph S. Hardiman through A. J. Brown, 1st Lt. QMC, Adjutant of Headquarters, Second Battalion, 47th Quartermaster Regiment at Fort Sill, Okla., in which were quoted sections 201, 204, 207, and 209, of the Oklahoma Statute providing for segregation in federal carriers with penalty for violation thereof and to which was added the further note that "the following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned."

The NAACP inquired if Secretary Stimson believed it to be a proper function of the War Department to assist states in the enforcement of laws enacted to discriminate against citizens on account of race or color.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Race Craftsmen Wanted For Work

JAN 24 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The War Manpower Commission Saturday invited Negroes possessing any of 25 critically needed skills to join their fellow-craftsmen in war production with WMC's promise that every one will be put to work at the exact spot where his talents are best fitted to help to win the war.

To make good its promise, the Manpower Commission has arranged for "national clearance." This means that every local office of WMC's contact agency, the United States Employment Service, will have complete knowledge of needs all over the country. Through such information every person with one of the 25 skills who offers at a local office will be shown where he can best apply his abilities. WMC already has asked employers to supply the USES with the latest cataloguing of the needs.

JAN 24 1943

The commission emphasized that war plants lack many types of skilled workers.. WMC wants all of them to continue offering their services through USES but several factors, including both need of workers and likelihood of successful search, convinced officials the present hunt should be concentrated on thes 25:

Airplane skin man airplane subassembler, ammunition inspector, bus driver, cord wood cutter, crane rigger, cylindrical grinder operator explosives mixer operator, flanging press operator, internal precision grinder, licensed marine engineer, outside machinist, metal chipper, metal work bench hand, milling machine operator, all-round milling machine operator, plate hanger, radio chassis assembler, ship assembler, ship carpenter, ship driller, ship electrician, ship painter (rough or finish), screw machine operator (automatic or semi-automatic), tack welder.

Skilled men and women of the types WMC is seeking in the present intensive campaign represent only a tiny fraction of the total workers in any factory—sometimes one in 100. But they are so important that lack of them can prevent the hiring of thousands of persons in a single plant or the production of huge quantities of

JAN 2 4 1943

weapons.

Large numbers of these skilled people already have shifted to war work, but reinforcements are critically needed. WMC believes 50,000 or more with the needed training are now in occupations which do not use their skills, employed in nonessential work, or retired from active duty. The need for their services is so pressing that the Government is asking anyone who knows of a person who can do on the jobs listed or a closely related job, to spread the work and persuade the friend to consult a USES office.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

No Advancement For Negroes At Ala. Shipyard

By REV. H. E. CARTER

MOBILE, Ala.—(ANP) —Unfortunately in the Mobile area, Negro labor is not being utilized where it can be the greatest asset to America's war effort. This rule applies wherever "defense" or war work is being done, including Brookley field, the army air port.

At the Alabama ship yards, Negroes are not even promised to be up-graded. There are a few helpers in some shops. They are men who have been there some years, before war work began, and in order not to demote them, they are retained as helpers. In almost every case of this kind the Negro is not a helper in fact but in name and pay only; and actually he is the blacksmith or tinner as the case may be. In these particular shops, (blacksmith and tinner) there are men with 25 to 30 years experience. From these men the heads of the shops seek and get information regarding the work to be done.

Fifteen years ago, Negroes did work as pipefitters. Today Negroes are not used, even as pipefitters' helpers. In the electrical department, no Negro helpers are used.

Negro Electricians

There is one licensed Negro electrician in Mobile; and there are five others who are qualified as such. The matter of their being employed in war industries in Mobile is out of the question. They are not even considered for employment as such. In this case, as in many others, the labor union is responsible for the Negro being shut out.

There is one "test case" of a Negro whose application has been on file in the electricians' union for quite a few years. So far as he knows, no action has ever been taken. The only licensed Negro electrician in Mobile has qualified, by civil service examination, to become an instructor in electricity at the United States Navy yard, Mare Island, Cal. He also has very lucrative offers from Puget Sound, Bromerton, Washington, and Chanute filed.

In the boiler makers' department no Negro helpers are used. Men of years of experience are working as laborers.

In the machine shop there are four Negroes whose experience averages 20 years who can do any type of work in their line. Other Negroes, along with them, who have been there for several years remain there as helpers and laborers, having absolutely no chance for promotion or up-grading. Other men who have come in recently, having a few short weeks of experience, are promoted or up-graded all around and over these well-trained and experienced Negroes. This applies in all shops where Negroes are employed.

There are no Negroes employed as ship-carpenters. Only a few Negroes are used in this work, some of whom could easily qualify as carpenters. In caulking and riveting, the Negroes are employed as laborers with no chance for upgrading.

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Negro painters are hired as dockmen at 80 cents per hour, and assigned to painters' jobs even as spray-gun painters. The regular painters' scale is $1.20 per hour. Other painters on the same job, painting behind these Negroes are getting the regular painters' scale.

Training Within Industry

In spite of the elaborate T. W. I. setup, Negroes are systematically and consistently excluded. At least 500 women are being trained as welders, sheet-metal workers, burners and lay-out crews, but no Negroes. These trainees are paid a nominal wage while in training. There are at least 70 trained welders in Mobile; men who were trained at the expense of the federal government. These men have applied at the shipyards for employment as welders but have been either hired as laborers or left unemployed. This, in spite of the fact that sometime ago there was a statement published to the effect that there were no more male welders available. Therefore the shipyards had to resort to training women welders.

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The expressed desire of the general supervisor of depot supply is to keep Negroes out of jobs where the pay is above $1500 per year.

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Negro brick-masons work harmoniously along with white brickmasons; not only on the same job, but on the same building, the same wall. They are together in the same local union. Their business manager is fair and sees that no discrimination is practiced on any job where brickmasons are employed. White and colored plasterers and cement finishers are not only in the same local union, but have a colored business manager. They all work together, thus destroying the idea that white craftsmen will not work with Negro craftsmen.

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"P. M. Daily"
N.Y. N.Y.
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"Journal & Guide"
Norfolk, Va.

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47d-1943

UP TO THE FRONT

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

BY NEIL SCOTT

MAY 15 1943

Col. Arthur V. McDermott, head of the New York State Selective Service system, informed me during an interview, that there are 5,000 Negroes in New York City still walking the streets who have been served with 1-A cards from six months to a year ago. The colonel stated, though he didn't have to, that these citizens are kept from serving their country because of the Army's jim-crow policy in accepting certain numbers of men according to their [illegible] color. Colonel McDermott affirmed the fact that if there is such a thing as a crime wave in New York among colored people, the United States Army is largely responsible for it. It is a tribute to Colonel McDermott's sense of fairplay that he was willing to release these facts surrounding the plight of 5,000 workers in New York City.

Neil Scott

Take the case of Webster Smith Jones who worked in a defense plant in Jersey, but lived in New York. He was employed only after considerable agitation by labor, religious and social organizations. He was finally hired when FEPC invoked the President's executive order 8802. The plant had never hired a Negro before and its owners were greatly angered that they should be forced to do so now. Jones was a marked man from the very beginning but he did his work far better than average and as a result of his work record, the plant hired several more Negroes.

Webster Smith Jones is within the draft limits and because his government doesn't discriminate in the passing out of I-A cards, Jones received his as did thousands of other young Americans. Jones notified the plant managers of his reclassification as his draft officials instructed him to do. The plant directors informed Jones that since he was soon to go into the Army, the plant would discontinue his employment as soon as a new man could be broken in on his job.

That was a year ago. Webster Smith Jones is not in the army and he is still unemployed. He has camped on the doorstep of a score of employment agencies and answered "Help Wanted" ads so many times he has forgotten the exact number. Always he is asked that damning question, "What is your draft classification, Mr. Jones?" "Oh, I'm in I-A," he states reluctantly. "I'm sorry," he is always informed, "but we can't use you because of your draft classification." Jones has met this rebuff from all sources, including the U. S. Employment service which finds it difficult to get employers to accept [illegible] classified in I-A.

Webster Smith Jones possesses a goodly amount of moral stability and intestinal fortitude, but hundreds of other young men who are unemployed, are lacking in these necessary fundamentals. They are determined by the natural laws of self preservation, to have adequate food, drink and clothes, regardless of any consequences. If it means stealing, mugging, or some other brash method to live, they are willing to pay the price that has been forced upon them by the U. S. Army's jim-crow quota system.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

CIVIC SOCIETIES INVEIGH AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

APR 27 1943

Appomattox day, anniversary of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender to Gen. U. S. Grant, was celebrated yesterday by representatives of white and Negro civic organizations at an anti-discrimination luncheon arranged at the La Salle hotel by the Chicago civic liberties committee.

Earl B. Dickerson, president of the Chicago Urban league, the principal speaker, said discriminatory practices in industry must be abolished in accordance with the principle established at Appomattox that all Americans are a united people. He said the state legislature should appoint a commission to investigate reports of discrimination in [illegible] industries, and that the Chicago city council will be asked to set up a committee of this nature for operating in the city.

Dr. James M. Yard, executive director of the Chicago Round Table of Jews, warned that "racial antagonism is a tool of the axis."

Job-Seekers Often Spoil Own Chances

Peoples Voice
New York N.Y.

Even with all the chatter these days of equal opportunity, Negro workers are faced with the necessity for having to grin and bear up under an awful lot of discouragement.

JAN 30 1943

You can take this information first-hand from a gentleman who ought to know. He's Lorenzo F. Davis, Industrial Secretary of The Brooklyn Urban League, 105 Fleet place, that borough.

Hard as it is to maintain a pleasant disposition in face of being refused right and left merely because they are Negroes, that is just what our job-seekers must do if they are to take advantage of the opportunities opening under the pressure of war, Mr. Davis testifies.

Thousands of workers come to him daily at the League and he has noted an "alarmingly" large number of persons who tend to show an ugly and embittered attitude even toward those who are trying to help them.

Employers, he finds, see in such an attitude a possible discontented worker who might easily become a trouble-maker. The average employer is not aware of the trials Negro job-seekers must endure in order to be given a decent chance to earn a living, and is therefore unsympathetic.

This negative attitude on the part of applicants, Davis says, is often the real reason for their rejection. The applicant is often prone to interpret a legitimate demand for a birth certificate or reference as "discrimination." Some even go so far as to try to force the employer to hire them.

In other cases job seekers have been known to vent their anger on the agency which is aiding them. In dealing with some of the Negro agencies, they fail to realize that ofttimes a long wait is necessary, simply due to the fact that so many of these agencies lack the funds to employ sufficient interviewers.

Davis' advice to job-seekers is simply this:

"Grin and bear it. If you've been turned down by three places advertising for help in one day, don't hold it against the fourth one—go in smiling, for he may be one of those who feels that black hands are as good as white to win the war—and the smile will get the job."

Union Bares Bias in OPA Printing Office

Peoples Voice
New York N.Y.

JAN 30 1943

Serious charges of discrimination against Negro employees in its Printing and Distribution Branch have been laid at the door of the Office of Price Administration by members of the United Federal Workers of America (CIO). The charges stemmed from the OPA Branch of the Union's War Agencies, Local 203, indicated that the man behind the prejudice is Walter Jacobson, Chief of OPA's Printing and Distribution Branch.

Investigations by the union resulted in the following allegations:

- Qualified Negroes have been denied promotions, whites being brought in to fill better-paying vacancies. Many of the latter have been taught by Negroes, an administrative officer told a Negro employee his only bar to promotion was his color.
- Working conditions for Negro employees were intolerable, white supervisors peremptory.
- Responsible officials combined Negro-baiting with attempted union-busting, discriminating particularly against Negro union members.
- Widespread segregation.

Immediate action is expected by the union.

Hyphenated Americans

NEW OWI BOOKLET IGNORES NEGRO

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, May 6—(ANP)—The second issue of "Victory," the Office of War Information publication intended to tell peoples overseas of America's war effort, is just off the press, and true to form, is almost completely lacking in anything that would indicate the Negro's contribution to the winning of the war.

More than a half million copies of the beautifully colored magazine, about the size of "Life," 40 per cent of the press run of which is in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Afrikaans, is going out to Europe, Asia, Africa and outlying lands.

NO COLORED SHIPWORKERS

MAY 8 1943

The first issue, released in early February, carried a total of one picture, that of a classroom in which the children saluted the American flag, in which a Negro face was evident. The latest issue falls completely below par and carries none.

In word and picture, "Victory" tells the story for the edification and enlightenment of our allies, neutrals and occupied countries, where parcticable. Currently it has a spread on America's shipbuilding program. The shipbuilding industry employed the second largest number of Negroes than any other industry in the country, estimated in January to be about 100,000, but not one black face is evident in the color plate or mentioned in the copy.

SHOWS 10TH CAVALRY WHITE OFFICER

The nearest approach to a "break" is a half-page color plate showing a company of the 10th cavalry. The white face of the captain is plain, but the brightness of the sun might easily lead one to think the men behind him are also white.

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The Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to The Worker)

MAY 6 1943

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47d-1943

UP TO THE FRONT

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

By NEIL SCOTT

MAY 15 1943

Col. Arthur V. McDermott, head of the New York State Selective Service system, informed me during an interview, that there are 5,000 Negroes in New York City still walking the streets who have been served with 1-A cards from six months to a year ago. The colonel stated, though he didn't have to, that these citizens are kept from serving their country because of the Army's jim-crow policy in accepting certain numbers of men according to their color. Colonel McDermott affirmed the fact that if there is such a thing as a crime wave in New York among colored people, the United States Army is largely responsible for it. It is a tribute to Colonel McDermott's sense of fairplay that he was willing to release these facts surrounding the plight of 5,000 workers in New York City.

Neil Scott

Take the case of Webster Smith Jones who worked in a defense plant in Jersey, but lived in New York. He was employed only after considerable agitation by labor, religious and social organizations. He was finally hired when FEPC invoked the President's executive order 8802. The plant had never hired a Negro before and its owners were greatly angered that they should be forced to do so now. Jones was a marked man from the very beginning but he did his work far better than average and as a result of his work record, the plant hired several more Negroes.

Webster Smith Jones is within the draft limits and because his government doesn't discriminate in the passing out of 1-A cards, Jones received his as did thousands of other young Americans. Jones notified the plant managers of his reclassification as his draft officials instructed him to do. The plant directors informed Jones that since he was soon to go into the Army, the plant would discontinue his employment as soon as a new man could be broken in on his job.

MAY 15 1943

That was a year ago. Webster Smith Jones is not in the army and he is still unemployed. He has camped on the doorstep of a score of employment agencies and answered "Help Wanted" ads so many times he has forgotten the exact number. Always he is asked that damning question, "What is your draft classification, Mr. Jones?" "Oh, I'm in I-A," he states reluctantly. "I'm sorry," he is always informed, "but we can't use you because of your draft classification." Jones has met this rebuff from all sources, including the U. S. Employment service which finds it difficult to get employers to accept men classified in I-A.

Webster Smith Jones possesses a goodly amount of moral stability and intestinal fortitude, but hundreds of other young men who are unemployed, are lacking in these necessary fundamentals. They are determined by the natural laws of self preservation, to have adequate food, drink and clothes, regardless of any consequences. If it means stealing, mugging, or some other brash method to live, they are willing to pay the price that has been forced upon them by the U. S. Army's jim-crow quota system.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

CIVIC SOCIETIES INVEIGH AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

Appomattox day, anniversary of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender to Gen. U. S. Grant, was celebrated yesterday by representatives of white and Negro civic organizations at an anti-discrimination luncheon arranged at the La Salle hotel by the Chicago civic liberties committee.

Earl B. Dickerson, president of the Chicago Urban league, the principal speaker, said discriminatory practices in industry must be abolished in accordance with the principle established at Appomattox that all Americans are a united people. He said the state legislature should appoint a commission to investigate reports of discrimination in war industries, and that the Chicago city council will be asked to set up a committee of this nature for operating in the city.

APR 27 1943

Dr. James M. Yard, executive director of the Chicago Round Table of Jews, warned that "racial antagonism is a tool of the axis."

Job-Seekers Often Spoil Own Chances

People's Voice
New York N.Y.

Even with all the chatter these days of equal opportunity, Negro workers are faced with the necessity for having to grin and bear up under an awful lot of discouragement.

JAN 30 1943

You can take this information first-hand from a gentleman who ought to know. He's Lorenzo F. Davis, Industrial Secretary of The Brooklyn Urban League, 105 Fleet place, that borough.

Hard as it is to maintain a pleasant disposition in face of being refused right and left merely because they are Negroes, that is just what our job-seekers must do if they are to take advantage of the opportunities opening under the pressure of war, Mr. Davis testifies.

Thousands of workers come to him daily at the League and he has noted an "alarmingly" large number of persons who tend to show an ugly and embittered attitude even toward those who are trying to help them.

JAN 30 1943

Employers, he finds, see in such an attitude a possible discontented worker who might easily become a trouble-maker. The average employer is not aware of the trials Negro job-seekers must endure in order to be given a decent chance to earn a living, and is therefore unsympathetic.

This negative attitude on the part of applicants, Davis says, is often the real reason for their rejection. The applicant is often prone to interpret a legitimate demand for a birth certificate or reference as "discrimination." Some even go so far as to try to force the employer to hire them.

In other cases job seekers have been known to vent their anger on the agency which is aiding them. In dealing with some of the Negro agencies, they fail to realize that ofttimes a long wait is necessary, simply due to the fact that so many of these agencies lack the funds to employ sufficient interviewers.

Davis' advice to job-seekers is simply this:

JAN 30 1943

"Grin and bear it. If you've been turned down by three places advertising for help in one day, don't hold it against the fourth one—go in smiling, for he may be one of those who feels that black hands are as good as white to win the war—and the smile will get the job."

JAN 30 1943

Union Bares Bias in OPA Printing Office

People's Voice
New York N.Y.

Serious charges of discrimination against Negro employees in its Printing and Distribution Branch have been laid at the door of the Office of Price Administration by members of the United Federal Workers of America (CIO). The charges stemmed from the OPA Branch of the Union's War Agencies, Local 203, indicated that the man behind the prejudice is Walter Jacobson, Chief of OPA's Printing and Distribution Branch.

N.Y.

Investigations by the union resulted in the following allegations:

- Qualified Negroes have been denied promotions, whites being brought in to fill better-paying vacancies. Many of the latter have been taught by Negroes, an administrative officer told a Negro employee his only bar to promotion was his color.
- Working conditions for Negro employees were intolerable, white supervisors peremptory.
- Responsible officials combined Negro-baiting with attempted union-busting, discriminating particularly against Negro union members.
- Widespread segregation.

JAN 30 1943

Immediate action is expected by the union.

Hyphenated Americans

NEW OWI BOOKLET IGNORES NEGRO

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, May 6—(ANP)—The second issue of "Victory," the Office of War Information publication intended to tell peoples overseas of America's war effort, is just off the press, and true to form, is almost completely lacking in anything that would indicate the Negro's contribution to the winning of the war.

More than a half million copies of the beautifully colored magazine, about the size of "Life," 40 per cent of the press run of which is in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Afrikaans, is going out to Europe, Asia, Africa and outlying lands.

NO COLORED SHIPWORKERS

MAY 8 1943

The first issue, released in early February, carried a total of one picture, that of a classroom in which the children saluted the American flag, in which a Negro face was evident. The latest issue falls completely below par and carries none.

MAY 8 1943

In word and picture, "Victory" tells the story for the edification and enlightenment of our allies, neutrals and occupied countries, where parcticable. Currently it has a spread on America's shipbuilding program. The shipbuilding industry employed the second largest number of Negroes than any other industry in the country, estimated in January to be about 100,000, but not one black face is evident in the color plate or mentioned in the copy.

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47d-1943

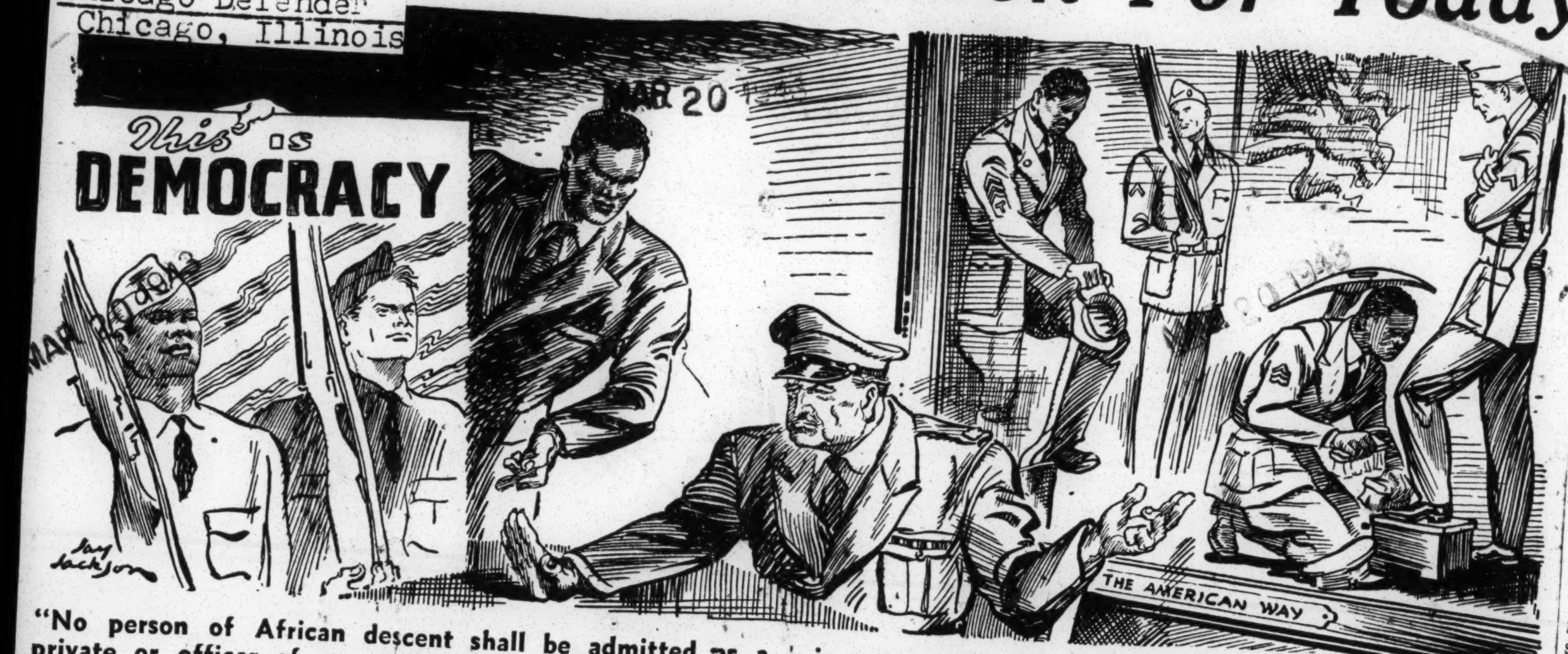
MAR 20 1943

Is Jim Crow Ban In Army Possible? Civil War A Lesson For Today

Serie,

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

[redacted]



"No person of African descent shall be admitted as a private or officer of any regiment in which white men are in the ranks, nor shall any person of African descent, in any case, be placed in command of white soldiers."
— *U. S. Congress, 1863*

This is the first of a series on New Orleans, termed by Chicago Defender reporter Enoc P. Waters "mixing bowl of America." Waters has penetrated deep into the heart of the historic city to show how race relations here may be a future pattern for coming changes in Dixie.

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La. — What would happen should President Roosevelt, exercising his authority as commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, issue an order abolishing all jim crow units in our armed forces and opening to the Negro every branch of the service with the stipulation that his advancement should not be conditioned by his color?

In other words what would happen should President Roosevelt order the immediate democratization of our armed forces?

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox both agree such an order would wreck the nation's fighting machine.

Negro leaders have been told repeatedly by the highest ranking military men in the country, that such an order would be tantamount to withdrawing our forces from the conflict.

Lincoln's Precedent

However in September of 1862, President Abraham Lincoln in the middle of the Civil War issued an order much more drastic than any Roosevelt can issue today regarding the Negro in our armed forces.

The great Civil War President in that year issued the emancipation proclamation and specifically stated that Negroes were to be accepted into the armed forces of the nation.

As much of a blow as it was to the South, Lincoln's proclamation was received with great misgivings on the part of many congressmen and leaders of the Union's military force.

The thrilling story of how these doubting Thomases were converted and how that action by the President was in a large measure responsible for the victory of the north over the South, is told in a documented, objective "History of the Negro in the Civil War," written by James La Fourche, well known New Orleans newspaperman.

Timely Today

The book, as yet unpublished, is especially pertinent at the times when there is great agitation on the part of the Negro for full integration into our armed forces.

This article is based upon several chapters of Mr. La Fourche's book, from which he has permitted me to quote freely.

When the United States Congress convened in 1863, the paramount question before the body was Lincoln's emancipation proclamation which had been issued the previous September, and the most heated debate raged over that section having to do with the acceptance of Negroes for military service.

Many members of the body were opposed to the clause, and so great was the opposition that Congress in passing a resolution endorsing the President's edict, circumscribed the Negro's role in the military. It was clearly a compromise but it established a precedent by which the army and navy, even today, guide their policy in reference to the Negro.

Limited to Labor

A section of that historic resolution referring to Negroes read as follows: "That the President be, and is hereby authorized to receive into the service of the United States for the purpose of constructing intrenchments, performing camp service, or any other labor in the military or naval service for which they may be found competent."

Further on, the resolution declared that "no person of African descent shall be admitted as a private or officer of any regiment in which white men are in the ranks, nor shall any person of African descent, in any case be placed in command of white soldiers."

With but slight changes this is the policy of the army and navy today, 79 years later. Some of the speeches made by congressmen during the debate upon this resolution sound very much like the rantings heard today on the floors of the House and Senate when questions involving the Negro come to the fore.

Said one senator "It can never be expedient in this country to raise an army of Negroes so long as we remain of the proud free race to which we belong. Instead of being a source of power, the Negro in our army would be a source of weakness and discontent, and his presence would drive from the field men a thousand times more capable of defending the country than he himself can be made."

Insists on Color Line

In concluding he said, "A Negro army is a weakness to your country. It unnerves the white man's hand. It unnerves the white man's heart. White men will not fight by the side of Negroes."

The irony of the charges by this senator and many others that Negroes could not fight and that their acceptance into the army would ruin the union cause, lies in the fact that at that very time Negroes were serving in the army and doing heroic work.

The same paradoxical situation exists today, for in the face of mixed Civil Air Patrol squadrons, mixed boy scout troops and ROTC units, military authorities are insisting that mixed units are impractical, impossible and make the darkest predictions as to what would happen should by some miracle the color line in the army be abolished.

The first Negroes to enter the army during the Civil War came from New Orleans and were mustered into service August 28, 1862, just before President Lincoln published his emancipation proclamation which he had written sometime before but had withheld pending a Union victory.

Revokes Combat Order

After the capture of New Orleans in April, 1862, Gen. Benjamin F. Butler was placed in command of the city. At that time, of course, Negroes were not being accepted into the army, but many of them as personal slaves to the Union soldiers and as escaped slaves anxious to help the cause of the armies from the North, were performing many of the tasks of drudgery about the Union encampments in the South.

At first by practice and later by law, a slave who volunteered to work for the Union army was regarded as a freed man and the army, sometimes by force, prevented his recapture by his master.

In South Carolina, General Hunter felt that the slaves would make good soldiers, so he issued an order liberating all slaves in the state and then developed several combat companies made up of the men he had freed.

President Lincoln, upon hearing of it, revoked General Hunter's proclamation, and ordered him to disband his Negro units pointing out that the equipment he was using was "especially reserved for the white troops only."

Dispute on Issue

General Butler, however, had no such faith in Negroes as combat troops, and was opposed to their being taken into the army at all. He favored, however, using them to do heavy laboring work about the camp.

As a result of his attitude on the Negro, one of his aides, General Phelps resigned his commission and returned home. The issue that caused the break arose over an order given by Butler for Phelps to use Negroes to clear a section of timberland and build an encampment. Phelps contended that soldiers should be used for the purpose because the Negroes were not a part of the army.

In a sharp letter to General Butler in which he surrendered his commission, General Phelps said in part: "I am not willing to become the mere slave-driver which you propose, having no qualifications in that way. I am therefore under the necessity of tendering the resignation of my commission."

Six months later, General Butler began to find his position precarious with the Rebel Army at Port Hudson, 22 miles away, becoming more and more menacing.

Turns to Negroes

He wired Washington for reinforcements, but there weren't any to be had. "Hold New Orleans by all means and at all hazards," he was instructed.

At first he didn't know what to do, then he remembered the Native Guards, a company of free Negroes organized and equipped at their own expense in 1861. Governor Moore of Louisiana, had appealed to this finely equipped and trained unit to join the Confederate cause, so Butler now—the man who didn't want Negroes in the army even as labor troops—turned in desperation to the Native Guards. He promised them equal pay, equal rations and equal equipment with other volunteer troops. He promised they could even retain their own officers if they qualified for the posts.

A group of the Native Guards visited General Butler and the following conversation transpired.

"General," the leader asked, "shall we be officers as we were before?"

Colored Officers

"Yes, every one of you who is fit to be an officer shall be, and all the line officers shall be colored men," Butler replied.

"How soon do you want us to be ready," the leader asked.

"How soon can you give me two regiments of 1,000 men each?" the general inquired anxiously.

"In ten days," was the reply.

Satisfied on that point, General Butler then asked the leader of the Native Guards why Negroes in the South had not risen up in rebellion against their masters and fought to free themselves when the southern white men had gone to fight the Union armies in the North.

MAR 20 1943

Cagily, the leader sought permission to question the general and when it was granted, he proceeded as follows:

"If we colored men had risen to make war on our masters, would not it have been our duty to ourselves, they being our enemies, to kill the enemy wherever we could find them, and the white men would have been our enemies to be killed?"

Good Fighters

"I don't know but what you are right," said the general, "I think that would be a logical necessity of insurrection."

"If the colored men had begun such a war as that, general, which general of the United States army should we have called on to help us fight our battles?"

MAR 20 1943

The general evading that question, then sought information along another line. He then asked the leader why he thought Negroes could make good soldiers.

In reply the spokesman said: "General, we come of a fighting race. Our fathers were brought here slaves because they were captured in war and in hand to hand fight Pardon me, General, but the only cowardly blood we have in our veins is the white blood."

True to his promise, the leader had two thousand men ready for service within the 10-day limit he had set for himself. On August 28, 1862, they were mustered into the army.

High Praise

In a very short space of time the colored troops not only distinguished themselves in battle, but brought their numbers up to 5,000 infantry and artillery troops.

General Butler was converted. "Better soldiers never shouldered a musket," he said.

The senator who reviled the Negro as a soldier on the floor of congress was evidently unaware of this or chose to ignore these and other military exploits of the Negro.

From the extreme of being bitterly prejudiced against Negroes as soldiers, General Butler went to the other extreme of considering them the best soldiers he had ever seen. So concerned did he become over the welfare of Negro troops that he relieved General Weitzel of his command when he spoke disparagingly of Negro troops placed under his command.

Blasts General

Later he wrote a report excoriating Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, who succeeded him in charge of New Orleans. In one section of the blistering report, he declared:

"After I left New Orleans, Gen. Banks enlisted many more of them (colored soldiers), but was weak enough to take away from them the great object of their ambition, under the spur of which they were ready to fight to the death, namely, equality with the white soldiers. He was also unmanly enough to add injustices to that folly by taking the commissions from their line officers, which I had given them and to brand their organization with the stigma of a designation as the Corps De Afrique. Yet in spite of this unwisdom, they did equal service and laid down their lives at Port Hudson in equal numbers comparatively with their white brothers in arms."

This story is a remarkable illustration of what could happen were President Roosevelt to issue a proclamation abolishing the color line and discrimination in the armed forces. Certainly such an order could not be more unpopular than was Lincoln's decision to admit Negroes to the army.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

ASKS ROOSEVELT END CAMP DISCRIMINATION

Chicago Meeting Urges He Name Negro Clergy for an Inquiry

JUN 21 1943

CHICAGO, June 20—A resolution asking that President Roosevelt put an end to discrimination against Negroes at Army camps in the South was unanimously adopted at a mass meeting of the National Negro Council and the Chicago Citizens Committee of 1,000 today in the Metropolitan Community Center.

The group asked that the President authorize five leading Negro clergymen to visit Camp Van Dorn, Miss., and Camp Stewart, Ga., as his personal representatives and "investigate conditions which have caused the segregation, humiliation and unlawful killings of several Negro soldiers." Those named by the group were Bishop David Henry Sims of Philadelphia, Dr. D. V. Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention, Selma, Ala.; the Rev. W. S. Braddon of Chicago, an ex-Army chaplain; the Rev. Harold Kingsley and the Rev. Joseph Evans, also of Chicago.

Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, told the meeting that strikes and war work stoppages in the North and South, accompanied by racial strife, wanton and destructive rioting, the annihilation of Negro business, property and homes were the result of the circulation of a baseless rumor of an attack by a Negro on a white woman in Beaumont, Tex.

Army Bigotry Protested By White Officer In The South

MAY 12 1943

NEW YORK CITY—(SNS)—In a letter from an intelligent young white officer stationed in a southern camp, the NAACP was urged this week to continue its fight on all fronts for the realization of democracy in America.

MAY 12 1943

"Your fight is our fight—that a man has right as a man, whether he be a Jew, Negro, Irish-Catholic or a southern demagouge," writes this officer.

"I have found very little reason for encouragement in the application of democratic thoughts to race relations since entering the army. I know that I am in a bad section of the country to find any great emphasis on tolerance and justice in this matter but what has been especially discouraging is the number of men from the supposedly more liberal northern states whose eyes are just as blind as Rankin's."

THE AIR FORCE'S CONUNDRUM

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

APR 10 1943

With the whole tempo of battle on every front increasing day by day, and with the ultimate decision resting with the side which can bring to bear the best equipped and operated aircraft in the largest numbers, a man from Mars would be puzzled by the policy of the Army Air Force which neglects to use scores of qualified aviators.

The 99th Pursuit squadron, located at the Tuskegee Army Air base, was organized and began training on July 19, 1941, and since that time numerous pilots have graduated and have been commissioned.

The 99th Pursuit squadron is ready to go into active service and has been ready for several months, but the Army Air Force is apparently not ready to have it go.

Here is a real conundrum that would puzzle a man from Mars or any other planet, just as it puzzles a lot of us on this one.

We feel sure that an intelligent explanation from the Army Air Force could not be construed as information of value to Dr. Goebbels or the German General Staff—or would it be?

COTTON PICKERS

MAR 6 1943

ARMY SHOWS LITTLE REGARD FOR SENSIBILITIES OF RACE IN ASSIGNING SOLDIERS TO COTTON PATCH

Courier BY HORACE R. CAYTON Pittsburgh PA

IT was purely by accident that Negro soldiers happened to be closer to the cotton fields of Arizona than white soldiers. Because of this fortunate geographic proximity, when the Army decided to use troops to help farmers it was perfectly natural to plan for the nearby Negro soldiers to be used as cotton pickers. What could be more simple? It is no discrimination. It just happened that way. PM described the process in this unique fashion: "No attempt will be made," said Lieutenant General Joseph T. McNarney, deputy chief of staff, before the Senate Agricultural Committee, "to select farm workers for this duty. The units closest to the field will be sent as units, regardless of whether the men ever picked cotton. The unit closest to the Arizona cotton fields happens to be a Negro unit," he said. You see, it just happened that way, purely coincidental.

Mr. Cayton

AN UNPLEASANT ASSIGNMENT

I have no argument to make at the moment as to whether soldiers, white or black, should or should not help farmers whether it is picking cotton or sowing wheat. In total warfare a person works where his services are most needed. That is the way the Russians do it. But having just seen a film on the siege of Leningrad, it occurred to me that Russians usually used their soldiers for fighting and their farmers for farming. But I guess if they needed some cotton picked and they had some extra soldiers lying around doing nothing they would send them out to pick the cotton.

THE unfortunate thing in this instance is that they are starting this program of soldiers working for farmers with Negro troops and of all agricultural pursuits—picking cotton. I do not know much about the mentality of army officers or of the War Department but it seems unfortunate that some regard for the sensibilities of Negro soldiers and the Negro population is not being observed. I think that Negro soldiers should be treated exactly the same as the white soldiers, given pleasant or unpleasant assignments as the need for such arises. What I am kicking about is to start a program such as this with Negroes. Even before this present announcement the NAACP complained about the use of Negro soldiers for removing snow in Seattle.

CONSIDERED SLAP IN THE FACE

With the morale of the Negro soldiers certainly not very high, with the complaints of the Negro public opinion over the fact that there are few Negro combat troops abroad reaching a crescendo and with the resignation of William Hastie as a protest over the segregation in the air corps, the latest plan to use Negro soldiers as laobrers is certainly an unnecessary slap on the face.

AGAIN it is not that Negroes should not do what any soldier should do in an emergency or that soldiers should not assist farmers. However, anyone who had an insight into the problem of the race and the treatment of Negroes in the armed forces should have bent over backwards to see that Negro soldiers were not the first soldiers to have been used as farmers and that of all things they should not have been required to pick cotton, which epitomizes to many a return to slavery status.

MUST CONSIDER

NEGRO'S MORALE

Is it that these army officials of the high command have no conception as to how to treat problems involving race? Is it that they don't care? Is it that they think Negroes should pick cotton; that that is the proper place for them whether they like it or not? The army complains about the lack of Negro morale and that they cannot change the segregated pattern of society, but common sense, it seems, could have avoided this additional blow to the pride of the Negro.

IT isn't settled yet. This controversy started with last year's cotton crop. Friday's paper of last week rescinded the original order given Wednesday by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson but did not rule out the possibility of the order being renewed by saying "what happened to be an emergency may not be a sufficient emergency." Some one should tell the Army if they need Negro troops to farm or fight or do anything else along with white troops they will be glad to do it. But if the War Department wishes to press even lower the state of morale of both the Negro troops and Negro civilians the best possible way to do it would be to make cotton pickers of them because they happened, purely by coincidence to be located near a cotton field.

MAR 6 1943

47d-1943

Hastie Tells How Air Heroes Get Run-Around By Army

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
FEB 13 1943

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE
Recent Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War

James L. H. Peck writes books and magazine articles on military and civilian aviation. He is one of America's best known authors in this field. Some of his writings have been translated into other languages. He knows his subject, for he has been a skillful flier and a close student of aviation for years. He was a fighter pilot in the Spanish civil war. A veteran in his field, he is still a young man in his early thirties. Peck is a Negro.

The Army air people are go getters. The Air Forces are growing fast. So the Air Command has been eagerly gathering in men who know something about aviation, as well as large numbers who know little in this field, but can learn. Yet, there was no rush to get Peck. So last year he volunteered his services.

The army hasn't yet decided whether to use him. Probably something will be found for Peck to do in the long run. He is too outstanding to be passed over indefinitely. Of course, if he had been white, the only question would have been whether the army or the navy could have grabbed him first. But, being colored, he doesn't have to worry about the navy at all. And the army has been more than deliberate in considering his application.

Canada Ace

FRED HUTCHERSON, JR.

Ranking American flyer who enlisted as a Canadian ferry pilot when the U.S. air corps wouldn't have him.

Canadian Pilot

Fred H. Hutcherson is also an American Negro pilot, young in years but old in flying experience. When I met him last spring he was working for Canada, flying American-made planes to England. Of course, as a senior pilot he crossed the Atlantic in command of a white crew, but that did not seem important to people who were interested in getting as many bombers as possible to England as fast as possible.

I saw Hutcherson just after he returned from delivering his sixth bomber. Like most Americans he had felt that he ought to be flying for Uncle Sam. But somehow there seemed to be a lot of red tape in the handling of his application for a commission in the Army Air Forces. So he came to Washington and spent several days going from office to office trying to get action. He felt that he was getting nowhere, so he went back to Canada.

I don't know where Fred Hutcherson is now. Let us hope that he is still taking the bombers across. If it is any consolation to him, he can remember that in the last war there was a whole Negro regiment which the American Army did not want. But the 369th Infantry went on and did its fighting with the French, who were glad to have it. And it came back with battle honors such as few regiments of any army could match.

Turned Back

One day last December a Negro civilian pilot received the following telegram from the Army Air Forces:

"You are authorized to report to Maxwell Field for service pilot training. You must have clear release from present employment."

There was nothing unusual about this message. The Air Forces are recruiting large numbers of civilian pilots, many of them over age for combat flying or lacking the physical perfection required of the combat pilot. These men become army fliers and perform the many essential flying missions, other than combat, which the army requires.

But two of the men who received such directions to report for training were Negroes. Gilbert Cargill and Charles Ashe reported to Maxwell Field, ready to go to work. But they never got any further than the front office. They were told bluntly that no provision was made for training Negroes. It is still not clear what special provision is necessary. They did not even get a refund of their train fare. They just got a ride.

Probably Cargill and Ashe did not know that Robert Terry, a Negro commercial pilot, had been rejected as an army service pilot months before.

Jim-Crow Mentality

Certainly, they did not know that the Air Command is handicapped by that type of mentality which cannot picture a Negro pilot flying a plane into a strange field, sitting down to dinner with other flyers, taking temporary quarters with them, and then flying off on another mission. Of course, it just isn't possible to segregate a man who is working as a service pilot. So, we have no black pilots.

Negro specialists of various kinds have received similar treatment. The few Negro air units do not require many specialists. And the Negro specialist, in military contemplation, can exercise his skill only for other Negroes. One Negro applicant is told in November, 1942, that "at the present time there are not further vacancies available for the training of colored aviation cadets for service as ground officers **as the quota for the coming year has been filled.**"

To another applicant the Air Command explains in greater detail:

"Reference is made to your letter of October 20, 1942, requesting information relative to training facilities, with the Army Air Forces for Negro Meteorologists.

"There are at present no Negro Air Force Weather Groups, nor are any contemplated in the near future. However, there is now one Negro meteorologist attached to a Negro Air Force Fighter Group, and six others in training who will be attached to Negro Fighter Groups upon graduation. **It is believed by the Army Air Forces that the above mentioned seven Negro Meteorologists will take care of their needs for quite some time.**"

A Shortage

Yet, on January 8, 1943, the War Department published the following announcement:

"To fill the urgent need for more than 1,000 meteorologists in the Air Forces, men between the ages of 18 and 30, inclusive qualified for meteorological training, will be certified for voluntary induction into the army as Aviation Cadets in meteorology."

This may not make sense, but it is understandable. Weather may be black, or it may be fair, but the skin of the man who makes the weather calculation has to match the skin of the flier who uses the information.

At a press conference on November 19, 1942, the Secretary of War explained that relatively less Negroes would be in the Air Forces than in some other branches of the army because of the particular skills required in aviation. "There are some branches," he said, "which require specialists and for which the number of men has to be determined by the number and capacity of the recruits who are available for it." Unquestionably, the secretary spoke in good faith. But on the record the Air Command does not want all the Negro specialists who are available.

Until we abandon this stupid notion that Negro specialists can work only for and with other Negroes, James Peck and Fred Hutcherson, and potential Negro service pilots and meteorologists will continue to be wasted. And, so long as we tolerate such vicious nonsense, we can be respected neither by the forces of fascism which we condemn nor by the forces of democracy which we assume to lead.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa
MAY 1943

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WAACs

It has been difficult to determine just who is responsible for excluding Negro WAACs from Riverview park last week. Some blame it on the park officials, some on the Negro WAAC commissioned officers.

The Bystander would not be surprised about the park officials, but if the officers were responsible then we have a most serious problem to face. We complain when white officers allow the members of their unit to be mistreated. That criticism is even worse when Negro officers are guilty of the same. It is true that those higher up fix policies—and the army policy as to the Negro is definitely rotten—yet the officer actually in charge of troops or WAACs can do much to alleviate the hardships and prejudices these people face. And we go further and say that any officer who condones or encourages injustices to their troops or WAACs in order to "stand in" with higher officers for the purpose of seeking advancement in rank is a traitor to his race and in the long run is not a proper officer in the U. S. Army.

Flying Squadron Left Tuskegee on April 2

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.
JUN 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Allied headquarters in North Africa announced officially Wednesday what readers of Negro newspapers already knew: that a Negro pursuit squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., was in North Africa to fight against the Axis.

Several weeks ago Congressman Frances Bolton of Ohio announced in congress that "the 99th has departed for combat duty." Immediately the war department took steps to prevent Negro newspapers from printing her statement, although the Office of Censorship authorized publication of Mrs. Bolton's exact words spoken from the house floor.

A Stewart "Scoop"

That the squadron had arrived at its destination was revealed in a dispatch from North Africa by Ollie Stewart, war correspondent for the Afro-American and affiliated newspapers. Later Stewart stated that Lt. Col. Davis was living in a town where he was stationed. Both articles passed the censor.

It was at first stated that the squadron had seen actual combat duty in the closing days of the North African campaign, but this was denied by the war department.

The announcement of Wednesday said the flyers, who use P-40 Warhawks, were being given advanced instruction in new fighter tactics by veteran pilots of the Tunisian battles, and that upon completion of this advanced training, the squadron will be sent into action.

No news of the actual departure of the squadron was allowed to be printed because of censorship regulations. Mention of embarkation of any unit is explicitly prohibited since such publication would give valuable information to the enemy.

Left Tuskegee April 2

It can be revealed now, however, that the squadron left Tuskegee at midnight April 2. The squadron had no idea where it was going. The train was completely blacked out.

The group, composed of a full complement of ground and maintenance crew and medical contingent, had the run of the special train which zig-zagged across the country to its destination.

When the train stopped it was on the docks at a southeastern port and alongside the transport to which the squadron was immediately transferred.

Farewells were said as the men swung aboard at Tuskegee. Many of their families were at the school and in the community nearby. All were forbidden to speak of their departure. Families of those living in other parts of the nation knew of their boys' departure because personal belongings were sent home to them.

The night the squadron left Tuskegee the 96th Service squadron was transferred to Selfridge Field, Mich. The 332nd Fighter group, composed of several pursuit squadrons and first all-Negro fighter group in army history, was also moved to Selfridge.

Transfer of army pilots from Tuskegee is part of the regular air corps plan. There is no room at Tuskegee for squadrons after they complete their training because at present new flyers are reporting at the rate of 52 every five weeks. Classes are graduating frequently with from 25 to 30 men instead of five or six as was formerly the number.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NAACP Says

Air Corps Still Discriminating

JUL 31 1943

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Specific cases in which skilled Negroes are being denied opportunity for training and technical service in the Army Air Force are cited by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, in the most recent protest of the NAACP against racial discrimination in the armed services.

In one case, it is pointed out that four Negro enlisted men of the air corps, one the top man and all ranking students in their class in photography, were rejected for advanced training leading to higher ratings and commissions in this field, while white classmates whom they had out-ranked were selected. The pretext for this discrimination was the charge by one of their officers that Yale University, where the advanced training is offered, "is not ready to accept Negroes."

Mr. Wilkins also cited the case of a Negro soldier, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of a leading university, with advanced study in biology and bio-chemistry, who was first denied assignment to laboratory work in an army hospital, then especially trained as an air corps armourer and finally sent to an air filed to work as a laborer.

In presenting the matter to Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy, Mr. Wilkins thus summarized the position of the NAACP by stating: "While the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks for remedial action in the cases above cited, we are even more concerned that by more careful and frequent checks and inspections, and by disciplinary action against particular commanders as may be merited, the War Department actually enforce a policy of assigning, training and advancing the skilled Negro soldier on the basis of his merit and potential usefulness, rather than wasting and demoralizing him, as is all too often the case at present."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Discrimination

In Air Corps Cited By NAACP

Presents Case To Assistant Sec'y of War

JUL 27 1943

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Journal
Savannah, Ga.

SKILLED NEGROES SUFFER DISCRIMINATION

Denied Opportunity for

Training in Army Air Force

JUL 29 1943

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FD Asked to

Afro-American
Baltimore

Halt Killing of Soldiers

Judge Hastie's Report to Lawyers' Guild Accuses Police

ARMY UNABLE TO GET CONVICTIONS

More Killings Are Predicted for 1943

JUL 24 1943

WASHINGTON

President Roosevelt was asked this week to make an appropriate appeal to the nation directing attention to the continuing forces of unrestrained violence against colored soldiers.

This is the recommendation submitted to the executive board of the National Lawyers' Guild by William H. Hastie, vice president, who recommends that the guild call also upon the Secretaries of War and Navy, the Attorney General and committees of the Senate and House alike to take appropriate steps.

Judge Hastie's report states that civilian violence, particularly by police officials, against colored soldiers in uniform continues. Among his other contentions are these:

Failures Cited

Federal authorities have failed miserably to build up any sentiment against the mistreatment of the colored soldier;

The President has made no direct attempt to influence public opinion in this field;

The army is engaged in teaching our soldiers how to treat people abroad but not their own fellow American soldiers;

We do not often hear about the small towns in which the colored soldier is forced to step from the narrow sidewalk whenever a white person passes;

Bitterness Justified

To address a colored soldier as "n---r" is common-place in the South;

The soldier may not express his feelings when he must wait until all the white passengers are accommodated or before he can get transportation. He may even hold his tongue when he is forced to leave a bus to make room for white passengers; but it is of such stuff that bitterness and hatred are made. In such a climate resentments grow until they burst forth in violent and unreasoning reprisal.

Abuses Reviewed

Specific cases of violations listed by Mr. Hastie are:

1. Alexandria, La., January, 1943, a policeman shot up a street full of peaceful soldiers. Thirty were injured by buckshot. No one was punished;
2. In March, Sgt. Thomas Foster was shot and killed while lying unconscious on the street in Little Rock, Ark., by a city policeman who escaped punishment by volunteering for the army;
3. Beaumont, Tex., July, police fired several shots into the back of Pvt. Charles Reco while they were taking him to the station in a police car; U.S. Department of Justice prosecution was dropped because there was "no prospect of a conviction";
4. In El Paso, Tex., Pvt. Willie Jullis was shot and killed by city policemen;

Nurse's Beating Recalled

5. Montgomery, Ala., September 14, Lieut. Norma Greene, a colored nurse, was beaten by two policemen; her nose broken, eyes blacked and her body bruised, but no action was taken by military authorities because Lieut. Greene was not in uniform. (Her conduct in wearing civilian clothes at the time was lawful and proper);
7. In October, Pvt. Henry Williams was shot and killed by a bus driver in Mobile, where drivers are authorized to carry guns and act as police; there was not even a grand jury hearing;
7. In November, Pvt. Larry Stroud, while drunk, was shot in the back and killed by a Columbia, S.C., policeman who was quickly acquitted by a jury.

Angry Cop Killed MP

The worst case of all, Dr. Hastie says, was in November when Pvt. Raymond Carr, a colored MP, was shot and killed by civilian policemen in Alexandria, La.

Carr, who had only a club, made some comment to the white civilian policeman who was making an arrest. The latter became angry and, without any legal justification, sought to arrest Carr who, quite properly, refused to be arrested because civilian police had no jurisdiction over him while he was on military duty and obligated to remain at his post. The civilian policeman went away and came back with reenforcements and when Carr ran he was shot to death.

No State Nor U.S. Prosecution

The State of Louisiana refused to prosecute and the U.S. Department of Justice refused to prosecute when a grand jury failed to indict.

There is no reason to believe that 1943 will be any better, Hastie says. He suggests that:

1. A military commander might properly declare a community to be off limits for all soldiers — white and black — until such a time as local authorities have taken all reasonable steps to protect all men in uniform against violence and abuse;
2. Congress should amend Section 252, Title 18, of the U.S. Code which would give district courts jurisdiction over killing of members of the armed forces, as well as immigration inspectors, grazing service inspectors and coast guards.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Letter Tells of Soldiers' Plight

JUN 17 1943

On May 7, 1943, I left the City for the South. My main object was to study the prison conditions of the South, see how the prisoners are treated, and also how our Colored boys in the armed forces are being treated in the South.

What I saw and what was told to me made me forget all about the defeat of the Axis. It convinced me more than ever that the Colored man fight is not somewhere in a foreign land, but right here on the home front in the South.

My trip took me through Virginia, North Carolina, South Caroline and Georgia, stopping over at the principal cities. As I stood silently gazing upon the old Capitol in Columbus, S. C. my thoughts ran back to the days when the law-making bodies of that state were dotted with Negro faces when some of the most contructive laws of South Carolina were enacted. The Army training base, Camp Jackson is located on the outskirt of Columbia, and at Spartansburg, S. C. is located Camp Croft, I met two of my former roomers and other New York boys. The stories they had to tell me of their treatment in the South made my blood boil.

There is no wonder that so many of the young generation leave the beautiful south and never return.

Until these conditions are rightened, President Roosevelt, Vice President Wallace and Secretary of War Stimson should stop preaching about World Democracy; freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom from this and that.

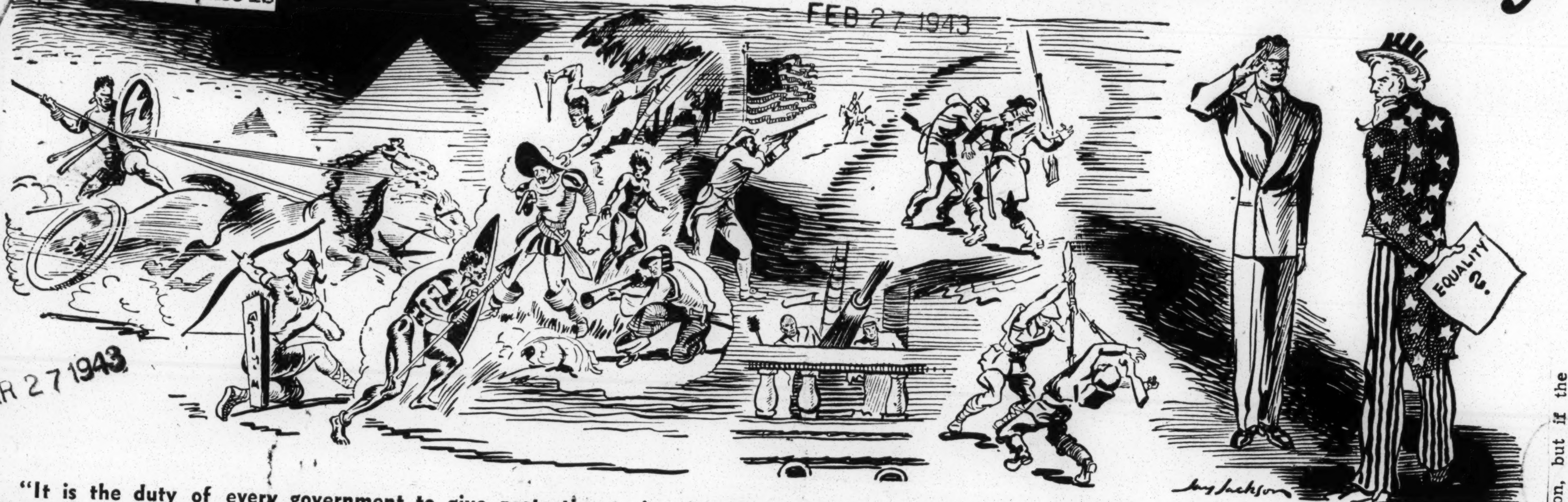
47d-1943

Lincoln's Civil War Laws Show Mixed Regiments Feasible Today

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FEB 27 1943

MAR 27 1943



"It is the duty of every government to give protection to its citizens, of whatever class, color or conditions and especially to those who are duly organized as soldiers in the public service."

— President Abraham Lincoln

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

Second of Two Articles

NEW ORLEANS, La. — How a forthright military man could carry out a policy of admitting Negroes into the army without discrimination is found in the story of General Thomas of Civil War fame.

It was he who was designated to the first Negro troops under the authority of a proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln and a weak-kneed endorsement by Congress.

Enlisting Negro troops was no easy task. The Negro men were willing enough to fight but opposition to the move was strong in the army. Furthermore the Confederate congress passed an act providing for the enslavement of all armed Negro soldiers captured in battle.

The same Confederate congress also provided that white officers in charge of armed Negro troops, if captured, would be treated as insurrectionists.

Abused in Streets

Negro soldiers on the streets were often attacked by whites and the abuse of Negro troops became such a problem that President Lincoln was forced to take action.

In a speech, which he wanted especially the Confederacy to note he spoke these words which are as appropriate today as they were more than three-quarters of a century ago.

"It is the duty of every government to give protection to its citizens, of whatever class, color or condition, and especially to those who are duly organized as soldiers in the public service. The law of nations and the usages and customs of war as carried on by civilized powers permit no distinction as to color in the treatment of prisoners of war as public enemies. To sell or enslave any captured person on account of his color, and for no offense against the laws of war, is a relapse into barbarism and a crime against the civilization of the age.

Threat of Retaliation

"The government of the United States will give the same protection to all of its soldiers, and if the enemy shall sell or enslave anyone because of his color, the offense shall be punished by retaliation upon the enemy's prisoners in our possession. It is therefore ordered that for every soldier of the United States killed in violation of the laws of war, a rebel soldier shall be executed, and for every one enslaved by the enemy or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor on the public works and continued at such labor until the other shall be released, and receive the treatment due to a prisoner of war."

No less determined than the President himself to see that the enlistment of Negro troops moved on without hitch was General Thomas, who boldly laid down the law in his initial speech after taking command of the Department of the Gulf.

FEB 27 1943

Lays Down Law

The order to begin recruiting Negro troops was issued January 20, 1863, and in March General Thomas came to New Orleans determined to build an army of 20,000 Uegroes. Said he in his speech at Providence, La.:

"I came from Washington with the fullest power in this matter. With this power I can act as if the President of the United States were himself present. I am directed to refer nothing to Washington, but to act promptly — what I have to do, to do at once — to strike down the unworthy and to elevate the deserving. You know full well — for you have been over this country — that the rebels have sent into the field all their available men — every man capable of bearing arms, and you know they have kept at home all their slaves for the raising of subsistence for their armies in the field. In this way they can bring to bear against us all the strength of their so-called Confederate states while we at the North can only send a portion of our fighting force, being compelled to leave behind another portion to cultivate our fields and to supply the wants of an immense army.

"The administration has determined to take from the rebels this source of supply — to take their Negroes and to compel them to send back a portion of the whites to cultivate their deserted plantations; and very poor persons they would be to fill the place of the dark hued laborer. They must do this or their armies will starve."

Swiftly Recruited

Continuing, General Thomas said, "While I am authorized thus, in the name of the Secretary of War, I have the fullest authority to dismiss from the army any man, be his rank what it may, whom I find maltreating the freedman. This part of my duty I will most assuredly perform if any case comes before me. I would rather do that than give commissions because such men are unworthy of the word of soldiers."

General Thomas had little difficulty in recruiting the desired 20,000 Negro troops, and as long as he remained on the scene the Negro troops had but little to complain about.

FEB 27 1943

But opposition as strong as that existing to the presence of Negroes in the Union army was not to be overcome by one man or several in a year or two in spite of the perilous situation in which the North found itself.

There were numerous instances of subordinate officers deliberately humiliating the Negro troops under their command. Gradually whole companies and regiments of men were so demoralized as to be almost useless as soldiers. They were given inferior and insufficient equipment, less pay, different rations, and no respect at all.

Abuses Aired

When the army appropriation bill was brought up in congress in 1864, many of these abuses were aired. The Secretary of War and many other high ranking government officials were distressed by reports of the unfair treatment of the Negro troops and moved speedily to wipe out existing inequities.

Others, however, charged that the experiment had not been a success. Negro troops were accused of loafing. They were described as "time wasters" and "slothful."

General Thomas was likewise disturbed about the abuse of the Negro troops he had enlisted. Many had been changed from combat to labor troops and as such handled no arms, but sweated and toiled at the most difficult and disagreeable tasks. In an effort to change this situation General Thomas issued the following order:

"The incorporation into the army of the United States of colored troops renders it necessary that they should be brought, as speedily as possible, to the highest state of discipline. Accordingly, the practice which has hitherto prevailed, no doubt from necessity, of requiring these troops to perform most of the labor on fortifications, and the labor and fatigue duties of permanent stations and camps, will cease and they will be only required to take their fair share of fatigue duty with white troops. This is necessary to prepare them for the higher duties of conflict with the enemy."

By the end of the war the country had reconciled itself to Negroes in uniform, and today one does not regard as unusual the appearance on the street of a Negro in uniform. Even a Negro colonel does not create excitement.

FEB 27 1943

A mixed army, a really democratic navy — a real American fighting force in every sense — will at first face bitter opposition, but if the government is insistent upon the execution of its orders, if it designates the right men to carry out the program, opposition will fall before the proven wisdom of such a policy, just as it did 75 years ago — and tomorrow mixed regiments and mixed officers will be no novelty. The United States fighting forces then will be truly a symbol of a great democracy.

Guardian
Boston, Mass.
APR 17 1943

SOUTH AWAKES

APR 17 1943

Congressman Rankin, whose political stock in trade is chiefly race hatred, now directs his venom to the Japanese. Apparently he has little or no faith in the loyalty of American-born Japanese. In a characteristic harangue in the House he warned that the Japanese who are being sent into the South constitute a grave menace to the country's safety. "It was these same American-born Japanese who formed the fifth column in Hawaii which made Pearl Harbor possible," he said, as he reiterated his conviction that the South would surely be the first-chosen site for an Axis invasion if the Axis attempts to invade the country. "The Gulf States would be invaded first because they are the most vulnerable, the least protected, and the site of vital materials," Rankin said.

In uttering his "warning" the representative from Mississippi did not say anything which Hitler and his gang do not already know, or which is not well known also by anyone who has weighed the possibilities of Axis boldness. But what is important is that Rankin's expressed fears indicate the South's awakening to the dangers of the spreading war. Perhaps the realization of the South's perilous position may lead to a more generous welcome and better treatment of colored soldiers who are stationed at Southern posts. APR 17 1943

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

The War on Elmer Davis

JUN 28 1943

When the House refused to appropriate funds for the Domestic Branch of the Office of War Information, much more was involved than a personal attack on Elmer Davis. He is widely liked, and all except a few congressional disciples of The Chicago Tribune admit that he has acted with notable tact and moderation. It is ridiculous to compare him with Dr. Goebbels or Virginio Gayda; he hasn't even attempted to do what the Creel Committee did successfully in the last war. Any other man in the same position, whatever his ability, his character or his political record, would be subject to the same congressional abuse.

It cannot even be said that the attack was really directed at the policies of the OWI. No matter what policies it followed—no matter whether it issued propaganda for home consumption or the unadorned facts, or nothing but news bulletins for the daily press; no matter whether it favored labor or management, or neither; farmers or city consumers, or neither; Russia or Poland, or neither; no matter whether it called for a tough war or tried to make the public believe that this could still be an easy war; no matter whether its top officials were New Dealers or conservative Democrats or Republicans—it would still be slandered and abused.

The truth is that its policies have been cautious and reasonable to a fault. It has never tried to lead the public by the nose, or to make newspapers echo the views of the administration, or to whip up anger against the Axis by inventing atrocities. It has gone so far in the opposite direction that the real atrocities of the Germans in this war have been approached with diffidence, as if they were horrors that couldn't be discussed in polite society. In general, and except for a brief period when advertising men tried to get control of the agency, it has made its appeal to the common sense and patriotism of the public. It has issued no fervid exhortations, furnished no four-minute speakers and organized no patriotic rallies. It has never attempted to influence the public on the emotional level that leads directly to action.

If anybody thought that the function of the OWI was to improve morale and unify the country in the face of danger, he would be forced to conclude that its record is one of failure. It hasn't convinced the miners that they ought to dig the coal that is necessary for war production instead of following John L. Lewis in his political adventures. It hasn't created public feeling against those industrialists who, as shown in several confidential reports, are trying to provoke their own men into striking; they think that strikes at this time would weaken the labor unions. Undersecretary Patterson says that the production of supplies for the army ground forces has declined since April. He thinks that part of the decline was caused by complacency and overconfidence on the part of both labor and management. The OWI has failed to change that state of mind.

It has tried hard to improve racial relations, but it didn't succeed in preventing the riots in Los Angeles and Beaumont and Mobile, or the Klan-instigated strike in Detroit against the hiring of Negroes as skilled workers. Any war is likely to generate ill feeling on the home front. People are overworked and overwrought; they have to stand in line; they can't go where they want to go or buy what they want to buy; and these frustrations produce a feeling of anger that ought to be directed against the enemy. Too often in this war it has been directed against other Americans—against Jews, Negroes, Mexicans, union labor, Congress or the administration. The country is full of internal animosities that an Office of War Information might have helped to prevent, if it had been given authority to act.

And there are other examples of its failures in the field of public morale. There is, for example, the growth of the black markets, which might be prevented by public feeling against them—but the public is not helping much to stamp them out. There is the effort of farm organizations to destroy price ceilings, even at the cost of inflation. Everywhere is the feeling that, as we have heard several people say, "I'm going to get mine while the getting is good." There are indications that this feeling is also widespread in the army. One soldier wrote us from a Southern camp (and we have seen other letters in the same vein): "Everybody seems busy getting his own little promotion and feathering his own little nest, oh, so damned carefully, because nobody has been able to absorb a nobler philosophy. If there is one around, the old OWI story, it hasn't been put very convincingly—maybe it can't be, with Congress the way it is."

JUN 28 1943

Congress has clearly indicated that it wants no efforts to improve the national morale. Accordingly the Domestic Branch of the OWI has confined itself to more modest but still indispensable tasks. It has brought order and system into government publicity and has reduced the number of government bulletins. It has persuaded the Departments of War and the Navy to be more communicative in their communiqués. It has given sound advice to magazine editors, book publishers, radio announcers and motion-picture producers who wanted to advance the national interests in wartime but didn't know how to go about it. In Washington, it has prevented many squabbles among government officials by reading their speeches and statements in advance. It has explained government policies and helped the public to understand what the government agencies were doing.

Essentially it is because of these modest achievements that the OWI was attacked on the floor of the House. A bi-partisan majority in Congress hopes that the New Deal will be defeated in 1944. Some members of Congress are more interested in fighting Roosevelt than they are in fighting Hitler. These men reason bluntly that the more squabbles there are among government officials, and the less public understanding there is of government measures, the better chance their side will have of winning the next election. The policies they were condemning were not those of the OWI, but those of the administration. Their attack on Elmer Davis was directed against the President.

As we point out elsewhere, it is still uncertain what the Senate will do. It has shown a much greater sense of wartime responsibility than the House, but this time the Senators will have to act quickly, and there is a chance that the Domestic Branch of the OWI will be sacrificed to its enemies in the rush to pass appropriation bills before July 1. Even if its funds are restored, the struggle against the OWI will continue. We suggest to Mr. Roosevelt that it is time for him to go before the public—not once, but preferably in a whole series of speeches—and defend his wartime agencies.

JUN 28 1943

For the last year, he has been devoting most of ni of the crucial struggle at this moment. It is time t
efforts to the struggle abroad, but the main outline stop the people who have borrowed Lenin's sloga
of military strategy have now been fixed. Meanwhil and applied it to international cartelism instead of ir
it is possible that we might lose the war as the resul ternational communism. It is time to keep them fror
of developments on the home front. That is the scen turning the foreign war into a civil war.

47d-1943

Only U. S. Action Can Protect Negroes in Army, Says Leader

PM
New York, N. Y.

Ex-Stimson Aide Calls on Administration To Halt Rising Tension in South

William H. Hastie is widely regarded as a leader of conservative Negro opinion. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he was the first Negro ever appointed to a Federal judgeship, serving in the Virgin Islands. In October, 1940, he was made a special assistant to the Secretary of War, acting as Henry L. Stimson's adviser on Negro problems. After he resigned last January, he accused the Army Air Forces Command of "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices" designed to curb Negro participation in that service. He is now dean of Howard University.

By Judge William H. Hastie

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JUN 14 1943

WASHINGTON, June 14—At Camp Stewart, Ga., Negro soldiers and military policemen engaged in a fatal gun battle. In Centerville, Miss., a sheriff kills a Negro soldier. At Camp Shelby, Miss., two Negro soldiers lie in a hospital, wounded in an affray with highway patrolmen.

These are the headlines of the past week. No one of them is surprising. Since April military and civilian authorities have recognized Camp Stewart and the neighboring communities as powder kegs of racial tension. The Centerville violence is just one more chapter in the turbulent history of the 364th Infantry, a Negro regiment, embittered by incident after incident during a two-year period while the regiment has been shifted aimlessly from camp to camp without any prospective mission appropriate for combat troops during a war. The environs of Camp Shelby are more than familiar to the military authorities who have surveyed and studied that very area because of the acute problems of racial relations which confront the Army there.

Whites Take Precedence

A critical problem of American life in a time of war is revealing itself in a fashion which cannot be ignored. In communities throughout the South, the Negro soldier finds himself not only outside the protection of the law but even the object of lawless aggression by the officers of the law. It is only the sensational cases of shooting, killing and rioting which attract public attention. But day by day the Negro soldier faces abuse and humiliation.

He is forced to walk in the street so that white persons may use the sidewalk. He must wait for hours in bus terminals and railroad stations until all white travelers have been accommodated. He is even compelled to surrender the space he has obtained on the bus so that there may be room for additional white passengers. *Nigger* is the name by which he is usually addressed.

In such a climate resentments, hatreds and fears and misunderstandings mount until they erupt in sensational violence. Yet, both the Administration and the military authorities persist in trying to muddle through, without plan or program, hoping that somehow things will come out all right.

Army's Policy

The cautious "liberals" who advise the Administration on race relations are confronted by a situation which confounds and frightens them and leaves them impotent. Their moral equipment does not include the courage and forthrightness which this crisis demands. Their counsel must be counsel of inaction. And the Administration, convinced that it must appease and hold in political alignment the Congressional delegations from the South, is easily persuaded to a do-nothing policy in this field.

JUN 1943

The Army, long wedded to the mores of the South and immobilized by its traditional methods of procedure, pursues a course of dealing with each incident as it occurs. Formal investigation and report, an occasional court martial, the removal of some individual from his command and the shifting of a troublesome regiment to another station—these are the Army's customary and familiar devices. It sticks to them doggedly.

The events of the first week in June have served bloody notice that such attempts to muddle through cannot succeed. The Administration cannot ease racial tensions by working quietly behind the scenes. The Army cannot check the increasing wave of violence by ponderous investigation of each case as it occurs. The Government must take the issue to the people boldly, giving America a measure of understanding and of leadership which is now lacking.

The voices of the President and of ranking public officers which we hear over the radio urging miners to return to work, calling upon all of us to fight the black market and exhorting the purchase of war bonds must be heard on this matter of racial strife which is so seriously affecting the war effort.

What We Must Do

False fears must be allayed. At the same time Americans must be told plainly that public manifestations of race prejudice cannot and will not be permitted to impede the Nation's struggle for victory and a free world. Public opinion can be molded. Even where tensions are highest, there are many citizens, not bold enough to take the lead themselves, but decent and patriotic enough to follow those in authority who will assume the initiative.

The Army itself is busy with booklets, lectures and various devices of indoctrination, teaching our soldiers how to treat the peoples of India, the South Sea islanders, the Arabs, everyone but their fellow American soldiers. It is time, and past time, that similar effort and technique be employed in the business of building comradeship within our own Army and in relation to our own civilian communities.

Nor is it necessary to resort exclusively to such persuasion. Local military commanders have a powerful weapon in their authority to declare an entire community "out-of-bounds" or "off-limits" for all soldiers, white and black, until such time as local authorities shall take all responsible steps to protect all men in uniform against lawless violence and abuse.

The civilian community is vitally interested in the money which the soldier spends. When that source of income is cut off or even seriously threatened, action will be taken to make local law enforcement a reality rather than a travesty.

By Albert Deutsch:

Axis Weapon

PM
New York, N. Y.

Race Haters Do Hitler's Work in War Plants

JUN 9 1943

The recent wildcat race strikes at a Mobile shipbuilding plant and at the Packard Motor Car Co., in Detroit, both precipitated by the upgrading of Negro workers, indicate the potential power of an old Axis weapon in a new setting. If we allow this sort of thing to spread, we can jolly well lose the war on the assembly lines.

The menace of race prejudice as a crippler of war production struck me forcibly last week, as I moved through crowds of striking workers at the Packard factory gates and at the Union Hall of Packard Local 190, UAW-CIO, which had been "captured" by pro-strike agitators violently promoting race hatred.

Contradictory Arguments

The ostensible reason for the strike—the upgrading of three Negro workers to testers of plane engine parts—was almost lost in the variety of slick and contradictory arguments presented by the hate-strike fomentors. These arguments ran the full gamut of appeals to prejudice, narrow self-interest and superstitious fears. All were calculated to strike a responsive chord somewhere in practically every listener; all bore the earmark of inspired hate propaganda.

Here's a sampling of what I heard:

¶ "The Union is throwing out white workers and giving their jobs to blacks. We got to teach them our trades, so they can grab our places." (The upgraded Negroes were not displacing whites. Detroit has an acute labor shortage, with jobs for all.)

¶ "We don't mind letting Negroes get better jobs and more pay. But we don't want to work with them. Let them work on separate assembly lines." (Impossible. If carried through, this Jim-Crow arrangement would require duplicate machines, one set for whites, the other for Negroes.)

¶ "Whites and Negroes don't mix. It's against human nature." (Untrue. *The foundry division at Packard, manned by hundreds of whites and Negroes working side by side in complete harmony, operated without interruption throughout the strike.*

Distrust and Fear

¶ "The Negroes may be all right now. But when the war is over, they'll undercut our wage rates and take away our jobs." (Another slick argument, designed to sow distrust and fear in workers not now bitten by the prejudice bug.)

¶ "Are you for or against white womanhood? If you're for white womanhood, why allow your sister or wife to work beside black men?" (A variant of the old non sequitur, pulled out of the bag by race-baiters every time the cry for equal rights is raised: "Would you want your sister or daughter to marry a Negro?")

¶ "Nearly all Negroes have syphilis. Diseased blood runs out of their fingers onto machines where they work, and you catch syphilis if you handle the same machine." (This "bleeding-finger" fiction is so widespread not only at Packard but at other plants, that it appears to be inspired by industrial fifth columnists. As for syphilis, it is infectious only in the "active stage" and then only through actual sexual intercourse, with very rare exceptions. Again syphilis is less common among Northern Negroes than among whites in many Southern areas. Would the Detroit Kluxers refuse to work with Southern whites from these areas?)

OCD Picks a Time Like This to Fire Its Only Expert on Racial Harmony

PM
New York, N. Y.

JUN 11 1943

While New York seeks methods of promoting interracial harmony, the OCD (Office of Civilian Defense) has contributed its share by firing its only expert on the subject.

She is Mrs. Anna Arnold Hedgeman, Regional Director for Race Relations, in the Second Region covering New York, New Jersey and Delaware.

Mrs. Hedgeman's dismissal was ordered by the national OCD to meet the reduction made by Congress in its budget.

Originally, the Race Relations Director was to have been fired outright. However, upon the urgent request of Sinclair Hatch, the Second Regional Director, the

OCD Washington office has permitted him to employ Mrs. Hedgeman occasionally as a consultant.

Hatch says "Mrs. Hedgeman has been invaluable." In many instances she has worked as a field representative rather than as a racial specialist. Whatever her assignment, Hatch says, she has always done an excellent job.

Work in the field of race relations does not always show accomplishment in terms of statistics. But here is one example of what Mrs. Hedgeman has done in one field.

JUN 11 1943

¶ Greater New York has 250 Negro nurses' aides daily contributing to the war effort in various hospitals, as compared with Boston where there are only four such aides. The Boston area does not have an OCD Race Relations Director.

Besides, Mrs. Hedgeman has kept her regional office constantly informed of trends and reactions of Negro communities toward the war effort.

Mrs. Anna Hedgeman

In last Sunday's PM. Harry Bravermen, provisional chairman of the Los Angeles Citizens' Committee to Combat Race Riots, told New Yorkers:

"I believe you need the help of the OCD to prepare for racial trouble just as the OCD has prepared for air raids.

"One point I believe you can drive home with . . . the help of the OCD. It is this:

"Any person who foments racial trouble, who encourages strife—directly or indirectly—or who wantonly participates in racial disturbances is a traitor to America."

JUN 11 1943

James M. Landis, National OCD Director, said he had no alternative to firing Mrs. Hedgeman. Of the four persons he ordered dismissed in New York, he said, "she is the only one I .have allowed to be retained on a part-time basis."

A SMOKE SCREEN

McNUTT'S RAP OF RACE DRAFT QUOTA WAS ONLY A SMOKE SCREEN TO RELIEVE HIM OF A HEADACHE

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

EDITOR'S NOTE—Since Mr. McNutt suggested that it would possibly be necessary to ignore the quota for Negroes in the draft, a suggestion referred to by Mr. Cayton, Mr. McNutt and the Army and Navy have agreed on plans for the induction of nearly 10 per cent of the Negro population into the Army and Navy.

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

* * *

ACCORDING to a recent release of the press, Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt made the startling statement that Negroes should be taken into all branches of the armed services—the Army, Navy and the Marine Corps—without regard for percentage quotas. This, McNutt was quoted as saying, would effect an easement on the number of whites being called for military duty. McNutt did not clarify or elaborate on his statement. However, such a startling announcement has caused this reporter to speculate on some of the possible problems and motives which led McNutt to issue such a statement.

Mr. Cayton

First let us speculate on what McNutt's problems are as Manpower chief. On one hand there is a demand for more manpower than he can furnish to the Army, and at the same time he is harassed by farmers and manufacturers who wish to obtain exemptions for essential workers. On the other hand, the manpower chief has a pool of Negroes, most of whom are untrained, which he finds impossible to integrate into war industries.

FEAR OF THE SOUTH

If it were possible then to use a disproportionate number of Negroes in the Army a number of things might, in part, be achieved:

1. **The easement of the drafting of white essential war workers in industry, people over thirty-eight and farmers. Considerable resistance has materialized around the drafting of all of these groups in Congress and by outside pressure organizations.**
2. **There are rumblings throughout the South that too few Negroes are being inducted into the Army. Where Negroes constitute a large percentage of the population there has developed a non-rational fear about the ratio between Negro and white men left in southern communities.**
3. **In the Middle West and Northern farming areas there is a definite shortage of farm labor. There is however an absolute unwillingness to employ Negro farm labor. Here again it might be felt that Negroes could be used to fulfill the manpower need of the army while the more essential white farmers would be left on the farms.**
4. **Finally, disproportionate induction of the Negro into the Army would utilize the pool of Negro manpower which has not been effectively integrated into industries. It would likewise quiet the fears of Southern communities and Northern farmers.**

MAR 20 1943

McNUTT USING A SMOKE SCREEN

McNutt made what sounded to be a liberal gesture in saying that Negroes should not be confined to a quota and should be integrated throughout all branches of the service, (which, incidentally, could be done immediately with the ten per cent now in the armed forces), and that the quota for Negroes in the army should be abolished. On both of these points, in all probability, most Negro leaders would agree, but taken in the context of McNutt's entire statement it seems as if they were used as a smoke screen.

THE point that I believe McNutt was trying to get over was that by putting the Negro manpower pool, which he cannot so easily place in industries or on northern farms, in the army, it would relieve the Administration of loads of headaches. One might raise the question as to whether the Negro should not, as he is, by and large, less trained for industrial work and northern farming, be used to release white industrial workers and farmers for essential work. This argument breaks down, however, when one considers that it takes as long to train a man to fight as it does to train him for industry.

WHAT ABOUT QUOTA FOR INDUSTRY?

Although not in favor of quotas in any form, I would like to suggest to Commissioner McNutt that he agitate for the integration of Negroes throughout all the services of the armed forces using the ten per cent which is in the army before trying to change the ratio. To solve his industrial manpower question (and farm manpower question for that matter) he could insist that a Negro quota of ten per cent be integrated throughout all the levels of skills in industry.

THE slogan McNutt first brought out was "work or fight." If this present suggestion is to be carried out it might change the slogan to "work or fight" for white people but for Negroes, "fight because we can't place you in industry and on Northern farms."

Lawyers Guild Hits Bias Against Negro Lawyers in U.S. Forces

Daily Worker New York City

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 2.—Turning a glaring spotlight on discrimination practiced against Negro attorneys, the National Lawyers Guild today called attention to the "unwillingness" of the Judge Advocate General's office of the Army and Navy "to grant commissions to Negro attorneys despite the fact that there are more than 500,000 Negro soldiers and sailors in the armed forces."

MAY 3 1943

The Guild statement also pointed "to the unequal representation of Negro attorneys in Federal and State departments and agencies" and announced formation of a special committee to work for the complete elimination of every form of discrimination against Negro attorneys.

"We feel very strongly in this connection that the appointment of Negro attorneys to posts in the diplomatic service would do much to enhance our relations among the United Nations," the Guild declared, pointing out that such a policy would pay dividends "particularly in developing greater friendship and collaboration with the countries of Latin America and other nations where the colored peoples comprise a substantial section of the population."

The Guild statement welcomed the widespread repercussions among members of the bar which followed the question raised concerning the admission of a distinguished Negro attorney into the American Bar Association as "evidence of the deep, popular conviction that the abolition of racial discrimination in every aspect of our national life is essential for the attainment of victory."

While the principle of non-discrimination was one of "the fundamental motivating factors which led to the establishment of the National Lawyers Guild," NLG President Robert W. Kenny, Attorney-General of California, declared that the Guild welcomed "every indication which tends towards the acceptance of this principle by the entire Bar."

The Guild hit out hard at the policy of discrimination practiced by the Army and Navy despite the fact that there are many qualified Negro lawyers who desire to serve in the Judge Advocate General's office but are denied commissions.

"Granting of commissions to Negro attorneys in the Judge Advocate General's office would do much to enhance the morale of our armed forces," the Guild declared.

Urging all bar associations to adopt a program of activity leading towards the complete elimination of every form of discrimination against Negro attorneys, the Guild announced formation of a special national committee for this purpose and instructed all chapters to hold special meetings to discuss this problem.

Among the members of the national committee are Honorable Robert W. Kenney, Honorable William E. Hastie, Hon. William H. Holly, Hon. Nathan Perlman and Carev McWilliams.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Levy May Face 2nd Court-Martial for Liberal Fight

NEW YORK.—Fear that ex-Sgt. Alton Levy, Jewish soldier, may be retried by a general court-martial for his fight against mistreatment of colored comrades was expressed this week by officials of the Workers' Defense League.

Levy, attached to the Lincoln, (Neb.) Army Air Base, was first tried by a special court-martial on August 16, reduced to the rank of private and sentenced to four months' imprisonment at hard labor.

May Use Personal Letters

Testimony of Corp. Helen Perkins, a WAC with whom Levy had kept several dates, led to his conviction. Letters to Miss Rosalind Peck of New York, which were quoted in Workers' Defense League releases, are expected to be used as a basis of the second trial.

Criticisms of his post commander and of alleged connections with Lincoln politics were included in accusations against Levy, who was convicted of making subversive statements. Principal basis for his prosecution, however, is understood to be his outspoken opposition to discriminatory practices at the post.

WDL officials are urging a flood of telegrams and letters to President Roosevelt in behalf of Levy's liberation.

47d-1943

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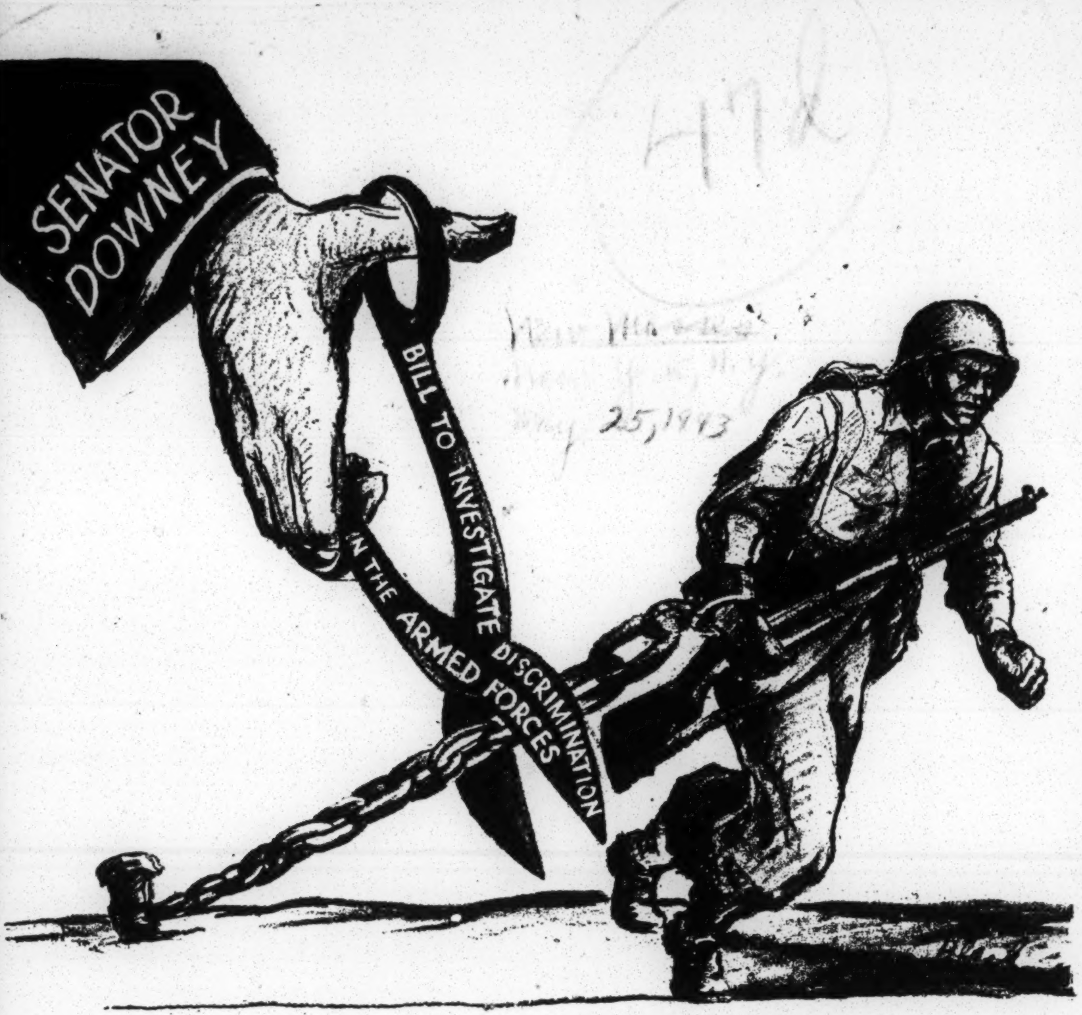
New Masses New York, N.Y. May 25, 1943


SENATOR DOWNEY
BILL TO INVESTIGATE DISCRIMINATION IN THE ARMED FORCES

From the "California Eagle," Negro paper.

SEN. Sheridan Downey of California has introduced a Senate resolution to investigate discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces. Hearings will be held shortly—if the resolution receives needed public support. . . . The petition ordering the discharge of the anti-poll tax bill, HR 7, introduced by Representative Marcantonio and supported by a bi-partisan coalition in the House has been completed. The final House vote on the legislation takes place on May 25, with debate the preceding day. Supporters of the poll tax now plan to defeat the bill by burdening it with amendments. However, the chances of passing the measure are extremely favorable—if congressmen's mail sufficiently reflects the demand back home for affirmative action. . . . In NEW MASSES of May 11, I pointed out that war production still falters. The Kilgore sub-committee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee has just issued its important first interim report on war mobilization. It concludes: "Either we go forward to undertake the integration of basic mobilization policies in the fields of manpower, production, and stabilization, or we will continue to proceed haltingly from one emergency to another. The time has come—indeed, it has all but passed—for basic policy integration. We cannot accept the doctrine that we are in the middle of a war, and therefore cannot undertake to effect total mobilization. That is a doctrine of despair. It must be discarded if we are to forge ahead to victory."

MAY 25 1943

OPINION

PM
New York, N. Y.

Drive Jim Crow From the Army

JUL 15 1943

There is one agency of the Government which can by a simple act exert a powerful leverage on the problem of racism. That is the Army. Jim Crowism in the Army is a bigger and more sinister symbol in the mind of the ordinary Negro than anything else that happens to him. And the Army can act to give Jim Crow a dishonorable discharge.

Consider what this means to the young Negro who comes into the Army. If he has been living in the South he has, after a manner, got accustomed to Jim Crow—if one can ever speak of getting accustomed to constant humiliation and injustice. But he has hoped that in the Army things would be different. They are not.

JUL 15 1943

And if the young Negro is a Northerner, he may be even more bitter. Although he has lived with discrimination, he has had a chance to avoid it somewhat—steering clear of the hotels, restaurants, schools, social groups that would bar him. He gets into the Army and he finds that discrimination has become rigid. He cannot avoid it. The Army is a system of rules and discipline, and Jim Crow is bone of its bone.

Can we wonder that the morale of Negroes in the Army is low? Not only are there sporadic riots and shootings, some of which are given publicity and some suppressed. There is a constant state of tension. I think it is no secret that the problem of Negro morale has given War Dept. officials more headaches than any other single problem they have.

JUL 15 1943

And obviously more is involved than Army morale. Civilian morale is involved as well. What happens to the Negro in the Army has become, and rightly, the great and ranking symbol of how genuinely we mean our war purposes. It has become this for 13 million Negroes in the United States. And it is, at least potentially, a weapon our enemies can use against us all over the world now and after the war.

JUL 15 1943

The Army has been asked repeatedly, by whites and Negroes alike, to drive Jim Crow out. PM embodied, as part of its program after Detroit, the suggestion that the Army develop an experimental mixed unit of Negroes and whites. A similar suggestion, I understand, has come from such high Catholic quarters as Bishop Shiel of Chicago.

JUL 15 1943

Note that the requests are moderate enough. No one is asking the Army to change overnight. No one is asking the Army to violate anyone's prejudices or to compel any white boy to train and fight alongside a Negro. All that is asked is that the Army officials allow the whites who would like to belong to a mixed unit to volunteer for it.

I gather that the War Dept.'s attitude is that it cannot be expected to try any social experiments in wartime. To this the best answer is that this "experiment" goes to the essence of the fighting morale of the soldiers—not only of the Negroes, but of many white soldiers as well, who are outraged and anguished when they see the visage of Jim Crow. The Army would not use a gun that was obsolete: why should it continue to use an obsolete social pattern?

I have no illusions about how easy it will be to get the Army caste to move on this. Many of the high Army officers are Southern: there is a strong Southern military tradition. Texas A. and M., for example, has more officers in the Army today than West Point has. And the whole officers corps is shot through with racism.

JUL 15 1943

But if the obstacles were not huge, there would be no problem. It is too much, no doubt, to expect the Southerners to change their pattern of thinking. But is it too much to ask that they should not be allowed to force their pattern of thinking on others?

There should be room, even within the rigid confines of the Army, for an Army division made up of whites and Negroes, chosen on a voluntary basis. That the project will work is already clear: for whites and Negroes train together in the Officer Candidate Schools, —the only place in all the Army where Jim Crow does not rule—with no mishaps and with a deepening of understanding on both sides. That the project cannot long be postponed is also clear. There is ferment in the Army. It shows itself in the letters and articles which every publication receives from soldiers. An army and a nation that dam this ferment up will find it has been sitting on the lid of something potentially healthy, something potentially dangerous.

—MAX LERNER

JUL 15 1943

Hastie Blasts Military Authorities for Muddling

Peoples Voice New York, N.Y.

JUN 19 1943

Judge William H. Hastie, who endeared himself to the American Negro when he quit as special assistant to the Secretary of War and accused the Army Air Forces Command of "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices," blasted away at the Administration and the military authorities for their muddling through attitude and demanded forthright action this week in an article for the Marshall Field Publications.

He said the events of the first week in June, that brought headline of killings and shootings of Negro soldiers ". . . have served bloody notice that attempts to muddle through cannot succeed. . . . The Administration cannot ease racial tensions by working quietly behind the scenes. The Army cannot check the increasing wave of violence by ponderous investigation of each case as it appears. The Government must take the issue to the people boldly, giving America a measure of understanding and of leadership which is now lacking."

FIGHT BLACK MARKETS

Judge Hastie said the voice of the President and of public officers exhorting us to fight black markets, buy war bonds and that urge miners back to work . . must be heard on this matter of racial strife which is so seriously affecting the war effort."

JUN 19 1943

Hastie insists that the public will follow this initiative, that public opinion can be molded even where the tension is highest. He said the Army keeps itself busy putting out booklets - and other devices of indoctrination instructing our soldiers how to treat the people of India and the South Seas, the Arabs and everyone but "their fellow American soldiers."

Because all communities are interested in the soldier's money, Judge Hastie sees the "out-of-bounds" law as a powerful weapon in the hands of the military authorities that can be used. He said to declare a community "out-of-bounds" for soldiers, black and white until that community takes steps to protect all men in uniform against violence and abuse would "soon make law enforcement a reality rather than a travesty."

Hastie took a crack at the cautious "liberals" advising the Administration on race relations. He said theirs is a council of inaction and that the present situation only confounds and frightens them and leaves them impotent since their moral equipment does not include, "the courage and forthrightness which this crisis demands."

Air Command Wasting Manpower, Hastie Says In New Statement

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

FEB 21 1943

Points Out That Negroes Trained In Toughest Field

FEB 21 1943

NEW YORK—(SNS)—William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in protest against the shortcoming of the military aviation program as it affects Negroes, Saturday had give an additional statement on aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces.

Hastie pointed out that the discrimination-segregation policy was preventing but a mere 200 Negro pilots from qualifying in face of the fact that ultimate objective of success in battle was being hindered. Restrictions on the Negro youth are resulting in wasted manpower, he said.

FEB 21 194

The Howard University Law School dean questioned the decision of the Air Command to train Negroes only as pursuit pilots, which he said constituted the most difficult type of combat aviation. Pointing out that the Air Command expressed doubt of the Negro's ability to fly in the first place, Hastie asked whether the move was an attempt to prove the fact if the Negro failed in the difficult operations branch.

Statistics reveal that 42 per cent of Negro trainees successfully complete their training as pursuit pilots, Hastie said, pointing out that the Negro cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing while white cadets may be sorted out and placed according to their apparent aptitudes. Fifty-nine percent of white aviation cadets qualify as flwing officers through this added advantage, he said.

If the Negro flyer fails to meet the physical specifications of the pursuit pilot, if he is too tall or too heavy for pursuit flying, he cannot be an Army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work. It was stated. The Air Command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young Negro men with superior training into flying training, Hastie sad.

Doubt that many Negroes will get far as aviation cadets under the new restrictions placed upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army was expressed by Dean Hastie, since papers must survive a long journey through military channels.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Race Segregation In Army Cannot Wait Until War Is Won, WDL Head Warns In Urging Levy Case Review

"The problem of race discrimination is squarely before the public again in the case of Alton Levy," Rev. Laurence T. Hosie, chairman of the national executive board of the Workers Defense League, declared in urging that "it should be made clear that neither Al Levy nor anyone else can be penalized for protesting against this violation of human decency, and American democracy."

Hosie's remarks were telegraphed to Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, who is the author of Section IV (a) of the 1940 Selective Service law forbidding discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces.

Meanwhile, the WDL disclosure that Army courtmartial authorities who heard the Levy case had pronounced their belief he was innocent of the specifications cited, only to reverse themselves 48 hours later, raised a storm of inquiry in Washington as to the merits of Levy's conviction. James A. Wechsler, P.M.'s national editor, and David Dubinsky, ILGWU international president, strongly queried the War Department on discrepancies in its assertion that Levy was definitely guilty of "slander" and the case officially closed. The WDL's disclosure of the curious reversal of the court opinion on Levy's guilt, termed "an outstanding legal error" by the Chicago labor attorney, Leon Despres who investigated the case, was released through Levy's family by the League.

The pressure on the President to review Levy's conviction for his protests at discriminatory Negro treatment and to end by executive decree the jim crow segregation of Negro soldiers, took added weight October 8th, when PM carried a full page edtiorial by Wechsler, and Dubinsky's telepgraphed plea to New York Senators Robert Wagner and James Mead to demand a full-fledged invesitgation of the Levy case, were released. The significance of Levy's courtmartial, Wechsler's editorial ran, "arises at a time when the status of the Negro in our Army is the source of deep resentment among Negroes and the target of sharp criticism from all democratic groups; at a time when prejudices against union men plainly still prevail in many sections of the Army; at a time when single incidents dramatize to whole peoples the validity of falsehood of democratic manifesttoes."

In calling the court's reversal of opinion a serious legal error, Mr. Despres, Levy's attorney through his father, Morris Levy, further disclosed that although the Army has denied the Negro issue in Levy's trial, the specifications in the courtmartial charges of which Levy was held guilty on every count, specifically cited "wilful and malicious" intent in spreading "false statements" concerning the Negro situation in the Lincoln Air Base. Mr. Despres, the Levy family disclosed through the WDL, is coming to Washington in the coming week to present his brief contesting the accuracy of War Department claims concerning Levy's guilt, under which the Department now considers the case closed.

Filing Of Navy Yard Complaints Under Way By Urban League And Natl. Negro Congress

New York, N. Y. — Age

The second meeting to obtain specific cases of alleged Brooklyn Navy Yard discrimination against Negro workers called jointly by the National Negro Congress, Brooklyn Council and the Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department, Wednesday, brought out representatives of such leading civic organizations as the NAACP, Central YWCA, New York State Conference of Negro Youth, trade unions and a large number of grived Negro Navy Yard workers.

The gathering was presided over by Lorenzo F. Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League and Edward Strong, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress; the outstanding business taken up was the formal recording of complaints and working out methods of action to adjust them.

Samuel Risk, a local FEPC examiner, counselled the workers on properly filing written complaints and assured them of the FEPC's protection from job intimidation, giving as example the courageous action of Negro workers testifying at the current Railroad hearings in Washington. In the past, such fears have retarded action on the part of Negro workers in the Navy Yard.

After a free discussion of workers' grievances, close to a dozen complaints, charging, in most cases, refusal to upgrade, segregation, and unequal working conditions were recorded. Many more were promised within a few days.

A committee of workers was formed, by unanimous agreement, to ask representatives of the United Federal Workers of America (UFWA), leading Navy Yard union to attend an executive meeting on Octobr 18th with other organizational representaives to hear complaints and enlist their aid for Negro workers within the yard. After careful examination at this meeting, all substantial complaints will be filed with the FEPC Regional Office, followed by other appropriate action decided upon by the group.

The next public meeting is to be held Wednesday, October 20th, at 8:30 p. m., place to be announced.

All persons who feel that they have been discriminated against by the Brooklyn Navy Yard, whether working there now or not, should report such cases immediately to the Brooklyn Urban League, 105 Fleet place, Brooklyn or the National Negro Congress, 307 Lenox avenue, New York City.

NAACP Asks Probe of Alton Levy Court Martial

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

President Roosevelt was urged yesterday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to investigate the court martial of Alton Levy.

Levy, convicted on Aug. 16 of circulating slanderous rumors about his commanding officer, is serving a four-month term at hard labor, at the Lincoln, Nebraska, air base.

The War Department states that there is no basis for allegations, publicized by Socialist Party groups, that Levy has been mistreated, because of his alleged championing of the rights of Negroes in the Army.

The NAACP letter to the President on the case, which was signed by Roy Wilkins, the Association's assistant secretary, stated:

"The case as it now stands is bound to give the public the impression that the Army command will find a way to punish a soldier who makes critical comment of the mistreatment of Negroes in the Army."

Wilkins urged the President that "the record of the Court Martial should be carefully examined to determine if it is a proper case for the exercise of the pardoning power on the grounds.

"1—That Alton Levy did not receive a fair trial.

"2—That there was not sufficient evidence on which to predicate a finding of guilty."

Several other groups, among them the International Ladies Garment Workers for which Levy was formerly an organizer, have asked for a probe.

Negroes Eager To Fight For U. S., Says Educator

BUFFALO, N. Y.—(AP)—The Negroes of the United States want a chance to fight for their country, says Dr. James E. Shepard, president of the North Carolina College for Negroes.

Speaking at the 20th anniversary of the Michigan Avenue Negro Y. M. C. A., Dr. Shepard asserted Friday night that the Negro "wants a chance to work and not be discriminated against on account of his color. He wants a chance to fight for his country; he does not want to be robbed of his self-respect."

"A victorious United States must inevitably mean a victorious Negro," the educator said. "At a time when the ideals of democracy are being threatened by foreign powers, our first obligation is in the service of our country. There can be no justification for any plan of action which in the least threatens the success of our war effort."

He said that while "nobody of intelligence or knowledge would say that the Negro has received, throughout our country, even a substantial measure of his rights, we know also that there is no country other than ours in which 12,000,000 or more Negroes have found the opportunities which we find in this country."

47d-1943

FEPC Chairman Inducted

NOV 6 1943

Press Photo Service

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Malcolm Ross, new Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, is sworn into office by Justice Henry Edgerton of the U. S. Court of Appeals. The ceremony was witnessed by Monsignor Francis J. Haas, retiring Chairman of the FEPC. Mr. Ross is expected to do "big things" as head of the committee, it has been reported. — (Press Photo Service).

NOV 6 1943

4/7d

FEPC Withdraws Accusation Of Virginian R'way

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 13 1943

WASHINGTON — Withdrawal of complaints against the Virginia Railway Company and consequent removal of the firm's name from the list of 23 railroad companies summoned to appear at public hearings in Washington, D. C. on Sept. 15 to 18, was announced Sunday by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

The Committee's action followed receipt of official notification from the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen, Inc., representing the complainants, that satisfactory adjustment had been reached with the Virginia Railway Company through the offices of the National Mediation Board on Monday, September 6.

CLAIMED DIFFERENTIALS

The complainants were filed originally with the FEPC in June, 1942. Through the Association, 46 workers had charged that the Virginian Railway Company had maintained unfair differentials in wages and working conditions between Negro and white workers at its Sewall Point Coal Piers, Norfolk, Virginia. Negroes, it was charged, were classified as car riders, performed brakeman's work but were not given a standard rate of pay nor granted overtime pay until after 10 hours per day.

In contrast to this situation the complaints pointed out, white workers doing the same work received a standard rate of pay wihch was higher than that for the Negroes and further, received overtime pay for all work over eight hours per day.

SEP 13 1943

Joseph C. Waddy, General Chairman for the Association, represented the complainants in the mediation preceedings which were begun Thursday, September 2, and notified the FEPC, at conclusion of the proceedings, that a satisfactory adjustment had been reached, requesting that the original complaints be withdrawn.

ACCUSATION CITED

Mr. Waddy's letter of notification to the Committee said in part:

"In June, 1942, the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen filed with your Committee a complaint against the Virginian Railway Company charging that Company with discrimination against Negroes because of race. The discrimination charged consisted of the refusal of the Company to grant its far riders (all of whom are Negroes) employed at Sewalls Point Coal Terminals, Norfolk, Virginia, working conditions substantially equal to those grantel white pier employees and also its refusal to pay the car riders wages equal to the wages paid similar employees on the Norflok and Western Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, both of which operate in the same area.

SEP 13 1943

"You are hereby advised that on September 6, 1943, the Virginian Railway Company and this Association entered into an agreement (copy of which is attached the effect of subsantially wiping out the major differences between the working conditions of the white pier employees and the car riders.

SEP 13 1943

"You are further advised that information has come to the Association indicating that the differential in rates of pay for car riders employed on the Virginian and those employed on the Norfolk and Western and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads is not necessarily based on race but other factors.

"Under the circumstances, the Association desires to withdraw the complaint against the Virginian Railway Company."

SEP 13 1943

4/7d

To Hear Case Against R'way

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

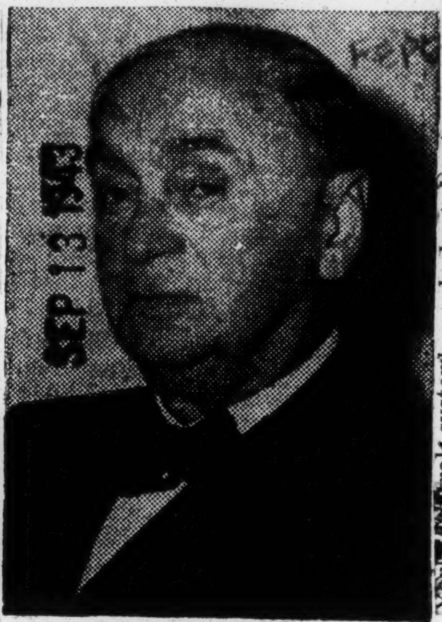
FR. FRANCIS J. HAAS

SEP 13 1943

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

P. BERNARD YOUNG, SR.

SEP 13 1943


Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

SAMUEL ZEMURRAY

SEP 13 1943

Members of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices who will begin hearings into discriminatory practice by railways against Negro locomotive firemen. The hearings will be held in Washington beginning Wednesday, September 15 through September 20.

SEP 13 1943

4/7d

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

MILTON P. WEBSTER

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

MISS SARA E. SOUTHALL

SEP 13

4/7d

Report Rail Changes Since FEPC Hearings

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OCT 16 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The Fair Employment Practice Committee is progressing on the

work of reducing the volumes of ed to "cease and desist" various Railroad stating that they had The New York Central system have had at least one meeting
testimony taken in the railroad discriminations. An official state- since been upgraded by the com- has not yet followed up on its among themselves at which they
hearings to the "handling point," ment has not yet been prepared, pany. suggestion to sit down with the discussed approaches to the prob-
it was learned last week end. however. These upgradings are said to committee and work out a solu- lem.
Already the cases against about Upgrading Reported have taken place almost immedi- tion, nor has there been any
six companies and four labor un- Unofficially but reliably it is ately after the testimony of one break since the hearings ended in
ions have been summarized, understood that telegrams have witness against the company had any other direction. There is the
findings made, and directives been received from several Mexi- been taken down. The texts of report though that a group of the
drafted calling upon all concern- can workers on the Union Pacific the messages were not available. carriers, mostly Northern lines,

FEPC Probes 'Jim Crow' in Vital West Coast Shipyard Centers

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

(Special to The Worker)

NOV 28 1943

LOS ANGELES.

The government has started an offensive against one of the worst Jim Crow centers in war industry—West Coast shipyards, where AFL unions and management alike discriminate against Negro workers although there is an acute manpower shortage.

In the past week, the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, headed by Malcolm Ross, has conducted hearings into practices at the Kaiser yards, Portland, Ore., home of the notorious Boilermakers Local 72, and into practices at several yards in the Los Angeles area.

In both centers, qualified Negroes have been refused jobs, those who did get work were denied full application of their skills, and were refused training and up-grading. In several L. A. yards, as at Portland those who were employed were forced to join a Jim Crow "auxiliary" of the AFL Boilemakers Union, which compelled them to pay dues but denied them voting rights. Those who refused to pay, were discharged.

PORTLAND HEARING

The Portland hearing was highlighted by testimony from Joseph Lake, white official of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, who told the five-man FEPC body that from 300 to 500 of his 16,000 members working at Kaiser, are Negroes and that harmonious relations prevail. He said he saw no reason why discrimination or segregation should exist.

The Rev. J. J. Clow, Baptist Church pastor and president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, testified that colored workers who appealed to him for help in keeping their jobs at Kaiser were refused a chance to join the Boilemakers and told by union representatives that they must join a Jim Crow auxiliary or else lose their jobs.

Robert Rhone, 17, and Raymond Gee, 31, two New Yorkers who came to Portland when Kaiser pleaded with the East for manpower, testified that they had been fired because they refused to join the Jim Crow auxiliaries. Skilled men, they were promised skilled jobs but when they got to Portland, they were offered common labor posts only.

LOS ANGELES PROBE

At Los Angeles, the FEPC heard testimony concerning practices at California Shipbuilding Corp., Consolidated Shipbuilding Corp., Western Pipe and Steel Corp., and those strange auxiliaries to which boilermakers relegate their Negro members.

Walter Williams, young Negro welder, organizer of the Shipyard Workers Committee for Equal Participation, which helped bring the FEPC west, testified that many Negroes paid dues to the auxiliary only because failure to do so meant discharge.

PARADE OF WITNESSES

A whole parade of witnesses, Negro and white, added testimony on discriminatory practices in the yards. Attractively Ruby Ryder Johnson told how she had been refused a job as a clerk, when clerks were needed. Christopher Kemp, an auxiliary steward, told how stewards of the Jim Crow locals were not recognized for the settlement of grievances. William L. Moore, who trained at school as a shipfitter, related how he had been forced to take a job as a military policeman.

There was no testimony from the Boilermakers Union. At Portland, local officials pleaded they were without responsibility, that the International made the policy. The International was not represented there or in Los Angeles, though it had been invited.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
December 7, 1943

Council Votes Against Mixing Races in Offices

With an assertion that "mixed employment of the races" was planned in one or more Atlanta office buildings, City Council has called upon congressional representatives "to insist upon the removal" of the Southeastern regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment in the Ten Forsyth Street Building.

"The race situation can best be handled by local people," said a resolution adopted by Council Monday afternoon. "The activities of this committee in other parts of the South and particularly in Alabama have resulted in the building up of racial animosities."

The regional office was opened here last week to expedite handling of charges of discrimination in war work.

FEPC Defied by Railroads In South on Hiring Negroes

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

President's Board Is Told Its Orders Are Unconstitutional and Handicap to War—Retort Charges Evasion

DEC 14 1943

By LOUIS STARK
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—Challenging the legal and constitutional authority of the President's Committee on Fair Employmen Practice to issue directives to cease discriminatory practices affecting employment of Negroes, sixteen Southern railroads and terminal companies informed the committee today that they could not comply with its orders of Nov. 18, 1943, because to do so would seriously handicap the war program.

Compliance, they declared in a letter to the FEPC, was impracticable, "and indeed impossible," and would violate the Railway Labor Act.

Offering to confer with their employes under the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, the employers declared frankly that it was "utterly unrealistic to suppose that these railroads and their employes can agree to comply with the breadth of your directives or that problems of such delicacy, controlled and governed by a special act of Congress, can be solved out of hand by the fiat of your committee's directives."

The railroads sent a summary of their viewpoint to members of Congress.

The issues were the subject of a four-day hearing in Washington in September. Seven unions were asked to appear at the hearing, but did not so. As a result of the testimony the FEPC gave the parties thirty days to cease discrimination against Negroes. The roads covered by the Southeastern Carriers Conference agreement with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen were directed to set aside this agreement on the ground that it was designed to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons for that job.

The reply of the railroads today indicated that they were ready to carry the case to the Supreme Court.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, [illegible] a reply to the railroads, declaring that their letter of today "makes a public bid for disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors" but that "the plain fact is that this issue is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it."

Gives Definition of Issue

The Southeastern agreement, Mr. Ross stated, was "concerned with the hiring and use of Negroes as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers." He denied that there was any conflict between his committee's directives and the Railway Labor Act and added that the committee was not suggesting anything which could not be done in conformity with that act.

Two orders affecting the West Coast were issued today by the FEPC.

It ordered the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and all its lodges at Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles, to eliminate all membership practices which discriminated against workers because of race or color.

It also ordered five West Coast shipbuilding companies to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues to boilermaker auxiliary unions. The companies were also ordered to cease discharging or refusing to hire Negroes solely because they had failed to obtain clearance from the union.

The companies involved are the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation and the Kaiser Company, Inc., in the Portland-Vancouver area, and the California Shipbuilding Corporation, Consolidated Steel Corporation (shipbuilding division), and the Western Pipe and Steel Corporation, in the Los Angeles area.

The committee found, after public hearing, that the Boilermakers Union created auxiliaries for Negro workers only. Auxiliary members, it was stated, had no voice or vote in the conduct of the union's affairs and must accept as their business agent the business agent of the supervising lodge in whose election the auxiliaries had no part.

The hearings were held after several hundred Negroes were dismissed for refusing to pay dues to auxiliary boilermakers locals, charging that these locals were discriminatory.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

FEPC Hearings

SEP 24 1943

You stated editorially with some justice September 17 that the hearings by the Fair Employment Practices Committee into discriminatory employment practices by the country's railroads were "ritualistic" and that the evidence of discrimination against Negroes "is apparent to the naked eye."

I agree wholeheartedly with you when you decry "the obvious violence done to democratic principles by the current practices of the railroad industry" and I want to underscore your statement pointing up the "urgent practical need at this time for wider utilization of Negro skills."

But while the railroads' discrimination is "apparent to the naked eye," what is also equally evident is the beam in your own eye when you charge that "the labor organizations (are) primarily responsible for the discrimination."

Here is a hearing called by a Government agency for the single purpose of discovering how the present anti-Negro policy came about and what the present situation is on the Nation's railroads, and what happens? Without waiting to hear one scintilla of evidence and without even the pretense of an investigation by The Post, you have determined who is guilty and you have brought in a verdict: "The Government's power should be used to break their (rail brotherhoods) monopolistic control."

If The Post had had a reporter covering the initial hearings, as many other papers did, it would have learned that spokesmen for 22 of the Nation's leading railroads charged by the FEPC with discrimination argued only that their employment policies reflect the civilization in which they operate, reflect, as they said, "the prevailing more and legal system of the States they serve."

At no time did they even so much as hint that the unions were "primarily responsible" for the discrimination.

The Government's power should be used against the real culprits, of course.
COMMON SENSE.
Washington, Sept. 17.

47d-1943

Bi-Racial Committee Gets Busy:

Ask Congress Probe Of Demoting Two Sergeants For Bias Protest

The People's Voice New York N.Y.

MAR 27 1943

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Encouraged by reports from reliable sources that both Samuel Reed, a local boy, and Clifford Clemmons of Kansas City have been promoted to sergeants in the regiments they were transferred to after being demoted last October following their protest at Camp Lee of discriminatory conditions at the post, the Minneapolis and St. Paul branches of the NAACP are planning to redouble their effort to a congressional investigation of discriminatory treatment of Negroes in the armed forces. They are being aided by a Coordinating Committee of prominent Twin City citizens, both Negro and white.

47d

Reed, now in Africa, was a sgt. major at Camp Lee before his demotion and Clemmons, last reported stationed at Fort Dix, was a first sergeant. The two high-ranking non-coms, along with 9 other Negro sergeants, last October 24, presented a list of recommendations to their commanding officers at Lee, asking that Negro soldiers be granted their "full and equal rights on the military reservation and in the surrounding community." The list of recommendations centered around charges of discrimination in the assignment and equipment of Negro military police; discrimination on public conveyances, in the use of facilities of the camp (post exchanges, theatres, service clubs, sport centers and certain areas); the discriminatory policy of the War Department in limiting Negroes by quota in some branches of the service (the Army Air Corps) and the opening of branches now closed to Negroes (the Army Glider program).

Patterson Replies To Questions On Negro In Aviation

Atlanta Daily World

APR 7 1943

Hastie Calls Answer 'Misleading Impression'

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The air force is now bringing the Negro fighter group "to strength" and will train them to carry out their combat mission, according to Robert P. Patterson, under secretary of war. The question of training additional units, including a bomber group, is now under study, he added. In addition to this, he said, air base security battalions will be organized and given the "important tactical duty" of guarding air bases "not only in continental United States, but also in overseas theatres."

47d

This statement of program and policy of the war department was contained in a letter which the under secretary last week wrote to Wilbur La Roe Jr., white of the Washington Federation of Churches, in answering 12 questions which the latter, as chairman of the federation's committee on civic affairs, had submitted.

Mr. LaRoe wrote the war department on March 13 inquiring about certain alleged discriminations against Negroes in the army air forces. Less than a week after its receipt, the department invited Mr. LaRoe and his committee into a conference. Among the four committee members was the Rev. Hallie Tabor, local figur-

BATTERY OF GENERALS

The army was represented by "a battery of generals" headed by the under secretary. Truman K. Gibson, the civilian aide to Secretary Stimson, was not present.

At the conclusion of the conference Mr. Patterson was asked to put his remarks in writing, the result of which is the letter received by Mr. LaRoe last week. Although Mr. Gibson was not acceptable higher up the ladder of authority.

The department was asked in one question to comment on the "allegation" that Negroes are restricted to single engine pursuit ships and barred from training for the heavy bombers.

"It is true that Negroes are so far being given the opportunity for training on single engine pusuit ships," was the admission. "It was believed wise to [illegible] by training a fighter group, where only one air man per plane is involved, namely the pilot. To train a heavy bomber group, it is necessary to train in addition to the pilot, a navigator, a bombardier, an aerial gunner, a radio operator, an additional mechanic and several other technicians. Because of the technical and other features present in flying, it was decided to proceed toward the formation of more complicated units after having gained experience with the simpler units."

AVIATION SQUADRONS

Inquiry was made with regard to the "aviation squadrons (separate)" which have been established for colored soldiers "but that serve no specific military need and have never had a defined function,'" unless it be "common labor." The answer here was:

"They provide a place for man in the air force who do no have the qualifications for more technical work. The duties they perform are to a large extent labor and housekeeping jobs that have to be done at every air force base. While there are no white units actually named 'aviation squadron (separate)' there are many white headquarters which perform the same type of duties at air force installations."

The war department policy provides that 55 per cent of those going to air force must pass the army general classification test and the mechanical aptitude test with a grade of 100 or better. The other 45 per cent who don't and who go into that branch are assigned to unskilled jobs. The secretary says that, cacording to exrerience, 47 per cent of white enlisted men meet this qualification, while only 10 per cent of the Negroes inducted measure up.

"As a consequence," he added, "in order to absorb the same proportion of Negroes as exists in the total population, a small percentage of them who enter the air corps are qualified for entrance into the technical school, and the large majority must be assigned to unskilled tasks."

Mr. LaRoe saw in this decrepancy the handicap which Negroes, particular in the soouth, must labor through the ineaquality of educational facilities.

MEDICAL OFFICERS

The LaRoe letter also asked whether or not it was true that Negro medical officers are admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph field. This is one of the complaints made against the air force by William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to the secretary, following his resignation Feb. 1.

"Until Feb. 1 of this year," was the reply, "Negro medical officers at Tuskegee were not in residence at the school of aviation medicine at Randolph field. Since that date, however, they have been assigned to residence study there. This schooling was originally covered by extension courses and by commutation to Maxwell field as a comparatively small number were involved. When this matter was brought to the attention of the air force headquarters, the change was made in order that Negro medical officers could have the same opportunity as the white medical officers.'"

The Patterson letter gave the assurance that while white officers have charge of the training at Tuskegee, Negroes will be given command duties as soon as they qualify.

Invited to comment on the reply, Mr. LaRoe declared: "Race dicrimination is one of our worst social evils. It is the No. 1 enemy of brotherhood and of a stable post-war world. It does more actual harm than any other thing, and it is, in addition, utterly silly. But I do not see how we can expect the army to make further progress in the matter of brotherhood than we are able to make in civilian life."

The solution? "The best approach to a solution is in civilian life," he proposed. "The way to do it is to do it. And it must be done in a practical way." He invited his own successful efforts in first bringing Negro representatives into the Washington Federation of Churches where a colored man now serves on the board. He pointed to a similar effort on the district parole board of which he is a member along with Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson. Together they have been able to get Negro girls employed in the offices of the board, unsegregated, where only a small staff is maintained at any time.

Recently President Mordecai Johnson of Howard university spoke at Mr. LaRoe's church at the invitation of the latter, the result of which was that many members protested bringing a Negro into their church. He believes, however, that in time this antagonism will be wiped out just as it has in other instances.

Although Dean Hastie said he had read the letter to Mr. LaRoe, he confined his comment to this: "The letter is a combination of half-truths and untruths that conveys a seriously misleading impression." He promised a more detailed statement this week.

WHERE NEXT?

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 2 4 1943

Air Force Again Forced To Shift Race Instructors

CHANUTE FIELD, Ill.—(ANP)—The fate of the group of Negro instructors trained here last year and which the air corps can't decide what to do with is still unsettled.

Chanute field thought it had sent them out to do useful work two months ago when they were transferred to half a dozen fields to train mechanics for various aviation ground crews. In crews of 12 to 16 they were sent to various air fields in Mississippi, North Carolina and Nebraska. Last week after protest by southern officials because they were teaching whites, they all were bundled up and shipped back north, some of them to Chanute field, others to Lincoln, Neb. Where they will go next nobody appears to know.

More than 100 civilians were hired by the air corps to be trained as instructors something over a year ago. At that time, plans were in prospect to establish a complete training school at Tuskegee in connection with the flying school. There ground crews were to be turned out to fill every need for maintenance and repair men for an aviation squadron. The men to be trained were designed primarily for replacements with the 99th Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee and for the 100th, 101st, 102nd and other squadrons to be trained at the same place. Five women in the squads were trained in instrument maintenance.

HITCH OCCUR MAR 2 4 1943

Somewhere a hitch occurred and the men when finally trained, were not sent to Tuskegee. It is said the mechanical school which was to be set up there was abandoned because of opposition by Judge William Hastie, then civilian aide to the secretary of war, and others. The instructors were stalled around here at Chanute, given refresher courses and generally given the run around. Finally, two months ago, they were shipped away, a squad going to each of the following fields: Goldsboro, N. C., Gulfport Miss.; Boloxi, Miss, Wichita Falls, Texas; Amarille, Texas and Lincoln, Neb.

The receptions the men met were varied. At Goldsboro, N. C., they were put to work until they demanded they be given teaching assignments. At Gulfport, Miss., reputed to be a particularly well officered field, the squad was put to teaching immediately. The officer in command, to whom they reported, told them to go on in and take charge. The instructors received every courtesy, had their meals in the same mess that all other soldiers had. There were only 16 colored soldiers at Gulfport. In their classes and in the town, the squad got along well. The instructors taught only white soldiers various maintenance skills. All of the groups taught only whites where they were permitted to teach at all. No one appears to know why the air force after its policy of exclusion, should suddenly decide to assign Negro teachers to white soldiers in the south.

At Biloxi, Miss., hostility met the squad as soon as it arrived. Officers were discourteous and contemptuous. There happened to be several spirited men among the instructors however, and is it reported that they gave as good as they received. They demanded their teaching assignments and generally insisted upon their rights. The commanding officer is said finally to have called the leaders in and told them that he had never seen any Negroes such as they were, before.

Governor Paul Johnson of Mississippi, although reputed to be the fairest governor Mississippi has had in years, wrote a scorching letter, described by some as vicious, to the war department excoriating them for sending Negroes to Mississippi camps to teach white soldiers. The war department is said to have sent a reply which knocked the "Ole Miss" governor on his heels, practically telling him to mind his own business.

Nevertheless without warning, a week ago, the various units received orders to move. Those at Gulfport, Wichita Falls and Amarilla were sent to Lincoln. Those at Biloxi and Godslboro were returned here to Chanute. What's next is what the instructors would like to know. There are some who think the units will gradually be discouraged and weeded out. One thing is certain, some one has bobbled somewhere. In the meantime it is said there is great need for additional trained maintenance men to service the planes of the squadrons at Tuskegee.

Army Pampers Dixie Jimcro At Expense Of Negro Soldiers

The People's Voice New York N.Y.

FEB 27 1943

Extra

"We asked him if the laws of the state were of such miportance as to overshadow the demands of victory. He evaded the question until it was re-stated, and then implied that the state comes first when it comes to segregation and that the nation was secondary."

This is not a quote from the Civil War era. It is an excerpt from a letter written to *PV* by a Negro soldier stationed at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, and tells of the attitude of a white southern college official who explained to a group of our soldiers why they were not to be included in the chance to take night extension courses offered at the camp in cooperation with the General Extension Division of Louisiana State University and Louisiana college.

On Jan. 20, the soldier states, there was posted a circular directed to "all enlisted personnel of Camp Claiborne, Louisiana." It was titled 'Educational." and made announcement of the proposed classes in Spanish, the Psychology of Leadership, and of War Service.

NOT FOR NEGRO SOLDIERS

A group of Negro soldiers attended an organization meeting for the classes held Feb. 1, after their company commander had informed them he could see no reason why Negroes would be excluded, seeing the courses were sponsored in conjunction with an army camp, and advised them to attend the meeting.

When they arrived, the Public Relations officer and a Dr. B. M. Smith of LSU, stated:

"Boys, this is going to be somewhat embarrassing for us, but we will have to inform you that full provisions have not been made for you. . . .

When the soldiers protested, they were told provisions would be made for them at a camp under the auspices of Southern University (Negro). The boys said such arrangements would not be satisfactory because of the fact Southern did not have the facilities with which to teach technical war subjects, and they inquired whether or not it was fully realized what importance such courses might play in future victory or defeat of this country.

RACE SECONDARY NOW

Another excerpt from the letter reads: "We emphasized that these courses would equip us to fight the common enemy with greater dexterity and proficiency, and that we could settle our relatively small grievances of race distinction at a later and more universally convenient date."

The college official insisted that "the *policies and laws* of this state were so designed as to *prohibit* our being a member of this class;"

JIMCRO OK'd TO 'KEEP PEACE'

Dixie race prejudice is so deeply ingrained that the Army, at the risk of discouraging and making miserable thousands of loyal Negro soldiers, confirms. The "pampering" continues even with America getting deeper and deeper into the war with each passing day. At the 310 Aviation Squadron, AAF Flexible Gunnery School, at Fort Meyers, Fla., there is a bulletin advising service men, both Negro and white, on *"Adjustment of Personnel On Local Customs, Laws and Ordinances."* It is a clear, concise formula for following the jimcro laws of Florida.

Item 1 reads: "It is the policy of this Command that all personnel will respect and adhere to all local customs, laws and ordinances. It is probable that many of the officers and soldiers at this Post are or will be from PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THERE ARE NO SEGREGATION LAWS SIMILAR TO THOSE ENFORCED IN THIS AND OTHER SOUTHERN STATES."

Item 5: . . . "These instructions will be repeated by officers to all of their personnel at appropriate intervals to insure that every soldier, both white and colored, clearly understands and abides by these laws and customs. *The Army* did not establish these customs, but it must recognize their existence. Conformance with them will keep soldiers out of trouble and avoid friction with local civilian population. The Army demands respect for the uniform that every soldier wears, but it is mandatory that every soldier act in a manner befitting a soldier and thus earn this respect."

If the Army demands respect for the uniform every soldier wears, it rightfully should demand respect for the uniform worn by a Negro soldier. In southern towns, our soldiers are insulted, beaten and humiliated by white civilians.

SAME IN WORLD WAR I

In James Weldon Johnson's *Black Manhattan* are accounts of the jimcro and discrimination suffered by Negro soldiers in World War I—the war was to make the world safe for democracy. The democracy that is once more imperilled by the very force making up the backbone of the South's jimcro structure—race hate.

"There were some depressing happenings at home after our entry into the war. From the other side came tidings far from being glad. There came back reports of the practices of discrimination and "Jim Crowism" against Negro soldiers; of the efforts to belittle and discredit their fighting abilities; of the ceaseless endeavor at every turn on the part of many of the white American troops to create a prejudice against them WHERE NONE HAD EXISTED. By one means or another, copies of the order entitled *Secret Information Concerning Black American Troops* found their way from France into the United States. This order, issued at the instance of American authorities and through the French military missions, was for the instruction of French officers in dealing with American Negro troops.

"It deprecated any intimacy between French officers and black officers. Specifically it said: 'We may be courteous and amiable with these last, but we cannot deal with them on the same plane as with the white American officers WITHOUT DEEPLY WOUNDING THE LATTER. We must not eat with them, must not shake hands or seek to talk or meet with them outside of the requirements of the military service.'"—NELL DODSON

47d-1943

Segregated Training Doesn't Make Sense, Says Judge Hastie

FEB 27 1943

Washington Tribune

NOTE: In the following statement, William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in protest against the shortcomings of the military aviation program as it effects Negroes, discusses some additional aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces. -- -27 1943

Washington, D. C.

There is not now and never has been any good reason for the segregated training of Negro flyers at Tuskegee.

There are two stages in the training of a soldier to be an Army flyer. The first stage teaches the new cadet how to fly, using small light aircraft adapted to the training of a beginner. This part of the program is carried out by private operators who contract with the Army to give preliminary flying instruction to aviation cadets. The private contractor furnishes the field and the instructors, while the Army selects and assigns the cadets, prescribes the course of instruction and supervises training. There are a great many such contract schools scattered in various sections of the country.

FEB 27 1943

The cadet who successfully completes the elementary flying course at such a school is next assigned to an Army field for further basic and advanced training. From this point on, the Army takes complete charge of the training program.

There was no need to segregate Negro cadets in either stage of training. Newly appointed Negro cadets could have been assigned to beginning classes at any one of the many contract schools just as white cadets are assigned. In fact one or two Negro cadets were so assigned by mistake. But when they arrived for training, arrangements were quickly made to reassign them to Tuskegee. Similarly in the more advanced training, Negroes who had completed the primary course could have been sent to the various Army flying training centers. But the Air Command was determined to separate Negro and white cadets at every stage of training.

FEB 27 1943

Tuskegee Institute was awarded a contract to provide Army primary training for Negro Army aviation cadets. Under this contract the Army enlisted and appointed a small group of Negro cadets every few weeks and sent them to the Tuskegee contract school where Negro instructors employed by Tuskegee Institute gave elementary flying training under Army supervision. Incidently, this caused some confusion, because Tuskegee Institute also has a civilian pilot course which is not connected with the Army. Some young men enrolled in this civilian course under the misapprehension that by doing so they were getting into Army aviation.

For the more advanced training of Negro cadets, the Army invested millions of dollars in the construction of a new Army Air Base for Negroes located a few miles from the town of Tuskegee. Tuskegee Institute has no connection with this Army field or with the advanced training conducted there. However, as to this there has also been some confusion and misunderstanding in the public mind.

But why in the name of common sense should all of this elaborate special machinery be set up to train Negro flyers? It was expensive. It caused a delay of six months or more in the beginning of flying training for Negroes. It was not flexible, since it was adapted only to the training of pursuit pilots. Only by setting up additional Negro training centers for bombardment and observation, or by abandoning segregated training could the program be broadened.

FEB 27 1943

The idea of a separate training base for Negro pilots is indefensible, if Negroes are actually to be an integral part of our combat Air Forces. It is not possible to train flyers in one small area as foot soldiers can be trained. Even in training men must fly from field to field. After a flyer is commissioned, his flying in this country will necessarily take him in and out of a large number of flying fields. If he goes into combat abroad one thing is certain. He will not just fly out of a jim crow base with his own Negro unit and fly back again. Even infantrymen traveling on their own two feet get scattered in combat. How much more are aviators bound to get into unexpected places and undergo regrouping from time to time during the course of a campaign. It is simply impossible to maintain racial segregation of pilots in a combat area. The Air Command must know this.

Since such contacts and mingling are unavoidable, the only sensible thing to do is to prepare men for them by providing inter-racial associations in training such as they are bound to have later on. If we want white and colored flyers in combat to get along well with each other, the best plan is to build mutual understanding and self-respect by training them together from the time they begin learning to fly. The worst plan is to keep them apart until they are forced together under the stress of circumstances in combat. Prejudice is based on ignorance. Let men get acquainted with each other in training and there is no great problem [illegible] harmony later on.

FEB 27 1943

All of this has seemed simple and obvious to me. The Air Command, however, cannot see it. The Air Command is not even influenced by the fact that the Ground Forces have been training white and colored officer candidates together with excellent results ever since the beginning of the present Army expansion.

There are none so blind as those who do not want to see. And the Air Command just does not want to see the advantages of training white and colored flyers together. I believe this blindness will continue until public criticism and condemnation of the segregated training policy becomes so strong that it can no longer be ignored.

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

Negro Soldiers Clean Toilets Of Whites At Camp Wheeler In Ga.

MAR 6 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Why are Negro soldiers required to rise an hour earlier than white soldiers at Camp Wheeler, Georgia? the Washington Bureau of the NAACP demanded this week of Secretary of War Stimson.

Reveille is sounded at 5:30 a. m. for colored soldiers [illegible]. Upon rising, they clean their own barracks and mess halls, after which they are required to clean the toilets used by white soldiers. White soldiers at Camp Wheeler rise at 6:30 a. m.

MAR 6 1943

In the letter to Stimson, the NAACP declared: "relegation of Negro soldiers by the United States Army to the status of menials gives democracy an empty sound to those who are called upon to sacrifice, fight and die for it."

The NAACP cited the treatment accorded Negroes assigned to the medical detachment as being especialy objectionable.

The Northwest Enterprise

Seattle, Wash

DISCHARGED WHEN RACE DISCOVERED

TWO OTHERS ALSO SENT BACK TO CIVILIAN LIFE

MAR 3 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, MO. — Faces are still red in the headquarters of the 7the Service command in Omaha after three Negroes, one of them a Lincoln university professor, were inducted as privates along with 2,000 whites, into an aviation cadet unit at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. The mistake was rectified only when the three were given speedy honorabl discharges and placed in orable discrarges and placed in the air force enlisted reserve.

The Lincolnite who had a taste of democracy in the army in Stewart B. Fullbright, an alumnus and a French instructor here until Jan. 31, when he entered Flight "B" of the 1,166th Technical School squadron at Jefferson Barracks. He was gone 10 days before returning to the university to resume his teaching duties.

3 In By Error

MAR 3 1943

Telling of his experiences last week, Mr. Fullbright said: "I thought it strange that I was the only Negro in a group of over 2,00 aviation cadets and I later found out that there were three of us there by mistake."

The others to whome he referred were Wendell R. Smith, of Des Moines, and Charles L. Smith, of St. Louis.

MAR 3 1943

Unfamiliar surroundings didn't phase Pvt. Fullbright. He met no difficulty in going through the processing period along with the white men with whom he had been placed.

"I can sincerely say that during this processing (mental, physical and orientation tests, interviews and drilling), no discrimination was shown toward me," he said. His white companions accepted him ni their conversation and in horseplay and the flight sergeant was especially kind, he aserted.

MAR 3 1943

Pvt. Fullbright ate in a Negro mess hall at his own request, not on orders, but one of his Negro confrers who ate in the general mess was alleged to have been told by a kitchen police officer that "We don't allow N . . . . to eat in here."

MAR 3 1943

All Three Discharged

The day following that incident, according to Pvt. Fullbright, Pvt. Wendell Smith was transferred from Squadron 1,167, which is an aviation cadet unit, to Squadron 917, a Negro unit of enlisted men. Unlike the Lincolnite, he had not ben permitted to go through the processing, but on Feb. 6 he too, was notified that he would be discharged.

The third Negro soldier, Pvt. Charles Smith, was on a 10-day convalescent furlough at that time, observed Pvt. Fullbright, who also saw strange things within the confines of an army post. However, the day this Pvt. Smith reported for duty he was given an honorable discharge, also.

MAR 3 1943

When informed on February 8 that he was to be discharged, Pvt. Fullbright didn't know what to think. The reason given him was that "the Omaha office (headquarters of the Seventh Area command), made a mistake." He was given the honorable discharge and permitted to keep his uniform, but he's still subject to the air reserves, according to a notation typed on his discharge. It took two more days to complete the army routine of issuing the discharge papers.

MAR 3 1943

With more than enough money topay his own fare back to JefHeferson City without waiting for the army's five-cent-a-mile allowance from the post to his home.

Downey Assails Army Jim Crow

PM

New York, N. Y.

Calls on Senate to Investigate Discrimination in

Armed Forces

PM's Bureau

APR 9 1943

WASHINGTON, Apr. 9.—A Senate investigation of discrimination against Negroes in the armed services was proposed yesterday by Sen. Sheridan Downey (D., Cal.).

Downey proposed that a subcommittee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee be directed to investigate the status of the Negro and other minority groups to determine the extent of compliance with the draft act's prohibition against racial discrimination.

The Committee would be authorized to inquire into practices which exclude personnel from certain assignments because of race or color; the extent to which opportunities for advancement are limited for similar reasons; and the relationship of the system of segregated units to the effective utilization and appropriate placement of personnel on the basis of individual competency and merit.

Hastie's Resignation Cited

Noting that complaints of discrimination have been made, Sen. Downey said some of them have come from "responsible persons in a position to have full knowledge of the facts, among them Mr. William Hastie, formerly civilian aid to the Secretary of War, who has resigned in protest against what he charges to be violations of the non-discrimination provisions of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940."

APR 9 1943

"It has been charged," Downey added, "that despite the severe shortage of competent personnel in the air force, qualified Negro personnel have been hindered in their desire to render their best services in the defense of America.

'Their Loyalty Unquestioned'

"By the end of this year there will be more than 1,000,000 Negro Americans serving their country in armed forces. They will represent more than 10 per cent of all Americans under arms. Their heroism, their loyalty, is unquestioned. The records of such Negro heroes as Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

"It becomes vital to the successful prosecution of America's war of survival that the morale of the Negro Americans in our armed forces and of the 12,000,000 more who are now working on the home front, be not impaired by failure of any Government agency to live up to the letter and spirit of existing laws against discrimination."

APR 9 1943

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

TROOPS USED BECAUSE SEATTLE SNOW MENACED MILITARY OPERTIONS, SAY ARMY HEAD

MAR 18 1943

Washington, D. C.—Denying that there was discrimination in the recent use of Negro troops for snow removal in Seattle, Washington, Major General J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General of the War Department, told the NAACP this week that the Commanding General of the Northwest section had utilized for this detail the most available troops "who happened to be colored."

In answer to the NAACP's charge that the U. S. Army was using Negro troops to releive municipalities of legitimate expenses, Major General Ulio said:

MAR 18 1943

"The storm in Seattle was of such an extent as to seriously interfere with all activities pertaining to the operation of military installation and defense as well as its civilian activities—the commanding general of the 39th Army Aircraft Artillery Brigade utilized white troops and their equipment to assist in restoring the region of Bremerton Navy Yard and Seattle to normalcy while the commanding general of the Seattle port of embarkation utilized all troops available to him regardless of color in operation of the port and in clearing the snow and ice from that vicinity to permit the proper operation of the port.

MAR 18 1943

Employment Bias Head Says WAVES Ain't Fair

People's Voice N.Y.

People's Voice

Charles C. Berkley, Executive Director of the State War Council Committee on Discrimination in Employment, made the following statement in regard to PV's request for action on the WAVES, the "lily-white" Navy's woman auxiliary unit taking over city-supported Hunter College as a dormitory:

JAN 30 1943

"It was impossible to assemble state discrimination committee for formal action on your request in the time specified. As Executive Director of the Committee on Discrimination In Employment, I know that the Committee deprecates all discrimination against Negroes, even in jurisdictions outside of its authority. There seems to be little doubt that the project you describe is in violation of the spirit of New York State Civil Rights Laws."

CRITICISE NEGRO SHIPYARD ADVISER FOR NEWS ARTICLE

MAY 7 1943

Chicago Bee

Chicago, Illinois

MAY 7 1943

By Leon H. Washington Jr.

OAKLAND, Cal., Mar. 5 (ANP)—Community protest and indignation reached a high pitch here this week following publication of a news item in the San Francisco Chronicle with a picture of Don Gibson who is employed as race adviser at the Richmond Shipyard No. 1. The article read as follows: "I belive race problems in the shipyards are exaggerated by outsiders."

MAY 7 1943

This is the opinion of Don Gibson, the first Negro to become a counselor in the Richmond yards.

"A colored man is a worker like anyone else," he said. "He is producing and helping America to win—he should be made to feel he has something to gain in doing his part to defeat the enemy."

Don's job is to talk over problems with Negroes in Richmond Yard No. 1 and help them get adjusted to their work. He is a big fellow with quiet, friendly eyes that don't miss a thing. He is soft-spoken and chooses his words carefully.

He has six years' experience in personal relations, but feels he learned most about people when he was manager of a night club in Chicago. "I became interested in character reading," he said. "I try to study a man as I talk to him. I make it a point not to get mad at people—you don't get mad at people when you understand them. That's why I can talk about the race problem without getting upset."

This quality of tact comes in handy when Don has to settle a disagreement between two workers.

MAY 7 1943

"I try to keep in mind that the other fellow has a perfect right to think or feel as he does—no matter how I feel about it. And believe it or not, I've never had a fight in my life."

Don started to work in Richmond Yard No. 1 eight months ago as a trainee welder. He already knew how to weld, so he soon became a journeyman. He is full of praise for personnel officials in the yard, who he says give him warm cooperation in every problem that comes up.

Workers and civic leaders loudly condemn Gibson for his statement. One worker who was interviewed stated that he not only disagreed with Gibson but would like to make known his disagreement "in a personal manner with him."

MAY 7 1943

According to the workers discrimination is riding high. Even when persons attempt to get employment their applications have a space for one's nationality. Negroes are not promoted and they point out that white persons coming from the south who have had less experience are immediately promoted to higher positions. Most of the lead men are from Oklahoma and Texas and are put over Negro gangs in order to create racial discrimination and dissension.

MAY 7 1943

The housing conditions are deplorable. Negroes are relegated to one section of the project. Their quarters are unequipped and they have an electric plate for cooking and heating purposes. None of the projects is without their segregated sections.

MAY 7 1943

An incident was related by a young woman who stated that she was employed on Feb. 13 as a welder student at $1.04 per hour. She was then given a slip to purchase a leather jacket, gloves and welder's hood. She went to work that evening, finished her shift during which she was told by the instructor that she was welding too fast and to take it easy. However, the next day she was told to go to the personel office and upon arriving there was informed that she did not have the ability to become a welder.

MAY 7 1943

She then went to Don Gibson but was unable to see him. Later she contacted him at his home at which time she says Gibson told her not to create any disturbances and that after all his power was limited and that he had to protect his job. He would talk to the officials to see what could be done. He called her that morning and told her to come out to the yards. She got there at 1:30 and from that time until 4:00 P. M., she was unable to see anyone. Later she contacted Gibson who arranged for a conference with a Mrs. Kuhne who attempted to pacify her with other jobs which paid less money, in spite of the fact that she had spent over $45 for welding clothes. It was also charged that there is a general policy of the Richmond hiring yards to hire one Negro to every 25 whites.

MAY 7 1943

Mr. Gibson was interviewed and stated that he had been misquoted by the white newspaper and that at all times he had worked to the best interest of the Negro workers. He pointed out the fact his position was that of an arbitrator and that he had been responsible for the employment of a number of Negro women.

MAY 7 1943

C. L. Dellums, civic leader and member of the Bay Cities Anti-Discrimination committee, stated that it was unfortunate that such an incident should occur immediately upon the release of Judge S. Lazarus' report which branded the ship industry here as a hotbed of rank racial segregation and as the bottleneck in our all-out war effort. Many civic leaders condemned the Gibson statement as a cover up for the labor troubles which exist in the shipyards thruout the bay area. They point out that in spite of the need for electricians and machinists, Negroes are denied these jobs simply because of discrimination.

New York Times

New York, N. Y

FRIEND OF NEGRO HONORED

MAY 9 1943

W. H. Hastie, Federal Ex-Judge Addresses Meeting Here

MAY 9 1943

Former Federal Judge William H. Hastie, who resigned as a civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson in January, because of alleged discrimination against Negroes in the Army, was the guest of honor last night at a meeting held by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the Salem Methodist Episcopal Church, 129th Street and Seventh Avenue.

In a prepared address Judge Hastie declared that Negro morale was being impaired by discriminatory practices against Negro soldiers, particularly in the South. Citing instances of clashes between Negro soldiers and whites in the South, he urged the strengthening of Federal laws for the protection of men in uniform.

MAY 9 1943

Constitution

Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Labor Ordered Paid as Much as White

JUN 8 1943

WASHINGTON, June 7.—(AP)—Pay differentials between white and Negro labor were under War Labor Board ban today, governed by a decision in a case from Texas.

Directing the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City to increase the pay of its Negro employes to parity with white workers of the same classification, the board held that "economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program."

Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and public member of the board, wrote the opinion, which called the case "small but significant" and reported that "to the credit of the company" the concern accepted the order in good faith and spirit."

47d-1943

Color Restricts Army Pilots to 200 When 1,000 Can Be Trained

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Bombers, Navigators, Gunners, Enlisted Flyers' Units Open to Whites Only.

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON

The air command could increase its output of colored flyers from 200 to 1,000 a year if it would remove existing racial restrictions.

This is the view Dr. William H. Hastie expressed in his third public statement issued since resigning as civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Explaining the failure of the War Air Command to encourage, or even permit, free participation of colored men in flying training and service, Judge Hastie said a few hundred pilots can make a big difference in almost any of the present theatre of war.

Segregation Is Costly

"Of course there would be serious practical difficulties in developing segregated training fields and segregated organizations of many various types in such training fields and segregated organizations of various types in such an expansion," he declared.

"From a military point of view all of this new segregated setup probably would not be worth the time, expense and diversion of personnel.

But if the war lasts long enough, it is not too much to hope that those in authority will realize that their insistence upon strict racial segregation in aviation training and organization is a real hindrance to the ultimate objective of success in battle."

How Restrictions Operate

In March, 1941, the Army Air Corps began accepting colored applicants for aviation cadet training. Actual instruction began several months later, but only in one type of combat aviation — pursuit flying — which it described as an experiment. Dr. Hastie's statement continues:

"The single pilot in his pursuit ship has the most exacting of air tasks, handling his fast plane, maneuvering it at terrific speed in actual combat, mastering the technique of accurate and properly directed fire in aerial dog fights, and exercises split-second judgment in unexpected situations and emergencies.

"Why was the colored man, whose ability was in doubt (?) not started off with observation flying or in bombardment where co-pilots and other crew members assist each other and share and divide responsibility?

"Only the men who made the decision know the answer. They may have reasoned that through pursuit flying colored men would demonstrate their ability to perform any air combat task. Fortunately, it seems to be working out that way.

"They may also have reasoned that colored men were less likely to succeed in pursuit flying than in somewhat less exacting work.

42 Per Cent Successful

"During the first year, 42 per cent of the colored trainees successfully completed their course and earned their wings as pursuit pilots. During the same period 59 per cent of white aviation cadets who entered training qualified as flying officers.

"Of course the number of colored pilots was small and the statistics are therefore not conclusive. More important is the fact that colored candidates have no opportunity at any stage of training to be assigned to some other branch of combat flying, if they seem not to be well adapted to pursuit work.

Pursuit or Nothing

"The colored cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing. White cadets are sorted out placed according to their apparent aptitudes.

"Under these circumstances, the fact that 42 per cent of the colored candidates who had the physical and educational qualifications for aviation made the grade in the most difficult assignment is a significant accomplishment.

"Beyond the fact that the colored cadet must have the ability for pursuit flying, or else not fly at all, he must meet the special physical specifications of the pursuit pilot. "If he is too tall or too heavy, he cannot be an army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work.

No Publicity

"The Air Command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young colored men with superior training into flying training.

"When the air forces set up their college reserve program, no colored men were wanted. The small "colored quota" was already filled for a year in advance. So, while the ground forces were welcoming colored college men into their college reserve, the air forces refused to accept them.

"Even earlier the Air Corps had undertaken the recruiting of groups of men from the individual college campus who would go into training as a unit with the group spirit and enthusiasm developed through their association at college. The colored youth was excluded from this also.

"Thus, only those who went forward on their own initiative, determined despite hell and high water to be combat flyers, ever became aviation cadets. Even then, they were accepted only within limited quota restrictions and for one type of training.

Volunteers Restricted, Too

"Within the past two months, restrictions upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army have been extended to aviation cadets. Apparently, aviation cadets will be chosen almost exclusively from men already in the army.

"A new problem faces the colored man. He must apply for aviation cadet training through his commander and his papers must survive a journey through military channels. It remains to be seen whether his application will be encouraged and facilitated to the same extent as the application of the white soldier.

No Enlisted Pilots

"In this connection, one recent experience is disturbing. For more than a year the Air Command has been selecting young soldiers, high school graduates, to be taken from the ranks and trained to become enlisted pilots. They become master, staff and technical sergeants with flying rating.

"As far as I have been able to discover, colored enlisted men have not been accepted in this program. How different will the situation be now that both prospective flying officers and prospective enlisted pilots will be selected from the ranks of the army?"

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Leaders Refute Knox on WAACs, SPARs

MAY 28 1943

Negro editors and heads of Negro organizations have bitterly denied Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox's assertion that they favored barring Negro women from the present setup of Naval and Coast Guard reserves.

Their opinions are made public today by the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem, which this week is holding a series of meetings on problems affecting the Negro people.

The Committee first wrote to Mr. Knox Feb. 19. This letter, signed by Dr. Algernon D. Black, co-chairman, asked the Secretary of the Navy for clarification of that department's policy with respect to it's recruiting Negro women.

Mr. Knox on March 5 answered that the Women's Reserve "shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the Navy to release male officers and enlisted men of the Naval Service for duty at sea." The letter added: "The Navy does not have any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea. There is no occasion to replace Negro enlisted personnel by Negro women enlisted in the Women's Reserve."

DENY KNOX STATEMENT

The Navy Secretary closed his letter with the following statement, characterized by the Committee as "astonishing and inaacurate": "This program is necessarily experimental, but it is not discriminatory, and it has received the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press generally."

The City-Wide Committee on Harlem immediately wrote to a number of leading Negro organizations and editors asking them to comment on Mr. Knox's statement

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., City Councilman, pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church and editor and publisher of the **People's Voice**, said the Knox promise was "entirely erroneous." While it was true, Dr. Powell said, that the WAVE's was established to relieve male officers and enlisted men of the Naval Service for duty at sea, "it does not say that these men must be supplanted by whites only."

The editor of the New York Age, Ludlow Werner, wrote that, "when there is so much talk of democracy, it is ironic that the Secretary of the Navy should see fit to make such a damnable statement of policy." He said he could not "under any circumstances subscribe to" the Navy's discriminatory program "and I do not believe that Mr. Knox can say a single Negro editor has okayed his proposal."

Channing Tobias, senior secretary, National Council of the YMCA, said Mr. Knox's letter was "a classic illustration of subterfuge and evasion."

Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, wrote:

"The statement of Secretary Knox that the Navy Department's program is 'necessarily experimental' and 'has received the approval of Negro organizations' certainly does not express the position of the National Urban League. Neither does the League approve the over-timid and frequently contradictory policies which the Navy Department has instituted."

The National Urban League is among the many Negro organizations in the New York metropolitan area supporting the forthcoming Negro Freedom Rally in Madison Square Garden June 7. Among other things, the rally will focus attention on the progress being made nationally against Jim Crow services. Mr. Granger will be a featured speaker at the Garden meeting.

Other Negro editors and heads of Negro organizations were equally vehement in renouncing Mr. Knox's position

The City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem said it would continue to put pressure on the Navy Department to abolish discrimination against both Negro men and Negro women in its services.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Marylar

No Colored MP in New Orleans

WASHINGTON

There are no colored military policemen in New Orleans although a large number of colored soldiers are stationed in that area, a War Department official told the AFRO this week.

The official denied charges that colored civilians and soldiers were beaten with blackjacks by white MP's during a recent disturbance which followed the arrest of a soldier for disorderly conduct.

In a letter to the AFRO, soldiers from Jackson Barracks and Camp Harahan said the treatment received from civilians and MP's in New Orleans "is shameful," and urged that colored MP's be put on duty there.

JUN 19 1943

DOWNEY LAUNCHES PROBE ON BIAS IN COAST PLANTS

"Pittsburgh Courier" Pittsburgh Pa.

MAY 8 1943

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES, Calif., May 6—In keeping with his recent bill introduced in the Congress of the United States to investigate racial discriminations in the armed forces, Senator Sheridan Downey (Dem., Calif.) selected his home State as the starting point for his campaign by launching a series of hearings in the Federal building here last week.

Senator Downey, who is chairman of the Sub-committee of the United States Senate Military Affairs committee, was accompanied by the following members of the Investigating committee: Col. Clarence Harsham, who represented the War Department; Captain G. H. Laird, Navy; William K. Hopkins, War Manpower Commission; Otto S. Breyer, Office of Defense Transportation; Eugene Weston, National Housing Administration; C. W. Flesher, Maritime Commission; C. W. Eliason, Maritime Commission; Boyd Stewart, Agriculture; Capt. Francis P. Trayner, Navy; Dr. Gustave Peck, War Production Board; Edwin Bates, War Relocation Authority; Lt. Col. Ben R. Howell, Selective Service and James Bond, War Manpower Commission.

MAY 8 1943

DOWNEY ISSUES STATEMENT

In opening the hearings, the Senator made the following statement to the packed courtroom, "By the end of this year there will be more than one million Negro Americans serving their country in our armed forces. They will represent more than ten per cent of all Americans under arms. Their her[illegible] loyalty is unquestioned.

"The record of such Negro heroes as Doris Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

"It become vital to the successful prosecution of America's war survival, that the morale of the Negro Americans in our armed forces and of the twelve million more who are working on the home front, be not impaired by failure of any Government agency to live up to the latter and spirit of existing laws against discrimination. It is essential that there be full and unhindered use of all America's manpower in the conduct of the war."

INTRODUCES RESOLUTION

The Senator told his listeners that for those very reasons he was introducing a resolution in Congress whereby the Senate may have full information as to the degree to which its legislative mandate is being carried out in the armed services.

Before introducing testimony to support the need of Senator Downey's Congressional legislation, Revels Cayton, State vice president of the California CIO, in taking the stand gave concrete examples of the unpatriotic attitude of many employers by not being willing to open their doors to accept the best skills of Negroes and other minorities.

"Despite the fact that there has been a great increase in employment of Negroes in industry throughout the entire State, the difficulty, however, is that they are being hired in the most menial capacities and to do 'stoop' and 'mule' labor," he said.

NORTH AMERICAN BLASTED

North American Aircraft company was again the focal point of attack by witnesses who testified. Mrs. Louise Holland, white, an inspector at the plant, stated that she was questioned by management relative to her friendship with Negro co-workers.

The same company was also subjected to the attack of Vernon E. Ford, a former teacher of accounting at the Thomas Jefferson high school, who resigned his position to aid the war effort by applying for an accounting vacancy at the plant. According to Mr. Ford, who is now a stock clerk at North American, he has constantly been denied the opportunity to fill a vacancy in the accounting department, despite the fact that many exist from time to time.

OPEN TO HEALTH IMPAIRMENT

Sherman Hardaway, white, of Local 131, United Rubber Workers of America, an employee of the Goodyear Rubber Company for the past fifteen years related cases of rank discrimination against Negro women workers at the Goodyear plant.

He informed the Senator that they were given the "hot house" jobs in temperature ranging from 135 to 140 degrees; that they were assigned to nylon painting and kept there, though the paint is nauseating, and over a short period of time serves to impair one's health.

John Wilson, chief steward in the executive department and the only Negro on the executive board at Vultee Aircraft testified to the lack of upgrading opportunities at this plant and the willingness of management to employ qualified skilled Negroes in their particular fields.

MUST DO SOMETHING

At the close of the special sessions which were conducted by Paul Pinsky, research director of the California State CIO, Senator Downey thanked the witnesses for their frank and unbiased testimonies and told his hearers, "We must certainly do something to have these conditions cease if we are to have the kind of democracy that we are fighting for."

Similar meetings are scheduled to be held in other key areas of the state.

COLLUSION TO PROMOTE JIM CROW CHARGED

MAR 27 1943

Former War Department Official Denounces 'Unholy Alliance'

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Tuskegee institute was charged with collusion with the Army air forces to promote segregated flying training in a blistering attack on the historic institution this week by Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

In a speech here at the Woodlawn forum Sunday night and a statement released through the NAACP, Hastie terms Tuskegee's "unholy alliance" with the Army air forces "outrageous."

In a cold, calm and dispassionate voice, the Spingarn medalist spoke to an overflow audience here, denouncing the newest program of segregation by the air forces. The program allows a flying cadet five months of training in 125 universities and colleges in the country.

"But," said Judge Hastie, "due to sinister motives on the part of some people, interested solely in themselves or the institution, all Negro cadets must be shifted to Tuskegee institute down in Alabama."

Not "First Class"

"There may be some Tuskegee graduates in the audience. I hope I do not hurt their feelings by telling the truth. Tuskegee institute is primarily a mechanical and agriculture school. It was founded as such and has remained more or less as such. True, the college department has made some progress and has received a rating. Tuskegee institute, however, is not a first class liberal arts college.

"I am discouraged when men will intercede to have all Negro cadets sent to Tuskegee institute and see no reason for such a move other than there is a definite plan to make Tuskegee the army flying center for Negroes. Tuskegee is not rendering the Negro flyer or the war effort any valuable service in this latest step to concentrate a black aviation program around the Tuskegee campus.

MAR 27 1943

"The school gets its mess of pottage and the air forces now have the most willing accomplice in its determination to keep the Negro out of northern universities and colleges which have no color barrier.

"Inexcusable"

"Even if Tuskegee were an outstanding liberal arts college, which it is not, this newest and wholly unnecessary Jim Crow scheme would be inexcusable. In all the circumstances the plan is outrageous.

"The time has come when the unholy alliance between Tuskegee institute and the Army air forces must be publicly denounced and condemned.

MAR 27 1943

"With calous indifference to the best interests of the Negro and to the importance of democracy in the war effort, Tuskegee institute is looking out for Tuskegee."

Asked by a Defender reporter if he believed his resignation had accomplished anything, the judge answered, "It has to some extent. The army air forces has made some changes, presumably so that whatever might have been said against it would not be true."

Whites In 'Fast To Death' Against Race Prejudice

MAR 20 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

COSHOCTON, Ohio. —(ANP) — Twenty-one former campmates have wired President Roosevelt urging the immediate release from Danbury (Conn.) Federal prison of two conscientious objectors who have been on a work strike and "fast unto death" because of segregation and race discrimination within the prison.

The fast of Louis Taylor of Bronx, N. Y., and Thomas Stanley Murphy, of Queens, N. Y., was ended on the 21st day with forced feeding administered by prison guards but has continued since March 5. Dr. Evan W. Thomas, an assistant professor of medicine at New York university, said in New York Saturday that he did not think they could live out their two and one-half year sentences under forced feeding.

A third objector, George Russell Kingsley of Rochester, N. Y., has been in solitary confinement in the Danbury "hole" for joining Murphy and Taylor in resisting segregation by a work strike.

Walk Out of Camp

The three men were sentenced in Buffalo, N. Y., on February 2 for having walked out of the Civilian Public Service camp at Big Flats, N. Y., because of the failure of the government to provide them with constructive work. They had previously spent an average of 16 months each in the C. P. S. camps for conscientious objectors maintained by peace churches recognized by selective service.

The men declared that they found acceptance of C. P. S. to be cooperation with conscription for war and had to protect the only way they could. They felt they had been boondoggling in the camp in a time of world crisis and that there was no justification for it.

At the time he was taken into custody, Murphy was engaged in volunteer service with a pacifist community in a Detroit slum. In a neighborhood of race tension between Detroit Negroes and newly-arrived southern whites, Murphy conducted a recreational program in which he was successful in bringing the children of both races together. He was also active in the efforts of this community group to interest their neighbors in forming a local cooperative for the purchase of milk, and a tenants' league to combat rising rents in the slum.

Long Conflict

"Although Stanley Murphy, George Kinsley and Louis Taylor have now come to public notice because of their non-cooperation, and the hunger strike of the latter two, this is by no means the first time that C.O.'s have come into conflict with prison authorities because of race discrimination," disclosed Joseph Guinn, president of the Chicago NAACP Youth council, now assigned to the C.O. camp at Coshocton, Ohio, and one of the signers of the telegram to the President.

"Many C.O.'s have been placed in solitary confinement or themselves been segregated in special prison camps for so called 'disruption' of prison routine by refusing to follow jim crow practices. In fact, this has been the chief point of conflict between C.O.'s and prison authorities.

"Since these men refuse to participate in war because they believe in the equal value of every human being, they frequently find themselves unable to comply with the segregation rules of the federal prisons. This has caused antagonism on the part of some of the other prisoners, and has even resulted in violent attacks upon the objectors in at least one prison, Chillicothe. Their steadfastness of conviction, however, has also won the respect and friendship of many other fellow prisoners."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Roosevelt Asked to Review Levy Case

OCT 29 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — President Roosevelt was asked on Tuesday to commute the sentence of Pvt. Alton Levy in a brief filed by Leon M. Despres, Chicago attorney, summarizing the errors said to have been committed against the soldier.

Despres contends that Levy's conviction resulted [illegible] action directed against [illegible] for his championship of colored soldiers' rights and for his personal background as a labor organizer.

47d-1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y

Hastie Resigns From 'Hot Seat' As Civilian Aide: —Who's Next?

JAN 23 1943

William (Bill) Hastie, who has had a prize "hot seat" as Negro Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, caused a furore of talk and double-talk this week by resigning his post. No reason was given in the first-person release sent to newspapers, but it has been known for quite some time that the Dean of the Howard University School of Law, now on leave, has not been exactly happy in the job—which carries with it the biggest headache of any held by a Negro in America today.

His resignation reads as follows:

"In the past, replying to inquiries prompted by rumors and speculation, I have stated that, if and when I should leave the War Department, the press would receive direct and authoritative information. Accordingly, the press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, effective at the end of January, 1943.

"I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, Administrative Assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with the matters involving civilian personnel, to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of thousands of Negroes and the satisfactory adjustment of many employee grievances.

"I have also asked Mr. Truman K. Gibson jr, Assistant Civilian Aide, to remain at his post, at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity of effort in matters which have been undertaken by this office.

JAN 23 194

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of friendly support and cooperation which my office has received from the press.

"I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

JAN 23 1943

WERE HIS HANDS TIED?

Hastie has been subjected to criticism in the past months because of what has been termed his "lack of aggressive action" on various discriminatory measures brought to his attention. Just how far Hastie, or any other Negro holding a high federal position is, or would be allowed to pursue any such action, is open to argument. It's no secret that "aggressiveness" on the part of Negro "titles" is frowned on in the nation's capital and that much of the authority that goes with such positions is more of the paper variety than of actual performance.

There are many who have constantly maintained Hastie, tired of being constantly under pressure for conditions he really does not have the power to control, has been dissatisfied for months. There seems to be an inference in his resignation that Truman K. Gibson jr, his assistant, and Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in charge of matters affecting Negro civilian personnel, may ultimately leave their posts. It is stated they will remain on duty with the department *at least* through such transitional periods as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity in efforts which have been undertaken by this office." This falls in line with the off-the-record statement a few weeks ago of a Washington Negro of influence in racial affairs who said that there was a possibility certain individuals might fall into disfavor with the powers-that-be because of a growing reluctance to complacently conform any further to policies arbitrarily shoved down their throats.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Gibson To Follow Hastie Out Of War Dept.

WASHINGTON.—In a dramatic protest against Army discriminatory practices, both Negro civilian aides to the Secretary of War — Judge William H. Hastie and Truman K. Gibson—acted to resign this week.

Hastie's resignation was turned in to the War department on Saturday while Gibson indicated he would step out at the first opportunity.

Bringing the long smoldering situation in the War department to a climax was the recent Army action in setting up a jim crow technical air corps training school at Jefferson Barracks without consultation with either Hastie or Gibson, the Defender learned.

As long ago as last May, reports were current that such a segregated air corps school would be established but both Hastie and Gibson denied knowledge of it to the Chicago Defender at the time. They promised to tell the Defender when they learned about the plans but they found out about it from the same sources as the Defender—from an official War department release issued without informing either of the two civilian aides.

Soldiers "Can't Resign"

While Hastie's resignation was a formal one without giving his reasons, Gibson told the Defender:

"I am anxious to get out as soon as possible. But someone has to stay on the job to look out for the boys in Mississippi, Louisiana, and other places. They can't resign."

He said he couldn't leave the office because the "boys would probably catch hell." Gibson said he couldn't let "the boys" down.

War department chiefs had no comment to make on the decision by Hastie and Gibson to quit.

JAN 23 1943

Difficult Job

Hastie found the War department difficult to deal with, next to impossible to secure cooperation from, steeped in traditional prejudice and bias and unwilling to remove bans or lift bars where Negro troops are concerned. Hastie and Gibson have won high esteem from officials of the War department and many friends personally in army circles, but they have been in a baffling blind alley when it came to getting accomplished the things which they actually fought to get done.

Hastie served directly under the assistant secretary of war, Judge Robert Patterson. Judge Patterson is said to have been in complete sympathy with the general objectives of the Hastie office but there came a time when it was difficult to see Judge Patterson or to place upon his busy desk the personal plaints of Negro soldiers.

It is reported that at one time white officers in the department set up a committee to pass upon affairs affecting Negro soldiers and not only did not invite Hastie to become a member of the group but failed even to tell him it was formed. The plan evidently was to "by-pass" his office on all important decisions.

Hastie's statement said:

"In the past, replying to inquiries prompted by rumors and speculation, I have stated that, if and when I should leave the War department, the press would receive direct and authoritative information. Accordingly, the press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as civilian aide to the secretary of war, effective at the end of January, 1943.

"I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with matters involving civilian personnel to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of thousands of Negroes and the satisfactory adjustment of many employee grievances.

JAN 23 194

"I have also asked Mr. Truman K. Gibson Jr., assistant civilian aide, to remain at his post, at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity of effort in matters which have been undertaken by this office.

"I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON —Without saying why he quit or what he expects to do in the future, William H. Hastie, civilian aide to the Secretary of War announced his resignation this week after thanking the press for the friendly support and cooperation which my office received."

Despite the surprise element involved, Mr. Hastie's resignation was not unexpected. In recent months, it has been frequently reported that he was making plans to quit his highly important position.

WM. H. HASTIE

In a prepared statement issued Monday, he said: "The press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as Civilian aide to the Secretary of War, effective at the end of January, 1943.

JAN 23 1943

Asks Aides to Stay

"I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, administrative Assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with matters involving civilian personnel to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of thousands of Negroes and the satisfactory adjustment of many employee grievances.

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JAN 23 1943

Prior to Nov. 1, 1940, when he joined Secretary Stimson's staff, Mr. Hastie was Federal judge in the Virgin Islands. He was born in 1904, in Knoxville, Tenn., and is a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School.

Since joining the War Department, he has been on leave as dean of the Howard University Law School.

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As to his record while serving as Civilian Aide to Secretary Stimson, he carried on a 2½-year fight to end Jim Crowism in the Army, saw to it that nearly 3,500 white collars workers were hired to work in the onetime "Lilly-White," Dixie-controlled War Department, put a stop to discrimination at officers' training schools, fought for more aviation opportunities for colored pilots and attempted to induce government authorities to put out a pamphlet instructing all troops to respect their colored comrades like other soldiers.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

NAVY JIM-CROW AT PEARL HARBOR HIT; CITE ABUSES

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 7 —The United States navy program as promulgated by high-ranking naval officials at Pearl Harbor is dangerously un-democratic and endangers the nation's war efforts.

This was revealed this week in the statement of a Negro sailor

just back from Pearl Harbor, where the skill of hundreds of technically-trained Negroes is being scuttled because of discrimination.

This sailor disclosed that Negroes are forced to work as messmen and stevedores, in defiance to the navy's new policy as announced by Secretary of Navy Frank Knox. This policy calls for the training of Negro seamen for skilled work.

JAN 10 1943

Abused by Whites.

Training for skilled assignments is being given Negro seamen at Camp Robert Small Naval Training station at Great Lakes, Ill., and at Hampton Institute, in Virginia, but southern navy officials in Hawaii are restricting them to anything but menial jobs.

They are also forced to submit to abuse from southern white sailors, and receive no protection when they take their troubles to the officials.

They also are faced with Dixie prejudice from the native population, which at first accorded Negro sailors the same hospitality, courtesy and privileges granted white sailors. This has been changed, however, because of the resentment such treatment given them aroused among the whites. Boycott of white establishments catering to the Negro seamen was threatened in an effort to force the native population to discriminate.

JAN [illegible] 1943

The sailor also revealed that there have been several minor clashes between white and Negro seamen. Because of the unrest and low morale of the Negro sailors, he predicted a serious racial crisis unless steps are taken immediately to remedy the situation.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Says We Fail To Meet Bus Job Requirements

JAN 28 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)— No applications from Negroes for jobs with the Capital Transit company have met the standards set by the company, said the president, E. D. Merrill, to a group of Negroes interested in placements when visited him early this week.

The delegation sponsored by the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities discussed the situation with Merrill fully and he promised faithfully that when the first Negro showed up with the necessary experience and qualifications he would be placed in training for the position of bus and street car operator.

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After the conference, the committee issued a statement urging maintenance workers already employed to apply immediately for u-grading to positions as operators.

The delegation was composed of Mrs. Jewel Mazique of the Council of United Negro Labor leaders of Washington. Mrs. Margaret Holmes. Rev. W. H. Jernagin, Baptist Young People's alliance; E. B. Henderson; Mrs. Martha Dudley, League of Woman Shoppers; Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, Howard university Teachers union; and Doxey A. Wilkerson of Howard who acted as spokesman for the group.

Dothan, Ala. Eagle
February 7, 1943

TROUBLE BREWING

The administration's policy of boot-licking minority groups in order to win their cooperation in the war against the man who would suppress all minorities, is paying off dividends in rotten eggs. Ambitious leaders of these minority groups can't seem to forget their own selfish interests and get on with the job of making the world safe against the greatest menace that ever threatened free men.

This is particularly true of the Negro leaders known as the Black Brain Trust, who are trying to use the war emergency in order to win revolutionary changes which are certain to cause domestic strife at a time when there should be complete unity.

Latest example of the tactics these Negro leaders are using is the action of William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard College law school and a civilian assistant to Secretary of War Stimson. Hastie won his seat in the war secretary's office with strong-arm methods which convinced the President that the presence of a Negro in so important a position would stimulate the patriotism and enthusiasm for war of the Negro race as a whole. But instead of devoting his time and thought to measures which would bring complete victory for all, Hastie has used his position to force undesirable social changes on the Army as well as civilians.

Disgruntled because he could not set up a policy of social equality in the Army, which he hoped would be reflected in civilian life after the war is over, Hastie has resigned. He gave as his reason the establishment of an all-Negro aviation training center at Tuskegee over his protests against segregation. In other words, if Negro soldiers are to be placed on their own instead of being sandwiched in with white units, Hastie doesn't want to play.

His resignation goes to prove the oft-repeated contention of many Southerners that Negro leaders are interested in nothing short of social equality and an amalgamation of the races. It should also be sufficient to convince the social-minded boys and girls of the administration that when they try to ram their liberal policies down the throats of Americans during a time of war they are engaged in a dangerous pastime.

Judging the Hastie action by that of his associates of the Black Brain Trust, notable among whom are mulatto Walter White, head of the Society for the Advancement of Colored People, and Sleeping Car Union president A. Philip Randolph, we venture the prediction that President Roosevelt will shortly be threatened and intimidated again.

It was because of a threat to stage a march on Washington that the Committee on Fair Employment Practices was set up by President Roosevelt, and recently there have been more ominous threats of a Negro "non-cooperation" campaign patterned after Gandhi's sit-down strike against the British in India. While such action might cause the administration temporary embarrassment and might conceivably delay the progress of the war for a time, it might be well for the commander-in-chief to tell the radical Negro leaders to crack their whips and get on with their campaign. Without doubt that would cause less trouble in America than to submit to their pressure and undertake to make the nation accept a social equality which it knows is undesirable and which it will not tolerate.

Every fair-minded person knows that there have been many shameful instances of discrimination against the Negro which have denied them economic opportunities and adequate educational and health facilities. Long before the Black Brain Trust came into being rapid progress was being made to abolish these inequalities. But for these radicals to attempt to seize upon the present emergency as a means of obtaining concessions which cannot be made without grievous consequences reflects an attitude of selfishness and misguided interest in the welfare of their race. They would profit more by abandoning their fight against segregation and for social equality and concentrating on those things which are attainable, such as better schools, better health facilities, better recreational facilities, and better economic opportunities.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
February 10, 1943

Trouble Brewing

(Dothan Eagle)

The administration's policy of boot-licking minority groups in order to win their cooperation in the war against the man who would suppress all minorities, is paying off dividends in rotten eggs. Ambitious leaders of these minority groups can't seem to forget their own selfish interests and get on with the job of making the world safe, against the greatest menace that ever threatened free men.

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47d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JAN 9 - 1943

Only Colored Gen. Whitewashed Report on Army Conditions

This Is the View of Joseph Julian, Whose Story of What He Saw in England Is Printed Below

By JOSEPH JULIAN

(Reprinted by Permission of The Nation)

The colored brigadier general, Benjamin O. Davis, was recently sent to investigate reports of trouble between colored and white American troops stationed in the British Isles.

After an inspection that lasted only a few days, he issued a statement to the effect that the situation had been greatly exaggerated, that generally the boys were getting along fine together; occasionally a few social difficulties might arise, but so far as the army was concerned there was no problem—"white and colored troops are treated as equal, having exactly the same rights and privileges."

It is hard to reconcile General Davis's report with my own observations during my recent two months' stay in England or with what colored soldiers told me.

Technically, it is true about the equal rights and privileges, but prejudice never respects technicalities.

Difficulties Not Isolated

Equality cannot be created by a manual of army regulations; the men must feel it and think it and act it. The social difficulties mentioned by General Davis are not isolated cases and should not be considered of no concern to the army.

Bad feeling between colored and white troops has military consequences.

Perhaps General Davis did not get around as much as he should have, or perhaps he did not consider it wise to make an issue of the matter at this time.

An ugly and dangerous situation does exist, and it impairs the efficiency of the troops and depresses the morale of the entire colored American population, already near the breaking-point.

It is particularly shocking to observe the jim-crow bacillus being injected into England, a country without prejudice, where the people regard colored Americans not as menials and comics but as human beings, and are guided in their regulations with them by their natural reactions to them as individuals, not as colored persons.

Jim Crow an Order

The prejudiced white American soldiers are not the only carriers of this germ. Sometimes it seems to have been introduced in England by order of the A.E.F.

In a recent issue of the London New Statesmen and Nation, a correspondent writes:

> *. . . Orders or requests have been issued by the American military authorities to the townspeople to the effect that white and colored troops should not be permitted in the same civilian canteens.*
>
> *In some cases the townspeople have refused to comply. Partly as a result of the latter some have become extremely annoyed at what is regarded as discrimination against colored soldiers. As a further result, scuffles between white and colored Americans have occurred when colored Americans have entered, or tried to enter, dance halls or bars where the white Americans were already disporting themselves.*
>
> *Apparently in one case the white Americans remonstrated with a landlady for serving colored customers. The reply of the woman is significant:*
>
> *"Their money is as good as yours, and we like their company."*

The average Briton appreciates the complexities of the race question but sees it as purely an American problem. He resents being told that he must develop prejudices.

One Soldier's Reaction

One night I met a colored American corporal in Piccadilly Circus and after I left him jotted down our conversation almost verbatum.

I think he simply and eloquently expressed the thoughts and feelings of the average colored soldier with the A.E.F. in England.

Our conversation ran as follows:

"Got a light?"

"Here y'are."

"Thanks. You American?"

"Yeah."

"So am I. Where you from?"

"Pittsburgh. Where you from?"

"New York."

"I worked at the Savoy in Harlem for a while."

"Oh, I was up there just before I left."

(Brightening) "Yeah? Whose band was playin'?"

"I forget."

"They sent me first out to Oklahoma, an' then back to Fort Dix. I gotta gal in Brooklyn I went to see one night, just before I come over here. I was a sergeant and they busted me for it."

"Why?"

"A.W.O.L. She had a kid from me an' I wanted to see 'em both before I came over here. I didn't know if I'd ever come back again, so I wanted to see 'em. I made out an allotment to her."

"That's tough, being busted for that."

"Well, they gotta have rules in an army. I don't blame 'em. I'm a corporal now."

The Big Question

"How do you take it here?"

"Awright—'cept not many colored boys over here. Ya get lonesome sometimes."

"How do they treat you over here?"

"Who, the English?"

"Yes."

"Oh, hell, they treat ya fine. It's in the camp and around we get all the trouble and riots."

"You mean the American soldiers?"

"Yeah. We had three officers resign last week. They just didn't want nuthin' to do with us."

"White officers?"

"Yeah. Lot of them white boys still look at us like we ain't nuthin'—just to shine their shoes. They walk away from me when I walk down the street. They go out when I come into a pub for a drink. They change their seats when I sit down in a movie. Hell, sometimes I think maybe one of these guys'll be needin' a drink from my flask—maybe lyin' wounded an bleedin' and dyin'. I told one of my white officers that, and he growled at me and said, 'You just leave 'em there bleedin', don't touch 'em.' So I'll leave 'em. I'll leave 'em bleed and bleed till they die."

(At this moment two drunken white sailors staggered up to us. One of them plopped his arm on the corporal's shoulder and said, "Darkey, we're absolutely broke; could ya let us have something? We haven't a shilling t'our name." Without a moment's reflection he reached in his pocket, took out a half-crown, and put it in the sailor's hand.)

English Woman Abused

"I have a friend (he continued) who came over here in 1936 with a band—white fellow—married an English girl. I was talkin' to them one day. He went across the street to get a paper. I stayed talkin' to his wife. Three white American soldiers come by—seen me talkin' to a white girl, and they ripped her fur piece off an' tore it up to pieces."

"Do you go into any of the American Service clubs here, Red Cross Club, and so forth?"

"I just keep to myself. I don't go lookin' for trouble no more. But sometime when I have to stay in London overnight—see, I drive a truck down here from where I'm stationed in Birmingham 'bout once a week, an' when I gotta stay over—I go over to the British soldiers' club an' they put me up. They treat you much better than at the American clubs. When the Americans do give you a bed, they make you feel they don't want to give it to you."

"How do most of you boys feel about the war?"

"I think most of us feel it don't matter much what happens. We just know we have to fight: so we fight."

"I know there's a lot more that has to be done, but don't you think some progress is being made? Colored men are being trained as pilots now, and many more branches of the service are open to them than ever before."

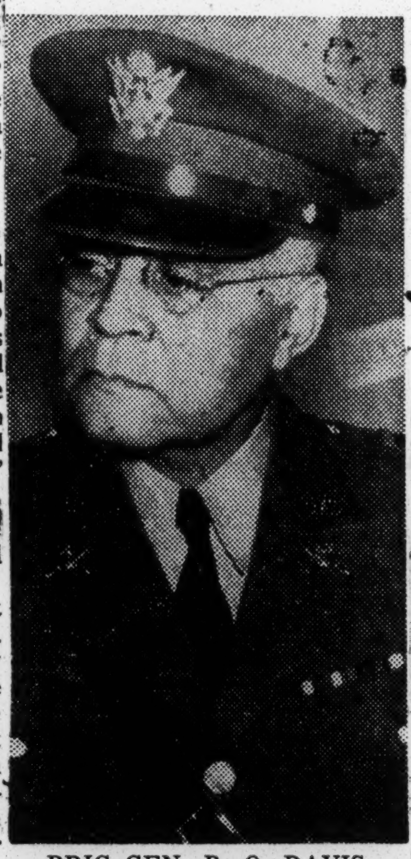
"Yeah, that' right, an', well, maybe after America gets a little messin' around, and gets bombed up some, it'll be better. They just been having it too easy, too much to eat an' everything. Maybe after they get messed up some, they'll begin to understand, maybe it'll come out awright."

Englishmen Preferred

"You feel much more comfortable with English soldiers than Americans?"

"Sure, man, they drink with ya, they talk with ya. There ain't no difference with them. I'd like to stay here after the war, except the United States is still your home and you have a feelin' you wanna get back to your home no matter how bad things are there."

Didn't He See??



BRIG.-GEN. B. O. DAVIS, attache of the Inspector General's office, whose report on conditions of segregation and jim crowism affecting colored soldiers in England is criticized in Joseph Julian's article, "Jim Crow Goes Abroad," reprinted for the nation on this page.

"Well, I hope it will work out better for you fellows. That's one thing this war's about—equal rights for all people. So long, soldier, I have to run along."

"So long."

Same Story Everywhere

It was the same story with each of the many colored soldiers I talked to: "The English treat us fine—it's in the camp and around we get all the trouble and riots."

Apparently nothing is being done by the army or any other government agency to remedy the situation except some clumsy attempts at segregation.

Instead of some kind of educational program designed to eradicate the color bias by driving home to white soldiers how silly it is to talk about fighting for democracy when they don't mix with colored troops in their own ranks, official policy seems to be, "Keep them apart—as far apart as possible."

"Applied Democracy" Needed

Both Russia and Germany have effectively used their ideological commissars to help build their powerful armies. Though we reject their systems of government, we could strengthen our own army tremendously by a similar technique of indoctrination.

Let us have in our army commissars of "applied democracy" to keep our own ideology alive in the minds of soldiers.

There is a vital need for such a department, not only as a means of overcoming jim-crowism, but generally to keep the original humane motives of our fighting men alive and integrated with their job of killing."

Nation
New York, N. Y.

The Negro in the Army

Dear Sirs: Joseph Julian's Jim Crow Goes Abroad (*The Nation* of December 5) is valuable as evidence of the treatment of Negroes during the war, but as a discussion of the problem of the Negro in the armed services, it is naive.

"Some kind of educational program designed to eradicate the color bias by driving home to white soldiers how silly it is to talk about fighting for democracy when they don't mix with colored troops in their own ranks," as Mr. Julian proposes, would be a futile effort indeed and would do more harm than good.

JAN 9 - 19

There are a tremendous number of men in the army, particularly from the South, upon whom all the talk in the world about the color bias would make no impression. These men have grown up in the well-rooted culture of the South. That their prejudices against the Negro is extreme is a natural consequence of the historical background of their section. This fact cannot possibly be ignored in any effort to deal with the problem.

Mr. Julian objects to what appears to him to be the official policy of the army: "Keep them apart—as far apart as possible." The army has before it a large part of the task of winning the war. It has been the experience of the army that trouble—often in the form of violence—results when Negro soldiers are allowed or encouraged to mix with white. Such trouble can seriously impair the efforts of military personnel to train the men. Actual riots, and they have occurred, have a demoralizing effect upon all the men. Segregation, therefore, is an expedient resorted to in the face of necessity. This necessity cannot be obliterated by the stardust of crusading idealism.

It is, of course, disheartening to the Negro soldier to be segregated while being forced to fight for the whi States' freedom. In the face of this he has been magnificent. He is so much more capable of a philosophical attitude than the whites that the whites are discredited by the evidence of it. Any effort in the direction urged by Mr. Julian can only hurt him.

ELLIOTT M. MILLER
Great Falls, Montana, December 30

McNutt Decides Not To Register Women

JAN 20 1943

Atlanta Daily World, Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Daily world,

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Comprehensive plans for voluntary mobilization of American womanpower for war employment were announced Saturday by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission. Mr. McNutt's action was taken upon the recommendation of the Women's Advisory Committee which met in Washington on January 12 and 13.

The plans will be varied area by area according to local labor needs. Mr. McNutt pointed out that there were three types of areas which must be dealt with by the Commission. Every effort is being made to adapt mobilization plans to each local situation.

JAN 20 1943

First are the areas in which there is still unemployment, and where no aggressive action will be taken to bring additional women into the labor market. National discussion of the need for women workers has unsettled the labor market in some of these communities and Mr. McNutt emphasized that recruitment of women is not needed everywhere.

Second are areas where direct recruitment of women is taking place through the United States Employment Service Offices. The women are brought to the offices or to special recruiting centers through educational efforts of the press, radio, local organizations, and the cooperation of local employers. They are referred directly to jobs, or to training courses leading to known jobs.

Third are areas in which the most intensive direct recruiting through educational methods reach the point of diminishing returns. As these develop, steps will be taken to voluntarily control women in order to obtain information as to their training, experience, availability, and other factors. This information will enable local manpower authorities to estimate their total potential supply of women workers and plan for other labor supply accordingly.

JAN 20 1943

Mr. McNutt said that the decision as to when the third stage is reached would be made by the Manpower Area Director and with the advice of the Area Manpower Committee. He pointed out that in even a labor market as tight as Baltimore, Maryland, direct educational methods have been effective in recruiting more than a thousand women workers a week through the Area Manpower facilities.

The Regional Manpower Directors, Mr. McNutt said, will be responsible for conducting all recruitment activities in every area to correspond with specific employer agreements to their women. These agreements will detail the number of women to be hired, when they will be hired, and in what occupations.

JAN 20 1943

Local manpower officials will also take steps to expand training facilities for the kind of training and the number of trainees needed in the area. On-the-job training for women workers, up-grading training for women foremen and supervisors and technical training will be included, the Chairman added.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Citizens Believe Segregation Has Not Increased

JAN 2 194

Army Traditions Have Revealed Heretofore Concealed Race Prejudice

Over 10,000 colored citizens made observations on discrimination and segregation this week in their respective communities and the majority of them informed The Pittsburgh Courier's Bureau of Public Sentiment that they did not believe there was more of the two evils in existence than there was before the current war began.

It was brought out in the poll that in some localities traditional attitudes about the separation of the races, and the consequent discrimination which inevitably results, had undergone changes.

BIAS MORE PRONOUNCED THAN EVER

On the other hand, certain sections of the country, notably the South, responded that race bias was more pronounced than ever before.

The question was worded thusly:

"DO YOU BELIEVE THERE IS MORE SEGREGATION AND DISCRIMINATION NOW THAN THERE WAS BEFORE THE WAR STARTED?"

"NO" said 56.7 per cent of the citizens; "YES" said 41.2 per cent, and the small percentage of 1.9 could not make up their minds one way or the other.

JAN 2

COMMENTS WERE MOST INTERESTING

Comments were most interesting from the varied sections of the country. A Northern "YES" answerer firmly believed that the question of segregation is now out into the open for the first time. "It formerly had been concealed in some spots and the increase is due to more general knowledge of it," he said.

"It has been brought to light by the war effort," said another. Many took this attitude and upheld their contention by calling attention to the results which the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has produced. These persons say the FEPC has failed to alleviate job bias.

SOME BLAME IT ON THE ARMY

Some blame the increase—if there is an increase—on the Army. The Army takes race bias wherever it moves, they say. Not only in its own administration, they add, but in nearby communities as well.

A Northern attorney stated, "Discrimination has lessened while segregation has increased markedly." He apparently meant that while opportunities have increased for Negroes it is on a basis of "jim-crowism."

A MINISTER SPEAKS UP

On the other side of the answer ledger, a Southern minister answered "NO," but added that he did not think the ease-up in bias was genuine. "I think fear of defeat enters the equation," he said.

A Northern educator reached this conclusion: "The American white man's status quo is being threatened and he is temporarily 'bending over backward' in his efforts to be considerate of the Negro."

Next week's question:

"IF THE NEGRO MAKES POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC GAINS DURING THIS WAR, DO YOU THINK HE WILL LOSE THEM AFTER THE WAR?"

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Registration In Germany Ordered

FEB 13 1943

Indicating that the reprisals which have been visited on the Jews in germany will be turned against Negroes there, the Gestapo has ordered the registration of all Negroes in reich territory, it was revealed last week. This information was contained in the Swedish weekly *Trots Allt*, according to OWI.

FEB 13 1943

Stating that the order came from heinrich himmler, gestapo chief allegedly. The Swedish paper says:

"The decree states that local authorities must register all Negroes, mulattoes and quadroons and report the results immediately to the office of the Chief of Reich Security

"The decree is addressed to all police authorities. There can be no doubt what will happen after their registration as Negroes are treated as are all 'inferior races' forced to find new objects of their racial policy.'

"The office mentioned in the decree is the same one that handles Jewish deportation and property confication. Apparently there are no longer many Jews or gypsies left in germany and the germans are now

47d-1943

This War Plant Proves a Worker's Color Doesn't Matter

"P. M. Daily"

JAN 1 3

By Erwin van Swol

Henry Wetstein and Herbert S. Chandler, toolmakers, always said that if they ever became bosses they wanted to run the kind of plant in which they would want to work if they were employes.

The chance came. Now they are operating their own war factory on these principles:

New York. N.Y.

¶ Pay as much as your workers can get anywhere. A satisfied worker produces.

¶ Production is the only criterion. A worker's color, race, creed, sex, or age doesn't matter to a machine.

47

¶ Give your workers the best union contract you possibly can afford. A union saves the boss lots of headaches.

¶ Decent surroundings are a worker's right. A neat shop produces more; clean toilets build morale.

JAN 1 3 194

How It Pays

You may think that formula Utopian, but Wetstein and Chandler say it pays:

¶ Their labor turnover is nil.

¶ Their production per worker is four times that of another plant in their line.

¶ Their output volume broke records.

¶ Their rejection rate is infinitesimal.

And their product is no cinch to make. It is a super-critical ammunition tool that must be accurate within .0003.

Forty per cent of their employes doing this highly skilled and technical work are Negroes. The most important operation—a secret process the partners invented—is entrusted to a Negro.

"There is a feeling of difference between white and Negro workers only if management emphasizes that attitude," Wetstein and Chandler explain.

JAN 1 3 1943

Beautiful, But Smart

When a PM reporter and a photographer surveyed the factory, white workers told them:

"Be sure you talk to and get a picture of Elva Scott. She's intelligent and beautiful."

Elva is a Negro. She was majoring in English at Teachers College, Columbia University, last June when she decided she wanted a war-plant job. Now she runs a polishing machine. She says that when the war is over, she'll go back to learning to be a teacher. But right now she knows she's making a concrete contribution.

So does Oswald Goldschmidt, 19, a cripple who was driven out of Vienna by the Nazis. He's in charge of shipping.

"We're all working toward one goal here," he said. "This is my way of contributing, since I'm not strong enough for other jobs. America is my new country, I'll never leave it."

Garage mechanics, knitgood workers, laborers once, the employes are now part of a highly efficient war machine created by the two bosses. Unable to get skilled toolmakers, they organized a production system based on a few trained key men among a mass of semi-skilled workers.

Wetstein, a toolmaker since 1910, was foreman of a big plant. So was Chandler, who has been a toolmaker since 1923. Chandler also holds a substitute teacher's license and taught machine-shop practice nights at a Brooklyn high school.

Confronted by a shortage of machines, the two partners built many themselves from junk, adapted others to their specialized needs.

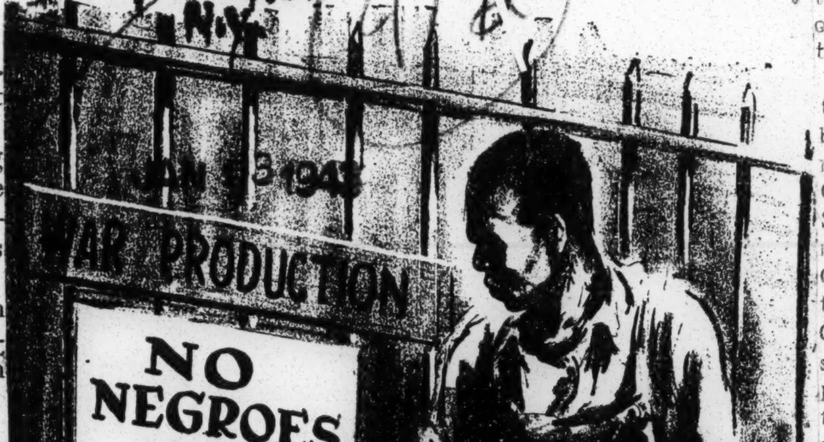
JAN 1 3 1943

That's why they don't worry about their system being put into general practice.

"To use it," they say candidly, "you've got to know more than any of your workers. Most bosses don't."

But There's a War to Win

"Daily Worker" N.Y.



New York Age

New York, N. Y.

Assail Attempt Of Southern Army And Navy Personnel To Force Jim Crow In The North

JAN 9 - 1943

ASSAIL ATTEMPT—2421 .. ....

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Repeated attempts on the part of a southern army and navy personnel to enforce southern race patterns on non-southern areas are assailed again this week by Walter White, executive secretary to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who in a letter to the Secretary of War, Stimson, said:

"We submit again that the War Department needs to speed up the formulation of a more clearly defined program in accordance with the highest standards of democracy to avert further trouble and to serve notice upon bigots that the decent thoughful people of the United States who constitute the overwhelming majority, are going to determine the patterns of action of the country as a whole and not the bigots themselves."

JAN 9 - 1943

The NAACP called Stimson's attention to a memorandum issued by order of Major Ralph S. Hardiman through A. J. Brown, 1st Lt. QMC, Adjutant of Headquarters, Second Battalion, 47th Quartermaster Regiment at Fort Sill, Okla., in which were quoted sections 201, 204, 207, and 209, of the Oklahoma Statute providing for segregation in federal carriers with penalty for violation thereof and to which was added the further note that "the following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned."

JAN 9 - 1943

The NAACP inquired if Secretary Stimson believed it to be a proper function of the War Department to assist states in the enforcement of laws enacted to discriminate against citizens on account of race or color.

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, PA.

KIMBLE FOLLOWS HIGHER-UPS IN HIS RULE AT TUSKEGEE

JAN 9 - 1943

By **SIDNEY WALKER**
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 7—A special, unique brand of segregation and discrimination is apparently being fostered within the United States Army Air Force of which the provocative example at the Tuskegee Army Air Force school is only a sample.

Responsibility for conditions at the Tuskegee school where Negro officers are made the victims of a strict and humiliating Jim Crow set-up has been laid at the feet of Col. Frederick von Kimble, the commanding officer of the post.

Responsibility for the larger, all-around policy of discrimination which characterizes Air Force training operations must be traced to Washington.

POLICY BASED ON COLOR

JAN 9 - 1943

It is fair to assume, in the light of the practices already pursued within the Air Force, that the high command, including Lieut. General Henry H. Arnold, has concluded that the Negro youth is not only different from all other American youths, but also inferior and a problem requiring special treat-

ONE BRANCH!

If "Our Boys" Can't Make Good As Pursuit Pilots, They Lose Out Altogether

A galling by-product of the

discriminatory policy at Tuskegee is the manner in which aviation cadets who fail as flyers are discarded. These cadets are made to toe the mark for pursuit flying, the most difficult and exacting form of aviation. If they can't make the grade in this, they lose out altogether in aviation.

This is not true of white boys. White boys who fail as cadets are trained as bombardiers, gunners and in other phases of aviation team work. There are no Jim Crow schools to send Negroes to for this training. As a consequence, no Negro is trained to go into the air unless he can pass the tests for handling a pursuit ship.

ment.

The policy is based on color alone. There is nothing in the past experience of the Air Force to indicate that Negroes would make better, or worse, flyers and fighters, than whites. Their training record, as far as they have been permitted to go, has been as good as that of whites if not better. But in spite of this training record, doubts, based on color alone, are made the basis for special Jim Crow treatment of them.

This writer heard General Arnold, head of the Air Force, tell reporters that the training program for Negroes in aviation is an experiment. This statement came in the wake of another in which the general had boasted that the American boys trained in the Army air school were making the "best, damned flyers in the world."

STIMSON QUERIED ON RACE UNIT

But General Arnold meant white American boys, not Negro American boys. That was two months ago. Two months ago, the training of Negro boys was still an experiment to the highest offer in the Air Force.

Three weeks later, Secretary of War Stimson was queried about the training of Negro aviators. After he had been led to state that the proportion of Negroes in the Army as a whole would be about the same as the proportion in the population, or approximately 9.6 per cent, the Secretary was asked if this proportion applied also to the Air Force.

The question plainly caught the Secretary off guard. It was apparent in his reaction that he considered the question unfair and a bit on the dumb side. Visibly vexed, he replied that it was not correct to make such a deduction. He then explained that the technical requirements of some of the services would necessarily limit the proportions of Negroes.

A fair interpretation of the Secretary's reply was that he did not believe, or had been led not to believe, that Negroes could qualify for proportionate representation in the Air Force.

SECRETARY MAY NOT KNOW CASE

This statement must not be held too strongly against the Secretary. The chances are that he firmly believes that all Negroes who can qualify should be trained, given all the training that white boys are given. He perhaps does not know that the number of Negroes trained is being arbitrarily limited and that the training given is of a limited character, due to their color.

Civilian leadership in the War department is in the same position as the parent who hires a doctor. The doctor is supposed to know his business. So is the Army officer. The civilian leader asks the Army officer to perform a job in the same manner as the average parent calls on the physician. The physician may prescribe in error, but what is the parent to do.

Thus Army Air Force policy is largely the work of the high military command of the Air Force. Negroes forced their way into the Air Force with two strikes against them. Even after Negroes had succeeded through Congress in making it mandatory on the Secretary of War to see that some Negro flyers were trained, the military men in the War Department balked. Long after the law had been passed, no action had been taken. Congress had to rap General Geo. C. Marshall, chief of staff, across the fingers to get any action. The result was Tuskegee.

AIR FORCE ACTS INDEPENDENTLY

But since that time there has been an organic and fundamental change in the Army itself. The Army has been reorganized on a triple-threat basis into the Air Force, the Ground Force and the Services of Supply. These three forces, led by three-star generals, are supposed to be responsible to General Marshall. He has four stars. General Marshall is in turn responsible to the Secretary of War, the Congress and the Commander-in-Chief.

In actual practice the Air Force is putting a heavy strain on the hinges of this co-ordinate set-up. The crusade of some writers for an independent Air Force is being reflected in the Air Force by a disposition to do things its own way. A study of Air Force policy discloses that in a number of instances it is not bound by the broad general policies of the Ground Force or the Services of Supply.

The chief offender in the commissioning of civilians was the Air Force. Secretary Stimson had to issue a statement in defense.

OPENING JIM CROW OFFICERS SCHOOL

Another case in point is the setting up of a Jim Crow Air Force Officers' Training school at Jefferson Barracks in Missouri. There are no separate officer training schools in the Ground Force or the Services of Supply. In both these branches of the Army, white and Negro officers, North and South, are trained together.

That the Jefferson Barracks Jim Crow school was the work of the high command of the Air Force was indicated late in November when Secretary Stimson, queried on the prospective organization of the school, was forced to acknowledge that he was not informed about it. That was at a press conference.

Despite the Secretary's lack of information and despite the fact that the Air Force Jim Crow school contrasts the policy of the other two branches of the Army, this extension of segregation within the Air Force has proceeded.

Of course, the most tragic aspect of this "independent" policy of the Air Force is its indifference to the public interest.

Negro flyers have been in training at Tuskegee since 1941, before Pearl Harbor. But not a single Negro flyer has gone to war.

It is a matter of plain, blunt truth, that scores of Negro flyers might today be on the front lines if they had been permitted to receive their training with their white fellow Americans.

TUSKEGEE NOT TRAINING TO FIGHT

The reason they have not been sent to the front, the reason that these expensively-trained men are not paying the taxpayers back is because they must qualify for fighting through a special Jim Crow system and that system is not yet perfected.

Flyers who finish the Army Air Force Jim Crow school near Tuskegee are not ready to fight. White boys who finish schools similar to the one at Tuskegee are sent to other schools for finishing courses. They are sent to Randolph Field in Texas for courses in didactics. They go to Maxwell Field in Alabama for field courses. They are given an opportunity to learn to fly in large groups. They receive "mother" courses from men who have been to the battlefront.

Colored flyers can take none of these courses because they are not assigned to the so-called white schools. Some colored boys have been required to take correspondence courses. Correspondence courses have been cut out for white boys. Three colored boys were sent to Maxwell Field in order to qualify as instructors at the Jefferson Barracks Jim Crow schools.

DOCTORS UNABLE TO GET TRAINING

There is an entirely new field of medicine, aviation medicine. Colored doctors do not have the opportunity to take courses in aviation medicine. As a consequence, if colored flyers were sent to the front, they would be without expert medical aid unless white doctors trained in aviation medicine were sent with them.

Thus it can be seen that the conditions imposed at Tuskegee by Col. Kimble, however depressing they may be to the trainees there represent only part of the picture.

Manpower represents one of the big problems of the war. Industry has been warned that it must use every man and women it can in the place where he or she can give the best service to the nation.

The United States Navy and the Army Air Force ignore this plain mandate of necessity. The Air Force is wasting time and money on an anti-democratic scheme to train Negro aviators. Its mandate is dictated by color and prejudice, not by necessity nor the national interest.

In its new notion of independence, the Air Force is dangerously close to independence of the law and the Constitution.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Race Bias Charged At Jersey Plants

JAN 26 1943

Special to the World-Telegram.

NEWARK, Jan. 25.—With New Jersey war plants short 80,000 workers, discrimination against Negroes is hampering war production noticeably, Lawrence A. Oxley of the War Manpower Commission said.

Addressing a meeting of the Greater Newark Industrial Union Council, Mr. Oxley pointed out that while Negroes comprise eight-tenths of 1 per cent of the state's war workers they make up 5.5 per cent of the population.

An official survey, he said, revealed that 51 per cent of expected job openings were barred to Negro workers.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Clergy Asks Probe Of Anti-Negro Bias

FEB 1 - 1943

Leading churchmen today appealed to President Roosevelt to reschedule public hearings on alleged discrimination against Negroes on southern railways. The hearings were canceled by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission.

The appeal was made in a memorial requesting that the President reaffirm his executive order forbidding race discrimination in war industries and reconstitute the Fair Employment Practices Committee, removing it from the jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission.

FEB 1 - 1943

The plea was announced yesterday by Bishop Francis J. McConnell of the Methodist Church; the Rev. John La Farge, chaplain of the Catholic Interracial Council, and Rabbi Sidney E. Goldstein of the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Central Conference on American Rabbis.

Mobile, Ala., Register
January 19, 1943

Negro Quits Job As Stimson Aide

Law College Dean Refuses To Give Reasons For Resigning Position

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—(AP)—The resignation of William H. Hastie, negro civilian aide to the secretary of war, was disclosed today. Hastie declined to say why he was resigning or what he expected to do.

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of friendly support and co-operation which my office has received from the press," he said. "I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until my official duties have terminated" at the end of this month.

Hastie was born in 1904 at Knoxville, Tenn., and is a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School. He has been on leave as dean of Howard University Law School here since he joined Secretary Stimson's staff November 1, 1940, as an adviser on negro affairs. Hastie was federal judge in the Virgin Islands from 1937 to 1939.

Hastie said that his assistant, Truman K. Gibson, Jr., and Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in charge of matters affecting negro civilian personnel, would remain on duty with the department.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

STREET CAR FIRM TO STUDY USE OF NEGRO WORKERS

Officers to Consider Move, Council Told.

Thomas C. Strachan, attorney for the surface lines, informed members of the city council's local transportation committee yesterday that company officials next week will consider demands that Negroes be employed as street car conductors and motormen. Negro groups have charged discrimination.

Ald. James R. Quinn [50th], chairman of the committee, expressed hope the company would solve the problem.

Lee Friedman, counsel for the Chicago Motor Coach company, told the committee bus lines have not discriminated against Negroes. The only reason the company has not employed them on buses he said, is that no Negroes have applied.

Promises Bus Applicants.

"If they apply and can meet our requirements they will be hired as drivers," said Friedman. Ald. Benjamin A. Grant [3d], colored, and a leader in the fight for traction jobs for his people, promised he would send qualified Negroes to apply.

The local transportation committee also took steps to stop long haul refusals by taxicab drivers because of greater profit in short trips, by calling upon the taxicab companies to post notices that drivers will carry passengers to thier destinations anywhere within the city or suburban regulatory limits.

Fights Double Parking.

In other transport matters, Phil Harrington, subway commissioner and Chicago area coördinator for the office of defense transportation, urged the transportation committee to act against double and angle automobile parking on car lines. The committee also heard a complaint from William H. McManus, chairman of the West Town Chamber of Commerce, that 25 war plants are without adequate transportation because of the recent abandonment of the Kimball-Homan avenue bus route.

47d-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Patterson Mentioned As Successor To Hastie

War Undersecretary Patterson Says Department Regrets Resignation

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Discussing the Hastie resignation, Robert Patterson, undersecretary of war said in his press conference Thursday morning. "It was with great regret the secretary received Judge Hastie's resignation. I personally had many contacts with Mr. Hastie and respected him thoroughly. The choice of his successor is now underway." When another question was asked as to why Judge Hastie resigned, Mr. Patterson replied, "I can't say."

"In his two years with the war department. Mr. Hastie did some excellent work. He is a man of the highest character. While he was here, work on the utilizing of Negro soldiers in all branches of the service made extensive progress. The number of Negro civilian employes also grow rapidly. He rendered able and distinguished service to the war department."

Immediately after the conference, Mr. Hastie was visited in his own office where he still refused to discuss the situation. He did say:

"There is a number of fine officials in the war department and a blanket condemnation of them would do irreparable harm and be an injustice. Therefore, when my official duties here are severed, a statement containing a resume of what happened will be issued.

At the same time, Truman Gibson, assistant to Hastie stated he had no intention of remaining in the position he occupies any longer than necessary for a successor to Judge Hastie to be named and sworn in on the job.

Prominently mentioned as Hastie's successor is Dr. Frederick Patterson, president of Tuskegee. Mr Hastie said he felt his resignation would do some good where it was needed most, or else he would not have resigned

Asked about his future plans Judge Hastie said he was going to rest a while before doing anything. He had not made up his mind yet what he plans to do, whether he will return immediately to the Howard University Law school from which he was on leave of absence, or take a post with the NAACP nation office in the legal division.

Raps Negro Ban In WAVES, SPARS

Daily Worker "N.Y.

JAN 20 1943

Failure of the U. S. Navy to induct Negro women into the WAVEs and SPARs, Navy and Coast Guard women's auxiliary services, was sharply assailed by a resolution introduced at a long wrangling session of the City Council yesterday by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, lone Negro member of the city legislative body.

Powell's resolution was sent to the committee on rules without discussion.

It pointed out that the Bronx Hunter College buildings, supported by taxes paid by New Yorkers of all races, had been leased to the Navy for training of WAVEs and SPARs, "two discriminatory services."

ASSAILS AGREEMENT

"Such an agreement between the City of New York and the Navy is against the spirit of the City of New York, the laws of the State of New York, the philosophy of our democracy and the announced purposes of this war," said the resolution.

Councilman Powell asked that the City Council formally request the United States Navy "to reconsider its policy as it affects the WAVEs and SPARs."

The Powell resolution also requested that the Mayor, Board of Estimate and Board of Higher Education consult with proper Naval authorities "with the view of urging the changing of these policies."

This should be done immediately, said the resolution, so that "a full, all-out, vigorous prosecution of the war shall be continued on a 100 per cent basis consistent with the spirit of New York City and the laws of the State of New York and the fundamental tenets of our beloved nation that peace and victory may be hastened."

NAVY DENIES BAN

Asked about discrimination against Negro women in the WAVEs and SPARs, a spokesman for the Navy at 90 Church St. said there were "no rules barring persons for race, creed or color."

The Navy spokesman declined to comment, however, when asked if he knew of any Negro women in the WAVEs or SPARs.

The Powell resolution was earmarked and sent to committee after a long councilmanic wrangle over a resolution by Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs asking that the city continue operation of 130 WPA classes in English and Citizenship when the WPA ends next month.

Isaacs asked for immediate consideration of the resolution. There were no objections. He made a motion for its consideration. The motion was seconded by Councilman Peter V. Cacchione, Brooklyn Communist.

Daily World
Atlanta. Ga.

Charge Army, Navy Spreading Jim Crow

JAN 5 - 1943

3

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —Repeated attempts on the part of southern army and navy personnel to enforce southern race patterns on non-southern areas were assailed again this week by Walter White, executive secretary to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who in a letter to the Secretary of War Stimson said:

"We submit again that the War Department needs to speed up the formulation of a more clearly defined program in accordance with the highest standards of democracy to avert further trouble and to serve notice upon bigots that the decent thoughtful people of the United States who constitute the overwhelming majority, are going to determine the patterns of action of the country as a whole and not the bigots themselves."

The NAACP called Stimson's attention to a memorandum issued by order of Major Ralph Hardiman through A. J. Brown. 1st Lt. QMC. Adjutant of Headquarters, Second Battalion, 47th Quartermaster Regiment at Fort Sill, Okla., in which were qouted sections 201, 204, 207, and 209, of the Oklahoma Statute providing for segregation in federal carriers with penalty for violation thereof and to which was added the further note that "the following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned."

The NAACP inquired if Secretary Stimson believed it to be a proper function of the War Department to assist states in the enforcement of laws enacted to discriminate against citizens on account of race or color.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Judge Hastie Hands In Resignation As War Department Aide

JAN 23 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Speculation is rife in this city over the resignation announced on Saturday by former Judge William H. Hastie as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War. The resignation will become effective as of January 31st.

For some time it has been rumored that Judge Hastie's resignation would be forthcoming chiefly, it is said, because he was often the target at which many militant organizations fired their shots in protest against discriminatory treatment of Negro soldiers.

In 1940, when Judge Hastie took a leave of absence from the Howard University Law School which he served as dean, he said on accepting his post with the War Department:

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of this country. I am accepting this post in the hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the Negro in the Army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

In his statement announcing his resignation, Judge Hastie said:

"In the past, replying to inquiries prompted by rumors and speculation, I have stated that, if and when I should leave the War Department, the press would receive direct and authoritative information. Accordingly, the press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War effective at the end of January, 1943.

I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with matters involving civilian personnel to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of of thousands of Negroes and the satisfactory adjustment of many employee grievances.

'I have also asked Mr. Truman K. Gibson, jr., assistant Civilian aide, to remain at his post, at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity of effort in matters which have been undertaken by this office. I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the friendly support and cooperation which my office has received from the press.

"I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

Those close to Judge Hastie, place special significance in his concluding statement and feel that when he does issue his net statement it will not only explain the reason for his resignation, but also will incorporate suggestions which he has made to the War Department as to the Negro service man's treatment in the future.

Army Officer Rebuked For Racial Superiority Talk

"Atlanta Daily World," Atlanta, Ga.

Protest To Secretary Of War Brings Reply Of "Assurances"

JAN 2 2 1943

NEWARK, N. J.—(ANP)—Implying that one of the overshadowing backgrounds in the war effort against the Japanese was "the necessity of saving the white man's face in the orient," brought a prompt checkup by his superiors to Lt. Col. William J. McKiernan of the air force recently, when the incident was reported to the office of the secretary of war by Harold A. Lett, secretary of the New Jersey Urban league with headquarters here.

JAN 2 2 1943

The officer had been assigned as one of the speakers representing the office of the secretary of war to speak at ceremonies marking the award of the army-navy "E" to the Tightflex Metal Hosiery Co., of Newark. A patriotic spirit permeated the meeting as it progressed smoothly along until Col. McKiernan urged the workers, representing several nationalities and with a large number of Negroes, to increase their efforts because, "a defeat by the Japanese would cause the white man to lose face in the orient; and if the white man lost face there it is going to be pretty tough for us all over the globs."

JAN 2 2 19

The letter of protest written to Under-Sec., of War Robert Patterson by Mr. Lett resulted in the department writing Mr. Lett after a short lapse of time that:

"The United States army is a fighting force composed, as is America itself, of men representing all creeds and all races. We are fighting for the rights of free men and the right of every man whatever his race or creed to be free.

"I need hardly add that any statement inconsistent with that spirit does not have the sanction of the war department, and I have so informed Col. McKiernan in the name of the under-secretary of war.

JAN 2 2 1943

"Col. McKiernan has assured me that he intended no slight to any race, that he intended merely to convoy the impression that defeat at the hands of the axis would make it tough for all Americans."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Hastie Resigns in a Huff as Recommendations Are Scrapped

JAN 2 3 1943

Judge Willian Hastie, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War since November 1, 1940, has resigned his post effective January 31, 1943.

While Judge Hastie refused to elaborate on his resignation or to ascribe any reason for his decision, it was generally understood by those who have followed his activity in the War Department, that the resignation was provoked because of the judge's inability to get affirmative action on his recommendations.

Judge Hastie is said to have told friends at the time he accepted the position, that he would not hold on if he found he could serve no useful purpose. For that reason, he failed to resign his post as dean of the Howard School of Law, but merely took an indefinite leave of absence.

Since Judge Hastie has been with the War Department, many gains have been made, but it was felt that not enough latitude had been given him.

JAN 2 3 1943

Mre than 10,000 Negroes have been hired by the War Department since the Hastie appointment; an air coprs has been set up at Tuskegee Institute; a tank battalion has been formed, and there is no segregation in officer candidate schools.

But with all of this Hastie's efforts were rebuffed when he sought to have aviation opportunities—which are now limited to 33 a year—expanded. He met with opposition again when he sought to have the War Department issue pamphlets instructing troops on the attitude they should have toward Negroes.

Discrimination and segregation still exists at all Army camps and conflicts between Negro soldiers and civilian police have resulted in several shooting episodes.

Hastie was known to have acknowledged several months ago that he had gone as far as the War Department would permit, and on several occasions is said to have offered to resign, but had been urged to hold on.

In leaving the department, Hastie has expressed a desire that Louis R. Lautier administrative assistant, to remain at his post, and has urged Truman K. Gibson, assistant civilian aide, to remain "at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity of efforts in matters which have been undertaken by this office."

JAN 2 3 1943

However, it is generally believed that Mr. Gibson will follow Mr. Hastie's precedent, and resign shortly after the first of February.

Jim Crow Ousted By Plant; It Works

"P.M. Daily" N.Y., N.Y.

JAN 6 - 1943

By Reuel S. Moore
United Press Correspondent

EDGEWOOD ARSENAL, Md., Jan. 6.—There is a unique labor situation in this arsenal where poison gas is manufactured, loaded into shells and stored.

Women make up 60 per cent of the workers who handle the cases, assemble gas masks and do other work at the headquarters of the Army's Chemical Warfare Service. Sixty per cent of all workers are Negroes.

JAN 6 - 1943

Throughout the plant men and women of different races work side by side. It is a matter of policy that Negro workers shall not be employed exclusively on any type of job. In other words, no Negro is able to say he is given dangerous, disagreeable or arduous work that a white worker is not asked to do.

JAN 6 - 1943

I have visited many industrial plants where Negroes are employed but none where these circumstances prevail. In most plants Negroes are assigned to certain types of work and to certain departments to minimize the chances of friction arising from competition and proximity.

~~"New York Age,"~~ N.Y., N.Y.

JUDGE HASTIE RESIGNS

ANNOUNCEMENT was made Saturday by Former Federal Judge William H. Hastie from his position as Civilian Aide To The Secretary of War, effective at the end of January, 1943.

In announcing his resignation, Judge Hastie said: "I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated."

JAN 2 3 1943

No reason was given for his resignation so that his statement, quoted directly above, is especially significant. It is no secret that Judge Hastie, who resigned from the Federal bench in the Virgin Islands to go back to civilian life as dean of the Law School at Howard rather than to stand for certain things, has been in an uncomfortable position ever since he became connected with the War Department. For one thing he has a reputation for being outspoken and not given to pulling his punches.

JAN 2 3 1943

At the time of assuming his War Department position he told reporters:

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of this country. I am assuming this post in the hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the Negro into the Army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

JAN 2 3 1943

His resignation, then, could mean that Judge Hastie saw his hopes blasted and was unwilling to remain longer as a scapegoat. We shall await his clarifying statement.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

JIM CROW PATTERN FORCED ON NORTH BY ARMY, NAVY, CHARGE

JAN 8 - 1943

Washington, D. C.—Repeated attempts on the part of southern army and navy personnel to

force southern race patters on non-southern areas were asasiled again this week by Walter White, executive secretary to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who in a letter to the Secretary of War Stimson said:

"We submit again that the War Department needs to speed up the formulation of a more clearly defined program in accordance with the highest standards of democracy to avert further trouble and to serve notice upon bigots that the decent thoughtful peopel of the

United States who constitute the overwhelming majority, are going to determine the patterns of action of the country as a whole and not the bigots themselves."

The NAACP called Stimson's attention to a memorandum issued by order of Major Ralph S. Hardiman through A. J. Brown, 1st Lt. QMC, Adjutant of Headquarters, Second Battalion, 47th Quartermaster Regiment at Fort Sill, Okla., in which ware quoted sections 201, 204, 207, and 209, of the Oklahoma Statute providing for segregation in federal carriers with penalty for viola-

tion thereof and to which was added the further note that "the following is published for the information and guidance of all concerned."

JAN 8 - 1943

The NAACP inquired if Secretary Stimson believed it to be a proper function of the War Department to assist states in the enforcement of laws enacted to discriminate against citizens on account of race or color.

47d-1943

Colored Lads Trained In One Type of Combat Flying, Whites in Many

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Former War Department Aid Gives Additional Facts on Army Aviation Program as It Affects Negro Youth

FEB 19 1943

In the following statement, William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in protest against the shortcomings of the military aviation program as it affects Negroes, discusses some additional aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces.

4

BY WILLIAM H. HASTIE

NEW YORK. — It was not until March, 1941, that the Army Air Corps began accepting applications from Negroes for aviation cadet training. The actual instruction of Negroes to be flying officers did not begin until several months later.

FEB 19 1943

But even then, and to this day, there was and is only one type of combat aviation—namely, pursuit flying—for which the Air Command will train a Negro.

How did it happen that the training of Negro aviators was started in the field of pursuit flying? It is common knowledge that grave doubts were expressed from the beginning as to whether the Negro was capable of making good as a combat aviator.

Training of Negro An Experiment

FEB 19 1943

The Air Command described and still describes the training of the Negro in aviation as an "experiment." Yet, in the face of this expressed skepticism, the Air Command saw fit to begin with the training of Negroes for pursuit flying, the most difficult type of combat aviation.

The single pilot in his pursuit ship has the most exacting of air tasks, handling his fast plane, maneuvering it at terrific speed in actual combat, mastering the technic of accurate and properly directed fire in aerial dog fights, and execising split second judgment in unexpected situations and emergenies.

FEB 19 1943

Why was the Negro, whose ability was in doubt, not started off with observation flying or in bombardment where co-pilots and other crew members assist each other and share and divide responsibility?

Only the men who made the decision know the answer. They may have reasoned that through pursuit flying Negroes would demonstrate their ability to perform any air combat task. Fortunately, it seems to be working out that way.

Successfully Completes Course

They may also have reasoned that Negroes were less likely to succeed in pursuit flying than in somewhat less exacting work. Yet in all fairness it should be said thoroughly competent instructors were provided for the segregated training program for Negro pilots.

And the men in the field who started this training did so with enthsuiasm and determination to make it a success.

FEB 19 1943

Statistics already released by the Air Command show that, during the first year of Negro pursuit pilot training, 42 per cent of the Negro trainees successfully completed their course and earned their wings as pursuit pilots. During the same period 59 per cent of white aviation cadets who entered training qualified as flying officers.

FEB 19 1943

Of course the number of Negroes was small and the statistics are therefore not conclusive. More important is the fact that Negro candidates have no opportunity at any stage of training to be assigned to some other branch of combat flying, if they seem not to be well adapted to pursuit work. The Negro cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing. White cadets are sorted out and placed according to their apparent aptitudes.

Specifications Must Be Met

FEB 19 1943

Under these circumstances, the fact that 42 per cent of the Negroes who had the physical and educational qualifications for aviation made the grade in the most difficult assignment is a significent accomplishment.

Beyond the fact that the Negro must have the ability for pursuit flying, or else not fly at all, he must meet the special physical specifications of the pursuit pilot. If he is too tall or too heavy for pursuit flying, he cannot be an Army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work.

In wasted manpower, it is difficult to say how much is being lost by imposing such restrictions upon the Negro. It seems probable that some 200 Negro pursuit pilots will earn their wings in 1943. But the Air Command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young Negro men with superior training into flying training.

College Reserve Program Set Up

FEB 19 1943

When the Air Forces set up their college reserve program, no Negroes were wanted. The small "Negro quota" was already filled for a year in advance. So, while the Ground Forces were welcoming Negro college men into their college reserve, the Air Forces refused to accept them.

Even earlier the Air Corps had undertaken the recruiting of groups of men from the individual college campus who would go into training as a unit with the group spirit and enthusiasm developed through their association at college. The Negro was excluded from this also.

Thus, only the Negro who went forward on his own initiative, determined despite hell and high water to be a combat flyer, ever became an aviation cadet. Even then, he was accepted only within the limited quota restrictions and for one type of training.

Within the past two months, restrictions upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army have been extended to aviation cadets. Apparently, aviation cadets will be chosen almost exclusively from men already in the Army.

Negro Faces A New Problem

FEB 19 1943

A new problem faces the Negro. He must apply for aviation cadet training through his commander and his papers must survive a journey through military channels. It remains to be seen whether his application will be encouraged and facilitated to the same extent as the application of the white soldier. In this connection, one recent experience is disturbing. For more than a year the Air Command has been selecting young soldiers, high school graduates, to be taken from the ranks and trained to become enlisted pilots.

They become master, staff and technical sergeants with flying ratrating. So far as I have been able to discover, Negro enlisted men have not been accepted in this program. How different will be the situation now that both prospective flying officers and prospective enlisted pilots will be selected from the ranks of the Army?

Negro Pursuit Pilots

FEB 19 1943

Two hundred Negro pursuit pilots a year is something more than token representation. Certainly, 200 pilots can make a mig difference in almost any of the present theaters of war. Yet the failure of the Air Command to encourage or even permit the full participation of the Negro in flying training and service prevents the number of Negro pilots from being several times 200 per year.

If the Air Command should decide to use Negro flying officers and enlisted men without racial restrictions, 1,000 pilots would be a conservative estimate of annual production.

FEB 19 1943

Of course there would be serious practical dimmiculties in developing segregated training fields and segregated organizations of many various types in such an expansion.

From a military point of view all of this new segregated set up probably would not be worth the time, expense and diversion of personnel. But if the war lasts long enough, it is not too much to hope that those in authority will realize that their insistence upon strict racial segregation in aviation trainng and organzation is a real hinderance to the ultimate objective of success in battle.

Army Limits Training of Flyers to Single Center at Tuskegee

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Whites Trained in Private and Army School All Over the Country, Hastie Points Out

FEB 27 1943

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the fourth public statement of Judge Hastie, who resigned recently as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.]

FEB 27 1943

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE

There is not now, and never has been, any good reason for the segregated training of colored flyers at Tuskegee.

There are two stages in the training of a soldier to be an army flyer. The first stage teaches the new cadet how to fly, using small light aircraft adapted to the training of a beginner.

This part of the program is carried out by private operators who contract with the army to give preliminary flying instruction to aviation cadets.

Private Schools Numerous

The private contractor furnishes the field and the instructors, while the army selects and assigns the cadets, prescribes the course of instruction and supervises training. There are a great many such contract schools scattered in various sections of the country.

FEB 27 1943

The cadet who successfully completes the elementary flying course at such a school is next assigned to an army field for further basic and advanced training. From this point on, the army takes complete charge of the training program.

Separation Groundless

There was no need to segregate colored cadets in either stage o training. Newly appointed colored cadets could have been assigned to beginning classes at any one of the many contract schools just as white cadets are assigned.

In fact one or two colored cadets were so assigned by mistake. But when they arrived for training, arrangements were quickly made to reassigned them to Tuskegee.

Similarly in the more advanced training, colored cadets who had completed the primary course could have been sent to the various army flying training centers.

But the Air Command was determined to separate colored and white cadets at every stage of training.

Tuskegee Institute was awarded a contract to provide army primary training for colored army aviation cadets.

FEB 27 1943

Under this contract the army enlisted and appointed a small group of colored cadets every few weeks and sent them to the Tuskegee contract school where colored instructors employed by Tuskegee Institute gave elementary flying training under army supervision.

Some Misguided

Incidentaly, this caused some confusion, because Tuskegee Institute also has a civilian pilot course which is not connected with the army.

Some young men enrolled in this civilian course under the misapprehension that by doing so they were getting into army aviation.

For the more advanced training of colored cadets, the army invested millions of dollars in the construction of a new army air base a few miles from the town of Tuskegee.

FEB 27 1943

No School Connection

Tuskegee Institute has no connection with this army field or with the advanced training conducted there. However, as to this also there has been some confusion and misunderstanding in the public mind.

But why in the name of common sense should all of this elaborate special machinery be set up to train colored flyers?

It was expensive. It caused a delay of six months or more in the beginning of flying training for colored cadets. It was not flexible, since it was adapted only to the training of Pursuit Pilots.

Only by setting up additional colored training centers for bombardment and observation, or by abandoning segregated training could the program be broadened.

Must Mix in Combat

The idea of a separate training base for colored pilots is indefensible, if these pilots are actually to be an integral part of our combat air forces.

It is not possible to train flyers in one small area as foot soldiers can be trained. Even in training men must fly from field to field.

After a flyer is commissioned, his flying in this country will necessarily take him in and out of a large number of flying fields.

If he goes into combat abroad, one thing is certain: he will not just fly out of a jim-crow base with his own colored unit and fly back again.

Even infantrymen traveling on their own two feet get scattered in combat. How much more are aviators bound to get into unexpected places and undergo regrouping from time to time during the course of a campaign.

It is simply impossible to maintain racial segregation of pilots in a combat area. The air command must know this.

Mutual Respect Vital Lesson

Since such contacts and mingling are unavoidable, the only sensible thing to do is to prepare men for them by providing interracial associations in training such as they are bound to have later on.

If we want white and colored flyers in combat to get along well with each other, the best plan is to build mutual understanding and self-respect by training them together from the time they begin learning to fly.

The worst plan is to keep them apart until they are forced together under the stress of circumstances in combat. Prejudice is based on ignorance. Let men get acquainted with each other in training and there is no great problem of their harmony later on.

All of this has seemed simple and obvious to me. The air command, however, cannot see it.

This air command is not even influenced by the fact that the ground forces have been training white and colored officer candidates together with excellent results ever since the beginning of the present army expansion.

Public Pressure Needed

There are none so blind as those who do not want to see; and the air command just does not want to see the advantages of training white and colored flyers together.

FEB 27 1943

I believe this blindness will continue until public criticism and condemnation of the segregated training policy becomes so strong that it can no longer be ignored.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Charge Negro Soldiers Denied Passes In Alaska

OCT 9 1943

NAACP Addresses Query on Report To War Dep't

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(SNS)—An investigation by the War Department of the treatment of Negro troops stationed in Alaska was sought this week by the NAACP.

In a letter to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, the NAACP stated that it had received from a number of sources reports alleging that Negro troops in Alaska are victims of widespread discriminatory treatment.

One allegation has it that Negro troops are confined to camp and have been denied passes to visit some Alaskan cities. It is asserted that this condition has extended far beyond any quarantine period and is an established practice.

It is also reported that the men are discriminated against within Army camps in that they are segregated into a theatre "for colored" and refused service at post exchanges except one designated "for colored."

One unidentified soldier returning to the states from Alaska is alleged to have told his relatives, **"So far as treatment is concerned, I would rather be in Georgia than Alaska."**

OCT 9 1943

The NAACP urged an immediate investigation and asked that if these allegations are found to be true corrective measures be taken without delay.

Negro Soldiers Clean Toilets of White at Camp Wheeler, Georgia

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

MAR 19 1943

WASHINGTON.— Why are Negro soldiers required to rise an hour earlier than white soldiers at Camp Wheeler, Ga.? the Washington Bureau of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People demanded this week of Secretary of War Stimson.

MAR 19 1943

Reveille is sounded at 5:30 a. m. for colored soldiers only. Upon rising they clean their own barracks and mess halls, after which they are required to clean the toilets used by white soldiers. White soldiers at Camp Wheeler rise at 6:30 a. m.

In the letter to Stimson, the N.A.A.C.P. declared: "relegation of Negro soldiers by the United States army to be the status of menials gives democracy an empty sound to those who are called upon to sacrifice, fight and die for it."

MAR 19 1943

The NAACP cited the treatment accorded Negroes assigned to the medical detachment as being especially objectionable.

Hastie Sees Grave Danger In Air Forces-'Skegee Plan

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

NOTE: The following statement by William H. Hastie, released by the NAACP, describes and criticizes a new development in the Army Air program as it affects Negroes. Although Judge Hastie has completed his recent series of statements on the Air Forces, he considers this new and most recent development to be a matter which should receive public attention everywhere.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The Army Air Forces have just announced a new program of five months academic training in selected colleges to be given to soldiers before they begin army flying training.

The men will be taught by the college faculties and will live on the campus.

Over a hundred schools all over the country have been selected to provide this preliminary college training. But eligible Negro soldiers are to be segregated and all of them sent to Tuskegee Institute to study physics, mathematics, history, English and geography.

UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING

Men from all parts of the country, men with varying educational background, a large number of them already graduates of first rate liberal arts colleges, must be sent to Tuskegee Institute for five months of undergraduate training, just because they happen to be colored.

Even if Tuskegee were an outstanding liberal arts college, which it is not, this newest and wholly unnecessary Jim Crow scheme would be inexcusable. In all the circumstances the plan is outrageous.

The time has come when the unholy alliance between Tuskegee Institute and the Army Air Forces must be publicly denounced and condemned.

Let there be no mistake. Tuskegee is rendering no valuable service to the war effort in this latest step in its effort to concentrate a black aviation program on and around the Tuskegee campus.

WILLING ACCOMPLICE

With callous indifference to the best interests of the Negro and to the importance of democracy in the war effort, Tuskegee Institute is looking out for Tuskegee. The school gets its mess of pottage and the Air Forces have a willing and valuable accomplice in their design of keeping Negro soldiers out of all unsegregated colleges.

Several hundred Negroes may be affected by this scheme almost immediately. Early in March the Air Forces called to active duty the entire waiting list of several hundred qualified Negro aviation cadet applicants. I am sure of this because of my personal acquaintance with several of the men who were near the bottom of the list and have been called to duty.

These are the men who, after the usual preliminary processing, face the prospect of five months undergraduate study at Tuskegee before they begin aviation training.

BOMBARDIERS

It still remains to be seen what will be done with these men after they finish five months of college study at Tuskegee Institute. A report was sent from Tuskegee to a leading newspaper that some of these men are to become bombardiers and navigators.

There is no apparent truth to this report. I can find no evidence from any source of any plan to train Negroes for bombardment aviation. It seems to me that someone has tried to take the curse off of this latest Tuskegee outrage by circulating the false report that new opportunity is being provided for Negroes in the field of bombardment aviation. The whole thing smells very bad.

MUST CONTINUE TO QUESTION

There is one further question which we must ask and continue to ask until an answer is given.

What about new Negro applicants for aviation cadet training now that the waiting list is exhausted?

I do not know of any plan of the Air Forces for accepting or using additional Negro applicants. Will they be accepted? If so will they go on a waiting list to remain there until 1944? I know from experience that the Air Command makes piecemeal special plans for Negroes to meet the emergency at hand and then lets the matter drop until another emergency arises.

There is grave danger, unless the public keeps the issue constantly alive, that after the group called to duty in March, no additional Negro aviation cadets will be trained for a long time to come.

47d-1943

FULLER ON TRIAL FOR EXPOSING ARMY BRUTALITY

Guardian Boston, Mass.

JUL 24 1943

NEW YORK—Chaplain Luther M. Fuller is being tried here on charges growing out of his exposure of army brutality.

The trial is before a Board of Reclassification of the U. S. Army consisting of five commissioned army officers. The Board will determine where Chaplain Fuller can be of the best service in the army or whether he is fit for any army duty after exposing treatment of soldiers in the South Pacific. An opportunity was given Chaplain Fuller to resign, but he refused on the grounds that his cause was just, and he demanded a hearing. He will be represented by Judge W. C. Hueston, Army counsel was assigned Chaplain Fuller but he insisted on his right to choose his own attorney.

Scores of churchmen and civic leaders are here to support the chaplain. Among witnesses heard by the Board the day the trial opened were Rev. J. E. Jeltz of Boston, Rev. W. H. Jernagin, director of the Washington Bureau of the Fraternal Council of Churches and Mrs. Eunice Wolf, chairman of the Brooks Memorial Volunteers, White Plains, N. Y. The trial may last a week or two.

Observers believe that the trial will reveal gross discrimination practiced toward men in uniform including chaplains. Instances are cited in which white officers have refused entirely to listen to or understand the viewpoint of colored chaplains when they argue the cases of colored soldiers who have been outraged by their white brothers. Racial animosities on the part of commanding officers toward colored chaplains, it is said, make it almost impossible to perform the required duties efficiently.

JUL 24 1943

CHAPLAIN LUTHER M. FULLER Militant Pastor of People's Baptist Church, Chelsea, on leave of absence, to serve in the U. S. Army, who is being tried in New York for disclosing ill treatment of colored soldiers, including chaplains, in the service. Dr. J. E. Jeltz of Boston is among witnesses in Chaplain Fuller's behalf.

/ ON TRIAL

Letters of Interest to Joe (AND YOU) —

PM New York, N. Y

AUG 5 1943

Company dance in the South

Dear Bill:

My company threw a dance last night. The night before several men put up decorations at the Service Club; at 8 the night of the dance the club was cleared of all but necessary help and guards were posted to keep out all but company members—and the girls who came by bus-load from the nearby town.

The girls, as girls will, varied from plain to ravishing, and they had on lovely cotton dresses full of bright colors and the skirts were full and billowy. The music was good, it was not crowded, and the men began to say, and to repeat throughout the evening—they are still saying it— This is the best GI dance they'd ever been to. I, too, was stirred, and I tapped (or is it tagged?) and danced my way through the evening.

I was having a wonderful time, and, Bill, it was wonderful, dancing with these Southern belles. And then about 11 o'clock, having seen everyone I knew tagging each other and dancing off with blonde and brunette, the full skirts swishing, amid a whirlpool of scents from powder and perfume, I suddenly bethought me of five or six men who were not there. My heart sank. I felt sick. The men I had recalled were not doing CQ, they were not confined to the company area for misdemeanors or dirty rifles: they were Negroes.

Bill, I do not know what they were told about not coming by their officers; and I have not the heart to ask them; and, indeed, it is unnecessary to ask them anything. This is the South, and it would be unthinkable to allow five or six Negroes to enter a ballroom (albeit only a GI one) full of lovely young Southern (white) things in great big billowing skirts.

And when the hour of my remembering my fellow (Negro) soldiers had struck, I took no more delight in the music and the dancing and the scents of powder and perfume and the vain but lovely flirtatious eyes of the Southern belles. And there were many other things that no longer delighted me. It is like a beautiful line of poetry I once read: "The lark in my mind has flown."

A SERGEANT
Somewhere in the South, U. S. A.

For a sailor

CADETS ARE NOT FLYING P-40's

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAY 22 1943

Colonel Westbrook Grounds 332nd Fighter Group Until New Ships Arrive — Sidat-Singh Still Missing

Westbrook Relieved

At Selfridge Field

MAY 22 1943

BULLETIN !

DETROIT, Mich., May 20—Lt. Col. Samuel Westbrook, who came here from Tuskegee as commander of the 332nd Fighter Group, was unexpectedly replaced Monday morning by Col. Robert Selway, on orders of the War Department in Washington, D.C.

Colonel Westbrook will remain with the group as "group executive officer" under the new commanding officer.

Following last week's tragedies, Colonel Westbrook refused to send his pilots into the air until new planes were obtained. Whether or not the action in succeeding him as commanding officer has any significance, is not known. Whether or not the new commanding officer will also insist on new planes before continuing flights, is not known.

The replacement of Colonel Westbrook as commanding officer is probably a routine transfer. As executive officer, Colonel Westbrook will continue to have direct supervision of the training of the 332nd Fighter Group.

MAY 22 1943

By WILLIAM G. NUNN
(Special to The Courier)

DETROIT, May 20 — New planes are needed for the 332nd Fighter Group, located at Selfridge Field . . . and it is reliably reported that they will be had!

No Negroes are flying at Selfridge Field these days, Lt. Col. Samuel Westbrook, commander of the group, having grounded his investigation conducted by this writer, with the able assistance of John R. Williams, editor of the Detroit edition of The Courier, following the wave of air fatalities during the past 10 days.

INEFFICIENCY NOT INVOLVED

Speculation was rife following the accidents at the Oscoda Air Base, which took the life of Lt. Jerome T. Edwards and resulted in the "Still Missing" tag on Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh, nationally-known athlete.

Colonel Westbrook and all of his subordinates are unanimous in their opinion that neither fatality was occasioned by inefficiency.

The Courier's investigation has disclosed two remedial steps which might be taken. One is the imminent arrival of a shipment of P-4OL's or P-51's to supplant the old P-40's, which have been used for advanced training by the pilots.

It appears that most of the old P-40's, brought from Tuskegee, had already seen plenty of service and should have been salvaged. This, it was pointed out, was impossible . . . because of the scarcity of planes at the time Tuskegee Base was first established. The Government was forced to press them into service. The planes, however, appear to have seen their best days . . . as is evidenced by the fact that the new allotment had been promised for sometime, but are still "on the way."

SUPERVISE "OFF-HOURS"

At the time of the fatalities, the Fighter Group numbered close to 100 flying cadets, yet the group had less than 20 of the old planes, we were reliably informed.

There have also been unconfirmed reports that fuel other than the 100 per cent high octane gasoline recommended for all flying craft, was used in some of the planes.

Our other suggestion has to do with closer supervision of the "off-hours" of the cadets. These men, it is agreed, are training in a branch of Army service which taxes them to the fullest. However, the gay "night life" of Detroit's better known amusement spots is not conducive to the split-second efficiency they must practice at all times.

Meanwhile Army officers are conducting a separate investigation of reported irregularities at the field, together with the shooting of Pvt. William McRae, chauffeur, by Col. William T. Colman. McRae still is improving in the Station hospital, but his condition is not yet such that he can be questioned.

Col. Franklin Babcock of the Inspector General's office in Washington and a staff of aides have been assigned to the task.

Mr. Shafer, before he dropped his probe, had linked the name of M/Sgt. Myron Collins, formerly stationed at the field. It is said that a white chauffeur, who formerly drove Colonel Colman and his wife, might be a key figure in the case.

It is now practically certain (as reported first in The Courier last week) that the shooting of McRae was a case of "mistaken identity."

The Selfridge Field scandal threatens to involve some "big names," but at present only Charles Burman and Hubert K. Marks, constables accused of having taken a bribe to fix jobs at the field, are the targets of U. S. Attorney John C. Lehr's probe of so-called bombproof "for the duration" jobs.

Julius Amberg, legal adviser to Under Secretary of War Patterson, held a press conference at the Book-Cadillac hotel in which he told representatives of the Negro press that relations between the races and between officers and soldiers were most amicable. We found his statement to be indisputably correct.

Bystander Des Moines, Iowa

SKILLED NEGROES SUFFER DISCRIMINATION BY AIR CORPS, SAYS NAACP

JUL 23 1943

New York, N. Y.—Specific cases in which skilled Negroes are being denied opportunity for training and technical service in the Army Air Forces are cited by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary in the most recent protest of the NAACP against racial discrimination in the armed services.

In one case, it is pointed out that four Negro enlisted men of the air corps, one of the top man and all ranking students in their class in.

photography, were rejected for advanced training leading to higher ratings and commissions in this field, while white classmates whom they had out-ranked were selected. The pretext for this discrimination was the charge by one of their officers that Yale university, where the advanced training is offered, "is not

ready to accept Negroes."

Mr. Wilkins also cited the case of a Negro soldier, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of a leading university, with advanced study in biology and biochemistry, who was first denied assignment to laboratory work in an army hospital, then especially trained as an air corps armourer and finally sent to an air field to work as a laborer.

Attacks on Negro Soldiers FDR Urged to Halt

PM New York, N. Y.

Five Killed in Year; Judge Hastie's Report Assails Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON, July 19. —Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, today urged President Roosevelt and other U. S. officials to halt "civilian violence" —against Negro soldiers.

In a report submitted to the National Lawyers' Guild, of which he is vice president, Judge Hastie charged that attacks on Negro soldiers were "continuing unabated" and are "the greatest single factor" undermining the morale of the Negro populace.

Reviewing a series of civilian and police assaults on Negro troops that took place during 1942, Judge Hastie warned that this year "both the seriousness of this form of lawlessness and the lack of any effective methods of control have become more apparent and increasingly grave in their implications."

Negroes Killed

The survey decried the failure of national officials to intervene and levelled its sharpest criticism against the Dept. of Justice. Pointing out that five Negro soldiers have been killed or wounded in civilian communities during the first three months of 1943, Hastie proposed:

¶ "Most obviously, the present limited power of the military authorities and the Dept. of Justice to restrain and punish such violence should be exercised with unremitting vigor and determination.

¶ "Congress has authority, not yet exercised, which should be exercised promptly, to bring all crimes of homicide or serious bodily harm involving members of the armed forces within the jurisdiction of the Federal courts."

'Miserable Failure'

The report declared, however, that "beyond laws and the enforcement of laws, the Federal authorities have failed miserably to build up any public sentiment against the mistreatment of the colored soldier, although there have been individual cases in which the Army commanders in the field have made real efforts to persuade the white community to show respect for the colored soldiers."

Contending that "the President, the Secretary of War and all the officials in Washington to whom the people would listen have remained silent on the subject of violence against the Negro soldier," Hastie said that the time had come for them to speak out. He expressed confidence that public appeals would be effective.

The report also urged the Army and Navy to initiate "a positive program of education" within the armed forces.

Among the case histories cited in the report:

¶ In El Paso, Texas, Private Willie Jullis, Negro, was shot and killed by a city policeman. The local authorities "went through the formalities of submitting the matter to a local Grand Jury and there it ended."

¶ Private Henry Williams, Negro, was shot and killed by a bus driver while riding through Mobile. In Mobile the drivers are authorized by law to cary firearms.

"The civil authorities did not even go to the trouble of a Grand Jury hearing in this case," Hastie observed.

In addition to discussing the cases of anti-Negro violence, the report cited "cumulative effect of every-day small insults."

Sacred Sidewalks

"We often do not hear," Judge Hastie said, "about the small towns in which the Negro soldier is forced to conform to local custom by stepping from the narrow sidewalk into the street whenever a white person passes.

"To address a Negro soldier as 'nigger' is such a commonplace in the average Southern community that little is said about it. But the mounting rage of the soldier is far from commonplace.

"He may not express his feelings when he must wait until all the white passengers are accommodated before he can get transportation. He may even hold his tongue when he is forced to get out of the bus in which he is seated in order to make room for white passengers. But it is of such stuff that bitterness and hatred are made."

JUL 19 1943

Judge Hastie's Resignation

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

The resignation of William Hastie as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War and the reasons undelying that resignation will wound the racial pride and patriotism of American Negroes. Already frustrated in hopes by the blighting effects of discrimination in defense industries and civilian life, the War Department's lackadaisical policy, led on by the Navy's narrow attitude, serves further to curdle the morale of American Negroes.

In his formal charges Mr. Hastie goes into particulars: He deplores the government's indifference and its failure to do anything about the hostile attitude of white civilians towards Negro personnel at the Tuskegee Flying school the disarming of Negro Military Police, and the "wholesale segregation" of Negro and white officers at the Tuskegee base. He sees the organization of Negro "Aviation Squadrons" at Jefferson, Mo., as "nothing more than labor batallions." And he dislikes the all-around smell of "segregation in every governmentally controlled school for Negroes." The "conclusion," he says, "is inescapable that the air command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes."

These are grave charges against a government waging a better war upon the lofty principles of the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms.

We are sorry that Mr. Hastie had to resign but his action will focus effective attention on demoralizing condition. The reasons given for his resignation would have influenced any other man of his stature and forthright convictions to have done likwise.

Nevertheless, we are comforted by the fact that Mr. Hastie did the best he could under the circumstances, and that the fate he suffered was no worse nor better than any other Negro would have suffered similarly placed. But of one thing we may all be certain, his courage and fortitude, smack of a new type of leadership in our group, which prefers no job at all to that of holding on to a position which not only stifles his own manhood principles, but likewise, betrays the confidence and trust of his race.

Facts and Nonsense

Amsterdam Star-News New York, N. Y.

AMERICAN RACE PREJUDICE marches on! Way over in Australia, half way 'round the world, the U. S. Army and the American Red Cross have opened a Jim Crow service club for U. S. Negro troops only. This was done in spite of the fact that there was no discrimination against or segregation of U. S. Negro troops in Australia until U. S. white soldiers and the Red Cross went over there and forced the American Jim Crow and discrimination systems down the throats of the Australians and the Negro soldiers.

Of course, the U. S. Army has done the same thing everywhere it has carried the American flag and the four freedoms. They have established the four freedoms, American Jim Crow brand, in England, Ireland, North Africa, the Hawaiian Islands, New Guinea (where serious trouble occurred between Negro soldiers and their white officers) and India.

When U. S. Negro troops first landed in Australia, they were treated like human beings by the white natives. They were freely invited to the Australians' homes to dinner, hospitably accepted in hotels, bars, dance halls and other public places. Australian girls gladly accepted them as escorts. All this changed, however, as soon as our white troops, aching to tote the four freedoms 'round the globe, landed in the land Down Under. White army officers completely segregated their Negro soldiers, denied them practically all recreational privileges away from their camps. White soldiers even cursed out Australian girls for going out on dates with "niggers." They told the Australians that Negroes were little, if any, better than beasts.

And so, after 13 months the U. S. Army and its stooge, the Red Cross, have made Jim Crow official in another foreign country. Dubbed the Doctor Carver Service Club, the Jim Crow outfit in Australia has all the trappings of a similar set-up in Mississippi. Overly solicitous for the comforts and happiness of the Negro soldiers, the Army and the Red Cross even went out and collected a bevy of half caste Australian beauties to act as hostesses for the boys. (Anything to keep them away from white women).

Meantime, we don't believe that the United States or any other country can possibly win this war as long as it out-Nazis the Nazis in treating with colored people. The Japanese beat the British in Burma, Singapore and Malay. They licked the Dutch in the rich Dutch East Indies. Australia is today in mortal fear of invasion. China can collapse and India is by no means secure.

These conditions in the Far East, where the Japs have established an empire larger than Britain's, can be blamed directly on the shameful treatment of colored people by white men. It is indeed a depressing feeling to know that instead of improving their relations with the colored people of the world in many instances citizens of the same country and in others allies the U. S. Government insists on making them worse by carrying the U. S. Jim Crow and discrimination systems all over the map.

The treatment of Negroes by our own government is one of the strongest arguments in favor of those who say the so-called democracies are full of stuff and nonsense.

JUN 12 1943

47d -1943

Hastie Explains How U.S. Air Force Keeps Itself Lily-White

FEB 13 1943

Lists 5 Men Given Run-around, Says U.S. Losing Respect of Axis, Democracies Whom We try to Lead

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

In a second statement showing how the U.S. air force is keeping itself lily-white, Dr. William H. Hastie, recently resigned civilian aide to the Secretary of War, this week lists five expert flyers who were turned down by the government because of their color.

FEB 13 1943

The flyers that were refused include:

James L. H. Peck, a fighter pilot in the Spanish civil war, and one of America's best known authors in military and civilian aviation;

Fred H. Hutcherson, working for Canada flying American-made planes to England;

Gilbert Cargill, who was ordered to Maxwell Field, reported for work and was flatly turned down at the front office;

FEB 13 1943

Charles Ashe, who suffered the same fate as befell Mr. Cargill at Maxwell Field;

Robert Terry, who had been rejected as an army pilot months before.

Peck Still a Young Man

Mr. Peck, although a veteran in the field of aviation, is a man in his early thirties. Mr. Hastie says of him:

"Had he been white, the only question would have been whether the army or the navy could have grabbed him first. But, being colored, he doesn't have to worry about the navy at all. And the army has been more than deliberate in consideration his application."

FEB 13 1943

Speaking of Mr. Hutcherson, Mr. Hastie avers:

"He is young in years but old in flying experience. When I met him last spring he was working in Canada, flying American-made planes to England. He had just delivered his sixth bomber to England in command of a white crew and returned to Canada.

"He later came to Washington and spent several days going from office to office, trying to get action. He felt that he was getting nowhere, so he went back to Canada.

FEB 13 1943

He Can Remember 369th

"If it is any consolation to him, he can remember that in the last war there was a whole colored regiment which the American Army did not want. But the 369th went on and did its fighting with the French, who were glad to have it. And it came back with battle honors such as few regiments of any army could match."

Continuing, Mr. Hastie said:

"One day last December a colored civilian pilot received the following telegram from the army air forces:

" 'You are authorized to report to Maxwell Field or service pilot training. Stop. You must have clear release from present employment.'

"There was nothing unusual about this message. The air forces are recruiting large numbers of civilian pilots, many of them over age for combat flying or lacking the physical perfection required of the combat pilot.

"Taken for a Ride"

"These men become army flyers and perform the many essential flying missions, other than combat, which the army requires. But two of the men who received such directions to report for training were colored. They were Cargill and Ashe who reported to Maxwell Field, but never got any farther than the front office.

FEB 13 1943

"They were told bluntly that no provision was made for training colored men. It is still not clear what special provision is necessary. They did not even get a refund of their train fare. They just got a ride.

"Probably Cargill and Ashe did not know that Terry had been rejected as an army service pilot months before.

"Certainly, they did not know that the Air Command is handicapped by that type of mentality which cannot picture a colored pilot flying a plane into a strange field, sitting down to dinner with other flyers, taking temporary quarters with them, then flying off on another mission.

Segregation Seen as Hitch

"Of course, it just isn't possible to segregate a man who is working as a service pilot. So, we have no black service pilots.

"Colored specialists of various kinds have received similar treatment. The few colored air units do not require many specialists. And the colored specialist, in military contemplation, can exercise his skill only for other colored persons.

FEB 13 1943

"One colored applicant is told in November, 1942, that "at the present time there are no further vacancies available for the training of colored aviation cadets for service as ground officers as the quota for the coming year has been filled.

"To another applicant, the air command explains in greater detail:

FEB 13 1943

> Reference is made to your letter of October 20, 1942, requesting information relative to training facilities, with the army air forces for colored meteorologists.
>
> There are at present no colored air force weather groups, nor are any contemplated in the near future. However, there is now one colored meteorologist attached to a colored air force fighter group, and six others in training who will be attached to colored fighter groups upon graduation.
>
> It is believed by the army air forces that the above mentioned seven colored meteorologists will take care of their needs for quite some time.

FEB 13 1943

FEB 13 1943

This Doesn't Mean You

"Yet, on January 8, 1943, the War Department published the following announcement:

> To fill the urgent need for more than 1000 meteorologists in the air forces, men between the ages of 18 and 30, inclusive qualified for meteorological training, will be certified for voluntary induction into the army as aviation cadets in meteorology.

FEB 13 1943

"This may not make sense, but it is understandable. Weather may be black, or it may be fair, but the skin of the man who makes the weather calcuation has to match the skin of the flier who uses the information.

"At a press conference on November 19, 1942, the Secretary of War explained that relatively less colored men would be in the air forces than in some other branches of the army because of the particular skills required in aviation.

" 'There are some branches,' he said, 'which require specialists and for which the number of men has to be determined by the number and capacity of the recruits who are available for it.'

FEB 13 1943

"Unquestionably the secretary spoke in good faith. But on the record the air command does not want all the colored specialists who are available.

FEB 13 1943

"Until we abandon this stupid notion that colored specialists can work only for and with other colored persons, James Peck and Fred Hutcherson, and potential colored service pilots and meteorologists will continue to be wasted.

FEB 13 1943

"And, so long as we tolerate such vicious nonsense, we can be respected neither by the forces of fascism which we condemn nor by the forces of democracy which we assume to lead."

FEB 13 1943

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
June 21, 1943

PROBE OF RACIAL CLASHES IS URGED

CHICAGO, June 20—(AP)—A mass meeting of Chicago Negroes urged Sunday that President Roosevelt issue an executive order under his emergency war powers outlawing what they termed "discrimination, segregation, humiliation and unlawful killing of Negro soldiers and civilians" in race clashes.

The meeting, held under auspices of the National Negro Council, asserted in a resolution that race conflicts in some Southern Army camps were causing a "dangerous effect on the morale of the American people and irreparable undermining of the total and unified war effort."

To investigate and report on these race conflicts, the meeting urged that President Roosevelt appoint several representatives, including Bishop David Henry Sims, First Episcopal District of the A M. E. Church, Philadelphia, and Dr D. V. Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention, Selma, Ala.

The National Negro Council claims to represent some 5,000,000 Negroes in the United States and includes representatives of the National Baptist Convention, the African M. E. Bishop's Council and the National Negro Insurance Association.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Deny Discrimination In Seattle Snow Removal

MAR 20 1943

WASHINGTON. — Denying that there was discrimination in the recent use of Negro troops for snow removal in Seattle, Wash., Major General J. A. Ulio, adjutant general of the War Department, told the NAACP this week that the commanding general of the Northwest section had utilized for this detail the most available troops "who happened to be colored."

"The storm in Seattle was of such an extent as to seriously interfere with all activities pertaining to the operation of military installation and defense as well as its civilian activities . . . the commanding general of the 39th Army Aircraft Artillery Brigade utilized white troops and their equipment to assist in restoring the region of

Bremerton Navy Yard and Seattle to normalcy while the commanding general of the Seattle port of embarkation utilized all troops available to him regardless of color in operation of the port and in clearing the snow and ice from that vicinity to permit the proper operation of the port.

MAR 20 1943

"The action taken by military authorities in the Seattle area was necessary to prevent a complete cessation of work in a large number of defense activities particularly aircraft manufacturing plants and shipbuilding yards.

"It does not appear," Ulio concluded, "that there was any discrimination against Negro troops in this case."

MAR 20 1943

For the cleaning of snow in the streets of downtown Seattle Negro troops were brought from Fort Lewis, 60 miles away. No white soldiers were detailed for this work.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Asks Quiz Of N. Y. Defense Work Ban

MAR 27 1943

ROCKVILLE CENTER, N. Y.—Telegrams were sent this week by Mayor Edgar T. Beamish to President Roosevelt, War Manower Commission McNutt and Governor Dewey, requesting an investigation into charges that Negroes have been refused entrance to Nassau County defense schools. The Beamish wires read:

"I have received a petition signed by 200 Negro residents of Rockville Center who declared they are qualified but have been refused entrance to Nassau county defense schools to learn defense work. The Negroes also claim that some of them have attended the school and passed their tests, but have been refused employment in Nassau County defense factories."

The Informer

Negro M Ps Pulled Off Duty In Dallas

MAY 8 1943

Dallas, Texas. — Negro MP's were pulled from the Hall and Thomas street area and from Dallas entirely this week after patrolling the area with a commendable record for more than two months.

Army officials commented upon the clean record of the short-lived patrol duty carried out by the soldiers who successfully kept order without any major disturbances, in contrast with the hectic situation of flare-ups before their placement.

The reason for the removal of the Negro MP's army officials contend is because presently there are very few Negro soldiers at Hensley Field and they cannot be spared from detail. Further it is quite unlikely that a great number will be stationed there again. In the event that more are stationed here Negro MP's will resume their duty, officials stated.

Another primary reason for the pull is that there are not many Negro soldiers in this area now, according to officials.

Saturday night white MP's detailed to patrol the Hall and Thomas area were met with many rebuffs as many soldiers sought to resist them and fights with them were evident and frequent.

Inducted in Aviation Cadet Unit 'By Mistake'

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

Discharged When Race Is Discovered

Lincoln U. Instructor and Two Others

FEB 26 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—(ANP) — Faces are still red in the headquarters of the 7th Service command in Omaha after three Negroes, one of them a Lincoln university professor, were inducted

as privates along with 2,000 whites, into an aviation cadet unit at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. The mistake was rectified only when the three were given speedy honorable discharges and placed in the air force enlisted reserves.

The Lincolnite who had a taste of democracy in the army is Stewart B. Fulbright, an alumnus and a French instructor here until Jan. 31, when he entered Flight "B" of the 1,166th Technical School squadron at Jefferson Barracks. He was gone 10 days before returning to the university to resume his teaching duties.

3 In By Error

FEB 26 1943

Telling of his experiences last week, Mr. Fulbright said: "I thought it strange that I was the only Negro in a group of over 2,000 aviation cadets and I later found out that there were three of us there by mistake."

The others to whom he referred were Wendell R. Smith, of Des Moines, and Charles L. Smith, of St. Louis.

FEB 26 1943

Unfamiliar surroundings didn't phase Pvt. Fulbright. He met no difficulty in going through the processing period along with the white men with whom he had been placed.

FEB 26 1943

"I can sincerely say that during this processing (mental, physical and orientation tests, interviews and drilling), no discrimination was shown toward me," he said. His white companions accepted him in their conversation and in horseplay and the flight sergeant was especially kind, he asserted.

Pvt. Fulbright ate in a Negro mess hall at his own request, not on orders, but one of his Negro confrers who ate in the general mess was alleged to have been told by a kitchen police officer that "We don't allow N...... to eat in here."

FEB 26 1943

All Three Discharged

The day following that incident, according to Pvt. Fulbright, Pvt. Wendell Smith was transferred from Squadron 1,167, which is an aviation cadet unit, to Squadron 917, a Negro unit of enlisted men. Unlike the Lincolnite, he had not been permitted to go through the processing, but on Feb. 6, he, too, was notified that he would be discharged.

FEB 26 1943

The third Negro soldier, Pvt. Charles Smith, was on a 10-day convalescent furlough at that time, observed Pvt. Fulbright, who also saw strange things within the confines of an army post. However, the day this Pvt. Smith reported for duty he was given an honorable discharge also.

When informed on February 8 that he was to be discharged, Pvt. Fulbright didn't know what to think. The reason given him was that "the Omaha office (headquarters of the Seventh Area command), made a mistake." He was given the honorable discharge and permitted to keep his uniform, but he's still subject to the air reserves, according to a notation typed on his discharge. It took two more days to complete the army routine of issuing the discharge papers.

FEB 26 1943

With more than enough money to pay his own fare back to Jefferson City without waiting for the army's five-cent-a-mile allowance from the post to his home, Pvt. Fulbright came here on February 10.

FEB 26 1943

On the train he began to wonder. He knew he had passed the mental test with a score of 108. He knew he had had no trouble with the white men in the company to which he was assigned. But he's been discharged!

Senate To Probe Race Discrimination In Army

The Informer

April 17,

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The senate committee on military affairs will hold preliminary hearings into the charges of racial discrimination in the armed forces preparatory to the appointment of a five-man subcommittee to understand a full-dress investigation into the matter.

Informer

Result of Resolution

This is the procedure which will be followed as a result of a resolution introduced in the senate last Thursday by Sen. Sheridan V. Downey (D.) of California calling upon that committee to conduct a full and complete study and investigation with respect to the status of the Negro and other minority groups in the armed services as well as the WAACS, WAVES, SPARS, and marines, women's auxiliaries.

Houston, Tex.

Introducing his resolution Sen. Downey declared on the floor that complaints of violations of the nondiscrimination provisions of the Selective Training and Service act of 1940 had been made by responsible persons, notably William H. Hastie, the civilian aide to Secy. of War Henry L. Stimson who resigned in protest, which complaints have created "anxious concern among large segments of our people."

The senator made it clear in his remarks that he is not now attempting to judge the veracity of the charges but rather to point out the intent of the President and the legislation establish selective service that the objective be attained without racial discrimination. He pointed out that Negroes are greatly restricted in the armed forces, particularly in the air corps.

April 17, 1943

"By the end of this year there will be more than one million Negro Americans serving their country in our armed forces," he told the senate. "They will represent more than 10 per cent of all Americans under arms. Their heroism, their loyalty is unquestioned. The records of such Negro heroes as Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

April 17, 1943

Essential

"It becomes vital to the successful prosecution of American's war of survival that the morale of the Negro Americans in our armed forces and of the 12,000,000 more who are working on the home front, be not impaired by failure of any government agency to live up to the letter and spirit of existing laws against discrimination. It is essential that there be full and unhindered use of all America's manpower in the conduct of the war."

Sen. Robert Reynolds (D.) of North Carolina is chairman of the military affairs committee. It is customary that when a committee is to be appointed in accordance with a resolution, the sponsor is generally consulted on its membership. Sen. Downey was expecting to leave for the West Coast where he was scheduled to delve into manpower problems in California. It is therefore unlikely that the sub-committee will be appointed before his return about May 8.

The specifications of the resolution call for the committee to ascertain the extent to which there has been compliance with the racial discrimination clause of the Selective Service and Training act of 1940, the nature and extent of any practice in the organization and placement of personnel which acted to exclude Negroes from particular branches of the armed forces either on land, at sea or in the air; the extent to which advancement of Negroes in the ranks of commissioned officers has been limited: the extent to which the armed services are failing to utilize the full professional and technical skills of Negroes; and the relation of the system of segregated units to the effective utilization and appropriate placement of persons on the basis of individual competency and merit.

The resolution empowers this special sub-committee to carry on hearings, aided by a subpeona power, throughout the 78th Congress whether it be in session or recessed or adjourned.

Informer

Judge Hastie Comments

Informed of the senator's resolution, Judge Hastie commented that "public hearings of the facts is in the best tradition of the American way of doing things."

47d-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Article 'Debunks' Stimson Release

FEB 6 1943

By SIDNEY WALKER
Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4—Officials of the War Department who recognize that its Negro policy is indefensible and patently unfair are apparently making some efforts to meet criticism which has developed since the first of the year and reached its climax with the resignation of Judge William H. Hastie.

FEB 6 - 1943

The first step was to transfer Col. Frederick "Jim Crow" von Kimble from the Army Air Force school at Tuskegee.

The second step, not fully confirmed, was to lay aside plans for setting up a jim crow officer training school for Negroes in the Air Force at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

The third step took the form of a somewhat amusing release given to the press by Secretary Stimson at his conference last Thursday. This press release reminded reporters of the song Todd Duncan has made famous, "I Got Plenty of Nuttin' an' Nuttin's Plenty for Me."

FEB 6 - 1943

In obvious answer to criticisms of the Air Force, the release began with information to the effect that the program for training Negro combat aviators is to be expanded and that a Group is to be formed, composed of one squadron now being trained and two new ones in the process or organization. This **group, the statement read, is to be** provided with all the supporting services, not only those of the Air Corps, but of other arms and services such as Signal Corps and Quartermaster Corps. The release added:

FEB 6 - 1943

"Negroes are being trained throughout virtually the entire Technical Training Command of the Air Forces, as well as at the Air Forces Officers' Training school at Miami.

The rest of the press release reminded how widespread is the use of the Negro soldier in the army at home and in the expeditionary forces and of the large number of colored administrative employees in the War department, 9,569 out of a total of 47,644.

This press release was amusing because it contained absolutely nothing new and was so obviously planned to create an impression. Reporters read it, laughed, then felt sick at the stomach.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

REVEALS HOW HE

HAD BEEN IGNORED

FEB 6 - 1943

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE
(Recently Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4—Reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes were the immediate cause of my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

FEB 6 1943

The Army Air Forces are growing in importance and independence. In the post war period they may become the greatest single component of the armed services. Biased policies and harmful practices established in this branch of the Army can all too easily infect other branches as well. The situation had become critical. Yet, the whole course of my dealings with the Army Air Forces convinced me that further expression of my views in the form of recommendations within the Department would be futile. I, therefore, took the only course which can, I believe, bring results. Public opinion is still the strongest force in American life.

FEB 6 19

To the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking, I say with all the force and sincerity at my command that the man in uniform must grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside of the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places within the military establishment, who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him. But only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won.

When I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action. In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit piolts at Tuskegee. I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. What information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals for recommendations, I volunteered them.

SEGREGATED SCHOOL BROUGHT CLIMAX

This situation reached its climax in late December, 1942, when I learned through Army press releases sent out from St. Louis and from the War Department in Washington that the Air Command was about to establish a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to train Negro officers for ground duty with the Army Air Forces. Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation. Moreover, I had actually written to the Air Command several weeks earlier in an attempt to find out what was brewing at Jefferson Barracks. The Air Command replied as late as December 17, 1942, giving not even the slightest hint of any plan for a segregated officer candidate school. It is inconceivable to me that consideration of such a project had not then advanced far enough for my office to have been consulted, even if I had not made specific inquiry. The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes.

But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. Moreover, even now the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the field of aviation. This attitude is the result of wholly unscinetific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity, the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces.

AVIATION SQUADRONS ONLY LABOR UNITS

The Negro program of the Air Forces began some two years ago with the organization of several so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)". These units now greatly increased in number, were organized to serve no specific military need. They have never had a defined function. Except as individual commanders on their own initiative have found some military function for particular small groups of men, the characteristic assignment of the "Aviation Squadron (Separate)" has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. There are no equivalent white organizations. "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces. Reluctant to use Negroes at all, the Air Command started off on the wrong foot by organizing some Negro labor units, while every effort was being made to recruit white volunteers with mechanical ability for skilled service.

Somewhat later, in order to provide enlisted technicians for the new air base at Tuskegee, a few Negro soldiers were accepted for technical training at Chanute Field where a large school is maintained. The men were well received and did excellent work. I urged the importance of continuing such training of Negroes in this existing unsegregated school. But the program stopped with the first group. The Air Forces then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

SERVICE PILOTS REJECTED

The Air Forces also are rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers in other highly specialized technical fields. A few such men were trained for Tuskegee. But for a period of more than six months, all qualified Negro candidates have had their completed applications returned to them with the information that the Air Forces need no more Negro weather officers. The Air Forces, however, do need large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army. Yet, it is unthinkable to those in authority that a Negro officer can fill such a position except at Tuskegee. The same situation exists in armament and engineering, both ground specialties for which the Air Forces have been accepting cadets generally, but refusing Negroes.

To date, all Negro applicants, a number of them well and fully qualified, for appointment as Army service pilots have been prejudiced. Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes. I am advised that this matter is receiving further study. The simple fact is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

AVIATION FUTURE IN DANGER

Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field. Even the branch school program in which it is represented that Negro officers share without discrimination is in fact discriminatory. Many white officers enrolled at branch schools of aviation medicine have the opportunity of full time resident study. The Negro officer is permitted to commute periodically from his home station at Tuskegee for work at the Maxwell Field branch school. Such grudging partial tender of makeshift schemes may be expected to continue unless a genuine change of racial attitude and policy occurs in the Air Command.

While Negro trainees and cadets at the Tuskegee Air Base have done well from a strictly technical point of view, they have suffered such demoralizing discrimination and segregation that, in my judgment, the entire future of the Negro in combat aviation is in danger. Men cannot be humiliated over a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency.

Specifically, Negro and white officers serving at Tuskegee in the common enterprise of training Negroes for air combat have separate messes. They are not permitted to have quarters in the same building. Separate toilet facilities have been provided. If the group of white officers at Tuskegee insist upon this and I have no evidence that they do—they are psychologically unsuited to train Negroes for combat. If they do not so insist, the racial attitude of the local commander or of higher authority is all the more apparent.

POLICE DISARMS SOLDIER-GUARD

Despite original design to advance Negro officers and to place them in posts of administrative responsibility at Tuskegee as rapidly as they should qualify, that design is not being carried out in the post administration, except in the station hospital.

Early in the history of the Tuskegee project, a Negro soldier guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian. From then on friction continued. A new commander was appointed. He disarmed Negro military policemen, assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. A recent member of the Alabama state police force was assigned to Tuskegee as an Army officer with duties related to his civilian experience. The Negro soldier was embittered, but the prejudiced community was somewhat mollified.

Fundamentally, it seems to me the Air Command has either failed to comprehend or failed to care that its policies and practices are tending to tear down rather than build up the pride, dignity and self respect which Negro soldiers, like all other soldiers must possess if they are to achieve maximum combat efficiency. Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Army Air Force Policy Criticized In Courier Poll

FEB 6 1943

Colored American citizens showed deep resentment this week about humiliations which have been heaped upon them by the United States government in refusing to allow race youths the opportunity which others are receiving in the Army Air Force.

Typical comments voiced in the current Pittsburgh Courier Bureau of Public Sentiment Poll were:

"We hang our heads in shame that our own government could deny us the opportunity to fight for America . . . Is America really going to jeopardize chances of victory in order to continue the luxury of race prejudice? . . . The government seems to be hesitant to make the decisions which are necessary to all citizens in the war program."

9 OUT OF 10 SAID "NO"

This week's question, presented to a country-wide cross section of Negro citizens, was:

"DO YOU BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCE HAS BEEN FAIR TO NEGROES IN THE TRAINING OF FLYERS?"

91.9% said "NO."
5.2% said "YES."
2.8% were uncertain.

Recent revelations concerning the treatment of youths at the Tuskegee Air base were most amazing to the citizens. Many stated that it conclusively demonstrated the failure of a jim-crow setup in a democratic country. The problems existing at Tuskegee, they said, could certainly be no worse than those which would be encountered if all men were integrated into the Air Force without regard to race.

The greatest resentment expressed by the citizens was: "Since the men at least have demonstrated that they can fly in battle, when are they going to see some action?"

Conclusive demonstration was evident that men and women are anxious to do their part in the total war effort which our country is engaged. They want to "fight for America."

FEB 6 - 1943

Next week:

"DO YOU BELIEVE TH NYA AGE LIMITS SHOULD B LIFTED TO INCLUDE AL ABLE-BODIED ADULTS ABOVE 25 IN ITS TRAINING PROGRAM?"

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Race Discrimination Denied at Lincoln Base

Lincoln, Nebr., Oct. 23 (AP).—S. C. Waugh, president of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, said today he has written Secretary of War Stimson on behalf of the chamber that "we have at all times been impressed with the complete fairness accorded every soldier" at the Lincoln Air Base and that "at no time has any discrimination whatsoever been brought to our attention."

Charges of discrimination have been made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

WHO'S NEXT AFTER HASTIE

JAN 30 1943

Now that Judge Hastie is resigning as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, who will take his place?

We predict that the Administration will not easily find a Negro of Judge Hastie's calibre to take this post because most Negroes of intelligence, character and group loyalty know why he left the job, agree with his reasons for leaving and could not bring themselves to feel comfortable in the place he has vacated.

Judge Hastie was chosen for the post because of his ability, his experience, his reputation as an opponent of color discrimination and segregation, and because of his NAACP connection.

JAN 30 1943

He ran up against the stonewall determination of the Army to handle the Negro "problem" in the plantation and levee camp manner, and after laboring with the Augean stables of racial proscription for a season he resigned when he saw he was making no headway.

Will his successor be any more successful?

What Negro can do a better job in this post than Judge Hastie, and what Negro is willing to try?

Indeed, in view of what has happened in the Army since 1940, it is questionable whether anything worthwhile can be accomplished as civilian aide of fundamental advantage to Negroes.

JAN 30 1943

We may be entirely wrong and we hope we are, but it is difficult to see how a Negro in this position with all his superiors maintaining or inaugurating racial segregation can accomplish anything of value.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Hastie Says Tuskegee Air Field Unnecessary

MAR 4 - 1943

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NOTE—In the following statement, William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in protest against shortcomings of the military aviation program as it affects Negroes, discusses some additional aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces.

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE

THERE IS NOT now and never has been any good reason for the segregated training of Negro flyers at Tuskegee. There are two stages in the training of a soldier to be an Army flyer. The first stage teaches the new cadet how to fly, using small light aircraft adapted to the training of a beginner. This part of the program is carried out by private operators who contract with the Army to give preliminary flying instruction to aviation cadets. The private contractor furnishes the field and the instructors, while the Army selects and assigns the cadets, prescribes the course of instruction and supervises training. There are a great many such contract schools scattered in various sections of the country.

MAR 4 - 1943

The cadet who successfully completes the elementary flying course at such a school is next assigned to an Army field for further basic and advanced training. From this point on, the Army takes complete charge of the training program.

MAR 4 - 1943

SEGREGATION NECESSARY

There was no need to segregate Negro cadets in either stage of training. Newly appointed Negro cadets could have been assigned to beginning classes at any one of the many contract schools just as white cadets are assigned. In fact one of two Negro cadets were so assigned by mistake. But when they arrived for training, arrangements were quickly made to reassign them to Tuskegee. Similarly in the more advanced training, Negroes who had completed the primary course could have been sent to the various Army flying training centers. But the Air Command was determined to separate Negro and white cadets at every stage of training.

Tuskegee Institute was awarded a contract to provide Army primary training for Negro Army aviation cadets. Under this contract the Army enlisted and appointed a small group of Negro cadets every few weeks and sent them to the Tuskegee contract school where Negro instructors employed by Tuskegee Institute gave elementary flying training under Army supervision. Incidently, this caused some confusion because Tuskegee Institute also has a civilian pilot course which is not connected with the Army. Some young men enrolled in this civilian course under the misapprehension that by doing so they were getting into Army aviation.

CONFUSION AT PRESENT

MAR 4 1943

For the more advanced training of Negro cadets, the Army invested millions of dollars in the construction of a new Army Air Base for Negroes located a few miles from the town of Tuskegee. Tuskegee Institute has no connection with this Army field or with the advanced training conducted there. However, as to this also there has been some confusion and misunderstanding in the public mind.

But why in the name of common sense should all of this elaborate special machinery be set up to train Negro flyers It was expensive. It caused a delay of six months or more in the beginning of flying training for Negroes. It was not flexible, since it was adapted only to the training of Pursuit Pilots. Only by setting up Pursuit Polits. Only by setting additional Negro training centers for bombardment and observation, or by abandoning segregated training could the program be broadened.

MAR 4 1943

The idea of a separate training base for Negro pilots is indefensible, if Negroes are actually to be an integral part of our combat Air Forces. It is not possible to train flyers in one small area as foot soldiers can be trained. Even in training men must fly from field to field. After a flyer is commissioned, his flying in this country will necessarily take him in and out of a large number of flying fields.

NOT PRACTICAL

If he goes into combat abroad one thing is certain. He will not just fly out of a Jim-Crow base with his own Negro unit and fly back again. Even infantrymen traveling on their own two feet get scattered in combat. How much more are aviators bound to get into unexpected places and undergo regrouping from time to time during the course of a campaign. It is simply impossible to maintain racial segregation of pilots in a combat area. The Air Command must know this.

Since such contacts and mingling are unavoidable, the only sensible thing to do is to prepare men for them by providing interracial associations in training such as they are bound to have later on. If we want white and colored flyers in combat to get along well with each other, the best plan is to build mutual understanding and self-respect by training them together from the time they begin learning to fly. The worst plan is to keep them apart until they are forced together under the stress of circumstances in combat. Prejudice is based on ignorance. Let men get acquainted with each other in training and there is no great problem of their harmony later on.

MAR 4 - 1943

All of this seemed simple and obvious to me. The Air Command, however, cannot see it. The Air Command is not even influenced by the fact that the Ground Forces have been training white and colored officer candidates together with excellent results ever since the beginning of the present Army expansion.

MAR 4 - 1943

There are none so blind as those who do not want to see. And the Air Command just does not want to see the advantages of training white and colored flyers together. I believe this blindness will continue until public criticism and condemnation of the segregated training policy becomes so strong that it can no longer be ignored.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

"Did Not Withdraw From Levy Case," Says NAACP

The NAACP refuted this week the Associated Negro Press release which stated that the NAACP had withdrawn from the case of Sergeant Alton Levy.

"This is incorrect in two respects," the NAACP wire to all weeklies read. "The NAACP has never formally entered the case and could not therefore have withdrawn. In fact the NAACP still has the case of Sgt. Levy under investigation."

Levy, a white soldier, court martialed and serving four months, said in letters to friends that he was being penalized because he protested the treatment of Negro soldiers at a camp near Lincoln, Nebraska.

47d-1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SECOND THOUGHTS

JAN 30 1943

By S. I. HAYAKAWA

Hungry Soldiers

THIS IS a story worth retelling. It is told by one of four Negro soldiers on a train, being transferred from a southern to a northern camp. There were five white soldiers on the train also, one of them a sergeant.

S. I. Hayakawa

All were pretty hungry, and when the train stopped in a town in southern Indiana, the white soldiers managed to run out and get a sandwich. The Negro soldiers also went out, but nobody would serve them.

Back in the train, they got into conversation with the white soldiers and told them what had happened. The white soldiers were angry that their comrades-in-arms had been slighted. The sergeant was especially angry. As they got to the next town, the sergeant took command. "We're here 20 minutes," he said. "Now, we'll all go together. Do just as I say."

JAN 30 1943

The rest of the story I shall repeat in the Negro soldier's own words. "This town was larger than the other and there was a good sized restaurant on the corner. The sergeant looked in the windows a minute, then he said: 'We'll go in and sit at two tables. Come on.' We went in and sat down. Everything was pretty quiet because everybody was staring at us. The man came over.

"The sergeant said, 'We're on the train and only have a few minutes. Can you hurry our orders?' The man asked, looking at us, 'You all together?' The sergeant said, 'Yes!' The man said, 'Those colored boys can't eat in here.' The sergeant said, 'We're all soldiers and we're all hungry.' The man said, 'I can't help that. I'll serve you white soldiers, but I won't serve those ——.' The sergeant got up. He said, 'Come on, boys!' The man said, 'I'm sorry, but ——.' The sergeant said, 'Go to hell!' Nobody else said anything.

The Second Restaurant

"WE STOOD on the sidewalk for a while. Then the sergeant pointed to another place down the street. He said, 'See that place. We're going in there and get something to eat. Let's go!' We all fell in behind him. The sergeant walked straight to the counter and as many of us as could took stools. There weren't many people in the place. Nobody moved to serve us."

"The sergeant called, 'Service, please! We're in a hurry!' They were looking at us. The man said, 'You niggers get back. We can't serve you here!' The sergeant got up. I never saw such a white face. He took some bills out of his pocket and laid them on the counter. We stood up too. Then he said, 'Okey, boys, grab!'

JAN 30 1943

"W edid — sandwiches — pies — doughnuts — cakes — anything in sight. The man yelled and the woman screamed. But we were out of there in two shakes and down the street. The man ran out after us yelling for the police. But, by the time a crowd had collected at the station and the police were coming up, the train was beginning to move. The brakeman came running back. He asked, 'What's going on here?' Pete said, 'Haven't you heard — there's a war going on!' One of the white soldiers hollered, 'Sure — and we're fighting it!'

"Everybody laughed at that. The sergeant didn't say anything. He looked pretty upset. The next morning we got into Chicago where we changed trains. I've often thought about that young sergeant . . . I hope he's been promoted."

Common Sense

JAN 30 1943

THIS STORY is part of an article written by a Negro soldier who signs himself "Staff Sergeant John Henry." It appears in the January issue of what I think is the best liberal magazine in the United States, "Common Sense," edited by two fearless, handsome, and brilliant young men from Yale, Alfred Bingham and Selden Rodman.

Bingham and Rodman are true believers in democracy, and so are all the excellent authors whom they engage to write for "Common Sense."

Gadsden, Ala., Times
February 11, 1943

Zealots Still Plotting

It doesn't seem possible to head off those racial equality groups who are determined to use the war as a means of promoting their sinister ends.

Even in McNutt's manpower movement the hands of these zealots is plainly discernible in provision No. 3, wherein this language is used:

"Place workers on the basis of their qualifications and without discrimination as to race, color, creed, sex, national origin or, except as required by law, citizenship."

That language obviously is borrowed from the executive proclamation under which the unmourned part white and part black "fair practice" board was named some months ago, and the zealots undoubtedly have in mind what they hoped to accomplish at that time, which is to break down Southern segregation laws.

The intervention of such stalwart advocates of white supremacy as former Governor Dixon of Alabama and former Governor Talmadge, of Georgia, caused this "black and tan" fair practice board to fold up before the designs could be carried into execution but what is happening now proves that the zealots were not discouraged by this rebuff. They still are determined and it is going to take the most determined opposition on the part of the Southern people to keep them from accomplishing their designs.

If under the provision quoted above the manpower distributors decide to send colored teachers into white schools, or colored stenographers or bookkeepers into offices where white persons are employed exclusively at this time, what is to be done about it?

Southern representatives should look into this latest move of the race-mad zealots to put over their plot in the name of patriotism.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

SABOTAGE

By William I. Cummings

the Plant Protection Head, who phoned the Fire Chief and told the latter to put the Negro applicant to work. After three hours of fingerprinting, photographing, other general preliminaries, we see kindly, middle-aged Deputy Chief Merrill talking to Walker in his office.

The Deputy Chief chats pleasantly with Walker giving the new employe his instructions. There is the buzz of the phone. Fire Chief Davis' office calling the office of Deputy Chief Merrill. Listening at the phone for a few seconds, the Deputy Chief's face suddenly became contorted into strange facial expressions. Walker becomes suspicious. His heart beats faster.

WALKER SUSPICIOUS

The Deputy Chief hangs up. "Excuse me, Mr. Walker," he sighs heavily as he walks reluctantly into the adjacent room from which his superior had called.

"I'm right," Walker concludes. They're discussing me.

Walker is right. Sheepishly Merrill returns, stutters, "There must be some mistake."

Walker remains motionless, the blank look on his face belying his thorough instinctive understanding of the situation.

"Mistake? he asks. "Why I have all my credentials. I'm ready for work. How can there be a mistake?"

Merrill doesn't answer.

The anger within him too great to be suppressed, Walker erupts:

"Tell me, isn't the mistake that I'm a Negro."

Merrill looks guilty:

"Well, we never had a Negro in the department before."

Walker gritted his teeth:

"May I talk to Fire Chief Davis," he requests.

"He's busy." Merrill replies.

"I'll wait," Walker says doggedly.

TIME TICKS AWAY

The time ticks away. The two men face each other, the one defiant, tight-lipped, the other apologetic, embarrassed.

Thirty minutes pass. Fire Chief Davis comes out of his office, unable to withstand the siege any longer.

The Fire Chief begins to explain.

Walker cuts him short:

"Isn't it because of my race."

This gets it.

The Fire Chief replies defensively:

"You're inexperienced."

"Your other men were inexperienced when they began."

"Well you see, Mr. Walker," the chief says. "If you must know the truth, we never have Negroes in our department and we can't have a department with Negroes and whites working together."

"I see them working in the yard." Walker counters.

"But not in the Fire Department. It wouldn't be expedient to put Negroes on the job and I won't do it."

The argument continues, but Walker remains calm, adamant. The Chief argues unsucessfully, tries to get the Negro applicant to leave. Knowing he would violate a hiring clause by leaving, Walker sits tight. Finally the Chief gives in:

WALKER IS CALM

"All right, I'll check you in, but you can't work. Since you're here I'll let you make time today and you can walk around the yard as if you're employed."

Half an hour later Walker pounds his beat. The fire alarm sounds.

Thousands of lives and millions of dollars at stake. The government needs as many ships as possible and fast. Fire will destroy them. Fire is hitler's friend.

The yard is in flames. Men run with long hoses. They must put it out. It gains momentum. It spreads. Look! It is near that brand new destroyer.

Work fast! Don't let it spread. Fire Chief Davis is red in the face. He isn't thinking about hitler or the loss of ships He's worried about his job, his responsibility to the shipyard.

He looks about the yard. He spurs his men on. Walker is one of his men, the Negro he is paying to loaf.

"I can't call him," he thinks. "I might have to keep him afterwards. Let's fight this fire alone -- we white folks."

Walker watches in readiness, awaiting his orders. The flames ride to the sky. The orders never come.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
February 17, 1943

NEGRO DESCRIBES ARMY PREJUDICES

Knoxville Native Resigns as Aide to Stimson

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—William H. Hastie, Negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, said today he had resigned in protest against "discriminatory practices of the army air forces in matters affecting Negroes."

He recalled in a statement that a training center for Negro pilots had been established ~~at~~ Tuskegee University in Alabama over his protests against segregation. Since then, he said, adequate provisions have not been made for ground troops to work with qualified Negro pilots.

'Negro Pilots Unwanted'

"The simple fact," he commented, "is that the air command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

Hastie, dean of law at Howard University here, said that when he took office "the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action."

"In December, 1940, the air forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee," he said. "I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the air command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation.

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the air forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the air command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since."

Specialized Men Rejected

Hastie, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., asserted also that Negro applicants for assignment as weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields were rejected, although the air force needs "large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the army."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CIO Brands Racism Drag on War Effort

[The following statement was issued last week by the committee on racial discrimination of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, set up at the fifth convention of the CIO held in Boston in November, 1942. It consists of: James B. Carey, chairman, and secretary-treasurer of the CIO; Willard S. Townsend, secretary, and president of the United Transport Service Employees; James J. Leary, secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, and Boyd L. Wilson, member of the executive board, United Steelworkers of America.]

The existence of discrimination against colored people and other minorities is not only a continuing blot on American democracy, but even more seriously a drag on the total mobilization of all our people needed to win the war against Axis slavery.

JAN 30 1943

Every war industry and plant in the country is crying for more manpower, desperately needed to keep the weapons of war rolling out to the offensive fighting fronts of our armed forces and our allies.

JAN 30 1943

Colored Americans are as anxious as any to work for victory, just as they are fighting for victory in the army and the navy. To allow employers or any other agencies to bar them from jobs is worse than unjust—it is an active help to Hitler.

The CIO, in setting up the committee on racial discrimination at its November convention, moved to implement in industry and government the policy it has always held to in its own ranks—of absolute opposition to discrimination in any form, and of complete equality of opportunity for all.

In Line with F.D.'s Order

This policy has been made national in the President's Executive Order No. 8802 and in the setting up of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. The CIO concurs fully in these steps as it concurs in every move to promote national unity for winning the war.

At the same time, we must point out that the job of wiping out racial discrimination is far from complete, and at the present rate of progress will scarcely be completed in time to make full answer to the needs of all-out war or to the needs of a people's peace.

Too often mere lip-service is given to the principle of equal opportunity. Too often an employer or a whole industry, ordered to stop discriminating against colored workers, has evaded the order by offering token employment to a handful in place of opening jobs to all who are qualified.

JAN 30 1943

Victory requires the full effort of every person in this country and in the United Nations. Many millions of people among our allies are looking to our country to end inequalities that hold back a speedy United Nations' victory.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Negro Soldiers Clean Toilets Of Whites At Camp Wheeler. Georgia

MAR 5 - 1943

NAACP Claims Soldiers Must Rise Hours Earlier To Do Mental Task

MAR 5 - 1943

Washington, D. C.—Why are Negro soldiers required to rise an hour earlier than white soldiers at Camp Wheeler, Georgia? the Washington Bureau of the N. A. A. C. P. demanded this week of Secretary of War Stimson.

Reveille is sounded at 5:30 A. M. for colored soldiers only. Upon rising they clean their own barracks and mess halls, after which they are required to clean the toilets used by white soldiers. White soldiers at Camp Wheeler rise at 6:30 A. M.

MAR 5 - 1943

In the letter to Stimson, the N. A. A. C. P. declared: "Relegation of Negro soldiers by the United States Army to the status of menials gives democracy an empty sound to those who are called upon to sacrifice, fight and die for it."

MAR 5 - 1943

The N. A. A. C. P. cited the treatment accorded Negroes assigned to the medical detachment

47d-1943

City Council Protests Jim Crow in SPARS

"Daily Worker" New York, N.Y.

The City Council yesterday adopted a resolution r questing the Mayor and the Board of Estimate to resto special investigators to the Juvenile Aid Bureau of the P lice Department and add to the probation officer personn of the Children's Court as a means of combating increasir child delinquency.

JAN 3 - 194

Also adopted was a resolution of Councilman A. Clayton Powell calling on the mayor, the Board of Estimate and the Board of Higher Education to bring pressure on Navy officials to permit Negro women to enlist in the SPARs, women's branch of the Coast Guard.

Hunter College buildings, owned by the city, have been leased to the Coast Guard as a SPAR training center. Inasmuch as persons of all nationalities pay taxes for the upkeep of the Hunter College buildings, the resolution says, the city should insist that no racial discrimination should be permitted there.

JAN 3 - 1943

The Council also received a report from Comptroller McGoldrick estimating that budgetary accruals would amount to only $2,950,000 by June and urging the councilmen to defer action on legislation to increase wages of low-paid city employes.

CONSIDERABLE DEBATE

The child delinquency resolution was adopted only after considerable debate and numerous roll calls on a minority report by Councilman Meyer Goldberg, which was not accepted because it was considered merely a repetition of the majority report on child delinquency.

The report urged the mayor to set up a special committee to study the war-time child delinquency problem.

Councilman Peter V. Cacchione, Brooklyn Communist, said that the city should seek federal funds under the Lanham Act for maintenance of nurseries to care for children of mothers in war industry.

He criticised the mayor and members of his staff for accepting a decision that New York is not a war industry center and is therefore not entitled to the money.

"We've got to accept New York City as a war industry city," he said, pointing out that hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers are working directly in war plants and war industry.

JAN 3 - 1943

CACCHIONE SPEAKS

Earlier in the meeting, during a debate on three measures asking for improved subway facilities, Cacchione charged that the city had no overall transit plan to relieve train overcrowding.

He argued that the city should follow the example of Los Angeles and Bridgeport, Conn., and get agreement on staggering working hours and thus spread the transit load more evenly.

Cacchione has a resolution in committee calling for study leading to adoption of such a plan.

Vice-Chairman Sharkey, while not commenting on the Cacchione resolution, said he agreed with Cacchione and added that the transportation system "is bogging down."

REICH CANVASSES NEGROES

All in German Territory Must Register, Himmler Orders

"New York Times" N.Y. N.Y.

Heinrich Himmler, Gestapo chief, has issued an order for the registration of all Negroes in Reich territory, the Swedish weekly Trots Allt said in an article reported to the Office of War Information yesterday.

FEB 2 - 1943

"The decree states that local authorities must register all Negroes, mulattoes and quadroons and report the results immediately to the office of the Chief of Reich Security," Trots Allt said.

"The decree is addressed to all police authorities. There can be no doubt what will happen after their registration, as Negroes are treated as all 'inferior races.'

"The office mentioned in the decree is the same one that handles Jewish deportation and property confiscation. Apparently there are no longer many Jews or gypsies left in Germany and the Germans are now forced to find new objects of their racial policy."

Negroes Hit Gag On Marcantonio

"Daily Worker" N.Y. N.Y.

JAN 27 1943

The refusal of the House to approve the nomination of Rep. Vito Marcantonio, to the House Judiciary Committee, made by the Committee on Committees, "is a definite blow to the war effort," the Negro Labor Victory Committee declared here yesterday.

"It represents a capitulation to the alliance of the Tory Democrats from the South and reactionary Republicans from the North who are determined to block all efforts of the War Administration to effect full national unity." The statement continued:

"It is clear that the real issue at stake is the fight of the American people to extend democracy by abolition of the poll tax; elimination of the fascist practice of lynching, and to protect the democratic rights of all American workers, which fight Congressman Marcantonio has consistently championed.

JAN 27 1943

TORIES LED OPPOSITION

"It is no surprise that the opposition to the nomination of Mr. Marcantonio was led by Messers. Dies of Texas, Woodrum of Virginia, Rankin of Mississippi and Barry of New York, who, by their opposition to everything that is decent and democratic, represent the forces of the domestic fascists whose position in Congress is entrenched by the un-American poll tax.

JAN 27 1943

"We sincerely hope that those members of the House of Representatives who showed that they place the welfare of our country first, by supporting the nomination of Mr. Marcantonio to the House Judiciary Committee, such as: Speaker Rayburn, Representatives Doughton of North Carolina, Cooper of Tennessee, Lynch and Celler of New York—will continue their efforts to break the power of the reactionary alliance in Congress and thus hasten the invincible unity of our nation for victory. In this undertaking, they will have the support of the overwhelming majority of the American people."

"Birmingham News" Birmingham, Ala.

Negro War Department Official Resigns In Huff

WASHINGTON—(AP)—In protest against what he termed the "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices" of the Army Air Forces, William H. Hastie has resigned as civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson.

Hastie, Negro dean of law at Howard University here, said in announcing his resignation Sunday night:

FEB 1 - 1943

"The simple fact is that the air command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

FEB 1 - 194

Ever since he protested in 1940 against setting up a segregated training center for Negro pilots at Tuskegee University in Alabama, Hastie said, the air command has ignored him. This, despite his assertion that when he took office Secretary Stimson directed that all questions relating to Negroes be referred to him for comment or approval.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

Prejudice or Fear?

JAN 2 3 1943

Dear Sirs: I have been a resident of the South for seven months, and I object strongly to any representation of anti-Negro prejudice as an expression of the white man's struggle for survival. That is specious "reasoning." We are creating deplorable conditions and then blaming the colored man for becoming the victim. In the same way we are making an education difficult for him to obtain and then accusing him of being stupid and ignorant.

JAN 2 3 194

I hear constantly the statement that the Negro is innately inferior to the white, and so he doesn't deserve anything better. **Is the superior white man afraid of the inferior Negro? Is that** why the whites won't let the colored establish a USO at Camp Tyson? An anticipated 4,000 Negro soldiers have no place to go for something to eat or to spend their leisure time. But these troops will become objects of vicious criticism when trouble breaks out.

JAN 2 3 1943

H. C. HART

Nashville, Tenn., January 14

Time
Chicago, Illinois

PERSONNEL

The Race Problem

The smoldering bitterness of U.S. Negroes against segregation in the services flared into flame again last week. This time the fuel was laid by respected onetime Federal Judge William H. Hastie, dean of Howard University Law School. Explaining this week why he had resigned as Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, he charged the Army Air Forces was discriminating against Negroes.

FEB 8 1943

When the 99th (Negro) Fighter Squadron was formed, Lawyer Hastie insisted that it should not be segregated from white outfits, either in training or operation. It was. In the conflict between the ethical right of the Negro soldier and officer to be treated like anyone else, and the practical impossibility of doing it in the face of existing prejudice, the Air Forces had chosen the practical way.

But Judge Hastie went further. He charged that the Air Forces had failed to train enough civilian technicians, had given enlisted men of the 99th jobs of common labor. Furthermore, said he, these and other acts of discrimination had been carried out without being submitted to him for comment or approval, as had been specified when he was appointed.

Now the Army has decided to organize other Negro squadrons, but Judge Hastie declared that the training of their technical crews is likely to be far behind the training of pilots. Meanwhile, Negro pilots already qualified are hindered in training because the Army Air Forces is unwilling to let them take cross-country flights which might set them down on fields where they would get the privileges of the officers' club.

By speaking his piece, Judge Hastie had put his finger on an Army-wide problem that already has resulted in many a round of fisticuffs and occasional disorder and insubordination. Although long-standing white prejudice against the Negro could not be dissolved by Government fiat, Judge Hastie's airing did his cause no harm.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
January 24, 1943

WMC Hearing Postponement Is Protested

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (AP)—The postponement by Paul V. McNutt of a hearing on alleged discrimination against Negroes in the railroad industry was protested unanimously by the committee on fair employment practice of the War Manpower Commission.

The committee was scheduled to hold the hearings, but McNutt, the War Manpower chairman, postponed them indefinitely, explaining that action of another nature would be taken on the matter.

The committee announced it had recommended "strongly" that the hearings, originally scheduled to be held here Jan. 25-26, should be "held as soon as possible." At the same time, committee officials announced the resignations of Dr. Malcolm S. McLean, chairman; Col. David Sarnoff and Mark Ethridge, Louisville, Ky., newspaper executive.

FEB 6 - 1943

"Courier-Journal" Louisville Ky.

What the Negro Wants

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

After I finished high school, college was my next thought. I was interested in music and, because of the southern-style democracy which exists in this city, I could not enter our University of Louisville. So I had to spend extra money in order to study music; extra money that could have been added to my family's supply of war bonds and stamps.

I enrolled in a Southern university. It was in this southern city that my friends and I saw city busses and street cars marked, "Colored Race to the Rear." It was in this city that I saw colored soldiers, boys who were giving their lives to their country, mistreated, laughed at and pushed to the rear in all cultural and social advantages.

FEB 6 - 1943

It is sometimes asked whether the United Nations haven't enough problems without bringing in that of the Negro? Unfortunately the united Americans have given the Negro no alternative. Our problem must be presented now. After the war, in the light of precedent, the Negro will lose his ephemeral importance. Who then will champion the cause of the Negro? I do not think that the problem of the Negro is the most important one in America today, but surely it is the most important to Negro America. I feel that the problem of the United Nations and the problem of the American Negro cannot be separated. In the problem of the American Negro one sees a repudiation of all for which the United Nations profess to fight. For the Negro to see this now with the consciences of white peoples on the side of right the world over and to have them in a receptive mood to hear Negro petitions should mean significant gains for the Negro.

In retrospect, we look upon the Negro **of the World War I. He, too, was a very** important fellow. Many of these Negroes never came back. They died "to save democracy." The Negroes of World War I. contributed their all for something which later proved illusory.

FEB 6 - 1943

Now, the Negro is being placated once more by promises of post-war world equality. To the thinking Negro, however, the probability of such an absolute thing is hardly credible. The Negro does not expect miracles; he simply wants the fundamental rights of man. He wants the repeal of the poll-tax in Mississippi and other states, even if a Mr. Bilbo in the Senate does filibuster.

ANDREW B. FRIERSON.

Louisville.

Johnson City, Tenn., Press

January 19, 1943

Negro Resigns Federal Position

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19. (AP)—The resignation of William Hastie, Negro civilian aide to the secretary of war, was disclosed yesterday. Hastie declined to say why he was resigning or what he expected to do.

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of friendly support and cooperation which my office has received from the press," he said in a statement. "I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated" at the end of this month.

Hastie was born in 1904 at Knoxville, Tenn., and is a graduate of Amherst College and the Harvard law school. He has been on leave as dean of the Howard University law school here since he joined Secretary Stimson's staff Nov. 1, 1940, as an adviser on Negro affairs. Hastie was federal judge in the Virgin Islands from 1937 to 1939.

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Aide In Stimson's Office Discrimination Quits Charging

FEB 1 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—(AP)—William H. Hastie, negro civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, said today he had resigned in protest against "discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting negroes."

He recalled in a statement that a training center for negro pilots had been established at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama over his protests against segregation. Since then, he said, adequate provisions had not been made for ground troops to work with qualified negro pilots.

"The simple fact," he commented. "is that the air command does not want negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions."

FEB 1 - 1943

Hastie, dean of law at Howard University here, said that when he took office "the secretary of war directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action."

"In December, 1940, the air forces referred [illegible] a plan for a segregated training center for negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee," he said. "I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the air command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. Whatever information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them . . . .

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the air forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the air command did not want negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since."

He described negro ground troops assigned to aviation as "so-called 'aviation squadrons (separate)' " and said they "have never had a defined function." They are assigned, he reported, to "odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. "The units," he continued, "would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for negro enlisted men in the air forces."

FEB 1 - 1943

Hastie said that "a few" negroes were accepted for ground force technical training at Chanute Field, Ill., and "did excellent work" but that training stopped with the first group.

"The air forces," he continued, "then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available."

He aserted also that negro applicants for assignment as weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields were rejected although the air forces needs "large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army."

FEB 1 - 1943

Jim Crow Is Target of Many Assembly Bills

JAN 24 1943

By Sender Garlin

(The Worker Staff Correspondent)

ALBANY.—Increasing interest on a statewide scale in the whole question of Negro rights for the effective prosecution of the war is indicated by a number of developments in this capital city during the past 10 days.

On Jan. 11. Assemblyman Robert Crews, Brooklyn Republican, introduced a resolution to memorialize Congress to enact legislation outlawing the poll tax system now prevailing in eight Southern States. The Worker, N.Y., N.Y.

On the same night, Assemblyman Hulan Jack, Harlem Negro Democrat, sponsored a sharply-worded resolution assailing the poll tax and calling for the Legislature to urge Congressional enactment of HR 7, Rep. Vito Marcantonio's bill.

JAN 24 1943

SCORES DIES COMMITTEE

At the same time Mr. Jack called upon the Legislature to urge the discontinuance of the Dies Committee which, he charged, **"has continued since Pearl Harbor to foment disunity and distrust among all classes of our people and to sow suspicion of our Allies."**

Last Tuesday, Senator Charles Perry, Harlem Democrat, introduced a bill prohibiting discrimination because of race, color or creed in any store where goods are sold or any house, apartment building or other rentable living quarter.

Assemblyman Julius Gans, Bronx Democrat, has proposed an Anti-Discrimination Bill which would bar state agencies from advertising in any newspaper which prints racial or religious qualifications in its want ad columns.

WOULD BAN HATE ADS

JAN 24 1943

A similar bill, sponsored by Assemblyman William T. Andrews, Harlem Negro Democrat, would prohibit the insertion of advertisements for employment in newspapers, magazines or other publications, discriminating because of race, creed or color. The Worker

Several days later Andrews introduced a resolution scoring the cancellation of railroad hearings by the Fair Employment Practice Committee on orders of War Manpower chief, Paul V. McNutt. New York, N.Y.

How strong the movement in defense of Negro rights for the war effort is growing is indicated by the fact that in this city the Albany Ministers Conference composed of Protestant clergymen and Jewish Rabbis has already endorsed the anti-Poll Tax bill, and the State Conference of Ministers is understood to be taking similar action.

DEWEY STATEMENT

Developments have reached a point where Gov. Thomas E. Dewey felt impelled to issue a statement this week which revealed that he was quite aware of the feeling among the Negro people as well as the general population, especially since the suppression of the **FEPC** hearings by Mr. McNutt.

In his statement the Governor recalled that pursuant to the State Constitution and the legislative enactments it is the declared policy of New York State **"that there shall be no discrimination or segregation because of race, color or creed in the public schools and colleges or other institutions serving the public."**

JAN 24 1943

Mr. Dewey therefore called upon the State War Council of New York State to **"express to the War and Navy Department of the U. S. and to the War and Navy Committee of the War Manpower Commission its solemn conviction that any departure from the recognized policy of the State of New York of equality of opportunity for all its citizens to enter the colleges and universities in this State regardless of race, color or creed, is inimical to the best interest of its citizenry and to their participation in the war effort."**

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

WOMEN DEMAND JOBS AT B-M-P AIRPLANE PLANT

Birmingham, Ala.—Thirteen hundred Negro citizens—ninety percent of them women—joined in a demand to the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Airplane Modification plant that the company immediately discontinue its policy of refusing to hire Negro women in the local plant, and urged an increase in the number of Negro men employed.

APR 15 1943

The action came at a mass meeting on April 1 at the great Sixth Avenue Baptist church here, called by the Citizens' Committee for Jobs and Job Training. The meeting was called, it was explained, after negotiations between the Citizens Committee and representatives of the company had made no headway against the stubborn refusal of the company to begin the training of Negro women.

APR 15 1943

17d-1943

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

William Hastie Makes Statement

In the following statement, William H. Hastie, who recently resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, in protest against the shortcomings of the military aviation program as it affects Negroes, discusses some additional aspects of racial discrimination and segregation in the Army Air Forces.

FEB 1 9 1943

It was not until March, 1941, that the Army Air Corps began accepting applications from Negroes for aviation cadet training. The actual instruction of Negroes to be flying officers did not begin until several months later. But even then, and to this day, there was and is only one type of combat aviation—namely, pursuit flying—for which the Air Command will train a Negro.

How did it happen that the training of Negro aviators was started in the field of pursuit flying? It is common knowledge that grave doubts were expressed from the beginning as to whether the Negro was capable of making good as a combat aviator. The Air Command described and still describes the training of the Negro in aviation as an "experiment." Yet, in the face of this expressed skepticism, the Air Command saw fit to begin with the training of Negroes for pursuit flying, the most difficult type of combat aviation. The single pilot in his pursuit ship has the most exacting of air tasks, handling his fast plane, manouvering it at terrific speed in actual combat, mastering the technic of accurate and properly directed fire in aerial dog fights, and exercising split second judgment in unexpected situations and emergencies. Why was the Negro, whose ability was in doubt, not started off with observation flying, or in bombardment where co-pilots and other crew members assist each other and share and divide responsibility?

Only the men who made the decision know the answer. They may have reasoned that through pursuit flying Negroes would demonstrate their ability to perform any air combat task. Fortunately, it seems to be working out that way. They may also have reasoned that Negroes were less likely to succeed in pursuit flying than in somewhat less exacting work. Yet, in all fairness it should be said that the best of facilities and thoroughly competent instructors were provided for the segregated training program for Negro pilots. And the man in the field who started this training did so with enthusiasm and determination to make it a success.

FEB 1 9 1943

Statistics already released by the Air Command show that, during the first year of Negro pursuit pilot training, 42 per cent of the Negro trainees successfully completed their course and earned their wings as pursuit pilots. During the same period 59 per cent of white aviation cadets who entered training qualified as flying officers. Of course the number of Negroes was small and the statistics are therefore not conclusive. More important is the fact that Negro candidates have no opportunity at any stage of training to be assigned to some other branch of combat flying, if they seem not to be well adapted to pursuit work. The Negro cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing. White cadets are sorted out and placed according to their apparent aptitudes. Under these circumstances, the fact that 42 per cent of the Negroes who had the physical and educational qualifications for aviation made the grade in the most difficult assignment is a significant accomplishment.

Beyond the fact that the Negro must have the ability for pursuit flying, or else not fly at all, he must meet the special physical specifications of the pursuit pilot. If he is too tall or too heavy for pursuit flying, he cannot be an Army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work.

In wasted manpower, it is difficult to say how much is being lost by imposing such restrictions upon the Negro. It seems probable that some 200 Negro pursuit pilots will earn their wings in 1943. But the Air Command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young Negro men with superior training into flying training. When the Air Forces set up their college reserve program, no Negroes were wanted. The small "Negro quota" was already filled for a year in advance. So, while the Ground Forces were welcoming Negro college men into their college reserve, the Air Forces refused to accept them. Even earlier the Air Corps had undertaken the recruiting of groups of men from the individual college campus who would go into training as a unit with the group spirit and enthusiasm developed through their association at college. The Negro was excluded from this also. Thus, only the Negro who went forward on his own initiative, determined despite hell and high water to be a combat flyer, ever became an aviation cadet. Even then, he was accepted only within limited quota restrictions and for one type of training.

FEB 1 9 1943

Within the past two months, restrictions upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army have been extended to aviation cadets. Apparently, aviation cadets will be chosen almost exclusively from men already in the Army. A new problem faces the Negro. He must apply for aviation cadet training through his commander and his papers must survive a journey through military channels. It remains to be seen whether his application will be encouraged and facilitated to the same extent as the application of the white soldier. In this connection, one recent experience is disturbing. For more than a year the Air Command has been selecting young soldiers, high school graduates, to be taken from the ranks and trained to become enlisted pilots. They become master, staff and technical sergeants with flying rating. So far as I have been able to discover, Negro enlisted men have not been accepted in this program. How different will the situation be now that both prospective flying officers and prospective enlisted pilots will be selected from the ranks of the army?

Two hundred Negro pursuit pilots a year is something more than token representation. Certainly, 200 pilots can make a big difference in almost any of the present theatres of war. Yet the failure of the Air Command to encourage or even permit the full participation of the Negro in flying training and service prevents the number of Negro pilots from being several times 200 per year. If the Air Command should decide to use Negro flying officers and enlisted men without racial restrictions, 1000 pilots would be a conservative estimate of annual production.

FEB 1 9 1943

Of course there would be serious practical difficulties in developing segregated training fields and segregated organizations of many various types in such an expansion. From a military point of view all of this new segregated set up probably would not be worth the time, expense and diversion of personnel. But if the war lasts long enough, it is not too much to hope that those in authority will realize that their insistence upon strict racial segregation in aviation training and organization is a real hindrance to the ultimate objective of success in battle.

Christian Index
Jackson, Tennessee

MR. HASTIE QUITS AS ARMY AID IN PROTEST

FEB 1 1 1943

MR. WILLIAM H. HASTIE, Dean of the Howard University Law School, who has been serving as Negro Civilian Aid to Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, has resigned the post with the War Department in a protest against "discriminatory practices of the army air forces in matters affecting Negroes." He has given out a statement to the effect that the training center for Negro Army pilots at Tuskegee, Alabama, was established over his protest. He contends that adequate provisions have not been made for ground troops to work with qualified Negro pilots.

In his appointment to the post it was understood that Secretary Stimson was to direct all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes to Mr. Hastie's office for comment or approval before final action. At the outset of plans for the base at Tuskegee he expressed his entire disagreement with the plans and gave his reasons in detail. They, of course, were disregarded. Since then the air command has not on its own initiative submitted any plans or projects to Mr. Hastie for comment or recommendation.

FEB 1 1 1943

His statement has also brought out the fact that Negro applicants for assignments as weather officer or officers in other highly specialized technical fields were rejected although the air forces need "large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistment in the army.

In a general summary Dr. George A. Singleton in the *Christian Recorder* has well stated:

"On the side of the Allies fight the United States. This nation has been southern in opinion and attitude from the beginning. The entire military establishment, and even the Congress are either doughface or southern. This means that they would win the war, but with segregation, jim-crow and discrimination. So we fight to preserve '*The American Way of Life.*' The very thing not worth presenting, and which is already in the course of ultimate extinction, in spite of reactionary die-hard bourbons who pose as American pat[illegible]

FEB 1 1 1943

The Negro is in this war as a loyal citizen, segregated in the uniform of his country, expendable in defense of the flag, insulted daily by those who think themselves superior because their skin is white—he fights, bleeds, dies for complete citizenship rights. He will not fail the government in the hour of trial and prays that the government will not fail him."

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

Says School Gets 'Mess of Pottage' and Air Force Has 'Valuable Accomplice'

MAR 25 1943

BY WILLIAM H. HASTIE

NOTE: The following statement by William H. Hastie describes and criticizes a new development in the army air program as it affects Negroes. Although Judge Hastie has completed his recent series of statements on the air forces, he considers this new and most recent development to be a matter which should receive public attention everywhere.

The Army Air Forces have just announced a new program of five months academic training in selected colleges to be given to soldiers before they begin army flying training. The men will be taught by the college faculties and will live on the campus. Over a hundred schools all over the country have been selected to provide this preliminary college training. But eligible Negro soldiers are to be segregated and all of them sent to Tuskegee Institute to study physics, mathematics, history, English and Geography. Men from all parts of the country, men with varying educational background, a large number of them already graduates of first rate liberal arts colleges, must be sent to Tuskegee Institute for five months of undergraduate training, just because they happen to be colored.

Even if Tuskegee were an outstanding liberal arts college, which it is not, this newest and wholly unnecessary Jim Crow scheme would be inexcusable. In all the circumstances the plan is outrageous. The time has come when the unholy alliance between Tuskegee Institute and the Army Air Forces must be publicly denounced and condemned. Let there be no mistake. Tuskegee is rendering no valuable service to the war effort in this latest step in its effort to concentrate a black aviation program on and around the Tuskegee campus. With callous indifference to the best interests of the Negro and to the importance of democracy in the war effort, Tuskegee Institute is looking out for Tuskegee. The school gets its mess of pottage and the Air Force have a willing and valuable accomplice in their design of keeping Negro soldiers out of all unsegregated colleges.

Hundreds May Be Affected

Several hundred Negroes may be affected by this scheme almost immediately. Early in March the Air Forces called to active duty the entire waiting list of several hundred qualified Negro Aviation cadet applicants. I am sure of this because of my personal acquaintance with several of the men who were near the bottom of the list and have been called to duty. These are the men who, after the usual preliminary processing, face the prospect of five months undergraduate study at Tuskegee before they begin aviation training.

It still remains to be seen what will be done with these men after they finish five months of college study at Tuskegee Institute. A report was sent from Tuskegee to a leading newspaper that some of these men are to become bombardiers and navigators. There is no apparent truth to this report. I can find no evidence from any source of any plan to train Negroes for bombardment aviation. It seems to me that someone has tried to take the curse off of this latest Tuskegee outrage by circulating the false report that new opportunity is being provided for Negroes in the field of bombardment aviation. The whole thing smells very bad.

What About Applicants?

There is one further question which we must ask and continue to ask until an answer is given. What about new Negro applicants for aviation cadet training now that the waiting list is exhausted? I do not know of any plan of the Air Forces for accepting or using additional Negro applicants. Will they be accepted? If so will they go on a waiting list to remain there until 1944? I know from experience that the Air Command makes piecemeal special plans for Negroes to meet the emergency at hand and then lets the matter drop until another emergency arises. There is grave danger, unless the public keeps the issue constantly alive, that after the group called to duty in March, no additional Negro aviation cadets will be trained for a long time to come.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

WE UNDERSTAND IT ALL NOW

FEB 4 - 1943

In the stand against segregation and discrimination taken by Judge Hastie, civilian aid to the secretary of War, prior to the time he took the job, the Bystander has been puzzled for many months over his failure to do anything about the flood of protests that have come from all directions about the mistreatment of Negroes in the armed services.

The statement issued by him at the time of his resignation showing that not only were his suggestions for intigration of Negroes into armed service ignored but the situations came to the place where nothing involving the Negro was submitted to him.

Mr. Hastie said that when he took the job the understanding was that all policies concerning Negroes in the service were to be cleared through his office; that he would be at liberty to make suggestions for improvement.

Now, of course, we understand Mr. Hastie's job was set up to appease the Negro with the hope htat he could be used to indice the race to take any kind of treatment without protest. A man with backbone and a desire to see that his group got a square deal just could not hold such a place.

It is perfectly plain that in spite of any protestations of fair mindedness on the part of Secretary Stimson and his staff, the fact remains that those people who oppose a fair dea for the Negro dictate the policy of dealing with the Negro, or their views are so far respected, even though undemocratic, it amounts to just that.

No man of intelligence would have followed any other than the cause of Judge Hastie At last he has demonstrated to his superiors that the job was not so enticing and remunerative to keep him from protecting against a policy which he thought unfair. It will be interesting to watch the reaction in official circles.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

WHERE THE TROUBLE LIES

FEB 4 - 1943

Discussing the race question with a leading business man in Des Moines last week, he said he thought the Negro was putting too much effort in the job of earning his rights when that same energy should be used to help win the war; that these things might well be felt until after the war. The man admitted that he had never hired Negroes in his plant prior to the war but now he was hiring almost a hundred and that their work was satisfactory. They were getting along fine.

The Bystander agrees that the Negro should do his part to the limit to help win the war; to do otherwise would brand him a traitor. But we believe also that a man has the same right to free himself from the injustices he suffers now as he has to help free somebody else. There is no sense in postponing his fight for freedom when he knows that people have forgotten promises of this kind in th past and are quite liable to do th same thing in the future.

This gentleman was reminded that the emancipation proclamation was a war measure; that he himself had hired no Negroes before the war; that to deny the Negro his right lessened his morale and this prevented him from doing a full job of help winning the war.

We are certain that this business man states the views of many influential people who having never felt the impact of segregation, discrimination and other injustices, measure minority groups by their situation. They have had little contact with the Negro, know practically nothing of his ambitions or his training. They know that somewhere in the constitution we find the statement that all men are created equal: they no doubt have read or heard that the Bible speaks of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God and that all is well.

True, this is a good place to begin but we must not stay there. No nation or race will get anywhere by just waiting for things to happen. Somebody must get out and fight to the end that these truths are made a part of our daily life. And that is why the Negro and many of his friends don't propose to wait until the war is over to secure for the Negro the type of justice and fair play to which he is entitled.

Bystander

Des Moines. Iowa

ONCE BEGUN, HARD TO STOP

APR 15 1943

Sometime ago, a few liberal minded individuals conceived the idea that it would be a fine thing to form an army division of white and black Americans, thus demonstrating that the two races can fight as well as work together. The war department was not for the idea. Naturally they would take this position for the success of the undertaking would have disproven their theory of segregation.

Recently, a group of loyal Japanese Americans asked that they be given authority to form a unit to fight the Axis. We understand this has met with favor.

And this week, the Americans of Serbian descent have asked President Roosecelt to permit them to form a volunteer battalion to fight the Axis.

The Selective Service organization does not seem to know what it wants to do about draftees now, but if every racial group is allowed to form a special battalion or division in order to prove his loyalty we shall have a conglomeration of racial units seeking to uphold the loyalty of a race rather than strong units of fighting men seeking to uphold the loyalty of the citizens of the United States.

We have enouh organizations already which have a tendency to intensify racial solidarity rather than American loyalty. They ought to be eliminated rather than increased and the army is one of the last places where thev should not survive.

47d-1943

Army Air Forces Discriminatory Practices Caused His Resignation, Judge Hastie Says In Statement

FEB 6 1943

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New York Age
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Hitting out at "reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes" which were the cause of his resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, former Judge William H. Hastie on Monday released to the press his reasons for leaving the post.

Three weeks ago, Judge Hastie announced that his resignation had been handed in to the Secretary of War to become effective January 31st and said that he would not issue a clarifying statement on the cause of his resignation until after he had left the post.

Cleatring up speculation as to his reasons for resigning, Judge Hastie issued the following statement:

"Reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes were the immediate cause of my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

"The Army Air Forces are growing in importance and independence. In the post-war period they may become the greatest single component of the armed services. Biased policies and harmful practices esablished in this branch of the Army can all to easily infect other branches as well. The situation had become critical. Yet, the whole course of my dealings with the Army Air Forces convinced me that further expression of my views in the form of recommendations within the Department would be futile. I, therefore, took the only course which can, I believe, bring results. Public opinion is still the strongest force in American life.

"To the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking, I say with all the force and sincerity at my command that the man in uniform must grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside of the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him. But only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won.

Fought Segregated [illegible]

"When I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee. I expressed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. What information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them.

"This situation reached its climax in late December, 1942, when I learned through Army press releases sent out from St. Louis and from the War Department in Washinton that the Air Command was about to establish a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to train Negro officers for ground duty with the Army Air Forces. Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation. Moreover I had actually written to the Air Command several weeks earlier in an attempt to find out what was brewing at Jefferson Barracks. The Air Command replied as late as December 17, 1942, giving not even the slightest hint of any plan for a segregated officer candidate school.

"It is inconceivable to me that consideration of such a project had not then advanced far enough for my office to have been consulted, even if I had not made specific inquiry. The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel with, this office about its plans for Negroes.

Says Negroes Not Wanted

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from tse beginning, the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. Moreover, even now the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the field of aviation. This attitude is the result of wholly unscientific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces.

"The Negro program of the Air Forces began some two years ago with the organization of several so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)." These units, now greatly increased in number, were organized to serve no specific military need. They have never had a defined function. Except as individual commanders on their own initiative have found some military function for particular small groups of men, the characteristic assignment of the "Aviation Squadron (Separate)" has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. There are no equivalent white organizations . "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces. Reluctant to use Negroes at all, the Air Command started off on the wrong foot by organizing some Negro labor units, while every effort was being made to recruit white volunteers with mechanical ability for skilled service.

"Somewhat later, in order to provide enlsted technicians for the new air base at Tuskegee, a few Negro soldiers were accepted for technical training at Chanute Field, where a large school is maintained. The men were well received and did excellent work. I urged the importance of continuing such training of Negroes in this existing unsegregated school. But the program stopped with the first group. The Air Forces then made efforts to get up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were bein trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in proress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

Negro Specialists Rejected

"The Air Forces also are rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields. A few such men were trained for Tuskegee. But for a period of more than six months, aill qualified Negro candidates have had their completed applications returned to them with the information that the Air Forces need no more Negro weather officers. The Air Forces, however, do need large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy aainst voluntary enlistments in the Army. Yet, it is unthinkable to those in authority that a Negro officer can fill such a position except at Tuskegee. The same situation exists in armament and engineering, both ground specialties for which the Air Forces have been accepting cadets generally, but refusing Negroes.

"To date, all Negro applicants, a number of them well and fully qualified, for appointment as Army service pilots, have been rejected. Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so, but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes. I am advised that this matter is receiving further study. The simple fact is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

"Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are gettin only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field. Even the branch school program in which it is represented that Negro officers share without discrimination, is in fact dsicrimatory. Many white officers enrolled at branch schools of aviation medicine have the opportunity of full time resident study. The Negro officer is permitted to commute periodically from his home station at Tuskegee for work at the Maxwell Field branch school. Such grudging partial tender of makeshift schemes may be expected to continue unless a genuine change of racial attitude and policy occurs in the Air Command.

Negro Cadets Demoralized

"While Negro trainees and cadets at the Tuskegee Air Base have done well from a strictly technical point of view, they have suffered such demoralizing discrimination and segregation that, in my judgment, the entire future of the Negro, in combat aviation is in danger. Men cannot be humiliated [illegible] a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency.

"Specifically, Negro and white officers serving at Tuskegee in the common enterprise of training Negroes for air combat have separate messes. They are not permitted to have quarters in the same building. Separate toilet facilities have been provided. If the group of white officers at Tuskegee insist upon this—and I have no evidence that they do—they are psychologically unsuited to train Negroes for combat. If they do not so insist, the racial attitude of the local commander or of higher authority is all the more apparent.

"Despite original design to advance Negro officers and to place them in posts of administrative responsibility at Tuskegee as rapidly as they should qualify, that design is not being carried out in the post administration, except in the station hospital.

"Early in the history of the Tuskegee project, a Negro soldier guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian. From then on friction continued. A new commander was appointed. He disarmed Negro military policemen assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. A recent member of the Alabama state police force was assigned to Tuskegee as an Army officer with duties related to his civilian experience. The Negro soldier was embittered, but the prejudiced community was somewhat mollified.

"Fundamentally, it seems to me the Air Command has either failed to comprehend or failed to care that its policies and practices are tending to tear down rather than build up the pride, dignity and self-respect which Negro soldiers, like all other soldiers, must possess if they are to achieve maximum combat efficiency. Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than tghe development of [illegible] hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road."

FORMER CIVILIAN AIDE ANSWERS WAR DEPARTMENT; BLASTS ENTIRE SEGREGATION SETUP

Editor's Note: The following is a further statement of William H. Hastie, former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, occasioned by an answer recently made by the War Department to charges of racial discrimination in the Air Corps.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.
APR 16 1943

The Associated Federation of Churches has released to the press recent correspondence between its Civic Affairs Committee and the War Department concerning issues which caused by resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War. I regret that portions of the War Department's statements are misleading and inaccurate.

I am astounded that the War Department in substance denies the enforced segregation of Negro and white officers at Tuskegee. Even in the construction plans for the Tuskegee Air Base separate quarters and separate eating facilities were provided for white and colored officers. Similar separation was planned for white and colored enlisted men. I protested against these plans and the Air Corps refused to change them. During the summer of 1942 after the planned segregation had actually been put into effect, I protested again and was told that this segregation at Tuskegee was in accord with established policy and existing customs, and that it would not be changed. These communications were all in writing and should be in the War Department files. I cannot understand the present denial of the well-known and notorious fact.

Concerning Negro administrative officers at the Tuskegee Air Base, the War Department states that "as Negro officers become qualified they will be advanced according to their ability." But the record shows a consistent policy of advancing white administrative officers, who have no exceptional qualifications, and restricting Negro administrative officers to subordinate positions. I have heretofore refrained from citing specific cases to avoid possible embarrassment to any of the officers themselves. But now that the discrimination is publicly denied, I believe cases should be cited. Nothing except racial discrimination can explain the retention of an experienced Negro chemical warfare officer in a subordinate position while a white officer of considerably less experience was made Post Chemical Warfare Officer. This case is made more glaring by the fact that the Negro officer had demonstrated his studious application to his specialty by writing an elementary handbook on the subject of Chemical Warfare. There can be no explanation except racial discrimination for the refusal to assign a veteran and experienced Negro officer of the finance department to the responsible position of Post Finance Officer after he had been detailed to Tuskegee, or the assignment of a Negro officer to supervise the post restaurant when he was sent to Tuskegee because of his unusual and outstanding experience in organized recreation and physical education. When a white Lieutenant fresh from a CCC camp advances rapidly to be a Lieutenant Colonel and second in command at the post, one must ask why a Negro Lieutenant also fresh from commanding a CCC camp and actually trained by the Army for an Adjutant's work, finds himself, nearly two years later, merely a Captain serving as Provost Marshal. Certainly racial discrimination is shown when not one of the half dozen Negro graduates of the Adjutant General's School, now stationed at Tuskegee, has been assigned to an Adjutant's duties in Post Headquarters. There can be no question that race has been a large factor in promotions in the post administration.

It is ridiculous that the War Department now explains that the use of Negro service pilots is "under study." This matter has been "under study" for a year. The real trouble as I have already pointed out is the practical impossibility of working out a Jim Crow plan for using service pilots.

The Department also states that sufficient Negro weather officers and meteorologists are now in training for the present Negro fighter group. So far as I know, this means seven Negro weather officers. Yet the War Department has, within the past few weeks, expanded its plan for training a thousand weather officers to the training of ten thousand such specialists. The few Negroes who were trained all finished near the top of their classes. Yet they and men like them cannot be used to fill any of the prospective ten thousand vacancies. This, of course, is because they would have to make weather calculations for white pilots.

The suggestion of the War Department that Negroes are trained only for single engine pursuit flying and not for bombardment "because of the technical and other features present in flying" is sheer nonsense. The single engine pursuit pilot has the most difficult and exacting aerial task. The fact is that the Air Forces do not propose to give the Negro any greater opportunity in flying than they are forced to give.

The excuse now advanced for restricting technical opportunity as mechanics, radio men, etc., is that a much smaller percentage of Negroes than white pass the mechanical aptitude test. But in 1941 and 1942 when white volunteers by the thousands were allowed to qualify for technical training,, Negroes were being rejected, not because they were incompetent but because they were colored. The fact that fewer Negroes than white were qualified was no excuse for excluding the Negroes who could qualify. I understand that very recently the Air Command has begun seeking qualified Negroes in various non-technical units to be transferred for technical training and assignment. This, of course, is an important and gratifying new development.

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The history of the Aviation Squadron (Separate) belies present War Department claim that these units were established to "provide a place for men in the Air Forces who do not have the qualifications for more technical work." The first ten of these units were authorized back in 1940. They were then the only Negro units of any type in the Air Corps. They were set up in order that it could be said that Negroes were in all branches of the Army. Men were assigned to them without regard to technical ability or lack of it. If the Air Forces are now going to take the well-qualified men out of these units and assign them to technical training, this will be a new and forward step. But up to the present time, there has never been an effort to prevent the assignment of men with superior qualifications to these labor units.

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In summary, although there have been some recent improvements, the practices and policies of the Air Corps are still very bad, far worse than the new War Department statement would lead the public to believe. In this connection, it is to be regretted that Under Secretary of War Patterson, a man of great integrity but who has little personal knowledge of and no supervision over the Air Training Program, should be used as the mouthpiece for the misleading statement which has found its way into the press.

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SENATE TO PROBE RACE DISCRIMINATION IN ARMY

The Plaindealer Kansas City, Kan.

APR 16 1943

Washington, April 16. (ANP)—The senate committee on military affairs will hold preliminary hearings into the charges of racial discrimination in the armed forces preparatory to the appointment of a five-man subcommittee to undertake a full-dress investigation into the matter.

This is the procedure which will be followed as a result of a resolution introduced in the senate last Thursday by Sen. Sheridan V. Downey (D) of California calling upon that committee to conduct a full and complete study and investigation with respect to the status of the Negro and other minority groups in the armed services as well as the WAACS, WAVES, SPARS, and marines, women's auxiliaries.

Introducing his resolution, Sen. Downey declared on the floor that complaints of violations of the non - discrimination provisions of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 had been made by responsible persons, notably William H. Hastie, the civilian aide to Secy. of War Henry L. Stimson who resigned in protest, which complaints have created "anxious concern among large segments of our people."

The senator made it clear in his remarks that he is not now attempting to judge the veracity of the charges but rather to point out the intent of the President and the legislation establish selective service that the objective be attained without racial discrimination. He pointed out that Negroes are greatly restricted in the armed forces, particularly in the air corps.

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"By the end of this year there will be more than one million Negro Americans serving their country in our armed forces," he told the senate. "They will represent more than 10 per cent of all Americans under arms. Their heroism, their loyalty is unquestioned. The records of such Negro heroes as Dorie Miller at Pearl Harbor offer living testimony of the will of the Negro people to defend the heritage of freedom and democracy which is the birthright of all Americans.

"It becomes vital to the successful prosecution of America's war of survival that the morale of the Negro Americans in our armed forces and of the 12,000,1000 more who are working on the home front, be not impaired by failure of any government agency to live up to the letter and spirit of existing laws against discrimination. It is essential that there be full and unhindered use of all America's manpower in the conduct of the war."

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Sen. Robert Reynolds (D) of North Carolina is chairman of the military affairs committee. It is customary that when a committee is to be appointed in accordance with a resolution, the sponsor is generally consulted on its membership. Sen. Downey was expecting to leave for the West Coast where he was scheduled to delve into manpower problems in California. It is therefore likely that the sub-committee will be appointed before his return about May 8.

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The specifications of the resolution call for the committee to ascertain the extent to which there has been compliance with the racial discrimination clause of the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940; the nature and extent of any practice in the organization and placement of personnel which acted to exclude Negroes from particular branches of the armed forces either on land, at sea or in the air; the extent to which advancement of Negroes in the ranks of commissioned officers has been limited; the extent to which the armed services are failing to utilize the full professional and technical skills of Negroes; and the relation of the system of segregated units to the effective utilization and appropriate placement of persons on the basis of individual competency and merit.

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The resolution empowers this special sub-committee to carry on hearings, aided by a subpoena power, throughout the 78th Congress whether it be in session or recessed or adjourned.

Informed of the senator's resolution, Judge Hastie commented that "public hearings of the facts is in the best tradition of the American way of doing things."

47d-1943

Guns and Clubs Used to Enforce Mass Jim Crow

Railroad Has One Lavatory for Colored Men and Women

Afro-American

BUS TAKES WHITE RIDERS FIRST

Baltimore, Md.

Visiting Women Are Required to Carry Health Cards

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT
[Exclusively for AFRO-AMERICAN]

JUN 12 1943

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Here is how the "white supremacy" city of Savannah, Ga., is sabotaging the war effort and undermining the morale of colored soldiers of Camp Stewart in order to maintain the status quo.

The first thing you see when getting off the train in Savannah is a large, dingy waiting room divided into two sections. One is marked "For Colored People Only." The other section, "For White Only."

There is a glass enclosed lounge and reading room for "white soldiers," and one in the rear for "colored soldiers."

Can't Use Lavatory

There are three lavatories. One is "for white women only," the second is "for white men only," and the third is "for colored people." And the third lavatory was out of order when your correspondent got into Savannah and when he left.

The situation of the lavatories is a fair indication of how things work in and around Savannah for America's black fighting men.

Vice Drive

The city is conducting what is cynically called a "vice drive." Health cards are issued to women, attesting that they are not infected with venereal disease. While ostensibly this drive is directed toward the whole citizenry, actually it is an audacious plan to intimidate colored troops.

Colored soldiers and their female companions are stopped on Savannah Streets. The woman is asked to show her health card. If she has one, everything is fine. If she hasn't, regardless of the excuse—regardless of whether or not she is a wife, mother or sweetheart visiting the soldier and unaware of the vice drive, she is promptly arrested.

Women arrested are examined for venereal disease. If found to be infected, they are sent to a farm on the outskirts of the town for examination. If found to be perfectly healthy, the city of Savannah, in order to avoid suits for false arrest, charges the victim with disorderly conduct and fines her $10.

Women Asked to Stay Away

The Savannah Branch of the NAACP under brilliant Dr. Ralph Gilbert, has just recently made representations with the police department, pointing out that innocent women are thus being subjected to criminal records.

This is the reason why colored soldiers at Stewart are none too anxious to have the folk back home visit them. They are unwilling to have their mothers, wives or girl-friends subjected to this peculiar twist of Georgia justice.

Brutality of Police

Civilian police of the city of Savannah have bad blood for colored soldiers. No better evidence of this can be found than in the admission of Commanding Officer William Ochs of Camp Stewart that he had been forced to take measures to have a Savannah policeman suspended for brutally beating a colored sergeant who had a stellar record at the camp.

There are two places for recreation for the colored troops in the city. One is the USO center, run by the Catholic Community Service Society and presided over by Herbert Farley. This is located at 902 W. Thirty-sixth Street. The Savannah Soldiers' Service Society is located on Thirty-seventh Street and Geechie Road.

Citizens Have No Rights

Savannah police recognize no civil rights in so far as colored people are concerned. One Camp Stewart soldier related his visit to a young lady in the city. The couple was seated on the porch, the girl's mother sleeping in the house. It was about ten o'clock at night and a police car drove up, two officers inside.

The policemen entered the house and proceeded to conduct a thorough search on the grounds that "someone had told them" that the residents of the house "handled numbers." This unorthodox procedure is part and parcel of the abortive vice drive.

This being Savannah, there is naturally segregation and discrimination throughout the city, in the movie houses, taxicab service and every other phase of life.

The Bus Problem

Among the more serious problems which bedevil colored soldiers is that of transportation. Camp Stewart is forty-three miles from Savannah. The only connecting link is the Greyhound Bus Terminal, which transports the men to Hinesville where they take the B & M bus for a distance of several miles.

The Greyhound offices have ticket windows for white and for colored. There is one man handling tickets for both, and colored people invariably wait until all whites have been taken care of, regardless of whether or not the whites arrive last.

The Ticket Window

The writer all but missed an afternoon bus to the camp one day because of this vicious system. When I arrived at the ticket window there were two whites at the "white" office. By the time the ticket-seller had finished with them, ten or twelve more had collected, and my constant demand to be waited on and reminder that my bus was just outside was studiedly ignored.

Very often colored soldiers on furloughs or short passes are thus delayed in returning to camp on time. Stiff penalties are dished out by the camp when soldiers overstay their leave several hours and no consideration is made for the transportation conditions nor has there been any attempt on the part of camp officials to correct them or devise means of their own.

Penalized Five Days

One colored sergeant of the 846th who has no other mark on his record, was penalized five days of confinement for being six hours late purely as a result of the transit conditions. Private John Brown of the Headquarters Battery of the same regiment was ordered off a bus by a Greyhound driver to make room for a white passenger.

For White Soldiers

As to the B & M bus line, the company has a terminal on Bull and Liberty Streets in Savannah. A colored officer walked into the terminal recently where he found white soldiers lounging about, reading. He was approached by one of the employees of the company who asked what he wanted.

"I'd like to get some information about the bus schedule," the lieutenant said.

"This place is for white soldiers, not for n-----s," the employee replied. "Get out."

Army Could Help

While the policy of the bus company is not controlled by camp officials, soldiers at Stewart feel that something could be done by post officials to remedy conditions. Usually there is one bus for colored, four for white soldiers leaving the camp. Camp officials say that the strength of colored troops is forty per cent of the camp. This ratio, then, would certainly indicate that they are not getting the "equal opportunity" which Southern "liberals" are always advocating as an excuse for segregation.

Alleged Winking

There is also the old bugaboo of whites suspecting that colored men are interested in their women. A Southern soldier was arrested early in May for allegedly waving and winking at a white woman who passed in a car. He was given three months in the Savannah prison.

In light of these conditions, as one of the colored soldiers expressed it:

"On week ends, when we are given passes to leave camp, we hardly know whether or not to go to Savannah. We don't know which is worse—staying on the grounds, or taking a chance on running into all kinds of jim crow and possibly serious trouble."

Segregation In Armed Forces Is Attacked

Journal and Guide

Says South Is Unable To Provide Equal Facilities

Norfolk, Virginia

MAY 29 1943

RICHMOND, Va., (ANP) — Dixie race prejudice is being spread through out the nation by the south itself, Dr. Broadus Mitchell, noted white liberal and lecturer in economics at New York University, told Richmond's Committee on Constitutional Rights at its annual meeting on May 13.

Dr. Mitchell, son of Dr. S. C. Mitchell of the University of Richmond, also blasted race segregation in the armed forces in his address entitled "Race Discrimination in Wartime."

Members of the committee include distinguished persons of both races, among them Virginius Dabney, noted white editor, and Arthur P. Davis, and President J. M. Ellison of Virginia Union University.

Describing himself as "a southern expatriate and refugee from the south," Dr. Mitchell spoke of the impatience and stupidity of war and of the Negro's progress since the Civil War. However, this progress was not as great as that of some immigrants who came here from Europe at the rate of 1,000,000 a year and whose descendants are now indistinguishable from the general run of the population.

The speaker asserted "segregation is nothing but discrimination," and as long as the races are separated in the south there will be discrimination because the south is financially unable to furnish equal facilities.

The Negro shuns aggressive action because this may lead to race riots which, horrible as they may be, are "trifling as compared with what we're doing in the name of freedom," Dr. Mitchell declared, adding that "we fight Hitler because of the way he treats the Jews and Catholics, but we continue to assign a large percentage of our population to a disagreeable role."

DRAFT UNEMPLOYMENT

Race troubles in New York and elsewhere were blamed on the restlessness of young Negroes with 1-A cards in their pockets "who aren't called to service because jim crow regiments can't be formed fast enough, and can't find jobs because employers won't hire persons of their draft status."

The only non-jim crow war service is in officers training camps where Negroes and whites eat, sleep, study and drill together, without friction, he asserted.

"There are now more than 450,000 Negroes in the armed forces, with some 60,000 or more abroad," declared Dr. Mitchell. "But most of these are in labor battalions. Negroes captured by Rommell in North Africa were armed only with picks and shovels. Only recently has the Navy opened combat services to Negroes, but this service is aboard jim crow boats.

"The air force was closed for a long time, and when the doors were opened 50 were accepted and trained for pursuit work at Tuskegee. None has seen actual combat because somebody neglected to train ground crews for them."

In the auxiliary services, only the WAACs accept Negroes and these are segregated. Despite the need for nurses, only 200 colored women have been commissioned he averred, because there is a hesitancy about commissioning a Negro woman.

UNSCIENTIFIC IGNORANCE

"The USO practices segregation," Dr. Mitchell went on, "but the unkindest blow of all is the segregation of Negro blood in blood banks. This is the result of unscientific ignorance, because there is no difference between the blood of a healthy Negro and a healthy white man."

The CIO drew praise for its liberal attitude toward Negroes, and the speaker said it is doing much to break down southern segregation by organizing southern white men and Negroes into the same unions.

"The south has lived by exploitation, and the drive to do away with the benefits of the Farm Security Administration is led by the lords of the land, who do not want anything that will better the position of those who do their work for them," he charged. In this way the south is imposing its prejudice on "the entire nation," asserted Dr. Mitchell.

Army Jim Crow Draws Fire

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JUN 10 1943

— **By B. M. PHILLIPS**

CHICAGO — America's celebration of the Fourth of July reveals to the colored soldier more than anything else the injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim, Colden Brown of New York City told the March-on-Washington Convention Friday.

Speaking during the Town Hall meeting on "Jim Crow in Uniform," Mr. Brown, who is chairman of the Winfred Lynn case committee, said:

"America, your celebration to the colored soldier is a shame, your boasted liberty an unholy license, your national greatness swelling vanity, your shouts of rejoicing empty and heartless, your denunciation of fascism brass-fronted impudence, your prayers, hymns, sermons, and thanksgiving, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to him mere bombasts, fraud and deception, a thin veil to cover up crimes that would disgrace a nation of savages."

Discusses Lynn Case

In discussing the Winfred Lynn case, Mr. Brown told the convention that Mr. Lynn's refusal to serve in a segregated army is important. The fight will be taken to the Supreme Court this fall.

If the Supreme Court rules agaist Mr. Lynn, he said, it will in effect, say to thirteen million colored people that America does not believe in the principles for which we are allegedly fighting.

If, on the other hand, the Supreme Court agrees with Winfred Lynn that he should not be forced to serve in a jim-crow army, it will mean, Mr. Brown pointed out, that the army, navy and their auxiliary services must end segregation and admit all persons without regard to race, color and creed.

Vincent Baker of NYC, director of the National Modern Trend Movement, told the convention that if Americans are to get aroused over the slaughter of their troops by the Japanese they should also get emotional over the slaughter of colored American troops in U.S. army camps.

U.S. Working for Axis

Discrimination of men in the uniform of the U.S., he said, is "a betrayal of American democracy, a bar to the war effort and a menace to any kind of just and lasting peace."

Discrimination of Soldiers In Alaskan Camp Investigated

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—An investigation by the Wad Department of the treatment of Negro troops stationed in Alaska was sought this week by the NAACP.

In a letter to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, the NAACP stated that it had received from a number of sources reports alleging that Negro troops in Alaska are victims of widespread discriminatory treatment.

One allegation has it that Negro troops are confined to camp and have been denied passes to visit some Alaskan cities. It is asserted that this condition has extended far beyond any quarantine period and is an established practice.

It is also reported that the men are discriminated against within Army camps in that they are segregated into a theatre "for colored" and refused service at post exchanges except one designated "for colored."

~~Army~~ Court Martial Way Denounced

BY VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Tribune
Chicago,

Savannah, Ga.)—A strongly worded resolution was directed last week to the Veterans of Foreign Wars national encampment in New York by the Charles L. Hunt post, No. 2024; roundly scoring the army court martial policy and segregation and discrimination practiced by the army command and civilians against Negro soldiers.

Calling the recent court martial of Col. William Colman, former commander of Selfridge Field, Michigan "outrageous and a "travesty upon justice" the resolution said that "millions of Americans are concerned with the type of leadership in our army if high ranking officers could indulge in drunkeness while on duty, especially if intoxication were to be used as an excuse for the wanton shooting of a private soldier." For his crime of shooting Pvt. Willie McRae, Colman was merely reduced to the rank of a captain.

Negroes are alarmed over the policies of the army with respect to Negro troops which allows them to be "abused by our white commanding officers" and by civilians in many sections of the country, despite the fact they are in the "uniform of the United States" and pledged to fight for democracy stated the paper.

The resolution, presented to the national body by Lt. Col. Louis Johnson, was signed by Dr Clarence Payne, Lester Milsap, Otho B. Kerr, Thomas Miller, and Johnson. Declaring that the whole army policy of segregation is wrong the resolution pointedly asked:

"What excuse is the war department giving for training our famous 8th regiment for over two years and then refusing to send them to the front? What reason is given that the 3rd division which, according to the inspector general's office, has been trained up to modern standards for battle remaining on these shores? They lie in semi-activity at Fort Huachuca. Why are hundreds of Negro medical officers assigned to non-medical posts, as sanitary engineers to combat mosquitoes or dredge swamps, when many of them according to high standards of medical science should be rendering service according to their ability in the hospitals and field stations of the nation?

"Why is it that high ranking Negro field officers are kept in innocus positions where their voice of command is stiffiled reduced to an insufficient whisper? Why is it that our northern boys are sent to southern camps and refused not only the protection of the civil authorities, but also that of military authorities, under whose service many of them serve by necessity? Why is it that from all portions of the country come reports and letters from our soldiers that they are not being fed well? Why is it that 90 per cent of the Negro troops on foreign soil are used as labor battalions?"

Terming the general army set up as regards Negroes "a pattern of discrimination and humiliation and violation of every sense of decency toward a people whose trusting faith in the destiny of their country has never been questioned," the resolution urged all whites and Negroes to indicate their protest to the President, and the chiefs of staffs of the army and navy. If this is too much to ask of the men who form our policies at home "what evidence have the darker nations of the world to believe that justice will be administered to them" concluded the paper.

Soldiers Segregated At Hospital

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — (ANP) — The Northington General Military hospital here last week yielded to pressure from irate white citizens and instituted a system of jim crow among its soldier-patients.

Victims of this practice are 30 soldiers recently arrived from the station hospital at Fort McClellan, Ala.

Specifically the charges are that Negro patients have been:

1. Piled into separate wards; 2. Denied use of latrines used by whites; 3. Roped off in mess halls; 4. Barred from the P.X. (post exchange) except for a brief hour during the day.

When the soldiers first arrived here they were accommodated without segregation, but immediately towns people began nasty mutterings and army authorities succumbed to their demands.

Negro army personnel also complain that while boarding the train en route here from Fort McClellan they were herded into the sooty, dingy, squeaky, day coach, but that white patients were allowed to travel in comfortable Pullman coaches. The treatment accorded the soldiers at Northington is similar to that at the station hospital at Fort McClellan where they are segregated in wards, and denied joint accommodations in the board meetings, Red Cross recreation center, and mess halls.

NAACP Calls on FDR To Review Levy Case

Prejudice May Have Figured In Conviction, Official Declares

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
PM's National Editor

PM
New York, N. Y.

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—The National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People today urged President Roosevelt to review the record of the court-martial which resulted in conviction of Alton Levy, former union organizer.

In a letter to Roosevelt, Roy Wilkins, NAACP assistant secretary, stressed the disclosure that the presiding officer of the court had declared, 48 hours prior to the conviction, that Levy was innocent of the charges. He was subsequently convicted "without the introduction of new evidence," Wilkins pointed out.

"The case as it now stands is bound to give the public the impression that the Army command will find a way to punish a soldier who makes critical comment of the mistreatment of Negroes in the Army," the letter said. Wilkins cited Levy's background as a labor organizer, his former connection with the Socialist Party and "the fact that he is a Jew" as ground for "suspicion that the court-martial was dominated by prejudice."

Pardon Urged

He added:

"Certainly if the facts are as they are generally publicly reported, the conclusion is inescapable that the record of the court-martial should be carefully examined to determine if it is a proper case for the exercise of the pardoning power on the grounds:

"1. That Alton Levy did not receive a fair trial.

"2. That there was not sufficient evidence upon which to predicate a finding of guilt."

Army Denial

Wilkins' letter dispelled earlier published reports that the NAACP had decided not to intervene in the Levy case. Since Aug. 16 Levy has been serving a four-month term at hard labor at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base after being convicted of circulating "slanderous" rumors about the commanding officer and "false statements" about mistreatment of Negroes.

Responding to inquiries from PM on the case, the War Dept. denied Friday that Levy's concern over treatment of Negroes was involved in the case. It asserted investigation had shown no basis for charges of mistreatment and that Levy had admitted he had not raised the issue with his commanding officers.

Meanwhile, the Workers Defense League, which initiated the campaign in Levy's behalf, disclosed today it had received a response to its protests from Maj. Gen. Myron C. Cramer. Cramer declared that Levy "had a fair trial" and that "the evidence supports and warrants the findings of guilty and the sentence."

Reply Challenged

Challenging this reply Morris Milgram, executive secretary of the WDL, cited the brief submitted to the White House last week by Leon Despres, Chicago attorney, as "answering every point in Maj. Gen. Cramer's letter." Milgram said:

"Despres' brief shows that Levy's conviction was highly irregular, that the evidence warranted neither the finding of guilt nor the sentence, and it shows the importance of the Negro issue in the case. Once the court announced the finding of not guilty, justice demanded an acquittal."

Milgram cited Section 78D of the Army Manual for Courts-Martial which provided that the court may reconsider a finding before it is announced, but presumably not afterward.

CIO Local Accuses Ford Of Job Bias

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DETROIT, Sept. 2 — (ANP) — Charges that the Ford Motor company is violating the President's order prescribing discrimination in the employment of Negroes were made last week by the Ford Local 600 (CIO) in a brief filed with Fr. Francis J. Haas, chairman, FEPC.

"The present policy of refusal to place Negro applicants is in fact a contributing factor to the 'racial tenseness' of which the Ford management is apprehensive," stated the document. It charged further that the company is "pursuing a policy deliberately aimed at denying jobs to hundreds upon hundreds of Negro workers, a large number of them trained at skills sorely needed in war production in the Rouge plant."

The union also accused the motor company of aggrevating the housing shortage, transportation, and food situations by hiring migrant labor it had advertised for in Kentucky and Tennessee newspapers while denying work to available Negroes.

47d-1943

Army Hits 'Sawdust Trail' On Question Of Jim Crow Practices Hurting War Effort

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 2 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—The United States Army has hit the sawdust trail on the question of race. Army officials, of course, will not admit this. They would say that the Army is engaging in business as usual and that there never was any cause for alarm about treatment of Negroes and other racial minorities in the Army. But evidence continues to pile up to prove that high ranking officials in the War Department and General Staff officers in the Army have come to realize that jim-crow practices in the army hold back the war effort.

The latest concrete evidence of the above statement is found in the publication by the Army War College Library on September 10 of a selected bibliography on race relations, intended for circulation among and the education of the officer personnel. The whole tone of this document is set by its publication of an article from the August issue of the Infantry Journal, which states:

"Sometimes the prejudice against Negroes flares up in the Army. It is not a problem, however, in a camp where it is well understood that a soldier in the United States uniform is a soldier, not a white or Negro, Christian or Jew, rich man or poor, but a soldier, and as such is worthy of respect."

LIST BOOKS FOR ARMY OFFICERS

After publishing this excerpt from Infantry Journal the Army War College publication lists a series of books and magazine articles which it urges Army officers to read as being "of timely and professional interest to all army officers."

Marked in the list as "very important articles on race relations" are articles in the August and September 1943 issues of Scientific Monthly by Dr. Wilton M. Krogman and Dr. Robert Redfield of the University of Chicago. These are some typical excerpts from the articles recommended by the Army for reading by its officers.

From Dr. Krogman's article: "In recent years German anthropologists have, as we know, advanced preposterous claims of Nordic or 'Aryan' superiority. Such claims have no basis in fact."

From Dr. Redfield's article: "When the rise of the cotton industry induced Southern leaders before the Civil War to stop apologizing for slavery and to begin defending it, it was asserted that the Negro lacked the native intelligence to be more than a slave. It was said the low skull of the Negro pressed upon his brain and prevented him from becoming intelligent.

SUPPORT PREJUDICE THROUGH SCIENCE

"It was not, of course, the Negro's skull that pressed upon him. It was slavery and ignorance that pressed upon him. But the skull got the blame. The skulls always do. When people have prejudices it is convenient to support them by referring to the will of God or the wisdom of science."

It can be stated on good authority that this action by the Army War College is neither the first nor the last step to be taken by high army officials to change racial attitudes of its officers towards Negro troops. For example, at the beginning of the building up a large army through peace time conscription the stock reply of high ranking army officials to demands for an end to army segregation was "that the army was not engaged in sociological experiments and that segregation of troops had furnished the only practical way of army life." It is significant that a few weeks ago, however, in response to a question from The Pittsburgh Courier, Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy described training prospects for Negro bombardiers and navigators and three times in a 150 word written answer stressed the fact that the Negro troops would be trained together with white soldiers.

SOME PERTINENT FACTORS

Through investigation of discontent among Negro soldiers conducted by Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, constructive criticism by the Negro press, the existence of a pending Senate resolution to investigate Army jim crow practices introduced by Senator Sheridan Downey of California, are thought to have been some of the factors which have convinced War Department officials of the need for basic corrections in the treatment accorded Negro soldiers.

Mistreatment of Negro enlisted men by white officers, failure to promote Negro officers, slowness of sending Negro troops into actual combat, and widespread and bitterly resented lack of transportation and recreational facilities for Negro enlisted men quartered in Southern camps, represent the most frequent type of complaints reaching officials here.

The concern shown by Army officials over these complaints has been marked in recent weeks. Negro newspapermen have been invited to conferences with Major General Surles of the Army Public Relations Office. Other Negro leaders have made recommendations to the Army. Promotions of competent Negro officers—still too slight to be called a trend—have occurred. And finally this latest attempt to condition the thinking of tens of thousands of white officers having command of Negro troops is significant.

Army Officials We Don't Need

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

SEP 29 1943

A colonel went to the University of Maryland recently to address the faculty and others in reference to a course of instruction the university was instituting for army students. When he had completed his explanation of the course to the faculty, one of its members asked the colonel if Negro army students were going to be admitted to it. The colonel replied with a leering smile, "No. We don't have enough trees around here to hang 'em from."

Then the colonel guffawed along with some of the faculty members, who thought that the high army officer had made a good and appropriate crack about Negroes. Of course, some of the faculty resented the colonel's joke; in fact, a few of them were outraged. However nobody took the colonel to task for his insult of 13,000,000 U. S. citizens.

This story is significant and important because it emphasizes once more the attitude of many white Americans toward their colored brothers. It indicates how difficult it will be for anybody to effect racial amity and understanding in this country.

It goes without saying that the superior colonel should have been reported to the War Department and immediately dismissed from the army for his vile statement about Negroes. If, for example, this officer were assigned to command Negro troops it is plain to see just what kind of officer he would make. Unfortunately, he is similar to many white officers who do command Negro troops and who have made a mess of it.

We hope that the War Department transfers every officer from the command of Negro troops whenever it determines that he is biased or prejudiced. Meantime, the War Department must not wait until serious trouble arises involving Negro troops before doing so. Of course, the Department really should fire every officer who refuses to accept and treat Negro soldiers as equal to any other in every respect.

It is a sad note on our so-called fight for the fabled Four Freedoms when a colonel in the U. S. Army goes out of his way to insult persons comprising one-tenth of the nation. It goes to show that we have entirely too much work to do at home ot bring democracy to the people before we talk about taking it abroad. In fact, no sane people anywhere else in the world should want the U. S. brand of democracy. It is often as putrid and vicious as fascism.—Amsterdam News.

Negro Press Roused At Army 'Directive'

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Eugene Gordon

SEP 4 1943

The Baltimore **Afro-American**, a leading Negro newspaper, was shocked and angry as it exposed this week a "directive" on Negro soldiers by Brigadier General E. A. Stockton, commanding officer of Camp Stewart, Ga.

Camp Stewart is the place where Negro troops, breaking under the pressure of months of indignities, were recently disciplined for insubordination. The Afro-American's publication of the "directive" casts additional light on the soldiers' discontent.

The "directive," according to the paper's Savannah (Ga.) correspondent, "is a 12-page mimeographed pamphlet" titled "An Educational Program for Colored Troops" and is in three parts, all equally insulting to the Negro people: (1) a general outline, (2) material for a talk to officers of Negro organizations and (3) material for a talk to Negro troops.

It was supposedly sent to "brigade, group and battalion commanders" and to all officers of Negro troops.

Urban League Head Accuses Memphis USES Of Bias

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 4 1943

MEMPHIS, Sept. 2 — (ANP) — While war industries in the Memphis area are daily pleading for workers, the local United States Employment Service office is practicing job discrimination against Negro applicants, Benjamin R. Bell, executive secretary of the Memphis Urban charged this week.

Secretary Bell in support of his charges pointed out that almost daily, other workers are imported from neighboring states and cities, including white women workers, while thousands of Memphis Negroes are denied war work, and deliberately restricted to the menial tasks of maids, floor sweepers, janitors and common laborers.

FILE COMPLAINT

Victims of the local USES discriminatory practices were urged by Bell to file their complaints with the Urban league office.

"The seriousness of the situation is reflected in the frustration and disappointment of hundreds of Negroes, both male and female, who are forced to do menial jobs at lower wages which affect their family, religious, home and health life." Bell said "Meanwhile, industry in Memphis through the white press cries daily for badly needed war-workers."

[illegible] AND CUSTOM

The [illegible]-American quotes the "directive" as saying that the laws of Georgia provide for segregation, "which means different place for colored and whites," adding that "where the law leaves off custom continues."

"Thus, there are separate schools, different places to sit on trains and buses, different hotels and cafes, and so on. Whether or not they did this where you came from, and no matter what you think about it, it is your duty to do exactly what the law says and to accept the customs of the people while you are in Georgia."

General Stockton in his preachment to the Negro soldiers tells them, according to the story, that the law "means about the same as the Golden Rule: 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'"

Quotations from the "directive" continue:

SEP 4 1943

"Be polite and respectful in any talk you have with white people.

"You are in the South. Things have been as they are in the South for a long time, and they will probably continue to be that way for a long time.

"If you start any arguments or disturbances you will get nowhere, settle nothing, and get yourself into trouble.

WHEN IN ROME . . .

"It was a pretty smart man who said: 'When in Rome, do as the Romans do.'"

The General is quoted as telling white officers in command of Negro troops to talk on the subject covered in the "directive" at least once every eight weeks.

Some of the Negro troops, the officers are told, will come from Howard University and from Tuskegee, but, "for the most part, colored soldiers are less able to assimilate knowledge rapidly and accurately."

He adds that because of this "fact" the officers must be "extremely patient," for "the psychology of many colored people is such that they will say they understand when they don't. . . . Some colored people are more like children than any other people in their degree of emotional development."

Apparently aware that restrictive and oppressive treatment might result in outbreaks, the General advises his officers, says the story, "to know what your men are doing and thinking all the time." And here is how:

SPIES AND STOOGES

"The [illegible] helpful thing is constant observation. . . . You can use your S2 Section. . . . Select as secret agents qualified and patriotic men. Instruct these men carefully and secretly. Give them code names and have them MAIL their reports to you except in emergencies.

"Develop an unwritten SOP for times of stress, a procedure to secure safety of your command quietly and calmly. With respect to arms and ammunition, vigilance should never be relaxed.

"Examine reading matter appearing among your men. Some of it, often innocent appearing, may be seditious and highly inflammatory."

The Negro press, carrying stories of mistreatment of Negro troops in the South, is barred from most camps as "seditious and inflammatory."

The **Afro-American** story declares that "in their talks to soldiers, Camp Stewart officers are instructed to remind them that they were once slaves [illegible] could be sold or given away, seized for debt, or sold down the river. Slaves "had no vote, couldn't tell their story in court, or lawfully marry." They "could be punished or killed by the master." They "had no chance to read or write."

THE NEW SLAVERY

Nevertheless, according to this newspaper expose, General Stockton's "directive" declares that "most slave-owners were good-hearted Christians, who liked for everybody around them to be happy." The slave-owners were, "as a rule, good to their slaves."

The reason for all this reminder of slavery days seems to reveal itself in the following paragraph of the General's "directive" to the soldiers:

"Where [illegible] slave had practically no rights, you now have as many rights as anyone under the law."

The story goes on:

"General Stockton advised officers to tell their men that there is no discrimination in the Army. By 'no discrimination' he said he means that everybody got the same pay, the same food, medical care, barracks, movies and service clubs."

He told the men further:

"Some of you may not understand why you can't go everywhere white folks go in Georgia. It's because the law says so."

And if you think that's bad, the General says, imagine what it would be if Hitler came. Hitler would, according to the **Afro-American** story quoting the General, destroy the Negro. Georgia only segregates him. So:

"'Accept [illegible] customs of the people while you are in Georgia.

"'Be polite and respectful . . with white people.

"'In short, remember your manners.'"

NAACP Seeks Rehearing Of Court-Martial

SEP 8 1943

Daily World

Rallies Behind Jewish Soldier Who Hit J. Crow

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON (A N P)—Court-martailed and given four months in jail, stripped of his stripes and fined to boot all because he objected to the dirty break Negroes are getting in camp, Sergeant Alton Levy of the Lincoln [illegible] base, Lincoln, Nebraska, has received the support of the NAACP and the International Ladies Garment Workers union in an appeal that has been made to Secretary Henry L. Stimson, it has been learned.

The young Jewish soldier, a former organizer for the ILGWU in New York, was punished about three weeks ago when he was called on the carpet by army officals at the Lincoln base to make explanation of a set of chargs that were made against him.

LETTER TO FRIEND

In the words of Sergeant—now Private Levy, written to a friend:

"The lieutenant colonel cleared his throat and then said, 'Sergeant Levy, you are charged with a very serious offense and before you answer any questions you are to know that we have sworn statements concerning certain remarks attributed to you.'

"What he read were statements allegedly made by me to 'witnesses.' There were remarks about the general and his wife, about the running of the post, about Lincoln, Nebraska, politics and the effect of it upon the post, about the Negroes and the way they are mistreated and a host of others. What seemed to be causing the greatest concern were my statements about the handlng of the Negro situation. The only statements I made around here were about the handling of the Negro troops."

ASSIGNED TO NEGRO UNIT

Actually, Levy was finally assigned to the Negro quarters of the camp where he was put in charge. He remained in that section because none of the other white officers wanted the detail. He tried to train the Negro troops and to improve their illiteracy. His sympathy is what brought him into disfavor.

His conviction before the court-martial is said to have been based upon the testimony of a white WAC who reported to have had dates with soldiers at various times. She is said to have turned in six of them, of which five were obviously Jewish.

The NAACP has become interested and in seeking a rehearing by Secretary Stimson.

Top Kick Reverses Sentence

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

Court Martial Called Blunder In Sentencing Private Over Dance Mate

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., (ANP)—Hiding its actions under the convenient cloak of "military code, regulations and tradition," a court martial last week ordered a white aviation student at the U. S. Army pre-flight training center located at West Virginia University to be deprived of one month's pay. The reason the flying cadet danced with a "colored girl in view of those present" while attending a dance in the Morgan Hotel ballroom.

Captain Walter C. Troutman, commander of the 48th College Training Detachment, who ordered the court martial and penalty, however, has been overruled by the Eastern Flying Command at Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala., and the sentence ordered vacated.

DEC 4 1943

Story Well Guarded

News of the incident which occurred November 5, has been closely guarded by military censors, although personnel at the encampment knew of the affair. So well was the story guarded that this mining community and even university officials were ignorant of the development.

Pvt. Herman P. Suiter, 25, of Louisville, was accused of "willfully and wrongfully to the prejudice of good order and military discipline" conducting himself "in a manner to bring discredit upon the military service by dancing with a colored girl" in public. The incident allegedly occurred at the hostelry where a dance was being held. Suiter is said to have invited the girl, Miss Dorothy Johnson, an employe of the hotel, to dance with him. When Miss Johnson accepted, the two took a turn around the floor.

Suiter, who completed [illegible] five months' training last week along with 60 other cadets of the 300 stationed here, has been transferred to Nashville for assignment elsewhere.

Case "Improperly" Handled

Captain Troutman, a former football player at the University of Georgia, admitted the case was "improperly" handled by him. "The only issue with me,' 'he said, "was Pvt. Suiter's action in bringing an uninvited person who was improperly dressed to the party. But the whole case is now closed and there's no sentence against the boy." The commander added he would have acted similarly had the girl been white.

Case Is Placed Before Secretary Of War Stimson

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, DEC 7 1943 — (SNS) — The oase of Pvt. Rieves Bell, who was beaten by four white men in Starksville, Miss., because he would not take off his uniform, and who was sentenced to three and one-half years in the state penitentiary by a Mississippi court, has been placed before Secretary of War Stinson by the Washington Bureau of the NAACP.

Pvt. Bell who was attached to a Quartermaster Battalion at Fort Myles Standish, Massachusetts, was on furlough and was visiting his parents in Starksville.

TALKING TO GIRLS

The record shows that on his first evening in town he was standing on the street corner cahtting with two colored girls when four white men passed by. One of them pushed Pvt. Bell, but Bell said nothing. A second push was given him and he was asked, "Where did you get that uniform?"

Bell replied that Uncle Sam had given him the uniform, whereupon he was told, "Take off that soldier suit." Naturally Bell refused and a scuffle ensued in which one of the white boys calims to have been cut by the soldier.

Bell was arrested and jailed. Military police entered into the case but did not take Bell into military custody.

GIBSON CONFUSED

Pvt. Bell's commanding officer was notified of his predicament but still the military authorities did not take charge. An examination into the case was made by Truman K. Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, who told the NAACP there was some confusion about the notification to military authorities.

The next news was that of Bell's conviction and sentence to three and one-half years in prison. The NAACP letter to Secretary Stimson states:

"We understand that the War Department has already taken the position that all soldiers are to be tried by military tribunals, and that only for very [illegible] reasons will they be [illegible] to civilian authorities. In view of the fact that military policemen were at the scene of the arrest, and the commanding officer of Fort Myles Standish had notice of this man's detention, may we inquire why the military did not take jurisdiction n this case?"

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md

Military Hospital Adopts Jim Crow

OCT 2 1943

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.—(ANP)—Thirty soldiers sent from For McClellan hospital last week were jim crowed at the Northington General Military Hospital, allegedly at the insistence of white citizens.

The men, though treated democratically on arrival, allegedly were later separated in wards roped off during mess, denied use of regular latrines, and barred from the post exchange except for one hour daily.

Army personnel traveling here from the fort report jim crow railroad tactics are still used. Treatment at Northington is similar to that at Fort McClellan's hospital, where eyewitnesses say discrimination is widely practiced.

47d-1943

Gibson Blames Segregation for Unrest Among Colored Soldiers

Washington Tribune   Washington, D. C.

JUL 10 1943

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON, Jr.
Acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War

I have been seriously concerned by the many recent reports of violence involving Negro military personnel. The varying accounts in the Negro press about the incidents have sometimes given them a darker shade thereby increasing racial tensions, causing great anxiety among relatives and friends of [illegible] men in Army camps throughout the South and also adversely affecting the morale of many soldiers. I realize a contributing factor is a lack of real information.

It is not my purpose to minimize any of these incidents. They all are deplorable. Their underlying causes call for vigorous action through every means that may aid in their eradication. But some of the reports are so utterly without foundation in fact that I have decided to informally share with you such information as is available at Camp Stewart, Georgia and Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, about the occurrences.

The Fourth Service Command is conducting an investigation of Camp Stewart. The disturbance there on the night of June 9 is being investigated by a board of officers. Lieutenant Colonel Maurice Moses, a Negro officer, is a member of the board of inquiry. Until these investigations are completed, it will be improper for me to comment upon their subject matter. However, in the affair Colonel Moses acquitted himself with distinction. The colored officers generally held their men together.

Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis and Lieutenant Colonel Davis G. Arnold, of the Inspector General's Office, made an inspection and investigation at Camp Stewart during the period from May 17 to 21. Their investigation and inspection resulted from numerous letters written by some of the military personnel to various newspapers, organizations and individuals and referred to the War Department.

Dissatisfaction and unrest among the colored military personnel at Camp Stewart was found to be due in large measure to the segregation laws of the State of Georgia and the restrictions imposed upon Negroes in the South.

The only nearby town large enough to afford colored soldiers at Camp Stewart any substantial entertaiment and recreational facilities is Savannah, about forty-three miles from the camp. The first source of trouble is encountered when colored soldiers use the Savannah bus line.

All the complaints of colored military personnel at Camp Stewart was the subject of conferences between the representatives of the Inspector General's Office and the higher officers of the Training Center and Post commands.

The principal complaints related to the inadequacy of the Savannah bus line to accommodate colored soldiers at the rush hours and discrimination against Negroes in the use of buses. The failure to provide overnight lodgings and meals at reasonable prices. in Savannah for colored soldiers, as compared with facilities of this nature which are available for white soldiers; abusive language and unnecessary roughness on the part of civilian police and possibly the Military Police in Savannah, and the State law having for its purpose the checking of venereal diseases whereby women accompanied by colored soldiers are frequently arrested if they cannot produce health certificates.

The War Department is very much interested in ways and means of remedying the situation at Camp Stewart with regard to the colored complement. Before the recent outbreak certain steps had been taken to improve the situation. An increased effort was being made to obtain additional entertainment and recreational facilities for colored troops when off the post. Pass privileges were being staggered so as to prevent overcrowding of transportation facilities between Camp Stewart and Savannah and overcrowding of the entertainment and recreational facilities in Savannah and adjacent towns. Colored military police are beinig employed at entrucking points in greater numbers.

The 364th Infantry regiment has been involved in several prior disturbances. The intra-racial fight at Phoenix, Arizona, in which several persons were killed was the most serious.

The situation at Camp Van Dorn is more difficult. It needs further study before there can a determination of what corrective and disciplinary measures should be taken. Magnifying the situation, however, is not helpful. Nor should approval in any way be given to riotous conduct on the part of the military unit which has been the center of the disturbances.

Since the arrival of this particular unit at Camp Van Dorn there have been a series of incidents on the post of a disorderly nature. On one occasion, a number of men from this organization visited Centreville and marched around the town in formation, using indecent and profane language. Civil police, aided by a number of deputized citizens armed with shotguns, arrested this group. Upon arrival of the military police officer, upon his orders, these men immediately dispersed and returned to camp.

As far as the information in this office shows, one soldier (not three as reported by one newspaper) was killed by a law enforcement officer outside the post. He was Private William Walker. According to the report of the investigation, he was accosted by a military policeman because he was improperly uniformed and had no pass; that following a brief argument, Private Walker assaulted the military police and was attempting to take his pistol, when the county sheriff arrived on the scene.

The sheriff reported that upon his arrival the military police was on his back in a "jeep" with Private Walker on top of him. Upon seeing the sheriff, Walker allegedly jumped out of the car and made a lunge for him and, upon refusing to halt when ordered to do so, he was shot and killed by the sheriff.

The company to which the soldier was assigned threatened to break into the supply room for rifles and ammunition. Colonel John F. Goodman, the commanding officer, ordered the firing pins removed from all rifles and an officer guard placed over all supply rooms in the regiment. One company did storm a suppdy room and obtained a number of rifles before arrival of company officers. All of the rifles except two have been found.

A short time later a crowd of several hundred members of this unit assembled near the regimental exchange. A colored riot squad from the Military Police Detachment of the camp was forced to fire into this group in an attempt to stand them off. Private Raymond Johnhson was wounded by this gunfire. The timely arrival of Colonel Goodman and Captain Elmer P. Gibson, colored chaplain, was perhaps the only thing that prevented serious bloodshed.

The offenders in this unit will be disciplined; the better elements, recognized. At the same time every effort will be made to get at the causes of unrest. It is recognized by responsible War Department officials that the punishment of Negro soldiers involved in disturbances of this kind is no permanent solution to the problem of preventing mutinous conduct which no Army would tolerate. By factual reporting of each incident I believe that the Negro press con con- that the Negro press can con- Department and at the same time We have a common interest in folks back home.

I am certain you recognize the general and serious extent of the rapidly increasing racial tension. We have a common inttrest in doing what we can to check this dangerous tendency.

These expressions are personal. They are not sent to scold or with any intention of attempting to dictate your news policy. If you publish any of the material included herein, please do not quote me directly.

For your information, I have just been advised that the Army intends to assume jurisdiction over Privates Richard P. Adams, John W. Bordenave and Lawrence Mitchell. This case you will recall arose out of a charge by a white girl in Louisiana that these men had raped her in a military reservation. They were convicted and sentenced to death. The Supreme Court recently reversed the sentence because the Federal district court in which the case was tried lacked jurisdiction. The present action of the Army forestalls a trial in the Louisiana State Court.

From the Editor

PM   New York, N. Y.

Army Jim Crow

Our Jack McManus received a V-Mail letter yesterday from Louise Levitas, who used to be his assistant in our film-reviewing department. Miss Levitas joined the American Red Cross some months ago and now is in Australia. Here's what she said:

"Today I went out to meet a hospital train—boys who were hungry for news from back home. One thing I noticed: Negro and white wounded together in the same trains, playing cards together, and on one bunk, a white boy from Alabama—his accent so thick that you could photograph it—and a colored soldier from Jersey. When men have been through war together their whole prejudices seem to vanish and it's as if they never existed."

Louise has something there. The War Dept., which is hog-tieing a large part of the human American productive resources and harming itself by Jim Crow discrimination in the Army, ought to take notice.

I agree with Louise that the terrors of war make prejudices vanish, but that's the hard way to cure them. The prejudices would not be so bitter, anyway, and there wouldn't be so many of them if the Army didn't enforce its Jim Crowism on the colored soldiers who are fighting for this country along with the whites. The War Dept., of course, insists that it doesn't discriminate against the Negro. But ask any colored soldier, or any white soldier who has ever put in so much as five minutes at a camp where colored soldiers also are billeted and you will get the straight answer.

The War Dept. is in a position to do more by one single, simple move than any other single agency I know of to improve the morale of our Negro population, to allay the dangers of such racial outbreak as in Mobile, Los Angeles, Newark, Beaumont, and Detroit, and to increase our fighting strength. All the Department would have to do would be to create a volunteer mixed Army unit—it doesn't even have to be a large one—of white and Negro Americans and demonstrate that this is a democratic Army not ruled by Jim Crow. That simple step would mean more to the Negroes whom I know and have talked to than almost any other single step that can be taken. Men don't have to suffer and die to become tolerant.—JOHN P. LEWIS.

Seamen Expose Bias In U.S. Maritime Service

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—Point-blank charges, backed by affidavits, were made this week by 10 graduates of the United States Maritime Service Training Station, that, despite their fitness and qualifications, they were told by officials that the only jobs open to them aboard ships, were as messmen and galley attendants.

Target of the men's charges were the USMS, the War Shipping Administration and at least one maritime union. The USMS training station is located at Sheepshead Bay.

Violate President's Orders

In a letter, signed by the 10 Negro graduates and sent to the National Maritime Union, names, dates, places and circumstances are listed which reveal flagrant violations of President Roosevelt's Executive Orders 8802 and 9406, which specifically prohibit "discrimination in essential industries."

The seamen filing the affidavit are Henry H. Williams, Lubin E. Spencer Jr., James E. Bray, Wilton O. Cooper, Alvin A. Watson, Richard J. Stribling, Bryon R. Smith, Chester L. Edward, Sam A. McClellan and Booker T. Brooks.

The letter was sent to the NMU because, they said: "We feel that this condition is none of your making and we appeal for your help in combating this evil situation. One of the tenets of your organization is that there shall be no discrimination because of race or color on ships carrying crews from your union."

"Ship Only As Messmen"

After graduation from the USMA trainng school as ordinary seamen, the marine workers relate that they were quartered at the Chelsea hotel awaiting jobs, but that after five weeks of idleness they decided to act. Spurring their decision was the knowledge that successive classes had been graduated from the school and shipped to various vessels, to other stations, and to the Great Lakes. Shipping authorities informed them they could ship only as messmen.

A spokesman for the NMU stated that efforts are being made to correct the situation that is directly opposed to the principles of the leading union organization of seagoing men.

Some of the discriminations listed in the sensational charges that: "On or about June 29, 2:30 p.m., two men of M. O. Cooper's section which came out June 22, were the last men left, were shipping out. Cooper asked Ensign Brinker why he was not shipped with his classmates as others of a later class were being sent to that particular job. The answer he received was, 'Those men were going out through the Seaman's Pacific union (SUP) and that union did not accept colored.'

White and Colored Lists

"Yeoman Ball was on a deck July 11, 6 p.m., when he was asked by Bray, Ball and Brooks how they stood on the list for shipping out. He took them to the B. deck and to the shipping deck. Looking at the files he told them that Bray was first, Bell eighth and Brooks tenth. When asked if they had those high numbers why had they not been shipped when others who had come after them to the station had been shipped. Yeoman Ball replied, 'There are two separate lists, one colored and one white.'

"July 13, 3:30 p.m., Bray was in the hall of B deck, and was spoken to by Lt. Shookly. 'Bray, you have been here a long time. Why don't you ship out as a messman?'

July 13, 2 p.m., Cooper and Williams were approached by Chief Petty Officer Rothman and were asked, 'How long have you been here? What are your ratings? Well, we have three openings for messmen and there is only one in the house. Would you ship out as messmen?' Five minutes after this conversation a call over the public address system brought at least five messmen to the shipping desk.

"Lt. Sather (Chaplain) on July 14, about 3 p.m., said, 'You fellows still here?' Answered by Cooper and Bray, 'Yes, still here." The chaplain, 'Oh! Want to ship out as admirals instead of messmen'."

War Dept. Still Ignores Questions on Levy Case

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The War Dept. has still failed to issue its promised reply to questions on the court-martialing and conviction of Alton Levy.

On Sept. 29 PM queried the Department on protests growing out of Levy's trial. He is a former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, and is now serving four months at hard labor at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base.

A spokesman for the Department said that detailed questions would have to be submitted in writing to Adjutant-General James A. Ulio. This was done. A week ago PM was assured that answers to the inquiries were being prepared. Last Friday it was stated that the response might be ready within 24 hours.

So far no reply has been issued.

Answers to one of the questions—the specific charges on which Levy was tried—have emerged from other sources. Leon Despres, Chicago attorney who entered the case at the request of Levy's father, revealed that the youth was tried and convicted on three counts: two involving allegedly slanderous remarks about his commanding officer, the third allegedly "false statements" about treatment of Negroes at the Lincoln Air Base.

The War Dept. has not officially released any information on the case. Meanwhile, new disclosures have raised a number of new issues, including the revelation that the presiding officer at the court-martial, speaking for the Court, expressed belief that Levy was innocent just 48 hours before the verdict of guilty was returned.

Here is the text of PM's unanswered inquiry to the War Dept.:

Adjutant-General James A. Ulio, War Dept.,
Pentagon Bldg.,
Arlington, Va.

Dear Gen. Ulio:

I have been informed by Col. Hughes' office that certain questions relating to the case of Alton Levy must be submitted to you in writing. Levy, who is stationed at the Lincoln, Neb., Air Base, was court-martialed in August, reduced from the rank of sergeant to private and sentenced to four months at hard labor. The charge has been publicly made that Levy was punished primarily because of protests he made at staff conferences over alleged mistreatment of Negro soldiers. Could you give us any information on the following questions related to this case:

1. What were the specific charges on which Levy was tried and convicted?
2. Has any inquiry been made with regard to the treatment of Negro soldiers at this base to determine whether statements attributed to Levy were true?
3. Col. Hughes' office informed us that the full court-martial proceedings are secret. Is there any way in which we can obtain access to the testimony on which Levy was convicted?
4. Did the issue of the treatment of Negro soldiers at the Base figure in the proceedings and, if so, was any testimony obtained from the Negroes themselves?
5. What was the locale and personnel of the Army Service Command which reviewed and sustained the court-martial?

In view of the public interest which has been manifested in this case, we would be very grateful for an answer to these inquiries at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,
James A. Wechsler, National Editor

Harlem Citizens Blast Bias In WAVES, SPARS

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUN 5 1943

NEW YORK — A wave of protest has followed the recent assertion of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox that Negro leaders favor barring colored women from enlistment in the naval and coast guard reserves, the WAVES and SPARS.

A formal blast, denying the statement, came this week from the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem, which is holding a series of meetings on problems affecting Negroes.

Some time ago the committee sent a letter signed by Algernon D. Black, co-chairman, to Mr. Knox, asking for clarification of the Navy Department's policy with respect to the recruiting of colored women.

On March 5, say the committee members, Mr. Knox answered that the Women's Reserve "shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the navy, to release male officers and enlisted men of the naval service for duty at sea."

The letter added: "The navy does not have any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea. There is no occasion to replace Negro enlisted personnel by Negro women enlisted in the Women's Reserve."

Paragraph Stirs Protests

Secretary Knox closed his letter with the paragraph that has stirred the "tempest in a teapot," and which stated: "This program is necessarily experimental, but it is not discriminatory, and it has received the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press generally."

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Later, in reply to letters sent to Negro leaders and representative organizations, the City-Wide committee received an avalanche of messages criticizing the assertion made by Mr. Knox.

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell said the Knox statement was "entirely erroneous." He stated that while it is true that the WAVES was established to relieve male officers and enlisted men of the naval service for duty at sea, "it does not say that these men must be supplanted by whites only."

Channing Tobias, senior secretary, Y.M.C.A. National Council, said that Mr. Knox's letter was a "classic illustration of subterfuge and evasion."

Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, asserted:

"The statement of Secretary Knox that the navy department's program is 'necessarily experimental,' and has received the approval of Negro organizations' certainly does not express the opinion of the National Urban League. Neither does the League approve the over-timid and frequently contradictory policies which the navy department has instituted."

Members of the committee said they would continue the protests and call upon navy department officials to abolish discrimination against both Negro men and women in its services.

Officers of the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem include Algernon D. Black and Rev. A. Clayton Powell, co-chairmen, and William T. Andrews, the Rev. George Ford, Lester B. Granger, Stanley M Isaacs, Dr. David DeSola Pool, Dr. Robert Searle and Walter White, vice chairmen.

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Reveals Soldiers Brutally Treated

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

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WASHINGTON, D.C., April 1—(ANP)—Graphic eyewitness stories of brutality by white officers toward Negro soldiers in the Southern Pacific area of war were told this week to the Associated Negro Press by Chaplain Luther Marion Fuller, who has been called back here to face court-martial proceedings, allegedly for certain of his efforts in behalf of colored soldiers which violated Army rules.

HITS ATTITUDES OF OFFICERS

Rev. Fuller, a prominent Eastern pastor before joining the armed forces as a chaplain with the 24th Infantry at Fort Benning, Ga., and who saw action in the South Sea Islands combat zone just below the Solomon Islands, spoke particularly of the attitude of their white officers to members of a coast artillery, anti-aircraft regiment. This is the same group which, when assigned to guard duty in Pennsylvania shortly after American entry into the war, awoke one morning to find notices on the bulletin boards threatening death to those who became over-friendly with white women.

At the same time the chaplain said he had observed that those white commanding officers who read Negro newspapers and thus were able to understand what the Negroes felt, were the fairest in their treatment of colored soldiers.

PRAISES PRESS

"One of the finest pieces of work that the Negro press has ever done (and this is putting it very conservatively), is uncovering the great wrongs and injustices heaped upon the Negro soldiers in the U. S. Army," said Rev. Fuller. "During the entire period of my service, colored soldiers, both at home and abroad, have said that the Negro papers are their source of comfort and inspiration.

"All of the officers in regiments where we have served and who read the Negro papers and tried to understand the colored man and the conditions under which he is laboring and striving, were always men who treated the colored soldiers in a kind and just manner. At Fort Benning, a certain commanding officer was seen reading The Pittsburgh Courier, the Afro-American, Chicago Defender and other Negro newspapers on every Saturday or Monday mornings when we went to his office.

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"There was another commanding officer at the same post who, it is said, would never allow a Negro newspaper to come into his office, and we can truthfully say that the Negro soldiers in his regiment were always in the dog house.

LISTS COMPLAINTS FROM SOLDIERS

"We went from Fort Benning to New York City, to California and then to the South Sea Islands with a certain coast artillery (AA) group. In this latter regiment we never saw a white commissioned officer reading a Negro newspaper at any time and, according to the enlisted men's own testimony, this regiment was one of the worst governed and administered, and cruel and abusive in regard to treatment of the soldiers, and the least trained of all the Negro regiments in the Army.

"An enlisted man said: 'The white officers of this regiment have been so cruel and abusive in their treatment of Negro soldiers from Fort Bragg, N. C., to the South Sea Islands that the latter have little or no respect for their superiors." Still another enlisted member of this organization said: 'Our white commissioned officers treat us more like work horses, lower animals, than like real soldiers.'

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"In fact, this chaplain was told by some of the natives on that island where this regiment was stationed that some of these white officers said that 'those n——r soldiers are really our slaves and we brought them over here to work for us and for you and you shouldn't associate with them at all.'

"In our opinion, the whole trouble with that unit is that the Negro soldiers in the South Sea Islands are fighting two battles and two wars—one against the Japanese and an even greater war against the green-eyed monster, race prejudice, the latter being a disease that has spread through the whole body of humanity and is contrary to all the teachings and convictions of Christianity, science, democracy and common sense.

FOUND FRIEND OF MR. PRATTIS

"A commanding officer from Mississippi told the chaplain that Mr. Prattis of The Pittsburgh Courier was one of his best friends and is one of the finest colored men that he has ever known. This officer reads the Negro newspapers every week. He has eight more years to serve before his retirement, and he said that after that time he intends to go back to Mississippi and devote the remainder of his life trying to make conditions much better for Negroes. This chaplain has never heard any officer from Massachusetts, New York or any other Northern State make any such statement concerning Negroes.

"At the same time, the Army is ruined with handkerchief-head noncommissioned officers who will bow the knee to Baal and sell their race down the river to any and all prejudiced commanding officers just for a promotion. We have found this trouble in every regiment we have served. Many white officers still like tattletales and stooges in their regiments and somehow this type of soldier is made a non-commissioned officer regardless of his ignorance, stupidity and inefficiency, while other enlisted men who are worthy of promotion must remain as buck privates in the rear rank. This is not hearsay, but we know it to be true from actual experience here at home and abroad, especially in that coast artillery regiment, and can prove it."

DISCRIMINATION IS RIFE AT AIR BASE, NAACP PREXY SAYS

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

ST. PAUL, Minn. — (ANP) — Charges that soldiers stationed at the army air force technical training command at Sioux Falls, S. D., are addressed as "nigger" and "boy" by superior officers, denied service in restaurants and hotels, barred from USO Centers and othewise discriminated against were made in a report last week by the Rev. Clarence T. R. Nelson, pastor of Camphor Memorial Methodist Church and Associated Negro Press Correspondent, to the regular meeting of the local branch N. A. A. C. P.

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Rev. Nelson, who is also president of the St. Paul branch NAACP, recently returned from the South Dakota city where he made a two-day investigation of soldiers' complaints at the invitation of friendly whites "who wanted to do something about the unfavorable conditions faced by Negro soldiers in the Sioux Falls community."

Although there are four Negro instructors at the air base, the minister said Negro soldiers are not being given technical training but are used as "flunkies and menials."

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CROWD HEARS REPORT

The largest meeting of the year sat stolidly in the Hallie Q. Brown Community house while Rev. Nelson delivered his bitter report that revealed evidence to indicate that Col. Cote, commanding officer had demanded of white business men and public officials that Negro soldiers be discriminated against.

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"When a white captain went out to the Drake Springs, municipally owned swimming pool, and saw several Negro soldiers and white civilians there, he complained to the supervisor in charge who paid no attention to the protest," said Rev. Nelson.

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"The enraged officer then went to the chief of police with his complaint, declaring that such would cause a riot. The chief of police and the mayor held a conference with the air base authorities and the mayor issued an order prohiting the Negroes from using the swimming pool."

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Soldiers in the area can get service only at the Rose Room and Twenty Century Club, a restaurant and cabaret operated by Negroes, the K. and K. department store, the Wine Sweet shop, and the Sports Bowl, a recreational center, stated the pastor. One soldier who demanded he be served was ordered from a restaurant with a black jack, he added.

While in Sioux Falls, Rev. Nelson said he attended an interracial meeting of Methodist young people and listened to ten-cent store clerks tell how they had been instructed by their managers to "just let them sit" when Negroes asked for accommodations. Southern white soldiers, it was learned, had told business men they would lose their trade if they "served Niggers."

"When a Negro soldier went to his commanding officer and requested an order for a pair of shoes he was told, 'Boy, where I come from, only mules and bosses wear shoes,' informed the NAACP leader. "He did not get the shoes."

Rev. Nelson said that Negro sergeants cannot give orders to white privates who have been told by camp authorities they do not have to take orders from superiors in rank if they happen to be Negroes.

"Negro soldiers complain of the lack of recreational facilities since they are not permitted into the two large, well equipped USO centers in Sioux Falls," said the minister, "but go to the jim crow USO in the basement of the little St. John's Baptist church. They say they are not welcomed into the service club on the post.

"Most of the Negro soldiers came from eastern states, notably New York and New Jersey, and protest against the various discriminations they suffer both on the military reservation and in the community."

Rev. Nelson said he asked a soldier how he liked the district and the soldier replied, "Mister, there isn't much difference between here and in Georgia." The soldier is a native of Georgia.

That steps to correct the untenable situation in a country pledged to fight for world-wide democracy were being taken, was indicated by the action of a group of fair-minded whites who set up machinery with the aid of colored citizens for a local branch NAACP.

"We Are Soldiers Of Misfortune" Is Complaint Of Many Servicemen

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

JUN 5 1943

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We are soldiers of a democracy. We fight, we die for democracy, yet we do not enjoy the rights and privileges of a democracy. Who are we? We are the Negro, soldiers taken from our homes and spread over this vast land of the free and home of the brave. As good soldiers, we have no complaints, but as Americans and human beings we have nothing but complaints. Every day we hear flag wavers over the radio, and to hear them one would think America is one heaven on earth, and if he is white, he is right, but the Constitution calls for a government of the people, for the people and by the people, and for the benefit of those who don't know it, Negroes are people. Ever since the Negro has been in Amercia, he has been the victim of the unjust and inhuman treatment that drove the founders of America from their homes in Europe.

Until now Negroes as a whole have not been given a chance to make any great contribution toward the building of our democracy but now we are being called on to make one of the greatest sacrifices that human beings are ever called to make and that is we are being asked to give our lives cheerfully in the defense of democracy. We are not given the chance to make our choice of offering our lives or sitting back and saying "What has democracy done for me or my people." Although we are not given that chance we would not want it. We want to make as many sacrifices as any other American and as the result we want to be treated as all other good Americans.

Hear of Four Freedoms

When we hear or read of the Four Freedoms, every race, creed or color is spoken of except he Negro. Everywhere we go throughout the Southern States we run into so many silly prejudices and discriminations against our people until our minds become so confused until we sometimes wonder if this Democracy or hyprocracy is really worth dying for. We all know that Rome was not built in a day, but the people of Rome worked hard until it was built. Are we really working hard to make democracy true? Let us take a few facts and see.

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In less than four years, our nation has demanded the drafting of nearly ten million men. This was done with very little complications. In less than four years our government has changed the course of the lives of one-hundred and thirty million Americans. Yet in the seventy--odd years since the abolition of slavery, we Negroes are still not freemen.

Everywhere we go throughout the South, although we wear the uniform of our government's Armed Forces and are doing our best in the defense of democracy, we are treated worse than the enemy alien. A great man once said "a nation half-slave or divided could not survive." That statement still holds true and our nation is still divided between the North and the

South. When we build a house on a weak foundation, it soon collapses, but if we continue to build our nation on principles that are wrong in the sight of God, it too shall soon collapse. American soldiers take an oath and swear to defend democracy against all its enemies—Naziism, Fascism and everything that stands against democracy.

All Is Fascism

Race hatred, Jim Crowism, segregation and the belief that one race is superior or better than another is Fascism. We have this within our own country. I do not feel we have found that depressions and hardships and other unjust treatments have driven men to revolt and commit crimes that they knew were wrong in the sight of God. Let us not have this happen here.

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One of our greatest Presidents, Theodore Roosevelt, once said "that any man that is good enough to offer his life for his country, is entitled to a square deal from that country. He should ask no more and he should take no less."

Being a Negro soldier and having come in contact with other Negro soldiers, many of whom are now in many different countries, throughout the world, I know that what I have foresaid are their thoughts. So before, we start cleaning house for the people of the outside world, let us clean ours a little more thoroughly.

Exploited Negroes, Whites Rejecting Old Hate Policy

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

"This is a war for change- the equality of peoples and nc over the world are affirming Negro, too, in America is affi the rights fundamental to all men shall no longer be denied him." These are the words of J. Saunders Redding, author of an article in the March issue of "Atlantic" which explores the deep change which has been taking place in the mind of the Negro toward the racial situation in the South.

SIGNS OF AWAKENING

And the sound of that voice avowing change, says Mr. Redding, is dreadful to the white South. Such incidents as the following were cited by the author to prove the awakening of Southern Negroes: "An old Southern-trained Negro college teacher of sociology was replaced by a Negro trained at Chicago — "Negro students revolted because they thought one of their white teachers incompetent and prejudiced"—"A chain grocery store was boycotted because it employed an all-white staff in a Negro neighborhood in Atlanta" — "Clinton Clark, a Louisiana Negro, organized the bi-racial Louisiana Tenant Farmers and Sharecroppers Committee" —"Ben Mangum, a white man, did the same thing in Mississippi."

MISTRUST LIBERALS

Leadership in the South which was meant to be effective for progress in a world in which black would remain forever unequal to white, has been refuted to a great extent, writes Mr. Saunders, and in its place men are rising who are not "entirely dependent upon the Naval Ensign, and a passenger aboard a Northbound Southern Pacific Railway train at the time she was reportedly murdered.

Funds to aid in defense of the accused man who will plead "not capricious will and largess of white men."

In the process of these changes, the writer feels that Negroes have begun to mistrust the proclaimed good-will of the articulate Southern whites, "even the liberals."

"Some Southern liberals are aware of this," he says, "among them Jonathan Daniels, who implies that the awakening is due to the fact that the white liberals, like the old Negro leaders, have been asleep, leaving the Negro to his own devices.

"It should be no secred even to the reactionary that the Negro's awakening is also the depressed white man's awakening. The depressed white man in the South is awaking only to discover that both he and the Negro were drugged by the same mystical potion of hate, of race struggle, of playing poor laboring black against poor laboring white.

BI-RACIAL UNIONS

"John Temple Graves, a liberal from Alabama, cites an important figure. He says that there are 30,000 Negro members of the CIO in Alabama. What he does not say is more important: that a large percentage of these Alabama Negro union members are in bi-racial locals, and that some of these locals have some Negro officials."

Mr. Redding warns his readers not to draw false inferences as to the present fullness of this awakening. A Georgia governor, he says, can still arouse cheers from the whites by declaring: "I am proud to be called the champion of White Supremacy." A Negro college president is still called "boy." A politician can still be popular by stating that the Negro has a place—"at the back door."

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"But it becomes less the custom for Negroes in the South to accept that place, t grin and bear it, for though the majority has never heard of the Northern Negro "agitators' or the 'racial' Negro press, or CIO, or the Delta Co-operatives, or FEPC, they have heard that we are fighting a war for something and they have felt the cosmic stirring of the little peoples," is the opinion of the author.

NOT THE NORTH

He continues: "It is not the hatch of Northern Negro 'agitators' pushing the country closer and closer to an interracial explosion," as Mr. Dabney said in the January Atlantic. It is thought in the white South to be the hatch of the Negro North because the Negro South has forgotten is 'place' and is not acting like the Negro South. The voice seems to come from the North because the North has always been the mouth to cry change—and the Negro North has always been the tongue of the black South.

"The South has long been insulated. Resistance to change is one of its chief regional characteristics. Since change comes hard in the South, the South could not know, or chose not to know, what was happening in the North and to the Negro.

OLD LEADERS WEAK

Redding analyzes this new approach and its consequent new leadership thusly:

"It is a leadership created from a complex of conditions arising in the South—the weakness of the old leaders, the inertia of those old leaders (white patrons), the labor activity along bi-raical lines and the development of class consciousness."

Ten or twelve years ago this would have been impossible, says the author—but now the sentiments on race policy and race action are being expressed without previous consultation with the "white advisers."

"There is no refuge in conservatism," he concludes, "the road lies ahead and we built it."

Paging Mississippi's Governor!

Amsterdam Star-News

(A copy of this letter which was sent to the Governor of Mississippi, was addressed to the editor of The Amsterdam. Because of its timeliness, we are lifting it from our Letter to the Editor Section.—The Editors.)

JUL 31 1943

Sir: In reading articles in newspapers about racial disturbance throughout your state, and how you would like for there to be harmony among the peoples of this state, I can't help but offer my opinion of the whole rotten mess.

This state might just as well be a barbaric country as far as colored soldiers are concerned, and I think that I personally would be a lot safer in a cage of lions than to be in a state as undemocratic as this.

This is not only my opinion and knowledge, but the opinion and knowledge of all those who are forced to be trained in a hell hole, as we have found this to be. They talk about not wanting Negro troops here, but they're doing me no favor. I'd be happier anywhere in the world, but Mississippi.

New York, N. Y.

A SOLDIER SOMEWHERE IN MISSISSIPPI.

Chaplain Brings Fight Home:

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y

Fuller Trial to Reveal Discrimination in Army

JUL 17 1943

The trial of Chaplain Luther M. Fuller before a Board of Reclassification of the United States Army, Wednesday, July 13, 10:30 a.m., at 50 Broadway, brings to public attention the shameful way in which Negro chaplains are treated in the army.

Chaplain Fuller will go before a board of not less than five commissioned army officers, one of whom will be a chaplain, one a line officer, and one who will be from the Medical Corps. Most of the board members will be seniors in rank to the chaplain on trial.

The purpose of the meeting is to determine where Chaplain Fuller will best fit in the service and, if no such place is found, he may be discharged from the army without honor.

REFUSES TO RESIGN

The opportunity was given Chaplain Fuller to resign, but he refused on the grounds that his cause was just, and he demanded a hearing. Attorney W. C. (Judge) Hueston of Washington, D. C., and First Lt. Henry I. Fernandez of the 372nd Infantry Regiment will represent him as counsel.

This case, according to Chaplain Fuller is a typical example of what may happen to any Negro chaplain who refuses to be an "Uncle Tom" and tolerate the discrimination perpetuated against himself and the colored soldiers he serves. A Negro chaplain receives the same jimcro treatment that a Negro soldier suffers. His rank means nothing to those white men who refuse to respect his person.

Chaplain Fuller got into difficulties by preaching in the army what he preached in his pulpits, namely, that all men are equal in the sight of God and men, and that Negro soldiers should demand their rights as Americans.

The recent action by the National Baptist Convention when it voted to refuse to endorse its members for the chaplaincy shows the general sentiment of the Negro ministry.

JUL 17 1943

Chaplain Fuller was charged with bringing to this country from the South Seas letters which described the unbelievable abuses Negro soldiers underwent in that war area.

These charges could not be substantiated. It was also charged that he incited the men under him to believe that all white officers mistreated them. This the chaplain also denied.

JUL 17 1943

Because such men as Fuller refuse to submit to segregation, ingenious methods of conspiracy are exacted against them and attempts are made to have denominations withdraw their endorsements of these ministers for military service.

It is an understood fact that the Army accepts jimcro in all its departments, so as Negro chaplains take heart, the people can expect more cases of reclassification.

CHAPLAIN LOWE PROTESTS

Chaplain William Lowe, who is now in the east protesting the discrimination practised against him and the soldiers under his jurisdiction, cites many instances in which white officers have refused entirely to listen to or understand the viewpoint of Negro chaplains when they argue the cases of colored soldiers who have been outraged by their white brothers.

He says that the racial animosities on the part of commanding officers toward Negro chaplains make it almost impossible to perform the required duties efficiently. The morale and morality of the units suffer, and the chaplain's work is put down as inefficient.

The present trial of Chaplain Fuller and the subsequent army action in the case of Chaplain Lowe should give Negroes an intimate glimpse of how men in uniform, which includes chaplains, are affected by racial discrimination.

Powell Speaks Here in Fight For Traction Jobs

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

The Rev. A. Clayton Powell, nationally-known orator and a member of the City council of New York, will be the principal speaker at a unity rally on Friday night, October 15, sponsored by the National Negro Congress in connection with the fight against discrimination by the Chicago Surface Lines, the Chicago Motor Coach company and the Chicago Rapid Transit company.

SEP 26 1943

Powell was the leader of the successful fight against similar discrimination by the traction lines in New York where the Negroes today serve as motormen, conductors and public attendants in every capacity.

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

WAR DEPARTMET REFUSES TO ESTABLISH MIXED DIVISION

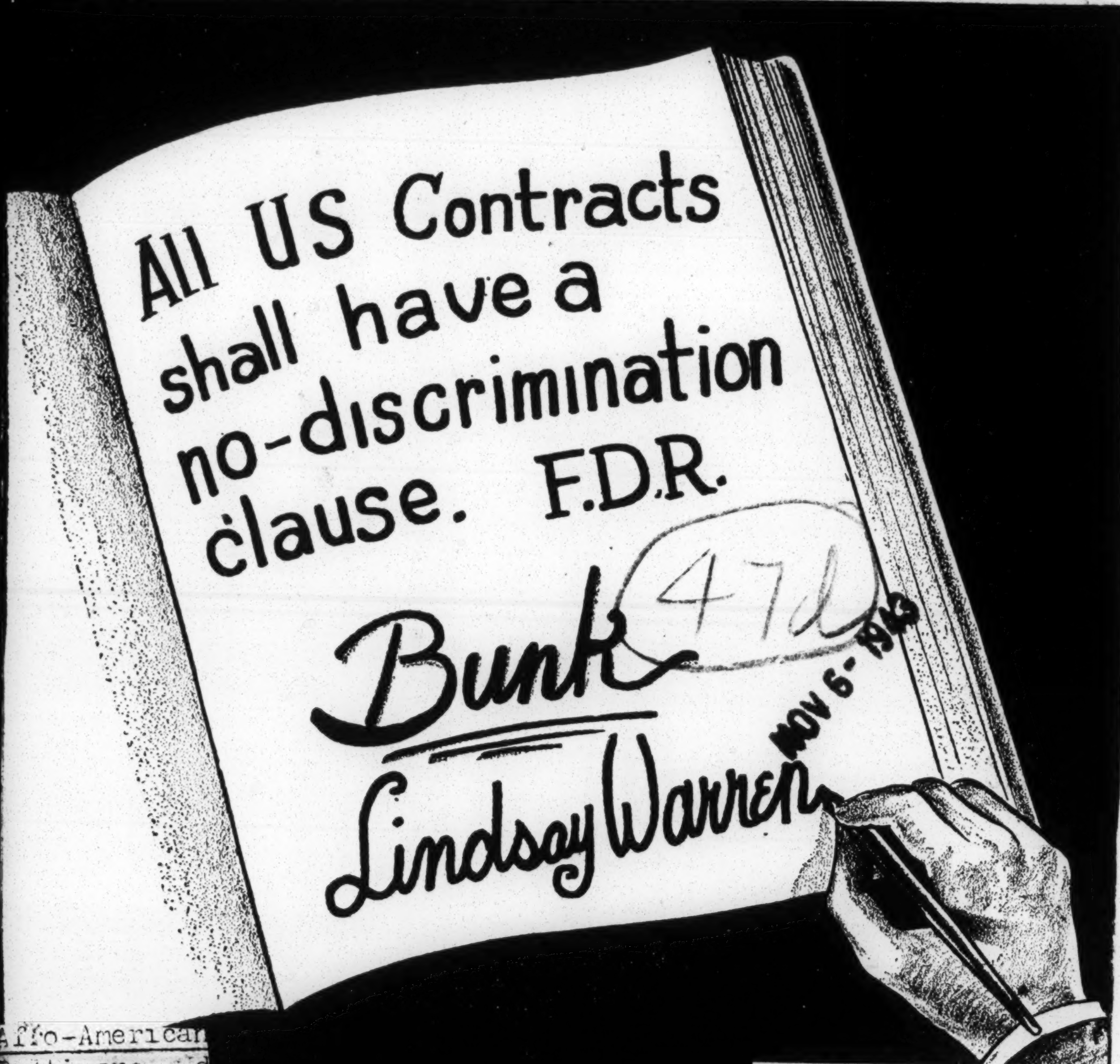
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Reaffirming its stubbornly maintained position that it will not retreat from a policy of segregation in the armed forces, the War Department, in a letter under date of September 4, to Walter White, NAACP secretary, declared that "The suggestion contained in your letter (of July 14) for the formation of mixed units has been considered at various time by the War Department and the decisio nreached that such action would be inadvisable." The letter was signed by John J. McCloy, Acting Secretary of War.

Mr. White, in releasing the above information, revealed also that recently he had visited McCloy and thanked him o nbehalf of Negroes for the establishment of non-segregated training for Negro bombardiers, pilots, and navigators, and had at that time expressed the hope that after they had received this training in mixed units, Negro aviators would be permitted to fight in mixed units. The negative answer recorded above is Mr. McCloy's reply.

SEP 30 1943

47d-1943

WHO IS PRESIDENT, ROOSEVELT OR WARREN?


All US Contracts shall have a no-discrimination clause. F.D.R.
Bunk
Lindsay Warren

47d

NOV 6 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Has Dixie Got to F. D. R.?

Two members of the Roosevelt administration recently set themselves to the task of thumbing their nose at the President.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

One of them is James F. Byrnes, director of the Central Administrative Services. He's in charge of the home front, a sort of Assistant President, while F. D. R. runs the war abroad. Mr. Byrnes is a former U.S. Supreme Court Justice and a former Senator from South Carolina. In the Senate he had the doubtful honor of advising Mr. Roosevelt that an anti-lynching bill would never be passed by that body.

The other is Roosevelt appointed U.S. Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren, one-time member of Congress from North Carolina, who, while a member of Congress, promulgated the rule which barred colored persons from eating in the House restaurant.

These two Carolina boys last week combined to nullify the Presidential wartime order affecting all Government agencies.

NOV 6 1943

F. D. R.'s Executive Order No. 9346, setting up a Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC), states in part:

> **"It is hereby ordered as follows:**
>
> **"1. All contracting agencies of the Government of the United States shall include in ALL contracts hereafter negotiated or re-negotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color or national origin and REQUIRING him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts."**

This order not only prohibits Government agencies from dealing with firms which discriminate in employment, it also expressly requires any firm which has a Government contract to see that its subcontractors do not discriminate.

Well aware of Order 9346, the Assistant U.S. President, South Carolina's Mr. Byrnes, wanted telephones installed in one of his branch offices in Kansas City, Mo. The telephone company refused to sign a contract including an anti-discrimination clause.

Mr. Byrnes, with the idea of ignoring the President's order, thereupon asked the U.S. Comptroller General, North Carolina's Mr. Warren, whether he could sign a contract without the clause and if he did would Mr. Warren, as auditor, approve payment.

Mr. Warren said that he would. He wrote Mr. Byrnes that the President's Order No. 9346 wasn't really an order at all but a "directive."

If contractors do not want to sign Government contracts including the discrimination clause, they are not required (as the President said) to do so.

NOV 6 1943

Mr. Warren said that Government agencies must try to get contractors to sign, but if they are unable to do so, they may enter into such contracts anyhow and he, the Comptroller General, will certify the bills for payment.

That brings us down to this point: the President has given an order which the Carolina boys wish to evade. To do so they cook up this hocus-pocus. The President's order isn't an "order." It's a mere suggestion. Let's forget about it.

If they get away with it, the evidence is conclusive that the South is not only in control of the Congress, but it also has its fingers on the President's throat.

BROTHER (BOTTLENECK) WARREN

Incidentally, Brother Warren has a fight on his hands with the Army, which wants to audit its own accounts. It maintains that Warren's office has 14,956,027 unaudited vouchers on his desk.

Maybe if slow, fuss-budget Lindsay Warren would put his mind on his own job, it would not constitute a bottleneck in the war effort.

Soldier [redacted] Beaten and Given '00 Months in Jail

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

47

DEC 1943

The case of Private Rieves Bell, who was beaten by four white men in Starksville, Miss., because he would not take off his uniform, and who was sentenced to 3 and a half years in the state penitentiary by a Mississippi court, has been placed before Secretary of War Stimson by the Washington Bureau of the NAACP.

Private Bell, who was attached to a Quartermaster battalion at Fort Myles Standish, Mass., was on furlough and was visiting his parents in Starksville.

The record shows that on his first evening in town he was standing on the street corner chatting with two girls when four white men passed. One of them pushed Private Bell, but Bell said nothing. A second push was given him and he was asked, "Where did you get that uniform?"

Bell replied that Uncle Sam had given him the uniform, whereupon he was told, "Take off that soldier suit." Naturally Bell refused and a scuffle ensued in which one of the white boys claims to have been cut by the soldier.

Bell was arrested and jailed. Military police entered the case but did not take Bell into military custody, leaving him to the tender mercies of the Starksville authorities.

DEC 1943

Private Bell's commanding officer was notified of his predicament but still the military authorities did not take charge. An examination into the case was made by Truman K. Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, who told the NAACP there was some confusion about the notification to military authorities.

The next news was that of Bell's conviction and sentence to 3 and one-half years in prison.

Urban League Head Tells How War Is Breaking Race Barriers

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

DEC 31 1943

NEW YORK.—(ANP) — Beside viewing a sign of new interracial leadership and vision on the American post-war horizon, Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban league, reveals in the December issue of Survey Midmonthly the role played by his organization in marshalling the forces of Negro labor for America's war effort and the complex race relations techniques employed to break down pre-war industrial race barriers.

Intricate Problems

The article, "Techniques in Race Relations," pictures a few of the intricate problems faced by the Urban league in securing employment opportunities for colored people in war industries.

Stating that 1,500,000 colored people are now employed by such nationally-known firms as the Wright Aeronautical corporation, Bell Aircraft, Glenn L. Martin of Baltimore, North American Aviation of Kansas City, Consolidated and Brewster Aircraft and others, Granger declared that Negro labor has a "size 11 foot in the door of American industry."

DEC 31

While the present national picture is far from one of uninterrupted unity and inspired determination, the Urban league head pointed out that America can be said to have turned her face toward victory in a sense that was definitely untrue on Dec. 7 1941, by making use of all available labor resources.

The aircraft industry has decided to go all out for victory by abandoning its discriminatory employment policies and other industries have followed.

"In 1940 there were estimated to be approximately 5,500,000 Negro workers in this country," wrote Granger. "Today, nearly 2,500,000 of these are either employed in war industry, or serving in the armed forces at home and abroad. The transformation has not been easy or sudden. It has been the result of almost heartbreaking effort by Negro and white leadership."

Telephone Case

The case of the Southwestern Telephone company of Kansas City, Mo., was cited by Granger to picture the resistance of firms who opposed the integration of Negroes in industry. This firm refused to accept a war contract containing a stipulation against racial discrimination in employment and received the support of Controller Gen. Warren who ruled that the President's Executive Order 9346 was not mandatory.

After an outburst of public indignation, the President issued a clearly worded statement upholding his Fair Employment Practice committee and declared that the non-discrimination clause was mandatory and must be included in every war contract as a part of governmental policy.

Granger referred to the speech made by A. Philip Randolph on the floor of the American Federation of Labor convention, calling for abolition of racial discrimination in AFL unions, as he charged that Negroes' employment skill is still hampered by hidden or evert management resistance as well as by the discriminatory policies of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron, Shipbuilders and Helpers of America and the International Association of Machinists. Even where Negro labor is presently employed in war industry, this has seriously affected their psychology.

"Negroes got mad when they couldn't find jobs and stayed mad even after they got the jobs," said Granger in quoting a reporter. "They are still mad to the point of affecting their attitudes on the job."

Notwithstanding the fact that the Urban league, with the cooperation of federal agencies, has been able to break down employment race barriers in Atlanta, Little Rock, Kansas City, Mo., Baltimore, Buffalo, Chicago and other industrial centers throughout the country, the post-war place of Negro labor will depend upon the labor requirements of industry, as well as upon the measure of adaptation that has been accomplished by Negro and white workers in their relationships with each other on war jobs, Granger declared.

Cadets In Southern College By 'Mistake'

Journal and Guide

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Three colored cadets, sent to the Army specialization school at the College of William and Mary, through mistake, have been sent to the University of Illinois, from where they will be assigned to another institution for their training, according to Col. F. J. Agee, attached to the Army Specialized Training Division in Washington, D. C. They reported to the college on July 23.

College and Army officials stated that the three cadets Eugene Simmons of Newark, N. J.; Vernon Graves of Milan, Tenn., and Brice Miles of Trenton, N. J., were not refused admittance because of color.

Norfolk, Virginia

However, these same officials revealed that it was the declared policy of the United States Army, through an understanding with Southern colleges, not to send Negro cadets for specialized training in institutions where the instruction of white and colored persons was prohibited by law.

Both college president, Dr. J. E. Pomfret, and commanding officer of the specialized training program at William and Mary, Major McGinn, concurred, in separate statements, that no question of color was involved in the cases of the three men.

ERROR OF ARMY

Major McGuinn said the affair "was an error in the Army. The men were misdirected or misplaced." The three colored cadets were pre-medical students, the major said, and the training at William and Mary does not provide for such students.

"White students," added the colonel, "are frequently misdirected to William and Mary." In the group with the three cadets were 20 white students who were also sent elsewhere, he said.

PRESIDENT TALKS

President Pomfret released the following statement:

"The men (the three colored cadets) were erroneously assigned to the college. The understanding is that Negro soldiers are not to be sent to southern institutions for specialized training where state laws prohibit their training with whites.

"The soldiers had not enrolled—only assembled—since enrollment does not begin until August 9: therefore, class instruction at the college was not refused."

The college head said further his position is that as president of the college, he must comply with the laws of the state.

The cadets who left the historic center of learning on July 27, four days after their arrival, were the first Negro students to be sent there for enrollment.

THE CADETS' BACKGROUND

Cadet Simmons is a graduate of West Virginia State College. He was inducted at Fort Hoga, Columbus, Ohio, and assigned to the Tuskegee Air Force in Alabama in which he served as radio operator after ten weeks training at Fort Monmouth, N. J., in the Coobe School.

Cadet Graves is a graduate of Lane College, Jackson, Tenn. He was inducted at Fort Dix, N. J. and assigned to the Tuskegee Air Force where he specialized in radio maintenance and worked in the communications department. He is a graduate of the School of Radio Technician and Telegraphy in New York.

Cadet Miles is a graduate of Princess Anne College, Md., and well known Philadelphia organist. He was inducted at Fort Meade, Md., and assigned to the Tuskegee Air Force where he served nine months in radio communication, after ten weeks training at Fort Monmouth, N. J.

These cadets were transferred with the 332nd Fighter Group, 302nd Fighter Squadron, to Selfridge Field, Mich. After successfully passing the Army specialization training program examination, they were transferred to Michigan State College, East Lansing, where they were classified for specialized training in the medical or veterinary fields.

A Second Look

By J. SAUNDERS REDDING

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

PERHAPS I CAUGHT the wrong men. Perhaps it was just my luck to approach only hungry men, or tired men, or lonely men a long way from home. Perhaps I talked only to the chronic malcontents, the men who with all sorts of privileges and pie in any situation whatsoever would still be soreheads. Perhaps. But I talked individually to close to five hundred Negro soldiers, sailors and marines in the period of eight weeks ending with September 8th. I talked with them in camps and USO Clubs. I talked with them on trains and ferries and buses; in the streets and parks and in hotel lobbies. I hitch-hiked them.

MR. REDDING

Once I was driving north out of Richmond along the pleasant boulevard that is route I near the edge of the city when I brought my car to a stop at the urgent tooting of a whistle blown by a red-faced fireman who stood squarely in the road. Standing on the pavement in front of the fire engine house were a dozen white soldiers. It seems that the firemen had set up a hitch-hiking service for service men, a kind of traveler's aid bureau, and I was stopped by the redfaced fireman to see if I would carry some of the men north in my car.

It was then that I saw the Negro soldier plodding along a couple of hundred feet ahead of me. He kept looking back, and I knew he wanted to go somewhere too. "Sure," I said to the fireman, "I'll take three of 'em back there." "Why don't you take another one up on the front seat?" he said. "Because," I answered, "That colored soldier down the road is going to ride up here with me."

Three white soldiers climbed into the back seat, and a few seconds later I overhauled the colored soldier and picked him up.

"THEY WOULDN'T LET ME"

"Why didn't you stand back there with the rest of them?" I asked him, just as we took the left turn out of Richmond.

"They wouldn't let me," he answered.

"Who wouldn't let you? It says 'Service Men's Depot' or something, and you're a service man," I said.

"They wouldn't let me just the same. I was standing there and there was that feller out in the road stopping cars, and pretty soon another feller comes out of the engine house and he comes up to me and says, 'This ain't for you, boy.' And I went on away."

After that, the colored soldier and I talked pleasantly all the way to Washington, but the white soldiers didn't say a word.

But, as I was saying, maybe I caught the wrong guys, and that was why of the nearly five hundred I talked to only one was happy about his military life. I asked all of them the same questions: how do you like the Army? (or the Navy, or the Marine Corps) the uniformity of their answers was amazing. It was this: "The hell with it!" What's the matter with it? was my next question.

A WIDE OPEN ANSWER

The answer to this was wide open, but most of them started by saying that Negroes in the Army (or the Navy, or the Marine Corps) didn't have a chance, that there was [illegible] much prejudice, and then they went on to give particulars. A lot of them complained about their southern officers who seem to have a love of addressing the men, "Hey, you G—D . . . Niggers." (This surprised me, for I thought there was something to the old cliche about "an officer and a gentleman."

It was my notion that one had to be a gentleman before one could become an officer.) One soldier told me that the Negro Px in his camp closed at six in the evening and that the white Px stayed open until nine. He also told me that the only way Negro soldiers in the camp could get certain things, which are generally standard stock in Px's, was to get a white soldier to get it from the white Px, "and then sometimes you pay double."

COMPARED TO BEING IN JAIL

Some compared being in the Army to being in jail, and they preferred jail. "Yes, even a Georgia [illegible]," one told me. Some complained that they didn't get weekend leaves and furloughs. Most complained (and among them all the commissioned officers and several above the rank of corporal) that they were not treated like soldiers, but like flunkies in uniform.

A few complained that though white boys were getting officers' training and being sent to Negro outfits, colored boys were told that the officers' quota was filled. A few complained that the Army didn't know what to do with intelligent Negro soldiers, and that the Army was afraid of brains in a Negro.

My next question was, "Aren't you glad to be fighting for your country?" But so many of them answered, "I'd rather be fighting for myself" that I changed the question to this: "Aren't you glad to be fighting for democracy?" But the answer to this, too, I found was standard. It was: "If I'm going to fight and die for democracy, I'd just as soon fight and die for it right here."

499 WRONG GUYS

But, as I say, maybe I talked to the wrong men. Maybe I didn't pick them right. You might pick—anybody might—four hundred and ninety-nine wrong guys out of several thousand.

47d-1943

This Happened at Utah Army Camp--A Letter from a Negro

SEP 7 1943

Daily Worker New York
N.Y.

By Eugene Gordon

Persons who wonder at the discontent or unhappiness of Negro troops may find an answer in the letters these men write. One such letter, addressed to an uncle back home and forwarded to the Daily Worker, describes the soldier's feelings and the feelings of other Negro enlisted men going to meet fascism on the battlefield.

Members of a Negro outfit, scheduled for overseas duty temporarily encamped at Kearns, Utah, sought to eat in the post exchange. They were told to get to hell out. No Negroes allowed! When they entered the post theatre they were ordered to sit on the "colored" side.

They didn't get out of the post exchange, and dire threats with clubs and guns didn't budge them. They didn't sit on the "colored" side in the theatre, so the officer in charge ordered them to leave. They refused. He called in white soldiers (quoting the letter) "with machine guns, rifles, grenades, etc., while we had not even rocks."

This ruse failed, whereupon the officer demanded of "the mob" (as he characterized the Negro troops) what it wanted. "We explained what 'this mob' wanted—how we couldn't eat in any place in Salt Lake City; how we received the worst of the food, equipment and housing facilities. He didn't like our explanations. . . . They picked up about 10 fellows to send to the guardhouse, but the entire company (about 160 men) were going to follow their buddies there. . . . There were too many for the guardhouse, so he let them go. He was angry as hell."

These soldiers, on the day following their defiance of jim crow, "were questioned by a board of officers" on the reason for their misbehavior. "The officers all agreed that there was no charge to hold us on, so they recommended our immediate release." "The men were not released, however, for three days." Says the letter:

"On the third day our squadron commander visited us at the guardhouse. His name was Captain Hill. Quite a fair-minded fellow. Although a Southerner, he would fight for us Negroes. And because he fought our internment, the post commander relieved him of his command over us. That shows the attitude of our post commander — Colonel Converse R. Lewis was his name.

"That wasn't the end of it, though. After about three days we were released from the guardhouse. I should be in the radio school at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., but I (and nearly 1,500 others) have been shipped to humble trade schools."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Many Negro Engineers Are Serving in His Seventh Army

DEC 1 1943

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— Question has arisen in the minds of many Negroes here as to the kind of treatment that has been accorded Negroes serving with the seventh army as a result of the disclosure that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton had slapped a shell-shocked private in the face in a base hospital somewhere in Sicily.

The reprimand that has since been given to Gen. Patton, popularly known as "Old Blood and Guts," by his superior, Gen. Eisenhower, was backed up by Secretary of War Stimson at his press conference, one of the largest in recent months.

But in spite of the apology that Patton is quoted as having made before the soldier and persons who witnessed the incident, as well as before other men of the division, few people are willing to dismiss the matter just that fast.

Serving under Gen. Patton are many Negro engineers and member of the quartermaster corps. It is not recalled that Gen. Patton has ever commended them for performance. The questions turn upon the point that if his disposition was such that he would lose control of himself sufficiently to permit the striking of a white private, what provocation would he have needed to strike a Negro

Further, if his temperament leans to the brutality side, some ask, "what lengths does he permits his subordinate officers to go in maintaining discipline?"

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Groups Seek to End Armed Forces' Bias

NOV 27 1943

President Urged to Lift Ban Against Colored Women in WAVES, SPARS

10 POINT PROGRAM ADOPTED, PASSED

45,000 Commissioned Officers for 1,000,000 Men Now in Service

CHICAGO — A ten-point resolution which called for the outlawing of segregation and discrimination in the U.S. armed forces was unanimously passed by two groups meeting Sunday in the Metropolitan Community Church.

The groups were the Chicago Citizens' Committee of One Thousand and the National Negro

Council. Both called upon the president to issue an Executive order ending armed forces jim crow and the exclusion of colored women from th WAVES, SPARS and as nurses in the army and navy.

In order to end the war quickly and to establish justice on the home front, the groups went on record as demanding the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

The resolution demanded that the President, as Commander in Chief of the army and navy:

1. Issue a general overall, executive order prohibiting the War Department from its present undemocratic policy of segregating and discriminating against a million colored soldiers by denying colored men combat service and relegating them to engineer labor and miscellaneous divisions exclusively in the Pacific and other overseas service.

2. The army lift its quota of 202 colored nurses and provide equal training and just representations to colored women in this service.

3. Secretary of the Navy Knox now be ordered to admit colored women as WAVES and SPARS in the United States Navy.

J. C. Transportation

4. Segregation on army posts and in transportation be abolished for the duration.

5. Discontinuance of the demoralizing army practice of training a limited number of colored combat troops for a few months, only to summarily and without warning over and over again to disintegrate and break them up into new units, denying to them the right to fight.

6. Utilization of 500,000 single colored illiterates before drafting pre Pearl Harbor fathers for non-combat service and provision for primary education.

More Officers

7. Provision for one tenth of colored soldiers as commissioned colored privates and subordinate officers.

8. Equal rights at every level and commissions for colored soldiers and marines in the U.S. Navy.

9. Punishment of members of the armed services in uniform only by military authorities.

Right to Vote

10. Protection of Civil Rights of colored soldiers regardless of race, creed or color, North or South or abroad.

Another resolution demanded defeat of the Lucas-Green Soldiers' Vote Bill unless perfected to protect the rights of colored soldiers to cast a ballot in the Southern poll tax States.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Private Levy Is Freed, Moved To Southern Camp

NOV 19 1943

Fight To Have Staff Sergeant Stripes Restored

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Pvt. Alton Levy, former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers union, AFL, court-martialed for opposing army jim-crow, was freed Friday at 1 a. m., after serving less than three months of his four month sentence at hard labor, the Workers Defense league announced. He is now on his way to a southern army camp.

The fight to restore Pvt. Levy to his original rank of staff sergeant will be continued as part of a campaign against army jim crow, according to statements issued by Samuel Wolchok, president, United Retail, wholesale and Department Store employes, CIO ,and by Morris Milgram, secretary, and Nathaniel M. Minkoff, discrimination committee chairman, of the Workers Defense league, which led the campaign to free Levy.

The release was hailed by Mr. Milgram and Mr. Minkoff in behalf of the league as "a great victory for American democracy. This shows the power of the thousands of letters that deluged the White House, the power of the liberal, labor, Negro and religious press which championed his cause, the power of truth and justice."

The War Department declared that Levy's sentence had been shortened for good behavior. Previously Brig. Gen. Early E. W. Duncan of the Lincoln Army Air base had told the press that Levy certainly would have to serve his termite its end. Dec. 16.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

War Dept. Again Bars Mixed Unit

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Reaffirming its stubbornly maintained position that it will not retreat from a policy of segregation in the armed forces, the War Department, in a letter under date of September 4, to Walter White, NAACP secretary, declared that "The suggestion contained in your letter (of July 14) for the formation of mixed units has been considered at various times by the War Department and the decision reached that such action would be inadvisable."

The letter was signed by John J. McCloy, acting secretary of war.

Mr. White, in releasing the above information, revealed also that recently he had visited McCloy and thanked him on behalf of Negroes for the establishment of non-segregated training for Negro bombardiers, pilots, and navigators, and had at that time expressed the hope that after they had received this training in mixed units, Negro aviators would be permitted to fight in mixed units. The negative answer recorded above is Mr. McCloy's reply.

Friction Among Troops Revealed

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 2 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP)—From confidential sources which the Associated Negro Press has every reason to believe competent and reliable, and which the Associated Negro Press will not reveal, the following account of the American Negro soldiers in England has been secretly received.

"The conditions over here are getting like those in the States. White officers are doing a fair job in convincing British people about race problems. Most Negro troops are gradually being moved out and away from the cities to isolated camps. White MP's are usually placed in these vicinities and intimidate Negro soldiers as well as the girls who are seen with them.

"Last week, there were at least two riots over here. Another one on July 1 and the last of May. During the last of May, two Negroes were reported killed, more wounded and a white officer wounded. Had an awful time throughout the night. One Negro officer practically took charge of the camp. He collected about 800 rifles in two days. Started when a white MP shot a Negro soldier.

FIGHTS BREAK OUT

"Last week, one started when fights broke out between Negro and white soldiers in a small city in northern England when white soldiers are reported to have resented British girls being with Negro soldiers. In a southern England city, there were a number of fights which started when a white lieutenant made remarks about some 'Nigger soldiers and merchant men' who were passing. The soldiers resented it. A riot was prevented by some of the few Negro MP's who came up to rescue the officer. Yet an MP sergeant (white) at the time insulted a Negro officer who had tried to quiet the soldiers. At MP headquarters, the Negro officer said that he was insulted by the provost officer (white) in front of the other MP's, who were enlisted men, and arrested as being drunk. The coolness of the four Negro lieutenants, the colored MP's and the colored American Red Cross personnel prevented a probable riot during the night.

"Riots are much more frequent than the press can publish. The troops break into the gun rooms and get their rifles and ammunition to protect themselves often. If something is not done by the U. S. Army soon, I would not be surprised to see a major battle between Negro and white American soldiers. It seems that some top people want southern U. S. A. transferred over here. Even Mr. Bondy from the American Red Cross is over here trying to find reasons for moving the colored clubs (clubs staffed by Negroes) out of certain cities, because it is said that certain people must be satisfied. One of them is Mr. Gibson, the American Red Cross commissioner in Great Britain. One of his excuses is that he understood that the Negro personnel were too highly skilled in their jobs.

BLAME OFFICERS

SEP 2 1943

"White officers are behind most of the trouble. They have even canvassed communities, telling the residents and business people not to serve or associate with the Negroes (whom they command and get their promotions off). The few Negro officers are treated as bad by their fellow officers. There are some fair minded officers, but they are not permitted to do much because they are not promoted and are shifted in many instances from place to place.

"Have seen a couple of colonels who were very good, but their executive [illegible] ar[illegible]en aod slip things over. The Negro soldier is doing a job. All he wants is to be treated like a soldier. Negro soldiers want Negro officers. Their conduct on a whole is excellent.

"If you can convin[illegible] white officer that each Negro soldier wants to get home to his colored wife or friend, you cna do a good job. These boys are not excited by the white girls even though they are sought out by the girls in many cases. And the whole thing seems to hinge on the friendship of the Negro and the white girl. Many soldiers are in a new low frame of mind, and if they were not real soldiers, I am convinced that the enemy would be trying to work on them. However, it is possible that the enemy is helping these riots to break out since the tension is so great.

"The American Negro soldier is often fined his entire salary or more for the smallest infraction. Oftimes they must travel 20 miles to another town to have a little fun. The Negro Red Cross worker is being resented because the soldirs look up to them for leadership. Also the American Red Cross workers are not wearing bandana handkerchiefs. The U. S. Army is to blame for most of the trouble not the fifth column. The officers won't give the fifth column a chance."

'Sweaty Hands' Claim Barred Our Women From War Plant Work

NOV 13 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON—When representhatives of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice convinced officials of a large Eastern war plant that their reason for rejection of Negro women as employees had no factual basis, the company relaxed its barriers and has made great steps toward eliminating a labor shortage, a report filed with the committee in Washington, D. C., revealed this week.

Will Maslow, FEPC director of field operations, said that Negro girls have ben hired by the company and found quite satisfactory since the company issued strict instructions to all its supervisory and personnel staff to eliminate any considerations of race, religion or nationality in employment.

The matter was referred to the committee by the United States Employment Service after a check had disclosed that all Negro girls referred to [illegible] firm had been rejected. O[illegible] two-month period 500 white girls were [illegible]red to the company of whom 300 were hired. During the same period however, of 100 Negro girls referred, all of whom met the same basic standards, none was hired.

SWEATY HANDS CLAIMED

Investigation brought from the management the explanation that the jobs required handling of small mechanisms and that the Negroes were rejected because they "all had 'sweaty' hands." It was found that the "test" for "sweaty hands" was superficial and questionable as to its validity.

When these findings were presented to the management at later confere[illegible] officials of the campany admitted the po[illegible]ity of error in the original belief and promptly moved to correct practices which might in any way violate the principles of the Executive Orders 8802 and 9346. As a result, a number of Negroes was accepted.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iow

SEAMEN'S WIVES WARNED AGAINST WAAMMS

SEP 23 1943

New York (ANP)—The women's auxiliary of the National Maritime union last week warned seamen's wives against the newly organized women's auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, [illegible] which bars Negroes from its membership - although Negroes constitute 20 per cent of the men at sea today.

"The formation of the WAAMMS has led to confusion in the minds of the wives and families of NMU members," said Mrs. Terry Riggs Penman, national director of the women's auxiliary of the NMU. "From what the women's auxiliary has been able to learn of the WAAMS through attendance [illegible] two meetings and a conference with one of its sponsors, it impresses us as a thoroughly undemocratic, unrepresentative and mysterious body, which should be shunned by the wives of all seamen."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Colored WACs Denied Share in Canada Trip

SEP 24 1943

FORT DES MOINES, Ia.—Reports that only white WACs were chosen, Saturday a week ago, for a trip to Canada as guests of the Canadian Government, with all expenses paid, have not been confirmed by the War Department.

Stories are current here that orders came from Washington that 200 white WACs were to be chosen, since the Canadian Government would consider it a faux pas if any colored were in the party.

WACs, longest on the post with good records, were selected. Many colored qualified. None was chosen.

SERGEANT, WHOSE COURAGE SAVED OTHERS, HONORED

FORT McCLELLAN, Ala.—First Sgt. Theodore R. Roach of Cleveland, Ohio, received the Legion of Merit Medal and was cited by the War Department because of an act of courage which possibly saved the lives of several soldiers when he refused to give an outcry after being hit as he led a group under a blanket of machine gun fire.

Sioux Falls Color Bar Assailed

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 3 1943

ST. PAUL, Minn. — (ANP) — Charges that soldiers stationed at the army air force technical training command at Sioux Falls, S. D., are addressed as [illegible] and "boy" by superior officers, denied service in restaurants and hotels, barred from USO centers and otherwise discriminated against were made in a report last week by the Rev. Clarence T. R. Nelson, pastor of Camphor Memorial Methodist church, to the regular monthly meeting of the local branch NAACP.

Rev. Nelson who is also president of the St. Paul branch NAACP, recently returned from the South Dakota city where he made a two-day investigation of soldier's complaints at the invitation of friendly whites "who wanted to do something about the unfavorable conditions faced by Negro soldiers in the Sioux Falls community."

Although there are four Negro instructors at the air base, the minister said Negro soldiers are not being given technical training, but are used as "flunkies and menials."

Barred In Pool

The largest meeting of the year sat stolidly in the H[illegible] Q. Brown Community house while Rev. Nelson delivered his bitter report that revealed evidence to indicate that Col. Cote, commanding officer, had demanded of white business men and public officials that Negro soldiers be discriminated against.

"When a white captain went out to the Drake Springs, municipally owned swimming pool, and saw several Negro soldiers and white civilians there he complained to the supervisor in charge who paid no attention to the protest," said Rev. Nelson.

"The enraged officer then went to the chief of police with his complaint, declaring that such would cause a riot. The chief of police and the mayor held a conference with the air base authorities and the mayor issued an order prohibiting the Negroes from using [illegible] city-owned swim[illegible] pool."

Rev. Nelson said that Negro sergeants cannot give orders to white privates who have been told by camp authorities they do not have to take orders from superiors in rank if they happen to be Negroes.

47d-1943

No Negro Nurses Are Wanted

Journal and Guide

60,000 Needed By Army, Navy But Quota "Filled"

Norfolk, Virginia

NEW YORK — The Army and Navy desperately needs an additional 60,000 nurses this year, and in New York City alone there are 2,000 nurses, fully trained, qualified and registered, whom neither service will accept. They are Negroes.

Adhering to its traditional policy of withholding officer rank from Negro Americans, the Navy will accept no Negro nurses at all.

Quota Filled

Miss Carolyn E. Dillon, a registered nurse of New York City, applied for enrollment in the Army Nurse Corps. The following is the partial text of the reply she received from Lt. Col. Ida W. Danielson, assistant superintendent of the Nurse Corps:

"I am directed by the Surgeon General to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5 October and to inform you that your application for enrollment in the Army Nurse Corps cannot be given favorable consideration at this time because the quota of colored nurses required by the Corps has been filled."

To colored applicants for the vacant posts the Army has advised that its quota of Negroes has been filled.

That quota is 160 Negro nurses.

ABOLITION OF QUOTA SYSTEM URGED

The Joint Committee of Nurses, representing New York's 2,000 qualified members of the nursing profession, last week urged immediate abolition of the quota system following an appeal for more nurses by Col. Florence M. Blanchfield, superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps.

According to Mrs. Alvenia Feaster, chairman of the committee, such a discriminatory policy gives comfort to the enemy and is a gamble with the lives of our fighting men. "When one of our men falls wounded on the battlefield he does not care if black or white hands administer the nursing care necessary to save his life," she declared.

Write Them Now

If you agree that the restricted quota of 160 Negro nurses is undemocratic and un-American, a gamble with the lives of our fighting men, and wholly inconsistent with our war aims, write immediately to your Senator and Congressman and tell them so.

Also write: Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D. C.

Col. Florence M. Blanchfield, superintendent, Army Nurse Corps, Washington, D.C.

Commenting on a Red Cross meeting for nurses held on Thursday night of last week at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Miss Lillian Holland, one of the three colored nurses now serving at the New York Welfare dispensary, said: "It was especially heart-breaking if you listened to those speeches and knew that your application had already been refused because you were a Negro."

FOLLOW "PATTERNS OF CIVILIAN LIFE"

Appeals sent to Gen. Norman J. Kirk and Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle of the National Nursing Council for War Services brought this reply from the War Department:

"In restricting and segregating Negro nursing enlistments, the Army was only following the traditional patterns of civilian life."

In reply to this explanation, Mrs. Riddle pointed out: "The pattern of civilian life indicates thousands of instances where Negro and white nurses work in close cooperation. They are working together at Henry street, at the National Nursing Council for War Services, at the Welfare dispensary and the City Health Department.

"Negro and white nurses work side by side at Harlem and Lincoln Hospitals, at Bronx and Montifiori and dozens of small private hospitals."

RECRUITED THROUGH SOUTHERN CAMPS

Meanwhile, it was pointed out that all of the 160 Negro Army nurses are recruited through Southern segregated camps and Negro nurses are authorized for assignment to only those stations where Negro soldiers are stationed, and according to the policy by the War Department Planning Board.

Hastie Claims Bias In Levy's Conviction

Daily World

—Atlanta, Georgia—

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to Sec'y of War Henry L. Stimson, and dean of law at Howard university last week cited two "particularly disturbing" disclosures which "create a strong implication of prejudice and bias" in the court-martial and conviction of Alton Levy, white, now serving four months at hard labor at the Lincoln, Neb., army air base.

Hastie, who resigned from the war department in protest against Negro discrimination, declared:

"First I can think of no proper circumstances which could have led the court, after stating before adjournment Saturday, Aug. 14, that the charges against Levy had not been proved, to decide on Monday, Aug. 16, after the week-end recess, that he was guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

"Second: It was well known to the post command that the rumors which Levy is alleged to have repeated had been circulated around the camp for months even before Levy came to that station. In such circumstances, it is disturbing that Levy was singled out for punishment.

"Such facts must and do create a strong implication of prejudice and bias in the trial and conviction of Alton Levy."

Hastie's statement came on the eve of a meeting of labor leaders at Freedom house in New York, called to map further action in Levy's behalf. The meeting, organized by David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU, Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employes union, CIO, and A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car porters, AFL, was held on Wednesday.

Reports from Lincoln quote the commanding officer of the base as saying that former International Ladies Garment Workers union, AFL, organizer, will not be granted the usual parole.

"Those reports," said Morris Milgram, executive secretary of the Workers Defense league, "confirm our charge that Levy is being held as a hostage in an attempt to impose silence on those who have taken up the fight for him."

Indicating that Levy had no part in the protests made in the case Milgram said investigators who had visited the base were told that the soldier, convicted of circulating "false statements" about treatment of Negroes at the base and "slanderous" rumors about the commanding officer, would be released Nov. 6, "if the agitation stops."

Sen. Wagner Joins Fight For Airing of Levy Case

PM

New York, N. Y.

JAMES A. WECHSLER

PM's National Editor

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—Sen. Robert F. Wagner (D., N. Y.) today pledged his aid to the drive for a full-fledged airing of the court-martial and conviction of Pvt. Alton Levy, former union organizer now serving four months at hard labor at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base.

In a telegram to David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, Wagner voiced his "deep interest" in the case and promised to "do my utmost to be of assistance."

Levy was found guilty in August of circulating "false statements" about alleged mistreatment of Negroes at the Lincoln base and of repeating "slanderous" comments about the commanding officer there. He was demoted from sergeant to private. Dubinsky, whose union employed Levy prior to his entrance into the Army, last week urged Wagner to intervene, pointing out that "wide accounts of the case accentuate the angle of prejudice toward Levy because of his trade union connections and strong sentiments against Negro discrimination."

Wagner's reply said:

"I am deeply interested and will do my utmost to be of assistance."

The New York Senator's entrance into the case followed a disclosure that the presiding officer at Levy's courtmartial, speaking for the court, had expressed belief that Levy was innocent just 48 hours before the verdict of guilty was

Victor Reuther, assistant director of the War Policy Committee of the United Auto Workers, CIO, also spoke out today for Levy, declaring:

"In our war for democracy we cannot afford to allow reactionary forces inside the Army to persecute men of courage who speak out against race discrimination. Vindication of Alton Levy should be the first step toward eliminating Jim Crow from the armed services."

Leon Despres, Chicago attorney who investigated the case at the request of Levy's father, was expected here today in an effort to lay his findings before high officials. In his initial report, he asserted that "an outstanding legal error was committed" when the court martial found Levy guilty after the presiding officer declared the evidence was inadequate.

Meanwhile, the War Dept. had still failed to reply to a series of questions on the Levy case submitted by PM Sept. 29. A spokesman for the Department has said that the answers are being prepared. Among the questions were these:

¶ Has any inquiry been made with regard to the treatment of Negro soldiers at this base to determine whether statements attributed to Levy were true?

¶ Did the issue of the treatment of Negro soldiers at the base figure in the proceedings and, if so, was any testimony obtained from the Negroes themselves?

VFW Denounces Army Court Martial Policy

Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

CHICAGO — (ANP) — A strongly worded resolution

was directed last week to the tional encampment in New tional ncampment in New York by the Charles L. Hunt

Post, No. 2024, roundly scoring the army court martial policy and segregation and discrimination practiced by the army command and civilians against colored soldiers.

Calling the recent court martial of Col. William Coleman, former commander of Selfridge Field, Michigan, "outrageous" and a "travesty upon justice" the resolution said that "millions of Americans are concerned with the type of leadership in our army if high ranking officers could indulge in drunkenness while on duty, especially if intoxication were to be used as an excuse for the wanton shooting of a private soldier. For his crime of shooting Pvt Willie McRae, Coleman was merely reduced to the rank of a captain.

OCT 29 1943 New York, N. Y.

Real Issue Is Jim-Crow in Army

Daily Worker

By Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

Racial discrimination in the armed forces, particularly jim-crow mistreatment of Negro soldiers, has become one of the principal home front issues of the war, retarding the full mobilization of all our forces for a quick victory and impairing the morale of Negro and other anti-fascist citizens.

It is claimed in certain circles that the Alton Levy case symbolizes this issue. But the full facts on this case are not known and judgment on its merits must be withheld until facts have been made fully available to the public. Moreover, from the character of some of the forces which have rushed to Levy's defense and have taken over full charge of his case—among them the Trotzkyist-led Workers' Defense League—there is a danger that the case will be exploited, not against jim-crowism, but against the war effort, and therefore against the best interests of the Negro people. The Trotzkyites, the Dubinsky clique and the Norman Thomas "socialists" are notorious enemies of our war against Hitlerism. It is clear that many patriotic anti-fascists, Negro and white, have become interested in the Levy case.

But regardless of the facts in the Levy case, one thing is clear: there is widespread segregation and discrimination in the armed forces against Negro soldiers and that is the real issue. Negro troops are not given equal opportunities to fight as free and equal American citizens, and in countless cases atrocities are permitted against them even to the point of downright Scottsboro frame-ups by poll tax officials in the South. They are denied equal access to transportation facilities to and from army camps; they are denied equal recreational facilities; they are denied equal opportunities of advancement. Worst of all, only a paltry few of them are in combat duty, although they, along with their fellow white soldiers, are, by their experience against fascist-like oppression, a tremendous force for opening the Second Front against Hitler.

DEMORALIZING FORCE

The continuation of jim-crowism in the armed forces of our country is a shame and a blot upon our nation before the whole world. When our boys entered Italy, it dramatized the fact that the American army must be a liberation army. It cannot play this role effectively if within our ranks Hitlerite theories are tolerated and enforced. This is demoralizing not alone to Negro citizens but to whites as well, tens of thousands of whom are trade unionists accustomed to work side by side with Negroes in democratic equality. It is apparent too that the present mistreatment of Negro soldiers is having a profound effect upon the morale of the Negro population as a whole, who, together with colored peoples all over the world, wonder at the sincerity of our nation's war aims.

The disgraceful and humiliating status of Negro soldiers in the armed forces must be ended. All racial discrimination must be wiped out, not only as a matter of constitutional right, but as military necessity for winning the war as rapidly as possible. The way to fight this evil is not in the armed forces. There, it is the patriotic duty of all soldiers to meet the military discipline and regulations laid down by the Commander-in-Chief, a duty which they have been fulfilling with understanding and great credit under enormous provocations.

The job of wiping out discrimination in the armed forces falls upon the civilian population, Negro and white, working together with labor and all other anti-fascist sections of the population in the interest of victory both abroad and at home. It means defeating the domestic fascists and poll taxers, whose anti-Negro, anti-Semitic and anti-labor activities would disrupt our country from within.

Attorney General Biddle should be compelled to defend the constitutional rights of Negro citizens within the armed forces and to prosecute any fascist-minded individuals or groups who refuse to respect the uniform of the United States. President Roosevelt should be called upon to appoint a special committee to investigate racial discrimination in the armed forces.

Meanwhile, labor, the Negro people and the broadest sections of the patriotic citizenry should rally around the program of the National Negro Congress, worked out at its recent Cleveland Conference, to end jim-crow in the armed forces now as an integral part of the fight for an early victory.

From the Readers

PM New York, N. Y.

Army Discrimination

Dear Editor:

PM is to be commended for its active participation in the Alton Levy case. Both in its news items and its editorial opinion, PM has shown that the function of a newspaper is not merely to select and report news, but also to carry on a campaign for the integration of our country's democratic ideals into society.

The case of Alton Levy is basically a legal test of the discriminatory practices of the Army in training. Levy openly in officer's meetings made charges of the discrimination practiced against Negroes in camp. Levy's charges were never investigated, but instead he was court-martialed for making them.

This case has a natural tie-up with the Winfred Lynn case, which is a test of the legality of the Jim-Crow induction of Negro soldiers. The 1940 Draft Act, Section 4A, reads: "In the selection and training of men under this Act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this Act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color."

Winfred Lynn is at present in Camp Beale, Cal., and he has brought a "habeas corpus" action against the Army authorities on the ground that he was illegally inducted in the Army. In the brief argued before the U. S. District Court on Dec. 12, 1942, the lawyers for Lynn argued, among other points, that:

¶ The Selective Service Act does not provide for classification by race.

¶ Segregation is discrimination.

¶ Military and industrial efficiency is injured by segregation and discrimination.

¶ A race quota violates the spirit of conscription.

A National Citizens' Committee for Winfred Lynn has been formed and its function is to raise the finances for the case and to popularize the issue among the people. A new brief has been filed in the Circuit Court of Appeals and the case will be heard there in the latter part of November.

We of the committee feel that nothing is more needed today than an uncompromising stand by our own government on the question of democracy. No people's war can be fought with an army raised and maintained on the principle of segregation.

Wilfred H. Kerr.
New York *Co-Chairman*

The War Dept., for self-protection, is probably justified in its attempt to play down the court-martial of Sgt. Alton Levy who, like American veterans who fought on the Loyalist side in Spain, is probably guilty of "premature anti-fascism."

After more than a year's service in the Army, in various posts, I can also testify that in no area where I have served were Negro soldiers treated with the respect due them as soldiers wearing the uniform of the U. S. A.

Needed: An Army orientation course that teaches Americans to live together in a democratic manner in an alleged democratic nation. A course to offset the anti-democratic, anti-Semitic and anti-Negro propaganda spread within the U. S. A. by certain officers and enlisted men—deliberately.

Tinker Field, Okla. "Sad Sack"

Labor Leaders Call Meeting To Study Levy Court-Martial

PM
New York, N. Y.

By Arnold Beichman
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

BOSTON, Oct. 9—David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, announced today that they are jointly sponsoring a meeting of New York labor leaders on Oct. 20 to take up the case of Sgt. Alton Levy, court-martialed by the Army at Lincoln, Neb. Levy, former organizer for the ILGWU, was convicted of making false statements about the treatment of Negroes at the Air Base there.

Dubinsky on Thursday asked Sens. Wagner and Mead to demand an investigation of Levy's conviction and sentence to four months of hard labor.

In addition, the session, which will be held at Freedom House in New York City, will consider the case of Winifred Lynn, a Negro inductee who is suing the War Dept. for its alleged violation of Sec. 4-A of the Selective Service Act which bars discrimination in the selection of inductees on the basis of race, religion, color or creed.

Dubinsky said that major consideration would also be given to a proposal for making a permanent agency out of the Fair Employment Practice Committee so that it can function in the postwar period.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

Did Not Leave Levy - NAACP

OCT 5 1943

Never Entered, Group Asserts

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The NAACP refuted this week the Associated Negro Press release which stated that the NAACP had withdrawn from the case of Sergeant Alton Levy.

"This is incorrect in two respects," the NAACP wire to all Negro weeklies read. "The NAACP has never formally entered the case and could not therefore have withdrawn. In fact the NAACP still has the case of Sgt. Levy under investigation."

Levy, a white soldier, court martialed and serving four months, said in letters to friends that he was being penalized because he protested the treatment of Negro soldiers at a camp near Lincoln, Nebraska.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

A JEW PROTESTED—JAILED

SEP 24 1943

According to a story released by the Workers' Defense League of New York and given wide publicity in many weekly and some daily papers, Alton Levy, a Jew, is now serving a four-months sentence at "hard labor" because he, as a soldier, protested the ill treatment of Negro soldiers stationed at his his camp.

Levy was tried by a special court martial, reduced from sergeant to the ranks, in addition to being sentenced for four months at hard labor. Based upon our information, regarding this case, we STRONGLY protest this injustice to Sergeant 'Alton. It looks to us as if the action on the part of the military court in this case was to put fear in the hearts of any who might venture to raise their voices against the mistreatment of Negroes in the armed services. It may be that because Levy 'Alton, was a Jew, and being also a member of a persecuted race, it was easy for racial prejudice to play its part in the affair. Therefore, we are wont to ask —when did it become a crime for one of a different race to protest injustices against other races, even in the armed forces of the United States?

47d-1943

Witnesses Testify That Bias Shown Negro Aids Axis

SEP 22 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Two "breaks" in the united front, and the confidence in certain responsible quarters that others may follow, were evident immediately Saturday following the conclusion of four days' testimony before the Fair Employment Practices committee inquiring into allegations that 22 railroads and 14 labor unions had shown discrimination on the basis of color and national origin in their employment policies and practices.

The first of these appeared on Friday when the Union Pacific railroad, charged with refusing to hire Negroes, Mexicans or American citizens of Mexican descent in certain shops and job classifications, entered a statement through its counsel, F. E. Baukhages. "The summary of complaints of which we are advised by the committee counsel (Bartley C. Crum, special counsel) suggested the existence of conditions not recognizable within the employment policy of the U. P. railroad," the statement opened. It concluded with this:

"Since, however, the hearings have developed specific instances of alleged discrimination, we have obtained from the committee counsel the details of the alleged specific instances. These we will fully investigate with a view toward the speedy correction of any situation inconsistent with the company's policy."

Thanking counsel for the U. P., Crum declared that it was just the type of thing that might have been expected from a company headed by "a man of William Jeffers' reputation as a public servant," and in his opinion represented a "notable contribution" to the purposes of the executive order.

N. Y. WILLING TO TALK

On Saturday, F. B. Wheeler, general attorney for the New York Central railroad, on authority of L. W. Horning, vice-president in charge of personnel, entered this statement in behalf of the company:

"The New York Central is willing to sit down at any time with members of this committee to discuss this matter to see if there is some solution."

Wheeler's remarks were prefaced by those of Crum who recalled in his opening statement that he had set as the objective of the hearings, a determination of the facts, and the evolvement of a solution, and further that any "suggestions from the carriers' toward the attainment of this goal would be welcomed at any time during the hearing. The Central's statement was in line with this invitation.

Privately, it is understood, counsel for the carriers at the conclusion of the hearing were showing a greater disposition to approach the problem with a view toward working out a solution than at the outset. They had been accused of sitting down and permitting the proceedings to go on without benefit of comment from themselves.

Sidney S. Alderman, representing the Southern Railway company, but speaking for the group of companies represented, disclaimed this as the position of the carriers. He said that they had avoided putting "obstructions" in the way of the cases, for which they were criticized. He thanked the committee for the courtesies that had been shown, and expressed his personal view that the hearings had been "kept on a very high plane," and himself looked to a solution of the problem.

LABOR NOT REPRESENTED

At no time in the proceedings were the labor unions represented, although it is known that observers for several of the brotherhoods were among those attending. On Saturday, however, A. R. O'Brien, identified with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, against the preponderance of the union charges had been levelled, was given permission to say for the record that he was present as an observer but could make no further representations. He asked for and was allowed until four days "after the hearing" to file what he called a "statement of position" for the brotherhood.

Among those railroads which filed answers to the bill of particulars which had been sent to them on Sept. 3 by the committee, that of the Norfolk and Western Railway company appeared to be saying with greatest clarity what evidently was in the minds of the others. The company had been charged, among other things, with refusing to fill vacancies as firemen with what are called "non-promotable men." Flatly counsel told the committee that "non-promotable men means Negroes."

Later Mr. Rivinus said, in answer to invitation to make a statement if he chose, that he preferred not. "We simply present the bold fact which we regard as completely responsible to and pertinent to the subject of the complaint. We offer no comment and we make no justification," he concluded.

PROPAGANDA [illegible]

Outside of the discussion of the specific charges involved, perhaps some of the most striking contributions to the hearing were made by the expert witnesses who testified that the treatment being accorded minority groups in the United States is being made the subject of short-wave broadcasts to South America, Africa, the far east and "even to the folks at home," for the purpose of spreading disunity.

Clyde R. Miller, associate professor education, Columbia university, and a co-founder in 1937 of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis, was the first of the two witnesses. He took the stand on the opening day, was shown sample broadcasts which had been made available to the committee's counsel by the intelligence division of the Federal Communications commission, which he identified as "typical."

"Japanese and German propagandist exploitation of feeling of racial superiority and racial inferiority is extraordinarily effective, almost immediately effective, dynamic and dangerous," Mr. Miller declared. "One of the strongest weapons in the hands of Hitler—and American propagandists consciously or unconsciously following the Hitler pattern—is exploitation of what anthropologists call the 'myth of racial superiority."

JAP DOCUMENT READ

On Friday afternoon, Otto D. Tolischus, journalist and lecturer, and for years the New York Times correspondent in Tokyo and in Berlin. read portions of a document called the "Way of Subjects" used by the Japanese Ministry of Education for the guidance of educational as well as the propaganda system of Japan. This pamphlet forth, he said, the thesis that the white man is oppressing and exploiting the all-colored races, and that Japan is fighting the white man as the champion of the colorde races.

Mr. Cum offered in evidence excerpts from the broadcasts which Mr. Miller had been shown. Some of them he read to the committee, others he told in summary form because of their "inflammatory content."

The Germans, he testified, use the material in a "triple-barreled" manner. First, he said, the Nazis point to American treatment of Negroes as supporting evidence that Americans themselves believe in Nazi theories about racial superiority. Second, they use the Negro question as indications of "discontent and possible revolutionary elements" here. The third argument, contrary to the first two, he said, insist that Negro ideas and folkways have become a part of American civilization sufficiently to "Negrofy" it, to coin a word. Jazz was the illustration given.

HAAS THANKS CONFEREES

Only four members, including the chairman, were present when the hearings concluded, Miss Sara Southall, Samuel Zemurray and and Boris Shishkin having left to keep other appointments. Mgr. Francis J. Haas announced at the conclusion that the committee was appreciative of the effort made by both sides, and that the evidence would be taken under consideration, and action in accordance with the executive order would ultimately be taken.

Section five of the order gives the committee the authority to "conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination." Section seven says the committee, in the performance of its functions and exercises of powers, may utilize such state officials (meaning government officials) "and agencies and in such manner as it may determine."

The conclusions being reached have it that the committee may pursue one or more of the following courses:

1. Present their findings to the railroads and secretly negotiate a solution.

2. Permit the railroads to reply to the findings, and then make public the findings followed by directives to the companies to do thus and so.

3. Submit the findings to the President along with recommendations as to what should be done to win compliance.

There is the feeling among one element here that the committee may not define its "authority" until it has had time to determine "what strength" it has been able to develop out of the hearings. Whatever is done, it is expected that two or three weeks at least will have elapsed before any move is made.

WMC, FEPC To Put Agreement Into Practice

Daily World

SEP 9 1943

Single Item Had Held Up Working For Over Year

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Procedures to be followed by the Fair Employment Practice committee and the War Manpower commission in line with the agreement reached by the two agencies in fighting discrimination in industry, have finally been worked out, it has been learned, and will go into effect shortly.

The single item which caused so much controversy and which has hung fire for more than a year, the famous C-45 bulletin, has now been adjusted to the point where responsibility will be divided but at the same time the objective of the President's anti-discrimination order will be achieved.

C-45, issued by the United States Employment service, a sub-agency of WMC, provided that if an emlpyoer placed an order for workers which carried discriminatory specifications, the USES was to first attempt to convert the employer to the acceptance of whatever labor is available, but if unsuccessful, to go ahead and fill the order according to the specifications.

The procedure that has been worked out now follows much the same pattern except that, when the employer has refused to change his specifications, the USES will send whatever workers are available, including Negroes. The employer will then be put in the position of refusing to accept the Negroes, thereby creating a case of discrimination.

The workers referred will then be able to file a complaint with the FEPC, and the USWS is required to file a form in which they will set forth the circumstances of the order and referrals. The employer, in the course of time, will be called upon to give explanation of his hiring policy.

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

HAIL NEW FEPC

AUG 28 1943

WASHINGTON, D. [illegible] To set up machinery for making FEPC a permanent agency to deal with discrimination problems in the post-war period, a conference is called by the Save the Fair Employment Practice Committee at 12th st. YMCA on Sept. 13.

The conference follows a meeting celebrating the re-consitution of FEPC and rescheduling of the railroad hearings, Sunday, September 12, at 2:30 p.m., at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church. 1630 Vermont Ave. N. W. The celebration is sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Provisional Committee for the Organization of Colcred Locomotive Firemen. Senator William Spangler, N. Dakota will be the guest speaker. Other speakers scheduled are: A. Philip Randolph, President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Provisional Committee, Dr. Lawrence Erwin, Nat'l Executive Board Member, March on Washington Movement. Atty. Thurman T. Dodson, Chairman Local "March on Washington" Movement, B. F. McLaurin, Int'l Field Organizer, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

AUG 28 1943

FEPC Fights Ouster of Coast Ship Workers

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

DEC 4 1943

Protection Sought for Group That Shunned Jim-Crow Auxiliary

WASHINGTON

The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee on Monday took action to prevent discharge of several hundred employees of the Marinship Corporation shipyard at Sausalito, Cal., for refusing to pay dues to a jim-crow auxiliary of the AF of L Boilermakers' Union.

In wires to both company and union officials on Monday, the FEPC asked that action be withheld pending issuance of the committee's findings on its recent West Coast hearings.

The Boilermakers' Union bars colored workers from membership in its regular lodges, but insists that they pay dues to Auxiliary Local 41, set up under jurisdiction of Subordinate Lodge No. 6, or be discharged from their jobs.

Requirement New

A conference of union officials, management representatives and FEPC affiliates, at which the dispute was to be discussed, was scheduled for Monday.

The telegram from FEPC headquarters called attention to the fact that colored workers have been allowed to remain in jobs at the shipyard without belonging to the jim-crow auxiliary throughout the past year, and asked that such a condition be restored for the sake of maximum production.

It was also pointed out that testimony at recent hearings revealed dissatisfaction with the system of enforced membership in jim-crow auxiliaries throughout the West Coast area, and even some doubt among white union members as to whether the practice conforms to true trade union principles.

FEPC Lays Groundwork For Rail Job Hearings

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 29 1943

Southern Roads Must Answer For Their Color Bias

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Barring an 11th hour-about-face, the Fair Employment Practice committee will raise the curtain here on its delayed-action hearings into the railroad industry on Sept. 15, with repeat performance on the 16 and 17.

Of all the hearings that have been conducted in the two year existence of the committee, none has succeeded so well in being the cause of celebre of the masses and at the same time the bane of the top-hat pressure boy's such as the one now about to take place.

It is the purpose of this series to discuss the subject in such a manner as to afford some understanding of the factors involved, and their broad implications. Indeed, this is no ordinary hearing. Was it not twice postponed and later the rock that wrecked the original committee?

HELD TEN JOBS

When the average person thinks of the Negro as a railroad worker, his first thought is of the redcap who carried his bag or the sleeping carporter who made down his berth or the waiter who brought him his meals. While redcaps, pullman porters and dining car waiters are the primary classifications of Negro railway workers, they are not the only ones. As late as 1924 there were at least 10 other major jobs held by Negroes.

Exact figures on the employment of Negroes past and present have never been complete or even adequate except possibly the estimate made in 1937 by the Railroad Retirement board, which claimed that of the 1,957,688 persons engaged in rail transportation, 180,535 were Negroes. There is no breakdown to show the distribution of these workers. The bulk, however, are common laborers and assorted types of porters.

WORTH THE EFFORT

Even among the men whose efforts precipitated the demand for a hearing into the industry, the firemen and brakemen, there is little agreement on estimates. The figure varies anywhere from 1,200 to 6,000 workers, depending upon the source of information.

Nevertheless, while the actual number of the jobs involved is uncertain, there is little doubt as to the worthiness of the effort to determine whether or not there has been discrimination in certain job classifications based upon race, creed or color, all with an eye to eliminating this discrimination.

Before touching on the complaints that have been filed and which are the bases for the hearing, everyone ought to have a smattering of knowledge at least of what the employment situation was 40 or 50 years ago and right down to the present. Highpoints are adequate.

ONCE IN MAJORITY

In this, the day of the diesel engine, those who handle the powerhouse of our modern streamliners are almost in the class of white-collar workers compared to the character of the job years ago. Then, locomotive engines sped down the right-of-way only because a man was in it shoveling coal for all he was worth—which wasn't much as wages will bear out.

This type of work was hard, hot and dirty. A fireman had to shovel from 12 to 15 tons of coal any day on a regular run. The jobs of brakeman and switchman also were no desirable types of work. Naturally, it being below the dignity of the white man, Negroes were used largely in these tasks.

At one time—and this was before and including the period of World War I—Negroes were in the majority on southern lines as firemen, switchmen and brakemen. Ninety percent of the firemen were said to be colored at one time on the Seaboard Air line, Atlantic Coast line, Georgia railroad, Louisville and Nashville, and the Southern Railway company.

PICTURE CHANGES

Switchmen and brakemen were in relatively the same position. In the Florence, S. C., yard of the Atlantic Coast line, all switching was done by Negroes; today there are hardly any. Terminal yards in Houston once had 85 percent Negro switchmen; today there are about 15 percent.

The bureau of labor statistics of the department of labor got up some figures in 1924 to show that throughout the United States, Negroes were engaged in the railroad industry to this extent in the seven major categories:

Laborers 95,7[illegible]; Porters [illegible] in and pullman 20,224; Firemen 6,478; Brakemen 4,485; Switchmen and flagmen 2,874; Boiler washers 2,377; Foreman and overseers 1,195.

Others were in baggage, and freighting, conductors, engineers, inspectors, telegraphers, and telephone and telegraph linesmen.

A study made by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Dr. Ira De A. Reid and Dr. Preston Valian for the period 1925-36 showed there to be 1243 Negro firemen throughout the country which is quite a contrast to the labor department figure. Whatever the case might be, the number is shrinking—and rapidly.

The coming of the diesel engine has given impetus to the drive.

In 1909 the Georgia railroad replaced 10 white hostelers with Negroes at a reduced rate of pay. This antagonized the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen—in which Negroes were barred from membership—and they called a strike. The effect was to crystalize the sentiment among white railroad men to eliminate the Negro as a competitor. Two years later, another strike took place on the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific railroad, and 10 firemen were killed with many injured. The strike was provoked by the hiring of Negroes for the first time.

Gradually a campaign of intimidation developed that began to reduce the ranks of Negro firemen, switchmen and brakemen. The trend was accelerated by the change to war work where better salaries were to be had.

But those who were to remain behind decided to organize and to fight the fight. The first organization of Negro railway workers, the colored Locomotive Firemen's association, was formed in Georgia in 1902 or 1903. In May, 1915, the Railway Men's International Benevolent and Industrial association was organized in Chicago for the purpose of forming "one big union." Robert L. Maye headed it.

AUG 29 1943

FEPC Set for Rail Hearing in DC Next Week

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Six Basic Complaints Against 23 Railroads and 14 Unions

PROMOTION CLAUSE MAIN GRIEVANCE

Wage Differentials, Five-Day Rule Also Cited as Unfair

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color lodged against twenty-three railroads and fourteen labor unions, will be examined by the Fair Employment Practice Committee at public hearings to be held here September 15-18.

The hearings will be held at the departmental auditorium, Department of Labor, Twelfth and Constitution Avenue, Northwest.

Promotable Clause

Chief among the practices coming under scrutiny of the committee is that of considering colored railroad workers "ni'n-promotables." This is alleged to have railroad workers "non-promota- of agreements between union and railroad which set certain restrictions on the percentage of colored workers which may be employed in a stipulated category.

At the same time, all wage contracts carry what is known as a "promotable clause." One agreement between a union and Southeastern rail companies said that "all new runs and all vacancies shall be filled by promotable men," thus eliminating all colored workers.

SEP 11 1943

Wage Differentials

Another of the six basic complaints is wage differentials which are existent particularly on the Louisiana and Alabama Railway Company.

SEP 11 1943

For five classes of service among firemen on the L. and A., whites get an average of $5.78 per diem, colored get $3.83. For brakemen, five services, whites get $6.44, colored, $4.09.

5-Day Rule

The five-day rule, although not listed on the colored firemen's schedules, has caused many of them on the Illinois Central system to be thrown out of work, and hence is another source of grievance.

This rule provides that when a furloughed fireman desires to retain his seniority rights, he must within five days file his address and telephone number in writing with the officer notifying him of the furlough and furnish the local chairman a copy of the notice.

No Upgrading

On three or four railroads in the north, waiters are objecting because they cannot become stewards. There are complaints elsewhere that colored men may not proceed automatically from the ranks of trainmen on some railroads into the ranks of conductor.

Colored employees are complaining too that in the shops in which a number of them find employment, they are not given the privilege of being upgraded. And still others are peeved because they cannot hold any of the clerical jobs with the carriers.

COAST WATCHES FEPC BOILERMAKERS' HEARINGS

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

LOS ANGELES—The entire Pacific Coast is watching the coming FEPC Boilermakers' hearings to be held next Monday and Tuesday in Portland and the following Friday and Saturday in this city. The paramount issue of whether Auxiliary unions shall continue to exist for Negroes in this AFL body will be of vital importance to thousands of persons employed in the various shipyards from the Northwest to Southern California where the Auxiliary set-up exists. Added interest in the controversy has since come with the recent dictum by Federal Comptroller General Lindsey Warren, that the FEPC does not have the power to enforce non-discriminatory practices.

47d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

N.Y. State Tells War Plants How to Hire Colored Workers

JAN 9 - 1943

JAN 9 - 1943 **By ARNOLD BEICHMAN**

The New York State Committee on Discrimination in Employment, which enforces State laws against biased hiring policies, today issued a pamphlet advising management on the most efficient methods for bringing colored workers into war industries.

The committee is part of the New York State War Council and is headed by State Industrial Commissioner Frieda Miller. Labor, management, and the public are represented in this group.

The pamphlet, prepared by Prof. John A. Davis, of Lincoln University, ex-assistant secretary of the committee, is a frankly written, practical handbook. It doesn't minimize the fact that, even where a company adopts a nondiscriminatory hiring program, rank-and-file workers may react unfavorably.

The contents, according to the committee, are based on the accumulated experience of many war plants, including, Ford, Bell Aircraft, Grumman, Republic Steel, Wright, Winchester Arms and others.

JAN 9 - 1943

Where to Get Copies

JAN 9 - 1943

Copies of the pamphlet can be obtained from Commissioner Miller, 80 Centre Street.

The pamphlet, divided into six sections, deals with:

Selection, introduction, and placement of the colored worker.

Methods for overcoming the resistance of the white worker to the employment of colored persons.

The role of the labor union in meeting this problem.

Shove Negroes In Cargo Hold, Oiler Charges

N.Y. "Amsterdam"

Whites Fraternized Freely Despite Bad Morale Conditions

STAR NEWS.
New York, N.Y.
JAN 2 - 1943

"Negro soldiers are quartered aft, Jim'd in the C deck cargo hold, but white soldiers, even Southerners, fraternize freely with them."

This paragraph, lifted from a story which appeared in the current issue of the Pilot, official publication of the National Maritime Union of America, served to highlight anew the rigid segregation policy of the United States Army.

According to the Pilot, the story was written by Ed Silver, professional writer, former employee of U. S. Treasury Department. He is just back from Casablanca. He kept a log—just for the fun of it, and it is this log, published in full in the Pilot that tells a revealing story.

Shipped as Oiler

JAN 2 - 1943

Part of the log reads:

Oct. 5-Nov. 1 — Went to work Monday, Oct. 5. Signed the ship's articles on Tuesday, Oct. 6. Lay there for three weeks with rumors about departure arising every other day. Said goodbye to Natalie a dozen times, but the final farewell came on Saturday, Oct. 31. Although I was not at all certain our crew passes would not be renewed."

Ed went to sea shortly after his graduation from New York University in 1926 when he shipped out as an oiler on the Guantanamo of the Ward Line. He later made a trip on the El Estare of the Southern Line. So, in returning to the sea, rather than sticking to his "essential war" job in the United States, he was going back to his early love.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, Silver wrote in his log: Troops are streaming on the boat—troops from everywhere—North, East, South, West. A large contingent of Colored troops is quartered aft. On the C and D decks. (These boys weren't taking any chances. Had their life preservers on a half hour after being ferried to the ship, even though they were still tied to the dock.)

It was on Thursday, Nov. 5, that he entered the notation quoted at the beginning of this story. The day's entry began: Thursday, Nov. 5. Tandom notes: The ship's swimming pool is the soldiers' latrine. The first-class dining salon is the messhall where the boys file through practically all day and eat standing up.

JAN 2 - 1943

"Negro soldiers are quartered aft, Jim Crow'd in the C deck cargo hold, but white soldiers, even Southerners, fraternize freely with them."

Damaging to Morale

The full story in excellent reading, but the reports disclosing the treatment of Colored soldiers under official policy as they move closer into the actual fighting zone, is most damaging to the morale of soldiers still in the camps at home as well as civilians who are constantly being besought to made additional sacrifices in a fight for a free world.

Fact that white troops ignored the implication of the jim crow arrangement and fraternized with the Negro troops seem to prove that the soldiers themselves, white and black could and would solve their own problems without much difficulty were it not for the sinister practices that prevent them from working, playing and fighting together.

"We can never make any substantial improvement in our race relations in this country," said the Rev. John H. Johnson, distinguished Episcopal minister," as long as Jim Crowism remains a national policy."

Chicago Defender
Chicago. Illinois

L.A. DELEGATES PROTEST TO CHIEF AT BASE

Commander Orders Petty Officers To Change Attitudes To Men

JAN 2 1943

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

PORT HUENENME, Calif. —Jim Crow signs separating Negro and white sailors in training here were ordered taken down on Monday by Capt. R. N. Needham, base commander.

When informed of the signs by a committee representing the press, N.A.A.C.P. and the Los Angeles Ministerial Alliance, Commander Needham, who is new at the base here, was very cooperative in investigating and acting to help break down the smouldering feeling of resentment in the camp.

The committee consisted of this writer, Herman Hill, and the Rev. A. Wendell Ross, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist church and president of the Los Angeles Ministerial Alliance.

The report carried charges of "systematic employment of southern practices against the Negr sailors by segregative and discriminatory methods designed to insur white supremacy at the camp These charges heard from Negr sailors, who filtered into Los Angeles on leave, said that officer and petty officers "freely used th term 'nigger' in referring to them. White petty officers assumed "domineering attitude and me were being thrown into the bri because of expressing their resentment against these policies," i was charged.

Charges Denied

JAN 2 19

Lieut.-Com. J. P. McBean, Jr commander of the 4th battalion o Construction Battalion, known a the Seabees of which all of 120 Negro sailors here are member expressed surprise at most of th charges, and questioned the committee as to the identity of th men making the charges. Th committee refused to do this, explaining that some time ago whe a few Negro sailors aboard a shi had complained of treatment a the hands of their superiors an their names were published in paper, they were all subsequentl disciplined.

JAN 2 1943

McBean denied ever hearing an officer use other than courteou language toward any enlisted man He did admit, however, that sign segregating the men by race had been tacked in a number of places about the camp. He claimed that 80 per cent of the Negro sailors came from the deep south, and that a large percentage of the whites also came from the same section of the nation. He said the men from the south understood the separated status of the races in the south and preferred its maintainance.

These remarks were challenged by the Reverend Ross, member of the committee, who denied the Negro favored segregation. "I wouldn't attempt to break the law or the custom of the south, but I do, and every other sensible thinking Negro in this state does also, resent and challenge men of the south who come here to bring their southern system to California."

Morale Question

JAN 2 1943

The minister went on to point out the tremendous task that has befallen the Negro press and the pulpit to keep up the morale of the Negro in face of such attitudes which appear to be increasing rather than decreasing.

The committee closely questioned McBean on charges that Negro Seabees had been restricted to limited areas of a few blocks in the nearby city of Oxnard, and were being declared "out of bounds" by members of the shore patrol when found anywhere else. The officer denied any knowledge of this.

At the conclusion of the two-hour interview, Commander Needham told McBean to take down jim crow signs. The base commander informed McBean to address the officers and petty officers to refrain from addressing men under them other than by their name or as sailor. It is generally believed by the committee that conditions in the camp, now that Commander Needham has taken a hand, will greatly improve in the near future.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NEGRO LAWYER QUITS FAIR PRACTICE GROUP

Fight for Democracy Must Begin at Home, Stevens Asserts

JAN 18 1943

Harold A. Stevens, one of the two Negro attorneys for the President's committee on fair employment practice in its proposed hearings on complaints of discrimination against Negro firemen and brakemen on railroads, resigned yesterday in protest against an order by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, for indefinite postponement of the hearings.

Mr. Stevens charged in his letter of resignation that the order was "a blow to the Negro railroad workers who looked to your committee for some solution or adjustment of their problems for which courts refused to take jurisdiction and which other governmental agencies avoided" and was regrettable because of its wider implications.

"The order," he added, "is some evidence of a flagrant disregard by Mr. McNutt and the WMC of the problems and rights of minorities. It establishes a dangerous precedent and causes some speculation if principles are not being sacrificed because of political pressure.

"Certainly, unless effective action is undertaken immediately, the Negro railroad fireman and brakeman will soon be a thing of the past. The fight for democracy and justice, like charity, must begin at home."

JAN 18 1943

Mr. Stevens's resignation followed that of Henry Epstein, former Solicitor General of New York, as chief counsel for the committee in the railroad case.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Negro in War Industry

'42 Saw Jim Crow Walls Dented

The Negro people during 1942, assisted by the people's anti-fascist organizations, blasted the idea into hundreds of industrialists' heads that it was not the "usual" war but a people's war they were fighting and that usual habits could no longer prevail. Industrialists, however, continued to discriminate in the hiring of Negroes, both ingrained personal prejudices and the customs of their prejudiced class dictating policy.

When they were cornered, as they frequently were during 1942, by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee or by delegations of Negro citizens or groups of trade unionists, the industrialists or their spokesmen would protest that white workers wouldn't stay on the job if Negroes were hired.

HARD VICTORIES

The attitude the Negro people and their friends faced here was the normal or usual one. But the situation was not normal or usual. Unusual methods, therefore, were necessary in fighting this attitude. The National Negro Congress, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment, and other organizations, continued for a while to fight on the basis of the Negro's right, as a citizen in a democracy, to do the same work, at the same pay, as white ctiizens.

PARTIAL GAINS

The Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment's fight to get Negroes into decent jobs at the New York World's Fair in 1939 succeeded, in part, because placard-bearing Negro and white pickets in front of Grover Whalen's offices were too open a challenge to be ignored by "The World of Tomorrow." The public supported them. That same Committee's, the National Negro Congress' and the Harlem Labor Union's bitter struggle to place Negrose on buses was successful because the Fifth Avenue Coach Co. and the New York City Omnibus Corp. were losing about $3,000 daily through boycott by the Negro people.

The organizations that won those magnificent fights had a more difficult struggle than did the union of department store employes at Macy's, Bloomingdale and Hearns. The local in each of these stores demanded of management that Negroes be integrated in all phases of work, including sales at counters and clerical. The union argued that Negro boys in the service of these stores were going into Uncle Sam's service and that, preparing now to fight for democracy on the battlefield, they should be given a demonstration of it at home.

The three stores signed contracts with the union, promising to hire Negroes.

JAN 14 1943

The Communist Party, followed by the trade union movement, first projected the idea now being accepted by larger numbers of industrialists and by management in general—that the question of jobs for Negroes in war plants was not one of "justice" or of social reform but of winning the anti-fascist war.

War-contract holders who formerly had refused to hire Negroes now found their position considerably weaker. Their old arguments would no longer fit.

JAN 14 194

LEGISLATIVE AID

The people's loss of patience with prejudiced industrialists helped passage of laws in New York against discrimination by plants involved in war contracts. It backed up President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802 "reaffirming the policy of full participation in the defense program of all persons, regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, and directing certain action in furtherance of said policy." That "certain action" was the establishing of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice in the Office of Production Management. (The FEPC has since been removed to the Manpower Commission.)

The Negro people (through their organizations and their newspapers), the CIO trade unions (which, in turn, inspired the leadership of the AFL), and the Communist Party, provided the enlightenment which changed the attitude of some sections of management.

Management today is becoming so deeply interested in the question of integrating the Negro in war industries that it makes speeches and writes booklets about it. "The Negro Worker, An Analysis of Management's Experience and Opinion on the Employment and Integration of the Negro in Industry," is the latest contribution to management's understanding of this question. It is put out by the American Management Association, 330 W. 42nd St., New York City.

INDUSTRY LEARNING

JAN 14 1943

Has management, then, been convinced that the war we are fighting is not the usual war and that business as usual is out? A considerable portion of it has been so convinced, as is proved by this statement from management's "Negro Workers" booklet:

"Industry's pressing need for the services of able-bodied persons—irrespective of the color of their skin—effectively and happily removes the problem from the province of social reform, paternalism, or other sentimental considerations. It is no violation of the ideal of objectivity and freedom from sentiment to say that the advent of the Negro into the industrial picture on a larger scale is intimately tied up with our democratic system. . . ."

The fact that it is a belated discovery makes it none the less a welcome one.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

No Chance In Air School

1/15/43

Bledsoe Refused Chance to Train As Mechanic

KANSAS CITY, Kas.—(Special) —"Sorry, we didn't know you were colored," are the words which dismissed Raymond Bledsoe, 2028 N. Tremont, from a chance to work in aeronautics.

Bledsoe received a letter Wednesday from the Kansas City division of the American Aeronautical Institute, Inc., 2425 McGee Trfy., Kansas City, Mo.

The letter goes:

Dear Mr. Bledsoe:

There is such a serious shortage of skilled mechanics in the Aircraft Industry in Kansas City that some of the factories have asked us to locate persons who would be suitable with proper training to qualify for higher paid jobs.

You have been investigated and approved tentatively for such training if you are interested.

Please call HA. 5332 for appointment.

The letter was signed J. F Driesbach, personnel officer.

Bledsoe got his appointment and went to the office Wednesday afternoon, aglow with an opportunity in a field in which he is much interested. He told The Call that when he went in to see about the job the secretary in the outer office stepped into another office, came out a minute later and told him that it was not known that he was colored and "we haven't enrolled colored up to now."

Bledsoe, who is "airminded," was actually disappointed. He said he has always been interested in "that sort of thing." He now is employed at the Quartermaster depot, Independence and Hardesty.

The Call contacted the institute and was unable to reach Driesbach at press time. A reporter was told that the school did not enroll Negroes.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Equality Given Negroes In Call To Colors, Say

JAN 1 - 1943

OWI Says Registrants Being Chosen On Fair Percentage Basis; More than "Fair" In South

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Negroes are being inducted into the Army through Selective Service in the same proportion that Negro registrants bear to total registration, and Negro soldiers are now on active duty in most of the overseas theatres where other American troops are stationed, the Office of War Information announced today.

The OWI cited official records of the Bureau of Selective Service, War Manpower Commission, which reveal the following facts about Negroes in the armed services.

(1) Although Negroes constituted 9.8 percent of the total population in the last census, Negro selectees and volunteers constituted 10.1 percent of all persons inducted into the Army through Selective Service by October 31, 1942.

(2) In 9 out of 14 southern and border states, the percentage of Negroes inducted into the Army through Selective Service exceeded the percentage of Negroes registered in those states.

(3) During the 1940-41 period, Negroes constituted 16.1 percent of the total number of volunteers entering the Army through the Selective Service System.

OWI pointed out that there are Negro units in Great Britain, Ireland, North and West Africa (including Liberia), Australia, New Guinea, Hawaii, Alaska and the West Indies.

JAN 1 - 1943

Rumors that Negroes were not being inducted into the Army in comparable percentages have been circulated in various sections of the country, OWI declared.

Bureau of Selective Service statistics reveal that in the southern states on October 31, 1942, Negroes constituted 38.4 of all Selective Service inductions in Louisiana; 34.5 percent of all similar inductions in Florida, 34.5 percent in Alabama, 27.8 percent in North Carolina, 27.2 percent in Virginia, 19.4 percent in Texas, 19.1 in Maryland, 9.1 percent in Kentucky and 7.2 percent in West Virginia. In each of these states, the percentage of Negroes inducted exceeded the percentage of Negro registered under Selective Service.

In four states the percentage of Negro inductions either equalled the percentage of Negro registrations or closely approximated the proportion. Negroes constituted 44.2 percent of all Selective Service inductions in Mississippi, 34.0 percent of all similar inductions in South Carolina, 32.5 percent in Georgia, 21.3 percent in Arkansas and 18.5 percent in Tennessee.

Discussing the high percentage of Negro volunteers during the first year of Selective Service, the Director of that agency declared in an official report to President Roosevelt:

"One state with a large Negro opulation over a period of several onths filled every call made upon for Negro selectees by volunteers. n large sections of other states lso this has been true. The Ne- ro has availed himself as freely as ossible under the conditions to vol- nteer for service in the armed orces."

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

HASTIE QUITS WAR OFFICE

Felt He Was A Figure Head

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 — Judge William H. Hastie, handed his resignation to the War Department Saturday. It was reported that his action was caused by dissatisfaction with cooperation given him by the department.

It was known that the ex-Judge of the Virgin Island, had not received a response he awaited from a detail report of observations and recommendations and he felt he was only being used as a figurehead. Lack of action on the part of the department in certain complaints concerning Negro soldiers also irked him. He is expected to return to the Deanship of Howard University Law School.

JAN 2

47d-1943

ANP's Confidental Source Fears Riots As Officers Force Discrimination

SEP 2 1943

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

New York (ANP)—From confidential sources which the Associated Negro Press has every reason to believe competent and reliable, and which the Associated Negro Press will not reveal, the following account of the American Negro soldiers in England has been secretly received:

"The conditions over here are getting like those in the states. White officers are doing a fair job in convincing some British people about the race problem. Most Negro troops are gradually being moved out of and away from the cities to isolated camps. White MP's are usually placed in these vicinities and intimidate Negro soldiers as well as the girls who are seen with them.

"Last week, there were at least two riots over here. Another one on July 1 and the last of May. During the last of May, two Negroes were reported killed, more wounded and a white officer wounded. Had an awful time throughout the night. One Negro officer practically took charge of the camp. He collected about 600 rifles in two days. Started when a white MP shot a Negro soldier.

"Last week, one [illegible] when fights broke out between Negro and white soldiers in a small city in northern England when white soldiers are reported to have resented British girls being with Negro soldiers. In a southern England city, there were a number of fights which started when a white lieutenant made remarks about some 'Nigger soldiers and merchant men' who were passing. The soldiers resented it. A riot was prevented by some of the few Negro MP's who came up and rescued the officer. Yet an MP sergeant (white) at the same time insulted a Negro officer who had tried to quiet the soldiers. At MP headquarters, the Negro officer said that he was insulted by te provost officer (white) in front of the other MP's, who were enlisted men, and arrested as being drunk. The coolness of the four Negro lieutenants, the colored MP's and the colored American Red Cross personnel prevented a probable riot during the night.

Riots Frequent

"Riots are much more frequent than the press can publish. The troops break into the gun rooms and get their rifles and ammunition to protect themselves often. If something is not done by the U. S. Army soon, I would not be surprised to see a major battle between Negro and white American soldiers. It seems that some people want southern U. S. A. transferred over here. Even Mr. Bondy from the American Red Cross is over here trying to find reasons for moving the colored clubs (clubs staffed by Negroes) out of certain cities, because it is said that certain people must be satisfied. One of them is Mr. Gibson, the American Red Cross commissioner in Great Britain. One of his excuses is that he understood that the Negro personnel were too highly skilled in their jobs.

"White officers are back of most of the trouble. They have even canvassed communities, telling the residents and business people not to serve or associate with the Negroes (whom they command and get their promotions off.) The few Negro officers are treated as bad by their fellow officers. There are some fair minded officers, but they are not permitted to do much because they are not promoted and are shifted in many instances from place to place.

Want Negro Officers

"Have seen a couple of colonels who were very good, but their executive officers are rotten and slip many things over. The Negro soldier is doing a job. All he wants is to be treated like a soldier. Negro soldiers want Negro officers. Their conduct on a whole is excellent.

"If- you can convince the white officer that each Negro soldier wants to get home to his colored wife or friend, you can do a good job. These boys are not excited by the white girls even though they are sought out by the girls in many cases. And the whole thing seems to hinge on the friendship of the Negro and the white girl. Many soldiers are in a low frame of mind, and if they were not real soldiers, I am convinced that the enemy would be trying to work on them. However, it is possible, that the enemy is helping these riots to break out since the tension is so great.

"The American Negro soldier is often fined his entire salary or more for the smallest infraction. Oftimes they must travel 20 miles to another town to have a little fun. The Negro Red Cross worker is being resented because the soldiers look up to them for leadership. Also the American Red Cross workers are not wearing bandana handkerchiefs. The U. S. Army is to blame for most or the trouble not the fifth column. The officers won't give the fifth column a chance."

OCT 7 1943

Lawyer Reports Soldier Held Innocent, Then Convicted

PM
New York, N. Y.

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
PM's National Editor

OCT 7 1943

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—A new mystery today surrounded the court-martialing and conviction of Alton Levy with the disclosure that the Army court found him guilty 48 hours after the presiding officer, speaking for the court, had expressed the belief that Levy was innocent.

The unexplained reversal is cited in a report submitted to Levy's father by Leon Despres, Chicago attorney who investigated the case at the elder Levy's request. His findings were submitted to the Workers Defense League which made these facts available to PM.

In a letter accompanying the report Despres declares that "an outstanding legal error was committed when the court, after announcing it believed Levy innocent of the specifications, entered a finding of guilty two days later."

Four-Month Sentence

Levy, Bronx-born former organizer for the ILGWU (International Ladies Garment Workers Union), was convicted on three counts on Aug. 16 and sentenced to four months at hard labor at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base, where he was stationed. He was also stripped of his sergeant's stripes and demoted to a private.

According to Despres' report, the second of the three charges alleged that Levy "wilfully and maliciously" made "false statements" about the mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the Base. The other two counts accused him of circulating slanderous remarks about the commanding officer and his wife.

The American Civil Liberties Union, Freedom House, the American Labor Party and a number of other groups have protested the sentence, asserting that Levy was punished as a reprisal for his reported concern over handling of Negroes.

PM last Wednesday submitted a series of questions on the case to Adjutant-General James A. Ulio and a spokesman for the War Department said yesterday that a reply to these inquiries was being prepared.

Sequence of Events

The sequence of events in the closing days of Levy's court-martial is described this way in Despres' report:

"On Saturday, Aug. 14, the court reconvened and the president, Major Washington, said that the court believed Levy to be not guilty of the specifications as charged and asked whether he might be found guilty of a different offense.

"After receiving a negative answer, the court retired again. Everyone present congratulated Levy and he believed himself acquitted.

"On Monday the court again reconvened, over defense counsel's objection, recalled Miss Armstrong, a civilian, and then found Levy guilty of all specifications. Levy says that Miss Armstrong's oral testimony on Monday added nothing to her written statement which had previously been admitted into the record."

Rumors Rife

Despres, who conferred with officials at the Lincoln Base in the course of his inquiry, also said in his letter introducing the report that rumors such as those which Levy was convicted of circulating were rife throughout the camp. He said that he tested this out with soldiers he met near the Base and found that they quickly repeated the same gossip. In view of the wide currency of such rumors Despres asked in his letter:

"Why was Levy chosen to be court-martialed?

"Did the difference lie in Levy's background as a labor organizer and a champion of Negro rights?"

The Chicago attorney is coming to Washington next week in an effort to lay his defense of Levy before military and civilian officials.

Despres attached to his letter the text of the appeal which Levy made to the reviewing authorities after he was found guilty.

Statements Denied

In his appeal Levy again denied making the statements about the commanding officer and his wife attributed to him at the trial. With reference to his statements on the treatment of Negroes, he said:

". . . I did say the Negroes were mistreated. I did say only 40 were allowed passes each night. I did say that my training group, not the base, had about 200 Negro soldiers. But here's the strange thing: Although these are allegedly false statements, at no time did the prosecution attempt to prove or establish that they were false statements. Yet I was found guilty of this specification also.

"I submit that in the absence of any proof that these statements were false I should not, indeed, could not properly have been judged guilty.

'Slander' Answered

Answering the charge in the third specification that he had "wilfully and maliciously" slandered the military record of his commanding officer, Levy wrote:

"Specification No. 3, in that it attributes to me a flat direct positive statement is also untrue. Here again I admitted to having discussed the rumor with Miss Armstrong and Sgt. Bolton. But only as a rumor. We all three discussed it briefly and went on to other subjects.

"Significant here is the fact that Sgt. Bolton was originally listed as a witness against me. The prosecution refused to call him, so defense called him as a witness."

Levy said that Bolton's testimony showed that Levy, "far from spreading or lending credence to the rumor," had actually proposed that the camp paper take active steps to explode false reports.

Summing up his plea Levy pointed out that his past Army record was spotless.

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"I want to be able to continue with my plans for advancement in the service," he said. "With the black mark of a court-martial against me I cannot do so. I am aware that this is a lengthy communication. It is no exaggeration to say that upon the remarks contained herein hangs my future."

This is Levy's own version of the court-martial's abrupt reversal, as depicted in his appeal brief:

"On Saturday, Aug. 14, the second day of my trial, the court was declared open. The following announcement was made by the president of the court:

" 'The court does not believe that the accused is guilty of any of the specifications as drawn but desires to find out if he could be charged with an offense based on Exhibit C.' The answer of the trial judge-advocate was: 'It is the opinion of the prosecution that no further evidence has been introduced which would warrant any further charges.'

Counsel's Objection

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"The court then adjourned until Monday, Aug. 16, and returned a verdict of guilty on all counts. When it became clear that the court intended to reopen the case on Monday, my defense counsel objected on the grounds that since the court had openly announced its belief in my innocence, it could not validly reopen the case. He quoted an opinion of the judge-advocate general which held that, if the findings had been guilty reopening the case would be permissible but since the finding was not guilty, as stated in open court, reopening was not permissible.

"He was overruled.

"Nothing that Miss Armstrong said on Monday differed from her statement already accepted as evidence. Nothing was introduced that could possibly have changed the court's verdict of guilty. I believe the objection of my defense counsel should have been sustained."

Officially the War Dept. has taken the stand so far that since Levy's conviction was sustained by the Army Service Command no further review is possible. Levy's defenders, however, have urged President Roosevelt to exercise his authority as Commander in Chief to reopen the case.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON PARADE

By GLADSTONE WILLIAMS.

PSYCHIATRIC REJECTIONS WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Much of the present manpower muddle in relation to Army plans for drafting fathers may be attributed to two factors: (1) The work of the psychiatrists in rejecting an inordinate number of would-be selectees because of minor nervous conditions, and (2) the influence of various pressure groups in objecting to the use of Negro troops as labor battalions.

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Between these two factors lies much or most of the problem. But for them there would be less of a demand for drafting fathers.

Selective service officials complain that the psychiatrists are placing entirely too much emphasis on nervous disorders found in selectees. Whether this is the fault of the specialists as a professional group or the Army itself is not known, but the fact remains that a very considerable number of younger men are being turned down for Army service because of some slight nervous condition.

For the country at large, the number of such rejections made by the psychiatrists is running at about 23 per cent of the total acceptances. In the last war only 5.1 per cent of those coming under the draft were rejected for similar causes.

On the surface, it appears that the psychiatrists are leaning over backwards in an effort to avoid a repetition of the conditions which we found after the last war. Many or most of the veterans' benefit cases which the government had to support as a result of World War I casualties were attributed to "shell shock" or other forms of nervous disorder.

SEP 23 1943

MAY GO TOO FAR When we began building up the present Army under the selective service system the psychiatrists sought to eliminate that future load on the government by weeding out the nerve cases in the beginning. It was a scientific step in the right direction. The only trouble is, it is believed, that the psychiatrists are carrying the theory too far.

A common complaint heard among selective service officials is that the doctor specialists, who sit in at every induction center, are guided too much by theory and not enough by practical sense.

Some rather extraordinary cases are cited in proof of the charge. There is, for example, the case of a soldier who was turned down twice by the psychiatrists as unsuited for the nervous strain of combat service. He finally got in by appealing over their heads and has since been decorated twice for bravery in action.

Another case involved one of the psychiatrists themselves. After turning down a number of draftees as unfit for service, he finally got in the Army himself and in time was assigned to duty in the South Pacific. In his first combat experience he went completely to pieces. It fell to the lot of one of the men he had formerly rejected to bring him back safely from the front lines.

Selective service headquarters here has the record on both cases. Others they have are equally interesting.

FEW HAVE COMBAT EXPERIENCE One fault with the psychiatrists, officials here believe, is that too few of them have had combat service. Unofficial estimates are that not more than one in one hundred of those now assigned to induction centers has seen action under fire. The result is too much theory.

To correct this, informal proposals have been made for the assignment of a board of veterans at each induction center to pass on every case turned down by the psychiatrists. These veterans of the battle front, it is argued, would be more able to judge of a man's fitness for combat duty than a mere theorist.

As regards the colored troop situation, there are said to be some 500,000 of these lying around Army camps of the country doing little or nothing because they are not being used for actual combat service. Our overseas commanders do not want to use them for front-line operations, and various pressure groups, consisting of left-wing political organizations, object to them being used exclusively as labor battalions.

The pressure organizations have insisted that the colored troops be not used as labor outfits in excess of their ratio to the whites, which is roughly 10 per cent. Thus far they have been able to bring enough influence to bear, it is said, to prevent their use exclusively in labor battalions. They are supposed to be receiving just enough preliminary training to keep them occupied.

POLITICAL FEARS Because of the political implications of the question no one in congress thus far has seen fit to discuss the matter openly. It is expected to come out into the open in time, however.

If the colored troops could be employed in the manner in which our Army commanders think they are best suited for service, and if the psychiatrists were less finicky in their requirements for men free of any trace of nervous disorder, then the whole manpower problem would be greatly simplified. Much less of a demand would exist for drafting fathers.

CREAM ALREADY TAKEN In mitigation of the present muddle which the psychiatrists have contributed to, however, there is this much to be said. We are now scraping the bottom of the manpower barrel, and naturally the cream of the crop has already been skimmed off. It is to be expected that a larger number of rejections will appear now than in the beginning.

Still it seems possible to improve the situation by having the psychiatrists adopt a less stringent policy and dealing with the colored troop problem in a more practical way.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

WASHINGTON DAILY FLAYS ARMY OVER WAY NEGRO SOLDIERS ARE MISTREATED IN MANY SECTIONS

WASHINGTON. — In a forthright editorial statement, the Washington Post, leading capital daily, last week charged that the "humiliation" and "violence" visited against Negro soldiers by both white soldiers and civilians, and the consigning of colored troopers to an 'inferior status" is "one more manifestation of a dangerous disregard of democratic values which has been carried over from civilian life into the armed services."

SEP 15 1943

Declaring it the inescapable duty to the army to "promote among its enlisted personnel a decent regard for the rights and feelings" of Negroes in the service, the Post suggested launching of educational programs among whites to afford a "greater knowledge of the Negro's contribution to the war effort, of his legitimate aspirations. They simply cannot effectively wage a united nations war with color prejudices in their minds."

Continuing the widely read daily stated:

"Efforts must be made at the same time to make Negroes feel that their contribution is appreciated. They have shared in some of the toughest fighting of this war. They are entitled to hope that this world struggle for human liberation will open up to them richer opportunities for advancement and education than they have hitherto enjoyed. They can scarcely be expected to give full devotion to the democratic cause unless it affords some recognition of their legitimate aspirations.

SEP 15 1943

"Any such program of education obviously must be accompanied by a firm insistence on the part of the army that Negro rights be respected by men in uniform and civilian alike. There are many ways in which any intelligent camp commander can act to erase the causes of friction between white and colored troops.

"He can see to it, if Negroes are segregated, that adequate recreational facilities are available to them, not only inside the camp but also in the community near which the camp is located. He can act to secure reasonable transportation service for his colored soldiers in places where jim crow traditions prevail. And, above all, he can insist that civilians show respect to the uniform his men wear, whatever the color of their skins. Officers should not be placed in command of Negro troops unless they have a sympathy for them and a willingness to safeguard their rights.

"It is not part of the army's business, to be sure, to remedy all the defects of American life. But is a part of the admy's business to set an example of devotion to democratic principles. And it is high time now for the army to do this in regard to its Negro soldiers."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

250 Seamen Jim-Crowed in Seattle

NOV 13 1943

SEATTLE, Wash. — Two hundred seamen, fresh from training at Great Lakes, Ill., have been housed in segregated barracks at the U.S. Naval Air Station here.

At first there were separate tables and separate lines in the mess hall, but these were reported abandoned following protests.

The men were assigned to do mess duties, barracks detail and work in the assembly repair department.

Object to Mess Duties

Some of the seamen [illegible] like working in [illegible] mess hall [illegible], according to "The Blue Jacket Manual," it is one of the seamen's principal duties, regardless of race.

The stewards and mess attendants serve officers only.

47d-1943

Baptist Clergy Endorses Action Of Chaplain Fuller

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Local Baptist clergymen on Monday "went to the bat" for Chaplain L. M. Fuller, who was court martialled recently and who is awaiting the sentence of the trial body.

In identically worded resolutions to President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Stimson, the clergymen, through the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Philadelphia and Vicinity, condemned the treatment of Chaplain Fuller and requested that colored chaplains be "given the same and equal opportunities for rank promotion as given to chaplains of other races."

The action of the chief of Army chaplains, Gen. William R. Arnold, in first trying to dismiss Chaplain Fuller without a hearing and then attempting to persuade the Ecclesiastical Endorsement Committee to withdraw its endorsement, so that he might be discharged without a hearing, was criticized.

The Conference endorsed "Chaplain Fuller's courageous stand in exposing the unrighteous and un-American brutality and abuses shown Negro soldiers in America and abroad."

OCT 2 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Levy Released

NEW YORK—Pvt. Alton Levy, white, court-martialed for opposing army jim crow at the Lincoln (Neb.) air base, was freed Friday after serving less than three months of his four-month sentence at hard labor.

The Public Relations Office at the base said he had been released because he had earned time off for good behavior.

NOV 20 1943

Seeks Vindication

Leon Depres of Chicago, Levy's attorney, said he would continue his efforts to obtain complete vindication for the soldier.

"We should like to obtain for Levy not only vindication, but restoration to his rank of sergeant and reimbursement of lost pay," he said.

CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH JIM-CROW IN ARMED FORCES LAUNCHED BY NNC

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept 26 — The National Executive Board meeting of the National Negro Congress here today adopted a six-point program to eliminate jim-crow in the Armed forces, called for the speedy termination of the war by the immediate opening of a Second Front in Western Europe and launched a national campaign to defeat the enemies of the Negro people in the 1944 elections. The program outlined to abolish discrimination in every branch of the fighting services embodied in the report of Edward E. Strong Executive Secretary of the Congress, and unanimously supported by the more than 70 Board mmebers and visitors present, called for:

1. Issuance of an Executive Order by the President to abolish jim-crow in every branch of the fighting services.
2. Introduction of a Congressional bill to outlaw discrimination in the Army, Navy and Air Corps.
3. Establishment of a National Committee to Abolish jim-crow in the armed forces consolidating the efforts of those organizations having this as a common aim.
4. Petitioning the national bodies of the CIO and the AF of L to incorporate in their legislative programs the campaign to democratize the armed forces.
5. The publication by the NNC of literature on all phases of Jim-Crow in the armed services and outlining specific proposals to remedy these conditions.
6. The organization of a national delegation of fifty leading Americans to visit Washington for one week to consider the problems of the Negro and the armed forces with the Navy and War Departments as well as with President Roosevelt.

Stimson Says Local Commanders Must Solve Race Troop Problems

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Secretary Of War Discloses Much Progress Is Being Made

By ERNEST E. JOHSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—It is up to the local commanders concerned to "face and solve" the problems arising out of inadequate transportation and recreational facilities for Negro soldiers, Secy. Henry L Stimson of the war department announced Thursday at his regular press-radio conference.

"I am very glad to say that very considerable progress has been made toward such a solution of these problems," he added. "Of course it is my desire that this improvement be continuous."

Thus for the first time, the war department appears to have publicly indicated that there has been an adjustment in policy with regard to the handling of two of the sore spots of army life which have been pointed to by leaders the country as basic to grievances of Negro soldiers.

EXPLAINS COMBAT QUERY

The secretary did not explore the situation too thoroughly, but did recognize the "ever recurring" character of the problems developing adjacent to army camps.

Attempting to meet the criticism that the war department refused to use Negro troops in actual combat assignments, Stimson said the department did not intend to put men into the field until they had passed rigid tests and were ready.

"Our units are sent to theatres (of operations) as they are needed and when they have demonstrated their readiness for combat by successfully completing the war department rigid tests with respect to all arms and services,"

"Those are the lines that govern their being sent to theatres of operations. The war department feels that our present occupational policies are serving the war effort to the best advantage, and that a deviation from it is not feasible at this time."

RACIAL BOOKS ISSUED

The secretary was queried on the dissemination of reading material among men attending army war colleges, the subjects of which deal with of a "longstanding policy" to suggest reading matter of "timely and professional interest" to all officers.

The department prepares booklists reading, he said which is circulated to the college libraries. While the lists are officially considered beneficial, they do not necessarily represent by their contents the expression of the policy of the department, he said, nor is ita part of a "scholastic program."

"They are informative only, and the war college program has lately issued such a list as I have described on the subject of race relations," he asserted.

Levy's Father Pleads for Justice

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

SCOURGES RACIAL THEORISTS

OCT 2 1943

NEW YORK—Morris M. Levy, father of former Sgt. Alton Levy, pleaded to President Roosevelt for an "immediate review" of his son's case "and justice."

Alton Levy is the soldier who was court-martialed at the Lincoln, Nebraska Air Base on alleged charges of slandering the Commanding General and criticizing the treatment of colored troops.

In a letter to the President, Levy's father said in part:

"It was reported to me that my son, Alton Levy, a Sergeant in the United States Army stationed at the Lincoln, Nebraska Air Base, has been court-martialed, demoted to Private, placed in the guardhouse for four months at hard labor, and fined $18.00 reduction in pay a month. My son, Mr. President, is suffering all of this because he dared to speak up for the rights of other American citizens who were being abused because they were black or because they were of the colored race. My son did the same as I would have done because I have taught him that America is the home of the free regardless of race or color. If this were Hitler's Germany, I know there would be no need to write you—because I would be ignored. But this is America—and my son is in the Army to fight to destroy the brutal racial theorists of the Fascist war monsters, and yet my son is being punished for fighting the same type of theorist here at home.

"My son spoke the truth—has the truth no virtue? Is the truth not to be given justice? He said nothing in secret. He made his complaints concerning the treatment of colored soldiers at every staff meeting."

Asking for an immediate review of the Alton Levy case, the letter concluded. "Let it not be said that the United [illegible] is no differen[illegible] the "Nazi hordes which we fight."

At the same time that Mr. Levy's letter was released by the New York office of the Workers Defense League, A. Philip Randolph, Willard S. Townsend, William M. Agar, Laurence T. Hosie, Nathaniel M. Minkoff, H. L. Binsse, and Morris Milgram, National Secretary of the WDL, sent 50,000 letters to liberal Americans calling for letters to President Roosevelt on the Levy case. They also called for donations to help free Levy and announced that this "is our opening gun" in the fight to end U. S. Army jim crow.

A Real American

Sgt. Alton Levy shown above in balmier days at Palm Beach. Now he is sentenced to 4 months at hard labor, demoted to rank of private and fined $18 a month reduction in pay for defending colored soldiers.

FDR's Aid Sought for Soldier Who Fought Discrimination

By James A. Weschler
PM's National Editor

SEP 30 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The War Dept. has officially buried the vase of Alton Levy.

The Department's stand was revealed today amid mounting appeals to President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson for a full-fledged investigation of charges that Levy was court-martialed, demoted and sentenced to four months at hard labor because he protested mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the Army Air Base in Lincoln, Neb.

Responding to inquiries on the status of Levy—Bronx-born sergeant who lost his stripes and was sent to the guard-house on Aug. 16—a spokesman for Col. Thurston Hughes, in the office of Adjutant-Gen. James A. Ulio, told PM that the case was closed and that "there's nothing further the Department can do about it."

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No Higher Review

The spokesman said that the verdict of the courtmartial had been upheld by the Army Service Command at Denver, Col., and that no higher review within the War Dept. was possible in a case of this kind.

Levy, it was stated, was tried under a "special" court-martial, involving a maximum sentence of six months, and decisions in such cases cannot be appealed to Washington. Only a "general court-martial carrying the penalty of death or dishonorable discharge, may be contested here, the Department said.

Appeals to FDR

Although a War Dept. press-relations officer said that the proceedings of court-martial may be made public except where issues of "security" are involved, PM was informed by Col. Hughes' office that the record in the Levy trial could not be disclosed.

It appeared today that any future move in Levy's behalf would have to come directly from President Roosevelt, acting as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

The American Civil Liberties Union, the Workers Defense League, Freedom House and a number of other organizations have already urged the President to intervene and scores of individual appeals have been addressed to the White House and the War Dept.

Queries in Writing

Morris Milgram, executive secretary of the Workers Defense League, declared today that his organization would continue its fight for a "full airing of all the facts" despite the ruling of the War Dept. A. Philip Randolph, leader of the March-on-Washington Movement, said that a mass meeting protesting the treatment accorded Levy and other cases of alleged bias in the armed forces was being planned.

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Some confusion still remained over the exact counts on which Levy was tried and convicted. Col. Hughes' office denied at first that his complaints against Negro discrimination were involved in the punishment. It was said that Levy was found guilty of "slandering" the commanding officer and his wife.

In response to a request for a full statement of the charge and conviction, however, PM was told that further questions would have to be submitted in writing because "the matter is controversial." These questions have been submitted.

Levy's defenders assert that the "slander" charge was window-dressing for the trial and that the crux of the case revolved around the accusation that he made "false statements" about the handling of Negro soldiers.

Letters from Levy to friends, written before and during the trial, indicate that he was deeply concerned about the way in which Negroes were being treated at the Lincoln base. In one letter, written on July 28, he said:

"Most of the whites in charge of them (the Negroes) are Southerners. Naturally, as a result, they are treated like dogs. They are kept in camp while the others are allowed out. They are hounded and harassed and yelled at and cursed and insulted and generally treated abominably."

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PM's Questions

Early in August, Levy informed friends, he was interrogated by Army Intelligence officers about objections he was quoted as making about the treatment of the Negro soldiers. Following the court-martial he was reduced to the rank of private, with an $18-a-month forfeiture of pay.

A former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Levy, who is 29, attended DeWitt Clinton High School and CCNY.

In line with the Department request for written inquiries on the case, PM has submitted the following questions to Adjutant-General Ulio:

¶ What were the specific charges on which Levy was tried and convicted?

¶ Has any inquiry been made with regard to the treatment of Negro soldiers at this base to determine whether statements attributed to Levy were true?

¶ Col. Hughes' office informed us that the full court-martial proceedings are secret. Is there any way in which we can obtain access to the testimony on which Levy was convicted?

SEP 30 1943

¶ Did the issue of the treatment of Negro soldiers at the base figure in the proceedings and, if so, was any testimony obtained from the Negroes themselves?

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

Investigate Officer Who Struck Unshaven Soldier

DEC 4 1943

FT. DEVENS, Mass., Dec. — (ANP) — Quiet satisfaction that the army will attempt to make amends in cases of flagrant mistreatment of soldiers is permeating the ranks of the 650th Quartermaster troop transport group here. Several weeks ago, one of the men in the outfit was struck over the head with the butt of a rifle reportedly because the man would not shave. The soldier is said to have contended that it was against his religion to shave and refused to do so. The officer who struck the man, allegedly a Capt. Walton is rumored under investigation. Gen. B. O. Davis and Civilian Aide Truman K. Gibson visited the post shortly after the incident.

DEC 4 1943

Mistreatment Of Troops Stirs Attorney General

Tension Rising; Both Races Cautioned To Unite Before Recurrence of Riots Start

New York, N. Y.
Amsterdam News

By ULYSSES S. KEYS
(Special to Amsterdam News)

DEC 4 1943

BALTIMORE—"Evergrowing racial tension" has Attorney General Francis Biddle fearful that a recurrence of race rioting will break loose any place at almost any moment. This was the context of his address here last week at the 18th annual convention of the National Bar Association. Over 200 lawyers present heard Mr. Biddle list, without elaboration, the following major causes of unrest in Negro-White relations:

Treatment of Negro servicemen, general war tension, reduced police protection—due to the man-power problem, bad housing, and the "contradiction between our (whites) profession of faith in democracy and our (their) acts" in reference to the Negro.

Nation-wide Problem

The Attorney General declared that the acuteness of racial friction is no longer a local or geographical matter, but a national problem. Leaders of both races should act at once to alleviate the pressure which may probably occur. This should be done by local communities, he pointed out.

White and Negro citizens who seriously study ways to relieve the rise of racial strife should form committees to achieve these ends, he suggested. The formation of a national committee to aid in improving better undertanding between the races, was also stressed. In fact, Mr. Biddle expressed disappointment in finding such few interracial groups in various parts of the country.

Questions Justice Dept.

Responding to the address by the Attorney General, Charles H. Houston of Washington said the Department of Justice should let it be known that it will prosecute inefficient police where their action tend to produce or intensify racial friction. He declared further, that the government should not call on its citizens to fight without protecting them from abuses when they are in the uniforms of the armed forces.

He called attention to the fact that Negro soldiers are not being used in actual combat and are not "in the fight" but constitute the "scrub team" of the Army. Before the war is over, he added, it is likely that the "scrub team" will be called upon to play a major role.

Serious Session

The delegates, representing some 1400 Negro lawyers, went into session on Friday at the Masonic temple when its president, Euclid Louis Taylor of Chicago, in a militant address, told the conferees that the colored people of the nation are expecting them to fight for the protection of their civil rights and liberties.

The lawyers, who came from all parts of the country, went into one of the most serious sessions in the association's history. They discussed the problems affecting the Negro people in interstate transportation, the armed forces, war industries, at the polls, in government positions and segregation and discrimination based on color. They discussed laws, decisions and technique dealing with these issues and put into effect machinery calculated to solve the problems.

DEC 4 1943

Hastie Addressed Lawyers

Ex-judge William H. Hastie at the opening session delivered an address on the "Legal aspects of racial discrimination in the armed forces." George W. Johnson, deputy chairman of the FEP committee, on Saturday spoke on the "Current efforts of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee to prevent discrimination in industry."

DEC 4 1943

Other Speakers

At the public meeting held at the Sharp Street Methodist church Friday evening Governor Herbert R. O'Connor, governor of Md., Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin, Judge Charles E. Moylan of the state Supreme court, and Willard W. Allen, representing fraternal and business groups, gave welcoming addresses to the visiting lawyers.

Judge Francis E. Rivers of New York City and Thurgood Marhall, special NAACP counsel, addressed the meeting.

DEC 4 1943

The convention closed Saturday following the election of Charles W. Anderson, state representative of Kentucky, as president.

Colman Case Proves Wrong Done To Levy

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

NOV 13 1943

LINCOLN, Neb. — Contrasting the court-martials of Sgt. Alton Levy of the Lincoln Air base, who fought for Negro rights, and Col. William T. Coleman of Selfridge Field, Mich., who shot a Negro soldier, the Workers Defense league this week reiterated its plea to President Roosevelt that former Sgt. Levy be freed and restored to his rank.

At the same time the league secretary, Morris Milgram, declared "a great victory for democracy" had been won when Brigadier General Early E. Duncan, Southerner in charge of the Army Air base [illegible] Lincoln, Neb., where Levy is [illegible] four [illegible] at hard labor for protesting discrimination against Negro soldiers, had reversed himself after ordering that Private Levy was to have no more visitors, as a result of widespread press and public protests.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Pvt. Levy's Case

Dear Editor:

It has been said that you are to respect the uniform, even though you don't respect the man wearing it. The Negro wears the same uniform as the white man, doesn't he? But Alton Levy is in the guard house because he tried to get this idea across to those who could have helped, if they would.

Utica, N. Y. H. S. L.

* * *

PM must see to it, and I know it will, that the case against Pvt. Levy be reopened, and the Army's case be told in the findings of the court-martial. Our men are fighting, or so they believe, that all men who were created equal should remain so.

Newark SONYA FROMKIN

47d-1943

The Inside Story on Fort Huachuca

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OCT 9 1943

"We Follow Regulations and Don't Have to Bow to Anyone," Officer Says

By LT. JEFFERSON GRANT

Fort Huachuca, Ariz. — Recently I read in one of our newspapers certain references to the 92nd Infantry Division.

I do not write this letter in defense of General Almond or the 92nd Division because I am not proud to be a member of it and never have been, but I am a wearer of the uniform of the United States Army and I am proud of that.

Take a look at some of the remarks:

That General Almond is not a top-flight commander. Well, General Eisenhower would not have been if his men had failed.

That the men of this division are not well trained. Trained men are the result of trained leaders. They are well trained men are the result of trained leaders. They are as well trained as their platoon leaders make them.

If General Almond were the No. 1 division commander and he had a bunch of would-be platoon leaders he would have a sorrier-than-hell division.

Proficiency School

That a school to make certain officers proficient was established and that all of the students were colored is true.

This was wrong because many white officers should have been there, but most of those sent deserved to be there.

That colored officers are frozen at second lieutenant. Five of us have reached that mighty rank of first lieutenant, either by merit or "Uncle Toming".

Others of us must be promoted sometime or other, but while waiting for that promotion we should not fail to perform the duties of the office we now hold.

Weapons Not Outmoded

That the weapons we trained with are outmoded. That's strictly a lie.

That there is segregation at officers' mess. Well, we of this regiment sit at any table we see fit except the staff tables. If the white officers herd themselves all at one corner, who gives a damn?

We don't care about sitting down to dine with them either. In fact, we hope for the day when there won't be any to come into the mess hall. We aren't friends, so why dine together?

Davis's Report

That Gen. B. O. Davis's report that all was well here. General Davis reported what he saw and that was the only truthful report he could make. The problems here are strictly of a racial nature. General Davis can not solve them.

That frequent searches are made for arms and ammunition. That is true. It is merely an army routine and is done for the soldiers' protection, not because the army is afraid of trouble.

If any white division were on the range, it would be searched for ammunition, its rifles checked and locked up until the next day.

Think what would happen, even in an all-colored division, if soldiers were allowed to keep firearms at all times.

Job and Duty

There are a few of us officers who realize that some white officers are sincerely not interested in training our boys. Therefore, it is our job and our duty to make fighting soldiers out of them.

Each platoon leader can make his men the type of soldier he wants. He can make a platoon of bowing and scraping Uncle Toms or a platoon of fighting Americans. We don't have to be captains and first lieutenants to train men.

If a few of us were more interested in getting promoted than soldiering for America and our people, we would stop soldiering and take lessons in bowing and scraping, grinning, singing and being stool pigeons. Fortunately, we prefer to be men as well as second lieutenants.

When someone writes to a newspaper that the men are not well trained, he is telling the nation that colored officers can't train men, which is what some brass hats would have the country believe. No one can train anyone unless he sincerely believes in what he is trying to inculcate in his men.

If a platoon leader sincerely believes in the American Creed; if he sincerely believes he wants the best trained soldiers in the army, all he has to do is teach them what he believes.

There is no regulation that requires us to be anyones' friend. All that any colored officer can do is live as close to the regulations as he possibly can. If we do that we will not have to bow to anyone.

OCT 9 1943

Ga. Messman Is Hero of Sicilian Invasion

Afro-American AUG 21 1943
Baltimore, Md.

Spots Planes 4 Days, Nights Without Relief; Must Remain in Menial Post

WITH THE U.S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES (ANP) — Because the navy does not have a rating for plane spotters, Arthur J. Goodwin, 17-year-old enlisted man from Valdosta, Ga., messman and unsung hero on an assault transport in the invasion of Sicily, must continue his menial task for the duration.

Goodwin proved his mettle when the push for the beaches began. Dropping his plates, he took a position on the bridge and with keen eyes glued to the sky, identified enemy aircraft for the gun crew long before they had a chance to drop their bundles of death.

AUG 21 1943

It was his excellent eyesight and knowledge of planes that also enabled him to save the gunnery from shooting down American planes.

4 Days, Nights Without Relief

The young seaman was so indispensable that he was ordered to remain at his post from Friday to Monday night without relief. Only catnaps, coffee, sandwiches and the burning patriotism in his fighting heart were able to see him through the trying assignment.

With an alacrity and accuracy that amazed the captain and crew alike, Goodwin picked out Focke-Wulfe 190's, German Ju 88's and directed fire toward them. Never once did he fail to recognize our own aircraft, the Mustangs, the Spitfires and the Beaufighters.

The difficulty of Goodwin's job is emphasized because during the fierce attacks American planes became mixed with enemy fighters. Although it required the highest brilliance in observation and discernability, the messman was equal to the task.

Asked how he recognized a Mustang, Goodwin laconically replied:

"I know 'em by their square wingtips."

AUG 21 1943

Only Frightened Once

There was only one instance when the young seaman admitted fright and that was when enemy planes dropped explosives 100 feet away from his ship. The big boat quivered and reeled, but miraculously escaped damage.

Shortly after coming aboard ship Goodwin was moved up to a gun crew and required to attend plane identification classes.

His ready knowledge of planes caught the imagination of instructors and he was elevated to a gun on the bridge, a job calling for a steward's mate second class rating.

Was Model Plane Builder

The youth's familiarity with planes dates back to his school days in Valdosta when he spent his spare moments reading through books on military aviation in the library.

Later, with pennies he earned from work with a dry cleaner, he bought plane parts and constructed model airships. He little knew then how valuable these efforts would be now to his Uncle Samuel.

Goodwin's only trip in an airplane was taken at a county fair in Valdosta before he joined the navy. And — he can't remember the type of ship it was!

Blast Army Prejudice At La. Base

SEP 18 1943
Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Complaints were directed this week to the Army Inspector General's office, charging discrimination and abuse in regard to the activities of the 247th Quartermaster battalion, now stationed at the New Orleans staging area, Harahan, La.

The local office of the NAACP in its letter to the Inspector General stated that from information furnished this branch, "Order No. 206 P.I.C.-O.G., issued Monday, August 23, 1943, and signed by Colonel Lockett, relieved of command all Negro commissioned officers assigned to the 247th by the War department and placed in command white commissioned officers who were assigned to the port battalion and placed on special duty with the 247th."

The NAACP's letter contended that such an order is contrary to the section of army regulations which state that officers on special duty must not be placed in command of a company when officers assigned by the War department are available. These white officers on special duty with the 247th have no authority to sign morning reports and correspondence of a unit of which they are not a part, and are not carried on the records of the organization."

The following additional complaints were likewise filed with the local office the NAACP's communication stated:

1. Attitude of Colonel Haven has changed to one of hositlity.

2. Negroes stationed at the New Orleans staging area are generally abused.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Tolerance Costly to Jewish Soldier

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Support in the appeal of Sgt. Alton Levy, liberal Jewish soldier, from a court-martial sentence was assured last week by the NAACP and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Sergeant Levy, who is appealing to Secretary of War Stimson, was given a four-month sentence, stripped of his chevrons and fined, allegedly because of his outspoken criticism of the mistreatment of colored soldiers at the Lincoln (Neb.) Air Base.

The Jewish soldier, said to have been placed in charge of a unit of colored troops, allegedly incurred disfavor by assuming a sympathetic attitude and attempting to improve their literacy rating.

Army Reported Trying To Gag Negro Chaplain

New York, N.Y.
Daily Worker

NOV 6 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—Chaplain Luther M. Fuller is slated to go on the inactive list, according to reports from Fort Dix, published in the local Negro press.

The Fuller case has attracted wide interest since he was returned from duty in the South Seas last spring because, according to published reports, he had protested the treatment of Negro soldiers. He was court martialed in July but no verdict has yet been announced. The move to put him in the inactive list is characterized by the Philadelphia **Tribune** as a way to get rid of Fuller without finding him guilty.

On the inactive list, Chaplain Fuller would keep his rank as lieutenant, and remain under Army control, thus keeping him silent on the charges he is alleged to have made, and which are supposed to have led to his court martial.

Chaplain Fuller has been serving lately with Negro troops at Ford Dix. Last week he was ordered to the Station Hospital to receive his terminal examination.

Lt.-Col. Joseph C. Donohue, area commander in charge of the Negro troops with whom Chaplain Fuller was serving, has given him a letter praising his character and work in glowing terms and recommending him for civilian employment.

There is a serious shortage of Negro chaplain in the Army.

Judge Hastie Sees Bias in Levy's Penalty

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

OCT 30 1943

WASHINGTON

Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to the secretary of the War Department, stated Tuesday that the court-martial and conviction of Alton Levy, white, "create a strong implication of prejudice and bias."

Judge Hastie declared:

"First, I can think of no proper circumstances which could have led the court, after stating before adjournment, Saturday, August 14, that the charges against Levy had not been proved to decide on Monday, August 16, after the week-end recess, that he was guilty beyond a reasonable doubt."

The second point raised by the Howard University Law School dean was to the effect that it was a well known fact that the rumors which Levy, former union organizer, is alleged to have repeated had been circulated months before Levy arrived at camp.

Labor Leaders Meet

Judge Hastie's statement was made on the eve of a meeting of labor leaders at Freedom House, NYC, called to plan assistance to the former union organizer, sentenced to four months at hard labor.

The meeting was organized by David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU; Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employees' Union, and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL.

Levy, private at the Lincoln, Neb., Army Air Base, was convicted for circulating "false statements" about the treatment of colored soldiers at the base and "slanderous" rumors about the commanding officer, General Ducan.

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15 Seabees Hit Jim Crow, Are Dismissed

Daily Worker New York

NOV 3 1943

Charged with "ineptitude" and "unfitness," 15 Navy Seabees were dismissed this week from the U. S. Navy for protesting Jim Crow and creating a "small state of mutiny."

The men have presented their case to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and are preparing to appeal to Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy for reinstatement. They have worked at Naval construction bases for more than a year.

Thirkeid Montgomery, officer's cook, 2nd class, spoke for the men, listing a number of grievances they had complained of.

The group, before their discharge, had been asked by the battalion commander to meet with him for the purpose of ironing out the trouble.

The meeting was, the commander said, off the record. Into the discussion were [illegible] such things as "segregated signs," the "matter of ratings," "separate liberty buses" and why, except in a few cases, all the first class men were white.

The following day the men were summoned to the office of the commanding officer and told that the meeting of the previous day was a violation of Navy regulation.

Discrimination Opponent Serves 120-Day Term

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Workers Defense League Seeking Record on Case

NOV 12 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Pvt. Alton Levy, serving four months at hard labor at the Lincoln Army Air base where he was court-martialed for opposing illegal discrimination against Negro soldiers, had just finished a week at the army hospital, the Workers Defense League reported.

SEES BROTHER

The league announced that Miss Harriet Levy, sister of the imprisoned ex-sergeant, had succeeded in seeing her brother Nov. 2 at the guardhouse. She had received permission for her visit from Brig. Gen. Early G. W. Duncan, who had in mid-October issued an order that Levy was to have no more visitors.

Meanwhile the league released a request [illegible] Col. Stanley J. Grogan of the bureau of public relations of the war department, asking that the full transcript of the army's investigation on the Levy case be made public. The letter also asked that the notes of the stenographer present at the Levy court martial now be transcribed and made public. The requests were in a reply to a letter Col. Grogan had sent to Monroe Sweetland, national director of the CIO War Relief committee, who had asked the league to reply.

SCORE INVESTIGATOR

In the same letter, League Secy. Morris Milgram expressed his amazement at the effort of the army investigator to secure statements about mistreatment from Negro soldiers right in front of their white officers.

The letter pointed out that "in the labor movement, both CIO and AFL, we have had many years of experience with such methods of hearing grievances. Until workers become organized into unions, they are afraid to [illegible] their grievances against their employers in public although the penalty may be no greater than discharge from the job. How much more timid most Negro soldiers [illegible] such a cse when the fear of erprisal by a commanding officer extends much farther than the utmost reprisal possible from a civilian employer?"

Protests Jim Crow In Post Exchange

NOV 6 1943

Here is a letter I have written to the President of the United States:

I understand that we, the American people are fighting in a war so as to keep within the borders of our country what we call democracy. The word in itself spells out just that something that puts us on the edge to see it through but is it really worth fighting for on the part of the Negro race? Will we really have a place to fit into at the close of this war?

About an hour ago an incident occurred here in this camp that I shall always remember. I walked into a post exchange that is supposed to serve the entire camp here at Sutton. After I had bought a few necessary items, I walked over to the sandwich counter to get a couple of sandwiches. There stood another colored soldier. After we had waited in line for an hour for service, and just when we were about to be served, a guard walked over and replied, "You will have to leave soldiers." Looking about us and being in the midst of more than 200 white soldiers, we asked to whom he was speaking and his reply was, "No colored soldiers allowed in this Post Exchange." Two of the white soldiers remarked, "Why can't they stay and be served, they're soldiers aren't they?" But knowing conditions we immediately left the store without any further words.

Is this what we're fighting to hold? Is not the sacrifice of leaving our loved ones and homes great enough? Do we not leave our homes in answer to your calls whenever it is given with a smile on our faces and with just the amount of grit to put the program over? We have always been true and loyal to the flag of our country and history has never recorded a betrayal of the Negro. Our loved ones on the home front have rolled up their sleeves and gone into the fight there and many a sacrifice has been made in buying bonds to do their part there.

Will we always have to face this expression, "Your face is black, and you will have to leave." It is true that America has white sons on the battle front but it also must be remembered that she has black sons with hearts of gold and most eager to give their last drop of blood to defend the cause. We do not choose to eat, sleep nor socialize with our white brothers, but as long as the best post exchanges are built for them with all of the necessary items, we do feel as black sons of these United States of America, that doors to your army exchanges should never be closed in our faces.

Yes, our hearts were pierced again today with that little arrow so often shot, called "Jim Crowism" and time will heal the wound but what about the scar?. The scar will always be there. Yes there will be peace again, but for how long? As long as there is hatred, tmalice, prejudices and Jim Crowism within our borders, peace will come, yes peace will come but like the wings of the morning, will take its flight again.

COLORED SOLDIER,
Camp Cutton, N. C.

Sailor Assails Tenn. Discrimination

NOV 6 1943

I am a sailor on a base in Millington, Tennessee. It has one of the worse systems in which to run the place. None of us here can hardly say anything toward getting a break without the officers in charge putting us on extra duty. It is a place which will only lead to trouble. We are called "niggers" by the officers, enlistees and others who are on the station. When we report these actions to the Officer of the Day, [illegible] are only wasting our time.

One officers, a commander, stated to me one day when I told him how they were treating us: "You niggers are in the South now and you must do like the southerners do. If not, you will be transferred to the brig." How can we stand it down here with such carrying on.

We are here to help win the war. They have a canteen in every hall down here for the white sailors. Half of them will not wait on us and when they do they say "What do you want niggers?" so we have to leave. The S. P. on the station calls you the same along with the other officers. I am writing you in our barracks as we do not have a place to write our letters. We don't have a recreation hall or have time to have any fun. We work from morning until night and extra duty if we kick.

When we serve them, they call us "niggers" and one of our boys is in the brig because he talked back to the officers who called him the name.

When we go to town, they treat us like dogs. The S. P.'s will call you "niggers" along with the city police. They run you off the streets and make you do things they wouldn't make the others do.

There are some that are O. K.—the chaplains and some officers. I hope I did not take up too much of your time.

In closing I remain a great reader of the colored paper for which I one sold in my own home town. Thanking you kindly for your time we are proud and happy to know that we could tell our troubles to you. A sailor in the service in Millington, Tennessee.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Protests Alton Levy Sentence

NOV 13 1943

NEW YORK — Contrasting the court-martials of Sgt. Alton Levy of the Lincoln, Nebraska Air Base, who fought for Negro rights and Col. William T. Colman of Selfridge Field, Michigan, who shot a Negro soldier, the Workers Defense League last week reiterated its plea to President Roosevelt that former Sgt. Levy be freed and restored to his rank.

At the same time the league secretary, Morris Milgram, declared "a great victory for democrary" had been won when Brig. Gen. Early E. Duncan, in charge of the Army Air Base in Lincoln, where Levy [illegible] serving four months at hard labor for protesting discrimination against Negro soldiers, had reversed himself after ordering that Private Levy was to have no more visitors, as a result of widespread press and public protests.

47d-1943

ASKS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO COMMUTE LEVY SENTENCE

Call Post Cincinnati Ohio

NOV 6 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — President Roosevelt was called upon to commute the sentence of Pvt. Alton Levy last Tuesday when attorney for the soldiers, Leon M. Despres of Chicago, filed a brief with the chief executive summarizing the errors said to have been committed in the courtmartial proceedings against Levy.

Levy is now under a four-month sentence at hard labor at Lincoln Army Air base, Lincoln, Neb.

Introducing the summary, Atty. Despres said that "A careful analysis of all available material leads to the conclusion that the conviction of Alton Levy results from action directed particularly against him for his championship of Negro soldiers' rights and for his personal background as organizer for a labor union."

Levy had been charged with circulating rumor that the wife of the commander of the base, Gen. Early Duncan, dominated base policy. The summary points out that this was a rumor that had already gained wide currency and that he was not imparting new knowledege to anyone. The brief points out that although testimony disclosed that several soldiers had been questioned about the rumors, he was the only one singled out for punishment.

Levy's view regarding the treatment of Negro soldiers was generally known although he had never expressed his views at a formal staff meeting. He maintained his views in this respect were substantially correct, but that the court-martial refused to probe these charges to determine their accuracy. The brief maintained, in this respect, that the statements of Levy were of sufficient interest to warrant probing, otherwise why would they have been made part of the charges against him.

Atty. Despes questioned the propriety of having Gen. Duncan, who was the alleged cause of much of the grievance, appoint the members of the court-martial. "Although Brig. Gen. Duncan may not have been technically the signer of the charges underlying the specifications", says the brief, "(the identity of the actual signer of the charges against Levy has never been revealed), he was directly involved in the statements charged to Levy".

Finally, it is pointed out, that after the court had announced a conclusion of not guilty, a finding of guilty was clearly [illegible]lar.

At press time there was no indication what disposition the President would make of the request for commutation, nor was there any relenting on the part of the war department.

White Sergeant Jailed; Condemned Army Bias

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y

Declares He Wouldn't Deny Charges If He Could; Gets 4 Months in Brig

SEP 18 1943

A young white soldier, Alton Levy, of the Bronx, N. Y., is in the guard house today at the Lincoln, Nebraska, Air Base, because he apparently protested too often against the discriminatory treatment of the Negro soldiers at the base.

Gets "Busted"

Formerly a staff sergeant, Levy was recently charged with conduct unbecoming a soldier. He was court-martialed on Aug. 13, reduced to the rank of private and sentenced to four months in the guard house at hard labor with an $18 a month forfeiture of pay. Prosecuting Army officers were reported as having referred to his activity and statements in behalf of the Negro soldiers as "unpatriotic" and "reprehensible."

Appealed to President

A group of New York liberals and labor leaders have urged President Roosevelt to review the case of Pvt. Levy. In an open letter to the President, Secretary of War Stimson, Army Chief of Staff Marshall and Judge Advocate Cramer, they warned that "the existing racial tensions in this nation are already so great that we must be extremely careful not to penalize those who seek to establish better relationships between the races."

Supporting Appeal

Among those who signed the protest were Roger Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; A. Philip Randolph, international president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; John Chamberlain, New York Times book reviewer; Lester Granger, executive secretary, National Urban League; Father William C. Kernan, director, Christian American Institute for Democracy; William Agar, director, Freedom House; Morris Milgram, secretary, Workers Defense League, and Ann Arnold Hedgeman, of the Brooklyn NAACP.

After being inducted into the Army, Levy spent a period of basic military training in the South, then was transferred to the Lincoln Air Base at Lincoln, Neb. He rose to the rank of staff sergeant, and noting the treatment of Negro troops tioned at the base, he obtained his assignment to work with them. In a series of letters to a New York friend, he wrote:

Segregated in Barracks

"I told you, I think, that we have about 300 Negro illiterates we are training. Well, they finally segregated them in barracks about two miles away from where we stay.

"Most of the whites in charge of them are Southerners. Naturally, as a result, they are treated like dogs. They are kept in camp while the others are allowed out. They sleep in old canvas cots while the others sleep in the new army cots and mattresses and all the trimmin's. And, they are hounded and harassed and yelled at and cursed and insulted and generally treated abominably.

"I have been protesting against the treatment they have been getting ever since I arrive here. At staff meetings and in sessions with the officers I have made my criticism clear. In fact, while I have not been the only one to feel this way, I have been the only one to make my feelings public to officers and enlisted men."

He concludes this letter by saying: "Already, I am called 'Nigger lover.' "

On Aug. 9, shortly after a riot between Mexican and Negro soldiers at the Lincoln Air Base, Levy wrote that he had been examined by Army intelligence officers about the objections he was supposed to have voiced concerning the treatment of the Negro soldiers. He admitted that he had made the statements about the Negroes, but denied the other charges made against him, which included an allegation that he had termed the general a "drunkard."

At the court martial, which was held on Friday, Aug. 13, the chief testimony against Levy was given by a WAC, Pfc. Helen Perkins, and another girl, whom Levy and some other soldiers had met socially. Pvt. Perkins also gave evidence against four other soldiers with whom she had dates. Levy wrote that the names of the men "were Rothman, Greenbaum, Josephson, Levy and Bolton. Bolton," he said, "the only Aryan to be turned in, was the guy who visited with me at the home of the girl at the bar. As it developed it was a good thing that he was there because it was his testimony which defisitely cleared me of the charge she made against me—that I had deliberately made the positive statement that Mrs. Duncan (wife of the General) owned the bus line and that the general was a drunkard."

Denying all of the charges except his statements about the mistreatment of the Negro soldiers, Levy told the officers of the court-martial that "I wouldn't deny them if I could. I said them and I still say them."

Born in New York City, Levy is 29, attended Townsend Harris High School and the College of the City of New York. He is a former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, an amateur writer of songs and skits, one of the latter having been used on a Fred Allen radio program. Since becoming a soldier, some of his material has been used in shows at Army posts, his biggest song hit being "G I Love You."

In an interview with Pvt. Levys family—his father, Morris Levy and his sisters, Harriett and Lila Levy—they stated that they were one hundred per cent with their son and brother on the attitude he had taken; that while they regretted that he had lost all he had worked so hard to gain since entering the Army, they were more than proud of the fact that he had not allowed being in the Army to close his eyes to the discrimination and mistreatment of another minority group of his fellowmen who were serving in that same Army.

Meanwhile, the Workers Defense League, headed by Morris Milgram and Laurence T. Hosie, has joined together with CIO and AFL unions, and many liberal leaders, for an organized protest against the court-martialing of Levy as well as "to protect against the continued Jim Crowing of Negroes in the United States armed forces."

Segregation Takes Huge Toll in Selective Service Program

Baltimore: Maryland

Afro-American

SEP 4 1943

Army-Navy Restrictions Held Down Volunteers to 2 Per Cent; Illiteracy Rejections 5 Times White Rate

December 5, 1942.

WASHINGTON

The effect of segregation as a deterrent upon the total war effort was spotlighted last week with the release of Selective Service's report of its operations covering the year following Pearl Harbor.

The 674-page report, issued by General Lewis B. Hershey, national director, was submitted to President Roosevelt as a record of the administration of the Selective Service Act covering the period from December 7, 1941, to December 5, 1942.

In eighteen pages of the report, devoted to "Negroes and Selective Service," the lowered rates of induction of colored men resulting from discriminatory practices both within and outside of the services were shown.

Only 1.8 Per Cent Volunteer

According to the report, only 1.8 per cent of the 3,015,550 colored men registered for military duty enlisted voluntarily. This small percentage was attributed to restrictions placed upon colored voluntary enlistments by the army, navy, marine corps, and coast guard.

One of the major and yet unsolved problems encountered by selective service, it was pointed out, is the high rejection rate among colored registrants because of educational deficiency which is five times as high as that among whites.

Declaring that the largest numbers of illiterates are found in the sections where separate school systems exist, the report stated that no national program has yet been devised to give pre-induction training to illiterate registrants and so increase their availability for military service.

Urge Colored Educators

As a corrective measure, the report urged that conferences of the War Department, Selective Service, the U.S. Office of Education and other government agencies directed toward relief of the situation include colored educators.

Relaxation of army rules on educational requirements, while permitting induction of higher numbers of colored, has also had the effect of increasing the problem of education within the army.

Following its statement that venereal diseases form the most important cause for rejection of colored registrants, the report stated that remedial steps are being taken and added:

Rays Poor Housing

"There is growing recognition of the social aspect of these diseases. Bad housing is recognized as a significant factor in the prevalence of venereal diseases.

"A number of the larger urban communities have undertaken to improve housing conditions among colored people during the last few years, but this work has practically stopped because of the effect of war conditions on building construction."

Few Draft Dodgers

Declaring that "evasion of the law is not a serious problem"

47d-1943

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Levy is now under a four-month sentence at hard labor at Lincoln Army Air base, Lincoln, Neb.

Introducing the summary, Atty. Despres said that "A careful analysis of all available material leads to the conclusion that the conviction of Alton Levy results from action directed particularly against him for his championship of Negro soldiers' rights and for his personal background as organizer for a labor union."

Levy had been charged with circulating rumor that the wife of the commander of the base, Gen. Early Duncan, dominated base policy. The summary points out that this was a rumor that had already gained wide currency and that he was not imparting new knowledege to anyone. The brief points out that although testimony disclosed that several soldiers had been questioned about the rumors, he was the only one singled out for punishment.

Levy's view regarding the treatment of Negro soldiers was generally known although he had never expressed his views at a formal staff meeting. He maintained his views in this respect were substantially correct, but that the court-martial refused to probe these charges to determine their accuracy. The brief maintained, in this respect, that the statements of Levy were of sufficient interest to warrant probing, otherwise why would they have been made part of the charges against him.

Atty. Despes questioned the propriety of having Gen. Duncan, who was the alleged cause of much of the grievance, appoint the members of the court-martial. "Although Brig. Gen. Duncan may not have been technically the signer of the charges underlying the specifications", says the brief, "(the identity of the actual signer of the charges against Levy has never been revealed), he was directly involved in the statements charged to Levy".

Finally, it is pointed out, that after the court had announced a conclusion of not guilty, a finding of guilty was clearly [illegible]lar.

At press time there was no indication what disposition the President would make of the request for commutation, nor was there any relenting on the part of the war department.

White Sergeant Jailed; Condemned Army Bias

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y

Declares He Wouldn't Deny Charges If He Could; Gets 4 Months in Brig

A young white soldier, Alton Levy, of the Bronx, N. Y., is in the guard house today at the Lincoln, Nebraska, Air Base, because he apparently protested too often against the discriminatory treatment of the Negro soldiers at the base.

Gets "Busted"

Formerly a staff sergeant, Levy was recently charged with conduct unbecoming a soldier. He was court-martialed on Aug. 13, reduced to the rank of private and sentenced to four months in the guard house at hard labor with an $18 a month forfeiture of pay. Prosecuting Army officers were reported as having referred to his activity and statements in behalf of the Negro soldiers as "unpatriotic" and "reprehensible."

Appealed to President

A group of New York liberals and labor leaders have urged President Roosevelt to review the case of Pvt. Levy. In an open letter to the President, Secretary of War Stimson, Army Chief of Staff Marshall and Judge Advocate Cramer, they warned that "the existing racial tensions in this nation are already so great that we must be extremely careful not to penalize those who seek to establish better relationships between the races."

Supporting Appeal

Among those who signed the protest were Roger Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; A. Philip Randolph, international president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; John Chamberlain, New York Times book reviewer; Lester Granger, executive secretary, National Urban League; Father William C. Kernan, director, Christian American Institute for Democracy; William Agar, director, Freedom House; Morris Milgram, secretary, Workers Defense League, and Ann Arnold Hedgeman, of the Brooklyn NAACP.

After being inducted into the Army, Levy spent a period of basic military training in the South, then was transferred to the Lincoln Air Base at Lincoln, Neb. He rose to the rank of staff sergeant, and noting the treatment of Negro troops tioned at the base, he obtained his assignment to work with them. In a series of letters to a New York friend, he wrote:

Segregated in Barracks

"I told you, I think, that we have about 300 Negro illiterates we are training. Well, they finally segregated them in barracks about two miles away from where we stay.

"Most of the whites in charge of them are Southerners. Naturally, as a result, they are treated like dogs. They are kept in camp while the others are allowed out. They sleep in old canvas cots while the others sleep in the new army cots and mattresses and all the trimmin's. And, they are hounded and harassed and yelled at and cursed and insulted and generally treated abominably.

"I have been protesting against the treatment they have been getting ever since I arrive here. At staff meetings and in sessions with the officers I have made my criticism clear. In fact, while I have not been the only one to feel this way, I have been the only one to make my feelings public to officers and enlisted men."

He concludes this letter by saying: "Already, I am called 'Nigger lover.' "

On Aug. 9, shortly after a riot between Mexican and Negro soldiers at the Lincoln Air Base, Levy wrote that he had been examined by Army intelligence officers about the objections he was supposed to have voiced concerning the treatment of the Negro soldiers. He admitted that he had made the statements about the Negroes, but denied the other charges made against him, which included an allegation that he had termed the general a "drunkard."

At the court martial, which was held on Friday, Aug. 13, the chief testimony against Levy was given by a WAC, Pfc. Helen Perkins, and another girl, whom Levy and some other soldiers had met socially. Pvt. Perkins also gave evidence against four other soldiers with whom she had dates. Levy wrote that the names of the men "were Rothman, Greenbaum, Josephson, Levy and Bolton. Bolton," he said, "the only Aryan to be turned in, was the guy who visited with me at the home of the girl at the bar. As it developed it was a good thing that he was there because it was his testimony which defisitely cleared me of the charge she made against me—that I had deliberately made the positive statement that Mrs. Duncan (wife of the General) owned the bus line and that the general was a drunkard."

Denying all of the charges except his statements about the mistreatment of the Negro soldiers, Levy told the officers of the court-martial that "I wouldn't deny them if I could. I said them and I still say them."

Born in New York City, Levy is 29, attended Townsend Harris High School and the College of the City of New York. He is a former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, an amateur writer of songs and skits, one of the latter having been used on a Fred Allen radio program. Since becoming a soldier, some of his material has been used in shows at Army posts, his biggest song hit being "G I Love You."

In an interview with Pvt. Levys family—his father, Morris Levy and his sisters, Harriett and Lila Levy—they stated that they were one hundred per cent with their son and brother on the attitude he had taken; that while they regretted that he had lost all he had worked so hard to gain since entering the Army, they were more than proud of the fact that he had not allowed being in the Army to close his eyes to the discrimination and mistreatment of another minority group of his fellowmen who were serving in that same Army.

Meanwhile, the Workers Defense League, headed by Morris Milgram and Laurence T. Hosie, has joined together with CIO and AFL unions, and many liberal leaders, for an organized protest against the court-martialing of Levy as well as "to protect against the continued Jim Crowing of Negroes in the United States armed forces."

Segregation Takes Huge Toll in Selective Service Program

Baltimore: Maryland

Afro-American

Army-Navy Restrictions Held Down Volunteers to 2 Per Cent; Illiteracy Rejections 5 Times White Rate

WASHINGTON

The effect of segregation as a deterrent upon the total war effort was spotlighted last week with the release of Selective Service's report of its operations covering the year following Pearl Harbor.

The 674-page report, issued by General Lewis B. Hershey, national director, was submitted to President Roosevelt as a record of the administration of the Selective Service Act covering the period from December 7, 1941, to December 5, 1942.

In eighteen pages of the report, devoted to "Negroes and Selective Service," the lowered rates of induction of colored men resulting from discriminatory practices both within and outside of the services were shown.

Only 1.8 Per Cent Volunteer

According to the report, only 1.8 per cent of the 3,015,550 colored men registered for military duty enlisted voluntarily. This small percentage was attributed to restrictions placed upon colored voluntary enlistments by the army, navy, marine corps, and coast guard.

One of the major and yet unsolved problems encountered by selective service, it was pointed out, is the high rejection rate among colored registrants because of educational deficiency which is five times as high as that among whites.

Declaring that the largest numbers of illiterates are found in the sections where separate school systems exist, the report stated that no national program has yet been devised to give pre-induction training to illiterate registrants and so increase their availability for military service.

Urge Colored Educators

As a corrective measure, the report urged that conferences of the War Department, Selective Service, the U.S. Office of Education and other government agencies directed toward relief of the situation include colored educators.

Relaxation of army rules on educational requirements, while permitting induction of higher numbers of colored, has also had the effect of increasing the problem of education within the army.

Following its statement that venereal diseases form the most important cause for rejection of colored registrants, the report stated that remedial steps are being taken and added:

Raps Poor Housing

"There is growing recognition of the social aspect of these diseases. Bad housing is recognized as a significant factor in the prevalence of venereal diseases.

"A number of the larger urban communities have undertaken to improve housing conditions among colored people during the last few years, but this work has practically stopped because of the effect of war conditions on building construction."

Few Draft Dodgers

Declaring that "evasion of the law is not a serious problem"

47d-1943

Protest Fails to Halt Jim-Crow Battalion at Fort Des Moines

Baltimore, M
Afro-American
SEP 7 1943

FORT DES MOINES, Ia.—Following almost upon the heels of a protest to Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, WAC head, against the setting up of separate regiments at first WAC training center, here, an all colored battalion, staffed by colored officers, was organized last week.

Va. [illegible] Nash is recuperating

Segregation Opposed

Two weeks ago a committee headed by Mrs. Jeanette W. Brown, executive secretary of the National Council of Negro Women, told Director Hobby that it directly opposed the setting up of a separate regiment of colored WAC's at Des Moines because this will set back any program of full integration in the Women's Army, and follow the segregation pattern of the regular army.

Wanted Enlistment Aid

Mrs. Brown had, at that time, just returned from a government sponsored tour of WAC training centers, given for the purpose of having the tourists return and interest their organizations in aiding in a drive to recruit more young women for the service.

At that time, the National Council of Negro Women said that it could not advocate enlistment unless the WAC offered all advantages of training and promotion, without segregation, to all inductees. The council is the only non-white member of the Women's Interest Bureau of the War Department.

The committee which made the protest included Dr. Mary Bethune, president of the council; Miss Elsie Austin, attorney; Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, chairman of the A.K.A. Non-Partisan Council; Mrs. Venice Spragg, national chairman of the employment department of NCNW; Miss Dorothy Height, executive secretary of the Washington YWCA; Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, president of the YWCA; Miss Hilda Orr, NCNW, and Mrs. Borwn.

All-Colored Unit

The new battalion is under command of First Officer Sarah E. Jackson, First Officer Jackson took over her new duties, last week, with an acting battalion adjutant and an acting sergeant major comprising the battalion staff.

The company commanders of the new battalion are Second Officers Ina McFadden, Glendora Moore, Vera Campbell, Alma O. Berry and Oleta Crain.

Hastie Urges Fight On Army Jim Crow

NOV 3 1943
Daily Worker New York N.Y.

William H. Hastie, who resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War in protest over Army jim crow, urged a crowd which packed the Allen AME Church, South Jamaica, Sunday night, to intensify its fight against mistreatment of the Negro soldier on the home front.

Mr. Hastie, who is dean of the Howard University Law School, Washington, D. C., and a former Federal judge in the Virgin Islands, also told his 700 Negro and white hearers that Congress, in killing the Federal aid to education bill because it would have helped Negroes, hurt the white child as well as the Negro child.

Referring to Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's ruling last week that the President's executive order against discrimination by employers holding war contracts was not mandatory, Mr. Hastie said that Warren asked Mobilization Director James Byrnes for an "interpretation" of that part of Executive Order 9346 which said that "contracting agencies" . . . "shall include in all contracts" . . . "a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate," etc.

Byrnes is reported to have said the President did not mean "must," whereupon Warren issued the ruling limiting the power of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Mr. Hastie said that the President himself must be requested by the people to say what he meant and to say it without delay.

FORECASTS HEARINGS

He forecast a public hearing in Washington soon on the numerous complaints of Army jim crow and the general mistreatment of the Negro soldier on the home front.

The meeting was called by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People both as a testimonal to Mr. Hastie for his work in behalf of the Negro service men and to acquaint the community further with facts in the case of James Penn, imprisoned Negro worker charged with "mugging." Penn, 27 and married, was at work at the time the alleged "mugging" was committed, according to witnesses. Money is being raised for an appeal.

Joseph Green, president of the Jamaica branch of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and Communist leader, was repeatedly applauded as he analyzed the war situation as it affected the Negro people.

Green said: "We are fighting racial oppression on a world scale and that world-wide oppression of Negroes, Jews and other minorities is led by Hitler and the Nazi armies. That is why we need a second land front in Western Europe. We've got to smash these armies completely and liberate the world from fascist racialism."

He was loudly applauded.

Discourage Six Girls Trying To Join WAVES

AUG 18 1943
Atlanta, Georgia

Applicants Given Rush Act in D. C.

Daily World

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Six girls were rebuffed when they sought vainly to to join the WAVES at a recruiting office Friday afternoon. Although two were able to wangle applications out of the recruiting officer, every means of discouraging them was made, even to closing down the office because "it was too hot."

Two of the girls entered the office first. They were Hazel Lee of Cleveland, graduate of the New York Secretarial School and of the Howard School of Dentistry as a hygienist; and Althea Jefferson of Washington, Pa., a stenographer and [illegible]. Their names and [illegible] were taken, they were given literature and told that 'no plans" had yet been made for them.

As they left, Zelma Hammond of San Francisco and Bernice Jacobs of Los Angeles entered the office. Miss Hammond received her bachelor's degree in biology and economics at San Francisco State College while Miss Jacobs, a graduate of the University of California, has taught school in Texas and is now engaged on her masters in American history. The yeomen was taking the name of Miss Hammond when a superior officer summoned him. Another carried on and got as far as the name of Miss Jacobs when an unidentified officer came through and told them they were closing for the day since the heat was terrific. The yeoman never finished taking the address and the front door was closed. They were given literature and asked to leave by the rear, refused, and were finaly shown through the front door.

OFFICE CLOSED

About half an hour later, Cleomine B. Lewis of Tulsa, Okla., and Cora E. Wright, Lancaster, S. C., sought to apply. Miss Lewis has her degree in English from Virginia Union university and is a stenographer, while Miss Wright is a graduate of South Carolina State College, has taught two years, and now attends Howard. Upon entering they were told that the office really was closed but that "a little breeze" came along and so they opened for a few minutes.

They approached the desk and immediately the recruiting officer busied himself at the telephone, although he had said nothing into it for five minutes when a superior officer called for him. Upon returning, the [illegible] explained, he was cordial and appeared to want to be helpful. They were given applications, paraphernalia and literature, and told to fill them out at home. They wanted to do it there but were discouraged since the office couldn't permit it after five o'clock.

No explanation, official or otherwise, has been forthcoming. The navy department refuses to say that is the status of its consideration of plans to accept Negro women into the WAVES. Meanwhile, the AKA Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs continues to press its campaign to force the issue with the navy department, insisting that it be done too on a non-segregated basis.

Court Martial White Officer For Criticising Treatment Of Colored Troops In The South

Guardian
Boston, Mass
SEP 11 1943

Leaders Protest To President

Protesting the courtmarshialing of Sergeant Alton Levy of the Lincoln, Nebraska Air Base for his expressed disapprval of the Army's treatment of colored troops stationed there, a score of leading liberals, including William M. Agar, Roger N Baldwin, Lester Granger, A Philip Randolph, Norman Thomas, Irving Abramson, Reinhold Niebuhr, John Chamberlain, and Charles S Zimmerman, urged that President Roosevelt and high Army circles conduct a thorough review of the case. Sgt Levy is serving 4 months at hard labor in the Lincoln Air Base guardhouse after having been demoted to a private for [illegible] ing the discriminatory treatment the colored troops received.

In the open letter to the President, Secretary Stimson Army Chief of Staff Marshall and Judge Advocate General Cramer, the liberal group pointed to the dangerous reaction upon army and civilian morale resulting from the persecution of those who believe in democracy and equality between races. Noting that racial tensions in the nation were already "great", the President and Army chiefs were warned against penalizing "those who seek to establish better relationships between the races," and [illegible] action on the case.

Sergeant Levy, 29, of New York City, a former organizer for the International Garment Workers Union, rose to the rank of staff sergeant in the year of service he saw. At the Lincoln Air Base in Nebraska he was assigned to work with colored troops, and noted the discriminatory treatment to the soldiers of that race in the matter of new equipment in their Jim Crow segregation and their rude treatment by officers. Levy protested repeatedly at local staff meetings against the undemocratic treatment of the colored troops, both because of his concern for the principles of demcracy and his fear of increased race conflict.

Early in August, after a riot between Americans of Mexican descent and colored troops, Levy was questioned by Army intelligence officers on alleged statements he had made, primarily his protests against the treatment of colored troops at the post. Levy admitted the statements of protest against colored troop life, but denied the other charges. On August 13, the Army authorities instituted formal prosecution of the charges with Levy's courtmartial on grounds of conduct unbecoming a soldier.

SEP 11 1943

Officer Hates Negroes, Asks Transfer From Unit

Chicago, Ill. Defender

JUL 3 1943

LOS ANGELES, Cal. — A white army lieutenant has just requested transfer from the 93rd Division because he hates Negroes, the Defender learned early this week.

Lieut. Howard D. Steward, a recently commissioned officer in the famous 25th Infantry, made the request in a letter addressed to General Fred Miller, and gave as his reason "my prejudice against Negroes."

The letter, which pleaded for relief from duty with the 93rd Division and transfer to a white unit, said, in part: "I feel that I can be of more service to the army in another organization. My dislike for Negro soldiers has become an obsession with me and I feel that my services to the government are not as useful as they might be with white troops."

Declaring that he was not aware of his hatred for Negroes while he was serving as public relations officer of the division, Steward declared: "It was not until I was transferred to a regiment and had closer contact with them that I realized how much I dislike them. Many times I think I have been unjust in my decisions and actions with soldiers because of my dislike for their race."

Col. E. M. Yon, commanding the 25th Infantry, recommended approval of the transfer with the statement "I believe that his general value to the 93rd Division is very negligible."

By his own action and admission, Lieut. Steward gave indisputable support to the many arguments that have been advanced against the army's stubbornness in refusing to man Negro units with colored officers. While critics have held that there is no logical excuse for the setting up of Negro divisions, as such, in the first place, it has been contended that the least the government could do would be to place colored officers in charge of colored soldiers.

Steward was appointed to a second lieutenancy on December 12, 1941, and to a first lieutenancy on September 28, 1942.

White Sergeant Courtmartialed For Friendliness To Race Troops

Chicago, Ill Defender

SEP 11 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Courtmartialed, reduced to a private, fined and sentenced to four months in the guardhouse!

This is the experience of Sgt. Alton Levy—now Private Levy—all because he expressed his opposition to the jim-crow and unfair treatment accorded Negro soldiers at the army base in Lincoln, Nebraska. Levy is white and Jewish.

A touch of anti-semitism figures in the case, too. The charges against Levy are reported to have grown out of a report made by a Wac, allegedly planted by the intelligence division. She is reputed to have "dated" twelve soldiers over a period of investigation. But the only six she submitted unfavorable reports on were six Jewish soldiers.

Levy's persecution was based on reports that he had made remarks about the general and his wife, about the running of the post, about Lincoln, Neb., politics and the effect of it upon the post, and about the Negroes and the way they are mistreated. He denied all the remarks except those concerning the Negroes. He admits saying the Negroes are ill-treated.

Protested Bad Treatment

Although the Wac is reported to have admitted there was nothing unpatriotic about Levy's statements, and though the evidence was flimsy concerning his statements other than concerning Negroes, he was found guilty on court-martial. The case is now passing through the routine process of review, where it will probably be automatically approved—unless the public voices its protest of such gestapoism.

The following letter, written in July by Levy to a friend sets forth some of the things concerning Negroes about which he admitted having made statements—which statements became the basis for his court-martial, reduction in rank, fine and imprisonment:

"I told you, I think, that we have about 300 Negro illiterates we are training. Well—they finally segregated them in barracks about two miles from where we stay.

"Most of the whites in charge of them are Southerners. Naturally, as a result, they are treated like dogs. They are kept in camp while the others are allowed out. They sleep in old canvas cots while the others sleep in the new army cots with mattresses and 'all the trimmins'. And, they are hounded and harassed and yelled at and cursed and insulted and generally treated abominably.

Moves To Area

"They're afraid to move. They get no sympathy and no help. It's unbelievable. I have had ever so many fights about it. I've argued and protested but all in vain. Today, the commanding officer asked me if I wanted to take charge of the office they've set up in the Negro area. I immediately said 'yes,' and was assigned there. Actually, nobody else wanted it. All of the drill instructors and teachers have refused to live in this area with the men even though it means hoofing two miles each morning in order to get to them.

"I have moved down here and am, so far, the only white living in the area. I don't know how much good I'll be able to do for them. I may be able to get them more passes and a recreational hall for themselves. Treatment is usually a reflection of the officer in charge, so changes will depend upon his attitude.

"I have been protesting against the treatment they have been getting ever since I arrived here. At staff meetings and in sessions with the officers I have made my criticism clear. In fact, while I have not been the only one to feel this way, I have been the only one to make my feelings public to officers and enlisted men.

"Already, I am called 'Nigger lover,' etc. They can't understand me (the whites, I mean). 'How can you live with them and use the same toilet?'—that sort of stuff. For my part I like it. It's interesting and besides, I'm curious to see exactly how much I can do with them. I only wish I had more control and authority over them than I do. This way my hands are tied."

Jim Crow Seaman's Service Unit Flayed

Pittsburgh, Pa Courier

OCT 9 194

BALTIMORE, Md.—(ANP)—An investigation of the policy of the local comittee of the United Seamen's service by the national headquarters was reported under way last week after the disclosure that colored seamen are not allowed the use of lodging and recreational facilties of the Seaman's Service club here.

The color bar was exposed by Archie Jenkins, 73-year-old merchant marine cook, who had just returned from a voyage to a war zone. Mr. Jenkins reported making a visit to the club to secure accommodations for overnight, just as two white seamen were checking out and that he was told that colored seamen were not provided lodging.

BAN ADMITTED

That the club does have a ban against colored seamen using the facilities was later admitted by Victor W. Bowyer, white, post executive, who is in charge of the club.

Mr. Boyer said that the port committee had enunciated the policy for the club and in doing so had taken into consideration local traditions. He added that "we over at the club are in a different spot" in the matter.

ANTI-BIAS STEPS BEGIN

James Drury, white, port agent for the National Maritime union, asserted this week that some steps to eradicate the discrimination at the club have already begun. He added:

"The question of denying the use of the facilities of the club to colored seamen was raised by a representative of the shipping industry and vigorously opposed by the union, backed by representatives of the War Shipping administration.

"The matter was referred to the National United Seamen's service body and the national office upheld the contention of the union. Despite that, the local committee has not seen fit to reverse its ruling denying the use of the facilities to colored seamen."

Board Rejects Pettit for Training as Bombardier

Baltimore. Md Afro-American

SEP 11 194

BALTIMORE

Despite the fact that Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson announced July 15 that colored men would be trained as bombardiers and navigators, the local Aviation Cadet Examining Board has rejected the application of George D. Pettit.

Young Pettit, 21, a former student at A. and T. College, Greensboro, N.C., passed the board's examination with a score of 188 on August 20, and was ordered to report for physical examination Tuesday morning.

Rejected on Height

In the midst of the examination he was informed that he was too tall (Pettit is seventy-three inches tall) to be a fighter pilot and that there was no need to continue with the examination, as the army was accepting colored men only as members of pursuit squadron forces.

At the same time, however, white applicants may be seventy-six inches in height and qualify as glider, fighter, instructor, bomber, observation, and numerous other pilot posts.

Sought Three Jobs

When Pettit applied to take the examination, he said that it was his understanding it would qualify him for three pilot jobs: bombardier, navigator, or ordinary pilot.

Eight others, all white, took the examination along with Pettit

47d-1943

PM

Sergeant, Busted to Private, Had Served Three Months of Term

New York, N. Y

NOV 14 1943

Pvt. Alton Levy, form[illegible]or organizer, has been released from the Army stockade at Lincoln, [illegible] Air Base after serving 88 days of a four-month sentence. He has been transferred to an undisclosed camp after completion of his sentence, which was shortened by the accumulation of time off for good behavior.

The Public Relations Office at the base said Levy was returned to duty as a private, to which rank he had been reduced from sergeant when sentenced.

Levy's sudden release from the Army prison camp came as a complete surprise to his father, Morris Levy, of the Bronx, and to his sister, Harriet Levy. Only last week, Miss Levy visited her brother at the Base, but Army authorities barred her from discussing the case, which brought nationwide protests from liberal and labor organizations.

Late Friday night, his family received a telegram from Levy from Kansas City, Mo., which read:

"Released at 10 in morning. On train at 11. Wonderful to be out again. Will write. Alton."

A form[illegible]e International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, AFL, Levy was sent to the stockade, stripped of his sergeant's stripes and demoted to private on three counts, the main count charging that he "wilfully and maliciously" made "false statements" about the mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the Base. The other two counts accused him of circulating slanderous remarks about the commanding officer, Brig. Gen. Early Duncan, and his wife.

Evidence presented during the trial, and since the court-martial, cited numerous instances of the mistreatment of Negroes at the Base. At the time Levy was brought before the Base's officials, Levy was preparing a full report to his superiors on the mishandling of Negro soldiers at the Base, pointing out that Negroes were segregated in "ghetto-like" quarters, discriminated against in the issuance of passes and provided with inferior recreational fac[illegible].

Levy also denied the War Dept.'s charge that he circulated rumors about Gen. and Mrs. Duncan. Leon M. Despres in letters to the War Dept. pointed out that these rumors were known to Army authorities months before Levy's trial.

Despite protests from AFL and the power of truth and justice.

"But the fight is not yet won. Already we have secured many improvements in the conditions of Negro soldiers at the Lincoln Army Air Base and we have obtained the freedom of a [illegible] soldier. The Workers Defense Lea[illegible]ks the aid of all progressive Americans in keeping up the fight to win the restitution of his stripes and to end the system of Army Jim Crow against which Pvt. Levy fought. Restitution of Pvt. Levy to his rank of staff sergeant is essential to give courage to thousands of soldier boys

CIO leaders who appealed to President Roosevelt to intervene and launch a full inquiry in the case. [illegible] War Dept. stood by its original [illegible] Levy was not punished for his criticism of the mistreatment of Negroes. The War Dept., however, refused to make public the testimony at the trial.

Decision Questioned

Supporters of Levy also questioned the final decision of the court-martial, pointing out that 48 hours before the final sentence was announced, Levy appeared to have been acquitted of the charges. That was on Saturday, Aug. 14. On Monday, Aug. 16, the court of seven officers again convened, recalled one of the witnesses who had testified against Levy, and found Levy guilty of all the charges.

The Levy case dates back to Aug. 9, about a week after Levy arrived at the Base and was asisgned to work in the Negro area. On that day he was called before three officers for questioning about statements [illegible]sedly made to WAC Cpl. Helen Perkins, who was in charge of registering civilians at the Base's Service Club, and to a Miss Helen Anderson, of Lincoln.

The officers accused Levy of saying that "the Base is run by Mrs. Duncan for her sole benefit, with the approval of her political friends," and that "the colored soldiers at the base are being mistreated." He was also accused of saying that "approximately 290 colored soldiers are at the Base but only 40 are allowed to go to town at night because Mrs. Duncan does not want her friends shocked by the sight of a drunken Negro on the streets of Lincoln."

Levy denied making any of the statements, except that "Negro soldiers are mis[illegible]d at the Base." According to [illegible]res, Le[illegible] freely admitted that statement and elaborated on it."

Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers Defense League, which led the fight for Levy's release, said:

"Pvt. Levy's release is a great victory for democracy, a victory for the average man. People kept saying that the Army could not be influenced by public opinion. This victory shows the power of the thousands of letters that deluged the White House, the power of the liberal, labor, Negro and Church press which championed his cause

Pvt. Alton Levy

who believe in the enforcement of the anti-discrimination clause in the Selective Service Act.

"Gen. Duncan had threatened that Levy would not be freed if the public protest continued. Levy was freed just because of the national public demand of soldiers and civilians, of WA[illegible]d housewives that justice be done. Many [illegible]nown thousands participated [illegible]nning this victory.

"This is a victory against Army Jim Crow and we must press our advantage now by demanding its end."

WASHINGTON DAILY FLAYS ARMY OVER WAY NEGRO SOLDIERS ARE MISTREATED IN MANY SECTIONS

Nashville. Tenn.

Globe and Independent

AUG 27 1943

"Post" Says H[illegible]And Violence Visited Upon Colored Troops Is Dangerous Disregard Of Professed Democratic Principles

WASHINGTON, August 26.—In a[illegible]forthright editorial statem[illegible] Washington Post, leading c[illegible]l daily, last week charged that the "humiliation" and "violence" visited against Negro soldiers by both white soldiers and civilians, and the consigning of colored troopers to an "inferior status" is "one more manifestation of a dangerous disregard of democratic values which has been c[illegible]d over from civilian [illegible] into the armed services."

Declaring it the inescapable duty of the army to "promote among its enlisted personnel a decent regard for the rights and feelings" of Negroes in the service, the Post suggested launching of educational programs among whites to afford a "greater knowledge of the Negro's contribution to the war effort, of his legitimate aspirations. They simply cannot e[illegible]ively wage a united nations war with color prejudices in their minds."

"Efforts must be made at the same time to make Negroes feel that th[illegible] contribution is appreciated. They have shared in some of the toughest [illegible] of this war. They are entit[illegible] to hope that this world struggle for human liberation will open up to them richer opportunities for advancement and education than they have hitherto enjoyed. They can scarcely be expected to give full devotion to the democratic cause unless it affords some recognition of their legitimate aspirations.

"Any such program of education obviously m[illegible]st be accompanied by a firm insistence on the part of the army that Negro rights be respected by men in uniform and civilian alike. There are many ways in which any intelligent camp commander can act to erase the causes of friction between white and colored troops.

"He can see to it, if Negroes are segregated, that adequate recreational facilities are available to them, not [illegible] inside the camp but also in the community near which the camp is located. [illegible] can act to secure reasonable transportation service for his colored soldiers in places where jim crow traditions prevail. And, above all, he can insist that civilians show respect to the uniform his men wear, whatever the color of their skins. Officers should not be placed in command of Negro troops unless they have a sympathy for them and a willingness to safeguard their rights.

"It is no part of the army's business, to be sure[illegible] remedy all the defects of American life. But is a part of the army's busines[illegible] set an example of devotion to democratic principles. And it is high time now for the army to do this in regard to its Negro soldiers."

Age

Negro And Jewish Prisoners In Germany Not Farmed Out On Land As Are Whites

New York, N. Y.

OCT 9

Negroes of American and other nationalities are among the prisoners incarcerated in Germany and Japan. There were approximately 6,000 American prisoners alone in Germany in June. [illegible]stimated that thousand[illegible] colonial Negroes captured [illegible] North Africa and France are also behind barbed-wires there.

Prisoners are divided into three groups; civilians, interned when we engaged in hostilities; fliers, brought down over enemy territory; and the infantrymen captured in Tunisia.

Negroes are housed indiscriminately with other prisoners in Germany, it was learned from Dr. Tracy Strong, world director of War Prisoners Aid, YMCA, one of the participating services included in the over-all National War Fund, which begins its nation-wide drive for funds this month.

There is at least one method of treatment accorded Negro and Jewish prisoners in Germany that differs from that of white prisoners, it was learned: that is: they are not farmed out for agricultural work, as are white infantry pisoners but are housed in the prison camps at all times.

This is done apparently to keep them from mixing with the Aryan population, which Hitler holds out as the master race. Prisoners who work on farms are frequently housed on the farms where they work.

Under terms of the Geneva Conference, fliers and internes (civilian prisoners) are not permitted to work on the land.

Prison camps are already well organized, according to international regulations, with Red Cross parcels, clothing and supplies from the YMCA already filtering in regularly through neutral cha[illegible]

OCT 9 1943

Dr. Benjamin Mays, president of Morehouse College, is a member of the board of directors of the War Prisoners Aid, YMCA. This agency is one of the participating services in the National War Fund. It conducts recreational, educational and religious activities for the men behind the barbed wire, who, although comparatively comfortable, live bleak and barren lives at best.

The War Prisoners Aid cooperates with the Red Cross, which supplies material relief, information to families and works for the improvement of prison camp life. The service is extended to prisoners without regard to color or race. Observers from neutral countries make regular visits to the Axis camps, talking with prisoners and commandants, looking into their needs and treatment.

Wherever possible the War Prisoners Aid provides the prisoners with games played in their homelands, handicraft equipment, hobby material, books, music and musical instruments, and other things.

Jewish Soldier To Face Second Court Martial

Daily World
Atlanta. Georgia
SEP 26 1943

Fought for Fair Treatment Of Negro Soldiers

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Army officials at the Lincoln, Neb., army base are considering a new court martial for Alton Levy according to a report by the Workers Defense league. Levy was tried previously by a special court martial and reduced to the rank of private for demanding better treatment for Negro soldiers attached to his camp.

Morris Milgram, national secretary, and Neil Scott, public relations director, said they had confidential information from sources that "cannot be divulged lest further injustices occur," purporting to show army officials are planning the new trial.

WAC TESTIFIED

The first court martial was based on evidence against Levy supplied by Cpl. Helen Perkins, a WAC, but the presently contemplated trial will be based on statements Levy made in leters to Miss Rosalina Peck of New York which were published by the WDL. The court martial is said to be called for alleged violations of the articles of war.

"If it is a crime to reveal army violations of the selective act provisions which call for 'no discrimination against any person on account of race or color' in the selection and training of draftees, then we plead guilty and it is against us that the government should act," said the WLD representatives.

"Brig. Gen. Early E. W. Duncan is a southerner and an old army man of hard and tough appearance," went on the league agents. "A recent visitor to the Lincoln air base talked to Gen. Duncan concerning Levy's plight. This person whose name must remain undisclosed because of his close proximity to army jurisdiction, said that Gen. Duncan stated that Levy made "subversive statements' and that he didn't want people to think that Levy's being a Jew had anything to do with it.

SAID HE WAS IMPARTIAL

The general claimed to be impartial in administering justice and declared that Levy was still under military orders and if he divulged military secrets he must answer for it. He added that nothing could be done about the court martial and that the Negro-white situation must be watched closely because "There are a lot of southern soldiers who don't want to associate with Negroes."

Eyewitnesses at Lincoln say that the only place on the military reservation where democracy exists is in the guard house where prisoners who are white, Mexican and Negro share jugs, towels, soap, cigarets and fraternize unreservedly. In the "so-called freedom outside the guard house," the soldiers are rigidly segregated, which has "produced seething animosity and a bloody riot."

New Republic Slaps Army for 'Mistake' of Apeing Dixie Hate

OCT 23 1943
Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

Special Section on Race's Future Calls Intermarriage Laws Futile; Praises Colored Press for Job Fight

NEW YORK—Causes, dangers and possible solutions of American interracial unrest are discussed in a special supplement on the future of colored American, in the October 18 issue of the New Republic.

The 20-page supplement deals separately with race science, racial progress and the colored American's status in industry, the armed forces and politics.

The army is accused of a military, as well as ethical, mistake, "which should by now be apparent," in the "excessive degree" to which the South's jim-crow pattern has been adhered to.

Morale Damaged

This practice, the writer continues, has lowered the morale of colored soldiers to the extent of creating the army's "most serious background problem" and has in turn been responsible for acute unrest among civilians over the mistreatment of the soldiers.

The writer defends colored newspapers against accusations that they have created this civilian unrest, explaining that the press has done no more than "report and react to actual instances of cruelty and brutality to colored soldiers by civilians, or discriminatory treatment of them in the army."

Many Whites Disgusted

The morale of many democratically inclined white soldiers is also said to have been damaged by observation of Dixie abuses which army authorities condone, and a mixed division of volunteers is proposed as a partial solution.

Danger after War

The writer predicts a "tragic day for the South when white troops and colored troops are mustered out and return home," continuing:

"It is impossible for the army to take a colored youth and make a soldier out of him, teach him how to kill on a battlefield, how to defend himself, how to sustain himself in a crisis through courage, daring and skill, and then expect him to slip back easily into his former role of complacency, servility and caution."

Employment Restricted

On the question of industrial employment, the writer notes the limitations in job classifications and upgrading which have attended wartime progress, and the fact that this progress has come chiefly through sheer need of manpower, rather than through a sense of justice of efforts of the FEPC. He continues:

"The colored man has two means of preparing himself for the po[illegible] crisis. [illegible] is to try to nail down every gain he has made by getting formal rulings from law courts and governmental agencies.

"This phase is important, but it is not enough. The colored man must also try by good work to fit so well into industry that management will see no economic advantage, and perhaps even disadvantage, in laying him off because of the color of his skin.

Press Commended

"In driving this vital fact into the minds of colored workers, the colored press and a number of other organization, hammering away week after week, logically, compellingly, are performing one of the most constructive educational tasks in American history.

"While the colored press has been widely attacked for its militancy, white critics at the same time have consistently overlooked or failed to understand this important work."

Whites Must Help

An end to oppression and discrimination and obliteration of slums are proposed as means by which whites should contribute to this program.

Race science is discussed on a basis of various scientific refutations of white superiority theories and the following comment:

Intermarriage Laws Futile

"The bugaboo of intermarriage, which lurks in even the most civilized white minds, could as well be forgotten. People are going to mate with whom they please, as they have in the past, and laws to prevent it are futile.

"For the white people who fear intermarriage, there is literally no problem; they will never be forced to submit to it.

"Marriages, to quote Henry Fielding, are made of 'high and tender friendship,' and such an emotion does not grow from a feeling of repulsion.

Few Are All-Colored

"Nor have the South's strict anti-miscegenation laws prevented a constant lightening of the colored man's skin. There have been many mixed couples, legally married in Northern States, whose lives would put to shame the clandestine carnality of the white men who have created the generations of mixed-blood Negroes—to whom they have repudiated all the obligations of parenthood.

"Of the thirteen million colored Americans, six million are light-skinned mulattoes. Melville Herskovits estimates that less than a quarter of all Negroes are pure-blooded.

"It is ironic that those who cry loudest against 'social equality,' by which they mean intermarriage, hail from the States, counties and townships where white blood, regardless of [illegible] flows [illegible] the heaviest volume into colored veins."

Poll Tax Attacked

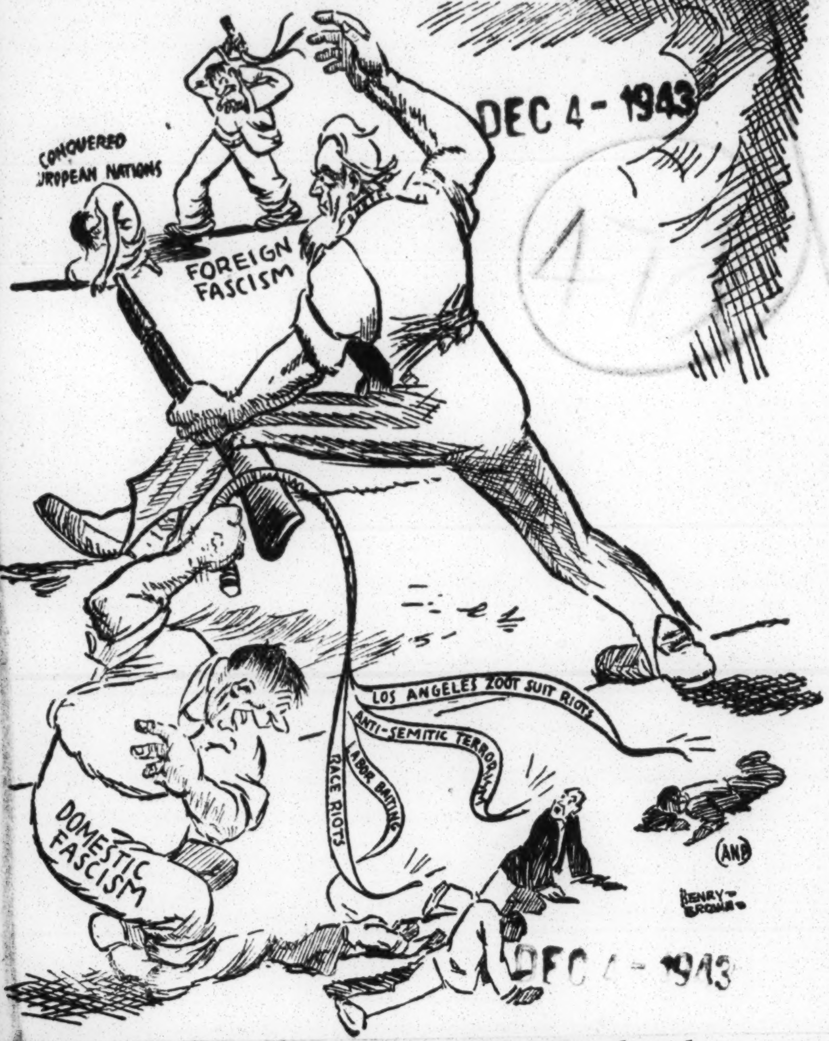
"Elimination of the poll tax," says the writer, "will not, of course, assure the colored man suffrage; other techniques, ranging from discriminatingly administered qualification tests to threats of violence, will continue for the time being to keep him from the polls.

"But the poll tax is the principal buttress between the Southern man and the ballot, and its removal will bring him pressing ever nearer to political emancipation."

47d-1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

BUT, WHAT ABOUT THE MONSTER BEHIND YOU?



DEC 4 - 1943

It All Happened in Good Old England:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Soldiers Banned at Dance Arrested on Ten Counts

NOV 27 1943

LONDON, England—Fourteen Negro soldiers were standing court-martial proceedings on ten counts each at Paignton, Devon, last month, charged with mutiny, shooting with intent to murder two U. S. Army police sergeants, and making inflammatory statements in the presence of other soldiers.

During the trial, however, events leading up to the arrest of the men revealed that they had been subjected to "dixie" tactics on the very night before the alleged shooting incident in the square of a Cornish town. First, they were asked to leave a dance at the Town Hall, and second, they were refused drinks at a public house.

THREATEN TROUBLE

A sergeant testified that while he was on military police duty, five of the men came to the dance. He said that they were asked to show passes, but when they did not have any, a lieutenant asked them to leave. As he was about to leave, the sergeant stated, one of the men threatened that if the white boys touched him—"well, you wait and see."

"Two English Royal Engineers started 'butting in,'" the sergeant went on, "and told the American police that the colored soldiers were being picked on."

The following night, the non-commissioned officer stated, Negro soldiers entered the lounge of a public house where he was on duty. A group of American soldiers, he said, left and others remained standing until the colored boys left. The bartender told them that they could not be served in that part of the house and there was a lot of mumbling among the men.

CONFINED TO CAMP

Describing incidents on the night of the shooting, a private named Edwards said the men went back to the town in a formation of threes, led by a private with a tommy-gun.

Cross-examined Edward said he saw ammuntion issued to all the men except two who had bayonets.

He went along because he was frightened. When they started firing he ran away.

Court Martial Of Colman Is Questioned

Journal & Guide
Norfolk. Va.

Democratic Way Seen Stake In Army Policies

CHICAGO, Ill. —(ANP)— A strongly worded resolution was directed last week to the Veterans of Foreign Wars national encampment in New York by the Charles L. Hunt Post No. 2024, roundly scoring the Army court martial policy and segregation and discrimination by the Army command and civilians against Negro soldiers.

Calling the recent court martial of Col. William Colman, former commander of Selfridge Field, Mich., "outrageous" and a "travesty upon justice" the resolution said upon justice" the resolution said that "millions of Americans are concerned with the type of leadership in our Army if high ranking officers could indulge in drunkenness while on duty, especially if intoxication were to be used as an excuse for the wanton shooting of a private soldier."

For his crime of shooting Pvt. Willie McRae, Colman was reduced to the rank of a captain.

CITIZENS ALARMED

Citizens are alarmed over the policies of the Army with respect to Negro troops which allows them to be "abused by our white commanding officers" and by civilians in many sections of the country, despite the fact they are in the "uniform of the United States" and pledged to fight for democracy, stated the paper.

The resolution, presented to the national body by Lt. Col. Louis Johnson, was signed by Dr. Clarence Payne, Lester Milsap, Otho B. Kerr, Thomas Miller, and Johnson. Declaring that the whole Army policy of segregation is wrong the resolution pointedly asked:

> **"What excuse is the War Department giving for training our famous 8th regiment for over two years and then refusing to send them to the front? What reason is given that the 93rd division which, according to the inspector general's office, has been trained up to modern standards for battle remaining on these shores?**

"Why are hundreds of Negro medical officers assigned to non-medical posts, as sanitary engineers to combat mosquitoes of dredge swamps, when many of them according to high standards of medical science should be rendering service according to their ability in the hospitals, and field stations of the nation?

OFFICERS NEGLECTED

"Why is it that high ranking Negro field officers are kept in innocuous positions?

"Why is it that our northern boys are sent to southern camps and refused not only the protection of the civil authorities, but also that of the military authorities, under whose service many of them serve by necessity?

"Why is it that from all portions of the country come reports and letters from our soldiers that they are not being fed well? Why is it that over 90 percent of the Negro troops on foreign soil are used as labor battalions?"

If this is too much to ask of the men who form our policies at home "what evidence have the darker nations of the world to believe that justice will be administered to them," concluded the paper.

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5 Overseas Flyers to Go to Selfridge as Instructors

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Members of 99th Are Allowed 23 Days' Furlough Before Reporting for New Job

By DOUGLAS HALL
Staff Correspondent

NOV 6 1943

MITCHELL FIELD, N.Y.—Five weary flyers, who really know first hand the story of warfare in the skies over the North African theatre of war, reported here for duty this week.

The pilots, all members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron now based in Italy, are Lts. Lee Rayford, Washington, D.C.; Walter Lawson, Newton, Va., Charles Dryden, NYC, Louis Purnell, Philadelphia, and Graham Smith, Vicksburgh, North Carolina.

Unhurt, Nerves on Edge

The boys reported a long but uneventful trip back to this country. All have had at least thirty combat missions over enemy territory and do not have a scratch to show for it. Most of them admitted their nerves "are a bit on edge" but that's about all.

"Nothing is wrong that a bit of good old American hospitality won't cure," one of them stated. They have been given twenty-three day furloughs to "rest up a bit."

Eligible for Award

The flyers are eligible for the Oak Leaf Cluster, an award given to a flyer who has made at least thirty combat missions, but they did not have time to wait for it in Italy. They will get their awards later.

It is understood that these flyers will report to Selfridge Field as instructors when their furloughs are over. Indications also point to promotions for the battle-worn heroes.

The pilots expressed surprise that the people over here know that the people over here knew home. They said they wanted to surprise their friends but learned that almost everybody knew that they were being returned, because Ollie Stewart told about it in his dispatches from Italy.

Off to Visit Relatives

Here is what happened to the pilots after they received their furloughs:

Lieutenant Smith returned to North Carolina to visit relatives and friends. Lieutenant Rayford left for his home in Washington. Lieutenant Dryden is at home in New York. He has been in the hospital for a few days. Nothing serious. His parents, one sister and brother are in New York.

Lieutenant Lawson is visiting his wife Mrs. Cleo Lawson in Virginia. He was married only a month before he was sent overseas.

Colonel Reduced To Captain By Court Martial For Shooting

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

(Later Story on Page 1)

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—An Army court martial Tuesday of last week convicted Colonel William T. Colman, ousted commander of Selfridge Field, of four violations of the ninety-sixth Article of War and ordered him reduced to his permanent rank of captain.

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He was acquitted on all other charges. In directing the reduction, the court martial ordered that he be placed at the bottom of the list of captains, not to be promoted for three years. The case will be reviewed by the War Department in Washington and sentence will not take effect until approval.

A new light was brought forth in the trial concerning the shooting of Pvt. McRae when Lt. Col. Paul A. Petree of the medical corps, chief of the neuro-psychiatric division of the Percy Jones General Hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., quoted Col. Colman as saying, "I have given orders repeatedly that a Negro chauffeur should never be sent to drive my car."

Colonel Hammer Huston of Signal Corps Headquarters, Tampa, Fla., read the sentence as Colman stood before the nine colonels who had deliberated four hours before reaching a verdict.

AT FOOT OF LIST

Huston said the court ordered Colman placed "at the foot" of the list of captains for three years and suspended from all temporary promotions for "a like period."

Although the court convicted Colman of four violations of the ninety-sixth Article of War—"disorders and neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," it acquitted him of 25 additional counts, including the felonious shooting last May 5 of Private First Class William McRae, a colored soldier at the air base.

SHOOTING "CARELESSNESS"

Colman, however, was found guilty of discharging a pistol "through carelessness" which wounded McRae and touched off the investigation and court martial. The deposed commander testified that his mind was "a blank" when he shot McRae.

Colman also was convicted of three charges of being drunk and disorderly, but acquitted of allegations that he misused government property and arranged the transfer to Selfridge Field of 12 soldiers, including Private (now lieutenant) Benson Ford, grandson of Henry Ford.

The first indication that the 39-year-old Army officer had been found guilty came shortly after lunch when the court martial was reopened and the officers called for a copy of Colman's military record to determine his punishment.

COLONEL COLMAN

PRIVATE McRAE

The Colman Case: A Disappointment

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

A COURT martial of his fellow officers has found Colonel William T. Colman, former commandant at Selfridge Field, Michigan, guilty of careless use of firearms in connection with the serious wounding of a colored enlisted man. Numerous other serious charges were heard but at the end the court held that the near-fatal shooting was "careless use of firearms" and exacted as the prime punishment the loss of rank from colonel to captain for the accused officer.

This will be a personal disadvantage to the officer, of course, but he retains the rank of a high officer nevertheless—hence the Army considers him fit for command.

But if that is all the Army thinks of a trained, responsible officer's misconduct where a black soldier is involved, and nearly killed because, apparently, he committed the crime of being other than white, one cannot have but a cynical regard for the justice dispensed by that armed service branch.

Two congressmen have criticised the court martial's action. In a related case, a different jury is hearing the evidence. Perhaps the Army setup is humiliated by what was done in Col. Colman's case. The harm is done; it should be undone as much as is humanly possible.

Mock Justice.

THE recent court-martial trial of Colonel William T. Colman at Selfridge Field was a travesty rendered in the name of justice

Bee (Magazine Section

All of the evidence irrevocably pointed to the guilt of the colonel. He shot his Negro chauffeur, Private William McRae, stationed at the base. Further, he was drunk and had well established charges against his integrity as a forthright and honest commandant.

Chicago. Ill

The sentence pronounced by the nine colonels of merely demoting him, (Col. Colman), to a captain could hardly have been surpassed by the kind of justice offered a Negro plaintiff in the hinterlands of the South. More was to be expected of an officer jury committed to high honor in the interest of a high morale functioning army.

The armed services also have been rendered a great disservice by this verdict. It is gravely imperative that the army takes the initiative in rescinding this dastardly verdict. It is offensive to the morale of the army, to Negroes and to lovers of justice everywhere.

SEP 26 1943

Failure to amend its own innocuous sentence for the colonel's criminal and dishonorable conduct, the army must be judged unfit to conduct a fair trail. Congress and the President should be appealed to step in and see that honorless incompetents such as Colonel Colman be given the full penalty in keeping with the ghoulish conduct he exhibited.

The time is long overdue both in civil as well as in military affairs that higher respect for life, property and rights of Negroes be observed. How can men of good will observe these interminable mockeries against justice and regard them, if at all, so lightly?

Private McRae is an American citizen fighting for the preservation of his country and when an irresponsible officer can wound him with but slight punishment, it is time for an accounting from the President and Congress, promptly.

Bee (Magazine Section

The Trial of Col. Colman.

Chicago. Ill

THIS nation has followed the court-martial trial of Colonel William T. Colman, commanding officer of Selfridge Field Michigan, with mingled shame and overt disdisgust.

The Colonel was originally accused of shooting 24-year-old Pvt. William McRae, Negro, who was serving as chauffeur for the base motor pool. The colonel's guilt has virtually been established in this shooting by his own unguarded admission.

In addition, the Colonel faces other charges, among which are, misappropriating government property, habitual drunkeness, acceptance of expensive gifts from civilian contractors and transferring of wealthy enlisted men to Selfridge Field, bestowing special favor on them.

The Colonel has entered a plea of not guilty. The defense further submits that Colonel Colman has been suffering from "hysterical tendencies since October, 1941," a clear subterfuge—this.

Private McRae was shot on May 5. The original trial was ordered July 20, but a continuation was granted for the prosecution and defense to better prepare their cases.

The trial will probably be long drawn out but the judge advocate, and the court of one lieutenant colonel and eight colonels have a singular urgent responsibility and that is to render a decision of justice which will elicit from commanding officers in the future, greater respect for life and rights of Negro soldiers as well as for the fidelity of the high station entrusted to them.

SEP 19 1943

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Levy Penalty Challenged By Former Stimson Aide

PM

New York, N. Y

PM's **PM** *Exclusive*

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, today challenged the court-martial and conviction of Alton Levy, now serving four months at hard labor at the Lincoln, Neb., Army Air Base.

After a comprehensive study of the case, Hastie cited two "particularly disturbing" disclosures which "create a strong implication of prejudice and bias" in the proceedings against the former International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, organizer.

The Howard University Law School dean, who resumed his post there after resigning from the War Dept. in protest against Negro discrimination, declared:

"First: I can think of no proper circumstances which could have led the court, after stating before adjournment Saturday, Aug. 14, that the charges against Levy had not been proved, to decide on Monday, Aug. 16, after the week end recess, that he was guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Months' Old Rumors

"Second: It was well known to the post command that the rumors which Levy is alleged to have repeated had been circulated around the camp for months even before Levy came to that station. In such circumstances, it is disturbing that Levy was singled out for punishment.

"Such facts must and do create a strong implication of prejudice and bias in the trial and conviction of Alton Levy."

Judge Hastie was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of War in October, 1940, and resigned last February, after his efforts to curb discrimination in the Air Forces were frustrated.

His statement on the Levy case came on the eve of a meeting of labor leaders at Freedom House in New York, called to map further action in Levy's behalf. The meeting, organized by David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU, Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employes Union, CIO, and A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, will be held today.

Lincoln Reports

Meanwhile, efforts to reopen the Levy case were stimulated by reports from Lincoln quoting the commanding officer of the base as saying that Levy would not be granted the usual parole.

Morris Milgram, executive secretary of the Workers Defense League, declared that "these reports confirm our charge that Levy is being held as a hostage in an attempt to impose silence on those who have taken up the fight for him."

Pointing out that Levy at no time has authorized or been associated with the protests made in the case, Milgram said investigators who had visited the base had been told that Levy would be released Nov. 6 "if the agitation stops."

"It now seems clear," Milgram said, "that Gen. Duncan (the commanding officer) is carrying out his threat by not granting Levy the customary parole."

Levy was convicted of circulating "false statements" about treatment of Negroes at the base and "slanderous" rumors about the commanding officer. The War Dept. has so far declined to make public its report of the trial and ensuing investigation.

PM

Exported Jim Crowism

Dear Editor: New York, N. Y.

I am a New Zealander and would like to let you know of a disquieting piece of information regarding discrimination I received in a recent letter from a [illegible].

First, you must know we have no color problem in New Zealand. Maoris share unhampered in the political, social and economic life of the country. A recent Minister of Health was a Maori. There are, as you probably know, some American soldiers in New Zealand and in a newspaper cutting sent to me was reported a Maori fined for hitting an American soldier over the head with a beer bottle (direct action, for which our Maoris are noted) and in this case, if the American was laboring under any delusions of white superiority, he was undoubtedly disillusioned, but it's a dangerous virus and one hates to think of our healthy country exposed to such a horrible thing.

Furthermore, there are also many Americans in Australia. One of Sydney's leading hotels had adopted a policy of refusing to serve U. S. Negro soldiers, as white U. S. officers or men (I forget which) had informed the management if Negroes were admitted, they themselves would [illegible].

What and whom exactly is this country fighting for? Don't know exactly what you can do about this export of racial prejudice, but thought possibly you might be able to point out to the U. S. boys who will be serving overseas that they are all unofficial ambassadors of this country and by humiliating some of their own comrades-in-arms, they are not putting up a good show for America, to say the least of it.

Durham, N. H. SYBIL STICHT

AUG 30 1943

WSA Opposes Racial Bar at Seaman's Service Club

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md

Dispute Over Swimming Facilities Reportedly Caused Discrimination

BALTIMORE

The War Shipping Administration is opposed to the present application of jim crow at the United Seamen's Service Club, 1420-24 N. Charles Street, said Thomas Cox, white, port representative of the agency, Thursday.

Mr. Cox, a representative of the WSA on the local port committee which adopted the policy of excluding colored merchant seamen from the use of recreational and lodging facilities, said that the Government emphatically concurred with labor that there should be no racial discrimination when the question was raised.

Unalterably Opposed to Policy

According to Mr. Cox, the balance of the committee, made up predominantly of representatives of the shipping industry, insisted that colored seamen be restricted.

James Drury, white, port agent of the National Maritime Union, CIO, had previously issued of statements that his organization and the WSA were unalterably opposed to the jim crow policy at the club.

The United Seamen's Service is a member agency of the War and Community Fund, and it is reported that the national body has the matter of racial bias in Baltimore under consideration.

73-Year-Old Seaman Barred

Last week, however, [illegible] L. Adams, white, acting port executive, and no directive has yet been issued to the local committee. The situation is unchanged, Mr. Adams indicated Wednesday.

Exclusion of colored seamen from the club was uncovered five weeks ago when Archie Jenkins, 73-year-old Merchant Marine cook recently returned from a war zone, charged that he was refused accommodations.

Color Bar Admitted

Victor W. Bowyer, white, then port executive, who has since been transferred to oversea duty, admitted at that time that a color bar existed. He said that adherence to local tradition and public sentiment was responsible for the adoption of the policy by the local committee.

E. Arch Seidl, of the Dichman, Wright and Pugh Shipping Company, chairman of the committee, said that decision was reached following a dispute over the use of swimming facilities at the club.

OCT 30 1943

This Is The Army

Afro-American

Baltimore, Maryland

Here's How Jim Crow Operates at Camp Upton; No Commissioned Officers in Colored Company; White Soldiers Are Shocked by Prejudice

By GLENN DOUGLASS

A young private visited the AFRO last week to ask this newspaper to reveal how the Dixie jim crow trail begins in "democratic New York State."

He had a few other things to tell about the busy receiving center at Camp Upton which handles the introduction into the army of thousands and thousands of white and colored draftees.

Here are some of the things he told:

There is not a single commissioned officer stationed in the Sixth Receiving Company, the jim crow unit set up by the camp to handle colored draftees.

One Top Sergeant

The highest colored official in the company is astute, well-trained, quiet-spoken Irving Miller, who holds competently the position of topkick at the camp.

Despite the fact that there are hundreds of capable colored lieutenants and higher officers, the jim crow Sixth Receiving Company is commanded by a white officer, Lieut. Richard Traynor.

Discrimination at Upton is not short-lived. Permanent parties there who, due to limited service status, have been assigned to the camp for the duration, can well recall evidences of jim crow which cropped up last winter.

Barred from Dance

One of the more flagrant of these came about when camp officials decided to institute weekly dances for camp personnel. Posters and literature were prominently displayed, inviting all to come and "have a good time."

On the evening of the affair, colored soldiers who attempted to enter the hall were politely refused admittance. To quell their anger, camp officials had a dance hall built in the Sixth Receiving Company area for "colored dances."

Not only is Upton-style jim crow detrimental to the morale of colored draftees who go there, the AFRO learned, but it has also done much to create wonder and confusion in the minds of many white New Yorkers.

Find Tolerant Whites

"We'd go to the station theatre at night," the informant said, "and stand in line with the whites. There was no segregation there. Whenever the authorities can't get away with imposing jim-crow rules, the whites mingle freely with us.

"Frankly, it wasn't our fault. We had that old chip on our shoulders until we found out that at the theatre and at the post exchange the whites were anxious to show us that they neither understood nor agreed with jim crow rules.

"The white fellows there — the majority of them — were shocked by the prejudice. We heard them discuss it many times and they often talked it over with us."

Lieutenant Protects Men

An idol among colored soldiers at Upton is Lieutenant Traynor, the Sixth Receiving Company's white commanding officer. No narrow-minded bigot, Lieutenant Traynor, according to reports, has often gone "to bat" for his boys.

Other white officers at the camp regard him as "dangerous" because he fraternizes with the colored lads, plays ball with them and treats them like human beings entitled to respect.

Working as efficiently as he could despite the wall of prejudice which confronts him, Sergeant Miller, a Brooklynite and former Y worker, has, during his short service at Upton, done his utmost to make the camp pleasant for his charges.

Sergeant Commended

He has managed to maintain the respect of the men under him, command the deference and admiration of his superiors, and remain militant under every possible circumstance.

The kid in khaki who reported these facts to the AFRO-AMERICAN is a good soldier. He has done his utmost and he is ready and willing to take his chances when his outfit leaves for danger and unknown territory.

But there are things he wonders about and he wants the AFRO readers to think them

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over. Why so much hullabaloo about bias below the Mason-Dixon Line when the jim-crow trail begins at Camp Upton for thousands of colored lads.

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Soldier Hurls Challenge

If American soldiers are to be degraded and marked because of their race at the very inception of their military careers, what can they hope to find as time marches on and they are sent perhaps to the deepest South?

The kid in khaki told us that he thinks that the citizens of New York State, white and black, who are fair ought to see that our Government does something about it.

Meanwhile, with more loyalty in his heart than he has room for bitterness, he has returned to his outfit to continue to do his part. He asked the AFRO to ask you: "Will you do yours?"

Refused to Take Off Uniform in Street; Beaten by Whites

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

War Department Admits It Lacks Authority to Protect Soldiers from Civilians

By JOHN JASPER

STARKSVILLE, Miss.—Pvt. Rilves Bell, who on September 7 resisted efforts of four white boys to take off his uniform, was sentenced last week to three years and six months in the State penitentiary.

4/16

Pvt. Bell was made to take off his uniform Saturday morning and don overalls before he was led from the jail to the court house for trial.

No Army Officers at Trial

No military authorities attended the trial and, according to Pvt. Bell, none of them came to see him during the time he was in jail to find out what happened to him.

War Dept. Can't Protect Soldiers

WASHINGTON

The War Department admitted last week that it cannot protect soldiers from civilian violence under existing statutes. In any conflicts between civilians (no matter how prejudiced) and soldiers in the South, the local courts alone have jurisdiction.

Pvt. Bell, home on furlough two months ago, was standing in a street of Starksville talking to a girl.

Four white boys came up and one pushed him. Bell didn't say anything, so the next one asked him didn't he "like it." He was still silent.. One of them struck him and told him to "take that."

By this time a younger brother of Bell came on the scene and suggested to his brother that they leave.

Boys Attack Soldier

At that, one of the white boys took Pvt. Bell by the collar and asked him what he was doing with that "suit on." Bell replied that Uncle Sam had told him to put it on.

The white boys then told Bell if he didn't take it off they were going to whip it off him. They pushed him in the street and all four attacked him.

In protecting himself Pvt. Bell cut one of the boys on the arm with a knife.

Police jailed both brothers. A mob attacked the jail. The boys were taken to Macon for safety and afterward moved to Columbus. When the situation quieted down they were returned to Starksville.

British Tars Get 1st Taste of Jim Crow

Baltimore AUG 14 1943 Afro-American

Men Who Faced Death Together at Sea Separated by Baltimore Bias

BALTIMORE. — Ten colored British seamen, all survivors of a recent torpedoing off the Brazilian coast, were jim-crowed for the first time in their lives when they arrived in Baltimore Sunday, they told the AFRO this week.

4/16

They arrived Sunday from the Port of Spain, Trinidad, West Indies, along with fourteen other West Indian and East Indian sailors and an unnamed number of white shipmates.

Separated by Jim Crow

All of the colored seamen and the Indians were lodged at the York Hotel, while other arrangements were made for the white Englishmen, a spokesmen for the group said.

He stated that ten British seamen protested to the British Consul against their separation from their shipmates, but were told that Baltimore was part of the South and that separation of races is to be expected.

When they pointed out, the spokesman said, that they had "sailed together, been torpedoed together, arrived in port together and lived other places together," they were told white people would not accept them here.

The seamen and others of their crew on a British ship were torpedoed in the South Atlantic in June, they said. They landed seven days later at a small Brazilin coastal town near.

Find Fascism in Baltimore

Two days later they arrived in Pernambuco, Brazil, they said, and were quartered in the same hotel and "treated alike." The same thing happened elsewhere until they reached Baltimore, they added.

One of the seamen said that after they had been torpedoed, the submarine came alongside their lifeboat and the commander asked the identity of their ship. When they told him is was English, the seaman said, he apologized and said:

"I thought it was American; they talk so much and do nothing."

AUG 14 1943

The seamen spent two days in Baltimore and were transferred to New York to await orders to ship out.

STIMSON MUM ON COMBAT BAN POLICY

Defender
Chicago, Ill

War Sec'y Won't Deny Policy Barring Negro Units At Front

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson dodges queries last week on whether the splitting up of the 930th and 931st Field Artillery Battalions, formerly of the 184th Field Artillery regiment, represented confirmation of the policy of the War Department in its refusal to use Negro troops as combat units.

The two battalions, after nearly three years training at Fort Custer and Camp Forrest, Tenn., as crack artillerymen, have been split up and about 1200 of the men assigned to service units, principally quartermaster corps.

At his press conference last week in response to a question by the Defender, Stimson declared that troop movements and readjustments of units constitutes military information which he does not care "to give out because it would be of aid and comfort to the enemy."

The action, however, has caused considerable doubt as to what enemy is meant—the foreign or domestic brand.

See Waste of Funds

Without presuming to tell the army how to carry on its tactical operations, observers point to the very practical consideration of waste of the taxpayers' money and the loss of time and effort involved in training 1200 men over a period of three years for artillery duties and then assigning them to service functions in a quartermaster unit.

During this period of training, these men have doubtless fired many thousands of rounds of artillery ammunition, while learning to operate the big guns. Here are some of the prices of the shells wasted in training these men (figures taken from the bond price tags at the "Back the Attack" War Bond show now in Washington.):

Each shell for a 240 mm. howitzer, $81.12: for a 155 mm. gun, $33.09; for an M73, $25.89; for a 90 mm. $18.60; for a 57 mm. $15.95.

If an average of one 240 mm. howitzer shell per man was fired once each month, the wasted training for this item alone, over a three period would amount to $3,504,384. This does not include the cost of shells for any of the other many types of guns used in artillery training—and for which there is no need or use in the quartermaster corps.

Change Air Base Groups

Furthermore, the special clothing provided the artilleryman costs the army $164.09—most of which is replaceable each year during training. This amounts to an additional waste, over a three year period of $580,704. Field and extra equipment is not included.

An estimate of the money wasted in training 1200 artillerymen for three years to serve in the quartermaster corps is conservatively put at $50,000,000.

No Negro combat units have yet been sent overseas. Dismemberment of these crack artillery battalions seems to confirm the reported army refusal to use Negroes in combat untis.

Charges are also being made that many of the Negro air base security units, in which the men have been trained to use machine guns, anti-aircraft guns, and to operate small tanks are being changed over to non-combat engineer units.

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Army Making England Like Jim-Crow South; Race Riots Numerous; Major Clash Feared

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 1 1 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — From confidential sources which the Associated Negro Press has every reason to believe compepetent and reliable, and which the Associated Negro Press will not reveal, the following account of colored American soldiers in England has been secretly received:

"The conditions over here are getting like those in the States. White officers are doing a fair job in convincing some British people about the race problem. Most colored troops are gradually being moved out of and away from cities to isolated camps. White MP's are usually placed in these vicinities and intimidate Negro soldiers as well as the girls who are seen with them.

"Last week, there were at least two riots over here. Another one on July 1, and the last of May. During the last of May two colored were killed, more wounded and a white officer wounded. Had an awful time throughout the night. One colored officer practically took charge of the camp. He collected about 600 rifles in two days. Started when a white MP shot a colored soldier.

"Last week, one started when fights broke out between colored and white soldiers in a city in northern England when white soldiers are reported to have resented British girls being with colored soldiers. In a southern English city, there were a number of fights which started when a white lieutenant made remarks about some 'Nigger soldiers and' merchant men who were passing. The soldiers resented it. A riot was prevented by some of the few colored MP's who came up and rescued the officer. Yet an MP sergeant (white) at the same time insulted a colored officer who had tried to quiet the soldiers. At MP headquarters the colored officer said that he was insulted by the provost officer (white) in front of the other MP's, who were enlisted men, and arrested as being drunk. The coolness of the four colored lieutenants, the colored MP's and the colored American Red Cross personnel prevented a probable riot during the night.

"Riots are much more frequent [illegible] the [illegible] can publish. The troops [illegible] into the gun rooms and get their rifles and ammunition to protect themselves often. If something is not done by the U. S. Army soon, I would not be surprised to see a major battle between colored and white American soldiers. It seems that some top people want southern U. S. A. transferred over here. Even Mr. Bondy from the American Red Cross is over here trying to find reasons for moving the colored clubs (clubs staffed by colored) out of certain cities, because it is said that certain people must be satisfied. One of them is Mr. Gibson, the American Rd Cross commissioner in Great Britain. One of his ex[illegible] is that he understood that the colored personnel were too highly skilled in their jobs.

"White officers are behind most of the trouble. They have even canvassed communities, telling the residents and business people not to serve or associate with the colored soldiers (whom they command and get their protions off.) The few colored officers are treated as bad by their fellow officers. There are some fair-minded officers, but they are not permitted to do much because they are not promoted and are shifted in many instances from place to place.

"Have seen a couple of colonels who were very good, but their executive officers are rotten and slip many things over. The colored soldier is doing a job. All he wants is to e treated like a soldier. Colored soldiers want colored officers. Their conduct on a whole is excellent.

"If you can convince the white officer that each colored soldier being wants to get home to his colored wife or friend, you can do a good job. These boys are not excited by the white girls even though they are sought out by the girls in many cases. And the whole thing seems to hinge on the friendship of the colored soldier and the white girl. Many soldiers are in a very low frame of mind, and if they were not real soldiers, I am convinced that the enemy would be trying to work on them. However, it's possoble that the enemy is helping these riots to break out since the tension is so great.

"The American colored soldier is often fined his entire salary or more for the smallest infraction. Oftimes they must travel 20 miles to another town to have a little fun. The colored Red Cross worker is being resented because the soldiers look up to them for leadership. Also the American Red Cross workers are not wearing bandana handkerchiefs The U. S. army is to blame for most of the trouble, not the Fifth Column The officers won't give the fifth column a chance."

Article Tells Effects Bias Has On Life

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

OCT 9 1943

Urges Americans Abroad To Strive to Learn "Foreigners' Ways"

WASHINGTON—In a program designed to "do something about race prejudice", the Infantry Journal for August published an interesting article on Psychology for the fighting man. The article was well displayed and is believed to be a part of the Army's own program to educate officers, especially those from the South on matters of race connection with morale and discipline.

The article, in part states:

"It is extremely important for the American soldier to understand clearly some of his own peculiar habits of thinking and acting. It will help him for example to understand the basis of the race prejudice that is all too common among many Americans as well as among Germans and many other peoples.

Traces History of Prejudice

"The reason for race prejudice can be traced back to a natural need for security. Everyone wants to feel secure. And he feels most secure in familiar surroundings with people he knows. For this reason it is natural for us to resent it when strangers come among us, get jobs, and settle down to make themselves at home. We do not understand the "foreigners," and deep down beneath the surface we are afraid of them. This resentment happens unless we have become used to strangers by travel or by living with them as friends. On the surface it is usual for men to belittle the stranger, to make fun of his ways. When the unconscious fear of strangers is very great, men will even gang up on them and attack them.

"In ganging up on foreigners, a group or nation gets an unthinking new sense of its own strength, solidarity and security. Hitler was trying this trick when he undertook to turn Germans against Jews. They were labelled outsiders and foreigners, and the German people, insecure since their defeat in the last war, found strength and confidence—some of them—in persecuting the Jews.

Color Basis for Prejudice

"Color of skin is often a basis for prejudice, because it is so clearly a badge of difference between peoples—a mark that sets one people clearly apart as different, as not "one of us." American whites have been prejudiced not only against black skins, but against yellow and against the copper skin of the American Indian. The United States excluded both Japs and Chinese from Immigration when our western states became afraid of their cheap labor. And the old German Kaiser invented the slogan, "The Yellow Peril," when he wished to unite Europe against the Asiatics

"Sometimes the prejudice against the Negroes flares up in the Army. It is not a problem, however, in a camp where it is well understood that a soldier in United States uniform is a soldier, not a white or Negro, Christian or Jew, rich man or poor, but a soldier, and as much worthy of respect.

"And not everyone feels race prejudice. There are plenty of white men who are constantly meeting and working with black, brown and yellow men of brains, education, cuture and ability. These white men know that skin color is not a sign of inferiority or superiority, and they tend to forget [illegible]t it, or at least to regard it [illegible]important. Those [illegible]en are numerous in Euro[illegible] South America, Asia and Africa, where the races are mixed up in business and politics.

"In the United States we are more used to seeing large numbers of men with dark skins who are uneducated. We do not often meet the scholars among the Chinese, Negroes and other dark-skinned peoples. The two oceans more able and successful men of Africa and Asia. So we keep our prejudices. Nowadays with the great American enthusiasm for the bravery of our Chinese allies, this prejudice is less then it was, but it is still very strong.

"Now, however, the American soldier is going among people who do not understand if he knows antagonism toward other Americans or our Allies on account of their color just as the Americans may be surprised at those more liberal attitudes.

"If, however, the American soldier understands the basis for his own feelings as well as those of the men he meets, he can avoid friction and embarrassment to America.

"The strange people will still seem strange to him because they have strange customs and novel habits of thought. But he will be on the right track when he realizes that the differences are superficial; that other races, while different from his own, are not necessarily inferior. He will know that he cannot tell just from a man's color whether that man will bind up his wounds feed him if he is hungry, or help him repel enemy invaders.

"The soldier who is going to represent America fairly and wisely among the peoples of North Africa or China or the South Pacific should think these matters over. It will help him to remember that skin color in itself means nothing about the intelligence, wisdom, honesty, bravery or kindliness of man. If he studies carefully [illegible] people or other races whom he meets, he can satisfy himself that this is true.

"And he must come to understand and learn to respect their manners. Only then will he realize that national differences in manners and customs are mostly due to differences of tradition, climate and religion."

Age
New York, N. Y.

Employees From CIO Attack Red Cross On Blood Segregation

OCT 9 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Protesting the nominal segregation of Negro [illegible] white blood in the American [illegible] Blood Bank, twenty blood donors employed by the Congress of Industrial Organization's National headquarters in Washington, Wednesday, signed a letter urging the Red Cross to discontinue this prejudicial policy. Although there exists some doubt as to whether Negro blood is consistently segregated all along the line of scientific processes involved with the plasma, the Red Cross continues to work on the principle of segregation.

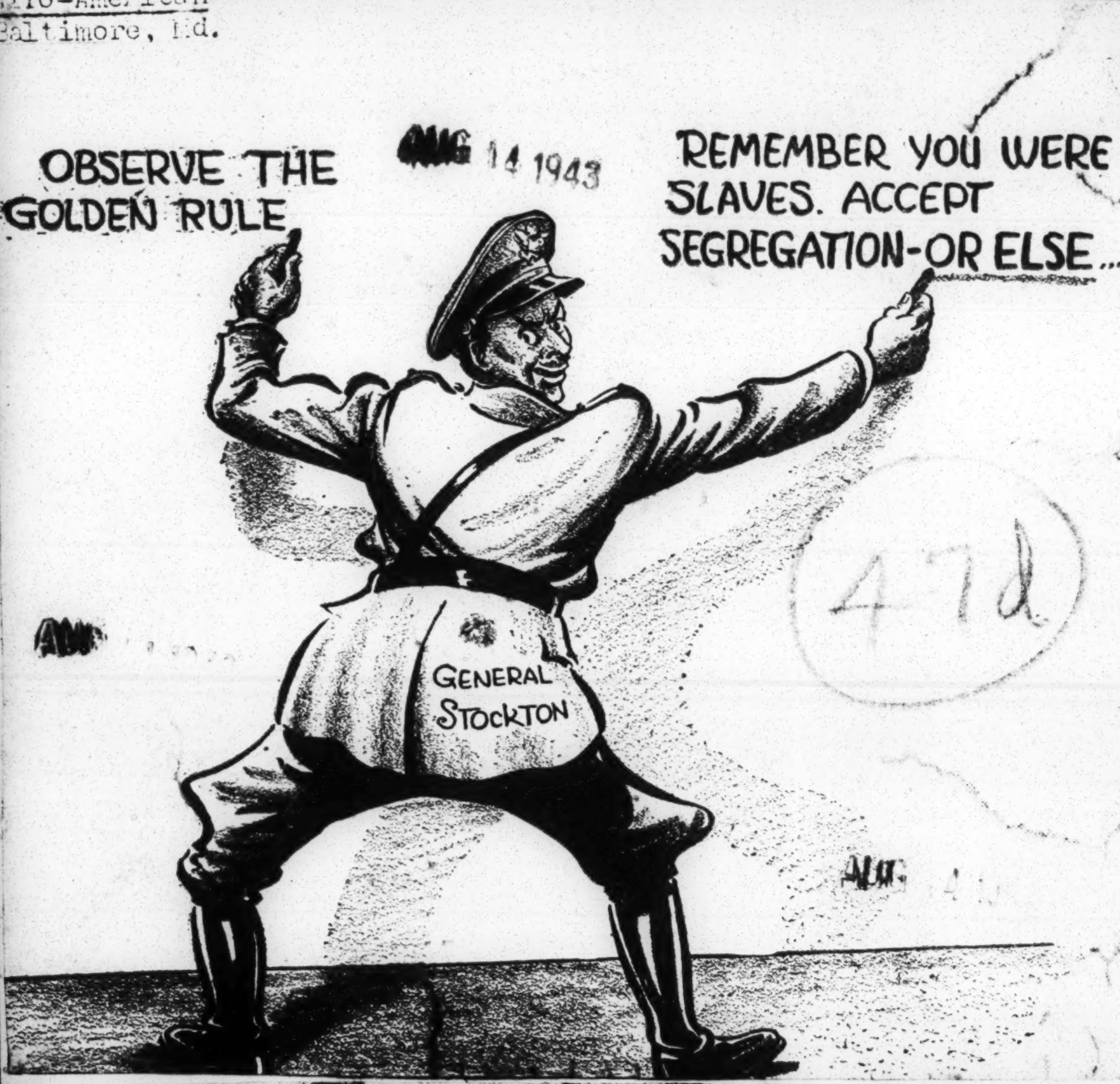
The letter from the CIO blood donors read in part:

"As it (segregation) has absolutely no basis in biology or any other science, we urge Red Cross to abandon this useless practise.... Particularly in view of the fact that a Negro, Dr. Charles Drew, Professor of Surgery at Howard University....was not only one of the pioneers in the chemistry of the blood bank, but also became Director of the blood bank in England.. The majority of informed Negroes [illegible] are protesting this segregation in the only way they know: refusal to donate their blood to the Red Cross. This of course, lessens the amount of blood available to both Negro and white casualties alike.

ARMY SUBTLETY (No Doubt) AT CAMP STEWART

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AUG 14 1943


OBSERVE THE GOLDEN RULE
REMEMBER YOU WERE SLAVES. ACCEPT SEGREGATION-OR ELSE....
GENERAL STOCKTON

47d

Army Board Considers Chaplain Fuller's Case

Philadelphia Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

AUG 7 1943

Snatched from mob violence and death at the hands of Southern army officers who persisted in carrying their nefarious practice of throttling democracy for colored people even on battlefields in the South Pacific, rescued by the arms and daring of colored soldiers, Chaplain Luther M. Fuller finally had to face ten days trial in New York to preserve his honor and fitness to serve his country.

The ten day trial ended last week in New York. Ten army officers and two chaplains now contemplate the fate of Chaplain Fuller.

The sudden and dramatic appearance of Warrant Officer Mathew Brandon to testify in the Chaplain's behalf caused so much consternaion that the trial was held up for three days. Officer Brandon had been stationed in the Southwest Pacific. He had heard all of the Chaplain's sermons of protest that were now used as a basis for the charges of unfitness for service. Brandon knew the facts behind these sermons, and it was he who had protected the Chaplain when white officers attempted to hijack him and rush him off in a jeep to an airport where he would be spirited away.

Frustrated, the officers went to Brigadier General Rose. The General explained that even a colored Chaplain's person was inviolate. This made it possible for Chaplain Fuller to return to the United States unmolested.

H[illegible] W. C[illegible]ston, of Washington, D. C., acted as defense attorney for the Chaplain in New York.

When Fuller returned to the United States, the Chief of Chaplains in Washington, D.C., attempted to have him discharged from the Army. This, the War Department over-ruled on the grounds that it was impossible for one man to pass on Fuller's dismissal. The case was then turned over to the Board of Reclassification, which now contemplates its decision.

A Festering Sore

Journal & Guide

White Army Officer Reveals Some Of The Hardships Faced By Colored Soldiers

Norfolk, Va

SEP 4 1943

Editor's Note—this interesting expression on racial problems, especially as it affects colored service men, was written by a white Richmond man now an officer in the Army. It is reprinted through the courtesy of the Richmond Times Dispatch, in which it was published as a letter to the editor.)

I received both my Times-Dispatch and my New Republic in today's mail. At lunch I read, and was much concerned by, Walter White's account of some of the injustices which Negro troops have been subjected to. At dinner I read your reprint of Time's article on the Interracial Meeting in Atlanta.

That such a meeting could be held, and particularly that it could be held in Atlanta, is, as the article itself says, "a hopeful sign." The cases cited by White are those which involved extreme physical violence, usually resulting in death. Most of these cases have been reported in the press, usually in the form of brief paragraphs, stating that Private So-and-So, of Camp Such-and-Such, Such, was shot, killed by a local officer.

In most cases this is all the publicity that such an occurrence receives. Such happenings merit the closest study by the newly formed committee or council, and its findings should be given the widest publicity.

The attitude of the civilian population towards the Negro soldiers in Louisiana and Texas was a surprise and a disappointment to me. There are thousands of men who wear the uniform of the Army of the United States, who perform their duties as soldiers faithfully and well, but who are treated in their civilian contacts as outcasts and as untouchables.

I have talked with many of them in recent months, and almost to a man they agree that the Army's treatment of them is fair and just and that they get along very well on the whole with the white soldiers. The treatment they receive from the people of the towns near which they are quartered is another story.

I have seen Negro troops unable to buy cigarettes, razor blades, or newspapers in a town of several thousand people where there were half a dozen stores.

I have seen Negro troops, after a week or more of maneuvers in thef ield, denied a few hours pass to go into town because the authorities indicated that they did **not want them on the street.** . . .

I have seen what could easily have developed into a bloody riot stemmed because a Negro non-commissioned officer was man enough and soldier enough to call his men to attention and march them out of a store after they had been cursed and insulted because one of their number had taken a drink of water from a public drinking fountain.

These are not isolated occurrences, they are day to day happenings, and as such have become a festering sore that time has done nothing to heal.

I do not pretend to know the answer to the problem, but I am very conscious of its existence and of the extreme need for intelligent, cooperative action in combating it. I do know that such action can not be fostered by hush-hush methods, that we must cease being tolerant of such gross intolerance, and that such bigoted prejudice must be fought by every educational means available.

These men are doing their job and serving their country and they deserve to fare better at the hands of those amongst whom they must temporarily live.

I look forward to the day when I may ask, as I did recently of a volunteer woman worker at a recreational center in a small Louisiana town, "What facilities are there for the Negro troops?" and receive, in reply, more than a stare of blank incredulity.

LIEUT. HENRY I. TRAGLE
N. Camp Polk, La.

Fight for Levy Will Continue

NOV 16 1943

The fight to restore Pvt. Alton Levy to his original rank of staff sergeant will be continued on his behalf by the Workers Defense League and the United Retail and Wholesale Department Store Employes, CIO, according to officers of both organizations.

Levy, who served less than three months of a four-month term at hard labor after a court-martial for opposing Jim Crow in the Army, was released Friday and shipped to an Army camp at Amarillo, Tex. The War Dept. declared Levy's sentence had been reduced for good behavior, but previously Brig. Gen. Early E. W. Duncan of the Lincoln Army Air Base had said Levy would have to serve his sentence to the end, Dec. 16.

In a telegram to James A. Wechsler, PM's National Editor, Nathaniel M. Minkoff, Chairman of the Committee on Discrimination of the Workers Defense League, gave PM full credit for its part in obtaining Levy's release.

The telegram stated:

"Release of Pvt. Levy five weeks before scheduled despite Gen. Duncan's declaration Levy would serve out full term can be attributed to the magnificent series of articles by you in PM which exposed the prejudice behind Al Levy's conviction. On behalf of the entire board of the League, warmest thanks to the Newspaper PM for this splendid contribution to the history of journalism."

47d-1943

Army, Navy Short 60,000, Turn Down Colored Applicants

OCT 30 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Recruiting Goes on Feverishly All over U.S. for White Only; Army Calls Ban Customary

WASHINGTON.

Although nurses are urgently needed by the Army and Navy, this refers to white nurses and not colored, whose quota is full the War Department Public Relations Office told the AFRO today.

The system of accepting colored nurses only on a pro-rata basis of the proportion of the colored soldiers in the Army, and then in a ratio of one to every ten beds is based on civilian practice in this country it said and added:

"There are now 188 colored nurses on duty in this country, and 41 in foreign service, with a nurse to each ten beds for colored soldiers."

The public relations division made it clear that despite the shortage of white nurses, colored nurses were not desired to fill this shortage, as this just did not fit in with the War Departmen's policy, which "has its basis on custom."

Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, when queried about the army's failure to utilize the services of many colored nurses who are anxious to help, said Friday:

"I have received many representations on this issue from interested organizations and colored leaders and have referred them to the office of the Surgeon General, who must carry the full responsibility for this policy.

"Beyond this, I have no official statement to make."

Red Cross Has Charge

The Red Cross recruits nurses for both the army and navy, supervising physical examinations and other check-ups before the nurses are allocated to the armed forces.

A recent Red Cross bulletin referred to "an alarming slump" in recruitment during the past five months which is "causing grave concern."

The Red Cross, the bulletin points out, is 2,000 nurses short of meeting the actual present required strength of the Army Nurse Corps.

The seriousness of the situation is complicated by the fact that about 400 new hospitals are to be opened in all theatres of war during the coming year to care for the increasing number of casualties.

An example of the shortage may be seen in Baltimore, where the Red Cross chapter, with a quota of 46 nurses a month, has 215 more to sign up before the end of the year.

Not only is the army having difficulty in filling requisitions for nurses for overseas assignments but it cannot get enough nurses for army hospitals in the United States.

Set Up Unit in Philadelphia

Last month at Mercy Hospital in Philadelphia a unit of the U.S. Cadet Nurses' Corps was set up with 63 enrolled. The corps is under the supervision of the U.S. Public Health Service, which pays for the training of nurses with the agreement that their services will be available throughout the war in military, Federal or essential civilian nursing service.

Mrs. Bettye Phillips, superintendent of Provident Hospital in Baltimore, said that her hospital had filled its quota of twenty nurses and had not been requested by the Federal Government to take any more.

Lincoln Hospital in New York also reported that it had all of the nurses that it could accommodate and had not been approached regarding an expanded training program.

"Quota Filled"

Lt. Col. Ida W. Danielson, assistant superintendent, Army Nurse Corps, who recently wrote to Miss Carolyn Dillon, a registered nurse of New York, rejecting her application, said:

"I am directed by the Surgeon General to acknowlege receipt of your letter and to inform you that your application for enrollment in the Army Nurse Corps cannot be given favorable consideration at this time because the quota of colored nurses required by the corps has been filled."

Mrs. Alvenia Feaster, chairman of New York's Joint Committee of Nurses, representing more than 2,000 colored nurses, said:

"When one of our men falls wounded on the battlefield, he does not care if black or white hands administer the nursing care necessary to saving his life."

PM

Defends Son Who Charged Discrimination Against Negro Soldiers

SEP 28 1943

New York, N. Y

Morris M. Levy, of the Bronx, New York, father of Pvt. Alton Levy, the soldier who is in the guardhouse at Lincoln, Neb. because he opposed discrimination against Negroes at the Lincoln Air Base, has appealed to President Roosevelt to intercede in young Levy's behalf.

Pvt. Levy, a former organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, was reduced from the rank of staff sergeant and sentenced to four months in the guardhouse at hard labor with an $18-a-month forfeiture of pay.

Conviction Upheld

The conviction has been upheld by the Army Service Command at Denver. Protests sent to the White House have been referred to the Adjutant General's office, which is conducting an investigation at FDR's request.

The elder Levy's letter said:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

"All of my life I have loved America and the fundamental principles upon which it was founded. The freedom of speech, of work, and of economic opportunity offered by our Constitution seems to me to provide a lasting hope—a light for humanity to look toward. The name *America* and the word *freedom* have become synonymous to me, and I have striven to impart this idea into my family and my associates during my entire life because, somehow, I felt that, indeed, this is the land of the free, and all men are created equal by God of one flesh and one blood.

My faith in America has remained unshaken through all difficulties because I have strong confidence in the Constitution, as I said before, and in your great courage, along with the help of the Congress, to run America according to the dictates of our forefathers. However, I must admit now that my faith in you and in the Congress and in the Army is being badly shaken by an incident that has come to my attention while I lay ill in bed.

'Home of Free'

"It was reported to me that my son, Alton Levy, a sergeant in the U. S. Army stationed at the Lincoln, Neb., Air Base, has been court martialed, demoted to private, placed in the guardhouse for four months at hard labor, and fined $18 reduction in pay a month. My son, Mr. President, is suffering all of this because he dared to speak up for the rights of other American citizens who were being abused because they were black or because they were of the Negro race.

"My son did the same as I would have done, because I have taught him that America is the home of the free regardless of race or color. If this were Hitler's Germany, I know there would be no need to write you—because I would be ignored. But this is America—and my son is in the Army to fight to destroy the brutal racial theorists of the fascist war monsters, and yet my son is being punished for fighting the same type of theorist here at home.

Alton Levy

"My son spoke the truth—has the truth no virtue? Is the truth not to be given justice? He said nothing in secret. He made his complaints concerning the treatment of Negroes at every staff meeting.

"Mr. President: In the name of democratic justice, in the name of the sacred honor of our Constitution; in the defense of your announced principles for which my son and millions of others are giving their lives, and in honor to the great God whom this Christian Nation purports to serve, please order an immediate review of my son, Alton Levy's, case, and let justice be done. Let it not be said that the U. S. Army is no different than the Nazi hordes which we fight."

White Officer Reports on Race Hate in Dixie

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

By LT. HENRY I. TROGH

(From Richmond Times Dispatch)

N. CAMP POLK, La.—I have seen colored troops unable to buy cigarettes, razor blades or newspapers in a town of several thousand people where there were half a dozen stores.

I have seen colored troops, after a week or more of maneuvers in the field, denied a few hours' pass to go into town because the authorities indicated that they did not want them on the street.

I have seen what could have developed into a bloody riot stemmed because a colored non-commissioned officer was man enough and soldier enough to call his men to attention and march them out of a store after they had been cursed and insulted because one of their number had taken a drink of water from a public drinking fountain.

Festering Sore

These are not isolated occurrences. They are day to day happenings, and as such have become a festering sore that time has done nothing to heal. **I do not pretend to know the answer to the problem, but I am very conscious of its existence and of the extreme need for intelligent, co-operative action in combating it.**

I do know that such action can not be fostered by hush-hush methods, that we must cease being tolerant of such gross intolerance, and that bigoted prejudice must be fought by every educational means available.

Deserve Better Treatment

These men are doing their job and serving their country and they deserve to fare better at the hands of those amongst whom they must temporarily live.

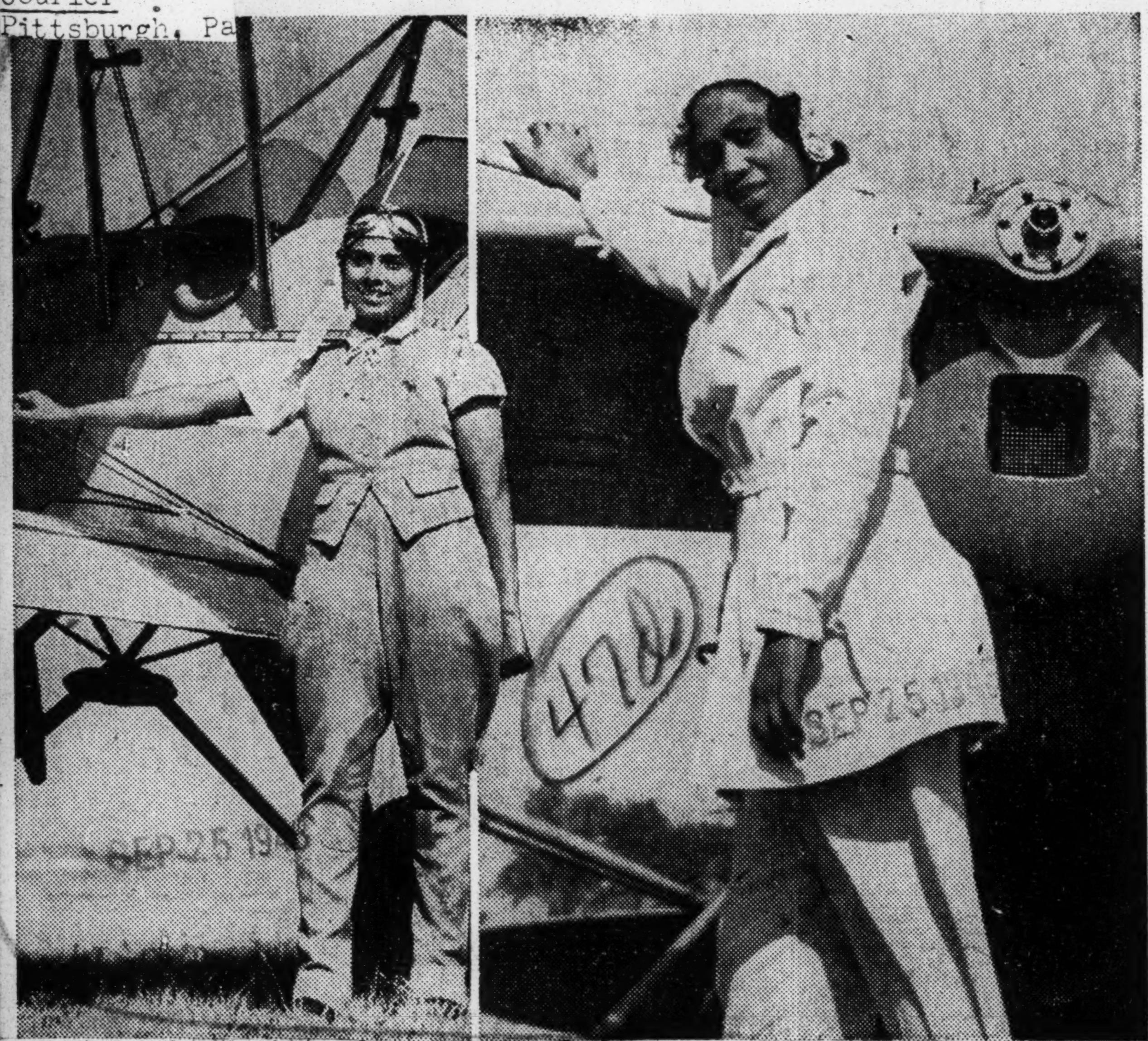
I look forward to the day when I may ask, as I did recently of a volunteer woman worker at a recreational center in a small town, "What facilities are there for the colored troops?" and receive, in reply, more than a stare of blank incredulity.

Playing tag with your conscience will weaken your heart, shorten your breath and cut your wind, and in eternity make you look mighty poor and chagrined.

NOV 24 1943

QUALIFIED FLYERS . . . BUT THE DOOR IS CLOSED TO THEM

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa



Qualified and with plenty of flying hours to their credit, Lieut. Wilma Brown and Janet Harmon of Chicago, regardless of these requirements have the door of oportunity closed to them as far as the Women's Ferrying Command is concerned. Miss Harmon upon application to the ferrying branch of the service, under W.F.T.D., told a Courier representative that she was told by a recruiting officer that no provisions have been made to train Negro women flyers. Hundreds of white girls are being trained at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas.

Above are photos of the two skilled women flyers. Left: Lieutenant Brown, director of a Chicago aeronautics school, holder of two pilots licenses, radio operators and mechanics ratings.

Right: Janet Harmon, official of a New York airport, an instructor and with a record number of flying hours to her credit.

OUR BOYS USED AS LABOR UNITS

Rumored Transfer of Artillery Group Causes Furore—Senate Probe In Offing

OCT 9 - 194

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON — A showdown is in the offing in the near future between the War Department and critics of the General Staff of the United States Army over the question of its use of Negro troops. Rumored transfer of a well trained field artillery group to non-combat training, failure to send Negro combat divisions into action, despite thorough combat training on maneuvers, are said, by reliable informants to furnish the basis for sharp criticism of Army policy which may any day break out in the open.

HAMILTON FISH ASKS FOR DATA

Senator Sheridan Downey (D.-Cal.) author of the Senate resolution to investigate discrimination in the armed services, is known to be pushing for an early hearing on his resolution and to have flatly rejected the suggestion of Senator Robert Reynolds, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs committee, that hearings on the measure be held in executive session to avoid public knowledge of the facts brought out by witnesses at the hearings. The California Senator has insisted that the hearings be public and that such witnesses as Judge William H. Hastie, former civilian aide to the Secretary of War, be invited to testify.

Congressman Hamilton Fish (R.-N. Y.) has recently requested the War Department to furnish him with complete data on the use of Negro troops in combat and their record under fire.

The nub of the criticism leveled at high Army officials is based on their failure to use Negro troops in any large numbers for anything but common labor. Those who raise this criticism point to several bits of evidence to support their views. They declared that it was significent that the five United States Senators who have just returned from a 40,000-mile tour of American fighting fronts had little to say about Negro troops except as labor battalions.

At a press conference held by three of the Senators last Wednesday (Senators Meade of N. Y., Russell, of Ga., and Brewster, of Maine), both Senator Meade and Senator Russell made special comment of the excellence of the work of the Negro troops in building roads, airports, and engaging in stevedore work. Said Senator Russell, of Negro troops in India, "These Negroes can unload a ship in four days where it formerly took the native Indian and British troops two weeks."

Without confirmation from the War Department is the statement that crack Negro artillery units, the 930th Field Artillery company at Camp Forrest, Tenn., and the 931st Field Artillery company at Camp Butner, N. C., have been virtually disbanded with more than 80 per cent of their officers and men transferred to Quartermaster work. It was pointed out, by reliable informants, that these two outfits had had extensive artillery training for more than a year, that some of the officers and men had formerly had service in the 8th Illinois Regiment, and that 100 per cent of the Negro officers of the units had graduated from Fort Sill, outstanding Field Artillery school.

The fact that two full strength Negro divisions, the 92nd and 93rd, are still kept in this country, despite completion of intensive combat training on maneuvers, furnishes another reason for the deepening criticism of Army policy.

What the War Department's reaction to these criticisms is has not been evident on the surface. That something is stirring on the whole question has, however, been increasingly apparent in recent weeks. It would not be surprising if a fundamental statement of Army policy regarding the roughly 10 per cent of the armed forces who are Negroes was not made in the next few weeks, revealing marked changes in the status of the Negro soldier.

Seamen's Service Sets Up Jim Crow Club In Mobile

Defender
Chicago, Ill NOV 6 1943

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—Apparently stymied in its effort to make democracy workable in the South, the United Seamen's Service will establish its first Jim-Crow Seamen's hotel in Mobile, it was announced by Douglas P. Falconer of New York, national executive director, after a conference here with other USS representatives last Saturday.

The compromise plan for a separate hotel was regarded as the only practicable way out of a dilemma created by racial segregation laws of the South.

So Negro boys who go down to sea in ships to carry foodstuffs and implements of war to our fighting men on the far-flung battle fronts all over the world, now must be content to suffer ostracism from the society of their white fellow-seamen when they step ashore at Southern ports.

It is all right for them to bear together the travail of duty during wintry gales under the murky skies of the North Atlantic, as they fight submarine wolf-packs lurking in mountainous seas. But they dare not be housed in the same hotel right here in our own country!

One hotel, the George Self for white seamen, was dedicated here last Friday, and is already in operation. Until the other hotel is available, Negro seamen must make out as best as can in a city already over-populated, with an inadequate housing program because of an expansion of war industries.

However, O. B. Cloudman, chairman of the Port Area committee, and George E. Blacktopp, Mobile port executive of the USS, promise that as soon as necessary agreements are made, work will be rushed on the rehabilitation of the building selected to make it ready for occupancy within a few months. Present plans are to provide a number of bedrooms, including special rooms for men with families, shower bath, lounges, and a spacious recreation room. The building will be heated with gas and properly ventilated to protect the seamen's health. Practically all services found in the average hotel will be furnished for the men.

Falconer advised that all rest centers of the USS are open to Negro seamen.

Among those present at the Mobile conference on the question of hotel facilities for Nergro seamen were Falconer, Harold L. Dunn, also of New York, Director of Domestic Operations, USS, Frank C. Bancroft, Gulf Coast Regional Director, USS, with offices in New Orleans, O. B. Cloudman, George E. Blacktopp, O'den Banks of the Seafarer's International union, Rev. B. B. Williams, Prof. B. F. Baker, and J. L. LeFlore, the three latter named are members of the Colored Area Committee of the USS.

Hastie Tells Barristers of Racism in Armed Forces

Afro-American DEC 4 - 1943
Baltimore, Maryland

BALTIMORE — Speaking on "Legal Aspects of Racial Discrimination in the Armed Forces," Judge William H. Hastie of Howard University told the National Bar Convention in session here last week that the habeas corpus writ for release from military service has so far proved to be the most effective means of fighting illegal induction.

Major complaint among colored service men, he said, is the practice of classifying colored and white registrants into separate groups and calling them according to racial quotas, which is in violation of the Selective Service Act which provides that in the selection and training of service men there shall be no discrimination on account of race or color.

DEC 4 - 1943

States Mustn't Discriminate

In regard to separate service units in the armed forces, Judge Hastie said that if a State discriminates against its citizens, such discrimination is certainly in violation of the Constitution, but whether the national government is similarly restrained is a question on which the Supreme Court has not yet expressed an opinion.

The discussion on this subject was led by Gregory Hawkins, local attorney, who related his personal experiences during the months he served in the

47d-1943

Hastie Bares Rigid Curbs On Race Pilots By Air Corps

Chicago, Illinois Defender

FEB 20 1943

By WILLIAM H. HASTIE

Recent Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War

Second of a Series

It was not until March, 1941, that the army air corps began accepting applications from Negroes for aviation cadet training. The actual instruction of Negroes to be flying officers did not begin until several months later. But even then, and to this day, there was and is only one type of combat aviation—namely, pursuit flying—for which the air command will train a Negro.

How did it happen that the training of Negro aviators was started in the field of pursuit flying? It is common knowledge that grave doubts were expressed from the beginning as to whether the Negro was capable of making good as a combat aviator. The air command described and still describes the training of the Negro in aviation as an "experiment."

Yet, in the face of this expressed skepticism, the air command saw fit to begin with the training of Negroes for pursuit flying, the most difficult type of combat aviation. The single pilot in his pursuit ship has the most exacting of air tasks, handling his fast plane, maneuvering it at terrific speed in actual combat, mastering the technique of accurate and properly directed fire in aerial dog fights, and exercising split second judgment in unexpected situations and emergencies.

Why Pursuit Pilots?

Why was the Negro, whose ability was in doubt, not started off with observation flying or in bombardment where co-pilots and other crew members assist each other and share and divide responsibility?

Only the men who made the decision know the answer. They may have reasoned that through pursuit flying Negroes would demonstrate their ability to perform any air combat task. Fortunately, it seems to be working out that way.

They may have also reasoned that Negroes were less likely to succeed in pursuit flying than in somewhat less exacting work. Yet, in all fairness it should be said that the best of facilities and thoroughly competent instructors were provided for the segregated training program for Negro pilots. And the men in the field who started this training did so with enthusiasm and determination to make it a success.

Statistics already released by the air command show that, during the first year of Negro pursuit piloting training, 42 per cent of the Negro trainees successfully completed their course and earned their wings as pursuit pilots. During the same period 59 per cent of white aviation cadets who entered training qualified as flying officers. Of course the number of Negroes was small and the statistics are therefore not conclusive.

Good Percentage

More important is the fact that Negro candidates have no opportunity at any stage of training to be assigned to some other branch of combat flying, if they seem not to be well adapted to pursuit work. The Negro cadet must become a pursuit pilot or nothing. White cadets are sorted out and placed according to their apparent aptitudes.

Under these circumstances, the fact that 42 per cent of the Negroes who had the physical and educational qualifications for aviation made the grade in the most difficult assignment is a significant accomplishment.

Beyond the fact that the Negro must have the ability for pursuit flying, or else not fly at all, he must meet the special physical specifications of the pursuit pilot. If he is too tall or too heavy for pursuit flying, he cannot be an army flyer, however competent he may be for some flying job other than pursuit work.

200 Get Wings in '43

In wasted manpower, it is difficult to say how much is being lost by imposing such restrictions upon the Negro. It seems probable that some 200 Negro pursuit pilots will earn their wings in 1943. But the air command has never undertaken a campaign of publicity or promotion designed to get young Negro men with superior training into flying training.

When the air forces set up their college reserve program, no Negroes were wanted. The small "Negro quota" was already filled for a year in advance. So, while the ground forces were welcoming Negro college men into their college reserve, the air forces refused to accept them.

Even earlier the air corps had undertaken the recruiting of groups of men from the individual college campus who would go into training as a unit with the group spirit and enthusiasm developed through their association at college. The Negro was excluded from this also. Thus, only the Negro who went forward on his own initiative, determined despite hell and high water to be a combat flyer, ever became an aviation cadet. Even then, he was accepted only within limited quota restrictions and for one type of training.

Cadet Restrictions

Within the past two months, restriction upon the acceptance of volunteers in the army have been extended to aviation cadets. Apparently, aviation cadets will be chosen almost exclusively from men already in the army. A new problem faces the Negro. He must apply for aviation cadet training through his commander and his papers must survive a journey through military channels. It remains to be seen whether his application will be encouraged and facilitated to the same extent as the application of the white soldier.

HASTIE—

In this connection, one recent experience is disturbing. For more than a year the air command has been selecting young soldiers, high school graduates, to be taken from the ranks and trained to become enlisted pilots. They become master, staff and technical sergeants with flying rating.

So far as I have been able to discover, Negro enlisted men have not been accepted in this program. How different will the situation be now that both prospective flying officers and prospective enlisted pilots will be selected from the ranks of the army?

Need for Expansion

Two hundred Negro pursuit pilots a year is something more than token representation. Certainly, 200 pilots can make a big difference in almost any of the present theatres of war. Yet the failure of the air command to encourage or even permit the full participation of the Negro in flying training and service prevents the number of Negro pilots from being several times 200 per year.

If the air command should decide to use Negro flying officers nd enlisted men without racial restrictions, 1,000 pilots would be a conservative estimate of annual production.

Of course there would be serious practical difficulties in developing segregated training fields and segregated organizations of many various types in such an expansion. From a military point of view all of this new segregated set up probably would not be worth the time, expense and diversion of personnel.

But if the war lasts long enough it is not too much to hope that those in authority will realize that their insistence upon strict racial segregation in aviation training and organization is a real hindrance to the ultimate objective of success in battle.

Mobile Situation 'Quited'

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
June 4, 1943

Dr. B. F. Ashe, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, reports that prompt intervention and adequate protection given to persons and property by federal, state and city authorities at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, Alabama, has "decidely quieted" the situation resulting from the recent race and labor disturbance.

Asserting that "the arrangements in force have given confidence o many workers, both colored and white, to remain on the job and resume work without fear," Dr. Ashe said in a statement that "while there is no doubt that production was seriously interfered with, it was never completely halted and is now gradually returning to normal."

The present basis of agreement that separate ship ways be maintained for Negro workers, thus enabling them to participate at all grades of skills employed on the hulls of the ships, Dr. Ashe said, seems to solve "at one and the same time both the difficulty of upgrading Negro workers adequately and that of providing them with adequate protection while at work in designated ways apart from the whites."

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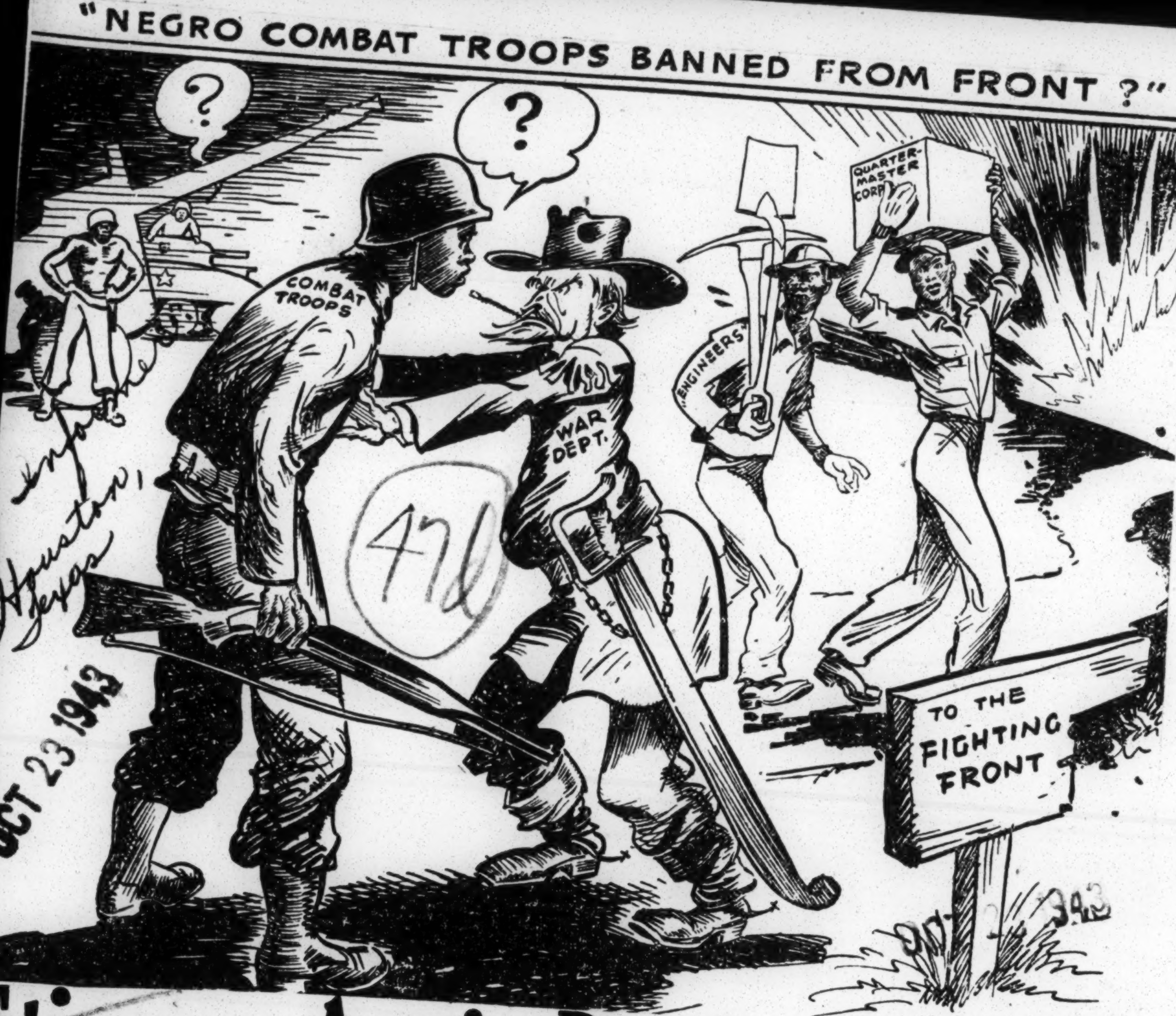

"NEGRO COMBAT TROOPS BANNED FROM FRONT ?"

Informer Houston, Texas

OCT 23 1943

47d

Stimson Again Ducks Stand On Army Bias

Defender
Chicago, Ill

OCT 6 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Jim-crow, discrimination and segregation are still rife in the Army of the United States. There have been, however, some definite moves toward the improvement of a very bad situation.

Despite these improvements, however, the War Department refuses to speak out plainly on the efforts it is making toward this end, refrains from giving the needed lift which it could give to the morale of thousands of soldiers, particularly Negro soldiers.

Last week, in War Secretary Stimson's press conference, the secretary was offered "bait" on a silver hook — a chance to pat the War Department on the back for some of its recent moves. Instead, he hedged — or rather the replies prepared for him by the Bureau of Public Relations were a hedge.

Stimson was asked: "In view of the fact that Negroes in the Army are now roughly ten per cent of its total strength and that for some time there have been apparent changing and developing policies affecting their army status, would you care to summarize the present policies of the War Department affecting Negroes in the Army, particularly with regard to their use as combat troops, their utilization as officers and enlisted men in the several branches of the service, and the degree to which it has been found possible to train and activize units of mixed racial character?"

Policy 'Unchanged'

Here was a chance to say a lot of good things about the Army—which exposes itself usually to so many bad things to say. Instead, Stimson answered by saying that all he could say at the time is that the "army's basic policies remain unchanged." He said units of the army are sent to overseas theatres as needed and when they have demonstrated their readiness for combat by successfully completing all the War Department's rigid tests for their respective arms and services.

"The War Department feels that present organizational policies serve the war effort to the best advantage, and a deviation from present policies is not feasible," he declared.

Still fishing for a morale-lifting answer, the secretary was asked: "There have been recent newspaper accounts of materials disseminated by the Army War College and other branches of the Army to orient officers on race relations. Would you care to comment on this program and the degree to which it will be developed in the future?"

To this he replied that it has been a long standing policy of the Army War College Library to issue from time to time lists of topics of timely and professional interest tc all officers. To be of real value, he said, such lists must cover a wide scope of subjects. Then he added, "These lists do not constitute an expression of the War Department policy, nor are they necessarily part of the training program. They are informative only." He said the Army War College Library had recently issued a list on race relations.

Recreational Problem

A third question asked was: "The press has carried recent accounts of investigations conducted by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., and others into conditions affecting Negro troops, and has reported a number of complaints of Negro troops regarding alleged inadequate transportation and recreational facilities in and around Southern camps. Will you comment upon what the War Department has done or is doing to deal with these problems so far as they have been found to exist?"

These, the secretary said, have constituted problems from the beginning of the war. Inadequate recreational and transportation facilities have been ever recurring problems, he pointed out. "These problems have to be faced and solved by the local commanders concerned," he said. "I am very glad to say very considerable progress has been made in the solution of these problems. Of course, it is my desire for these improvements to be continuous."

He could have set a tempo for local commanders to follow by citing just one example of improvement — and there have been some. There is the case of a camp in Virginia where through cooperation of the local commander and War Department efforts Negro and white soldiers ride buses to and from the camp without regard to the Virginia jim-crow laws. It can be done!

Riot Reports

Meanwhile, stories published in daily newspapers here continue to cite racial hostilities and bitterness existing in the British Isles where white troops object to the presence of Negro troops.

Says the Daily News on Wednesday last:

"London, Oct. 6—A free-for-all fight among American soldiers was disclosed today to have occurred in a Wiltshire village on September 26, the same day on which two military policemen were wounded during an American shooting affray in a town in Cornwall.

"A number of soldiers were injured in the Wiltshire battle, several of them seriously, when Negro and white troops fought with knives on the town's main street.

"American troops have been barred from the town by U. S. military authorities, pending an investigation and military police are patrolling the streets.

"The Cornwall gun battle started with a fist fight between two American soldiers attending a local dance.

"The following night one group of Americans arrived at the town square, each man carrying a rifle and 60 rounds of ammunition hidden beneath his coat and ambushed another party leaving a hotel. The soldiers fought for 10 minutes before order was restored."

White House Flooded With Protests Against Railroads' Defiance Of FEP

Defender
Chicago, Ill

DEC 25 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — The White House was deluged this week with protests against the action of 16 Southern rai[illegible] in defying the directive [illegible] by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, calling for equal employment opportunities and gradings for railroad workers of all races.

Among the more prominent organizations denouncing the attitude of the railroads were the National Negro Congress, United Transport Service Employes of America (UTSEA), CIO, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, N.A.A.C.P., Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination, and the Urban League.

The message from the National Negro Congress said, in part:

"In defying the order of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to cease discriminatory practices against the Negro people, the Southeastern Carrier's conference, representing sixteen Wall street owned Southern railroads, has placed itself in opposition to the nation's war efforts and the need for additional manpower for the effective war operation of the railroads. The case against discrimination in employment has become joined. The issue is clear and simple. Shall we again permit through a policy of appeasement an insignificant minority of unpatriotic employers to defy the war aims of the nation? Or shall the criminal action of the railroad owners be recognized for what it is—treason against the nation?"

Says War Interest Sacrificed

An excerpt from the UTSEA letter reads as follows:

"This stand indicates that railroad labor organizations and the southern railroads in subscribing to a policy of racial discrimination are not interested in the winning of the war, nor in the safety of patrons who are paying enormous transportation fees. Today, many roads have enlisted the services of 'teen age youngsters and women to do the work of experienced and stable railroad[illegible]

DEC 25 1943

The N.A.A.C.P. pointed out that there were in the letter of the railroads to the FEPC "two thinly-veiled threats of mob violence" to thwart the provisions of Executive Order 9346 prohibiting discrimination in war industries and agencies on account of race, creed, color or national origin.

N.A.A.C.P. Demands Action

Blasting the statement of the companies that "conditions of chaos" will result if Negroes are employed, the letter states that this idea is being planted deliberately in the minds of the traveling public "for sinister and undemocratic purposes."

The President is urged to meet vigorously and unequivocally "this impudent challenge of your authority as President and as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy" with the prediction that the overwhelming majority of the American people will give him unqualified support.

The federation protest said, in part:

"The many friends of the FEPC have looked upon the outcome [illegible] the railroad hearings as a s[illegible] of the effectiveness of our country's efforts to stamp out racial discrimination from industry. They hailed the decision of the FEPC. Therefore non-compliance with FEPC's findings and directives would undermine the morale of the many minorities of our country, have serious repercussions among our allies abroad, and greatly increase our national manpower problem.

"The railroads have made their position clear. They insist upon the continuance of the status quo of racial discrimination. It seems necessary, therefore that, in the interest of securing adequate war manpower and promoting national morale, the findings and directives of the FEPC be enforced."

Called "Brazen Defiance

The Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination wrote expressing its whole-hearted condemnation of the efforts of the southern railroads to repudiate the FEPC directive.

"This action, in our opinion," the council said, "constitutes an affront not only to American Negroes, but to American democracy itself. It represents, moreover, a challenge to your own authority—a challenge which must not go uncontested."

The executive board in a unanimous resolution termed the action of the southern carriers "brazen defiance of the United States government," and called upon its affiliated organizations to express their support of the FEPC and urge President Roosevelt to "take whatever steps may be necessary to secure compliance from the railroads with Executive Order 9346."

MOW Head Writes

In a hotly-worded statement, typical of him, A. Philip Randolph, national director of the March-on-Washington movement said:

"Hiding behind the smoke screens that the directives of FEPC are unrealistic and impractical, and conjuring up terrifying hobgoblins of racial disaster in the South if just employment opportunities are awarded Negroes in the railroad industry, the Southern railroad managements have denonuced the President's Executive Order 9346 as a scrap of paper, expressing their flat refusal to obey it.

"This is a sharp challenge to the Negro, liberal and minority groups of the country. It is a mortal thrust at the heart of American democracy. Certainly, it will give cause for Hitler and Tojo to shout hypocrisy to American democracy, but Negroes, Catholics, Jews and other minority groups will not let this challenge go unanswered.

"From every housetop, pulpit, and street corner, the voice of the people must ring down these charges, demanding that President Roosevelt meet this challenge with forthright action, ordering these railroads to obey the directives of FEPC. The fight to save and make an effective FEPC, is a vital part of the fight to help win the war and the peace."

Local Group Protest

The Chicago Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. said:

"Defiance of FEPC by southern railroads constitute direct threat to principles of democracy and successful prosecution of the war," and urged "prompt and firm action in support of the committee." Oscar C. Brown is president of the local N.A.A.C.P.

The Chicago Civil Liberties committee affirmed that it was wholeheartedly behind Executive Order 9346 and FEPC and urged him to take decisive action to meet the challenge of the southern railroads in refusing to recognize the legality of the FEPC order. The committee declared, "The purpose of the railroads was to create disunity and strike a blow at the United Nations' war effort. Ira Latimer is executive secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee.

Expressions of support of FEPC were also sent to the President by the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress of which C. Francis Stradford is chairman, and the Chicago Chapter of the March-on-Washington movement of which Charles Wesley Burton is chairman.

The Chicago Urban League informed the President that it read with dismay the refusal of the railroads to obey the FEPC order and said it seemed inconceivable that any group of American citizens, especially in this hour of crisis, would allow racial prejudice to prevent the full utilization of all available competent labor. A. L. Foster is executive secretary.

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64 Soldiers Get 1-5 Years

Afro-American DEC 11 1943
Baltimore, Md.

PARIS, Tenn.—(ANP)—Sixty-four colored soldiers stationed at Camp Tyson were last week sentenced to from one to five years each at hard labor for riding two army trucks into a nearby town without authority.

The terms are considered the stiffest ever handed down by an American military court.

The non-commissioned officers were given five years each, while one private was sentenced to a year and the other privates received longer terms, according to Col. William H. Dunham, junior commanding officer of the barrage balloon training center.

The soldiers had planned a joy ride to Jackson last October 10, but never reached their destination because camp officers discovered their absence and learned of the missing trucks. They later found the missing men in a small town called Henry.

Court Martial Lily-White

The sentences were termed very rash, as former punishments for misappropriation of government property are said to have been much lighter.

The men are slated to serve their sentences at a Federal rehabilitation camp, according to a court martial, composed of all whites. A decision by the judge advocate of the War Department in Washington, however, may modify the terms.

DEC 11 1943

Terror Against Soldiers Goes Unpunished

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

(This is the first of two articles on discrimination against Negro soldiers)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 10.—"There never will be any action taken on these old cases."

This is the official attitude of the Department of Justice on about half a dozen cases of violence against Negro soldiers by white police officers in the South on which the War Department has asked action. According to Attorney General Francis Biddle and his aides, these cases are dead. And as far as they are concerned, this whole issue is dead.

But according to a report submitted to the National Lawyers Guild by William Hastie, the well known Negro leader and former civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry Stimson:

"Civilian violence against the Negro in uniform is a recurrent phenomenon. It continues unabated. It may well be the greatest single factor now operating to make 13,000,000 Negroes bitter and resentful and to undermine the fighting spirit of three-quarters of a million Negroes in arms."

Here are some of the cases cited by Hastie in his report:

CULPRITS UNPUNISHED

In January, 1942 a group of civilian policemen and one military policemen went on a shooting spree in a narrow, crowded street in the Negro business section and without any provocation injured about 30 soldiers with buckshot fired from riot guns.

In March, 1942, city policeman A. J. Hay of Little Rock shot and killed Sergeant Thomas Foster, a Negro soldier. After an inadequate presentation by a local attorney designed by the Department of Justice, a grand jury cleared Hay who is now in the Army.

In July, 1942, city police officers in Beaumont Texas fired several shots into the body of Private Charles Reco, a Negro soldier, whom they had arrested. At the request of the War Department, the Department of Justice filed a criminal information. But the Department later abandoned prosecution for the stated reason that there was no hope of conviction.

Shortly afterwards in El Paso, Texas, Private Willie Julius was shot and killed by a city policeman. Local authorities went through the motions of submitting the case to a grand jury—which took no action.

During Sept. 1942 Lt. Norma Greene, a Negro nurse, was badly beaten by two policemen in Montgomery, Alabama. While condemning the action of the police officers, military authorities found no grounds for interference since Lt. Greene was not in uniform.

In Oct. 1942 Private Henry Williams, a Negro soldier, was killed by a bus driver while riding through the streets of Mobile. In this case there was not even the formality of a Grand Jury hearing.

In November, 1942, Private Larry Stroud was shot through the back of the head by a city policeman in Columbia, South Carolina.

During the same month, Private Raymond Carr, a Negro M.P., was shot and killed by a city policeman in Alexandria, Louisiana—the second major outbreak of violence in this city. Local military authorities asked state officials to prosecute. When the state officials refused, the same request was made of the Department of Justice which insisted that the state should handle the case. Finally, the case was presented to a local grand jury which exonnerated the killer.

NOTHING DONE

The War Department has asked for action in a number of cases. But it has not spoken up publicly to condemn these acts of violence against Negro servicemen.

The Department of Justice has to an extent been hampered by lack of legislation to prosecute in Federal courts the slayers of members of the armed forces. There is a law to this effect which applies to some categories in the Federal service such as the Coast Guard, immigration inspectors and members of the grazing service. But it does not cover men in the Army.

Within the limits of existing legislation, Hastie found, however, that there has been a disgraceful failure to take vigorous action on the part of Attorney General and the Department of Justice.

Specific recommendations made by Hastie for remedial action are:

First, that the President make a public appeal to the nation "directing attention to the continuing course of unrestrained violence against Negro soldiers.

Second, that the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy launch a positive program of education within his branch of the armed forces, calculated to develop the attitude of respect toward members of the minority groups in our army and navy which we are now trying to inculcate with reference to foreign peoples among whom our men in arms are now living.

Third, that Attorney General Biddle should prosecute some of the cases listed above and should sponsor legislation to strengthen the hand of the Department of Justice and the Federal courts in dealing with acts of violence against Negro servicemen.

Fifth, that the Senate and House Military Affairs Committee should act to approve such legislation, which could be in the form of an amendment of Section 243 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

AUG 11 1943

47d-1943

New Development Gives Ray of Hope

Amsterdam -News
New York, N. Y.

(This is the second in a series of exclusive articles by the ***AMSTERDAM NEWS*** *on the progressive side of Negroes in various branches of the Armed Forces. A fortnight ago we reviewed the Coast Guard setup. Another feature in this series will appear at a later date.—The Editors.)*

AUG 14 1943

By S. W. GARLINGTON

ALL'S NOT "PEACHES AND CREAM" in the Army. In fact, much of the discrimination practiced by this branch of ou armed forces—if recorded—would serve as tear jerkers and blood-boilers. But, there's always a bright side to everything—even the booting of Mussolini. So, let's review the progressive side. After all, its' good for your morale—which should be able to stand a dose of "You're not SO bad off" after the recent epidemic of race riots.

Progress has a way all its own. It will eventually express itself, irrespective of reactionary forces. In World War I, we did not have a General. Now we do—Brigadier General B. O. Davis. As late as 1941 we did not have Army fliers. Now we do . . . and our fliers are making a more than creditable record, too.

Gen. B. O. Davis

Fliers Aid Allies' Advance

Early in July a dispatch from Allied Headquarters in North Africa stated that First Lieut. Charles B. Hull, 22-year-old pilot from Brazil, Indiana, claimed the first Axis plane credited to his squadron which was patrolling in the North African Theatre of War. Hull brought down a German Focke-Wulf 190 during a dog fight over Castelventrano Airfield in Sicily. He piloted a P-40 Warhawk escorting Mitchell Medium bombers that raided the field. One other German plane was destroyed and a third damaged by fliers in the Negro American Fighting Squadron.

The exploit drew congratulations from Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied Commander-in-Chief. He was at the air-base with the Squadron Commander, Lieut. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., when the fliers came back.

Future Bombardiers

At present, the closest Negroes can come to being a bombardier is by buying war bonds—hence a "Bondardier." That's not a distasteful substitution, because bonds and stamps are needed, too, to win the war. But this limitation will soon be a bit of history in our march toward more democracy in the Army.

Acting Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, at a press conference on July 15, 1943, made known the fact that the Army will soon train Negro bombardiers and navigators. The Army Air Forces, it said, will open bombardier and navigator schools which will be attended by both Negro and white aviation cadets. Whether the success of our fliers in Africa or the pressure of war brought about this pending progressive step, we are not concerned. All that matters is that it is in the making, and we are appreciative.

Lieut. B. O. Davis, Jr.

Over 3000 Officers

Negroes are in almost all the technical and service schools, military and civilians, run by the Army or under contract to it. More than 2,683 have been graduated from Officer Candidate Schools. These men have been commissioned and are serving in all arms and branches of the Army with Negro Reserve and National Guard Officers on active duty. There are more than 3,000 Negro officers serving in all grades, from Second Lieutenant to Brigadier General. In World War I, there were only 1,353 officers of which more than half served overseas.

Cadets and WAC Training

Negro aviation cadets continue to be trained at the Tuskegee Army Flying Field in Alabama. A group is also being trained at Selfridge Field in Michigan.

The story of Negro women [illegible]ing the Army and their acceptance and treatment by the Army is one of the bright chapters of any review on the Army. They are serving, both in the ranks and as officers, in the Women's Army (Auxiliary) Corps (WAC's).

In contrast to one of the "brightest chapters," the treatment and status of Negro Military Police (MP's) and Chaplains and the extreme sparsity of Negroes in direct command of near a half million Negroes go to make up one of the blackest chapters in the current history of the Army.

Where Are Our Soldiers?

The latest available figures on Negro personnel in the Army, enlisted and commissioned, show that there are more than 450,000 serving in every arm and branch of the service. Of that number more than 60,000 are serving outside of the Continental United States with other American forces. In the far Pacific there are more than 25,000 Negro soldiers on duty.

Approximately 10,000 are stationed in North Africa. In addition, a completely organized and well trained (at Tuskegee) Army Air Force Pursuit Squadron has been committed to combat and participated in the battle of Pantelleria, the Italian island "stronghold" which is or was supposed to guard the Sicilian Straits. Their participation in this battle marked the first appearance of Negro Americans in overseas aerial combat.

'Heroes All!'

What about heroes growing out of participation in the Army? In World War I exactly 191 received the Distinguished Service Cross and 3 officers were decorated with the Croix de Guerre. According to the number of Negroes serving in the Army now, those to be decorated for heroism will undoubtedly exceed the above figures—if everything is equal.

Medals and awards are often over-emphasized. They minimize the excellent lesson found in the story of "The Widow's Mite." In actuality, all Negroes serving in the Army are heroes. With this statement there should be no quarrel. After all, with all the Jim Crow and limitations placed upon the Negro—even in the Army—the Negro who volunteers for service under his flag is more than a hero.

War Dept. Again Refuses to Establish Mixed Unit

Afro-American

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON.

Reaffirming its stubbornly maintained position that it will not retreat from its policy of segregation in the armed forces, the War Department, in a letter under date of September 4, to Walter White, NAACP secretary, declared:

"The suggestion contained in your letter (of July 14) for the formation of mixed units has been considered at various times by the War Department and the decision reached that such action would be inadvisable." The letter was signed by John J. McCloy, Acting Secretary of War.

Mr. White, in releasing the above information, revealed [illegible] that recently he had visited McCloy and thanked him on behalf of colored people for the establishment of non-segregated training for colored bombardiers, pilots and navigators.

Baltimore, Md.

At that time Mr. White expressed the hope that after they had received this training in mixed units, colored aviators would be permitted to fight in mixed units. The negative answer recorded above is Mr. McCloy's reply.

Soldier In Africa Ponders 'Whys' Of Disunity At Home

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 28 1943

EDITOR'S NOTE: Things are not as dark on the "dark continent" as is generally believed, writes Pfc. William H. Harris, who is with an engineers' battalion in North Africa. The way the American soldier is received causes him to "swell with pride." However, when he reads accounts of racial trouble in various sections of his homeland, he gets a letdown, and wonders —why? His letter follows in full.

Editor, Journal and Guide,
Dear Sir:

Over here in this so called dark continent things are not as dark as I read in those books in school. The natives are friendly and intelligent, and possess a culture that perhaps comes down from Biblical times.

GREATEST ARMY

In our association with them we learn how Americans impress them. They expect us to have plenty and to give the same. They tell us we are lucky to be soldiers of the greatest Army in the world.

We appreciate this recognition and swell with pride at being Americans. But on reading in the Journal and Guide of the myriad number of race riots and ill feeling among the people in the United States, we wonder if we shouldn't be back over there giving our full aid in what seems to us a fight more related to our future and well being.

We are perplexed to read about these seemingly unreasonable racial clashes. Its unbelievable how the people in the states seemingly love to fight each other while we, their fathers, sons, and brothers, are giving our all to exterminate that alleged maniac who proclaimed that he should, and tried like hell to, rule the world.

FIGHT RIGHT MAN

I sincerely hope that the people of America have not and must forget that Adolf did not exclude America from that list of countries he wished to destroy in his lust for power. We fighting men over here are on the verge of another great battle. We colored soldiers some times wonder if we're fighting the right man.

We continue to be loyal to our country to the end, but we can't help being concerned over the seemingly uncalled for fighting among people who are supposed to be united in the fight against Nazism.

Not knowing how or what evil is at the base of these outbreaks, we form our own conclusions. Naturally we expect some of these opinions to be wrong and we are hoping that this disgusting situation will be alleviated as soon as possible.

We believe that our President and his cabinet are doing everything possible to improve race relations. Nevertheless, we are shocked and bewildered at what seems entirely unreasonable. Must we delay victory by fighting among ourselves?

Surely all [illegible] Americans realize [illegible] effect these riots have on production, unity, and the fighting spirit in general. American soldiers, black and white, have fought, are fighting, and will fight side by side until victory is won.

FATAL BATTLE

Let us imagine the results if white and colored soldiers of the American Army would begin slaughtering one another in the midst of a battle against the enemy.

I am sure we all realize that victory can only be accomplished through strict adherence and unity. Let's wake up and reason intelligently as cultured beings should. Victory must and shall be ours at the climax of this great struggle!

Pfc. WILLIAM W. HARIS
378th Eng. B. N.
North Africa

The Mystery Of The 93rd Division

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Whether the War Department knows it or not, there is widespread concern about the future of the all-Negro 93rd Division.

This division was activated more than two years ago and widely advertised as the answer to the demand of colored Americans that Negroes be used as fighting soldiers as well as working soldiers.

Divisions that went into training long after the 93rd started, are now overseas.

The Japanese-American Combat Team from Hawaii trained for a few months in Mississippi and has since had its baptism of fire in Italy.

The Office of War Information has sent out stories about Negro troops in various parts of the world, but they are always laborers or stevedores.

We know very well that laborers and stevedores are necessary, indeed essential, in modern warfare, but we contend that it is the rankest sort of color discrimination to use Negroes ONLY as laborers and stevedores.

The Army has already wasted millions of dollars training artillery units composed of Negroes, only to break them up and send them to the Quartermaster after they had become highly skilled with field guns and built up a high esprit de corps.

Does the Army bureaucracy intend to do the same thing with the 93rd Division?

Why is this highly trained combat unit being used to guard warehouses and tool sheds in the hour of decision?

PUBLIC COURT-MARTIAL

Colonel William T. Colman, white, former Selfridge Field (Mich.) air base commander, on trial by court-martial for shooting Private William McRae, colored, heard witnesses testify that he had given orders that no colored soldier was to serve as his chauffeur.

Afro-American

This army commander, with such pronounced racial hatred, faces other charges:

1. Misappropriating a 300-watt Delco engine generator, of the type that makes electricity for house purposes, a refrigerator and five beds.
2. Accepting use of a vacation lodge from a Federal contractor at his camp.
3. Using army civilian employees for private work.
4. Transferring and promoting men by fraud.
5. Being drunk four times in two months on duty, in quarters, and in station.

Baltimore, Md

The War Department plainly means to make an example of Colonel Colman. His trial is open to the public and the press.

Commander Fights Race Prejudice At Army Camp

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. (ANP)—The courageous fight put up by a post commander against race prejudice in the Army was revealed this week by Negro soldiers stationed there.

The commander of the post, Maj. Gen. Harris, is opposed to segregation and fights it here in a courageous manner, soldiers revealed. "As a result, some semblance of democracy operates here to the extent that some companies are seen drilling with their ranks sprinkled with Negro soldiers."

Post exchanges, theatres and service clubs are open to all, and certain technical classrooms are mixed. There are several
est ranking colored officer is a first lieutenant who took the place
thousand Negro soldiers at this key ordnance center but the high-
of a white captain. He commands Company D, the unit reserved exclusively for Negroes.

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editorial

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Navy Discrimination

In April, 1942, when Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced that the policy of the Navy department had been relaxed and that United States citizens who happened to have been black would, in the future, be given the opportunity for service in the Marine corps and for more extended service in the Navy, The Courier, which had waged an unrelenting campaign against the Navy's practice of discrimination and exclusion, announced that Negro citizens had expected more and deserved more.

* * *

The Courier did not delude itself into believing that the Navy department had decided to observe to the letter the mandate of Abraham Lincoln, the federal constitution and the laws of the nation and treat all citizens in the service of their country alike.

* * *

The caste of high officers in the Navy had too long cultivated a tradition of regarding the Navy as a sort of separate sovereignty to change overnight.

* * *

Secretary Knox bluntly intimated that Negroes were to be recruited for the expanded messman class, for construction battalions and for coast guard duty.

* * *

Nothing has happened since April, 1942, to change this conviction.

* * *

The Navy department still treats Negroes as though they were second-class American citizens to be disposed of as suits the prejudices of the Navy high command which, to be truthful, does not include Secretary Knox and President Roosevelt.

* * *

We believe reports that the word has gone out from the board of admirals in the Navy department to both Secretary Knox and the President that this equal rights stuff for all citizens is not to be considered in the Navy.

* * *

As the nation prepares to celebrate Navy Day and to pay deserved tribute to the fighting prowess of our Navy, The Courier submits that the United States Navy, in policy and practice, is one of the chief violators of the principles of democracy for which we say we are fighting. We make the following charges, supported by abundant evidence:

1. The Navy makes a rigid distinction between American citizens, based on the color of their skins.

2. Certain ratings in the Navy are given to white Americans only.

3. The messman class is recruited principally from black Americans.

4. That no attempt has been made to classify thousands of messmen to discover their fitness for other types of service.

5. That hundreds of Negroes have been kept in the messman class, regardless of their demonstrated ability to perform other types of service, as demonstrated by Dorie Miller and others who when occasion demanded, have quit their servile jobs to man the guns and defend their ships.

6. That the Navy stubbornly refuses to commission any Negro

7. That the Navy stubbornly sticks to segregation in its training program.

8. That the Navy draws a rigid color line against Negro women.

9. That the Navy has broken the hearts of thousands of black boys who have wanted to serve their country.

10. That the Navy maintains a strict system of segregation on all its ships.

11. That the example of the Navy undermines faith in the professed ideals of the nation.

* * *

What can be done about the Navy The Courier does not know. We are at war and all Americans, regardless of personal interests, seek victory.

* * *

There is certainly reason to fear, however, that the victories which the Navy wins with its guns may be dissipated by its undemocratic practices.

* * *

Maybe the Congress can find some way to inform the admirals in the Navy that the department they are running still belongs to the American people, all of them, black and white.

* * *

The Negro Press and the Negro people have done their utmost. In their contacts with the Navy department, they have met with polite but firm run-arounds and evasion.

* * *

Since Admiral Chester Nimitz left for Hawaii, not one responsible, policy-making officer in the Navy department has been willing to talk with any representatives of the Negro people. Secretary Knox, who can't do much anyway, has ducked them. Assistant Secretary Ralph Bard, who carries even less weight with the Navy admirals, has funneled into practice some of the policies of the admirals.

* * *

But not a single admiral has given an ear to the Negro's plea that the Navy practice democracy. Each Negro delegation to the Navy department has been met by a commander, a captain or someone of lesser stature. These men can hear complaints. They have no power to act. For two years, Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs has been too busy to see any Negro or delegation of them. He is chief of the Bureau of Naval Personnel and in the responsible position affecting Negroes in the Navy. He does as he pleases and keeps his door closed.

Frequent complaints are lodged against the Army. But the high command of the Army, from General Marshall down, have listened to Negroes and have attempted to improve conditions in the Army. A Negro delegation might as well attempt to see Hirohito as to try to have a conference with either Admiral Ernest King or Admiral Jacobs. They are not concerned with those whom they regard as second-class citizens.

* * *

The situation in the Navy, for the sake of the nation in its future relations with other peoples, demands a congressional investigation. The Courier has already asked for that investigation and will press its request.

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Citizens Surprised By Army's Objection To Dancing Couple

NOV 27 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Edgar T. Rouzeau, Courier War Correspondent, whose "Wheel And A Prayer" article appearing exclusively in last week's issue of The Courier, created much comment, spanned the Atlantic last week by plane to return home for a well-earned rest. He visited The Courier home office over the weekend . . traveled to Fairmont, W. Va. . . . hometown of Captain George Spencer Roberts, Jr., of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, to deliver personal greetings and presents. En route, he stopped off in Morgantown, W. Va., with Staff Photographer John G. Taylor, to get an "exclusive" on the story which appears below.)

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU, Exclusive to The Pittsburgh Courier

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—Citizens of this city, white and colored, see nothing unusual or improper in the fact that a respectable and winsome colored high school graduate had danced with a white soldier in the ballroom of the fashionable Hotel Morgan here on November 5. Some hinted broadly that the setting was quite democratic and that it was very stupid for Army officers concerned to focus so much embarrassment upon themselves by attempting to make a cause celebre out of a simple matter.

Most of those interviewed by this reporter admitted frankly that they had not even been aware that a jitterbug number had been staged at the hotel by the daughter of one of Morgantown's best known and most widely respected Negro citizens. The incident was brought to their knowledge when newspapers reported that the soldier concerned had been court-martialed for his act.

GIRL WORKS AT HOTEL

The soldier in the case is Pvt. Herman P. Suiter, 25, Louisville, Ky., until recently a member of a class of 60 Army Air Corps preflight students at West Virginia university. His dancing partner was 18-year-old Dorothy Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Johnson, of Rightmore stret.

Dorothy is next to the oldest of five children in this family. She is an exceptionally bright girl who has strong views of her own on democracy and racial tolerance. She graduated this past June from the Scottdale high school, Scottdale, Pa., and hopes to continue in college as soon as she can raise the necessary funds. [illegible] has been working at the Morgan hotel as an elevator girl.

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Her father, born and reared in this city, is a musician by vocation, but also works in the school system. It was his view that if "we are going to fight prejudice, we can't afford to be prejudiced ourselves." He said his daughter had danced in public with a young man who had shown himself to be a gentleman, and that under the circumstances he could see nothing wrong.

COMMANDER ACTED ON OWN INITIATIVE

Private Suiter's commanding officer, Capt. Walter C. Troutman, brought charges against the soldier. He told this reporter Saturday afternoon, however, that he had taken action on his own initiative, that neither the hotel management, the guests at the dance, nor outside citizens had filed any complaint over the fact that one of his cadets had danced with a colored girl. He insisted, that, nonetheless, the soldier was "entirely out of line in dancing with an uninvited guest, an elevator girl who was not properly dressed."

The so-called improper dress was a blue uniform worn by Miss Johnson, but the dance was semi-formal. Miss Johnson said that the hotel management had not mentioned the matter to her, and that she has lost no friends by dancing with Private Suiter. She has been told that white students at West Virginia university have voiced the opinion that she was perfectly correct in what she did.

Captain Troutman, formerly a football star at the University of Georgia, ordered Suiter to appear for court-martial on the charge that he had prejudiced "good order and military discipline" and had brought "discredit upon the military service by dancing with a colored girl in view of [illegible] present."

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ORDERED PAY FORFEITED

The court-martial board found the student guilty. Two-thirds of his pay of $50 was forfeited for one month and the findings of the court were ordered incorporated into the student's permanent service record to be "used in any future case against this aviation student during his entire Army career."

Fortunately for the pre-flight student, the results of the trial were later reviewed and overruled by the Eastern Flying Command at Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala., and the sentence set aside. Private Suiter has [illegible] graduated with his class and is now taking advanced training at Nashville, Tenn.

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The action of the board of review was a slap in the face for Captain Troutman, who commands the preflight school at the university here. Captain Troutman said that the question of color did not enter into his mind when he issued the court-martial order.

GIRL GIVES STORY

He said that Private Suiter had violated regulations by dancing with an uninvited guest who was working for the hotel as an elevator girl. He said the girl was improperly dressed and that he would have taken the same action against Suiter if his dancing companion had been white instead of colored. He added that the decision of the board of review was final, that all charges against Suiter had been rescinded, and that "all this ado over nothing is nonsensical."

Interviewed, Miss Johnson related the following:

"On the evening of November 5, the pre-flight students were giving a dance at the hotel. Several such dances had been given by previous graduating classes and Pvt. Suiter had won a jitterbug contest at one of them.

"My friend, Elgy Shade, and myself, were on duty on the elevators. On this evening Pvt. Suiter wanted to demonstrate his jitterbug prowess and he got the idea that he would make a better showing if one of us would dance with him. He approached Miss Shade first and she later told me that she dance with him in a corridor leading to the ballroom but refused to go out on the floor.

INSISTED ON DANCING

"Suiter approached me several times and asked me to dance. I told him each time that I was on duty and I further warned him that he would probably get in trouble. He laughed off my warning and kept insisting that it would be very patriotic on my part to help him entertain his friends.

"I got to thinking and I finally decided that perhaps I would be helping the cause of democracy to indulge him in this request. It seemed harmless enough and the dance was to be done in public. I mentioned the fact that I had on only my blue uniform, but he waved this last objection aside by reminding me that the dance was informal and that none of the girls present were dressed in gowns.

GUESTS APPLAUDED

"With that, I accepted the invitation, and we went out on the dance floor. There were several couples dancing, [illegible] soon as they noticed that we were jitterbugging, they left the floor and joined the ring that was beginning to surround us. The conclusion of the dance was greeted with heavy applause, and many of the guests begged us to give them additional numbers. Private Suiter was willing, but I refused to accommodate them, and soon afterward, I left the hotel and went home.

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"There were several naval officers among the guests. Captain Troutman also had someone representing him at the dance. It seems to me that there was plenty of time to have stopped us if our dancing was against military regulations. When I arrived home, I told my parents that I had danced at the Hotel Morgan, and I told them how it happened. None of us thought any more about it after that night until Private Suiter's court-martial was reported in the newspapers."

CAUSED FURORE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Miss Dorothy Johnson, employee in the Morgan hotel, Morgantown, W. Va., was [illegible] innocent means by which a white soldier was court-martialed for bringing discredit upon the military service by dancing with a colored girl in view of those present" at a dance in the hotel.

NOV 27 1943

FIGHT BOSTON USO BAN UN MIXED DANCING

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

By PAUL DANIEL DAVIS.

BOSTON, Nov. 18. (ANP)—Following instructions given by the white senior hostess to five colored junior hostesses at the Hoetl Touraine in Boston to the effect that they were not to dance with white servicemen under [illegible] circumstances, and to refuse their offers to dance, Attorney Ray W. Guild started blasting the jim-crow tactics of the Greater Boston Sailors' and Soldiers' Committee, Inc.

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This edict sanctioned unanimously by the board of directors of the Greater Boston USO committee, which has a colored member in Atty. Matthew Bullock, member of the Massachusetts Parole board, and also apparently by one of the leading Boston colored matrons, Mrs. John B. Hall, is to apply to the Buddies-Bay State club located on the historic Boston Common.

Confer on Policy.

Attorney Guild, president of the Co-ordinating Council of Colored Organizations for National Defense, has called for a meeting this week of the committee and citizens of Boston in order to determine what policy is to be followed. This becomes necessary since the two above mentioned colored citizens in strategic positions have agreed to the segregated policies of the USO committee.

The present controversy grew out of the fact that the Buddies-Bay State clubs, located on the Boston Common, less than 50 feet from the statute of Crispus Attucks, refused last July to admit Negro hostesses.

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In August, following a meeting between white women and three colored civic leaders—Mrs. Lucy Mitchell, wife of the executive secretary of the Governor's council of Massachusetts; Wilemina Crosson, Boston school teacher, and Mrs. John B. Hall—18 colored girls were certified as junior hostesses. Last week the first request was made for five of the group to come to the Hotel Touraine for instructions. There these colored girls were informed that they were to confine their dancing to the colored soldiers.

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Riots on Increase Abroad

Kansas City, Mo.

Kansas City Call

Secret Report Puts Blame on Dixie Officers

SEP 3 - 1943

NEW YORK— (ANP)— From confidential sources which the Associated Negro Press has every reason to believe competent and reliable, and which the Associated Negro Press will not reveal, the following account of the American Negro soldiers in England has been secretly received:

"The conditions over here are getting like those in the States. White officers are doing a fair job in convincing some British people about the race problem.

"Most Negro troops are gradually being moved out of and away from the cities to isolated camps. White MP's are usually placed in these vicinities and intimidate Negro soldiers as well as the girls who are seen with them.

Two Riots in Week

"Last week, there were at least two riots over here. Another one

July 1 and the last of May. During the last of May, two Negroes were reported killed, more wounded and a white officer wounded. Had an awful time throughout the night. One Negro officer practically took charge of the camp. He collected [illegible] 600 rifles in two days. Started when a white MP shot a Negro soldier.

SEP 3 1943

"Last week, one started when fights broke out between Negro and white soldiers in a small [illegible] in northern England when white soldiers are reported to have resented British girls being with Negro soldiers.

"In a southern England city, there were a number of fights, which started when a white lieutenant made remarks about some 'N..... soldiers and merchant men' who were passing. The soldiers resented it.

"A riot was prevented by some of the few Negro MP's [illegible] came up and rescued the officer. Yet an MP sergeant (white) at the same time insulted a Negro officer who had tried to quiet the soldiers. At MP headquarters, the Negro officer said that he was insulted by the provost officer (white) in front of the other MP's, who were enlisted men, and arrested as being drunk.

"The coolness of the four Negro lieutenants, the colored MP's and the colored American Red Cross personnel prevented a probable riot during the night.

"Riots are much more frequent than the press can publish. The troops break into the gun rooms and get their rifles and ammunition to protect themselves often. If something is not done by the U. S. Army soon, I would not be surprised to see a major battle between Negro and white American soldiers.

"It seems that some top people want southern U. S. A. transferred over here. Even Mr. Bondy from the American Red Cross is over here trying to find reasons for moving the colored clubs (clubs staffed by Negroes) out of certain cities because it is said that certain people must be satisfied.

"One of them is Mr. Gibson, the American Red Cross commissioner in Great Britain. One of his excuses is that he understood that the Negro personnel were too highly skilled in their jobs.

White Officers To Blame

"White officers are behind most of the trouble. They have even canvassed communities, telling the residents and business people not to serve or associate with the Negroes (whom they command and get their promotions of) the few Negro officers are treated as bad by their fellow officers.

"There are some fair minded officers, but they are not permitted to do much because they are not promoted and are shifted in many instances from place to place.

"Have seen a couple of colonels who were very good, but their executive officers are rotten and slip many things over. The Negro soldier is doing a job. All he wants is to be treated like a soldier. Negro soldiers want Negro officers. Their conduct on a whole is excellent.

"If you can convince the white officer that each Negro soldier wants to get home to his colored wife or friend, you can do a good job. These boys are not excited by the white girls even though they are sought out by the girls in many cases.

"And the whole thing seems to hinge on the friendship of the Negro and the white girl. Many soldiers are in a very low frame of mind, and if they were not real soldiers, I am convinced that the enemy would be trying to work on them. However, it is possible that the enemy is helping these riots to break out since the tension is so great.

"The American Negro soldier is Oftimes they must travel [illegible] miles more for the smallest infraction. Oftimes they must travel 20 miles to another town to have a little fun. The Negro Red Cross worker is being resented because the soldiers look up to them for leadership. Also the American Red Cross workers are not wearing bandana handkerchiefs. The U. S. army is to blame for most of the trouble not the fifth column. The officers won't give the fifth column a chance."

BIDDLE RAPS ARMY BRUTALITY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Claims All Must Share Blame For Racial Disturbances At Home

NOV 20 1943

By JAMES E. BOYACK
New York Bureau

NEW YORK — Declaring that the Negro ploblem is no longer sectional, but national and international, United States Attorney General Francis Biddle, in an address before the Jewish Theological Seminary of America at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel here last Wednesday, pointed out that "the principles and promises of our national Constitution guaranteeing equality of treatment and opportunity to all, must be fulfilled in the due course of our democratic life."

So forthright were the Attorney General's remarks, that interracial authorities immediately interpreted them as officially expressing the Administration's same policy where the Negro is concerned.

RAPS TREATMENT IN ARMY CAMP

Mr. Biddle is the first Administration spokesman to frankly express himself on discrimination in the armed forces. He told his Waldorf-Astoria audience:

"War unifies a country, not merely by giving expression to a common effort, but by throwing together vast masses of young men, who in their training at the camps, exchange ideas and the points of view of other parts of the country. A large proportion of the camps obviously for practical reasons, have been built in the South, and the Negro officers and soldiers trained there have without doubt been treated in many cases with discrimination, rudeness and even brutality by white civilians and white police officers. The result among the Negroes is bitter disillusionment and anguish, as anyone knows who has talked to colored troops, or read the letters they have sent home.

"The Army has been alive to the serious effect of this treatment on morale, and has made efforts to improve it," he said.

CITES ARMY JOURNAL

Mr. Biddle quoted an article in the semi-official "Infantry Journal" which he said deals frankly with race prejudice.

" 'Sometimes the prejudice against the Negroes flares up in the Army. It is not a problem, however, in a camp where it is well understood that a soldier in the United States uniform is a soldier, not white or Negro, Christian or Jew, rich man or poor, but a soldier, and as such worthy of respect'," according to the Journal.

"We must realize," he said, "that the problem of the relation of the white to the Negro, in fact the problem of most racial minorities, are national in their scope. They concern all of us, for they go to the roots of our democratic standards. I have emphasized the Negro soldier, for mistreatment or disrespect of the Negro citizen in uniform who fights to defend our flag, is disavowal of those things for which our flag is the symbol . . . a free nation under God.

MUST LIVE DEMOCRATIC

"To this promise of American life we have two committments which we cannot revoke; which we cannot disregard. Our national Constitution guarantees equality of treatment and opportunity to all. More recently we have assumed the obligation of democracy elsewhere in the world attacked by totalitarian aggression. These principles and promises must he fulfilled in the due course of our democratic life. Nor can we assume the obligations of a defense of world democracy if our example of democracy at home, in this fundamental aspect, is neither consistent nor courageous. Race intolerance is no longer a matter merely of domestic concern for it undermines our moral authority as a nation which apparently can profess . . . but cannot practice democracy."

The Attornev General insisted that what has rendered peculiarly acute mistreatment of minorities: Japanese, Negro or Jewish—is our reiterated insistence on democratic equality of opportunity, irrespective of race—and the total nature of our war compared with the last.

"For now more than ever," Mr. Biddle said, "every man, black or white, Jew or gentile, is enlisted to fight or to work for the common cause.

DISUNITY IN OUR RANKS SERIOUS

"But how can every man believe that the cause is a common one, including himself as well as another, if he sees discrimination against him as a member of a race, or of a religion; discrimination in an Army in which he must fight, in industry, in the civil offices of the government?" he asks.

"I do not believe that many will deny the discrimination, or its evil effects on our democratic ideals, except those whose prejudices, though honestly held, blind them to the tragic contradictions involved in such behavior.

"I know that there are those who contend that any discussion of these tense and difficult relationships in the midst of war, is unwise. Why stir up trouble? So the argument runs . . . and give ammunition for propaganda and the appearance of disunity to our enemies? Why not put off a solution until the war is over?

"If those conditions were sporadic or local in their origin, the argument would have more weight. But they are not.

"They involve many sections of our country, and are creating a national psychology of intolerance that makes them infinitely more difficult and serious. Moreover, the appearance of national disunity on the outside, serious as it is, seems to me less evil than the actual disunity in our ranks. It is not exact to say that the recent outbreaks of racial violence in America has been fostered by Axis propaganda. But it is certainly true to conclude that the effect of such violence serves well the enemies' purpose. Immediately after they occurred, the Detroit riots were reported and commented on from short-wave stations in Germany and Japan, and the news soon travelled into Africa and India and China.

ALL SHARE IN BLAME

"When all is said and done I am less concerned about how the United States looks to her enemies. What I care about is what she looks like to her friends; to those who love and believe in her; to Americans at home and abroad, who want to be able to speak with pride and without any mental reservation, when they say with Thomas Jefferson: 'This government . . . the best hope of man.'

"The blame is universal . . . for surely all Americans must share the responsibility for this so un-American condition in a country which is, I believe, on the whole, honestly dedicated to democratic living. And just as the blame must be shared by all alike, so it concerns us all . . . government, society, the churches, whose function here is indistinguishable from the democratic concept . . . labor and the employers of labor, the press, the school and the college.

DISTURBANCES ARE NATIONAL

"Often in the past, the Negro problem has been thought of, and talked about as if it were sectional . . . as if it existed in certain States in the South and was not a problem in the North. Whatever once was true, it is perfectly clear that the problem is now national in its scope and is not confined to any particular part of the country. The Los Angeles disorders, the Detroit riots, the New York disturbances, all of recent months, show that racial clashes since the war started do not occur only in the South and do not spring from ancient prejudices and hatreds and fears inherited from the Civil war . . . or from the outnumbering of the whites by Negroes in certain parts of the South. They are implicit in great industrial societies that have never known slavery or inherited the memories of slave relationship."

General Battles Army Prejudice

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

DEC 17 1943

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — (ANP) — The courageous fight put up by a post commander against race prejudice in the army was revealed this week by Negro soldiers stationed here.

The commander of the post, Maj. Gen. Harris is, opposed to segregation and fights it here in a courageous manner, soldiers revealed. "As a result, some semblance of democracy operates here to the extent that some companies are seen drilling with their ranks sprinkled with Negro soldiers Post exchanges, theatres and service clubs are open to all and certain technical classrooms are mixed. There are several thousand Negro soldiers at this key ordnance centre but the highest ranking colored officer is a 1st lieutenant, who took the place of a white captain. He commands Company D the unit reserved exclusively for Negroes.

War Plants Denying Jobs To Negroes Face Penalties

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

OCT 30 1943

CLEVELAND—(ANP)—War plants in this area that refuse to employ Negro men and women will lose their labor priority, which entitles them to preferential recruitment of additional workers by the U.S. Employment Service, Dr. William P. Edmonds, WMC Cleveland director, announced Monday.

"No company has the right to claim that it has a priority on the supply of labor left in this communty when it has made no effort to break down color barriers and to draw upon a source of manpower that is still available in considerable quantities," he stated.

NO NEGROES HIRED

Edmunds took action after Miss Mary C. Schauffler, assistant director in charge of Negro employment, disclosed that [illegible] Cleveland's 240 basic war plants employing over 100 people had not hired a single Negro. Three of these companies were removed immediately from the labor priority list.

Miss Schauffler further revealed that of the 170 armament factories which employ Negroes, 63 have each hired more than 10, and of these 63 plants seven are on the priority list. Seventy of the concerns employ some Negro women, but no Negro men.

Dr. Edmund said that there are still more than 8,000 employable Negro women unable to obtain jobs in war factories.

47d-1943

Sgt. Levy Faces Second Trial For Aiding Negroes

Chicago, Ill
Defender
SEP 25 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Army officials at the Lincoln, Nebr., army base are considering a new court martial for Alton Levy according to a report by the Workers Defense league. Levy was tried previously by a special court martial and reduced to the rank of private for demanding better treatment for Negro soldiers attached to his camp.

Morris Milgram, national secretary, and Neil Scott, public relations director, said they had confidential information from sources that "cannot be divulged lest further injustices occur," purporting to show army officials are planning the new trial.

The first court martial was based on evidence aginst Levy supplied by Cpl. Helen Perkins, a WAC, but the presently contemplated trial will be based on statements Levy made in letters to Miss Rosalina Pack of New York which were published by the WDL. The court martial is said to be called for alleged violations of the articles of war.

"If it is a crime to reveal army violations of the selective acy provisions which call for 'no discrimination against any person on account of race or color' in the selection and training of draftees, then we plead guilty and it is against us that the government should act," said the WLD representatives.

"Brig. Gen. Early E. W. Duncan is a southerner and an old army man of hard and tough appearance," went on the league agents. "A recent visitor to the Lincoln air base talked to Gen. Duncan concerning Levy's plight. This person whose name must remain undisclosed because of his close proximity to army jurisdiction, said that Gen. Duncan stated that Levy made 'subversive statements' and that he didn't want people to think that Levy's being a Jew had anything to do with it."

The general claimed to be impartial in administering justice and declared that Levy was still under military orders and if he divulged military secrets he must answer for it. He added that nothing could be done about the court martial and that the Negro-white situation must be watched closely because "there are a lot of southern soldiers who don't want to associate with Negroes."

Eyewitnesses at Lincoln say that the only place on the military reservation where democracy exists is in the guard house where prisoners who are white, Mexican and Negro share jugs, towels, soap, cigarets and fraternize unreservedly. In the "so called freedom outside the guard house" the soldiers are rigidly segregated which has "produced seething animosity and a bloody riot."

MILITARY TRIALS OF COL. COLEMAN, SERGT. LEVY, AMPLY PROVE FULLER'S CAUSITC CHARGES

Boston, Mass
Guardian
SEP 18 1943

BIGWIG CRITICS OF CHELSEA CHAPLAIN NOW OWE BAY STATER VOTE OF THANKS

By THE ROVER

A Jewish American Army Sergeant has been fined, punished and reduced in rank for protesting mistreatment of Colored troops. A ranking officer, Colonel William T. Coleman, has been placed on trial charged with shooting a colored Army chauffeur. A colored soldier from Brooklyn, N. Y. committed suicide because of racial injustice in a southern Camp. Today the Army might well ponder: What about this man, Chaplain Fuller?

BAY STATE PATRIOT

Chaplain LUTHER M. FULLER
Militant Massachusetts Pastor Who Exposed Un-Americanisms Existing in Some Army Camps.

Should Be Cleared

Well, what about Chaplain Luther M. Fuller, the militant Massachusetts pastor of People's Baptist Church of Chelsea who was granted leave of absence to serve [illegible] Army of the U. S. A. and who has [illegible] been on trial for making [illegible] very charges of racial injustice that have been more than substantiated by current events? What cause is there now to "punish" the Chelsea challenger of those men in high places who are today boasting so haughtily about the "Four Freedoms," the Atlantic Charter ,and "Liberty under Law" for nations as well as individuals?" It becomes the obvious duty to apply these selfsame principles to a man of the pulpit, regardless of his race, his church, or his army affiliations. An Army chaplain does not lose his identity as a minister of Christianity; and therefore he cannot tolerate sin, or evil, in the Army or out. When the Church or any of its representatives loses the freedom of combating sin or evil, then we as a nation are drifting toward fa[illegible]—we [illegible] losing our religion.

Tuskegee Men Suffered

Last week's headlined trial of Colonel William T. Coleman, charged with shooting his Colored chauffeur, is only one example of the sort of un-American acts which Chaplain Fuller preached against. There are numerous others but the Tuskegee Story is fairly representative. Selfridge Field, Michigan, is the training site of the 332nd Colored Fighter Group which originated July 4, 1942 at Tuskegee. From the eventual public clamor an dwar board resignation of Judge William T. Hastie, it was evident that the Colored pilots weren't getting anywhere at Tuskegee. On March 29, 1943, the 332nd moved (many pilots flew) to Selfridge Field, Michigan, where there were all sorts of rumors of inferior planes and dissatisfaction. Planes were cracking up. On May 9 Lieutenant Sidat Singh, the great Syracuse grid and basketball star was killed when his plane fell into Lake Huron. Five nights previous, on May 4, Colonel Coleman was charged with shooting William McRae a Col[illegible] [illegible] the 332nd, acting as chauffeur.

Given Wrong Commanders

The current commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Michigan is Colonel Selway, a West Pointer and pilot of 17 years experience who is said to be quite alright with the men and who has publicly announced his intention to make the Colored unit one that all will be proud of. Colonel Selway succeeded Lt. Co[illegible] West[illegible]s, which means that the 332nd has had three commanders inside of a year, none of them Colored.

Testimony at the trial last week claimed that Colonel Coleman was addicted to drinking scotch by the quart and that he was a dangerous man to have a gun when in that condition. Yet he was assigned to command Colored pilots as if their life was of no consequence at all. This is the same gross indifference (and crime) that places Colored troops under the command of arrogant, lynch-law, race-hating individuals that plague the life and liberty of Colored troops in other areas. These are the things Chaplain Luther M. Fuller has been preaching against.

Levy Supports Fuller

The news-lines concerning former Sergeant Alton Levy, the "liberal Jewish soldier" at the Lincoln, Nebraska airbase, is not as surprising as it may seem to some readers. White American sailors and soldiers have supported and will continue to support colored buddies in the fight for equal justice. There are others who are not so intelligent. These latter hate the Jews as well as the colored citizens. Reports say that when Sergeant Levy stood up for his colored troops he was broken down to a private, fined and sentenced to 4 months hard labor. There seems reasonable indications that much of this punishment was racial in nature. In all probability Private Levy will be called a radical and a "red." In any event, former Sergeant Levy has rendered us a great service. His case will be taken by NAACP. And this too is another proof that Chaplain Fuller-like General Billy Mitchell, knew what he was talking about. There is no treason in working for better race harmony!

Why Have Chaplains?

"In this total war there are many ways of being a patriot." So spoke Walter Winchell via his radio program last week.

Chaplain Luther Fuller today must be judged as a patriot standing firmly against the influx of fascist doctrines into American democracy. Chaplain Fuller (and all other Colored Army chaplains) were enlisted for the expressed purpose of improving the spiritual and moral welfare of American troops according to the best traditions of the United States Constitution. He did his duty where and whenever he saw the U. S. Constitution being violated. For this he deserves a vote of thanks from the War Department and especially at this time of reported sabotage by many so called white men who are blessed with far more privileges than the average colored man enjoys. Chaplain Fuller is a patriot. He should be pardoned with apology. Either this or we must put the question: Why have Army chaplains at all?

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suppression religious freedom in the Armed Forces. To those who contend Chaplain Fuller's case is not based on religious freedom, the answer is that truth is a vital part of Christianity and Chaplain Fuller's greatest crime was that he told the truth. There is much irony in this situation when we consider the national issue now being made regarding America's relations with Russia. The Soviet is being branded as "anti-Christian." This week the Massachusetts Knights of Columbus in a meeting at the Copley Plaza adopted serious resolutions to assure our former enemy, Italy, of having a good American Christian administration. We are, in short, making great plans of making "other folks" religious when we've got plenty of Christianizing to do right here at home. Chaplain Fuller told the truth. The only issue now is whether we at home are willing to accept the truth. If we can't ACCEPT it here, we certainly can't TEACH it in other countries! Nor is the menace to the Christian Church entirely restricted to the much discussed communistic ideology. We have no place in our Constitution for ANY form of religious or racial intolerance in America.

Cards Stacked Against Negro Combat Units

By ALBERT ANDERSON

CHICAGO.—(ANP) — Is it true that the United States army has been deliberately breaking up well trained Negro combat units and distributing them among service outfits rather than sending them across to do battle? The statistics would seem to bear out an affirmative answer to this question. The sometimes plaintive, frequently disgusted and bitter complaints of men who have been part of these fighting outfits otherwise point to such a conclusion.

Units Broken

Trained up to the minute, proud of their organizations, ready for the big test, soldiers report frequently finding their regiment, battalions or brigades, just as they feel they are ready to be sent across, broken up except for small cadres or units, which are then used as a basis for training other groups. In opinions expressed too often not to have considerable veracity, these tactics seem to disclose a ruthless determination to prohibit Negroes, trained in actual fighting, from reaching any of the front lines where they might gain glory and prestige for themselves or their race, or where they might engage in killing white men even if they are Nazis.

Practically every combat unit in the army with the exception of the two all-Negro divisions, the 93rd and 92nd and the veteran 24th Infantry, reputedly in the Southwest Pacific, has been broken up in this fashion. There are said to be a few airbase protective units whose business is to protect airbases but the real fighting units of which the army is proud are conspicuous by their absence on the fronts.

Houston Texas

Cites Negro Units Broken up

To recite the names of a few units which have been busted in the fashion described:

The 78th Field artillery regiment, Fort Bragg; four battalions, white officers, well trained. Disbanded all but a small group. Highly efficient men sent to quartermaster and engineer groups.

350th and 351st Artillery regiments both of Camp Livingston, La. A few men were taken from these two outfits and made the basis for the new 350th Artillery group composed for the most part of new recruits. The men in the former regiments who had been trained for a year and a half and that training thrown to the winds.

The 846th Tank Destroyer battalion, the oldest of the tank groups in point of service, broken with all new men to train over. The 828th Tank Destroyer battalion also at Camp Hood, Tex., broken up after it had gotten as far as California and had desert training.

The 795th Tank Destroyer battalion, Camp Hood. Col. Theo. Mann, a tough officer whom even white fellow officers respected, commanded this outfit, which was activated at Fort Custer, Mich. The 795th was busted. Col. Mann is out in the woods in Texas with a small group of men, marking time according to reports. His men, who had been trained, went to quartermaster and engineer corps.

The 184th, crack national guard regiment from Illinois. This group trained at Fort Custer also and was broken up there into two battalions. New training methods in the army call for smaller units, the explanation said. The regiment became two units, the 931st Field Artillery battalion, led by Lt. Col. Marcus Ray of Chicago, an officer idolized by him men, and the 930th Field Artillery battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Wendell T. Derrick.

Expensive Training for Naught

The training of those artillery groups proceeded apace. Days upon days they learned to manipulate their batteries of 155's, firing shells which cost $27 every time a gun spoke. As soon as they were hard as nails and really fit, their range records being outstanding, the order came stripping the majority of the men from the regiments.

The 930th F. A. battalion is now at Camp Butner, near Durham, N. C., with just a handful of its original men and a lost of new recruits whom it will take a year to whip into any sort of shape. The same is true of the 931st. It is now at Camp Forrest, Tenn., the camp named so proudly for the famed rebel general of the Civil war. It too has a handful of its old personnel, the balance shanghaied to service units.

Negro Troops on Guard

The two national guard outfits are presumably combat troops. Actually they are guard units according to reliable information. The 366th up at Camp Devens, Mass., under Col. McQueen is reported not to have been trained in any true sense for combat duty. It guards points on the New England coast. One battalion goes out on guard for two or three weeks. It returns and the other battalion takes its place. Observers expect it to be in this country for the duration. The 372nd is in New York City. It too, a proud national guard outfit, is doing guard duty in New York City.

The 369th Anti-aircraft regiment at Hawaii is outside the country and in an important spot. It, with the 24th and the gallant Tuskegee flyers no won convoy duty somewhere off North Africa, presumably are the only Negro troops which can really lay claim to being combat and the 369th in one sense is doing guard duty also. Guarding a key defense area but still guarding.

Quartermasters and Engineers

The 93rd is ready. It has been so for many weeks according to information trickling back from the men who are part of it. The division has had desert training, specialized training, is as hard as nails and would like nothing better than to get a few symbols of Nordic supremacy out in front of it, but it still languishes "somewhere in California." Why, no statement has so far indicated.

Sen. Downey of California is to launch a request for an investigation of the use of Negro troops in congress. Whether it materializes or what comes of it is a question for the future. It is reported that colored friends of Sen Downey will approach Congressman William L. Dawson, only Negro congressman, in an effort to have Dawson sponsor a similar resolution in the house of representatives.

Information

Why No Negro Troops In Combat

This is not a letter directed against Lucius Harper personally, but all agitators who are sitting at home thinking the Negro soldiers are "just dying" to dodge bullets on some foreign shore. Mr. Harper figures so prominently in this discourse, because I disagree with so many of his remarks in "Dustin' Off The News" on October 2, 1943.

The newspaper men who are agitating for the Negro troops to be put into actual combat, remind me of the arm-chair politicians who sit at home and tell other nations what WE are not going to stand for from them.

Mr. Harper, you mentioned the fine record that Negro soldiers have made in past battles and how "tragic" it would be if historians can only say that the Negro soldiers served as labor units in this our present war. But, Mr. Harper, I would like you to look through the history books that our children have to study at school . . . even in college history courses . . . and tell me if you find ANY mention of Negro troops in ANY American War, or for that matter ANY European War? We know now, that the English and French sent their African troops in FIRST against the Germans, but was that mentioned in all the papers carrying war news? I saw a picture of some French African troops en route to the front, and read a tiny paragraph about the 99th Pursuit Squadron when they first appeared in America in the local white newspaper, but these only appeared once.

You will find a record of the part played in the development of America in the annuals of the War Department, or in Negro history books written primarily by Negroes but how many have access to these? It is true that many school systems are incorporating "Negro history" in their curriculums, but you will admit that those schools are few in number. So OUR children will still have to depend upon the books at hand and the Negro's part in the wars and development of America is conveniently omitted from them.

The Negro troops here at home are going through rigorous training AND guarding the bridges, reservoirs, rail centers, defense plants, and other important arteries of American industry. Why are they placed in such positions? Because those centers are also important to the war effort, and the white Americans can look at Negro troops and see they are not of Italian, German, or Japanese extraction. They can look at them and say: "We know they will not be influenced by any fifth column propaganda, because in spite of the ill treatment we have given them, in spite of our acts of prejudice against them, they have stood ready to defend America. They have no other country to which they owe allegiance. They are native born citizens of America. America is their country.

I am sure the "Powers-That-Be" in Washington do have a "cracker in the woodpile" in keeping so many Negro troops at home . . . but that "cracker" is not to discredit the Negro soldiers as combat troops in the war arenas.—DeLouis Davis, Phoenix, Ariz.

OCT 23 1943

47d-1943

Report Rank Discrimination at Ft. Huachuca

Kansas City, Mo Call

Say 92nd Not Well Trained

Officers Called 'N.....' by General In Charge at Post

TUCSON, Ariz.—(ANP)—Confidential information has been obtained by the Associated Negro Press of startling and sensational discriminatory practices imposed upon soldiers of the 92nd infantry division stationed at Fort Huachuca. Sources cannot be revealed for fear of reprisals upon the informants.

The shameful situation threatens to develop into a national scandal, and more important, according to observers, unless the federal government and the army high command takes immediate, forthright action to correct the disgraceful conditions, it is believed that all the fury of an overseas battlefield will explode in this desert community.

Black American soldiers who a few months before had entered the U. S. Army filled with patriotic determination to help win the war for democracy, even to the point of sacrificing their lives, are now reported to be enmeshed in the doldrums of frustration and despair as a direct result of the heartbreaking inhuman treatment meted out to them by commanding general and white officers alike.

Officers Called "N-----"

Specifically the shocking charges made by army personnel attached to the fort are:

1. That the commanding general, E. M. Almond, of Anniston, Ala., refers to his Negro charges both in and out of their presence as "N----."

2. That the commanding general is formulating plans to convince the war department to ship the division overseas for combat duty, although the division is miserably unprepared for such service.

3. That Gen. Almond is not a top flight commander and was not assigned to a white unit because he lacked necessary qualifications. The war department foisted him upon the Negro group, it is charged, because it was necessary to place him somewhere.

4. That the commanding general orders the post Gestapo to hold a "shakedown" of enlisted personnel after each live ammunition practice to detect possible bullets secreted away for an allegedly planned "insurrection."

"Frozen" at 2nd Lieut.

5. That a quota system operates in the making and promotion of Negro officers with few ever reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Most of the Negro officers are "frozen" at the second lieutenant level.

Information has trickled out of the camp that several white officers including one colonel have been severely beaten up or killed in altercations with enlisted personnel. The officers are also said to stand far behind the lines during firing practice with live ammunition, because they fear a sharpshooter might train his sights upon them and revenge mistreatment.

6. That enlisted personnel is trained with obsolete combat weapons and not given instructions in modern methods of warfare. Instead, training consists almost exclusively of marches and drills around the confines of the army post.

7. That the food served in mess halls at Fort Huachuca is the "worst in the army."

Morale Found High

8. That although present conditions on the military reservation have existed ever since the division moved into Arizona last May, Atty. Truman K. Gibson Jr., acting civilian aide to the secretary of war, and Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, inspecting general from the inspector general's office, Washington, on a recent inspection here found conditions to be "in excellent shape," morale "high", training "good" and the overall picture "gratifying".

Personnel at the army post is said to be greatly puzzled over how they can reconcile the vicious dictums of Gen. Almond and his staff of white officers to preachments of a nation pledged in a war to carry the four freedoms and democracy to the far corners of the world.

Rumors are being circulated in Tucson that the soldiers are so restive under the "slaveocracy" rule at the camp that a flareup of serious proportions is expected almost momentarily.

Only positive intervention of the federal government with drastic punishment delivered upon the heads of responsible authorities is seen as a possible preventative.

Soldiers complain that at a recent meeting of mess officers and mess sergeants, Gen. Almond deplored the alleged waste of food and declared before the mixed group:

"There is too much waste in these mess halls. These niggers eat too damn much meat and bread and not enough vegetables."

Unprepared for Overseas

Added to this stinging insult are the alleged plans of Gen. Almond to heighten his stature in the army by sending unprepared men overseas as a fighting unit.

One army private said that "if the Japs or Germans saw us coming they would laugh themselves to death."

In stead of training for combat through the techniques of handling issued weapons, the men are trained to walk miles upon miles over the rocky mountainous terrain" charged a disgusted soldier.

Morale of the men is exceedingly low, according to an informant, because it is popularly believed at the post that Gen. Almond was not considered capable of handling a white unit and was assigned to the 92nd division where he spews his spleen of disappointment on the helpless Negro soldiers.

Further evidence of the contempt the commander holds for his charges was found in the allegation that he sent his post Gestapo to uncover suspected hidden bullets used in live ammunition practice because he fears an uprising of protest.

Reports are current in Tucson that several officers, one of whom was a colonel have been severely beaten or killed by the non-commissioned victims of their race hate and venom. These sinister raids usually occurring in the middle of the night have revealed that some of the soldiers are concealing arms to protect themselves from further indignities and in many instances to save their lives.

Another extremely sore spot witht he men is the restriction in rank of colored officers. It was pointed out that when the organization was formed in World War I the articles of war stated that "All officers above the rank of first lieutenant will be white." There has been but slight deviation from that order, it is charged.

White Officers Advanced

"All of the white officers, who joined the division about 19 days earlier than the Negroes after the division was reactivated in October, 1942, have been made first lieutenants and captains," informed a camp soldier.

"In the 365th infantry regiment particularly three Negroes have made the first lieutenant grade. When we arrived here the general started a development school for backward officers. In a class of 50 officers whom it was felt needed some 'polishing up on' all were Negroes.

This does not represent a situation of inaibility as it affects one group," continued the servicemen, "it is out and out discrimination. These 50 men can never expect to get beyond their present grade."

It was pointed out that the educational background of the Negro officers was generally higher than that of the white officers, yet the Negroes have been persistently passed over in promotions.

Post officials apparently don't think that Negro soldiers need regulation field rations to maintain their maximum health, it was charged, and as a result the food served in mess is a constant source of nausea to the men. Negro officers, it was stated, are so browbeaten and coerced that they dare not object to any of the varied discriminations and irregularities for fear of being "broken."

Particularly bitter are the men over the statements accredited to Atty. Truman K. Gibson and Gen. Benjamin O. Davis that conditions are "in excellent shape", training "good", morale "high" and the overall picture "gratifying." Enlisted men who said the two high officials were at Fort Huachuca recently to investigate the post must have known that the reservation is a "key of dynamite" if they had their oyes open.

White War Workers Ask Rent Scale The Same As Negroes

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

HAMPTON — A petition requesting that rentals being paid by in-migrant defense families in Copeland Park, and refrigeration facilities, be equalized with those for Negro families in Newsome Park, has been sent to the U. S. Commissioner in Washington by 4,300 legal voters of Copeland Park who held several meetings on the matter recently.

The vast housing project, one of the largest in the world, is divided into two sections. Copeland Park for white families with 3,826 units and Newsome Park for Negro families with 1,174 units. Copeland Park is fully occupied, and over 800 families are in Newsome Park.

J. R. Bradham, chairman for the petitioners, pointed out that there should be no "discrimination" either in rentals or other facilities. Copeland Park families pay $33.50 per month for a two-bedroom house, whereas those in Newsome Park pay $26 for homes of the same construction and the same facilities.

Brandham further observed that some of the Copeland houses have refrigeration while others depend upon ice boxes for which they must pay $5 a month extra for refrigeration service—this being inadequate under the OPA ruling that ice may be had only every other day.

The language of the petition stated in part that: "We the renters of Copeland Park are appealing to your office for an adjustment oh the rent at Copeland Park, as we are paying a higher rent for the same construction houses that the colored renters are paying in Newsome Park.

"There isn't any difference in the rating of the two races, and the defense workers at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company know this is to be the fact.

"We are American citizens and taxpayers, doing our 100 per cent defense work and buying as many bonds as we feel we can afford. We want an adjustment made on this matter at the earliest possible opportunity."

AREA DIRECTORS EXPLAINS

G. L. Reed of Norfolk, district director of the FPHA, who said he knew nothing of the petition since he returned from Washington Sunday, pointed out that the rental structures are in keeping with the national policy wherever subsidized housing is provided for war workers.

Mr. Reed said, "the program states that housing units are to be built for certain income groups; the rent structure is based upon what the workers can afford to pay.

"Whenever a project is construc[illegible]or two different income groups this differential exists, whether the residents be white or Negro. Rentals on government housing are based on two factors: cost amortization, and ability to pay of the workers.

LET US FIGHT

Failure to Use Colored Soldiers in Actual Combat Breaks Down Morale

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ACCORDING TO persistent charges, approximately a million colored Americans have been drafted, but few are actually engaged in combat. It is said that several hundred thousand "have been sent into combat zones as engineer troops, and are engaged in building road[illegible]aring demolitions and handling supplies." These American soldiers of dark skin are designated as "engineers," according to the critics, but in t[illegible] they are nothing more than stevedores and members of "labor battalions." If it is true as charged, that more than three quarters of a million colored soldiers are on duty in the United States without any prospect of being sent into combat, then it is time for the patriotic and loyal colored Americans, who are buying bonds and working night and day to further the war action, to express their to express their resentment in firm and determined fashion.

Mr. Bibb

CONDITIONS REFLECT BIASED ATTITUDE

Colored youth, whose ardor has not been quelled and whose enthusiasm has not been dampened, because they do not know of these discriminatory procedures, are planning to enter the armed forces as American citizens. If any of these swarthy-skinned [illegible]ots are asked about their p[illegible]ence in the various branches, some say, "we want to fly in the azure with eagles and bomb the Axis," others want to drive tanks. Many lads, who tinker with radio and electricity, have expressed a desire to get into the Signal Corps. But if these unfortunate Americans but knew that they were doomed to be "engineers,"—all of them,—without regard to qualification, it is hardly conceivable how they would be fired and inspired. The prevailing conditions are a reflection upon our head men. These men must be strong in their prejudices and passions, when they blight the hopes of would-be fighting men because of their color.

THE BARBER gathering control stood up and said, "I was in the last war and I don't want my boy to be treated as I was. They didn't let me do any fi[illegible]ing, but they poured troub[illegible] I want them to [illegible] my boy like an American [illegible]ier."

HUMAN EMOTIONS VS. PATRIOTIC INSTINCTS

These emotions well up in the hearts of black people and it is high time that the big-wigs in the Army and Navy take note of it. We cry, we bleed, we torture, we, too, are sensitive to pain, insult and suffering. William Cowper, the blind English poet, told about it in his famous lines, "skins may differ, but affections dwell in white and black the same."

COLORED Americans, mothers fathers, willingly give their sons to their country's cause, but how can noble citizens refrain from grief, when the glory and glamour of combat is to be denied them? No noble people want all of their sons to be engineers and members of the labor battalions. Such unfairness, such exhibitions of "master race" philosophy are the very things we are led to believe that we are fighting against. These are the thin[illegible]at crush the spirit [illegible] tr[illegible]ls.

Conditions of this kind should be aired in the Senate hearings on the "father draft." The heads of the Government should take cognizance of the consequences of such crushing, demoralizing practices. It should never be forgotten that the American colored people have human emotions as well as patriotic instincts.

SOMETIMES, it seems that there are too many white Americans who cannot appraise the emotions of dark humanity. It appears that they do not deem that there is anguish, love and tenderness under dark skins.

VETERAN FEARS TREATMENT OF SON

Last week when a postman laid an odd-shaped bundle into the hands of a middle-aged barber of the darker race, a story of powerful human emotions was unfolded. The barber held his scissors in mid-air for several minutes as he gazed out into [illegible] space. They then fell aimle[illegible] from his trembling hands and broke upon the barber shop floor. When asked what was his trouble, he replied in a tremulous voice, "Those are my little boy's clothes that they are sending me from camp. He is my only son, and he is just a baby." Then he sat down in silence, but a strange glare crept into his burning, black eyes. One of the waiting patrons discreetly spoke out, breaking the tensity, "Only a father or a mother can know how those bundles hit you," he said.

Spirit Of The Press

★ ★

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Fair Hiring Practices On The South's Railroads

From Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

There was a time, within the memory of every middle-aged person, when nearly all—if not, indeed, all—firemen on the South's railroads were Negroes. Every locomotive was fired from a kind of coal-car trailer. Firing the locomotive was a job of hard, sooty shoveling and Negro firemen were hired for it with almost a complete absence of white competition.

The employment picture began to change with the introduction of new locomotive design. Automatic stokers took most of the backache out of the job of firing coal-fed locomotives. Diesel-powered locomotives gave the fireman's job a new elegance and leisure. The job that white workers were once content to leave to Negro operatives they now began to seek for themselves. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen accelerated the displacement of Negro firemen by white firemen by various devices. They negotiated working agreements with the railway companies under which difficulties were imposed against the hiring of firemen not eligible for promotion to the rank of engineers and conductors. By one such device or another—some expressed and others tacit—the bars against the employment of Negroes as locomotive firemen have been raised higher and higher. The pressure is on to replace Negro firemen with white firemen.

This is the background to keep in mind in appraising the present conflict between the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices and the sixteen Southern railway companies that have rejected the Committee's directives instructing the carriers to end employment discriminations based on color or race. The carriers question the legal authority of the Committee to promulgate an order touching working agreements governed by the Railway Labor Act. They affirm that a flat attempt to do away brusquely with employment practices rooted in established Southern cus[illegible]is utterly unrealistic." They declare in particular that—

> Any attempt . . . for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful co-operative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country.

This kind of reply by the carriers was invited by the inclusiveness of the FEPC's directives. The Committee, as its chairman, Malcolm Ross, has made clear, was chi[illegible]concerned with the progressive displacement and non-hiring of Negro firemen. But when it drew up its cease and desist order it attacked all forms of racial discrimination—in railway promotion as well as in hiring. In his rebuttal to the carriers' defiance of the Committee, Mr. Ross says that the issue of promoting Negro firemen to the engineer and conductor ranks "is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it." More is the pity, then, that the FEPC did not limit its cease and desist order to the main grievance, instead of expanding its directives to open the whole Pandora's Box of racial segregation and discrimination.

The railway companies are far less to blame for the provoking element of this dispute—the cold squeeze applied to Negro firemen—than the white-controlled brotherhoods. The "promotable" limitation on the hiring of firemen is not the invention of the carriers but the invention of the unions. No such limitation was found necess[illegible] the past to dispose of the "delicate" question of Negro engineers and conductors. The question never became delicate because it never arose. It was arbitrarily made delicate by the covetousness of the unions for jobs which they were formerly content for Negro workers to have, but which they now want for the union's white members. The simple term for this is greed.

Railroads and FEPC

From Richmond Times-Dispatch

The Fair Employment Practice Committee and the 16 Southern railroads which have declined to follow its directions concerning the employment of Negroes, seem to be in disagreement as to the issues involved in the controversy. The FEPC says it is talking solely about the hiring of Negro firemen on locomotives, at a time when there is a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, whereas the 16 Southern carriers say that any attempt "to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors," would inevitably di[illegible]ditions and ha[illegible] the war effort.

Since Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, flatly denies that his committee is interested in promoting colored men to positions as engineers or conductors, it would be interesting to know what the 16 carriers have to say concerning the desirability of putting on colored firemen to take up the existing shortage. Mr. Ross states that "white Southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen," and he quoted Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, as having said: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

Apparently the 16 railroads suspected the FEPC of wanting to do the things it now denies having in mind. In the light of this denial, what do the railroads have to say concerning the proposition? Are they willing to increase their efficiency by employing colored firemen where vacancies and shortages exist?

There remains the important question which concerns the attitude of the Brotherhoods of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. No reply has been received from that quarter to the directive of the FEPC. The carriers point out that they cannot go counter to contracts which they have s[illegible] with [illegible] brotherhoods, and that the provisions of the Railway Labor Act are applicable. True enough, but the FEPC retorts that the "discriminatory Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement . . . was reached with the brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded."

If the FEPC is trying to do the things which the carriers have accused it of, there is much to be said concerning the difficulties which would arise on the railroads, if an attempt were made to carry out the FEPC's instructions. But if the only real issue involved is whether colored firemen are to be employed by railroads which sorely need such firemen, but which are prevented from hiring them by agreements between the union and the companies concerned, then the agreement should be rewritten. No union, no corporation, should be allowed to stand in the way of the war, and the railroads are absolutely vital to victory. They must operate with maximum efficiency, and they should be free to employ such crews as they require.

OCT 6 1943
DEC 25 1943

47d-1943

Red Cross Needs Blood But Not From Negroes

JAN 29 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

The Red Cross blood bank is running short of donors. It was reported early last week that less than half of the quota of blood had been obtained.

Pleas are being made on all hands—in the daily press, on the radio in public gatherings—for persons to donate blood. The blood is needed for men, black and white, on the battlefields.

The need for blood grew so great that Dr. Logan Clendening was called upon to write an article pointing out that the dnnation of blood is harmless, painless and takes only a short time.

There are upwards of 50,000 Negroes in Kansas City, Mo. Many are willing and anxious to donate blood but their blood is not wanted at the Red Cross center.

Miss Ernestine Jones, who works in a hospital in Milwaukee, Wis., and knows how important blood is when a patient needs a transfusion, arrived in the city last week to visit her mother, Mrs. Maude Jones, 2119 Park Ave.

JAN 29 1943

When she arrived she saw and heard announcements of the dire need of blood donors. She called the Red Cross center to offer her blood and was told that there were no facilities for taking the blood of Negroes but that if she would leave her name and address, they would call her later.

Miss Jones received the same answer that Negro Kansas Citians have been receiving ever since the blood bank was opened Dec. 1. The blood of Negroes was not accepted from the first at the Red Cross blood bank. It was stated that a mobile unit would be sent to the Negro community to take Negro blood which would be kept separate from the blood of other people.

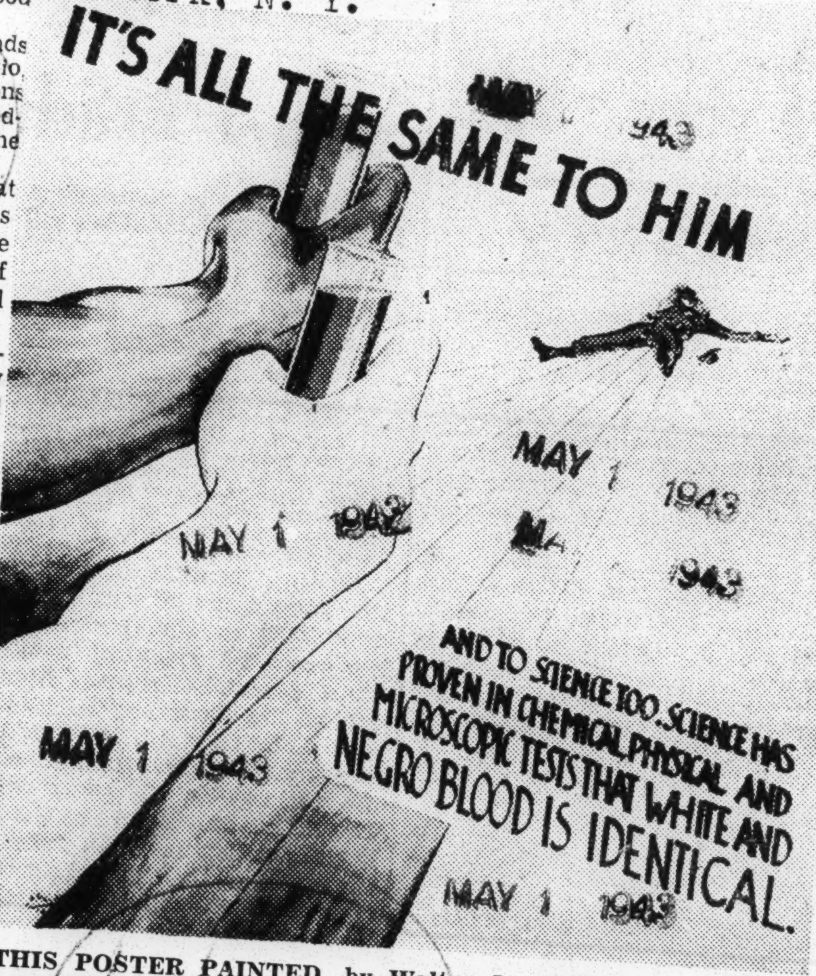
JAN 29 1943

Scientists say that there is no difference in the blood of persons of different races and that there is no necessity for the separation of blood. But the Red Cross persists in its policy of separation.

The Red Cross keeps its segregation at the expense of the boys on the fighting fronts who need blood. Negro people are ready with their blood when the Red Cross is ready to accept it.

Youth Debunks "Blood Policy"

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.


IT'S ALL THE SAME TO HIM
AND TO SCIENCE TOO. SCIENCE HAS PROVEN IN CHEMICAL, PHYSICAL AND MICROSCOPIC TESTS THAT WHITE AND NEGRO BLOOD IS IDENTICAL.

MAY 1 1943

THIS POSTER PAINTED by Walter L. Wallace the Fifth a junior at the High School of Music and Art is to be reproduced in 3,500 copies for city-wide distribution. It was displayed at a meeting at the Hotel Edison, Sunday when the Youthbuilders, a club of teen-age school children, told about their experiment debunking the Red Cross's segregated blood policy.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

No Change

Red Cross Reaffirms Blood Policy

June 5, 1943

NEW YORK, June 3—The Red Cross denied this week that it had instructed nurses at blood donor stations to tell white donors that the policy of separating Negro and white blood plasma was the result of pressure from Negro groups who insisted that Negro blood be given only to Negro soldiers.

The NAACP upon learning that such a statement had been made to a white donor while giving blood on May 10 at 2 East 37th street asked that the Red Cross investigate the statement. The NAACP stated that in the face of the American Negroes' continued efforts to have the jim crow blood plasma policy abolished it was puzzled at the prevalence of this and similarly inaccurate stories.

POLICY STILL IN EFFECT

In answer, Edward H. Cavin, assistant to the Director of Public

Blood Bank

Operations told the NAACP: "Our policy statement of January 21, 1942, regarding Negro blood donors, is still in effect."

The January 21 policy statement reaffirmed the segregation of Negro and white blood.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
September 5, 1943

The Atlanta Negro Blood Donor Center, 688 Fair street, S. W., will open September 9. Donations will be taken from 10:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Appointments must be made in advance with Marjorie Mackey at Jackson 5281.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Blood Bank Pledge Irks Canadians

MONTREAL—Irked by a newspaper article which assured Canadian blood donors that their blood "will not be used to save lives of Chinese and Negroes," colored and white citizens staged a monster protest meeting here last Sunday.

The article appeared in the May 21 edition of the Employes' Cherrier House Organ of the Canadian Car Munition plant. Included in the article, captioned "Blood Donors Wanted," was the assertion: 'Your blood will not be used to save lives of Chinese and Negroes but will serve here in Canada, if ever we undergo air raids or other war calamities."

No sooner had the article appeared than a wave of indignation swept over the city. Chief among the protesting individuals was the Rev. Charles Estes, pastor of the Union United church. A mass meeting was called for Sunday, and it was decided that it would fit in with the scheduled appearances of A. Philip Ranolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who was due here to negotiate for the organization of employes of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

JUN 19 1943

Resolutions were drawn up protesting against the statement as "undemocratic, un-Christian, antiracial and maliciously designed to foster racial friction, antagonism and misunderstanding."

Red Cross Denies Jim Crow Story

Defender
Chicago Ill.

NEW YORK.—The American Red Cross denied this week that it had instructed nurses at blood donor stations to tell white donors that the policy of separating of Negro and white blood plasma was the result of pressure from Negro groups who insisted that Negro blood be given only to Negro soldiers.

JUN 5 1943

The N.A.A.C.P. upon learning that such a statement had been made to a white donor while giving blood, asked that the Red Cross investigate the statement. The N.A.A.C.P. stated that in the face of the American Negroes' continued efforts to have the jim crow blood plasma policy abolished it was puzzled at the prevalence of this and similarly inaccurate stories.

In answer, Edwin H. Cavin, assistant to the Director of Public Operations told the N.A.A.C.P.: "Our policy statement of January 21, 1942, regarding Negro blood donors, is still in effect."

The January 21 policy statement re-affirmed the segregation of Negro and white blood.

RED CROSS DENIES SAYING JIM CROW NEGROS' IDEA

JUN 3 1943

New York, June 1—The Red Cross denied this week that it had instructed nurses at blood donor stations to tell white donors that the policy of separating of Negro and white blood plasma was the result of pressure from Negro groups who insisted that Negro blood be given to Negro soldiers.

Tribune

The NAACP upon learning that such a statement had been made to a white soldier while giving blood on May 10 at 2 East 37th street asked that the Red Cross investigate the statement. The NAACP stated that in the face of the American Negroes' continued effort to have the jim crow blood plasma policy abolished it was puzzled at the prevalance of this and similarly inaccurate stories.

In answer, Edward H. Cavin, assistant to the Director of Public Operations told the NAACP: "Our policy statement of January 21, 1942, regarding Negro blood donors, is still in effect."

JUN 3 1943

The January 21 policy statement re-affirmed the segregation of Negro and white blood.

Rips Blood Jim Crow,

Chicago Def.

Chicago, Ill.

Censored

JUL 10 1943

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Station WTIC in Hartford cancelled a speech on race relations scheduled to be delivered by Prof. Maurice R. Davie of Yale university because it objected to certain references in the script about the American Red Cross policy on Negro blood doners, it was learned this week.

The speech which was to have been given in connection with the Fourth of July celebration contained the following objectionable statement, according to station officials. "Perhaps no single incident has done more to damage Negro morale than the gratuitous insult to the race by the Red Cross in first refusing to accept the blood of Negro donors and then in segregating it, for no scientific reason whatsoever."

Leonard Petrucelli, program manager for WTIC, said the Red Cross had not objected but the station management had decided "it was not in the public interest" to carry the program.

Prof. Davie, a sociology instructor at the eastern school, said he had refused to make the talk even though it meant cancellation of the program because he refused to "kowtow to the Red Cross or any other organization that interferes with my freedom of speech."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Give Your Blood To Red Cross

Segregation makes your blood boil — but we can do our part by letting the pot boil over in our all-out effort to provide blood plasma for our Negro soldiers.

Many white people, ignorant of the fact that there is no differences in the blood of the two races, continue to segregate the blood. Until white America is educated, we will have to be contented with the white and black blood bank. Two races fighting for the same cause, two races' blood constantly mixing on the battlefront, but at home they must be separated.

We can make our contribution to the cause of liberty by giving blood for our brave soldiers. Visit your local Red Cross station and donate your blood for democracy. Every pint you give will make some soldier stronger, braver and more determined to return home and help stamp out discrimination. — Mrs. Gladys Greene. Elmira, N. Y.

End Of Blood Bank Jim Crow Is Urged

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 4 1943

Protesting the nominal segregation of Negro from white blood in the American Red Cross Blood Bank, twenty blood donors employed with the plasma, the Red Cross Organizations National Headquarters in Washington, Wednesday signed a letter urging the Red Cross to discontinue this prejudicial policy.

Although there exists some doubt as to whether Negro blood is consistently segregated all along the line of scientific processes involved with the plama, the Red Cross continues to work on the principle of segreggation.

The letter from the CIO blood donors read in part:

"As it (segregation) has absolutely no basis in biology or any other science, we urge the Red Cross to abandon this useless practice . . . Particularly in view of the fact that a Negro, Dr. Charles Drew, Professor of Surgery at Howard University . . . . was not only one of the pioneers in the chemistry of the blood bank but also became Director of the blood bank in England . . . . The majority of informed Negroes today are protesting this segregation in the only way they knew: refusal to donate their blood to the Red Cross. This of course lessens the amount of blood available to both Negro and white casualties alike.

"In view of the above facts, we of the CIO strongly urge a revision of your discriminatory policy of pandering to common race prejudice, in the hope that the Red Cross will join with other forces seeking to extend democracy at home as well as abroad."

Jim Crowism In Blood Banks Angers Montreal Negroes;

Informer Houston, Texas

JUN 19 1943

MONTREAL.—(ANP) — Angered by an article promising blood donors that their blood "will not be used to save lives of Chinese and Negroes," Montreal Negroes held one of the largest mass meetings in the history of the dominion Sunday at the Union United church with a view toward ending that and similar race discrimination.

Article Read

The offendng article appeared in the Employes Cherrier House Organ of the Canadian Car Munition plant, Cherrier, Quebec, in the May 21 edition. Under the title, "Blood Donors Wanted," the article said:

"Your blood will not be used to save lives of Chinese and Negroes but will serve here in Canada, if ever we undergo air raids or other war calamities."

The meeting passed resolutions condemning the statement as "undemocratic, un-Christian, anti-racial and maliciously designed to foster racial fricton, antagonism and misunderstanding," and authorized the minister of the church, the Rev. Charles Estes, to bring the matter to the attention of the united church in its conference in Montreal this week to seek coopration in wiping out the attitude expressed.

Randolph Speaks

Principal speaker was A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who was here in the interest of securing union recognition from the Canadian Pacific railway. The brotherhood has ordered the purchase of $5,000 in Canadian victory war bonds, it was revealed.

Mr. Randolph told the gathering that question of race and color was the central issue of the times and urged Canadian Negroes to organize and fight for their rights now, since when the war ends it may be too late. He also advocated full and unqualified support of the united nations in the war against the axis.

An organizing committee was formed to set up a permanent group to fight discrimination against all minority groups in Canada and to secure the enactment of a civil rights bill at Ottawa. Rev. Estes was elected chairman and Miss Velmer Coward was named secretary.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Blood Donor Center To Open Thursday

SEP 6 1943

Negro citizens of Atlanta will have an opportunity to make a direct contribution to the fighting men when the Atlanta Red Cross Blood Donor Center at 668 Fair Street, S. W., is open on September 9th.

Red Cross officials point out that the need is great and they expressed the hope that a large number of donors would make appointments. Those interested are asked to call Mrs. Marjorie Mackey at Jackson 5281. The Atlanta Red Cross Mobile Unit will be in operation at the Center from 10:30 to 3:30 that day.

Blood Donors Attack Policy Of Red Cross

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

OCT 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Protesting the nominal segregation of colored from white blood in the American Red Cross Blood Bank, twenty blood donors employed by the Congress of Industrial organizations National Headquarters in Washington signed Wednesday, a letter urging the Red Cross to discontinue this prejudicial pol-

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BLOOD DONATION

Guardian
Boston, Mass

SEP 18 1943

The following statement on blood segregation appears in the September issue of "Digest of Treatment," a magazine which circulates chiefly among members of the medical profession:

"One wonders if the most rabidly white conscious mother would rather see her boy die in the far off Solomons or Africa than see him saved by the blood of a colored donor!

"The colored boy is fighting the common enemy with the same enthusiasm as his white comrade in the defense of democracy. We are one people in the United States,—of all colors, of every possible national extraction, and of all the known faiths, but united by a common ideal, by a supreme faith in democratic institutions. It is shameful that, like the Hitlerites, some of us should feel that the blood of a colored man or of any other healthy individual would polute us. Let us really practice what we preach—the brotherhood of man."

The Red Cross isnotnamed; nevertheless, the statement is a sharp rebuke to that organization for its blood-segregation practice. In general the medical profession has accepted the conclusion of scence that the blood-plasma is identical in all peoples. The refusal of the Red Cross to back down from its anti-scientific attitude seems therefore to be a case of plain stubborness.

Blood Bank Jim Crow Being Fought At Red Cross Door

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Protests against the jim-crow policy of separating the blood plasma of Negro and white donors were carried direct to the door of the Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross Society, 5 N. Wabash avenue, this week.

Over 100 protestants, members of the Committee of Racial Equality, an interracial group, stormed the place with leaflets outlining the bigotrous practice of blood segregation, and referring to it as "contrary to medical science, democracy and the best national morale."

Distribution of the literature began Monday morning at 10 o'clock, with members of the organization working in shifts of two to three each, handing the leaflets to passersby in front of the building. Aside from urging donors to give their blood, the leaflets asked them to protest the segregation policy when doing so.

Miss Bernice Fisher, secretary of the National Federation of CORE, stated that distribution of the literature was resorted to only after numerous conferences with local Red Cross officials had been unavailing. She declared that her group had exhausted every means of reaching an agreement with the local body without the use of public criticism. Correspondence had been exchanged since mid June she said, and talks had been held at various times since July 8.

One spokesman for the society, Ralph Baier, denied that there was any segregation of the blood in an interview on July 8, Miss Fisher stated. However, on August 3, Joseph H. King, first vice chairman, repudiated Baier and admitted that the local chapter "adheres to the national policy" of separating the blood of Negro donors from that of white persons.

King, Miss Fisher asserted, protested against calling it "segregation" of the blood. but had no answer to her question as to what is, or would be, done with the blood of Chinese and Indians.

Quotes Medical Journal

The leaflets, in addition to the protest, quoted the Journal of the American Medical association in an article of July 4, 1942, in which it was said:

"There is no evidence that the blood of Negroes differs in any significant respect from that of white persons. The successful transfusion with whole blood from white persons to Negroes or vice versa can be accomplished quite as readily as between members of the same race . . . The segregation of the blood of white persons from the blood of Negroes in the blood bank is therefore not only unscientific but it is a grevious affront to the largest minority in our country . . ."

According to Miss Fisher, the leaflets are to be distributed in front of the Wabash avenue address all week. Approximately 10 000 have already been passed out, she stated.

47d-1943

BLOOD BANK

Defender
Chicago, Ill

NOV 27 1943

Dorothy Thompson Blasts Red Cross Blood Policy

NEW YORK—Dorothy Thompson, widely-known columnist and author, this week joined the ranks of the large number of critics who have shot holes through the claim of the American Red Cross, that differentials exist in racial blood streams.

Attacking the policy of the Red Cross in segregating blood plasma, Miss Thompson said the arguments used to justify the separation are silly. "The constituents of a Negro's blood," she declared, "are exactly the same as Winston Churchill's or Adolph Hitler's."

Pointing out that blood has been divided into four types by medical research, but that these types are not in the leastwise affected by the race of the individuals, Miss Thompson stated that the Red Cross "knows the controversy plays in the realm of totem and taboo, that has nothing to do with pathology."

The columnist held: "If a blonde white man of Norwegian ancestry should be suffering from acute hemorrhage, and it were necessary to pick off the street a man willing to shed his blood to save another's life, the right blood type might be found in a Galican Jew, a South Slav, a Negro or a Japanese, while another Norwegian might have to be rejected.

"The Lord has diffused the four blood types so thoroughly," she held further, "that two cousins may belong to different types and a Jew and Julius Streicher to the same."

Dismissing the Red Cross argument as a fear without foundation, Miss Thompson declared: "It is astonishing to me that this superstitution falls when serum from horses, cows or sheep is put into human veins. No one seems to fear his children will walk on four legs, or moo, or neigh."

Concluding the piece, the writer said, "But considering how long it takes a superstition to die, I would say to my Negro friends: Stop bothering about the blood banks. It's a silly controversy and not worth a campaign. Since your blood is of the same physiological constituency as everyone else's, your argument contributes to scientific precision.

"But you don't win any victory for your race by winning the argument. Race and blood are two different matters."

47d-1943

Age-Herald

Blood Does Not Tell

Birmingham, Ala.

BY DOROTHY THOMPSON

Spokesmen for colored Americans have protested the policy of keeping Negro and white plasma in two blood banks, for the separate treatment of Negro and white wounded needing transfusions.

The Negroes regard it as another sign of racial discrimination.

Officials of the American Red Cross know that the controversy plays in a realm of totem and taboo, that has nothing to do with pathology.

The constituents of a Negro's blood are exactly the same as Winston Churchill's or Adolf Hitler's.

There are four types of blood, as discovered and classified by medical research. (Plasma is derived from all four types equally.) Whole blood for transfusion purposes must be labelled according to type. But the race of the donor has nothing to do with the blood type into which he may fall.

If a blond white man of Norwegian ancestry should be suffering from acute hemorrhage, and it were necessary to pick off the street a man willing to shed his blood to save another's life, the right blood type might be found in a Galician Jew, a South Slav, a Japanese or a Negro, while another Norwegian might have to be rejected.

Thus, the Scriptures are almost, but not quite scientifically correct when they say that "The Lord hath made of one blood all the nations of the earth." The Lord hath made of four bloods all the nations of the earth, and has diffused the four so thoroughly that two cousins may belong to different types and a Jew and Julius Streicher to the same.

* * *

Why, then, this prejudice of men against having their lives saved by plasma or blood from the veins of men of another color? For that prejudice exists.

I think, the reason goes back to the unprecise use of words. A white boy resisting a transfusion of "colored" plasma, believes that it will make him partly Negro. And everything that we say on the subject of blood, confirms him in this pure superstition.

We say, "I am of pure Anglo-Saxon *blood.*"

Or, of a high-bred horse, "*blooded* mare."

Or, of an aristocrat, "blue *blood*."

Or, "*blood* will tell."

Or, "*blood* is thicker than water."

These, and a thousand other phrases, confirm the human race in the superstition that racial and other inherited characteristics are transmitted in the blood stream. It is astonishing to me that this superstitution falls when serum from horses, cows or sheep is put into human veins. No one seems to fear his children will walk on four legs, or moo, or neigh.

* * *

If racial characteristics were carried by the blood stream, the resistance of one race of men to having transfusions of the blood or plasma of other races would probably be insuperable. For, although they have no control over it in the first place, most men do not desire to change their race, unless they belong to one which suffers peculiar disadvantages. If a man's visible racial characteristics make it difficult for him to find work, or expose him to humiliations, he may desire to escape from his race by obliterating its more obvious characteristics. Among many American Negroes it is a social distinction to be light colored for the obvious reason that they thereby more closely approach the dominant white world. In a great and prosperous African civilization exactly the reverse would probably be true.

Orientals, who live largely on vegetarian diets, find that the carnivorous westerners have a horrible smell, "like cadavers." The Irishman who brags of the hair on his chest as a sign of virility is not comprehensible to a Chinaman or a Japanese, who certainly belong to fecund races, but find the hairyness of Nordic man closely akin to the hairyness of the baboon.

But no amount of pumping other people's blood into men's veins affects their color, hair, stature, or any other racial characteristics of themselves or their progeny.

Racial characteristics are transmitted through the chromosomes. A person is determined as colored or white the moment he is conceived and the blood stream has nothing to do with it.

If, for centuries, people had been saying, "I am of pure Anglo-Saxon chromosomes," the statement would certainly be untrue, considering the endless mixture, not of blood but of sexes, but the idea would be correct.

* * *

If we are going to go on talking about our blood and speaking precisely, we'll have to get used to describing ourselves as types O A B or AB, none of which are anything to brag about. All four include geniuses and morons, yellows, browns, whites and blacks.

But considering how long it takes a superstition to die, I would say to my Negro friends: Stop bothering about the blood banks. It's a silly controversy, and not worth a campaign. Since your blood is of the same physiological constituency as everyone else's, your argument contributes to scientific precision. But, you don't win any victory for your race by winning the argument. Race and blood are two different matters.

NOV 18 1943

Hit Jim-Crow Blood Bank

Daily Worker

New York, N. Worker)

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—More than 100 members of the inter-racial or-

BLOOD BANK

ganization known as the Committee on Racial Equality last week handed out leaflets in front of the Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross, 5 N. Wabash Ave., protesting the practice of segregating blood banks according to the race or nationality of the donor. The leaflet urged donors to give their blood but at the same time to protest the segregation policy of the American Red Cross.

AUG 23 1943

BLOOD DONATION

Boston, Mass.

Guardian

Unwilling to accept the insulting conditions of the American Red Cross which segregates the blood of colored donors, a number of prominent New Yorkers will contribute to the Chinese blood bank which accepts the blood of all on equal terms. In the appeal for donations to the Chinese blood bank there is a quotation from Confucuis, the great Chinese philosopher who lived about 500 years before the Christian era: "Within the four seas all men are brothers". The appeal goes on to say that more than "2000 years later, science proved that he was right. The life-giving element of human blood—the plasma—is identical in all races."

What Confucuis asserted could have been dismissed by the Western World as the vaparing of the "heathen Chinee"; but the same concept is expressed in the Christian bible: God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth" and despite two thousand years of Christian teaching the "brotherhood of man" has not been accepted even by many of the exponents of Christianity. Without a quiver modern Apostles will consign an evil-doer to fire and brimstone by biblical authority but will recoil before skin color. The American Red Cross refuses to back down from its unscientific position, and it is easy to understand the embarrassment of the New York blood donors. How much harm the American Red Cross policy is doing the blood bank cause and how many lves may be needlessly sacrificed thereby can equally be understood.

AUG 21 1943

Globe and Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

BLOOD IS BLOOD

It has always been considered a ridiculous practice for one to "bite off his nose to spite his face."

Ridiculous, therefore, can be said to describe the attitude of those persons who are refusing to help supply the Red Cross Blood Bank because that institution persists in a policy of segregating Negro blood from white blood, merely to appease an ignorant element of the population which does not know that "blood is blood." We are quite sure that in a crisis medical men of the Red Cross would not bother about whether a Negro or a white person furnished the blood that was needed to save human life. Nor would the most ignorant or bigoted soldier of either race, if his life hung in the balance, raise any question about the racial identity of the person who gave the blood that had been selected to be injected into his body.

Negroes have submitted to so much outrageous and senseless discrimination down through the years, until it should be no hardship to give blood to the Red Cross under present conditions. The fact that Negro boys on the battle fronts are suffering and dying should serve as a deterrant to any among us who may feel inclined to refuse to give blood to help save human life.

But nevertheless and notwithstanding, commendation is due members of the CIO who recently sent a letter of protest against the "segregation of blood" policy of the Red Cross. This letter, appearing as a part of a news story in the NEW YORK AGE, was as follows:

"As it (segregation) has absolutely no basis in biology or any other science, we urge the Red Cross to abandon this useless practice . . . Particularly in view of the fact that a Negro, Dr. Charles Drew, professor of surgery at Howard university, was not only one of the pioneers in the chemistry of the blood bank, but also became director of the blood bank in England. . . . The majority of informed Negroes today are protesting this segregation in the only way they know: refusals to donate their blood to the Red Cross. This, of course, lessens the amount of blood available to both Negro and white casualties."

OCT 15 1943

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C.

Negroes Refusing to Give Blood To Segregated Red Cross Bank

Protesting the nominal segregation of Negro from white blood in the American Red Cross Blood Bank, 20 blood donors employed by the Congress of Industrial Organizations, National

Headquarters in Washington Wedn[illegible] signed a letter urging the Red Cros[illegible]scontinue this prejudicial policy.

OCT 2-1943

Although there exists some doubt as to whether Negro blood is consistently segregated all along the line of scientific processes involved with the plasma, the Red Cross continues to work on the principle of segregation.

The letter from the CIO blood donors read in part:

"As it (segregation) has has absolutely no basis in biology or any other science, we urge the Red Cross to abandon this useless practice. . . . Particularly in view of the fact that a Negro, Dr. Charles Drew, professor of surgery at Howard University . . . . w[illegible] only one of the pioneers in the chemistry of the blood bank but als[illegible]tor of the blood bank in England . . . . The majority of informed Negroes today are protesting this segregation in the only way they know: refusal to donate their blood to the Red Cross. This of course lessens the amount of blood available to both Negro and white casualties alike.

OCT 2 1943

"In view of the above facts, we of the CIO strongly urge a revision of your discriminatory policy of pandering to common race prejudice, in the hope that the Red Cross will join with other forces seeking to extend democracy at [illegible] as well as abroad."

Blood Donor Foils Race Bias

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

AUG 20 1943

There are a great many Negroes who are reluctant to give their blood to any group which makes a distinction in its handling of contributions simp[illegible]cause of the race of the dono[illegible]oman has solved the problem of the wish to give her blood without being subjected to prejudice.

MRS. MARIE LUCAS

Mrs. Marie Lucas, of 321 St. Nicholas Avenue, gives to the Blood Plasma Bank which was opened 4 months ago at the Bellevue Hospital. Here, those who wish to donate blood for use in future emergencies may do so. It is processed and stored at the hospital to be used in war emergencies and cases of illness.

As long ago as September, 1942, Mrs. Lucas became the first Negro donor assigned to Sydenham Hospital and she now donates to the bank at Bellevue Hospital.

On December 7, 1942, at war council meeting held at the hospital, committees were chosen to aid in the acceleration of the work of the institution during these times. Mrs. Lumas was chosen at this meeting as chairman of the hospital's blood plasma bank with a group of 72 others working with her. The only Ne[illegible] group, she and her comm[illegible] regularly to the stock on hand in the hospital.

AUG 20 1943

To quote Mrs. Lucas, "There is a great need for more donors, and there is no question of race. The blood of all men is the same and the hospital knows it."

Army, Navy Accept Blame for Blood J.C.

DEC 18 1943

-American

Admits Red Cross Is Following Rule Laid Down by Government

Baltimore. Md

WASHINGTON

Army and navy responsibility for the segregation of plasma in the Red Cross blood banks was revealed this week following a release by the officials of the United Federal Workers of America and the Office of the Army and Navy Surgeons General, following a union pr[illegible]s of the [illegible]a segregation.

DEC 18 1943

In letter sent to the Surgeons General and to the president of the American Red Cross, Richard Tynes, chairman of the War Relocation Authority branch of the USWA, CIO, said:

"We believe this segregation is harmful to the war effort; that it contributes to disunity and that it is an insult to one-tenth of all America."

DEC 18 1943

Medical Corps Head Quoted

Admission of any responsibility for an insistence upon segregation of the plasma was contained in a letter signed by Lt. Col. Douglass B. Kendricks of the U.S. Army Medical Corps, special representative on transfusions and intravenous solutions.

While agreeing upon the soundness of the union's stand that there is no scientific basis for the segregation, Lt. Col. Kendricks said:

". . . Unfortunately, there is a disinclination on the part of many whites, which you of course recognize, to have colored blood injected into their veins.

Passes Buck to Service Men

"Whether that disinclination is the result of ignorance or prejudice, it nevertheless exists and is a factor with which this office always reckons in setting up any plasma program for the army.

"It is the conviction of this office that disregard of this feeling would greatly mitigate against the successful conclusion of the program for collecting blood plasma for the armed forces.

"While this office sympathizes with the aspirations of the colored race, it feels that it must continue its present policy in the matter of blood plasma, even though it may not be the ideal solution.

Asked to Swallow Insult

"In a thoroughly sincere spirit, I am going to express the thought that herein lies a wonderful opportunity for colored Americans to assist in a difficult situation.

"It is my firm belief that nothing would contribute more toward breaking down existing barriers than for colored citizens generally to contribute to the donor program, fighting it as evidence on their part of a superior concern for national welfare over racial interest."

DEC 18 1943

J.C. Policy Unanimous

The same sentiments were expressed in the reply of Rear Admiral Ross T. McIntyre, Navy Surgeon General. He said.

"The policy followed by the Red Cross in its blood donor service is one which was adopted unanimously by all agencies involved and is not considered discriminatory against any race.

". . . Segregation of racial blood is practiced in order that the persons receiving the plasma may know that it is made from blood taken from people of their own race."

47d-1943

Findings To Be Recommended New Committee

Atlanta Daily World Ga

Hearings Slated To Be Held On July 28 And 29

JUN 30 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Chairman Francis J. Haas, of the Fair Employment Practice committee, announced Monday that he would visit Detroit this week to investigate the status of cases in that city now pending before the FEPC and that upon his return he would recommend action in line with his findings to the new membership of the committee.

Hearings on cases in Detroit, originally scheduled to open this week, will be held July 28 and 29, or earlier if possible, chairman Hass stated.

Of the eight pending Detroit cases two companies last week declared their intention to comply with the terms of executive order 9346. Chairman Haas stated that during this visit to Detroit he would examine the unresolved cases in order to determine when they might go to hearings, and that he would also study several more recent cases which involve large war industries.

"When the new members of the committee meet for the first time," chairman Haas said, "they will have before them several important groups of cases, including those in Detroit, those concerning alleged discrimination on certain railroads, and the Capital Transit case in Washington. I wish to give the new committee the opportunity to decide the order in which it wishes to hear these cases. I can give assurance that every effort will be made to achieve quick disposition of cases now on the committe's docket."

A part of the reorganization of the FEPC, following the mandate given it in the president's executive order 9346, will be the establishment of 12 regional offices responsible to the committee and located in the 12 regions of the war manpower commission.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47d

FEPC To Probe

FEPC

Labor Trouble On West Coast

Rush Two Men To Scene To Gather Facts

JUL 21 1943

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— The firing of hundreds of Negroes in West Coast shipyards by the companies for failure to pay dues any longer to the jim-crow boilermakers union, has resulted in a flood of protests to the Fair Employment Practice committee. As a result, the committee has rushed two men out there to ascertain the facts and to submit recommendations.

Resting on that part of the amended executive order permitting the use of outside aid, the committee invited Judge James H Wolfe, chief justice of the Utah Supreme court and he accepted, to meet Daniel Donovan, field examined for FEPC in Los Angeles last Saturday.

Wolfe was described as a 'liberal' in the field of labor relations. He has served as conciliator for the government in other labor disputes. Where he stands on the Negro could not be determined. Donovan, with the committee since 1941, formerly held a card in the International Association of Machinists, but was identified with that bloc of the IAM which had consistently sought to relax the bars against Negro membership.

Basis of the dispute goes back to 1942 when Henry J. Kaiser, ship-a-week builder in Oregon, went to New York and asked for 20,000 men for his yards. He received a heavy response which included hundreds of Negroes Kaiser has a close shop contract with the boilermakers union, which makes the union virtually the hiring hall for the company meaning, no card, no job.

The name of Tom Ray, business agent for local 72 up in Portland, sticks out as the most outspoken objector to Negroes in the union and in the yard. The upshot of the argument was that the union would organize the Negroes into auxiliaries, give them cards but no voice in union affairs Wanting the jobs, the men fell into the auxiliaries in large numbers, and apparently things have been going along peaceably.

MEN ARE SORE

It seems now, however, that the men are sore about a number of things almost all of which can be summed up into unequal opportunity, the normal development of discrimination and segregation. George M. Johnson, assistant to the chairman of FEPC, said they have had the problem for about six months. In Los Angeles alone at least 100 men were released, he added.

George Streater, who as a labor representative with the War Production board generally explains these matters from the AFL point of view, was down in the gulf area when the story broke. Joseph Keenan top AFL man with WMC, was also out of town.

Except for the two men sent to the scene, the FEPC has nobody on the spot. The War Manpower commission, however, has Clarence Johnson, former representative of the Dining Car Waiters and Cooks (SFL) there and ready to lend a hand. Rated as one of the best field men black or white, on Negro employment problems, Johnson is a former labor consultant in OPM, and WPB. While there was little convincing in the answer given that Johnson's aid would be enlisted now, it is expected that the agreement now being worked out between FEPC and WMC will automatically make such cooperation feasible.

JUL 21 1943

FEPC SETS DATE FOR R. R. CASES

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Committee Refuses To Adopt "Mobile Compromise" As Precedent for Job Pattern in the South

WASHINGTON, July 15—Agreement to hold here on September 15, 16 and 17 the long delayed hearings on discrimination against Negroes in the railroad industry, the establishment of 12 regional offices to expedite investigation of discrimination complaints, and an implied rebuke to Chairman Haas for his action in settling the discrimination cases at the Alabama Drydock company in Mobile, Ala., on the basis of complete segregation of Negro workers to four of the company's 12 shipways, were the principal features of a two-day, first meeting of the new seven-member FEPC.

JUL 17 1943

TO HOLD PUBLIC R.R. HEARINGS

Father Francis J. Haas, new chairman, in a press conference last week indicated that the full committee would hold public hearings on complaints against 26 railroads, members of the Southeastern Railway association and against six others on charges of racial discrimination. At the same time he stated the new committee had agreed to establish 12 regional offices throughout the country at points roughly the same as the regional offices now maintained by the War Manpower Commission. He stated that an agreement is being worked out with WMC for closest cooperation in accomplishing the purposes of the President's executive order against discrimination in war industry.

During its sessions the new committee, consisting of P.B. Young, Sr., of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, Samuel Zemurray of the United Fruit company, Sara Southall of the International Harvester company, John Brophy of the CIO, Boris Shishkin of the AFL and Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, adopted a resolution refusing to accept with approval the action of Father Haas in agreeing to segregate Negro workers in the Mobile case.

ALA. COMPROMISE NO PRECEDENT

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

Said the resolution:

"The comimttee accepts the accomplished fact of the settlement made in Mobile to end a crisis in war production, except that the committee cannot give its approval to the complete segregation of Negroes on the ship ways and does not consider that a precedent."

Questioned on the effect of this resolution on the present status of Negro workers at the Mobile shipyard, Father Haas refused to say whether this action would mean a final change in the existing agreement or not. He stated, "it will all depend on whether we get complaints of discrimination from Negro workers at this shipyard."

In a prepared statement the FEPC chairman said: "The newly appointed committee has accepted the responsibility placed upon it to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower regardless of race, creed, color or national origin. The objective is to further the prosecution of the war, worker morale and national unity.

TO SET DATE FOR DETROIT CASES

"The committee is conscious that this sound objective must be pursued where wartime crowding in houses, buses and recreation grounds have bred irritation among decent people, and have afforded irresponsible persons the opportunity for shameful mob violence. This is cause for grave concern, but not for despair, I learned last week in Detroit, where mixed races make tanks and airplanes side by side, that the workers in war plants did not lose their heads at the time when hoodlums were rioting in the streets of Detroit."

Haas announced that the FEPC would set dates for hearings in the discrimination cases now pending in Detroit and Washington "as soon as it appears that efforts to settle them by negotiation have failed." He indicated that the president of the Capital Transit company here had appeared before the committee during its sessions and that negotiations for employment of Negro bus drivers by the company were in progress. He said also that three of the six Detroit companies charged with discrimination had already indicated willingness to comply with committee directives of no-discrimination.

Malcolm Ross, former OWI and National Labor Relations Board official, and George Johnson, former associate executive secretary of the FEPC, were named by Haas as "assistants to the chairman."

SAYS EDUCATION PROGRAM NEEDED

Another meeting of the committee is scheduled for July 26, and it is expected that meetings will be held twice monthly. A budget in excess of half a million and a staff of more than [illegible] workers are expected, according to Haas. The funds for the present will come from the Office of Emergency Management, he said.

One new member of the committee, Sara Southall of the International Harvester company, stated that in her opinion the work of the committee in accomplishing an end to discrimination in industry must begin by "a program of education from the president of the company on down.

"We are dealing in the realm of prejudice," she said. "It does no good to begin with the little fellows down the line. In any corporate structure it is the president who develops policy, who has to be changed from his old practices. We must start with him and go down to the lowest assistant foreman."

JUL 17 1943

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Note Progress In Rail Fight

Delegates In Session Here

By WILLIAM A. FOWLKES

Representatives from seventeen states, attending the annual meeting of the International Association of Railway Employees at the Butler Street YMCA Tuesday heard their counsel describe the progress of action against discrimination against Negroes in the railway service.

Resolutions from the body are expected to be made public today when the meeting comes to a close.

Chief Counsel Charles Houston, of Washington, D. C.; Col. A. T. Walden, of Atlanta, and Attorney Arthur D. Shores, of Birmingham who have conducted national and local fights against discrimination against the group in the service, gave a report of their work. Methods of co-operation and combatting discriminations against seniority rights in contracts of the roads under the Southeastern Conference Agreement were suggested.

The group is looking forward to the Railway hearings September 15-17 before the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee in Washington, hopeful that directives from that body against several existing evils will aid in their eradication. Among these evils is the problem of Negro firemen whose jobs are being threatened with the entree of the Diesel engine.

Officers of the I. A. R. E. attending the meeting include: H. R. Barnett, president of Knoxville, Tenn.; Arthur Lewis vice-president; T. D. Redd treasurer; Leyton Weston, secretary, St Louis Missouri, and L. R. McLoy, employees' representative, Jackson, Tenn.

Members of the women's auxiliary are also in attendance at the meeting.

JUL 21 1943

FEPC

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FDR SCRAPS DEAD FEPC

Age New York N.Y.

JUL 21 1943

Msgr. Haas New Chairman Of Independent Body In Latest Order

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt on Friday, issued a new executive order scrapping the old FEPC and establishing a new committee "to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower, and to eliminate discriminaory ractices."

At the same time, the White House confirmed the recent appointment of Monsignor Francis J. Haas as chairman of the new committee which is established as a separate agency within the Office of Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President.

The new committee will be composed of a chairman and not more than six other members to be appointed by the President. Upon the appointment of the new committee, the old organization, established by Executive Order 8802 and operating within the War Manpower Commission, will cease to exist.

In his new order, President Roosevelt said: "I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in Government by reason of race, creed, color, or national origin, and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

Under terms of the new order, Msgr. Haas will receive a salary not exceeding $10,000 a year and the remaining six members shall receive necessary travelling expenses and, unless their compensation is otherwise prescribed by the President, a per diem allowance not exceeding $25 per day and subsistence expenses on such days as they are actually engaged in the performance of duties.

"The committee shall formulate olicies to achieve the purposes of his order and shall make recom- nendations to the various federal epartments and agencies and to he President, which it deems ne- essary and proper to make effect- e the provisions of this order," he new order states.

"The committee shall receive and vestigate complaints of discrim- ation forbidden by this order. It ay conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discriminaion," the order continues, "and the committee shall have the power to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order."

Veteran Labor Ability

Msgr. Haas, the new committee chairman, is a veteran of labor disputes, dean of the School of Social Science of Catholic University, a member of the original National Labor Relations Board, a special conciliator for the Labor Department since 1935 and a participant in the settlement of about 12,500 labor squabbles.

The committee as orginally established on June 25, 1941, had independent status, but was placed under Paul V. McNtt when his authority was broadened to embrace selective service and other phases of the manpower problem. However, the FEPC has been inactive since Mr. McNutt, in January, indefinitely postponed scheduled hearings of charges of discrimination against Negroes by railroads.

Ever since the postponement of the railroad hearings, Negro, labor, and religious organizations, have protested inactivity of the FEPC and recently received assurance that the committee would "soon" be active again.

JUN 5 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

SEP 25 1943

FEPC Boss Is Priest, Msgr. Francis J. Haas

Vigorous, Friendly, Blunt Cleric Is Tight-Lipped and Always in a Hurry

NEXT WEEK

Mr. Carter talks to Governor Herbert O'Conor of Maryland.

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Father Haas was named by President Roosevelt to the FEPC chairmanship after Mark Ethridge had fumbled it. The priest had a record of having mediated labor disputes before he took on this new job.

Asked whether he weren't successful as a conciliator because management and labor respected his priesthood and clerical garb, Father Haas answered that the reporter didn't know management and labor.)

By MICHAEL CARTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Unless Southern political pressure again splits the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), colored men will soon be employed as engineers, mechanics, and even conductors on interstate rail carriers. Msgr. Francis J. Haas, vigorous head of the FEPC, assured the AFRO that his revitalized committee was strong enough to cope with the problems as they arose and that the hearings would be held on schedule—September 15.

In his first personal interview with a member of the race press, Msgr. Haas assured colored people that the FEPC deserved their continued confidence and support.

"The FEPC is far from impotent. It is, in fact, a very virile influence in the lives of colored citizens and other minorities. It is still in business and is going to stay. We also have hearings scheduled for the Kaiser Shipyards, but cannot announce a date yet. We do know that hearings will be scheduled after the railroad case."

Answers Blunt, Friendly

It is not at all easy to talk to the Monsignor. He answers questions in a blunt, but friendly manner, but he never offers more information than is required to answer the specific inquiry. A conversation with him is never kept alive on the basis of its weight or mutual interest. You have to keep fueling it with new questions.

All during the interview, Msgr. Haas was assisted by St. Claire Bourne, colored, former editor of The People's Voice, New York tabloid, and now an information specialist who writes the FEPC press releases. Haas called upon him for statistical information.

The railroad hearings, scheduled for this month, include charges against 14 railroad unions as well as 23 railroad lines. The latter include the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore and Ohio, and the New York Central.

Although the FEPC only "alleges" discrimination on these and other roads, every train rider knows that whatever colored employees he encounters will either be porters or waiters.

Won't Speculate

He has "no idea as to what will happen either during the hearings or after them. The answer to that is in the law itself. The committee has done its job in investigating and preparing for the hearings. We can't speculate on what will happen."

Another evidence of the revitalization of the FEPC is in on the instance of the Capital Traction Company in Washington, D.C. This company has steadily upheld the principles of the Confederacy in barring colored workers from its lines.

Msgr. Haas said, "The Capital Traction hearing is reaching a satisfactory conclusion. You can't set a definite time limit on it but I should say it is a matter of weeks."

All minorities in the United States. Jews, Mexicans, Filipinos, and others, are indebted to colored Americans for the FEPC, Msgr. Haas believes. "Pressure from the colored people created the FEPC and all minorities are better off for it.

Must Find Cases

"Colored people can continue to aid the FEPC by bringing to its attention cases affecting them. We are compared to a court. We do not seek out injustices, but try to correct those which are presented to us. It's your job to find the cases; ours to solve them." That was in answer to my question concerning the "White Only" advertisements which I had seen in several Western papers.

Msgr. Haas believes that although our faith in the FEPC was shaken at the time the committee was licked in the first railroad hearings, we have now renewed that faith.

"The FEPC is sincere in its aims. Of course, no government agency can succeed without the co-operation of the people. Our new budget is for $500,000. That is a considerable increase over the original appropriation of $80,000."

Under the new budget regional offices will be opened in eight cities, and in Chicago, colored directors have been appointed. The committee will employ 23 clerks, 29 professional workers, and about 50 clerical and professional workers in Washington, D.C. Inability to secure qualified personnel is advanced as one of the reasons for tardiness in establishing other offices.

Average Success

Regional offices have been established in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Dallas. The other four will be open as soon as the requisite personnel is obtained.

"Instead of lying around doing nothing, these offices are picking up situations and are meeting with more than average success."

Because Msgr. Francis J. Haas is more or less unknown to colored people I felt him out on various topics, including the old standby question on Aryan blood in the Red Cross.

"Is it biologically sound to segregate blood?" Msgr. Haas asked me. St. Claire Bourne told him that it was absurd and that colored people were indignant about it. "Then it's all wrong," Msgr. Haas replied.

To some questions the Monsignor said, "I think you are doing a disservice to your people to ask such questions. Some of your questions concern the entire committee and I am but one-seventh of it."

He was more co-operative on the score concerning white employees at the FEPC. "Most of them actually requested to work here. Malcolm Ross, a deputy, is a Virginian and is as seriously interested in the work as I am." White employees told me that they preferred to work at the FEPC, and that they "did not know that colored people were so nice—the educated ones."

On the general race issue, Msgr. Haas believes:

That it is a practical political possibility to end discrimination.

That the South, unable to solve the race problem after having had years of brutal experience, needs the help of the entire country.

That labor unions offer the colored man a partial solution to the race problem.

The priest criticized me again when I asked him for personal opinions on matters of general race issues and problems concerning the FEPC. "We are in the same position as a judge. You are not helping the case by placing the judge in a position which can be called prejudiced." Any prejudice which Msgr. Haas might show would be in favor of, and not against us.

Plea for Neighborliness

He did not tell me the following, but Bourne pointed it out to me. This is an excerpt from The American Federationist, official magazine of the American Federation of Labor. The quotes are from an article titled "Justice for All" by Francis J. Haas.

"In commenting on the rioting (in Detroit) it was pointed out that there was absolutely no trouble between the colored and white families living in the same block." Msgr. Haas used this as a plea for neighborliness, industrial and domestic.

"We must show ourselves and the world that we can work together for victory . . . we are reaping the fruits of our past folly. We must exalt the idea of 'togetherness' in the place of separateness and division."

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

Msgr. Francis J. Haas is the "regular fellow" type of priest. He smokes cigarets, moves about quickly and pats you on the back. He is not taciturn, but unless you keep needling him he will stop talking.

His method seems to be simple: I shall answer questions, but that's all. Even his office staff makes the same comment. I spoke to several women employees who were surprised that he talked to me so long.

Fair, Courteous

I am impressed with what I interpret as his fairness and courtesy and his tremendous energy. He seems to have a real respect for colored workers, depends on St. Claire Bourne for statistical detail, and shows a real interest in the race press.

I guess I was most impressed with the close-lipped manner he used in closing our interview. "The FEPC is doing and will continue to do everything in its power to eradicate dis[illegible]ination in all war industries. [illegible] cases to us and w[illegible] our vigor." Shortly after th[illegible] ran into anothe[illegible] and saw him walk an[illegible] ver ways trotted and [illegible] al- [illegible] seemed determined to get there in a hurry and in the same [illegible]

[illegible] as much jim crow as could be [illegible] ved.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

In his first personal interview with the race press, Msgr. Haas calls the FEPC a virile influence in lives of colored citizens.

He never offers more information than is required to answer a specific inquiry.

It's the people's job to find the cases; ours to solve them, he stated.

Most of the white employees requested to work in FEPC did not know that colored people were "so nice and educated."

Msgr. Haas smokes cigarettes, pats you on the back, is fair, courteous and energetic.

47d-1943

Carey McWilliams

JUN 19 1943

In reorganizing the Fair Employment Practice Committee, of which he is chairman, Monsignor Haas could go a long way toward giving this body the strength, character and intelligence it must have to be of any use at all, by appointing Carey McWilliams of Los Angeles to its membership. McWilliams, a lawy who has become one of the real authorities on pr lems of racial minorities and migratory labor, did an honest and effective job as California's Con sioner of Immigration during Governor Olson's a ministration that the incoming reactionary Governor Warren made it his highly publicized first official act to fire him. McWilliams had already resigned by letter, knowing the impossibility of carrying on his work under the new set-up, but the Governor would not be done out of the pleasure of dism[illegible] a state official who spoke and worked for the rights of Mexicans, Chinese and Japanese in California. McWilliams' recent book, "Bro[illegible]s U[illegible] Skin," is both an analysis of our national bungling of racial problems in the past and an outline for affirmative national action in the future. There are few men better fitted for work with the FEPC—if, as its new chairman declares, it is going to undertake a vigorous, honest program.

JUL 19 1943

THE NEW FEPC ORDER

New York Age

JUN 12 1943

AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS of earnest campaigning, political maneuvering, buck-passing an[illegible]t stalling, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has been given a shot in the arm, hauled back out into the open an[illegible]ped up on its own feet with instructions to go ahead on its own. The most ardent principles of democracy at home as well as abroad have hailed the issuance of the amendment to Executive Order 8802 as a signal victory.

There can be no question that it is a triumph and a significant one. The issuance of the order, in itself, bolsters the belief of those of us who have clung to the conviction that the will of the people must inevitably be the will of the government.

Age

But, issuance of the new order does not signify final victory. Rather must it be viewed like our triumph over the Axis in Africa, as the first step forward in a struggle which will undoubtedly be a very bitter one. To wipe out Hitlerism abroad, the United Nations must assault and overcome "festung Europa."

The principal weapon in this home front fight for democracy is the Executive Order on which the Committee on Fair Employment operates and from which it draws its powers. That the original order was inadequate appears proven by (1) the failure of the old Committee to attain desired result and (2) the issuance of the new order.

New York

FEPC

The language in the new order is definitely stronger. Whereas the President originally said: "it is the duty of employers and of labor organizations . . . to provide . . . the full and equitable participation of all workers in defense industries without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin," his amended order reads: "It is the duty of all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations . . . to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions or employment or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin." By being so much more specific, the order furnishes firmer bases for the Committee's operations.

JUN 12 1943

The new order gives the Committee power to "formulate policies to achieve the purposes of this Order" and "to recommend to the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission appropriate measures . . ."

Definite provision, in the amended order, for necessary personnel, supplies facilities and services, for the Committee and of authority to use the services and facilities of other Federal departments and agencies is another new addition which adds strength. Similarly, making the chairmanship of the Committee a full-time, paid job tends to remove the agency from the "voluntary welfare and social work" status which hampered the old group.

JUN 12 1943

Most significant portion of the amended order, however, is the provision granting the Committee power "to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this Order." It is, perhaps, too early to venture an opinion on how far this provision actually goes. But it does appear to offer wide possibilities.

To sum up, the amended order definitely contains considerably more promise than the old one. The increase in strength, however, lies more in the expansion of its operating facilities than in raising of its level of authority. The fullest answer must come through the work of the new Committee itself.

Conferees Disagree On New FEPC Set-up

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WMC BLASTS JOB BIAS!

FEB 27 1943

47d

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 25—In addition to urging an all-out drive for "stepped up" war production through all legitimate channels, the planning bureau of the War Manpower Commission, in a report submitted last week to Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, warned that "the nation's manpower needs for 1943 cannot be met unless job-discrimination against Negroes, women and other available workers is eliminated."

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 25—The knotty problem of revising and strengthening FEPC as an instrument to stamp out job discrimination in war industry was thoroughly explored in a three-hour conference, held here last week between War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, Attorney General Francis B. Biddle and the invited representatives of 22 minority groups, labor and religious organizations.

The conference called by Commissioner McNutt at the direction of President Roosevelt was invited to discuss proposals for sanctions to give FEPC power to enforce its decisions; proposals for reconstituting the Committee on a full time paid basis, and proposals to give the Committee an independent existence with power to establish its own policy and procedures.

FEB 27 1943

PRESIDENT WILL GET REPORT

The conference was closed to the press, but it is known that a summary of the discussion will be reported directly to the President by Commissioner McNutt and Attorney General Biddle.

Judging from reactions of the organizations involved to McNutt's letter of invitation, it is clear that there must have been a general agreement that FEPC should be restored to its independent status as a Committee directly responsible to the President and that public hearings on discrimination in the vital railroad industry be immediately rescheduled.

CONFEREES DISAGREE

The positions taken by the organizations on the question of sanctions to put teeth into FEPC decisions and as to the question of whether there should be a paid or volunteer Committee indicate some disagreement. It was learned that the American Federation of Labor is vigorously opposed to giving FEPC power to enforce its decisions against Jim-Crow AFL unions. The March On Washington Movement was known to insist that the present volunteer membership of the Committee be retained. Other organizations, such as the Southern Conference on Race Relations and the National Urban League, are understood not to attach great importance to the question of a paid or non-paid Committee but do insist that ample funds and personnel be provided to enable FEPC to accomplish its objective of bringing hundreds of thousands of minority group workers into war industries.

FEB 27 1943

A statement released by the NAACP showed its position to be one favoring action by President Roosevelt to give FEPC power to intervene in any Railway Mediation Board or National War Labor Board hearing involving a union found guilty of discrimination and to prevent payment of government funds to employers guilty of unfair labor practice.

MAY DRAFT DR. GRAHAM

Whatever comes out of the conference and the presentation of its findings to the White House, it is certain that the future of the Committee will depend on the selection of a chairman to succeed Dr. Malcolm MacLean. No likely prospects have been added to those announced last week. The previous statement by Dr. Frank P. Graham that he could not accept the post was met this week with reliable reports that efforts will be made to draft him for the chairmanship.

The complete list of persons who attended the FEPC conference is as follows: Sidney Hollander and George Segal, Co-ordinating Committee of Jewish Agencies; P. B. Young Sr. and Dean Gordon Hancock, Southern Conference on Race Relations; A. Philip Randolph, March On Washington Movement; Mrs. Maudelle Bousefield, Women's Advisory Committee to the War Manpower Commission; Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, Negro Labor Victory Committee; Lester Granger, National Urban League; Walter White, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Morris Milgram, Workers' Defense League; Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Synagogue Council of America; Abner Green, American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born; Samuel Rosenwein, National Lawyers' Guild; Roger Baldwin, American Civil Liberties Union; George Sanchez, League of United Latin American Citizens; Rev. Francis W. McPeek, Federal Council of Churches of Christ; Willard Johnson, National Conference of Christians and Jews; John W. Davis, Association of Negro Land Grant Colleges; Warren Brown, Council for Democracy; I. N. Ornburn, American Federation of Labor; Willard Townsend, Congress of Industrial Organizations; John P. Davis, Southern Conference for Human Welfare; William Johnson, Negro Labor Leaders' Council; Monsignor John Ryan, National Catholic Welfare Conference; Fowler Harper, Deputy War Manpower Commissioner; Charlotte Carr, Deputy War Manpower Commissioner; Edith Keyes, Assistant to Commissioner McNutt.

FEB 27 1943

FEPC, U. S. Agencies Okay Job Complaint Agreement

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON,—(A N P)—The Fair Employment Practice Committee has worked out with the U. S. Maritime commission, the war and navy departments, procedures by which cases of alleged discrimination occuring within the jurisdiction of these government agencies shall be properly handled and adjusted.

According to Will Maslow, director of field operations for FEPC similar procedures are being negotiated with the National War Labor board, National Labor Relations board, War Shipping administration and the Interstate Commerce commission Operating procedures with the War Manpower commission were the first to be arrived at by the reorganized committee.

Except for the WMC agreement, the others are informal in character. The procedures will be followed by the maritime commission in the handling of all shipyard labor involving either government-owned and privately operated plants of privately owned plants operating under contract with commission. No estimate was available as to how many plants are affected here.

There are, however, nine government owned but privately operated plants under the supervision of the navy which are covered by the procedures, whereas 47 plants and 71 ordnance departments under the department are covered.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Several Cases Adjudicated By Regional Office

Solutions Show Growing Power Of Committee

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The hiring of Negro women by a New York City firm engaged in war work which had never before given such employment to Negro workers was announced by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice this week. The company, General Desserts Corporation ,produces packaged foods for the armed forces.

Announcement of the settlement, together with the citing of a number of other such adjustments, was seen as an indication of increasing success in the handling of cases by the Committee.

The General Desserts case came to the attention of the Committee when the company revealed a need for women workers for production jobs. Although white women were employed by the firm it was found that no Negroes had ever been tried out. An FEPC representative conferred with the head of the company and pointed out the possibility of meeting its labor needs through elimination of any race, creed, color or national origin basis in its employment policy.

Declaring that no such policies had ever been practiced, the firm took immediate steps to emphasize the fact among all possible sources of labor and as a result received applications from Negro women and hired them along with whites to meet its needs.

The FEPC announcement also cited the following adjustments as typical of recent developments in its work:

A New England company advertising for an office worker, in-

re-fuel the air ships as they went to and fro on their missions.

These men of ours were mostly quartermaster trucking companies, involving hundreds of our men.

Reactionaries Rule Returning Congress

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Sees Doom of Liberal Legislation; Express Fear for Future of FEPC

By JOE SHEPHARD

Small hope for passage of liberal legislation and stormy sailing for agencies most closely concerned with the welfare of the nation's colored population appeared in prospect this week following the return of a recalcitrant and unchastened Congress to Capitol Hill.

Declaring that the Seventy-eighth Congress has shown itself more strongly opposed to the administration and to social and labor legislation than any other Congress during the past ten years, competent Washington observers pointed out that there is no indication of any change in attitude on the part of the reconvened body.

"When they went home," said one Federal official, "there were promises that considerable pressure would be brought to bear by colored, labor, and other groups in their constituencies in an effort to bring them around to ways of thinking more in harmony with the desires and needs of the people.

Sees Change for Worse

"These pressures, however, never materialized and the temper of the Congress, if anything, has become more strongly set upon wiping out the labor and social gains of the past decade, curtailing wherever possible the power of the executive branch of the government and elimination of so-called bureaucracy in a sweeping swing toward support of the doctrine of States' rights."

The intent of the Congress at least to challenge the power of the executive branch was borne out immediately following the reconvening of the body on Tuesday when it swung into swift action to halt the impending "father draft" slated to begin October 1.

House Bares Its Fangs

On the House side, Military Affairs Committee Chairman Andrew May (Ky., D.) introduced a bill which would halt the further draft of fathers and release those already in the service.

On the Senate side, opposition to the drafting of fathers was also manifest, although action was less precipitate than that taken in the lower body.

Senator Arthur Vandenburg (R., Mich.) suggested that drafting of fathers be delayed for several weeks until the matter can be studied by Congress.

Members of both houses declared inability to see the need for the draft of fathers in the United States while Canada is releasing trained fighting men and South American allies have sent no men overseas.

Express Fear for FEPC

Belief that the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee will come under heavy fire from anti-administration Republican and Southern Democrats persisted and was strengthened as the sentiment for support of the doctrine of "States' rights" and elimination of alleged bureaucracy in the Federal Government grew in strength and volume.

This sentiment, which earlier in the session resulted in a coalition of Southern Democratic and anti-Roosevelt Republican forces, has already brought about the elimination of WPA and NYA, as well as a severe curtailment of Farm Security Administration programs.

The hope that pressure of public opinion at home would result in severance of the ties between anti-New Deal Republicans and their Southern Democratic allies was shattered exactly one week before Congress reconvened.

GOP Backs Unholy Alliance

The sanction of the Republican party was placed upon this coalition following a conference of its leaders held last Monday and Tuesday at Mackinac Island, Mich.

In a statement issued following the conference, the party was placed on record as opposed to "rule by bureaucratic decree," the favoring of any element in the republic at the expense of other elements and "the growing invasion of States' rights by the Federal Government."

Haas Blasts Discrimination

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

ds For Square Deal For All Groups

Speaking at the 63rd AFL convention in Boston, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, head of the President's Fair Employment Committee declared that the American Federation of Labor must end all discrimination against colored workers, Jews and other minority groups, both in its own ranks and in employment generally. He forcefully urged the abolition of all color bars and other undemocratic restrictions in unions against minority groups.

"Put yourself in the place of a member of a minority group," he continued. "Be he Colored or Mexican, Jew or Creedist, he wants his full status as an American workingman, and if he finds organized labor leagued against him he will rightfully revolt.

"Would you have it otherwise?" he asked. "Would you have the spirit which founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one-tenth of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?

"The interests of this nation at war coincide with the desire of the minority group members to be a part of the trade union movement. The strength of our armed forces must still be increased by two million more men, and our munition industries will need two million more workers. There exists an untapped pool of willing and skilled hands among the minority groups," he declared, in reference to importing outside labor, when a large number of underemployed colored workers are already available.

"I point out to you that there will be one million colored men in the armed services of this country whose integration into the economic life of the United States must be accomplished during the postwar adjustment period." Haas emphasized. "There will be thousands of Spanish American soldiers and returned prisoners of war, some of them who fought at Bataan. There will be tens of thousands of returned Jewish soldiers, and soldiers whose religious convictions are not those of the majority.

"Shall we greet these returned Americans with the grudging question: 'Will some one else get my job?' Or shall we rather say to ourselves: 'Will I help make this country where every man willing to work will have a job, and where none need be barred?' "

Delegates listened to Haas' address with rapt attention frequently breaking out into tumultuous applause.

Although Monsignor Haas revealed this week that he has resigned as chairman of the FEPC to accept a position as Bishop of Grand Rapids, he said he will remain for some time yet as head of the President's committee.

FEPC to Hold Railroad Hearings September 15

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color, lodged against 23 railroads and 14 labor unions, will be examined by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) at hearings to be held September 15-18, in Washington, D.C. The hearings will be held at the Departmental Auditorium, Department of Labor, Twelfth and Constitution Avenue, Northwest.

Complaints received by the FEPC allege that the practices and policies under question fail to conform to the provisions of Executive Order 8802 as amended by Executive Order 9346, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale and national unity. Most of the charges involves the question of discrimination against Negro workers. In some cases, workers of Mexican origin are involved. One or more of the several charges involves each railroad and union cited.

Exhaustive investigation by the FEPC has resulted in the compilation of a lengthy list of allegations involving agreements between railroads and unions whereby the effective utilization of available qualified manpower has been hampered because of discriminatory employment practices based on race.

Chief among the practices coming under scrutiny of the Committee is that of considering Negro railroad workers "non-promotables." This is alleged to have been done through the negotiation of agreements between union and railroad which set certain restrictions on the percentage of Negroes which may be employed in a stipulated category.

These agreements, togetther with enactment of union regulations limiting or barring non-white membership serves, it is charged, tend to reduce sharply the number of qualified Negroes employed by the railroads despite an increasing need for such labor.

47d-1943

FEPC

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Telephone Company Hires Girl Clerks in Baltimore Offices

JAN 2 3 1943

BALTIMORE.

Relaxing its heretofore iron-bound restrictive policy against hiring colored persons in white-collar jobs, the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company is now employing fifteen colored girls as clerks in several departments, it was learned this week.

The first few young women were hired two weeks ago, while the others began work Monday as mimeograph and blueprint clerks, and sorting and delivering mail in all departments throughout the company headquarters at 320 St. Paul Place. Others are still being hired.

Declared War Plant by FEPC

The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee recently officially declared the telephone company a war industry and subject to the President's order outlawing discrimination in employment.

The colored workers were obtained through the company's ninety-nine other colored employees, all of whom work in menial jobs.

The new employees are paid $16 a week during the training period and their hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. JAN 2 3 1943

Several of the new employees interviewed by AFRO reporters stated that their working conditions so far were pleasant and that they were receiving utmost co-operation from their fellow workers. It was learned, however, that while the girls are not segregated in their work they are assigned to separate restrooms.

Manager Refuses to Bare Plans

When asked by an AFRO reporter whether the employment of these young women represent a step toward the hiring of colored switchboard operators, jobs for which the company advertises daily, William T. Bannerman, public relations manager, said:

"I can't say what we contemplate doing."

Mr. Bannerman admitted that the young women had been hired to work for the company, but said that he didn't know exactly what they were doing.

A Miss Mullins, personnel worker, sat in on the interview, but said that she preferred that all statements be made by Mr. Bannerman.

He added that the C. and P. monopoly has always hired colored people and will continue to do so. "When jobs are available that we feel that colored persons can do, we'll give them a chance," he said.

When the reporter again asked that Mr. Bannerman make some statement about the company's future plans for hiring switchboard operators, he said cryptically: "I have nothing further to add."

TWE Body Won't Comment JAN 2 3 1943

Officials of the Total War Employment Committee, when asked whether this latest move of the company represents "token employment," said that they were not in a position to comment since they do not know what further steps the company anticipates taking.

In a statement made public Thursday by A. J. Allen, Jr., and Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, co-chairmen of the War Employment Committee, it was declared that "the poor service of the telephone company is largely due to a shortage of manpower caused by the necessities of war.

"Our committee feels that such conditions might be alleviated by removing the bars to employment because of race, creed, color or national origin.

"Our campaign to break down this un-American policy of the telephone company is, therefore, a step toward winning the war by ensuring that this important service to the government, to war industries and the public is maintained at its highest possible efficiency."

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Ask FDR to Set FEPC Rail Hearings

FEB 1 2 1943

FEB 1 2 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Feb. 11—A resolution petitioning President Roosevelt for an early re-scheduling of hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry, is being circulated by the Southern Negro Youth Congress among organizations for adoption.

The resolution also asks the President that the Fair Employment Practice Committee now under the jurisdiction of Manpower Commission chairman Paul V. McNutt, be "re-established on firm basis with adequate funds and sufficient au-authority to execute the provisions of Executive Order 8802."

Louis E. Burnham, organizational secrtary of the Congress, in sending out copies of the resolution to organizations of white and Negro members, wrote: FEB 1 2 1943

"The successful mobilization of all our manpower for production, and maintainance of a high morale among all groups in our population, depend largely on how effective we make our voices heard in this matter."

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Graham Refuses F.E.P.C. Post

WASHINGTON.— (ANP) — Declaring he would not take the offer to head up the FEPC, as much as he would like to, Dr. Frank Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and noted liberal, told the Associated Negro Press Saturday conditions at the labor relations board did not warrent him making the change at present and he felt he could serve best just now by remaining at that post. FEB 1 7 1943

Pressed further for a statement regarding the changed attitude of many liberals toward the Negro as expressed through recent magazine and nation wide activities, Dr. Graham said he felt there was no recession in the opinions of liberals throughout the south.

"The minimum program for betterment of conditions among the whites and Negroes in the South is the repeal of the poll tax; equal pay for equal work; equitable opportunities for schools; equal facilities in public places; equal opportunity to work and fight for our common country."

Dr. Graham was taking part in a program sponsored by the Mutual radio chain and approved by the Office of War Information last Saturday in Washington.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

War Dept. Aide Had Often Been Reported Ready to Quit Post

MacLean, FEPC Chairman, Said Headed for Navy Dept. Berth; Three FEPC Lawyers Quit

Dr. William H. Hastie, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, has resigned, effective at the end of this month.

Hardly had this announcement been made when came word from authoritative sources that Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, had tendered his resignation to accept a post as a special advisor in the Navy Department.

Report of the MacLean resignation came close on the heels of the resignations of Henry Epstein, chief counsel of the FEPC and two of his aides, Dr. Charles Houston of Washington, and Harold Stevens of New York City, in protest against Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's summary cancellation of hearings on railroad employment discrimination, which were to have been held here next week.

Previous Rumors Recalled

Although there had been numerous rumors during the past few months concerning an impending break of Dr. Hastie with the War Department, his positive scotching of all rumors allayed suspicion that he was not completely satisfied with the fight to integrate colored persons into all branches of the service and abolish discriminatory practices throughout the armed services.

DR. MALCOLM S. MacLEAN

DR. WILLIAM H. HASTIE

JAN 2 3 1943

Dr. Hastie gives no explanation for his sudden action, saying:

"I have no further amplifying statement to make until after my official duties have been terminated."

Judge Hastie accepted the War Department post in June, 1941, after obtaining a leave of absence from Howard University, where he was dean of the law school.

He was born in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1904 . He was graduated from Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C., later attending Amherst College, where he was a ranking student, winning the Phi Beta Kappa key.

Howard Graduate

He later earned his bachelor of laws degree at Harvard University, and earned his doctorate at the same institution, where he served as a member of the editorial staff of the Harvard Law Review.

JAN 2 3 1943

He joined the law firm of Houston and Houston in Washington, from which position he was appointed as a solicitor in the Department of Interior, which post held until 1939, when he resigned to become dean of Howard Law School.

In announcing his resignation from the War Department, Judge Hastie issued the following statement:

"In the past, replying to inquiries prompted by rumors and speculation, I have stated that, if and when I should leave the War Department, the press would receive direct and authoritative information. Accordingly the press is now advised that I have submitted my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, effective at the end of January, 1943.

JAN 2 3 1943

Lautier, Gibson Remain

"I have asked Mr. Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in this office, who has been dealing effectively with matters involving civilian personnel, to remain at his post. It is my belief that he can continue to contribute substantially to gains already represented by the placement and advancement of thousands of colored people and the satisfactory adjustment of many employee grievances.

"I have also asked Mr. Trumar K. Gibson, Jr., assistant civiliar aide, to remain at his post, at least through such transitional period as may be necessary to prevent discontinuity of effort in matters which have been undertaken by this office.

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of friendly support and co-operation which my office has received from the press.

"I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties have terminated."

Queried concerning his reported resignation, Dr. MacLean told the AFRO on Tuesday:

"Any word concerning this matter will have to come from the secretary of the committee or from the public relations office at Hampton Institute.

"There probably won't be anything on this until Wednesday."

512 at Hampton

Dr. MacLean revealed that Hampton Institute is accepting a class of 128 apprentice seamer each month from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station in Illinois. Each sixteen weeks, he said, a class is graduated, so that at all times there are 512 men undergoing training at Hampton.

Members of the first graduating class, he said, have all been placed at various naval bases or at other tasks. "The training program," he said, "is an excellent one and going very well at this time. I am certain that it will count heavily in the long run."

A showdown on the future of the FEPC is expected when the committee meets on Friday to discuss Commissioner McNutt's action.

JAN 2 3 1943

At the time that he resigned as counsel, Dr. Houston said:

"It is important for colored Americans to realize the full significance of Paul V. McNutt's action in calling off the public hearings scheduled this month.

"Mr. McNutt di not take snap judgment. He never consulted the committee itself, nor asked the committee what evidence it had. Nevertheless, the question of calling off the hearings was thoroughly discussed elsewhere in government circles.

JAN 2 3 1943

Did White House Order It?

"Information available would seem to indicate that the order to call off the hearing came directly from the White House. No substitute plan in place of the hearings has been offered.

"Colored Americans should immediately protest to the President, to Mr. McNutt, to their Senators and Congressmen the calling off of the hearings, and particularly protest the method by which they were called off without any consultation with the committee beforehand.

"This is not the first time the committee has been so treated. One of the first reforms in government must be a change in policy so that when colored issues come up colored are consulted beforehand and given a chance to register their opinions rather than be kept ignorant until after the action has been taken.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Walter White Lays Gagging of FEPC to F. D. R.'s Secretary

JAN 2 3 1943

WASHINGTON

White House Secretary Marvin McIntyre is partly responsible for the Fair Employment Practice Committee's having to postpone public hearings on racial discrimination in the railroad industry, Walter White declared Thursday.

Mr. White, executive secretary of the NAACP accused McIntyre of "making decisions for the administration on racial issues" while "President Roosevelt is occupied with military problems."

"Self-Appointed President"

He pointed out that the question of the hearings set for January 25 in the capital must have been considered first at the White House, and charged McIntyre with withholding from the President vital information on the discrimination problem.

"McIntyre, of Kentucky, is making decisions with his own particular slant on the race issue," White declared. "In effect, he is setting himself up as self-appointed President of colored people."

Basis for Accusation

This accusation, White said, was based partly on the fact that all recent replies to communications to the White House on racial issues had been signed by McIntyre.

JAN 2 3 1943

While McIntyre refused to comment on White's statements, a White House source said that letters from the NAACP secretary always received the President's attention.

It was also pointed out that a large part of White House mail was signed by the secretaries, but this did not mean that the President was uninformed of the exchange.

Chief Counsel Quits

Meantime, Henry Epstein, chief counsel for the committee and former New York solicitor general, has resigned his post on the committee in protest against postponement of the hearings.

Mr. Epstein, in a letter to Dr. Malcolm S. McLean, chairman of the committee, said that he understood that the hearings scheduled for this month had been postponed indefinitely against the "expressed views of a majority of the committee."

In his letter of resignation, made public Tuesday night at his law offices, 30 Broad Street, Mr. Epstein said that indefinite postponement of the hearings was tantamount to cancellation and such action was a "challenge to democracy."

JAN 2 3 1943

Continuing, the letter said:

Predicts Loss of Prestige

"The sudden cancellation of the hearings without warning or opportunity for discussion by the President's committee is, in my judgment, an irreparable blow to our committee's prestige and must result in loss of public confidence in its effectiveness."

Stating that "evidence at hand presents a picture of grievous discriminatory practices against colored citizens in the railroad industry that cries out for public attention," Mr. Epstein said that "without such hearings, I seriously question whether any appropriate redress will ever be made possible.

JAN 2 3 1943

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard, who was reported to have opposed these hearings, is now understood to have said that the navy is not opposed if McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner, believes they will be helpful.

47d-1943

FEPC

FDR Orders Reopening of FEPC Rail Case

P.M. Daily, New York, N.Y.

McNutt Called to White House for Parley

On Revising and Strengthening Committee

FEB 4 - 1943

By KENNETH G. CRAWFORD

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4. – President Roosevelt yesterday instructed War Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt to call a conference "to consider a revision and strengthening" of the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC).

In announcing his decision to reconstitute the FEPC, the President praised its past performance in fighting discrimination against Negroes and other racial groups in war industries and said the new agency should be more effective.

He also suggested that hearings in the railroad case be resumed as soon as the new agency is set up: This case, involving the refusal of established unions to accept Negro workers, is considered a test of Government good faith in its anti-discrimination campaign.

FEB 4 - 1943

So the President's order seemed to be a complete victory for groups aroused by McNutt's recent order scuttling the FEPC. McNutt himself is understood to have recommended the conference plan now sponsored by the President.

The White House announcement said:

"The President announced that he had requested Mr. Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, after consultations with the members of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to call a conference of leaders of those groups opposing discrimination in war employment to consider a revision and strengthening of the committee's scope and powers."

For nearly two years, the President said, "the Fair Employment Practice Committee and its executive director have done an excellent piece of work, placing workers in war jobs. They, however, have been handicapped by the fact that the members of the Committee were working on a part-time voluntary basis, and did not have powers or personnel commensurate with their responsibilities.

FEB 4 - 1943

"The President said he considers it advisable, therefore, to review the situation, and that when the machinery has been established to meet the problem, the hearings in th railroad case and in any other cases which may have been temporarily postponed will be continued."

It is understood that an executive order creating a new five-man commission as a branch of McNutt's agency has been drawn up and will be submitted at the conference for the approval of interested groups. Under this plan, all members of the board would be full-time officials and the board would adopt rules of procedure similar to those followed by the National Labor Relations Board.

FEB 4 - 1943

Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, now a member of the War Labor Board, has been suggested for chairmanship of the new commission. He is an outstanding progressive.

Daily Worker, N.Y., N.Y.

FEPC Victory

APPRECIATIVE applause greeted President Roosevelt's instructions to Manpower Commissioner McNutt to call a conference for revising and reinforcing the powers of the Fair Employment Practices Commission. It was well-deserved applause, in which both labor and Negro leaders joined.

FEB 6 - 1943

What the President has done is a logical development of the policy which Mr. Roosevelt has always followed. The capitulation of certain government agencies of late to the pressure of the poll-taxers and other backward-looking outfits has been definitely seen to be inimical to the vigorous conduct of the war. The insistence by the labor and progressive movements upon the full functioning of the FEPC has brought out the value which the government's stand against discrimination had already been to the nation's unity and hence to the gaining of victory.

The President's instructions can serve to steam up a renewed campaign against discrimination all along the line. The venom of Jim Crow, can be combatted with added vigor. The hearings in the railroad industry and in other vital sectors of the home front can be carried through, and the people will have to watch closely to see that such proves to be the case. In manpower mobilization also the reservoir of Negro labor can be drawn upon fully, to help the nation in its crisis and to right a shameful undemocratic wrong. Those conservative and ingrown AFL unions which have given the labor movement a black eye by their flagrant discrimination can be made to get into step with our democratic practices.

We look forward with hope to the quick and successful strengthening of the FEPC, for the good work it can do for America.

The Worker

New York, N. Y.

FDR Stand Assures Hearing on Railroad Job Discrimination

FEB 14 1943

ONE of the most important war acts of President Roosevelt last week was his statement pledging increased powers for the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC).

The President had gone to Casablanca to cement the United Nations for the final assault on Nazism. Returning to America, he found the sabotage of the Fair Employment Practice Committee—and the result had been a break-through on an important home front.

FEB 14 1943

The anti-discrimination front is a vital one in the war against Nazism. That is why it was selected for attack. Here are some of the goals the attackers undoubtedly had in mind to result from thir effort to break the FEPC: Collapse of the railroad hearings, and of the whole program against discrimination in industry. Stemming from that, manpower shortage due to the exclusion of our Negro citizens from the war effort. (We on the railroads know how acute the manpower situation is in our own shops and yards.) Embitterment of the Negro people toward the war and the war effort, confusion, disunity, playing into the hands of Negro "isolationists" who have attempted to separate Negroes from their natural and obvious alliance with the forces of human progress, Negro and white, plus a breaking down of U. S. prestige with colonial peoples in Africa and Asia.

PART OF DEFEATIST STRATEGY

The attack on the FEPC was not an accident. It was not even Jim Crow as usual. It was part of a plan to spread disunity within America and between America and her allies. It was part of a grand campaign which among other features included bigger and better Dies Committees, anti-labor bills, low wages, skyrocket prices and a negotiated peace with the Nazis.

RAILROAD HEARINGS WILL BE HELD

But when President Roosevelt returned to Washington, he found this tatack being met by a storm of protest from all over the country. Letters, petitions, telegrams came into the White House. "Indefinite postponement" of the railroad hearings have served to mobilize the progressive forces all over the country. The FEPC, backed up by popular support, stood together, told McNutt they opposed the postponement and appealed the case to the President. It was in answer to this popular protest that the White House statement declared, "When the machinery has been established to meet the problem, the hearings in the railroad case and in any other cases which may have been temporarily postponed will be continued."

FEB 14 1943

That represents a victory. It means a long step toward throwing back those who sought to spread disunity by breaking down the anti-discrimination front.

President Roosevelt called on McNutt and the Fair Employment Practice Committee to arrange a conference, inviting representatives from all groups and organizations interested, to discuss the reconstitution of the FEPC. This airing of the situation suggested by the President is vitally necessary. What has been the matter with the FEPC up to date? How have its powers been inadequate? The conference must discuss these problems and work out a plan to solve them. On such a basis the FEPC can be given new life, with strengthened popular support behind it.

FEB 14 1943

These are the issues before it. But, above all, the issue is one of popular support. The FEPC failures in the past have ben due to lack of unified mobilization of wider progressive forces behind it.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN therefore urges all groups and organizations to concentrate on the coming conference. Send delegates. Insist that the necessary steps be taken to revive the FEPC: an independent committee, not under control of the War Manpower Commission; appropriation of adequate funds, full time, paid members; a larger and more aggressive investigating staff; establishment of permanent regional bureaus; increased powers to enforce its decisions. Pledge your support to the President on his statement.

All this goes not only for rail workers. It goes for all Americans. Unless the FEPC succeeds in holdng the railroad hearings, it will never have a chance to hold hearings in your industry.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

The FEPC Fiasco

Editor: The New York Age:

JAN 30 1943

It was with profound shock that I read about War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's action to suppress the hearings on anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry. Discrimination — the frank allegaton of superiority over one's fellowmen, and the denial of a man's right to work which is his birthright—is inseparable from the Fascist concept of of the "herrenvolk" and the Fascist policy of tyranny and human subjugation. By discouraging public action against those employers who violate the very things for which we are fighting, the War Manpower Commission undoes all that Americans have labored to achieve throughout their democratic history. It makes the war we are fighting a farce. It makes the lost lives of our young heroes a criminal waste.

JAN 30 1943

Simultaneous with the news of the postponement of the F.E.P.C. hearings comes the report, by the New York State War Council Committee on Discrimination in Employment, that "in New York City, where Negroes form approximately 6.1 per cent of the population, they comprise 26 per cent of all unemployed persons." What recourse have Negroes, and members of all minority groups, if they can no longer look for aid to a committee appointed by the President of the United States for the safeguarding of their right to work and to live?

Representatives of railroad labor organizations are endeavoring to force abandonment of the public inquiry because, as they put it, it would cause "friction" among railroad workers. But on what basis have these organizations concluded that the American working man is prejudiced and bigoted, when, as a matter of fact, we have figures to prove the contrary? According to a questionnaire circulated by the National Urban League among white workers in a typical American city, only 3.1 per cent preferred not to work with Negroes. If, on the other hand, the assumption of the railroad brotherhoods is correct, then we have not yet learned how to work and to live in harmony. If the assumption of the railroad brotherhoods is correct, then who are we to teach Fascists the American way of life? If the assumption of the railroad brotherhoods is correct, then what is the American way of life?

Perhaps the time has come for us to ask for an explanation, in concrete terms, of what we are fighting for. Until yesterday, we thought that we were fighting truly for the ethnic democracy of which Vice - President Wallace spoke in his memorable address of November 8th, 1942. If that is not so, if we are at war merely to win a military victory over a foreign power without regard to correcting racial and religous injustices then we are fighting an imperialistic war. Then let us all lay down our arms and join the ranks of Hitler and Hirohito since they are the acknowledged champions of hatred tyranny and oppression. Let us tell our friends and neighbors that we are fighting an imperalistic war. But let us not tell the soldiers on our battlefronts. For our Army and Navy, unlike our business firms, include all kinds of men—black, white and yellow, Christ an and Jew.

It seems to me that, under the terms of the President's regulation, Chairman McNutt can have no alternative other than to carry out the expressed will of the American people for equal opportunity for all men, regardless of race, color or creed.

BERNARD ROSENBERG,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

JAN 30 1943

—30—

If You Walk At Night

Citizens Protest Exclusion Policy To WMC FEPC

FEB 20

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 18—(ANP)—Negro citizens of Birmingham prepared for an all-out battle against discriminatory hiring practices in war industries as the Bechtel-McCone Parsons Airplane corporation announced extensive training plans for prospective workers in its $15,000,000 modification plant now under construction adjacent to the municipal airport.

A delegation representing the Negro Citizens Committee on Jobs and Training, reporting an interview with Kenneth Hawkins, manager of industrial training, and G. S. Hammill, personnel director of the corporation, stated that the results of their discussions were "unsatisfactory in the extreme."

Headed by Wilber H. Hollins, local president of the NAACP, the delegation includes James E. Jackson Jr., secretary of the committee, and Louis E. Burnham, organizational secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress. Hollins reported that the corporation gave no evidence of the intention of training and hiring Negroes and that the citizens committee has placed the matter before the regional office of the War Manpower commission in Atlanta and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

USING WHITE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FEB 20 1943

On the same day of the interview, Hawkins and Hammill issued an announcement to the press indicating that 2,500 Birmingham men and women will be trained by March 15. Approximately 1,500 workers have been inducted into the training courses already—but not one Negro. The corporation, which has its headquarters in California, will eventually hire 17,000 people in the Birmingham plant 60 per cent of them women who have had no previous industrial experience.

The corporation officials announced that the facilties of Paul Hayne, Phillips, Ensley, Woodlawn, Bessemer and Fairfield high schools—all white instutions—are to be used in the training program. Vernon Douglas, city director of the state vocational training system, is charged with the task of supplying the company with skilled personnel from these schools. They are expected to devote 48 hours a week for a period of four weeks to three months, depending on the skills in which they are being instructed. After training they are to be immediatley placed on production jobs as aircraft welders, assemblers, armament mechanics, sheet metal workers, and in many other capacities.

FEB 20

PLAN MASS MEETING

Hollins stated that in order to give the appearance of compliance with the provisions of Executive Order 8802 the corporation has been issuing applications to Negro jobseekers. "However," he declared, "these applications have been placed 'on ice' for to date not a single Negro has been assigned for training. The immediate job of our committee is to 'unfreeze' these applications of hundreds of Negro applicants so that this discriminatory trend may be nipped in the bud. We also feel that the time for War Manpower commission and the FEPC to act is now, rather than waiting until an all-white labor force has been recruited to bring charges of violation of federal policy."

The citizens Committee on Jobs and Training is preparing a mass meeting in order to bring the facts in the case before the attention of the entire Birmingham community.

Negroes 'Not Cultured' So They Can't Be Bus Drivers

"Pittsburgh Courier"
Pitts. Pa.

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON— Refusing to hire Negro bus drivers because "they do not have the years of cultural experience behind them" E. D. Merrill, president of the Capital Transit company, is continuing his "lily white" employment policy in defiance of an FEPC order.

While white women applying along with some 50 odd Negroes have already completed their training and gone to work, Merrill admitted to a delegation from the Committee on Jobs in Public Utilities that no colored men have been hired. His excuse was that applications had not been fully investigated as yet.

Merrill said, "White people have had generations and generations of experience in this sort of thing, especially the taking of fares from the public."

Mrs. Margaret Holmes, a member of the committee, pointed out that one of the colored applicants was a young man whose father owned a bus line and who had an unusually good record for careful driving. Merrill recalled his application and said that he was one of those who was still under investigation.

Merrill could not envisage any immediate large scale change in his employment policy, expressing the opinion that Negroes will have to be absorbed very gradually.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Charles H Houston Resigns As FEPC Special Counsel

JAN 29 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — In protest against the cancellation of the FEPC railroad hearings, Charles H. Houston has resigned his position as special counsel for the FEPC.

Houston was appointed by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to serve as one of the three attorneys for FEPC in the investigation of discrimination against Negro railway workers.

The hearings, scheduled to be in January 25, were cancelled by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission under which agency the former independent FEPC now operates.

In his letter of resignation written to Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, chairman of the FEPC, (who has since resigned) Houston said: McNutt's action followed the traditional pattern of sacrificing the Negro whenever an attempt to do im justice antagonizes powerful eactionary forces in industry and abor."

JAN 29

"The railroad industry, the railroad unions and the government tself are afraid to permit these public hearings to be held because they know the charges of discrimination are true."

In connection with his resignation and the cancellation of the railroad hearings, Houston issued the following public statement:

"It is important for Negroes to realize the full significance of Paul V. McNutt's action in calling off the public hearings scheduled this month by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice regarding discriminations against Negro railway workers.

"Mr. McNutt did not take snap judgment. He never consulted the Committee itself, nor asked the Committee what evidence it had. Nevertheless the question of calling off the hearings was thoroughly discussed elsewhere in government circles.

"Information available would eem to indicate that the order to all off the hearing came directly from the White House. No substitute plan in place of the hearings has been offered.

The Government

JAN 29 1943

"In Washington the government does not proceed on a course with even keel, but tacks to one side or the other according to the dominant pressure at any given time.

"In 1941 the dominant pressure was "The March on Washington" and Executive Order No. 8802 was the result.

"Today, with the war going better for the United Nations, the reactionaries are getting up off their knees and asserting their influences. Right now there is a definite swing to the right in government. Reactionary Southerners and conservative Republicans are major influences in determining policy. The result in part is the action of Mr. McNutt calling off the public hearings.

"The railroads and the railroad unions were not the only people worried at the prospect of these public hearings. The government itself was worried because certain actions of the National Mediation Board and the National Railroad Adjustment board would have been seriously questioned.

"The National Mediation Board has been a party toward negotiating some agreements seriously restricting Negro employment and destroying Negro seniority rights on the railroads. The National Railroad Adjustment Board has been almost consistently anti-Negro.

JAN 29 1943

"The railroads, the railroad unions, the National Mediation Board and the National Railroad Adjustment Board were afraid to have these discriminations given a public hearing.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

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Hollins stated that in order to give the appearance of compliance with the provisions of Executive Order 8802 the corporation has been issuing applications to Negro job-seekers. "However," he declared, "these applications have been placed 'on ice' for to date not a single Negro has been assigned for training. The immediate job of our committee is to 'unfreeze' these applications of hundreds of Negro applicants so that this discriminatory trend may be nipped in the bud. We also feel that the time for War Manpower commission and the FEPC to act is now, rather than waiting until an all-white labor force has been recruited to bring charges of violation of federal policy."

The citizens Committee on Jobs and Training is preparing a mass meeting in order to bring the facts in the case before the attention of the entire Birmingham community.

Negroes 'Not Cultured' So They Can't Be Bus Drivers

Pittsburgh Courier
Pitts. Pa.

WASHINGTON— Refusing to hire Negro bus drivers because "they do not have the years of cultural experience behind them" E. D. Merrill, president of the Capital Transit company, is continuing his "lily white" employment policy in defiance of an FEPC order.

While white women applying along with some 50 odd Negroes have already completed their training and gone to work, Merrill admitted to a delegation from the Committee on Jobs in Public Utilities that no colored men have been hired. His excuse was that applications had not been fully investigated as yet.

Merrill said, "White people have had generations and generations of experience in this sort of thing, especially the taking of fares from the public."

Mrs. Margaret Holmes, a member of the committee, pointed out that one of the colored applicants was a young man whose father owned a bus line and who had an unusually good record for careful driving. Merrill recalled his application and said that he was one of those who was still under investigation.

Merrill could not envisage any immediate large scale change in his employment policy, expressing the opinion that Negroes will have to be absorbed very gradually.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Charles H Houston Resigns As FEPC Special Counsel

JAN 29 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — In protest against the cancellation of the FEPC railroad hearings, Charles H. Houston has resigned his position as special counsel for the FEPC.

Houston was appointed by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to serve as one of the three attorneys for FEPC in the investigation of discrimination against Negro railway workers.

The hearings, scheduled to be in January 25, were cancelled by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission under which agency the former independent FEPC now operates.

In his letter of resignation written to Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, chairman of the FEPC, (who has since resigned) Houston said: McNutt's action followed the traditional pattern of sacrificing the Negro whenever an attempt to do him justice antagonizes powerful reactionary forces in industry and labor."

JAN 29

"The railroad industry, the railroad unions and the government itself are afraid to permit these public hearings to be held because they know the charges of discrimination are true."

In connection with his resignation and the cancellation of the railroad hearings, Houston issued the following public statement:

"It is important for Negroes to realize the full significance of Paul V. McNutt's action in calling off the public hearings scheduled this month by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice regarding discriminations against Negro railway workers.

"Mr. McNutt did not take snap judgment. He never consulted the Committee itself, nor asked the Committee what evidence it had. Nevertheless the question of calling off the hearings was thoroughly discussed elsewhere in government circles.

"Information available would seem to indicate that the order to call off the hearing came directly from the White House. No substitute plan in place of the hearings has been offered.

The Government

JAN 29 1943

"In Washington the government does not proceed on a course with even keel, but tacks to one side or the other according to the dominant pressure at any given time.

"In 1941 the dominant pressure was "The March on Washington" and Executive Order No. 8802 was the result.

"Today, with the war going better for the United Nations, the reactionaries are getting up off their knees and asserting their influences. Right now there is a definite swing to the right in government. Reactionary Southerners and conservative Republicans are major influences in determining policy. The result in part is the action of Mr. McNutt calling off the public hearings.

"The railroads and the railroad unions were not the only people worried at the prospect of these public hearings. The government itself was worried because certain actions of the National Mediation Board and the National Railroad Adjustment board would have been seriously questioned.

"The National Mediation Board has been a party toward negotiating some agreements seriously restricting Negro employment and destroying Negro seniority rights on the railroads. The National Railroad Adjustment Board has been almost consistently anti-Negro.

JAN 29 1943

"The railroads, the railroad unions, the National Mediation Board and the National Railroad Adjustment Board were afraid to have these discriminations given a public hearing.

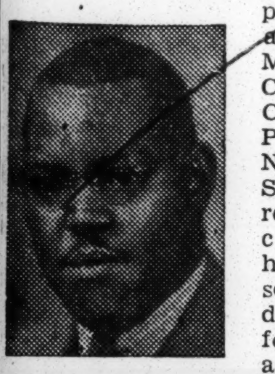
47d-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FEPC

The Globe Trotter

By Cliff Mackay

Born July, '41; Killed Jan., '43



THERE IS NO point in fooling ourselves. That "indefinite postponement" announced by Manpower Commission Chairman Paul V. McNutt in the Southern railroad job discrimination hearings sounded the death knell for the only agency in the whole federal government, whose activities were directed toward making real to millions in America some of the things promised in the almost forgotten Atlantic Charter.

Born under the most intense pressure ever exerted by Negroes on the federal government, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, came to being on July 18, 1941, suffered a staggering blow after the "mistake" of trying to make democracy work in the South at the Birmingham hearings last June, then signed its own death warrant by announcing that the vicious campaign against Negro workers on Southern railroads would be investigated.

The execution date was Friday, January 8, 1943, when Mr. McNutt, under whose protecting (?) wing the FEPC had been placed, over the protest of committee members announced that the railroad hearings would not be held January 25 as had been scheduled.

JAN 24 1943

EIGHTEEN MONTHS' STRUGGLE

Eighteen turbulent months have come and gone since the FEPC came into existence. They were months marked by constant changes of personnel, persistent attacks on its work by those more interested in keeping Negroes "in their place" than winning the war, limited powers and still more limited budgets, and finally the complete destruction of what little potency the committee had boasted.

Behind the emasculation of the committee is a strong coalition of reactionary forces, aided and abetted by frightened administration stalwarts anxious to appease a hostile congress. The actions of both were based on faulty premises.

The reactionaries, whose growing power in Congress the administration fears, have the mistaken idea that the war can now be won without breaking a single link in the economic chain they have forged, not only around Negro and poor white workers in America, but with which they have exploited native workers in Africa, China, Burma, India and all the other world outposts where their industrial tentacles have extended.

FAILED TO LEARN

The New Dealers, apparently, did not observe well the fate that inevitably meets all attempts at appeasement. Certainly ample opportunity has been given them to do so, what with the records of Lord Chamberlain, the Cliveden Set, the Munich Pact and other prime examples of such recent date before them.

The very fact that both of these politically opposite groups can find common ground for unity when it comes to the question of justice for the Negro certainly bodes evil for the kind of world they would fashion and the unstable peace they would design after this conflict is over.

For say what you will, the supreme test of the sincerity of America's professed adherence to the doctrine of freedom for all peoples, lies in whether or not this freedom is willingly extended to the thirteen millions of color within her borders.

BLOW TO DEMOCRACY

No greater blow to the faith held by millions of oppressed peoples in America as world leader of universal liberty, could have been delivered than McNutt's postponement of the railroad hearings. For here was a case of economic injustice with roots extending all the way back to World War 1.

For the President's Committee to have stepped in and righted the great wrongs that are being perpetrated against a people solely on the grounds of color would have been a major victory against forces in America whose philosophy differs not one bit from those of this nation's enemies. It would have been a defeat for the Axis right here on the home front.

Both the Southern railroad operators and the big railroad brotherhoods knew that they could ill afford to have public light thrown onto the dirty, behind-the-scenes trickery and foul play they had resorted to in freezing Negro workers out of jobs they had traditionally held.

SEVENTEEN LOSE LIVES

They did not want the public to know that seventeen Negro train firemen have given their lives, not fighting the Axis, but in the bitter struggle with the unions which had conspired to seize these jobs for white members.

The eight railroad brotherhoods did not want to become a matter of public record the fact that they exclude Negroes from membership, both by constitutional clause and "white only" rituals. And the joker is that under the Railway Labor Act, amended in 1934 and 1936, these brotherhoods were empowered to act as sole bargaining agents for the very men, to whom they denied membership and for whose jobs they were plotting.

Neither the railroad operators nor the brotherhoods wanted made public the agreement signed on February 18, 1941, that signed the death knell to the future employment of Negro workers under the guise of a "non promotability" contract. The agreement is that the railroads will not hire any firemen who cannot be promoted to engineers, which simply adds up to the understanding that no more Negro firemen will be employed. A simple little Hitler-like trick, isn't it?

NONE HIRED SINCE 1929

The truth is not a single Negro fireman has been hired since 1929. Every time one quits or dies, his place is taken by a white man. Of course this wasn't true when the jobs were paying $60 a month. But the wages were put on par with other railroad workers during World War One and then the fight for these jobs began. During the quarter century interval it has been estimated that Negroes lost 100,000 jobs and approximately a billion dollars.

JAN 24 1943

This is the not so pretty kettle of fish based on fascist racial beliefs, which Mr. McNutt in knifing the FEPC sought to protect. It is the last-ditch effort of hostile forces to halt the onward march of democratic employment policies in American industry.

It is also the first indication of the fight we face to keep our hard-earned gains after the war. Its lesson is that we cannot depend upon whom we think are "good white folks," government or anybody else to keep the eternal vigilance in our behalf. That is our job; the determination to defeat those who would keep us chained must come from within ourselves.

The fight must be waged now with greater ferocity than ever before. Now is the time, not later, to remind and to keep constantly reminding an America, fighting to restore freedom to others, that we too, cherish liberty — and that we are determined to share in the peace, just as we are sharing without complaint in the terrific price of blood, sweat and tears that must be paid to achieve that peace.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Paul McNutt Is Disturbed Over Turn Of Events

Reorganization Of Entire Committee Now Necessary

JAN 24 1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, who recently inherited the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, appeared disturbed Saturday, because:

1. Three officials of the FEPC have resigned, making a reorganization necessary.

2. A protest was lodged by members of the FEPC against his "indefinite postponement" of hearings scheduled for next week to inquire into charges of discrimination against colored persons in the railroad industry.

3. A public complaint from Secretary Ickes' solid fuel office charges that a manpower shortage is hampering the war effort.

FEPC officials disclosed Saturday that three members of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee — Chairman Malcolm MacLean, Hampton, Va., Mark Ethridge, Louisville, Ky., newspaper executive, and Colonel David Saranoff, New York, resigned making it necessary for McNutt to reorganize the committee. Maclean, president of Hampton Institute, has accepted a commission in the United States Navy.

JAN 24 1943

The FEPC originally set up by President Roosevelt as an independent, seven-man group to combat racial and religious discrimination, expressed "very strong feeling" that its hearings should be "rescheduled and held as soon as possible."

McNutt, who has said the postponement was ordered so the War Manpower Commission could take "full action" of an unspecified nature to end any discrimination found in the railroad industry, promised to give the recommendation "every consideration."

Failure to hold the hearings as scheduled has caused much concern among colored and white leaders. A mass meeting is scheduled to be held here today at Vermant Avenue Baptist church in direct protest to the recent ruling of McNutt in connection with the railroad hearings.

Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, had this to say:

"Because the decision which is now made will profoundly affect the course of things to come, we renew our request that the FEPC be restored to its completely independent status."

The Ickes' complaint was that, despite appeals to the W. M. C. since last summer, it has provided "little or no" help to five far Western states in getting at least 2,000 experienced miners to dig coal needed in the Northwest because of a fuel shortage. The complaint openly called upon McNutt for action.

JAN 24 1943

In regard to the railroad matter which involves hundreds of Negroes, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, declared:

"In view of the fact, Negro workers whose toil, sweat, tears and blood have laid the rails and crossties, shoveled tons of coal, fired the coal-burner engines and worked like slaves to build and maintain the railroads of the South, are now being kicked off their jobs and their seniority rights disregarded, the calling off of these FEPC hearings that were intended to investigate and put a stop to this racial discrimination, is shocking, amazing and disturbing to the Negro people of the country."

Since the issuance on June 25, 1941 of Executive Order No. 8802, forbidding discrimination in the employment of workers or in government because of race, creed, color or national origin, the FEPC has brought about the employment of thousands of Negroes in many industries hitherto closed to them.

Yet during this same hopeful period, competent and experienced Negro firemen have been steadily eased out of their jobs in open defiance of the President's order, and without regard to the consequent impairment of both war-essential rail service and interracial relations.

JAN 24 1943

This ruthless dispossession of Negro workers from some of the best jobs they have ever had is being accomplished under the terms of an agreement entered into February 28, 1941 between the Southeastern Carriers Conference Committee and the all-white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. The latter is permitted to "represent" the Negro Firemen even though it does not admit Negroes to membership in the union.

This was a test case of far-reaching significance. Not only was it to be a show-down in the fight of over 2,000 Negro firemen to keep their jobs. It was to be a show-down for Executive Order No. 8802 and for the Committee itself which will have to fight for its life when the budget of the War Manpower Commission comes up for Congressional approval next March.

Many informed observers believe that a serious crisis in race relations impends if the present progressive trend in the unions, in industrial management and in the field of public opinion, is checked or reversed.

McNutt Hears FEPC Appeals; President Is Asked to Step In

"P. M. Daily"

Lawyers' Guild Charges Another Inquiry Was Squelched By State Dept.

JAN 15 1943

New York, N.Y.

The National Lawyers' Guild has called on President Roosevelt to re-create the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) as an independent agency with complete autonomy to investigate discrimination as its members see fit.

In a letter signed by Martin Popper, national executive secretary, the Guild submitted a double-barreled complaint to the White House to back up its plea for executive action.

¶ It protested against Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's action suppressing the FEPC's probe of anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry, and asked FDR to countermand McNutt's order.

¶ It charged that on a previous occasion, when the FEPC was eager to investigate segregation and mistreatment of Mexican workers in the Southwest, "certain persons" in the State Dept. intervened and got the probe suppressed.

Guild Proposed Inquiry

The letter disclosed that the Guild proposed the Mexican inquiry "to combat Fascist propaganda in the Southwest" and that the FEPC was ready to go ahead, when word came from the State Dept. that the Mexican government was opposed to the investigation.

To refute this, the Guild sent FDR a copy of a letter from Ignacio Garcia Telles, Mexico's Secretary of Labor, expressing pleasure that the hearing was contemplated and pledging full co-operation.

"We immediately forwarded a copy of this communication to the State Dept., the FEPC, and the Co-Ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, believing this would dissipate any misunderstanding as to the position of the Mexican government," said the Guild.

Bad Situation Unchanged

"Nevertheless, these hearings never have been held and the situation in the Southwest remains as serious as it ever was.

JAN 15 1943

"We believe the pressures which were responsible for cancelling these hearings came from the same basic sources as those responsible for the present ruling to cancel the hearings in the railroad industry."

Attempting to identify "the basic sources of pressure," the Guild asserted:

"They are the advocates of the American version of Hitler's Aryan philosophy—the doctrine of 'white supremacy.' They are a few industrialists who care more about maintaining their profits under the system of discrimination than they do about a people's victory.

JAN 15 1943

"They are the political representatives whose powers are based upon the continuation of poll taxes, white primaries, lynch terror, and discrimination. They are the Dixons (Governor Dixon of Alabama) who refuse to produce for war rather than permit Negro citizens to participate in our war effort.

"They are the Martin Dies, the Eugene Coxes, and the filibustering Sen. Connallys who sabotage the will of the people. They are the representatives of these forces in the executive agencies of government who are stymying our production program and encouraging discrimination in the armed forces."

P. M. Daily

Groups Opposing WMC Ban on Railroad Probe Descend on Washington

PM's Bureau

JAN 15 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt has agreed to meet today with representatives of groups opposing his ban on the Fair Employment Practices Committee's (FEPC) exposure of anti-Negro discrimination on the railroads.

Delegations were en route to this city from Detroit and New York to participate in the session with McNutt and to appeal for reconsideration of his action. The Manpower Commissioner's willingness to confer with these spokesmen stirred hopes in some quarters that he might be persuaded to reverse his decision.

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McNutt has been under sharp fire from Negro, labor, and liberal groups throughout the week for ordering the FEPC to "postpone indefinitely" its hearings on Jim Crow in the railroad industry, as practiced by both railroad management and rail labor unions.

A new attack on McNutt's stand was issued last night by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and nationally known Negro leader.

JAN 15 1943

In his first public declaration since the hearings suddenly were "postponed," Randolph called McNutt's move "the greatest blow to Negro morale that could be deliveral at this time."

Randolph declared:

"It is a threat to democracy and plays directly into the hands of the Axis powers. The Negro people will insist that there is no substitute that the White House or McNutt can think of that will take the place of these public hearings and the continued existence of the FEPC."

Randolph is the head of the March on Washington movement, an organization set up by anti-discrimination groups which intermittently have threatened to stage a protest procession to the Capitol. However, his statement made no reference to such pilgrimage.

JAN 15 1943

Labor resentment over scuttling of the railroad probe was reiterated yesterday by Walter P. Reuther, vice president of the United Auto Workers, CIO, in a sharply worded telegram to McNutt, demanding that the hearings be allowed to take place.

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who launched a new attack on Paul V. McNutt.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Sustained Protests Urged By League In FEPC Throttling

Officials Call For McNutt To Reconsider His Drastic Action

47

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(SNS)—The National Urban League this week urged its local branches and and Negro and white leaders throughout the country to continue "for many weeks" their protests against cancellation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee's hearings on racial discrimination in the railway industry. The League pointed out that Washington officials are more impressed by a steady stream of mail and telegrams written by protesting citizens than they are by a flood of correspondence that rises up at a given moment and then subsides.

The Leagues' advice followed action by its own Executive Board that was reported to President Roosevelt and the War Manpower Commissioner McNutt in letters signed by William H. Baldwin, President of the National Urban League. The letters protested postponement of the hearings and asked for immediate reconsideration.

JAN 24 1943

To President Roosevelt Mr. Baldwin wrote:

"Our Board has been increasingly disturbed over apparent trends toward immobilization of the Committee's authority. The decision to postpone the Washington hearings has shocked millions of Americans, and the disillusionment which they feel has, no doubt, been communicated to you by numbers of other groups.... The full participation of Negro manpower in an all-out war effort is so paramount an issue that it must retain a major claim on the attention of our national leaders."

To Mr. McNutt Baldwin declared:

JAN 24 1943

"The policies of railway managements and the railway brotherhoods which bar Negro workers from employment in an important transportation industry have long been a disgraceful blot on the nation's employment record. During this war crisis moreover, these policies have become a deterrent to effective prosecution of the war—not only in aggravating labor shortages, but also in impairing the morale and unity of our citizens. Members of our Executive Board have had a chance to observe the bitter disillusionment and cynicism which the War Manpower Commission's action has occasioned among our Negro citizens.

JAN 24 1943

The National Urban League's Executive Board is composed of outstanding white and colored citizens. The officers are William H. Baldwin, President; Hubert T. Delaney, Vice-President; Sadie T. M. Alexander, Secretary; Mrs. Alfred H. Schoekopf, Treasurer; and L. Hollingworth Wood, Chairman of the National Committee.

New York Times
New York N.Y.

MAY 26 1943

WAR PLANT PRACTICE ENDS

Inquiries into or Reports on Race, Creed or Color Are Barred

MAY 26 1943

Elimination of a private investigation" system through which war plants ascertained the race, creed or color of applicants for employment, despite the government's ban on such questions, was disclosed yesterday when Edward Lawson, acting examiner-in-charge of the New York regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, announced results of an investigation concerning a number of agencies retained by some of the biggest war plants in this area.

At the request of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the Office of the Provost Marshal General has inserted in all war contracts held by the private investigation agencies in question a clause forbidding any inquiries into or report of the race, creed or color of any investigated person, except with the permission of the committee.

47d-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FEPC

FDR Fear Of Dixie Bloc In Congress Stymied FEP

JAN 23 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Fear of "big business" railroads and the Southern bloc in Congress were admitted as reasons for cancellation of FEPC hearings on railroad discrimination by a spokesman for Paul V. McNutt to a protest delegation of Negroes and whites last week.

The delegation, made up largely of Detroiters, met with McNutt and Fowler Harper, deputy director of the War Manpower Commission. Harper met the delegation first, and while subjected to a barrage of questions, sometimes heatedly, he "got along" with the group.

The tenor of the meeting changed, however, upon McNutt's entrance. Some of the members of the delegation accused McNutt of being "paternalistic and insulting" in his attitude. After a general statement, McNutt refused to discuss or divulge any reason behind his decision. Some members referred to the WMC head as "Adolph" McNutt.

The railroad hearings, which were to start next Monday, were called off by McNutt two weeks ago despite oppostion of committee members.

JAN 23 1943

"McNutt in Middle"

Harper, speaking for McNutt, declared: "He has felt that in the other cases you could get by with the FEPC method. In the Capital Transit case, you could get by with it. The balance which tried his judgment was a question in which the stakes were terrific—whether the program could go on or not.

"I need not remind you that the work and activity of the committee is under fire. McNutt is in the unenviable position of being in the middle. He is under fire by the groups he is trying to help and those who are not in sympathy with those efforts."

JAN 23 1943

Sheldon Tappes, representing the ..d Local 600 of U.A.W. in Detroit, ..id Harper: "You have the nerve to tell this body that the southern railroads are so powerful they can defy the government. I don't believe that. I have been informed that the chief of the nation in times of war has certain executive powers and authority. And I know this President's committee's directives can be carried to the White House and the President can see that they are carried out. He has the army and navy to see to it. I can't conceive of a union defying the government, nor a corporation doing it. I know the government has the right to take them over."

JAN 23 1943

McNutt Explains

McNutt, when he finally arrived to see the group, told them he was interested in results. That this problem had taken a great deal of his time, probably more than any other. He said he felt his method was best and that "you are going to have to trust my judgment on that." He expressed his interest in minority groups and his desire that they have their place in the sun. "For that I will fight as long as I live—and I am fighting," he declared.

He urged the group not to tie his hands, or to make it impossible for him to do what he wants to do for them.

Referring to charges that he had political ambitions, he declared that he had had a good many things in his life. What happens to him, he said, is not important, but what happens to all of us is vitally important.

"I have undertaken a job which I know is political suicide. I know I cannot please all the people. My job is to help win the war," he declared.

"Not Passing Buck"

McNutt expressed the opinion that the committee would not be destroyed by this action. He stated further, however, that out of present discussions "will come something that will be completely satisfactory to all concerned."

He refused, however, to discuss any of the background of his decision to postpone the hearings. He told the group: "I felt it unwise, and therefore decided they should not be held at this time. I do not care to go further." He did add, however, "I have never passed the buck at any time in my life, and I am not now."

James Carey, secretary of the C.I.O., and Hoyt Haddock of the C.I.O. Maritime committee and a member of the C.I.O. legislative body, both voiced a warning that the C.I.O. may withdraw from the FEPC as a result of McNutt's decision to cancel the hearings. Carey told Harper: "The question that strikes us as of prime importance is: Does the head of the commission act without the consultation and approval of the representatives of the Fair Employment Practice committee?"

JAN 23 1943

Can't Sit By

"We can't sit by and let such action pass," he declared. "Phillip Murray, president of the CIO, is a member of that committee, represented by John Brophy. We cannot permit his name to be connected with it if that is the way the committee is to act. Governor McNutt should provide us with the answer."

Haddock told McNutt: "They (the CIO officials) have said that unless the FEPC is permitted to proceed with these hearings that they will seek to disband the FEPC. They will tell you that later."

Most of the speakers for the delegation urged McNutt to take them into his confidence. Rev. Horace White, pastor of the Plymouth Congregational church in Detroit, a former state legislator, and leader of the delegations which came to Washington during the Sojourner Truth housing debacle, told McNutt he felt the group had been treated "a little like children."

He added: "At a time when we need confidence, you refuse it to us. Democracy is built up on confidence — the policy of letting the people know what is happening. We need confidence, and you are denying it to us."

JAN 23 1943

Challenged

McNutt's attitude was most effectively challenged by Natalie Moorman of Washington, representing the minorities workship. She told McNutt that she questioned his sincerity, that she resented his paternalistic attitude, and questioned his wisdom. She declared that she insisted that McNutt and Congress and all the rest remember "that my brother is in camp today, getting ready to give his life because we believe there is a government for the people and by the people. And if we are going to work on Hitler plans, it ought to be made clear."

McNutt made no response. One could have heard a pin drop while Miss Moorman was speaking.

Later, McNutt threatened the group by stating: "You can throw a friend out of your ranks if you want to."

JAN 23 1943

McNutt refused to commit himself on whether the Detroit hearings would be held or whether they, too, would be cancelled at the last minute. He stated that the hearings in Detroit have never been officially scheduled, although there was an announcement that hearings would be held. The question has not come up, he said.

Bard Stand

Horace Sheffield, international representative of the UAW-CIO, who earlier in the day had attended a conference with Assistant Secretary of Navy Ralph Bard, advised McNutt that Bard had stated his letter sent to the WMC requesting cancellation of the Detroit hearings was but a memorandum, and he thought possibly someone was looking for an out.

The delegation's conference with McNutt adjourned when Rev. Charles Hill, chairman of the Citizens Committee of Detroit, who was spokesman for the group, began to express gratefulness to McNutt for the conference. Several of the group, particularly Miss Moorman, openly announced that they would not be parties to expressing thanks after his "paternalistic and insulting" reception.

JAN 23 1943

Among the organizations represented in the delegation were the Citizens Committee of Detroit; the United Auto Workers, CIO; United Transport Service Employes Association; Detroit Council of Churches, Willow Run local of UAW, Ford local of UAW, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Federation of Churches, NAACP of Detroit, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Washington; The Michigan Chronicle newspaper; the Socialist Party of Michigan, Jewish Community Council, East Side Merchants Association, Lewis Business college, all of Detroit; Minorities Work Shop of D. C.; Conant Gardens Political Association; United Office and Professional Workers; Detroit Urban League; National Maritime Union of New York; Negro Labor Victory Committee of New York; CIO Maritime Committee; and the CIO itself.

Forty-one persons were in the delegation. Twenty-eight of them were from Detroit, where the next hearings of the FEPC are supposed to be held, but probably won't.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

OHIO PLANT REMOVES BAN ON NEGROES

Stacey Corp. To Employ Workers Regardless Of Race Or Color

JAN 23 1943

By FLOYD G. SNELSON

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Negro workers throughout the Columbus area hailed with joy the announcement this week by the International Stacy Corp., manufacturers of war materials hiring 10,000 employees, that the firm in future, will employ skilled workers, regardless of race or color.

The corporation's training school has been opened to all who show aptitude and a great number of colored workers have already enrolled. Also, negotiations are reported under way to set up a local chapter of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Local labor leaders have made several attempts to have Negro workers hired by the scores of defense plants of the Columbus area, and a recent survey shows that in many firms, Negroes have been limited to the usual "run-of-the-mill" jobs.

JAN 23 1943

Informed sources also state that colored women are being discriminated against in the program to enlist woman-power in the various war industries and in public utilities. These sources report that the Curtis-Wright Aeronautical Plant, with more than 20,0000 employees, has less than three per cent Negro workers, although their trainee department is said to have enrolled nine per cent colored student-workers, and this number may soon show a sharp increase.

JAN 23 1943

An exceptional case cited is that of the Jeffery Manufacturing company producers of mining machinery, and now engaged making naval ordnance, where 90 per cent of the foundry laborers are Negroes. R. K. Jeffery, president of the firm, and a man who believes in rewarding merit wherever found, has a capable Negro secretary, Harry Alexander, who has worked for Mr. Jeffery for more than 30 years. The company also employs many other Negroes in responsible positions.

It is also reported that here, as in many other sections of the country, labor unions are stopping their discriminatory practices and admitting Negroes to membership.

Still another outstanding Columbus company whose officials are proud of the work being done by the colored workers, both skilled and unskilled, is the Buckeye Steel Castings company. At this plant more than 60 per cent of the total number of employees are Negroes.

Capital Transit Case Postponed

JUN 12 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Hearing of the Capital Transit Co., labor dispute, several times delayed in the past, was this week again postponed by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, newly appointed chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Msgr. Haas made the announcement the day previous to the time set for hearing of the case, and explained that his action was prompted by advice he had received from certain members of the old committee. He announced further, however, that FEPC would retain jurisdiction over the case and would "use all the powers conferred upon it to effectuate the provisions of Executive Order 8802, as amended."

Members Seen Quitting Because He Balked Jim Crow Expose

"PM" 1/12/43

By JAMES A. WECHSLER

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—A showdown over the future of the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) appeared imminent today as Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt officially announced that the Committee's hearings on anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry had been "indefinitely postponed." (*See Page 22 for editorial.*)

With its most important exposure sidetracked by McNutt's last-minute intervention, the FEPC was reported headed for oblivion and the whole drive against Jim Crow in war industry reached a sudden crisis.

While members of the FEPC refused to discuss the issue publicly, pending a formal meeting, they were understood to be virtually unanimous in regarding McNutt's move as a challenge to the Committee's existence. Efforts to arrange a session of the FEPC to weigh joint steps were being made. At least one member said privately that he favored a direct appeal to President Roosevelt, while others talked of prompt resignations unless the order was rescinded.

"PM" 1/12/43

Vague on Reasons

McNutt confirmed PM's disclosure, that the hearings had been called off, at his press conference yesterday. Asked whether it was true that the projected attack on the "lily white" union-management coalition on the railroads had been called off, he picked up a prepared statement and read it off. The statement said:

"The Manpower Commission felt that postponement of these hearings would permit more intensive activity by the Commission to insure full utilization of manpower on the railroads."

A reporter asked whether McNutt could explain the reasons for the sudden pigeonholing of the Committee's findings. He replied:

New York, N. Y.

"We felt that if we could take care of the situation this way it would be better. If we can accomplish our purpose in other ways, that's better than by force."

Pressed to explain what "other ways" were being contemplated, the Manpower Chief declined to elaborate. He conceded that the FEPC had not "recommended" abandonment of the hearings, but denied that members of the Committee had opposed the move. A Committee member said later this was technically accurate, because the FEPC had not been given a formal chance to vote on the "postponement."

Action Ends Case

"PM" 1/12/43

Reached by telephone in Chicago, Milton P. Webster, Negro member of the FEPC and official of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, declared:

"Mr. McNutt's statement that no members of the Committee protested his decision is true—because we never were informed that the action was being taken.

"At the last meeting of the FEPC, final plans for conducting the hearings were made and there was no indication of any opposition."

After McNutt had emphasized the Manpower Commission's belief that railroad discrimination could be dealt with through other methods, a reporter suggested that the same argument could be used to cancel all FEPC investigations. McNutt said:

"Not necessarily."

When another correspondent pointed out that the Commission's action was "belated" in view of the fact that the railroad case had been fully documented and witnesses prepared, McNutt said he didn't think so.

McNutt's comments shattered any doubt that the "postponement" was—in effect—the end of the case which Negro groups and other anti-discrimination organizations had hailed as the "key test" of the FEPC's power. The FEPC is a unit of the War Manpower Commission.

The hearings were slated to get under way on Jan. 26, with Henry Epstein, former Solicitor General of New York State, presiding. Jubilant over the impending drive against one of the major citadels of Jim Crow in American industry, liberal and Negro groups had arranged a mass meeting here for Jan. 24 to mark the event.

Elections Responsible

With the railroad exposure—which would have hit both management and unions in the industry—out of the way, there were other indications that the Administration was reconciled to the collapse of the FEPC and was studying different methods for combating racial discrimination.

It was learned that FEPC also had been "asked" to abandon hearings on discrimination in Detroit, advertised to begin early next month.

Some observers suggested that the outcome of the recent Congressional elections had paved the way for the FEPC's decline. What men or measures could take its place is not immediately apparent. In his budget message yesterday, President Roosevelt reiterated his demand for "elimination of restrictions based on sex, creed, or race." The FEPC has carried almost the whole load of the anti-discrimination fight since Pearl Harbor, with limited authority and less money.

Strong protests from organizations committed to the battle for equal rights in war work are anticipated here. Fear is being widely expressed that the scuttling of the railroad hearings will create a wave of resentment among Negroes. If any steps are contemplated to ease this unrest, they are not evident so far.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

FEPC to McNutt: 'Reopen Hearings'

JAN 23 1943

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee today put before War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt its protest against his action in calling off hearings on anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry.

By unanimous vote the FEPC decided to inform McNutt of "its very strong feeling that the railroad hearings which were postponed last week should be rescheduled and held as soon as possible."

After taking this vote, the FEPC met with McNutt who had gone over the head of the anti-discrimination agency to call off the hearings.

JAN 23 1943

RECEIVE ASSURANCE

According to an official announcement of the War Manpower Commission, FEPC "had a satisfactory conference with Chairman McNutt and received assurance that every consideration would be given to its recommendations."

It is understood that McNutt has been strongly affected by the tremendous popular pressure from labor and Negro organizations against his action in calling off the hearings, and may now be induced to reconsider his decision.

Observers here believed that the final decision on the railroad hearings as well as on the whole future status of FEPC may now be up to the President.

The FEPC is thinking of asking for a meeting with the President and it is hoped that labor and Negro organizations will ask the President to strengthen the hand of FEPC and make it possible for the railroad hearings to be rescheduled.

MORE PRESSURE NEEDED

The impression in informed circles here is that some headway has been made as a result of the campaign to save FEPC—but that the crisis in the agency caused by the calling off of the railroad hearings is by no means over.

Continued support for the FEPC will be needed if it is to have maximum effectiveness in combatting discrimination against Negroes and other minorities in war industry.

A relatively optimistic note was struck by the FEPC in the official announcement put out by the War Manpower Commission. It expressed the opinion "that the policy set forth in Executive Order 8802 continues to be the policy of the administration and will be vigorously enforced.

Daily Worker

"Mr. McNutt assured the committee that the postponement of the railroad hearings did not imply that other hearings would be postponed," the announcement said. "He emphasized that the War Manpower Commission through hearings, negotiations and all other appropriate means, would work toward bringing discriminations to a permanent end."

JAN 23 1943

McNUTT STATEMENT

McNutt himself issued this rather vague formal statement:

"Discrimination constitutes a waste of manpower. It is, therefore, important to the war effort that it be ended."

Re-scheduling of the railroad hearings is considered the first and decisive steps in putting FEPC back on its feet as an effective instrument in the fight against discrimination.

Daily Worker, N. Y.

FEPC, however, faces a number of other important problems. Among them are several resignations including Chairman Malcolm McLean and of David Sarnoff, one of its members. Acting chairman Mark Etheridge is also expected to resign.

Dr. Frank Graham, President of the University of North Carolina and a member of the War Labor Board is being considered as the new chairman of FEPC.

Another problem is a plan for reorganizing FEPC which is under consideration by McNutt and other Administration officials.

According to this plan, FEPC would become a formal board consisting of full-time Government employees instead of as at present a committee which includes leaders of the CIO, AFL and other groups.

The danger in this plan is that it might further destroy the independence of FEPC which is already in jeopardy as the result of its transfer to the War Manpower Commission.

JAN 23 1943

Earlier today, a delegation of Labor and Negro leaders sponsored by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties appeared before the FEPC.

JAN 23 1943

Members of the delegation included W. Finley Wilson, head of the Negro Elks, Rep. Vito Marcantonio and A. J. Isserman, noted Negro attorney.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

FEPC Resumes Investigations

Washington—The president's Fair Employment Practice Committee decided Monday to "resume vigorous action" in investigating complaints that war industries have discriminated against Negroes in hiring workers, acting chairman Earl B. Dickerson reported.

The committee scheduled a hearing for Detroit on May 24 and 25.

APR 22 1943

The FEPC action was seen significant of the comeback of the committee which was considered virtually doomed by Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's cancellation of the railroad hearings some weeks ago.

47d-①1943

FEPC PROBES KAISER'S FIRING OF 150 NEGROES

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29—Moved to swift and possibly decisive action by the firing of more than 150 Negro workers at the Kaiser shipyards in Vancouver—on orders of the Boilermakers' union—the Fair Employment Practices Committee, following receipt of a flood of protests, has rushed two representatives to the scene to ascertain the facts and submit recommendations.

Taking advantage of the amended executive order, permitting outside aid, the FEPC has drafted the services of Judge James H. Wolfe, chief justice of the Utah Supreme Court, who has been advised to team up with Daniel Donovan, an FEPC field examiner in Los Angeles.

REFUSED TO JOIN JIM CROW LOCAL

The mass layoffs took place after the Negroes had reportedly repeated their determination never to pay dues or initiation fees to the jim crow auxiliary union created by Boilermakers' Local 72, of Portland, Ore.

At an emergency meeting July 14, the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory voted to send its president, Julius Rodriquez, and the Rev. J. J. Clow, president of the Portland Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to New York and here, Washington, D. C., to place the case before the FEPC and the National NAACP.

Basis of the current dispute goes back to 1942 when Henry J. Kaiser, ship-a-week builder in Oregon, went to New Yorkand asked for 20,000 men for his yards, after which he received a heavy response from Negroes, [illegible] eventually, were victimized [illegible] the closed shop contract Kaiser holds with the Boilermakers' union. Stormy petrel in the dispute has been Tom Ray, avowed Negro hater, who has been an outspoken objector to Negroes in the union and in the yard. He is president of Boilermakers' Local Union 72.

JUL 31 1943

Upgrading, Use Of Women--Not Exclusion--Problem In Detroit

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, April 8 (ANP)—The employment problem in the Detroit area is primarily one of discrimination against Negroes in upgrading and in the inclusion of Negro women rather than an outright policy of exclusion. Broadly speaking, this is the substance of the report which G. James Fleming, examiner in charge of investigations in that area for FEPC, made last week to Lawrence W. Cramer, executive director, while on a short visit here.

For three months Fleming has headed a mixed staff of five investigators in that area pouring over complaints of individuals and organizations claiming assorted discriminations against various firms holding large war contracts. In their attempts to adjust and settle these complaints they have been aided by representatives of the War Manpower Commission War and Navy departments.

DISTURBING FACTS

Perhaps one of the most disturbing things to develop in this three month period, according to Fleming, was the six "work stoppages" which occurred because of the introduction or upgrading of Negro workers into certain plants. In one instance the stoppages were initiated and participated in by 100 Negroes at the Chrysler Corporation plant who objected to putting all Negro women in as janitresses, and showing a reluctance to upgrade.

At U. S. Rubber 2,300 white women walked out because Negro women were brought in. Fleming felt that the presence of employee counselors [illegible] would have avoided this situation. The air is still tense, however, although work has been resumed.

At Packard Motor Car company there was suspicion of a sebversive movement inspired by an element similar to the Ku Klux Klan.

SIMILAR HAPPENINGS

Other plants which had stoppages were Duplex Printing Company at Battle Creek, Vickers, Inc., and the Detroit Aluminum and Brass company. All were satisfactorily adjusted, according to Fleming, without retreating. It is his opinion that while the top men of the United Auto Workers of America, a CIO organization, have consistently branded these stoppages as "wildcat" strikes, and have been insisting that non-discrimination is the thing, this thinking has not yet altered to any real degree the attitudes of the individuals who make up the rank and file.

"Detroit is faced with the problem of finding sufficient men to do laboring work," stated Fleming. "Wherever it has been possible, Negroes have been taken in at this level and 'frozen.'

FORD INDUSTRY LIBERAL

There was no doubt that the Ford Motor Company is "screening" the Negro women applicants for work out at the Willow Run bomber plant, or that upgrading is slow. Ford does, however, employ approximately 14,000 Negroes. At Willow Run, of the 36,000 now working, 70 per cent are women of which from 150 to 200 are Negroes.

There is practically no unemployment in Detroit and environs, Fleming pointed out. With the drain on white women having grown rapidly, the reservoir of 32,000 Negro housewives will have to be tapped soon if production is to be stepped up appreciably, unless more workers from the south and west are to be imported.

REVEALING FIGURES

These statistics were made available with regard to complaints handled: 256 persons had complaints against 196 war industries and agencies. There were 158 individual complaints by Negroes; 61 by aliens, and 5 by Jews.

Detroit now employs about 1,100 Negroes in the operating division of the transportation system, Fleming commented. There are about 250 women collecting fares.

APR 10 1943

Father Haas Asks Labor Leaders To Stop Passing 'The Racial Buck'

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—As a number of cases in which Negroes complain of being barred from American Federation of Labor unions were scheduled for hearing before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, the committee's chairman, appealed to the AFL to end racial discrimination. Writing for a forthcoming issue of the American Federationist, official organ of the AFL, Father Haas, prominent Roman Catholic prelate and veteran labor conciliator, accused labor leaders of "endless explanations, excuses and justification of discrimination because of race."

UNION LEADERS PASS THE BUCK

In a forthright article, which apparently has editorial approval, Msgr. Haas declared:

"In most cases union leaders 'pass the racial buck' to their membership which, they insist, 'will not stand for Negroes.'

"However this may be, the clear duty of leaders is to lead," he insists, "and in the present case their duty is crystal clear."

On the other hand, the FEPC chairman points to progress on the racial labor front.

"It should not be passed over that. during all the rioting in Detroit, black and white workers continued working in most of the plants without friction; in several instances white workers escorted Negro workers home and protected them from the mob."

AFL NOT ALONE

He also points out that not all unions which bar Negroes and other minority group workers are in the AFL by any means, and neither do all locals follow whatever may be the policies of their international bodies.

On the other hand, he warns that elemental self-interest points in but one direction.

"There are still several major international labor unions which close their doors to Negroes as members, by constitutional, ritual, or tradition and there are hundreds of locals which follow suit," he says.

Msgr. Haas praised both the AFL and the CIO for establishing interracial action committees to develop good will.

ST. LOUIS APPROVES PLAN

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5—Mayor William D. Becker indicated today that he approved a CIO industrial union plan to prevent race riots in this city.

The CIO proposes that a citizens' committee be organized to investigate employment, housing, transportation, health and recreation facilities.

AUG 7 1943

FEPC Denies Qualified Negroes Were Not Hired

Washington, D. C. Washington Tribune

The following announcement was made by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices Tuesday.

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice on July 13, received from its New York office a report that the United Fruit Company had failed to hire qualified Negro Maritime officers who had presented themselves for employment. These allegations have been investigated and have been dismissed for lack of merit.

"The report concerning the United Fruit Company as presented to the New York office, asserted that the company had requested a full crew and that, when qualified Negro officers applied the company had refused to accept them. This was found to be without any foundation in fact. No request for a crew was made by the company. Investigation revealed that a suggestion was made that Negro officers, not specified as to persons or qualifications, be hired by the United Fruit Company. Upon report of the full facts to responsible officers of the company, a readiness by the company to employ qualified Negro officers was expressed.

"In the course of its investigation of this case, the committee found that about 25 Negro officers are presently serving in the Merchant Marine and that the total number of qualified Negro officers, including the 25 afloat, is less than 50. Due to the shortening of training time for officers from 36 to 18 months, more qualifying Negro officers are becoming available. The committee found that the United Fruit Company has employed unlicensed personnel without regard to color. With respect to the licensed personnel, the committee has received assurances from the United Fruit Company that any qualified officer meeting the requirements of the War Shipping Administration will be employed without regard to race, color, creed or national origin."

SEP [illegible] 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

FEPC Completes Directives For 22 Railroads

Committee To Pass On Them Before Mailing

OCT 27 1943

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Summaries, findings and tentatives directives in the cases of 22 railway companies and brotherhoods were completed Saturday by the Fair Employment Practice Committee it is learned and the committee will be expected to pass upon them before the directives are sent out.

In another quarter it was learned that the committee will hold another meeting until it convenes in Portland, Oregon on November 15, where it will hold hearings into the complaints involving several shipyards and the boilmakers' union.

The text of the letter from President Roosevelt to Malcolm Ross new chairman of FEPC, informing the latter of his appointment, was released on Saturday. In it the President said that 'unde your prudent and able directic I am confident that the committ will continue its excellent work ar make further progress in the solution of the difficult problems of discrimination in industry."

Writer Lauds

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Biased Air Corps

ROWAYTON, Conn.—(S N S)—"I've just read Judge Hastie's booklet "On Clipped Wings" writes J. R. Tunis author of popular sports novels, for youth, "It makes me feel like resigning from the human race."

Tunis, whose book titles include "Champion's Choice," "Choosing a College," "Democracy and Sports" alluded to a pamphlet by William H. Hastie published recently by the NAACP.

Hastie, resigned early this year as Civilian Aide to Secretary of War, Stimson after serving for more than a year. In his pamphlet he brings into sharp focus, conditions as he found them in the War Department. The pamphlet deals specifically with the subject of discriminatory practices in the Army Air Corps. It is available at the NAACP National Office, 69 5th Avenue, New York City at 10c per copy.

Push Wide Campaign For Permanent FEPC

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Representatives of 18 labor and civic organizations in two-day conference perfected plans this week designed to convert the President's Fair Employment Practice committee, from a "duration" to a permanent government agency with increased scope and power.

Under chairmanship of A. Philip Randolph, director of the March on Washington movement and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the delegates joined by 100 colored and white leaders set up an organization to be known tentatively as National Council for Permanent FEPC.

A ten-member inter-racial executive council has been named to further perfect organization and the program of action. An immediate step is introduction into both houses of Congress, a bill "to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, or origin." This bill already prepared in detail by a nationally known attorney who volunteered his services was read to the conference and approved by vote.

Propose 'Court'

The bill, to be introduced immediately by a sympathetic senator and representative, provides for conversion of the present FEPC into a "Court of Fair Employment Practices" to consist of a presiding judge and six associate judges, to be appointed by the President with Senate approval for a term of seven years. Provision is made for re-appointment or replacement of one judge each year. The court, whose member judges shall receive $10,000 a year, shall report in full to Congress at close of each fiscal year.

The proposed court would be empowered to issue federal orders correcting discriminatory employment practices where they have been proved to exist after proper investigation and hearing. It would also be empowered to subpeona required witnesses, and to petition U. S. Circuit Courts of Appeal for enforcement. The court's greatest control, however, would be its power to withhold government contracts from all firms violating the spirit or letter of the non-discriminatory law.

Meanwhile, the National Council for Permanent FEPC has drawn up a tentative constitution and set itself the ambitious budget of $25,000 a year, believing that the organization must have capable adequately paid personnel to direct what doubtless will be a hard and bitter fight. Membership is open to all interested individuals and responsible organizations.

Probe Ship Yards

The executive council as selected in conference is: A. Philip Randolph of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Winifred Raushenbush of American Civil Liberties union, Thurman Dodson of March on Washington, Sam Barron of Textile Workers, Thomasina Johnson of A.K.A., Lena Brissette of Catholic Welfare council, Monroe Sweetland of CIO, Committee on Discrimination, Judge W. C. Hueston of Elks, Nat Mancoff of International Ladies Garment Workers and H. A. Dawson.

With the hearing into the railroad complaints over, the FEP is leaving its special counsel staff to mull over the testimony while it turns its attention to the promised hearing on the west coast into the complaints involving the payment of dues by Negro shipyard employes into an auxiliary unit of the boilermakers union, AFL affiliate.

While no date has been announced, it is understood that the committee has agreed to hold the hearings about the middle of November. About two days are expected to be spent in the Portland, Ore., region, and one day in Los Angeles area, with a brief break in between.

Union Main Offender

As it did in the case of the railroads, the FEPC is employing outside counsel who along with its own staff of examiners will get the complaints and procedures into shape. The man who will head this staff, said to be an able lawyer, has not been publicly named yet although it is understood that the committee's invitation to him has been accepted.

In keeping with the committee's policy, the companies involved in the complaints have not been named. The union, however, is considered the primary offender with the companies, about four, looked to as willing accessories.

It is through the operation of a closed shop agreement between the boilermakers and the companies that the firing of a large number of Negroes came about in July. The Negroes were organized into jim-crow auxiliaries of the union because the boilermakers' constitution does not permit other than whites to hold membership.

By being set up in this separate unit, the Negroes complained that they were being discriminated against in that they have not been permitted to participate in the affairs of the union although they are required to pay dues. In hearing the evidence in these cases, the FEPC will be testing that section of the executive order defining restrictive membership clauses of labor unions as an act of discrimination.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Haas to Leave FEPC Today

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Bishop Francis J. Haas will take leave of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) at today's meeting just six months after he accepted the job of reorganizing the Committee and renewing the drive to end discrimination in war plants.

Hass, who recently was named Bishop of Grand Rapids, will be succeeded at the FEPC by his assistant, Malcolm Ross. Ross is expected to be sworn in tomorrow.

FEPC To Get Complaints Of Navy Yard Workers

OCT 14 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

BROOKLYN —(A N P)— After listening to a series of complaints lodged by employees of the Brooklyn navy yard on discrimination a committee of workers was formed to call upon the United Federal Workers of America, foremost navy yard union, for assistance. The charges were voiced in a meeting called jointly by the Brooklyn Urban League, the National Negro congress, and the Brooklyn council.

Chief greivances were that officials of the yards refuse to upgrade Negro workers, and segregate and force them to labor under unequal working conditions. Formal complaints will be filed with the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices against the yards.

Samuel Risk, a local FEPC examiner, was introduced by Lorenza F. Davis, industrial secretary, Brooklyn Urban League, and Edward Strong, executive secretary, National Negro congress, co-chairmen, and advised the complaining workers how to prepare and file complaints. He promised protection of the workers from reprisals and pointed to the security with which Negro workers testifying in Washington against the railroads enjoyed.

Civic, fraternal and labor groups have indicated an interest in the Brooklyn Navy situation and promise further support to the workers. Among these organizations represented at the meeting were the Central YWCA, New York State Conference of Negro Youth, and the NAACP.

Seek Quick Action On FEPC Head

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The resignation of Bishop Francis J. Haas from the chairmanship of the PEFC is seen as a serious setback for the Committee.

President Roosevelt is being urged to fill the vacancy without delay, if the Committees' effectiveness is not to be diminished.

"The great harm done" in the interval between Dr. Malcoln McLean's resignation and Bishop (then Fr.) Haas's appointment was cited by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties in a letter to the President.

In addition, two of the employer members, it is said, may also resign. One, Samuel Zemurray of the United Fruit Company, is slated to join the Office of Foreign Economic Administration. The other, P. B. Young, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, is said to be not in the best health.

FEPC

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

President Roosevelt's prompt appointment of a new chairman to his Fair Employment Practice Committee should afford encouragement and reassurance to all minority groups. Plainly, he intends that the committee shall move ahead with its program of exposing and eradicating discriminatory employment practices. It is of first caliber importance that it do so. For wherever these exist they constitute a barrier to the full utilization of our manpower and a stain upon our democratic pretensions.

The selection of Malcolm Ross to succeed Monsignor Francis J. Haas at the helm of FEPC should strengthen the confidence of all minority elements that their rights will be vigorously supported. Mr. Ross has had a decade of intensive practical experience in labor relations. As secretary of the FEPC since its reorganization he has already familiarized himself with its problems and contributed much to their solution. It is an excellent appointment, made solidly on a merit basis and gives promise of useful fruits.

47d-1943

FEPC

Johnson Top Man In Revamped FEPC

Atlanta Daily World

JUL 26 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (ANP) —Organizational structure of the Fair Employment Practice Committee has been just about agreed upon, it is learned reliably, and as matters now stand, George M. Johnson, formerly assistant secretary to the old committee, will share the secondary level of authority with Malcolm Ross.

For a little while there had been some uncertainty as to how Johnson's position would stack up in the organized committee. At the press conference following the initial meeting of the new committee, Fr. Francis J. Haas, chairman, referred to Haas and Ross as his "assistants.' Actual titles have not yet been agreed upon so it is reported but respectively authority has.

It appears that there will be three operational divisions and one administrative. The latter will tie in directly to the ch[illegible] whereas the other t h[illegible] will clear through the [illegible] us.

Ross wil[illegible] uthority over the review a[illegible] analysis division, and Johnson will keep an eye open on the hearings division. Field operations will be a matter of joint responsibility with Ross handling external affair such as group and public contacts, while Johnson will concern himself with the internal functioning, primarily the business of the regional offices and cooperation with other agencies.

Will Maslow, formerly with the N[illegible]nal Labor Relations board, [illegible] been put actively in charge [illegible]eld operation, and in [illegible] probability Harry Baron will do the leg work in review and analysis. No decision appears to have been made yet with regard to a counterpart for hearings.

Ted Jones, administrative officer will continue in that capacity, and will continue to handle personnel and budgetary matters.

Out of six top ranking posts already filled in the committee, Johnson and Jones will be the only Negroes, and each will have access to the chairman.

JUL 26 1943

Discrimination Bill Fund Provided

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Voting $25,000 to promote their aim, representatives of 100 trade unions meeting yesterday in Freedom House, 32 E. 51st St., announced that a bill soon will be introduced in Congress making any discrimination on account of race or color illegal.

A committee was elected to cooperate with an organization working for a permanent President's Fair Employment Practice Committee. Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of the CIO, was elected chairman of the committee, with David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, as treasurer.

NEW FEPC CHAIRMAN TAKES WHITE HOUSE OATH

JUN 12 1943
Chicago Ill. Defender

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Dean of Social Studies of Catholic university, takes the oath of office as chairman of the Fair Employment Practices committee. The oath was administered by Associate Justice Wiley B. Rutledge of the Supreme court in the White House offices of Secretary McIntyre. Left to right, Attorney General Francis Biddle, Senator Robert Wagner, Representative Mary Norton, Msgr. Haas, Judge Rutledge, Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower commission.—Harris and Ewing photo.

The Great Game of Politics

Observer
1943

By FRANK R. KENT

Very Bad Timing

IT DOES seem that this is a poor time needlessly to stir up class conflict and race hatred. Particularly is it a poor time to do so in a way to handicap industries vital to the war effort—industries which are being prodded to greater production, pleaded with by Mr. Nelson and Mr. Wilson, of the WPB, to put on more steam, warned by the President of the peril in "letting down."

YET, IT IS difficult not to feel that the course one government agency is at present following is in conflict with the pleadings of Mr. Nelson and the warnings of the President. This agency is known as the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. Little has been printed about this committee. It was appointed, under pressure of various Negro organizations two years ago, but was reorganized and revived about two months ago. It is now headed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis Haas. There are three labor members—John Brophy, of the CIO; Milton P. Webster, of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Boris Shishkin, of the AFL. The other three members are supposed to represent industry. They are Miss Sarah Southall, superintendent of personnel and social service of the International Harvester Company; P. B. Young, of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, and Samuel Zeemurray, president of the United Fruit Company.

—o—

ONE MIGHT think from its personnel that the committee is slightly weighted against industry and this notion is sustained by its program which has been recently revealed. For example, the committee last week summoned to Washington heads of twenty-odd railroads of the country and several railroad unions to answer charges of discrimination against Negroes in the matter of promotion as well as employment. In addition, a number of companies and firms engaged in highly important war work have been charged with discrimination because they segregate the white workers from the Negro workers.

—o—

NOW, SO far as the railroads are concerned, most persons are willing to give them credit for doing a very fine job under exceedingly difficult circumstances. They are burdened by the war travel and freight almost to the breaking point. Not in our history has any American industry been subjected to such a strain. Regardless of the merits of the matter, to force the officials of these roads to drop their work and come to Washington, there to defend themselves against absurd charges of practices "detrimental to the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale and the national unity," hardly seems in the national interests at this time. What all that means is that there are positions in the railroads open to white men but not open to Negroes.

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THE COMMITTEE disregards completely the facts that the railroads employ a percentage of Negroes higher than the Negro percentage of the whole population. What it insists upon is that, in the matter of promotion, there is "social discrimination." The fact, of course, is that if discrimination exists it is due far more to the attitude of the railroad unions than to the railroads—and that any attempt to alter the system would be resisted more strenuously by the unions than by the management. It takes no particular insight to realize that any serious effort to force a change in the situation would result in trouble of a serious kind. It is not surprising that the railroads should assert that this agitation of alleged discrimination against Negroes because of their race, at this time, when "all of our manpower, managerial skill, ability and best efforts are being expended in forwarding the general welfare in the prosecution of the war, can have no result other than to bring about dissension, lower the morale of the workers and adversely affect national unity."

AS TO THE factories, the charge is not made that they do not employ Negroes as well as whites but that they segregate them. One firm summoned by the committee actually employs 52 per cent Negroes and only 48 per cent whites, but they work in separate rooms. This the committee regards as "unfair practices" and wants it stopped. The operators of these factories say that if the committee thinks this "unfair" they are perfectly willing not to segregate the whites from the blacks if the committee will guarantee them against race riots, walkouts and a stoppage of work. Regardless of its merits, this is an exceedingly poor time to add to the burdens of the railroads and to industry generally by pressing this issue—especially as the "discrimination," if it exists, is one about which management can do nothing without risks of the greatest kind.

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THE TRUTH, of course, is that this committee has an impossible job. It was appointed because, just as the labor leaders saw in the war an opportunity to extend their power, the Negro leaders felt it presented an opportunity for the "social advancement" of their race and there were threats of a "march on Washington" if something were not done to break down "discrimination." Now, if the committee does nothing, the Negro leaders whom it was named to appease will resent it; and if it does anything, it risks slowing down the production which the President, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Wilson are trying to speed up. Father Haas is an earnest and sincere man, described by his friends as a "moderate," but that word would be misapplied if used to describe some of the other members.

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BUT, AGAIN, aside from the merits of the matter and regardless of whether discrimination exists, the timing of these charges and hearings is pretty bad. The same thing can be said of the effort now being made to make a national issue of the North Carolina Negro, who, on "advice of counsel" refused to permit his draft board to induct him into the army unless he could go into a "mixed regiment." There being no such thing as a mixed regiment, this was equivalent to refusing to be inducted at all. His counsel held that thus the whole question of "racial discrimination" in the armed services can be brought before the Supreme Court, and they are busily engaged now in trying to get publicity for the case on the ground that it will become a "national issue." The effect of this upon army morale would hardly be beneficial.

Samuel Zemurray, Multi-Millionaire Fruit Magnate, Newest FEPC Member

Pittsburgh, PA. Courier

By JOHN P. DAVIS
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, July 8—Meet Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit company and new employer-member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice! There are only two lines about him in "Who's Who in America," but his record and that of the company he heads could fill pages.

Zemurray is a man of mystery, whose financial operations extend over the entire Western hemisphere and to the vast continent of Africa. No one knows how wealthy he is, but his company is the largest of its kind in the world.

BACKGROUND OBSCURE

Little is known about his early background. An official OWI release describes him as a Polish immigrant. An earlier account states that he is a Roumanian, who came to this country and began as a fruit peddler first on the waterfront at Mobile and later at New Orleans. From these beginnings, he founded his own company, importing tropical fruit, and became the "Banana King of the World." In 1932 he sold his company to the United Fruit company and became its president.

How successful he was as a businessman can be judged from the fact that the profits of $5,000,000 a year earned by the United Fruit company in 1932 rose steadily under his management until in 1939 the company made a clear profit of more than $14,000,000.

GIGANTIC ENTERPRISE

Zemurray's United Fruit company is big. It controls two-thirds of the world's banana supply. It owns land in every section of the Western hemisphere. In January, 1942, his company owned more than 680,000 acres of improved land and more than 2,600,000 acres of unimproved land—a total of more than three million and a quarter acres—or more land than there is in the State of Massachusetts. The company owned 1,422 miles of railroads, 350 miles of street car lines, 2,900 miles of telephone lines and radio stations in Hingham, Mass., Miami, Fla., New Orleans, La., Panama, and in Costa Rica. It had sugar refineries in Eastern Cuba and Jamaica, a hotel in Jamaica, and extensive properties in Guatamala, Honduras, Colombia, Cuba, Nicaragua, Ecuador, and the Bahamas. It owned the "Great White Fleet" of 61 ocean-going vessels.

NOT FRUIT ALONE

The company has not restricted its operations to fruit. It has begun extensive experimentation in production of rubber, hemp and other tropical commodities. It has 92,000 acres of sugar cane under cultivation. In 1937, it received from the United States, nearly $4,000,000 in satisfaction of its claims for carriage by its steamship lines of United States mail.

Zemurray's hand has been close to many Latin-American governments. His company has a contract with the Government of Colombia for the leasing of a Colombian railroad. It has a contract with the Government of Costa Rica for control of the Costa Rican banana crop, under the terms of which it is to develop 9,000 acres of land in bananas, build harbors and two railroad lines, and expend roughly $10,000,000. The contract, entered into in 1938, provides that the Costa Rican government shall not charge an export tax of more than two cents per bunch on bananas.

HIRES THOUSANDS OF NEGROES

Zemurray's company employs more than 80,000 persons — many tens of thousands of them Negroes in Jamaica and other parts of the Caribbean. And back of this fact is one of the most interesting of the stories about him. Quite recently, Zemurray has been most active in recruiting Jamaican Negro farm labor for transportation to the United States to meet an acute shortage of farm labor in this country. His United Fruit company [illegible] set up recruiting stations in the inerior plantation sections of the island. There are two versions as to why Zemurray interested himself in this problem. One is that he has recently lost a son, killed in action in North Africa and that, concerned over the serious shortage of farm labor, he gave his expert knowledge of recruitment to solve the problem. A less complimentary version is that the United Fruit company, unable any longer to ship its banana crop to world markets, found itself burdened with thousands of unemployed Negro plantation workers, whom it would have to feed, and that it used the device of shipping them to the United States, where they were needed as a method of bailing out of a difficult situation. It is known that the expenses of United Fruit company foremen and staff were paid by the War Food Administration in return for their services in recruiting Negro workers.

CORNER BANANA MARKET

But, perhaps the strangest story about Zemurray is that of his close association with a member of one of the bluest of Boston blue-blood families, Thomas Jefferson Sprague Coolidge, Harvard Phi Beta Kappa, president of the First National Bank of Boston, former Undersecretary of the Treasury, professor at Harvard college, and chairman of the board of directors of the United Fruit company, of which Zemurray is president. Together the Boston blue-blood and the Roumanian (or Polish) immigrant have cornered the banana markets of the world, have controlled the economic, if not political destinies of dozens of small Central and South American countries and have built a financial empire of huge proportions.

Now one member of that combination will try his hand at solving the problems of discrimination which keeps a good three-quarters of a million Negro men and women out of war jobs, and which debars another two million from full use of their skills. His name is Samuel Zemurray.

JUL 10 1943

Haas Sees Labor Destiny Tied To Racial Attitude

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
OCT

TORONTO. — The postwar destinies of labor unions, in the opinion of Mgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, are going to depend in large measure upon their attitudes toward workers as a whole, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

"No enlightened trade unionist can be satisfied with merely having a job for himself," Father Haas told a convention of the United Rubber Workers here last week.

"Rather, he must be interested in employment for all who want to work, and in production for the needs of mankind."

Father Haas said he fully realized that the rubber workers' union had taken a firm stand against discrimination, but he added:

"To you, as representatives of trade unionism in general, I do present the idea that racial tolerance is not a negative code of behavior, but rather is an affirmative issue upon which all American labor will some day be called on to make the basic decision whether or not to cut across the habit of excluding as members those not belonging to the majority racial group.

"There cannot be a strong labor movement where there are pockets of the unorganized who want work," he said. "If white Americans want to hold their gains, if they want to hold onto their high standards, they cannot afford to leave their flanks exposed to the competition from the unorganized and unwanted, who, in the very nature of things, will be less friendly to those who shut them out."

ROSS IS APPOINTED TO SUCCEED HAAS

New York Times
New York, N. Y

President Praises Monsignor's Work Heading Committee on Fair Employment Practice

OCT 16 1943

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15—President Roosevelt accepted today the resignation of Mgr. Francis J. Haas as chairman of his Committee on Fair Employment Practice and named his deputy, Malcolm Ross, a former Southern newspaper man, as his successor. Mgr. Haas was recently appointed Bishop of Grand Rapids.

The committee is the principal Federal agency dealing with the race question and is engaged mainly in establishing and maintaining fair working standards for minority groups in war plants.

"I am not surprised that his Holiness Pope Pius XII has called you to this high position," the President wrote in his letter accepting the resignation. "In all the posts of responsibility in which you have served your Government you have shown a humanity and skill which both church and country greatly need in these difficult days."

Mgr. Haas offered to be of what assistance he could, and the President replied:

"I am taking literally your offer to let us continue to share your wise and warm-hearted counsel in dealing with this great and continuing problem of fair practices in employment for all the people of America."

Mr. Roosevelt also wrote to the committee expressing regret over the chairman's departure and informing it of the arrangement that he continue as counselor.

"I am happy to report that FEPC as now reorganized is running along smoothly," Mgr. Haas said in his letter of resignation. "While the problems ahead, both now and after the peace, are almost overwhelming, I am certain that with the help of the vast majority of the American people you will meet them."

Mr. Ross has been with the Government about ten years, for a while as public relations man for the National Labor Relations Board. Born in New Jersey, he later worked as a reporter on The Dallas News, The Louisville Courier-Journal and The New York Morning World.

Washington Delegation Finds McNutt Non-Commital On FEPC

"Atlanta Daily world," Atlanta, Ga.

JAN 23 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.-A militant delegation of representatives of minority groups, labor, civic, church, and other organizations, found Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, non-committal of the postponement of the F. E. P. C. Railroad hearings and the future of the President's Committee which was created as a result of executive order 8802.

The delegation which met with McNutt Friday, January 15th, was composed of : James Carey, Secretary CIO, Albert W. Hamilton, Minorities Workshop, Leslie Perry, Administrative Assistant, Washington Bureau, NAACP, Sadie Daniel St. Clair, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

JAN 23 1943

From Detroit came Andrew J. Brown, Lamento T. Carter, State County and Municipal Workers No. 116, Gloster B. Currentt, Executive Secretary NAACP, Judah Drob, State Secretary Socialist Party, Rev. Charles A. Hill, Chairman, Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries, Raymond O. Hatcher, Detroit Urban League, Kirby Jones, local No. 3 UAW-CIO, Bernice Noel, Lewis Business College, Samuel Lieberman, Executive Secretary East Side Merchants Association and Representatives Jewish Community Council, Louis E. Martin, Editor Michigan Chronicle, W. D. Morrison, Conant Gardens, Political Association, Oscar Noble, UAW-CIO International Representative, Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary, Michigan Civil Rights Federation, Horace Sheffield, International Representative UAW-CIO, Sadie Straughn, Lewis Business College, Shelton Tappes, Recording Secretary, Ford Local No. 600, Corriene Walden Dean, Lewis Business College, Reverend Horace White, Pastor Plymouth Congregational Church, Rev. Claude Williams, Detroit Council of Churches and Detroit Presbystery, Hosea Young, Ford Local No. 600, Samuel Gibbons, Youth Progressive Club and Executive Board NAACP, Rev. Clarence T. R. Nelson, President St. Paul Minn NAACP.

JAN 23 1943

The Committee demanded restoration of the Railroad hearings scheduled for January 25th. These hearings indefinitely postponed on orders of McNutt without consulation with members of the FEPC. Although the conference had been arraigned with McNutt, the delegation was met by Fowler Harper, Deputy Chairman of the War Manpower Commission who attempted to pacify the irate Detroiters with explanation of McNutt's action.

Harper, when asked for clarification by James and Mr. McNutt proposes to do everything within his power to combat discrimination.

In answer to questions as to whether McNutt acted without consulting the members of FEPC, Harper stated that "McNutt consulted with a staff member (presumably Cramer) who was to consult the committee." He further stated that he was aware of the committee's present untenable position, and agreed that this is the first action without concurrence of the committee.

According to Harper, the reasons which compelled the cancellation of the hearing were strength of the Railroad Brotherhoods, the anbership for direct protests to Washington.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Publishers Ask FDR To Act on Race Bias

JAN 25 1943 PM New York, N.Y.

Publishers and editors of Negro newspapers from as far west as Oklahoma met in New York yesterday to demand that President Roosevelt order the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) to hold its cancelled hearing on race bias in the railway industry.

JAN 25 1943

The meeting, held at the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People offices, suggested that FDR supplement his executive order creating FEPC to plug the alleged loophole cited by Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt as justification for abandoning the investigation.

JAN 25 1943

Their statement said:

"Mr. McNutt declared that the railroads held no war contracts and might not be within the jurisdiction of the Committee. We declare that if the railroads are not technically subject to the jurisdiction of the Committee, the President should supplement his Executive Order 8802 to bring them within its scope"

Answer Expected By February 1

JAN 27 1943

By AL WHITE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Members of the Fair Employment Practice committee met here Friday with Paul V. McNutt, manpower commissioner, and for the first time sat in and discussed with the person to whom they are responsible the pertinent matters relating to the present and future status of FEPC.

Present were Mark Ethridge, who is acting chairman; Messrs. Brophy of CIO; Shiskin of AFL, Webster and Dickerson. Malcolm MacLean, who recently resigned as chairman, was present nor was Col. David Sarnoff also a recent resignee.

As a result of the conference, a statement was issued in which it was stated the committee strongly urged McNutt to reschedule the hearings on the railroads and asked that the hearings be set for an early date.

"SATISFACTORY" CONFERENCE

JAN 27 1943

It was further stated a "satisfactory" conference had been held, or that it was as such with the members of the committee. This, it is believed, refers to the manner in which Mr. McNutt received the group and frankly discussed with them the problems before them.

However, there has been no retreat from the stand taken regarding the railroad hearings. Mr. McNutt promised his committee he would take their recommendations under consideration and an answer is expected by the group when it next meets on Feb. 1.

JAN 27 1943

Although McNutt had assumed full responsibility for the cancellation of the hearings without explanation it is being generally thought that some explanation is due the minority groups as to what caused the cancellation and who was behind the agitation for such action. Since the committee itself was not advised of the change, why did McNutt so suddenly on Jan. 9 decide it would not be advantageous to hold the hearings? If he were given orders, the committee and the minority groups are entitled to know who gave the orders and why.

JAN 27 1943

SINCERITY DOUBTED

The sincerity of the whole thing now is doubted by many who felt the last order was the first attempt to wreck the committee. The underhand methods used against the members of the committee as well as the public are resented and the general public feel it is entitled to an explanation more satisfactory than that given a newspaper by Mr. McNutt--"for strategic reasons."

JAN 27 1943

As usual in these governmental cases, the attitude and actions of the head of the Department is reflected right down the line and there are no underlings who go against the will of the head.

Discussing the matter of replacements, it is possible that Col. Sarnoff and Dr. MacLean will be replaced as soon as the fundamental matter of reorganization, much discussed in the past few days can be settled.

GRAHAM MAY BE NAMED

Prominently mentioned as the successor to MacLean is Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, a well known liberal now on leave serving with the government here in Washington.

Dr. Graham's presence would add much to the committee.

Despite the blow caused by the cancellation of the railroad hearings, the Detroit matter is said to be rapidly getting into shape under the direction of Examiner G. James Fleming. Mr. Fleming was in Washington for a brief visit and to make a report on his findings. He returned to Detroit Saturday. At present, these hearings will go on as scheduled, unless there is a sudden determination by someone to call them off because of "strategic" reasons.

Persons in the service feel the present status of the FEPC has not been jeopardized and that the committee will go on in spite of political pressure and expediency.

Reports of protest meetings held in various parts of the country are beginning to find their way to Washington and even right in the capital itself, there have been meetings which have adopted and sent resolutions to the President and McNutt protesting the cancellations of the railroads he hearings.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

WHY HAVE THE FEPC?

JAN 22 1943

It looks as though there is a good deal of old time, buck-passing politics being carried on in this matter of getting Executive Order 8802 enforced.

To see to it that his Executive Order was enforced, the President appointed as "policeman" for enforcement the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC). The members of this committee have gone up and down the land, looking in on war industries and finding plenty of cases where industrialists are giving only lip service to enforcement.

Here in Nashville, at the big airplane factory where there has been in force a persistent policy of racial disc ation ever since the plant was establ d, we find that the Government has issued an order demanding that the discrimination "cease and desist," and the press notice, describing the reaction of the factory owners, is that they intend to obey the President, seeing that their policy es not meet his approval. There is virtual apology, so the press indicates, by the industrialists for having carried on racial discrimination, and apparently they are about ready to issue a "card of thanks" to Mr. Roosevelt for finding out and reminding them that they haven't been paying any attention to his 8802.

But the daily paper interview with the factory owners has something in it that shows they are halted between two opinions: they don't know whether it is better to obey President Roosevelt forthwith or to have respect for some sort of local laws and customs which frown upon giving skilled colored men and women jobs while there are white workers of that class on the premises... Now it would be an easy thing to charge industrialists with being unpatriotic when they persist in a racial discrimination policy, but it is unfair to do so, when we find discrimination being practiced in the Government Employment offices and on projects where Government money is being spent to train persons for war industries.

JAN 22 1943

We know a young, ambitious colored man, a graduate of a well known college, who had an idea that a big advertisement carried in daily newspapers, was one which invited him to apply for work in a shipbuilding plant. The advertisement, carried last week, asked for "trainees, apprentices and helpers." It did not specify they should be white, and so the young man had no hesitancy in going to the Employment office to seek one of the jobs.

He was told that no orders had "come through" for colored applicants, and there was no information available with regard to when any such order would come through.

Of course there is general knowledge of the fine training course for radio mechanics that is being given at Hume Fogg school, apparently under city administration auspices, but one for which the city is being reimbursed by the Federal Government for all the money spent to train the students and also to pay them good salaries while they are being trained.

JAN 22 1943

Colored boys cannot get this training in Nashville. But we understand there is such a course available for Nashville citizens in faraway Florida, and at the colored Florida A. and M. college of that state. We are sure that most of our young colored men, wanting this valuable radio training, are as dumb as we in one particular—they can't see why a Nashvillian, of good and regular standing in his city, should be compelled to go to far-away Florida for training that other Nashvillians are getting here at home, and being paid $80.00 a month to go to the training school.

And, so you see, the Government can blame industrialists for racial discrimination and in turn industrialists can blame the Government for setting a racial discrimination example in its employment offices.

JAN 22 1943

And so this question: Isn't the FEPC one of the most unnecessary appendages, to the nation's war effort?

Ramdolph Says President Sacrifices FEPC To Dixie

"Informer" Houston, Texas

By A. P. Randolph

NEW YORK CITY—It is reported from reliable sources that Paul V. McNutt, administrator of the War Manpower Commission, telephoned Lawfence Cramer, secretary to the President's Committee On Fair Employment Practice, that orders had come down from the boss, meaning the President, to postpone indefinitely the hearings on discriminations on account of race, color, religion or nationality in the railroad industry, scheduled to be held January 25th, 26th, 27th, in Washington, D. C.

In view of the fact, Negro workers whose toil, sweat, tears and blood have laid the rails and cross-ties, shoveled tons of coal, firing the coal-burner engines and worked like slaves to build and maintain the railroads of the South, are now being kicked off their jobs and their seniority rights disregarded, the calling off of these hearings by FEPC that were intended to investigate and put a stop to this racial discrimination, is shocking, amazing and disturbing to the Negro people of the country.

JAN 23 1943

It is a grave blow to national unity and plays into the hands of the Axis powers by indicating to the hundreds of millions of people of color, our allies, that this is the sample of justice they may expect from the United Nations.

Slap In Face

It is a slap in the face of, and an insult to, upwards of twenty millions of Negro Americans. It makes them feel that the President is surrendering to the race-prejudice-mongering political demagogues of the South of the stripe of Bilbo and Rankin of Mississippi, Talmadge of Georgia, Governor Dixon of Alabama and Martin Dies of Texas.

Pres. Roosevelt stated in the famous White House Conference on discriminations on account of race, color, religion or nationality in the defense industries and the government, which was attended by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, Walter White, secretary of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People, Aubrey Williams, director of the National Youth Administration, Anna Rosenberg of the Social Security Board, Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, co-directors of the Office of Production Management, Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee of New York City, Layle Lane, vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers and the writer, that some government agency is needed to which may be presented complaints of discrimination.

JAN 2 1943

Under Executive Order 8802, he established such an agency which is charged with the responsibility of investigating discriminations in defense industries and the government and taking steps to eliminate them. Such is the responsibility and function of FEPC. But if the hearings of discriminations in railroads are to be summarily and indefinitely called off after months of careful preparation for them, then there is only one conclusion Negroes can reach, namely, that FEPC is useless and that it can no longer be looked to for help.

It seems to show further that FEPC was just a sop, an appeasement, in the first place to stop the March On Washington for jobs and justice in defense industries and the government.

JAN 23 1943

All Negro leaders and organizations are urged to send telegrams and make long distance calls to the President requesting him to step in and save FEPC from destruction by Southern Negro phobists by ordering the railroad hearing by FEPC to go on as scheduled.

Harlem Rally Cheers Call To Back FEPC

JAN 27 1943

Daily Worker N.Y.C.

Harlem's fighting Congressman, Vito Marcantonio. Monday night told 1,000 working men and women, mostly Negro, that he intends to introduce in the House of Representatives this week a bill creating a committee to replace the Fair Employment Practice Committee. This new committee, Marcantonio told the cheering audience, would have power to subpoena and to bring into court any employer who, having been summoned to explain his discrimination against Negroes or other minorities, had disobeyed the summons.

JAN 27 1943

Mr. Marcantonio was the principal speaker at a mass meeting called to protest jim crow job practices by the railroads. The meeting was held in the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St., under the auspices of the Peoples Committee, of which City Councilman Adam Clayton Powell is chairman, and the Negro Labor Victory Committee, headed by Charles A. Collins.

"I intend to call upon the Judiciary Committee of the House to grant my bill a hearing," Marcantonio said. "Such a hearing will bring the facts about the FEPC—the facts we have vainly tried to get from Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt — out into the open."

Congressman Marcantonio was preceded by Ashley Totten, secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL; Theodore A. Jackson, secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee's sub-committee on railroad employment and president of the Dining Car Employees Union, Local 370, AFL; Charles A. Collins, business agent of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL, and executive secretary of the National Negro Congress; John Beecher, formerly New York representative of the FEPC and now on the staff of the New York Post; Dr. Algernon Black, co-chairman city-wide Citizens Committee on Harlem; Councilman Adam Clayton Powell.

Mr. Totten's pessimistic picture of the Negro's relation to the anti-fascist war, including his statement that "we'll be patriotic but we'll get rid of Hitler here first" and his reference to people "who can hardly speak English" keeping Negroes out of jobs, was offset by Mr. Collins' analysis of the domestic and foreign political situation, with the Negro's place in it.

"McNutt has hurled the challenge in our face and we'll take it up and hurl it back," Collins cried, amidst shouts of approval.

A resolution unanimously adopted and sent to the President demanded that the FEPC railroad hearings be held as scheduled and that funds be allocated for making the FEPC an independent body.

JAN 27 1943

That resolution and Congressman Marcantonio's promise to press for a new and powerful FEPC represented definite action by the mass meeting.

Dorothy K. Funn, of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, was chairman.

FEPC to Meet

FEB 8 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee will meet the week of Feb. 8 with War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to discuss the President's instructions to call a conference "to consider a revision and strengthening" of the FEPC. The railway discrimination hearings postponed by McNutt will probably be rescheduled.

"Daily Worker" N.Y.C.

FEB 8 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Capital CIO Asks Renewal Of FEPC Quiz

MAY 20 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, May 19. — The Washington Industrial Union Council has telegraphed War Manpower Commission Crairman McNutt and other officials protesting cancellation of Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings on discrimination practiced by the Capitol Transit Co.

Charges that the company discriminates against Negroes as bus, street car operators were to have been heard by the FEPC, then were cancelled.

"We feel that this case rightfully belongs under the jurisdiction of the FEPC and that any attempt to weaken the authority of the FEPC is a nattempt to prevent the full utilization of our nation's manpower," says the wire, signed by Joseph D. Phillips, CIO president.

Action was taken by the Council following a delegated meeting at which the matter was discussed.

47d-1943

FEPC

Were Powers Of Body Sabotaged?

"Daily World"

By ALVIN E. WHITE

1/13/43

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—The Most vicious set-back the Negro people of the United States have received a recent years came Saturday morning, when Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower commissioner, acting, it is said, upon instructions, ordered the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to cancel the scheduled hearings set for January 25-27 when the railroads of the south were to be called upon to explain their discriminatory practices against Negro firemen.

"Daily World" 1/13/43

Fep

Culminating a series of secret conferences, the order came as a bombshell to the members of the staff of the FEPC who had been working diligently compiling material to be used in the public hearings.

This had been looked forward to as the one great acts the FEPC could perform, striking at organized labor which consistently has through certain railroad unions barred and eliminated Negroes from jobs they had long held.

PRESSURE BLAMED

Atlanta, Ga.

Blame for the action, cannot be placed, but it is widely discussed that pressure from congress on the White House may have had a great deal to do with the calling off of the hearings, which would have undoubtedly shown deep roots discriminatory practices against Negroes.

No one will assume the blame for giving the order, it is "one of those things" which will be accepted. Some say the complexion of the new congress and the uncertainty of legislation before that body caused misgivings as to holding the hearings at this time. Whoever is responsible is as guilty of a "stab" in the back as was Italy and Japan only this time, it was not a stab by a foreign enemy, it was a stab by enemies from within

For weeks ever since the hearings were planned, there has been an air of suspense and uncertainty about them. The FEPC as such went ahead with its plans, engaged Jacob Epstein of New York, Charles S. Houston, Washington's brilliant Negro lawyer, and others to conduct the case, only to have them suddenly dashed away.

CLIMAX OF SETBACKS

This cancellation is the culmination of a series of events transpiring since the peurile Birmingham hearings, in which the FEPC almost lost its pants emerging in a "barrel" as far as prestige and glory were concerned. Vacuous statements as to the great benefits accuring from this hearing have failed to materialize.

These hearings were held on June 18-20. Since that time, no public hearings have been held. One excuse or another leading up to the cancellation. In El Paso, Tex., where a public hearing was to have been held, the state department is said to have been the influence prohibiting these proceedings. They pointed to the Mexican situation as the reason. There has never been a clean cut explanation or statement as to why these hearings were never held.

When John P. Davis wrote the head of WMC relating to the [illegible] ing of hearings on treatme[illegible] corded blind Negroes asking [illegible] a public hearing be ordered, [illegible] was informed that the commit[illegible] itself was the one to make [illegible] hearings.

When the President wrote Walter White of the NAACP on the matter of transferring the FEPC back to an independent status, White was told the committee was placed under WMC to strengthen and to revitalize it, giving the group its own budget (which since has been emasculated to a mere name), so it could function of its own free will. The President further told Mr. White that the Committee had a free hand to do its job effectively, which was a task in front of it

These two statements do not stand up according to the latest order from the committee is in this instance robbed of its autonomy and forced to do the bidding of higher-ups whether they are in the White House or in congress. The committee's hands have been tied and tied by unseen powers.

HAS HAPPENED BEFORE

On the surface it would appear that a powerful clique operates through certain agencies to halt proceedings when the FEPC gets too close to the core of the situation. It has happened before as in the El Paso business and it is happening here with the railr[illegible] cases. There is no doubt bu[illegible] it may happen in Detroit. [illegible] there are nasty rumors already afloat. A hearing has been ordered in Detroit for February. Perhaps it won't be held either.

It stands to reason that some strong influence is wrecking the FEPC and the executive order the Presiden issued concerning discrimination.

Not once since there has been a President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has the entire committee as such visited the White House to discuss its problems with the chief executive. In every instance, only the chairman, Dr. Malcolm MacLean, president of Hampton, and Lawrence Cramer. executive secretary, have visited the White House and then it is reported they discussed matters with Kentucky born Marvin McIntyre, the President's secretary.

The time has come for the committee itself to meet and decide whether this is to continue or to have a meeting with the President letting him say just what the committee's functions are and how far they can go. Then, if they are satisfied to serve under those conditions, it is up to them.

Nothing less than a full committee visiting the White House could achieve this result.

STATEMENT WITHHELD

Saturday afternoon, the Associated Negro Press correspondent in Washington visited Lawrence Cramer and confronted him with the story he had learned relative to the cancellation of the hearings. Mr. Cramer would not be quoted, nor would he give any statement. He did advise, however, that the correspondent attend Commissioner McNutt's press conference on Monday to get the prepared statement. Usually such handouts are given and have been carefully worded and prepared to allay any suspicions that may arise.

However, it remains that the railroad hearings, one of the greatest opportunities the Negro has had for some justice from governmental authorities purportedly interested in his welfare, have been cancelled and the loser as usual is the loyal long suffering Negro citizen especially the one residing in the deep south.

An accounting should be rendered. Despite the war effort and any such subterfuges that may be offered, the Negro definitely is being gypped in this move and sypped at the instance of his bitterest enemies, the bourborn south. Whatever was the cause, whoever gave Commissioner McNutt his instructions, the Negro is the ultimate loser.

Will the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices continue?

McNutt Calls FEPC Action 'Strategic'

"P. M. Daily," New York N.Y.

JAN 22 1943

By GORDAN H. COLE

PM's Bureau

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission (WMC) today defended on grounds of "good strategy" his action in postponing public hearings by the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) into charges of racial discrimination on Southern railroads.

McNutt, whose intervention in the FEPC proceedings has evoked wide protest from church, labor, and liberal groups, told his side of the story for the first time in an interview.

The manpower director pledged that there would be "no retreat" and "no softpedaling" in the campaign to bring wider job opportunities to Negroes.

Expressing his resentment over the sharp pressure that has been brought to bear on him by Negro organizations in the last 10 days, McNutt warned that Negroes and their supporters, "have got to recognize me as their friend and not crack me on the head every time my neck is out."

He ordered the railroad hearings postponed, he said, solely because he believes that "direct negotiations may yield better progress."

JAN 22 1943

Here are McNutt's views:

¶ The FEPC has no strict legal authority to enforce its orders except for those employers whose war contracts contain non-discrimination clauses.

¶ The railroads have no war contracts except, possibly, in the sense that Government officials buy railroad tickets and those tickets constitute a contract.

"Why get caught out on the end of a limb on one of the doubtful cases when there are so many positive ones?" McNutt argued. "The other firms (under FEPC scrutiny) have contracts with no discrimination clauses."

JAN 22 1943

McNutt stated flatly that the FEPC would decide when it would conduct hearings and that his intervention in the railroad case is "not a pattern."

He indicated that the possibility of the committee conducting hearings in Detroit, Cleveland, or St. Louis is to be decided by the Committee, not himself.

However, McNutt admitted that with only four members remaining on the Committee—the chairman, Malcolm MacLean, and two members, Mark Ethridge and Col. David Sarnoff, having submitted their resignations—possibility of reorganizing the Committee is under consideration.

One reorganization plan being studied would substitute for the present committee of volunteers representing various groups a full-time paid committee comparable to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). On the NLRB, all three members are public representatives rather than representatives of labor or the employer.

His decision on adopting this plan or reconstituting the present Committee will not be made, McNutt said, until the idea has been sold to the Negro groups.

McNutt repeated his pledge to fight for fair employment practices and for an end of racial discrimination on the job.

He explained that he had been in that fight for a quarter century and added: "I don't intend to change my mind on this subject."

JAN 22 1943

In McNutt's record are these facts:

¶ In 1918, when he was an Army major, he was commander of a brigade of 2000 Negro troops at Camp Jackson, outside Columbia, S. C.

¶ In the years immediately following the war, McNutt fought the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana in the days when it was neither politically expedient or professionally wise to be known as anti-Klan.

¶ Later, he became the first Governor Indiana to appoint a Negro to a major state board.

JAN 22 1943

¶ In the poll tax fight last year McNutt sounded off briefly, but specifically, against the poll tax in a Labor Day speech in Southern Virginia—where the poll tax is not a theoretical issue.

CIO Race Relations Committee Asks More Money For FEPC's Use

Houston [illegible]

JAN 2 3 1943

WASHINGTON. —(ANP)— More money and authority for the FEPC in its fight to secure Negro employment in war industries are asked in a statement released by the CIO Committee on Racial Discrimination formed at the fifth annual convention held in Boston last November.

The committee consists of James B. Carey, chairman and secretary-treasurer of the CIO; Willard S. Townsend, secretary and president of the United Transport Service employes; James J. Leary, secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter workers; Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime union and Boyd L. Wilson, member of the execution board, United Steelworkers of America. Says the statement:

"The existence of discrimination against Negroes and other minorities is not only a continuing blot on American democracy, but even more seriously a drag on the total mobilization of all our people needed to win the war against Axis slavery.

"Every war industry and plant in the country is crying for more manpower, desperately needed to keep the weapons of war flowing out to the offensive fighting fronts of our armed forces and our allies.

JAN 2 3 1943

"Negro Americans are as anxious as any to work for victory, just as they are fighting for victory in the Army and the Navy. To follow employers or any other agencies to bar them from jobs is worse than unjust—it is an active help to Hitler.

"The CIO, in setting up the committee on racial discrimination at its November convention, moved to implement in industry and government the policy it has always held to in its own ranks—of absolute apposition to discrimination in any form, and of complete equality of opportunity for all.

"This policy has been made national in the executive order of the President No. 8802 and in the setting up of the Fair Employment Practices committee. The CIO concurs fully in these steps, as it concurs in every move to promote national unity in winning the war.

JAN 2 3 1943

"At the same time, we must point out that the job of wiping out racial discrimination is far from complete, and at the present rate of progress will scarcely be completed in time to make full answer to the needs of all-out war, or to the needs of a people's peace.

"Too often mere lip-service is given to the principle of equal opportunity. Too often an employer or a whole industry, ordered to stop discrimination against Negro workers, has evaded the order by offering token employment to a handful in place of opening jobs to all who are qualified. Or again, Negro workers are of their experience or training.

JAN 2 3 1943

"Of course there are notable exceptions to these disruptive practices. The exceptions, however, could easily become the rule if the national policy were made completely effective. This cannot be done as long as the Fair Employment Practices committee lacks sufficient funds and sufficient personnel to do the needed job.

"At present time, the FEPC lacks funds and personnel to do the necessary following-up on each of its orders. Trained, paid investigators are needed to patrol every section of industry where discrimination is suspected or found. More cooperation from other government agencies responisble for war production is needed.

JAN 2 3 1943

"The CIO committee on Racial Discrimination is determined to press for these and all other measures to end this gross injustice and criminal waste of needed manpower. We intend to press for more funds and more authority for the FEPC. We plan to work closely with other government agencies and with employers in the solution of the problem.

JAN 2 3 1943

"Victory requires the full effort of every person in this country and in the united nations. Many millions of people among our allies are looking to our country to end inequalities that hold back a speedy united nations victory."

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

The FEPC And The 'Umbrella Man.'

JAN 2 4 1943

THE prestige of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice met a new low last week when Paul V. McNutt, the War Manpower head, cancelled the scheduled hearing of the railroad industry and thus edged upon an appeasement program which renews thoughts of the famed "umbrella man" who in yesteryear sold freedom short on the continent of Europe.

Whatever influence the FEPC had was gained from the consistent and relentless efforts of that body to bring into the open the malignant and cancerous evils that mushroom American industry with a prejudice that belies the principles of democracy. Its prestige was dependent upon a program which was as uncompromising as truth.

JAN 2 4 1943

The "postponement" of the hearing was indeed a dirty deal for the colored people in America. It is characteristic of an attitude in official Washington which may have more than serious effects upon the future of American democracy and upon the rights of 13,000,000 colored people. We saw the handwriting on the wall when the poll tax bill was strangled when western and eastern senators teamed up with the despicable renegades of the southern oligarchy. We saw evidences of an appeasement policy in other acts and when combined convince us that a pattern of conduct is getting under way to sabotage the fight for freedom that Negroes are now waging. That Paul V. McNutt has become a party to such a plan leaves us fabbergasted; absolutely flabbergasted.

However we do not think the FEPC is dead. Nor do we think it need fold up. It still can be saved but we doubt that it will be resusticated under the influence of an army paragon whose political ambitions transcend his ideals of right and justice.

JAN 2 4 1943

We said it before and we say it again: The FEPC should be restored to its original status lest its purpose, its aims, and its aspirations be lost in the pool of political machinations and lily-white appeasement. Indeed, the Negroes of America view with disgust the philosophy of an "umbrella man."

What FEPC Would Have Heard--IF

"Daily worker," New York, N.Y.

JAN 3 - 1943

By Eugene Gordon

Willard S. Townsend, international president of the United Transport Service Employes of America, CIO, has just issued a statement covering testimony he had intended giving at hearings on railroad discrimination against Negro workers. Those hearings, which were to be conducted by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, beginning Jan. 25, were arbitrarily postponed by Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt.

Mr. Townsend is a Negro. The union he heads embraces principally dining car waiters, Pullman laundry workers, Pullman shop workers, Red Caps, station attendants and train porters. Mr. Townsend's statement shows him to be intimately acquainted with all the other kinds of work Negroes are restricted through discrimination by railroads. **He avoids the growing tendency in some quarters to place responsibility for discrimination equally on the railroad brotherhoods and on the railroad management. He shows why responsibility rests cheifly on railroad management.**

BLAMES LINES

Progressive union leaders and thinkers, "without reservation," condemn the anti-Negro clauses in constitutions of most Railroad Brotherhoods, Mr. Townsend declares. He does not believe, however, that those "lily-white" provisions are the actual causes of discrimination.

"After all, railroad employers have hired 91 per cent white workers and 9 per cent Negro workers and carefully segregated the Negro workers into the 17 least desirable occupations out of 123," he said. "The Brotherhoods do not have the closed shop—it is forbidden by law in the railroad industry—and if the railroads were not the prime movers in their discrimination, they would be free to hire qualified Negro workers."

JAN 3 - 1943

Mr. Townsend believes that the discriminatory clauses in the Brotherhoods' constitutions "are basically a reflection of the railroads' position." He says he knows that "among the members and even officers of at least several of the Brotherhoods, there is considerable sentiment against these clauses."

"If once the railroads ended their discrimination, the Brotherhoods would soon follow suit," according to Mr. Townsend, who added: "I do not mean to condone their clauses. In my mind there can be no possible excuse for a color bar in any labor union. But I want to isolate the real cause and put the blame there."

JAN 3 - 1943

JIM CROW AGREEMENTS

The president of the United Transport Service Employes of America says that in the South the railroads have made a series of agreements "which put their discrimination squarely down on paper." There being a number of Negro firemen in the South, the railroads have agreed in writing to cease hiring them and to hire only white firemen "until at least 55 per cent or more of the firemen are white."

JAN 3 - 1943

Mr. Townsend quotes one such agreement, signed by the general superintendent in behalf of the Florida East Coast Railway Co., to whom the UTSEA has protested that it violates the Railway Labor Act. That agreement, Mr. Townsend insists, "practically institutionalized discrimination against the Negro."

Nobody can escape the railroads' boasts, paid for out of their swollen war profits, the union leader declares, about the swell job they are doing in spite of the strain put on their facilities by war work. "The war work they are doing would be much grander" if they used qualified manpower without discrimination, he said.

47d-1943

NAACP Urges FEPC To Hold Detroit Hearings

DETROIT, Michigan — Informed that the FEPC was considering ~~postponement of~~ cancellation of the Detroit hearings, the Detroit Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People wired Attorney Earl B. Dickerson, acting chairman, to hold the hearings as scheduled.

The NAACP telegram was signed by Dr. James J. McClendon, president of the branch and the executive secretary, Gloster B. Current. The Labor Committee of the Association also wired the committee urging that the hearings be held on the scheduled date, May 24-25.

TEXT OF NAACP TELEGRAM

"The Detroit Branch of the NAACP urges that the hearings of President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices proceed on scheduled date. Employment practices in this city will be dealt a staggering blow if the committee presents the evidence it now has. The morale of war workers and those seeking employment will be heightened by holding the hearings."

NEW AGENCY SET UP BY PRESIDENT

Birmingham, Ala., Age Herald
May 29, 1943

Educator Put At Head Of Group To Eliminate Discrimination

WASHINGTON, May 28—(AP)—The old and recently inactive committee designed to prevent discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin was scrapped Friday by President Roosevelt and replaced by a new and autonomous body.

It will be the duty of the present committee, the executive order said, to eliminate discrimination by all employers, federal departments and labor unions, the latter in the matter of memberships.

To head the new committee the president selected a veteran of labor disputes, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, dean of the school of social science of Catholic University, a member of the original National Labor Relations Board, a special conciliator for the labor department since 1935, and a participant in the settlement of about 1,500 labor squabbles.

In reconstituting the committee the chief executive removed it from the jurisdiction of Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt and gave its new chairman authority to appoint personnel and "power to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order."

The committee as originally established had independent status, but was placed under McNutt when his authority was broadened to embrace selective service and other phases of the manpower problem. The group's activity has been at a virtual standstill since the "indefinite postponement" by McNutt of investigations scheduled for January into charges of discrimination against Negroes by railroads.

Restoration of the committee's independence meets demands of various Negro, labor and religious organizations which have protested McNutt's postponement of the railroad complaint inquiry.

The president ordered that hereafter all contracting agencies of the government shall include in all contracts a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employe or job applicant because of race, creed, color or national origin and requiring him to include similar provision in all subcontracts.

Mr. Roosevelt will name six other members to the committee which will receive and investigate complaints of discrimination, conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and "take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination."

"It is the duty of all employers, including the several federal departments and agencies and all labor organizations in furtherance of this policy and this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin," the order said.

FEPC

Report Changes In Rail Work Since Hearing

Daily World

Find Mexicans Get Promotions On Union Pacific

Atlanta, Ga

WASHINGTON— (A N P)—The Fair Employment Practice committee is progressing on the work of reducing the volumes of testimony taken in the railroad hearings to the "handling point," it was learned last week-end.

Already the cases against about six companies and four labor unions have been summarized, foundings made, and directives drafted calling upon all concerned to "cease and desist" various discriminations. An official statement has not yet been prepared,, however.

Unofficially but reliably it is understood that telegrams have been received from several Mexican workers on the Union Pacific railroad stating that they had since been upgraded immediately after the testimony of one witness against the company had been taken down. The texts of the messages were not available.

The New York Central system has not yet followed up on its suggestion to sit down with the committee and work out a solution nor has there been any break since the hearings ended in any other direction.

ACT NOW OR FEPC IS DOOMED, WHITE WARNS

Atlanta, Ga., World
March 5, 1943

"If we don't make ourselves heard within the next ten days, the Fair Employment Practice Committee is doomed," Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People declared this week in a special statement to the press.

"Determination of FEPC's fate will in large measure decide the fate of the Negro during and after the war," Walter White declared. "The unity of the diversified groups supporting FEPC has startled and dismayed the enemies of the Committee who are now working to scuttle it behind the scenes.

"Only one thing can prevent that disaster—an avalanche of pressure in the form of telegrams to The White House pledging the President support against the reactionary forces in and outside of Congress which are running wild in Washington today in destroying not only FEPC, but every other agency to help the common man, and telegrams to Congressmen and Senators to go to bat for FEPC. We must make it known in the latter telegrams in no uncertain terms that these Congressmen and Senators cannot expect the votes of the Negro and other groups interested in FEPC unless they deliver the goods now. Every minister in the country is urged to preach on and pray for FEPC and to ask each member of his congregation to invest in one or more telegrams. Every branch of the NAACP, the Urban League, the March-on-Washington Committee, labor unions, fraternal, political, and business organizations and other groups is implored to do the same. If we roll an avalanche of expression to Washington that FEPC must be not only perpetuated but given complete independence and personnel, we can win this fight. If we don't make ourselves heard FEPC is doomed. In the final analysis, we will then have only ourselves to blame."

FEPC Orders New Hearings on Bias; Showdown Seen on Its Reorganization

New York, N. Y.
PM

PM's

WASHINGTON, Apr. 21.—The Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) moved today toward a showdown with Administration officials over the future of the anti-discrimination agency.

APR 21 1943

The FEPC has been virtually dormant since Manpower Commissioner McNutt ordered cancellation last January of its hearings on Jim Crowism in the railroad industry. Since that time McNutt has repeatedly indicated that the Committee would be revitalized under a new chairman.

Aroused over the delay in its reconstitution, Earl B. Dickerson, its acting chairman, announced today that the FEPC had fixed dates for new public hearings on discrimination cases. This decision was made Monday at a meeting of four remaining members of the Committee.

The participants at the meeting were Boris Shishkin of the AFL, John Brophy of the CIO, Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Dickerson, a former Chicago alderman.

Dickerson said the Committee had decided to hold an open session on May 18 to determine why the Capital Transit Co., controlling most of Washington's transportation facilities, has failed to hire Negroes as conductors, motormen and bus operators. This dispute was one of the "hottest" handled by FEPC.

Although Capital Transit formally agreed to comply with FEPC order, it is understood that Negroes still have been unable to obtain employment.

The Committee has also agreed to hold hearings on May 24 and 25 in Detroit, Dickerson said, where members of the FEPC have conducted extensive investigations of job bias against minorities.

Dickerson's announcement is expected to force the hand of Administration officials who have been working on plans for reorganization of the anti-discrimination unit, and may lead to an early decision.

1943

Since the cancellation of the railroad hearings, the FEPC has refrained from any public hearings and the battle against discrimination has virtually collapsed. During the same interval manpower officials have stressed that manpower needs cannot be met this year unless bias against minorities in industries is wiped out.

Asks Further Strengthening Of FEPC

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Further strengthening and support of the Fair Employment Practices Committee has been urged in a resolution to President Roosevelt by the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities, the group which has been leading the fight for Negro bus and street car operators in Washington.

JAN 21 1943

The Committee charges that the "so-called National Negro Council, paper organization of Edgar G. Brown . . . is doing Hitler's business," in proposing that FEPC be disbanded.

"The Negro people will continue to support the Roosevelt war administration," the Committee's message to the President concludes, "and in the very prosecution of this people's war they shall continue to move forward to greater freedom."

JAN 21 1943

FEPC Soon to Probe Discrimination in Detroit

PM
New York, N. Y.

JUN 29 1943

Southern Railroads, Capital Transit Co., Also Face Inquiry

JUN 29 1943

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 28.—Msgr. Francis J. Haas, new chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, today began an unflinching program to combat racial discrimination on war jobs today with three announcements:

¶ That he will visit Detroit, scene of last week's bloody race riots, within the next few days.

JUN 29 1943

¶ That hearings on charges of discrimination will open in Detroit on July 28 and 29, or earlier if possible.

¶ That all pending cases including those against Southern railroads and the Capitol Transit Co. of Washington will be presented to the new Committee members at their first meeting so that they can "decide the order in which they wish to hear these cases."

Msgr. Haas's announcement was the first indication that he intends to continue the Southern railroad and Capitol Transit cases—two of the hottest ever to arise in Washington. Both have aroused so much opposition from Southern Democrats that many Negro leaders feared the Administration had decided to drop the cases altogether.

Announcement of the pending Detroit hearings was even more gratifying to Negro groups.

JUN 29 1943

Msgr. Haas explained that during his visit to Detroit he would examine the six pending cases—two companies already have agreed to comply with the executive order—and also "study several more recent cases which involve large war industries."

The original eight cases which FEPC had expected to hear all involved smaller plants averaging about 1000 workmen. None of the big Detroit corporations--Ford, General Motors, Chrysler or Packard—were involved.

Observers interpreted the chairman's statement to mean that he was prepared to tackle the big corporations if they are found to be violating the President's order on discrimination.

JUN 29 1943

A part of the reorganization of the FEPC, following the mandate given it in the President's executive Order 9346, will be the establishment of 12 regional offices responsible to the committee and situated in the 12 regions of the War Manpower Commission.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, new chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, who will actively combat racial discrimination.

ORDERS REHIRING OF 300 NEGROES

President's Fair Employment Committee Alleges Union Discrimination

JUL 2 1943

MEN REFUSED TO PAY DUES

JUL 27 1943

West Coast Shipbuilders Say AFL Put Them in an 'Auxiliary' Union

JUL 27 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, July 26—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice asked today for the reinstatement of about 300 Negro workers in West Coast shipyards pending an adjustment of complaints that they had been the victims of racial discrimination. They had been discharged under a closed shop contract, it was alleged, for refusal to pay dues to a separate "auxiliary" union set up for them by the American Federation of Labor Boilermakers Union. About 3,000 Negroes, it was said, have been assigned to the "auxiliary" union.

A question for decision by the President's committee, a new organization set up in May by Executive order and financed currently from the President's special emergency fund, is whether the establishment of a separate union constitutes discrimination because of race, creed or color.

Parties Will Be Heard

The committee, after authorizing its chairman, Mgr. Francis J. Haas of the Catholic University, to request the reinstatement of the dismissed workers, indicated that it would base further action on the nature of the replies received from the companies and union involved as to their reasons for the actions which led to complaints of discrimination.

JUL 27 1943

Turning to another case involving complaints of discrimination the seven-member committee voted to inform the Capital Transit Company of Washington, which has admitted a failure to employ available Negroes on its lines, that it "expected affirmative action" leading to compliance with the President's Executive Order. If such action is not taken, it was indicated, a public hearing of the case will be ordered.

JUL 2 1943

The transit company has maintained that, while it has been willing to employ Negroes, it has been unable to do so because of the attitude of other employes, of public reaction and of inability to obtain trainers for the prospective Negro employes. The committee will meet again in two weeks, and it was indicated that if the company's response was unsatisfactory, recommendations, based upon the suggested public hearing, would be forwarded to the President.

Of seven cases in the Detroit area, the committee reported, four appeared to have been adjusted through expressed willingness of employers to comply with the Executive Order.

JUL 27 1943

300 Possible Cases on File

The committee now has in its files approximately 300 reports from offices of the United States Employment Service throughout the country, describing placement orders submitted by employers which, it is alleged, contain discriminatory specifications.

About 500 complaints of violations of the executive order are pending before the committee. All cases except those now actually being settled, it was said at the committee headquarters, probably will be turned over to the field division for regional handling.

JUL 27 1943

Under the Executive Order a mandatory anti-discrimination

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

New Birth For FEPC

THE President headed the newly formed Committee on Fair Employment Practice with Monsignor Francis J. Haas, of Catholic University, Washington. The new chairman has had a wealth of experience in the settlement of labor difficulties, although this experience has not carried him far into the realm of difficulties which have their basis in race, creed and nationality, aspects of labor discrimination with which FEPC was dealing vigorously before it was placed under the jurisdiction of War Manpower Commissioner McNutt, and shelved when the Commissioner ordered the proposed inquiry into discrimination by the railroad brotherhoods postponed indefinitely.

Monsignor Haas worked on the original National Labor Relations Board, and as a special conciliator for the Labor Department. Having participated in the settlement of about 1,500 labor disputes, he certainly has firsthand knowledge of the average troubles between capital and labor. In the special field of operations for which the Committee on Fair Employment Practices was established the explosive question of race enters. In certain areas of industry, and of American thinking, this question greatly complicates the task of the newly organized committee, charged with the responsibility of making effective President Roosevelt's now famous Executive Order 8802. Especially is this true in the South, where equality of work opportunity is confused with "social equality." And in the North equality of work opportunity runs counter to some of the same difficulties it meets in the South, especially the same organized labor opposition to the employment of Negroes in certain brackets of industry.

On the whole, we do not believe that the President and his advisers could have found a better man for the chairmanship, considering the limited field from which a choice had to be made. Most big business men eliminated themselves because of the Southern dynamite keg. We are approaching a presidential election year, and few able men in public life were available, for either political or business reasons. Recourse to an able Catholic Churchman, experienced in labor matters and trained in sociology was probably a sound choice. Much will depend upon the full personnel of the committee. At last it has been freed from the throttling jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission and given a measure of independent status.

Open FEPC Office In Philly

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2—(ANP)—The regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) which was announced some weeks ago to serve the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware was opened Monday in Philadelphia. G. James Felming is the regional director.

The office will be located at 803-4 Stephen Girard building, 21 South 12th street, in downtown Philadelphia, three blocks from the Broad street station of the Pennsylvania railroad and one-half block from the Reading terminal.

Two examiners will work with the regional director, Miss Mildred Greenblatt, Patterson, N. J., who is being transferred here from the New York office of FEPC, and Milo Manley, Philadelphia, formerly of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Assistance. Following the two-year program of the FEPC, the regional office will work to correct grievances growing out of discrimination against war workers because of their race, creed, color, national origin, or alienage, in accordance with Presidential Executive Orders 8802 and 9346, Fleming explained.

As a start, the office will begin with a backlog of about 200 cases being transferred here from the Washington and New York offices.

Manpower Official Declares Employers Must End Bias

JAN 23 1943 "Journal + Guide," Norfolk, Va.

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Declaring that the war made it unwise for employers to allow themselves the extravagant privilege of racial and other prejudices in the employment of their workers, Fowler V. Harper, deputy chairman of the War Manpower Commission, speaking at the annual dinner of the Cleveland Urban League on January 13, called attention to the reservoir of Negro manpower still untouched by many industries doing war work.

"Now some people think Negroes are not as efficient as white workers, but the facts show that this is not true. They can work as hard and as long and as steadily as anybody else, and they can acquire skills as great as others. This is the testimony of employers today who hire Negroes in war plants and who check up on their performance," he declared.

Another untruth, he said, is the idea that white workers and Negroes won't get along together in the same plant.

JAN 23 1943

WORK TOGETHER

"Well, there are thousands of plants and factories all over the country where they are working together and getting along without any trouble at all. I have the feeling that there would be far less trouble between Negroes and white workers if it were not for some of the people who worry so much about trouble between white people and Negroes," remarked the speaker.

Mr. Harper pointed out that industrialists would be called upon in the next few months to surpass production schedules now in operation, and, ventured his opinion, that the program could not be achieved unless the full and complete labor resources of the nation are utilized.

The speaker lauded the recent industrial openings for Negroes in the Cleveland area, but added that the employment was not proceeding as rapidly as the expediences of war require.

He promised that the War Manpower Commission through the local area office, the employment service, and the FEPC would "continue and intensify its efforts to accomplish full and complete utilization of all local labor at its highest skills."

Plan Delegation To Save FEPC

"Daily Worker" N.Y., N.Y.

JAN 25 1943

Formation of a nationwide coordinating organization to save the Fair Employment Practice Committee and to be known as the Associated Organizations on Manpower and Fair Employment Practice, has been undertaken with the support of the National Negro Congress and 17 allied groups as part of a sweeping five-point program to end job discrimination in war industry.

"America is flirting with defeat so long as she fails to mobilize the energies of her millions of Negro workers for war production," Edward E. Strong, newly-elected executive secretary of the Congress, declared in a statement urging Negro and white organizations throughout the country to affiliate with the new body. "The attack upon FEPC is not alone a Negro problem, as those who are attempting to destroy it seem to make it. The attack upon FEPC is an attack not only against the Negro people but upon the war effort itself. It is an assault on the war program foreshadowing the drive of the reactionaries, poll taxers, and two-faced opponents of the war effort in the 78th Congress. The fight to save FECP is a fight to save the unity and morale of the American people."

Other steps in the program, mapped at an emergency meeting of spokesmen from 20 organizations called by the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, held in the Hotel Biltmore, New York, this week, include:

1. An emergency national conference of outstanding leaders of both races, to be held in Washington during the next three weeks.

2. Local conferences on war employment and discrimination, to be held in key cities throughout the country.

3. A representative delegation, qualified to speak for the entire nation, to go to Washington to give support to the FEPC and to demand that it be made a completely independent agency, with sufficient funds and powers to do the work expected of it under Presidential Executive Order 8802.

4. Special radio broadcasts over national hookups to mobilize support for the FEPC, and to expose the attempts to hamper the war effort by creating color divisions among the American people.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Race Bias Against Train Firemen to Be Unfolded at Meeting of Protest

JAN 23 1943

A huge mass meeting with the objective of protesting against the postponement of Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings by the railroads against Negro firemen will be held at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, 1638 Vermont Avenue, Sunday at 2:30 p. m.

The hearings were cancelled by order of War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, under wheose supervision the FEPC comes.

The story of how Negro firemen have been murdered down through the years, otherwise abused, and now facing a ban of employment on Diesel engines through collusion by unions and railway officials is expected to be unfolded.

The mass meeting is sponsored by the Provisional Committee for the Organization of Colored Locomotive Firemen.

Speakers Expected

B. F. McLaurin, national organizer, and chairman of the meeting, will be one of the speakers. Others inculde James B. Carey, international secretary-treasurer of the CIO; A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and of the "March on Washington" Movement;

Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin, chairman of the New York "Move on Washington" unit; Thurman T. Dodson, chairman of the local "March on Washington" unit; Paul Scharrenberg, legislative representative of the American Federation of Labor, and others.

Music will be furnished by the Union Wesley AMEZ Church, which is reputed to be one of the best in the city. Mrs. Elsie Grey Keys is director; Miss Evelyne Clark, accompanist, and Miliford Williams, president.

The local headquarters of the sponsoring committee is at 1812 Ninth Street, Northwest.

FEPC Lawyers Quit; Protest McNutt Stand

"Journal + Guide," Norfolk, Va.

JAN 23 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A showdown on the future of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices appears imminent as the Committee plans to meet Friday to discuss the action of War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt cancelling the hearings on discrimination against colored workers in the railroad industry.

The action has already been vigorously protested by delegations which have called upon Mr. McNutt in vain for an explanation. As yet he has given no reason for calling off the hearings which were scheduled to begin on January 25.

HOUSTON RESIGNS

Charles H. Houston, prominent lawyer, who was to serve as associate counsel for the committee in the conduct of the hearings, last Saturday submitted his formal resignation to Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, the committee chairman, as have Henry Epstein, chief counsel, and Harold Stevens, also an associate.

At the same time, Mr. Houston issued a statement sharply attacking the method by which the hearings were called off and urging colored people to protest Mr. McNutt's action to the President and members of Congress.

Mr. Houston's statement in part follows:

"It is important for Negroes to realize the full significance of Paul V. McNutt's action.

"Mr. McNutt did not take snap judgment. He never consulted the committee itself, nor asked the committee what evidence it had. Nevertheless the question of calling off the hearings was thoroughly discussed elsewhere in government circles.

"Information available would seem to indicate that the order to call off the hearing came directly from the White House. No substitute plan in place of the hearings has been offered.

REACTIONARIES ASSERTING INFLUENCE

"Today with the war going better for the United Nations, the reactionaries are getting up off their knees and asserting their influence. Right now there is a definite swing to the right in government. Reactionary Southerners and conservative Republicans are major influences in determining policy. The result in part is the action of Mr. McNutt calling off the public hearings.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

SEE MOVE TO KILL FEPC AS ITS CHAIRMAN QUITS

White, Randolph Joined By Many Others In Fight On McNutt Order On FEPC

JAN 23 1943

In a move that stunned lovers of democracy throughout the length and breadth of this nation at war, the Federal Government on Tuesday was revealed to have "kicked" Malcolm S. MacLean, chairman of the FEPC "upstairs," following the latter's unexplained resignation. Shocked beyond measure at the sudden move in the midst of a controversy to preserve the very life of the President's Committee, Negro leaders voiced the grim prediction that no successor will be named and that the removal of MacLean is the first step in a campaign to emasculate the FEPC and render it absolutely helpless in the fight of the Negro to obtain equitable treatment at the hands of industry and labor.

No explanation was made by MacLean of his resignation. Instead, it was announced that he will become Advisor on Negro Affairs to the Navy.

With New York progressive organizations and militant leaders determined to stand by their guns in the all-out campaign to defeat the decision of War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt in regard to the postponement of hearings of the FEPC on jim crow in the railroad industry, the McNutt office, the President's desk and the mailbags of Congressional representatives were flooded with angry protest this week as The New York Age went to press.

Going over McNutt's head in a direct and pointed appeal to the President, Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, wrote the Chief Executive:

"Because the decision which is now made will profoundly affect the course of things to come, we renew our request that the Fair Employment Practice Committee be restored to its completely independent status," White's letter said.

Asking that Mr. Roosevelt reverse the McNutt order which has kindled heated controversy throughout the length and breadth of the nation, White continued:

"We want you to know that we understand and are deeply sympathetic with you personally because of the difficulties which the making of such a decision will entail. We know the terrible dilemma you face in the 78th Congress......We have been informed of the lobbying being done among members of the Congress by representatives of the railroads who bitterly oppose any action which would attempt to correct the vicious discrimination against Negroes on certain of the public carriers of the United States. But we respectfully submit that any surrender to such forces, or any manifestation of weakness in the face of the barrage from them would be disastrous, not only for the Negro, but for the principles of democracy itself. Temporizing can only encourage those persons who wish to perpetuate the status quo with all its inequalities and discriminations.

Blasts Prejudiced Secretaries

White went on to charge that "certain members" of the Presidential secretariat, "distinctly unsympathetic to Negroes who ask unequivocally for full citizenship status as well as duties, may have given you less than a complete picture of the situation. I have been informed, for example, by distinguished white American visitors to the White House of violently denunciatory statements by one of your secretaries against Negroes who have come to the White House, not as mendicants, but have instead made their requests for righting of injustice against the Negro without subservience. I am informed that Mr. A. Philip Randolph and myself are the particular objects of attack."

"May we again strongly urge," White concluded, "that you restore the Fair Employment Practice Committee to its full and independent status prior to its transfer to the War Manpower Commission."

Meanwhile, final plans were being made in Washington for the holding of one of the biggest protest demonstrations that city has seen, Sunday night, January 24, at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church. Five thousand citizens, representing every important church, club, civic, labor and fraternal organization in Washington and vicinity and many from out of town are expected to attend.

Speakers who will address the meeting include B. F. McLaurin, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; James B. Carey, CIO; A. Philip Randolph, Director, March On Washington Committee; Paul Scharrenburg, AFL; Theodore A. Jackson, president, Dining Car Employees Union; Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin and Thurman L. Dodson.

National organizations like the March-On-Washington Committee, Urban League, NAACP and labor unions and fraternal orders were concentrating on mobilizing their subsidiary bodies throughout the country for the purpose of veritably flooding the White House with protest telegrams and letters.

Among those organizations which have lined up in the all-out fight, in addition to those mentioned above, are The New York City Metropolitan Council on Fair Employment Practice, representing twenty-three organizations; International Labor Defense, National Negro Congress; National Maritime Union; Workers Defense League Socialist Party, and many others.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Is Asked to Reverse Hearing Postponement

JAN 23 1943

the decision which is will profoundly affect se of things to come we w our request that the Fair Employment Practice Committee be restored to its completely independent status," said Walter White this week in a letter urging the President's reversal of McNutt's War Manpower order of the postponement of the January 25th Fair Employment Practice Committee hearing on discrimination in railroad employment.

"We want you to know," said Mr. White, "that we understand and are deeply sympathetic with you personally because of the difficulties which the making of such a decision will entail. We know the terrible dilemma you face in the 78th Congress because of the coalition formed against you and against all liberal legislation by members of the Congress of your own party from the South, and of certain members of the Republican party. We have been informed of the lobbying being done among these members of the Congress by representatives of the railway brotherhoods and some of the representatives of the railroads who bitterly oppose any action which would attempt to correct the vicious discrimination against Negroes on certain of the public carriers of the United States. But we respectively submit that surrender to such forces, or any manifestation of weakness in the face of the barrage from them would be disastrous not only to the Negro but for the principles of democracy itself. Temporizing can only encourage those persons who wish to perpetuate the status quo with all its inequalities and discriminations.

"We know, also, that certain members of your secretariat, who are distinctly unsympathetic to Negroes who ask unequivocally for full citizenship status as well as duties, may have given you less than a complete picture of the situation. I have been informed, for example, by distinguished white American visitors to the White House of violently denunciatory statements by one of your secretaries against Negroes who have not come to the White House as mendicants but have instead made their requests for righting of injustices against the Negro without subservience. I am informed that Mr. A. Philip Randolph and myself are the particular objects of attack."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

WHAT NATION'S LEADERS THINK

Arthur W. Mitchell, former Congressman: "A grave and serious injustice is being done Negro morale and the cause of democracy in this country. It would seem to me that the usefulness of the Commission is at an end."

John O. Holly, Future Outlook League: "The stifling of FEPC seems a definite indication that policies of the railroads against Negroes are too shocking to reveal."

Willard S. Townsend, UTSEA president: "We who are committed to an all-out victory find it very difficult, with this definite bias action of the Manpower Commission, to maintain the high morale among Negroes who too, seek only inherent rights of humanity for which all nations and peoples are struggling."

J. W. Holley, Georgia educator: "The postponement of the hearing by order of Paul McNutt certainly indicates that FEPC is limited in power and the Committee should insist on independent action or resign."

Lester B. Granger, Urban League secretary: "It represents successful counterattack by reactionary forces and the way Negroes stand firm to repel this counter attack will determine rate of job progress we shall make during remainder of war."

Dr. Charlotte H. Brown, educator: "A distinct blow to the democracy for which we are encouraging our husbands, our fathers and our sons to die. America cannot win the war by crushing the spirits of our citizens black and white."

A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters: "It is a threat to democracy and plays directly into the hands of the Axis powers. The Negro people will insist that there be no substitute for FEPC hearings."

47d-1943

FEPC

McNutt Consents to Meet FEPC Members Tomorrow On Negro Discrimination . . .

"P. M. Daily" New York, N.Y.

JAN 21 1943

PM's

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission (WMC), will meet with members of the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) tomorrow in an attempt to quiet the storm raised by his action in indefinitely postponing the Committee's public hearings into racial discrimination on Southern railroads.

The meeting will be the first held since the railroad hearings were called off indefinitely, and the first since Malcolm S. MacLean resigned as Committee chairman. MacLean, it was learned, also has resigned as president of Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., to become the Navy's adviser on Negro problems.

JAN 21 1943

With some of the members known to be threatening to resign in protest against what they feel is McNutt's interference with efforts to enforce the national policy prohibiting racial discrimination on all war contracts a stormy session is expected.

Whether McNutt's action in calling off the public hearings under what obviously must have been strong pressure from Southerners in Congress and in the Democratic party is the forerunner of an attempt to kill the Committee entirely is doubted by Lawrence Cramer, executive secretary of FEPC.

JAN 21 19

"I have not yet seen an indication that the chairman of the War Manpower Commission is attempting to put a straight-jacket on the Committee," Cramer told PM.

Meantime, two groups have scheduled public demonstrations protesting McNutt's postponement of the railroad hearings. One on Sunday, by the Committee for the Organization of Colored Locomotive Firemen, will hear James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO, and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL. The other, on Monday, will present Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, and Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes, CIO.

What Paul V. McNutt Does:

"PM DAILY" NEW YORK, N.Y.

On Jan. 12, less than seven months after his Harlem speech, he announced that the Fair Employment Practice Committee's hearings on anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry had been "indefinitely postponed," an order which sidetracked the FEPC's most important exposure and threatened the whole drive against Jim Crow in war industry.

On Jan. 19, he turned away a delegation of 40 leaders of church, labor, and liberal organizations which appeared at his office to protest against the postponement.

On Jan. 20, agreed to meet with members of the FEPC in an attempt to quiet the storm.

JAN 21 1943

McNutt on the platform at the June conference in Harlem.

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What Paul V. McNutt Says:

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From a speech by the War Manpower Director before the Negro Labor Victory Conference at the Golden Gate Casino, in Harlem, last June 28.

"Discrimination—based on anything but a man's sheer worth—must go. Discrimination against every race must go. . . .

"We are not using Negroes enough. . . . There are still too many employers who stipulate on their hiring schedules that certain jobs are barred to Negroes. . . .

"Man's inhumanity to man has been laid heavily upon you. You have suffered grievous discrimination. And, when you demand a re-definition of fundamental American rights, your claims are just and sound. . . .

"Today, America is making up for lost time. From the great reservoir of more than 5,000,000 Negro workers, needed men will be found for the production lines at home. . . . It is unthinkable that our sacrifices shall be in vain. . . .

"We fight today two battles. We fight a battle for the world, a battle for the victory of free men everywhere. And we fight at home the battle of our souls. In every act, in every decision, in every word, our democracy and its ideals hang in the balance."

Emergency Action Needed to Save FEPC

"The Worker" New York, N.Y.

CONSIDERING the publicity that has been given recently to the cancellation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee railroad hearings, it may be well to review the background of this situation and the conditions on the railroads which first led to the demand for such hearings. These are the facts:

JAN 31 1943

American railroads are the backbone of American war production. A year ago, they were laboring under a manpower shortage of 320,000 men. The shortage has increased since then, month by month. To meet the shortage, Negro workers are available. Some, already in the industry, are awaiting promotion; others, outside, are waiting to be hired. But the policies of the companies and of some of the standard railway unions make such hiring and promotion impossible. Such Negroes as are employed in the industry are confined to low-pay, low-skill grades of work. Discrimination excludes the skill, experience and strength of Negro workers from serving their country at war.

JAN 31 1943

For more than a year, the railroad companies have refused to obey the President's Executive Order against discrimination. A hearing by the FEPC stood out as the one available means of solving this deadlock.

American citizens have built on the FEPC and on Executive Order 8802 their hopes for the future growth of democratic practice in American industry. Through the FEPC they hoped for the removal from our life of the Jim Crow hiring office, the help wanted notice "For White Only," and the mobilization of the nation's full manpower for winning the war. For the FEPC by opening jobs to Negroes, could have made possible finally the full participation of all Americans in our country's war effort. It is with such hopes that men can meet the sacrifices that war demands. When the hopes are destroyed, the fighting spirit, the morale, of Americans is destroyed with them.

America is not alone in the war. Victory can come only through the united victory of all freedom-loving peoples of the world. Among our allies are men of every race, color and creed. They are fighting for their freedom from the self-styled superraces of our enemies, the Nazis and the Japanese. At the same time, they are watching with concern the struggle for equal rights of the Negro people in this country.

The order to cancel the FEPC railroad hearings, therefore, is not only a blow at the unity and morale of a large section of our own population; any surrender to the symbols of our enemies is a blow struck at the unity and morale of the whole United Nations.

But the fight is not over. If the unions, newspapers, civil liberties groups, churches and community organizations will get into the fight now, we can save the FEPC. What is needed is a show of public support; call on the FEPC to stand together, to fill this breach in the line; carry the case to President Roosevelt and to the American people. We cannot beat the coalition of reactionaries by retreating.

This reactionary threat to the FEPC rail hearings must be turned from a threatened defeat to a forward victory for the progressive forces. It provides a lesson, and a ringing call to all groups to unite and act now. But the initiative is particularly up to us on the railroads: in every railroad center we must take the lead mobilizing the community to save the FEPC.

Telegrams and letters must advise President Roosevelt that the American people support Executive Order 8802 and the FEPC to the hilt.

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New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Capital Transit Company Notifies FEPC It Will Abide By Order Banning Employment Jim Crow

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was officially notified Wednesday that the Capital Transit Company, which has been declared a war industry, will abide by the directions issued to it to bring the employment policy of the bus and trolley system into line with Executive Order 8802. This order forbids discrimination against war workers because of their race, creed, color and national origin.

JAN 2 - 194

At the same time, the committee's attention was called to the position of the international union of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, on the issue of employing Negroes as platform operators on street cars and buses. Division 689, A. A. S. E. R. M. C. E. A., has a contract with the Capital Transit Company.

International President Writes

W. D. Mahon, international president of the union, an A.F. of L. Affiliate in a letter to J. G. Bigelow, president of 689, urged him to "take into consideration the fact that we are now engaged in a war in which the colored man is called upon to do the same line of duty that the white man is called upon to do."

Mr. Mahon declared that there are colored men who have held membership for years in the union, and stated that "there is no difference so far as I can find out" in the accident record of white and colored operations.

Mr. Mahon's letter, written in response to one from Mr. Bigelow, president of the local union, as given out by the committee reads:

"Your communication of August 4 received, informing me that you were confronted with the race problem in your Division and requesting that I give you information regarding the colored men in other Divisions of our Association.

"In reply I would inform you, first, that our organization is a part of the American Federation of Labor, whose policy is not to discriminate against a fellow worker on account of creed, color or nationality—that's the policy of this organization that you must always keep in mind when dealing with this matter.

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"I know of no complaints in our organization anywhere over this matter. There was some little complaint in San Francisco some time ago, but that has disappeared and there is nothing of it at the present time. In many places, colored men are employed in this line of transportation and in many of our organizations there have been colored men for years holding membershiup.

"You ask regarding the records concerning accidents and so on. There is no record by any company that I know of, kept concerning the difference of accidents between colored and white and there is no difference so far as I can find out in that line ofwork. Their rocrds show the same as anyone's so far as their work is concerned.

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"I again would call your attention to the fact that it is a serious matter. I realize how some of your membership, being Southerners, feel on this matter, but you must take into consideration the fact that we are now engaged in a war in which the colored man is called upon to do the same line of duty that the white man is called upon to do, and any discrimination that would attract public attention, at this time, would be very detrimenal and especially coming out of Washington. So I would suggest that your members realize the situation and try to meet it in line with the policy of the organization."

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Jobs of Firemen At Stake

Jan. 15, 1943

Cancellation of Southern Hearing Comes as Shock

The Call 1/15/43

By ALVIN E. WHITE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—A set back came Saturday morning, when Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower commissioner, acting, it is said, upon instructions, ordered the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to cancel the scheduled hearings set for Jan. 25-27 when the railroads of the South were to be called upon to explain their discriminatory practices against Negro firemen.

Culminating a series of secret conferences, the order came as a bombshell to the members of the staff of the FEPC who had been working diligently compiling material to be used in the public hearings.

This had been looked forward to as the one great act the FEPC could perform, striking at organized labor which consistently has through certain railroad unions barred and eliminated Negroes from jobs they had long held.

Pressuc From Memb rs

Blame for th action cannot be placed, but it is widely discussed that pressure from congress on the White House may have had a great deal to do with the calling off of the hearings, which would have undoubtedly shown deep rooted discriminatory practices against Negroes.

No one will assume the blame for giving the order, it is "one of those things" which will be accepted. Some say the complexion of the new congress and the uncertainty of legislation before that body caused misgivings as to holding the hearings at this time. Whoever is responsible is as guilty of a "stab" in the back as was Italy and Japan only this time, it was not a stab by a foreign enemy, it was a stab by enemies from within. Jan. 15, 1943

For weeks ever since the hearings were planned, there has been an air of suspense and uncertainty about them. The FEPC as such went ahead with its plans, engaged Jacob Epstein of New York; Charles H. Houston, Washington's brilliant Negro lawyer, and others to conduct the case, only to have them suddenly dashed away.

Birmingham Echo

This cancellation is the culmination of a series of events transpiring since the peurile Birminghas hearings, in which the FEPC almost lost its pants emerging in a "barrel" as far as prestige and glory were concerned. Vacuous statements as to the great benefits accrusing from this hearing have failed to materialize.

These hearings were held on June 18-20. Since that time, no public hearings have been held. One excuse or another leading up to the cancellations. In El Paso, Texas, where a public hearing was to have been held, the state department is said to have been the influence prohibiting these proceedings. They pointed to the Mexican situation as the reason. There has never been a clean cut explanation or statement as to why these hearings were never held.

When John P. Davis wrote the head of WMC relating to the holding of hearings on treatments accorded blind Negroes asking that a public hearing be ordered, he was informed that the committee itself was the one to make the hearings.

A Free Hand?

When the President wrote Walter White of the N.A.A.C.P. on the matter of transferring the FEPC back to an independent status, White was told the committee was placed under WMC to strengthen and to revitalize it, giving the group its own budget (which since has been emasculated to a mere name), so it could function of its own free will. The President further told Mr. White that the committee had a free hand to do its job effectively, which was a task in front of it.

These two statements do not stand up. According to the latest order from above the committee is in this instance robbed of its autonomy and forced to do the bidding of higher-ups whether they are in the White House or in congress. The committee's hands have been tied and tied by unseen powers.

On the surface it would appear that a powerful clique operates through certain agencies to halt proceedings when the FEPC gets too close to the core of the situation. It has happened before as in the El Paso business and it is happening here with the railroad cases. There is no doubt but that it may happen in Detroit, where there are nasty rumors already afloat. A nearing has been ordered in Detroit for February Perhaps it won't be held either.

Time to Act

It stands to reason that some strong influence is wrecking the FEPC and the executive order the President issued concerning discrimination. Jan. 15, 1943

Not once since there has been a President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has the entire committee as such visited the White House to discuss its problems with the chief executive. In every instance, only the chairman, Dr. Malcolm MacLean, president of Hampton, and Lawrence Cramer, executive secretary, have visited the White House and then it is reported they discussed matters with Kentucky born Marvin McIntyre, the President's secretary.

The time has come for the committee itself to meet and decide whether this is to continue or to have a meeting with the President letting him say just what the committee's function is and how far they can go. Then, if they are satisfied to serve under those conditions, it is up to them.

Nothing less than a full committee visiting the White House could achieve this result.

Will the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices continue?

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

JAN 30 1943

The opinion prevails in many substantial quarters that the action of the Manpower Board in calling off the scheduled railroad hearings without the consent of the Fair Employment Practices committee, has damaged beyond repair the quasi judicial power of the committee.

JAN 30 1943

Since the committee is no longer free to carry out its investigative functions without interference from Mr. McNutt, its Negro members should be realistic enough to sense the liquidation of that body through pressure from southern politicians.

Under the circumstances it is not extraneous to say that the Fair Employment Practices committee has now entered into competition with a circus show under a side tent. It has no more influence now with the hard boiled and hard headed industrialists than has a circus barker. From the point of view of their own respectability, the remaining members of the committee should tender their resignation without ceremony.

JAN 30 1943

47d-194

FEPC Head Resigns; Agency Seen Doomed

"P. M. Daily," New York, New York

If you disapprove of things like this happening, write your Congressman and Paul V. McNutt.

By Gordon H. Cole

PM's Bureau

JAN 1 9 1943

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The U. S. Government appeared to be faltering today in two of its major efforts to make democracy mean something to Negro as well as white Americans.

Malcolm MacLean, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), has quit to take a job as adviser on Negro affairs for the Navy Dept., it was learned.

At the same time, Judge William H. Hastie, civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson and adviser on Negro problems, announced his resignation.

Negro circles in Washington read into MacLean's move from FEPC to the Navy Dept. the beginning of the end of that Committee and its attempt to enforce the President's policy forbidding racial discrimination in the employment of workers in war plants.

JAN 1 9 1943

Sided With McNutt

Some Negro leaders predict that no successor to MacLean would be appointed by the President and that the Committee would be allowed to die.

MacLean, president of Hampton Institute, a Negro College at Hampton, Va., it was pointed out, is the only member of the FEPC who has sided with Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission (WMC), in the latter's suppression of the FEPC's attempt to hear charges of discrimination against the railroad unions.

That he, the most conservative member, should be going, it is felt, means that the more liberal members would certainly have no chance of survival.

The remaining Committee members will meet Friday of this week for the first time since McNutt intervened to cancel the railroad hearings.

The Committee has on its immediate agenda a series of hearings to investigate charges of discrimination lodged against war contractors in the Detroit area.

Malcolm S. MacLean

These hearings have been scheduled for later this month, or early in February. Fear that McNutt also might prevent the Committee from conducting these hearings was dispelled partially yesterday, when McNutt told a press conference that there was no question of postponement of the hearings and that there would be no attempt to block them.

JAN 1 9 1943

Judge Hastie's Resignation

Judge Hastie's resignation from the War Dept. ended a 2½-year struggle to end discrimination in the Army.

Hastie, first Negro to be appointed to a Federal judgeship, was made special assistant to the Secretary of War in October, 1940—a few days before the last national election.

Since he went to work, the War Dept. has hired many Negroes for white collar positions (4000 were taken on in six months last year), a Negro tank battalion has been formed, and there has been no segregation at officers' training schools.

But Judge Hastie was unable to persuade the Army to expand aviation opportunities for Negro pilots. At the present the only aviation training open to Negroes is limited to the school at Tuskegee, Ala., which turns out 33 pursuit pilots a year.

JAN 1 9 1943

FEPC

Hastie also was turned down in his attempt to have the War Dept. issue a pamphlet instructing all troops about respect for Negro soldiers, just as it issued pamphlets instructing the troops on the proper conduct and attitudes toward the English, the North Africans, Australians, etc.

CIO Hits Halt To FEPC Probe

"Daily Worker" N.Y. N.Y.

JAN 1 3 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The CIO today sharply condemned as a "serious blow" at National morale the decision of War Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt to postpone hearings on discrimination against Negroes in the railroad industry by the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

McNutt was urged by the CIO "to demonstrate his good faith to the minority groups in this country giving the Fair Employment Practices Committee a green light to move ahead at once with its investigation of racial discrimination in American industry."

The CIO made its public protest as both CIO and AFL leaders were understood to be pressing for a meeting of FEPC within the next few days at which the anti-discrimination body could act in a body.

JAN 1 3 1943

It is expected that at this forthcoming meeting a request will be made for a conference with the President to determine whether FEPC will be permitted to function without further interference.

The CIO's protest was made by James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and chairman of its committee against racial discrimination.

Carey said that McNutt's action in calling off the FEPC hearings on the railroad industry "is a serious blow to the war morale of more than 10,000,000 Negro citizens and to all white persons who know that racial discrimination is a Hitlerite weapon that should be stamped out by believers in democracy.

"Mr. McNutt's announcement constitutes a setback of the first magnitude on the home front of this nation's war effort. Unless speedily corrected, it may well develop into an equally serious obstacle to achieving full unity among all the peoples of the United Nations, regardless of color or creed, in their global war against the Axis."

Newspapermen Map Plans For FEPC Continuation

Meet In NAACP Office In New York January 30

"Atlanta Daily World" Atlanta, Ga.

JAN 2 6 1943

NEW YORK—(S N S)— Negro editors and publishers from as far west as Oklahoma met Saturday at the office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to plan a campaign for the continuation of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice as an independent government agency for investigation of discriminations against workers in war industries on account of color, creed or national origin. The following statement was issued by the group:

JAN 2 6 1943

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was appointed by President Roosevelt in July, 1941. This month Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission postponed indefinitely public hearings which the Committee had scheduled into discriminations against Negro workers on railroads serving as vital arteries of the war effort hauling munitions, troops and war workers.

JAN 2 6 1943

ASK SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

"Mr. McNutt declared that the railroads held no war contracts and might not be within the jurisdiction of the Committee. We declare that if railroads are not technically subject to the jurisdiction of the Committee, the President should supplement his Executive Order 8802 to bring them within its scope.

"We request the President to direct the Committee to reschedule the public hearings which Chairman McNutt cancelled. Wiping out the color line in war industries is not only necessary for the full use of the nation's non-white allies of the good faith of the American Government in its proclamation of freedom and democracy as the objectives of the war. The attempts of reactionary forces in Congress and certain high-placed government officers to preserve the color line in war industries furnishes fuel for Nazi and Japanese propaganda in Africa and Asia that the four freedoms do not apply to the colored races. The Negro people and the Negro press are one hundred per cent behind the war effort but are determined that democracy shall function at home as well as be a policy laid down for foreign consumption."

Among those attending the conference were: Ira F. Lewis, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Chester A. Franklin, Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas W. Young, Jr., Norfolk, Va.; Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City, Okla.; C. B. Powell, A. C. Powell, and Ludlow Werner, New York City. John Sengestacke, Chicago, Ill.; A. G. Shields, Little Rock, Ark.; Carl Murphy, Baltimore, Md.; Louis Martin, Detroit, Mich.; and Claude Barnett. Chicago, Ill.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Report Work-or-Fight Job Bias To Local FEPC, Workers Told

FEB 13 1943

The issuance of the work-or-fight order applying to men between 18 and 38, deferred for dependency and working in any of 65 nonessential occupations, caused the War Manpower Commission regional office Friday, Feb. 5, to warn that New York employers discriminating against Negroes, Jews, aliens, or other minority groups, would be prosecuted "vigorously."

The drastic order may result in a piling up of violations of President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802 against discrimination in war industries because almost one-fourth of the cases of violation have come from New York City.

The WMC is asking any persons who are subjected to discrimination, provided they sought jobs on their own initiative, to refer complaints to the FEPC regional office, 11 W 42 st., room 2240.

REPORT BIAS TO FEPC

Workers who are referred to jobs by the United States Unemployment Service and discriminated against should report back to the USES interviewer who sent him out.

FEB 13 1943

Only those complaints originating in New York State will be handled directly by the New York regional office. Complaints against firms in New Jersey or the New England States will be accepted but sent to FEPC representatives in those regions for handling, it was revealed by Edward Lawson, acting examiner-in-charge.

FEB 13 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Forward March!

FEB 13 1943

FEPC Probe Here Opens War Jobs

Twenty-five qualified Negro workers, whose applications had been passed over by officials of the Anaconda Wire and Cable Company of Yonkers, N. Y. during a recent hiring campaign, were called in and put to work last month following an investigation by officials of the New York regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Many had filed for the jobs last summer. Despite the fact that they more than met the company's specifications, they had been told to wait until they were called. They had never been called.

Examination of a cross-section of the company's records showed that of 48 typical Negro applicants, 25 met the basic requirements for mill workers and five qualified as inspectors. None of these had been hired.

FEB 13 1943

Following a conference with Edward Lawson of the regional FEPC staff, Veto DeLustro, superintendent of the Anaconda plant, agreed to have all qualified Negro applicants called in and reconsidered. As a result the 25 men and women have since gone to work and many more have been approved for openings as they occur. Of those not hired, many already had found employment in other Westchester County war industries.

FEB 13 1943

According to William A. Pateman, personnel director of the company, the Negro workers "have proven to be competent and loyal employees and fit into our operations."

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

FDR 'Revives' Fading FEPC; Bill Would Make It Fool-Proof

FEB 13 1943

WASHINGTON—A conference to consider a revision and strengthening of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and the possible re-scheduling of the postponed Southern railroad discrimination hearings were on the Executive docket here this week.

A White House statement released last week contained the following announcement:

"For nearly two years the Fair Employment Practice Committee and its executive director have done an excellent piece of work placing workers in war jobs. They, however, have been handicaped by the fact that the members of the committee were working on a part-time volunteer basis and did not have powers or personnel commensurate with their responsibilities.

FEB 13 1943

"Therefore the President thinks it advisable to review the situation and that, when the machinery has been established to meet the problem, the hearings in the railroad case and in any other cases which may have been temporarily postponed will be continued."

MARCANTONIO SPONSORS BILL

Meanwhile, Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) introduced a bill which would give the FEPC broad powers to stamp out discrimination in employment by any contractor or subcontractor holding a Government contract.

FEB 13 1943

Also under the Marcantonio bill the FEPC would be empowered to order the hiring or reinstatement of any person found to have been kept from employment because of discrimination.

Negro Is Indispensable Says Secretary Ickes

Sir: In fields and factories and the armed forces, American Negoes are working and fighting for the common cause. They are an indispensable part of our total war effort, and their devotion is beyond praise. Their contribution to the war—their war and our war—is of such a nature that it should go far towards the eradication of race prejudice once and for all.

HAROLD I. ICKES,
Secretary of the Interior
Washington

Daily worker
New York, N.Y.

Hail Victory On FEPC

FEB 5 1943

President Roosevelt's instructions to Manpower Commissioner McNutt to call a conference for revising and strengthening the powers of the Fair Employment Practice Committee brought commendation yesterday from leaders of labor and of the Negro people.

Saul Mills, secretary of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council, CIO, said that the President's order to McNutt showed that Mr. Roosevelt, in having originally set up the FEPC, "wanted a sincere and effective job done to eliminate discrimination in war industries."

"It is unfortunate that the excellent work of that committee was sidetracked for a time," Mr. Mills said, "but now that the FEPC will be reconstituted, we may expect to see this most essential work of investigating discrimination go on even better than before."

The White House statement announcing the President's decision said:

FEB 5 1943

"For nearly two years, the President said, the Fair Employment Practices Committee and its executive director have done an excellent piece of work, placing workers in war jobs. They, however, have been handicapped by the fact that the members of the committee were working on a part-time voluntary basis, and did not have powers or personnel commensurate with their responsibilities.

"The President said he considers it advisable therefore to review the situation, and that, when the machinery has been established to meet the problem, the hearings in the railroad case and in any other cases which may have been temporarily postponed will be continued."

Joseph Ford, administrator of the Peoples Committee, of which Councilman Adam Clayton Powell is chairman, said the President was to be congratulated and that out of the conference should come enough material to break down job discrimination in the railroad industry, "the breaking down of which is so necessary to winning the war against fascism."

FEB 5 194

Ferdinand K. Smith, co-chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, yesterday sent Mr. McNutt a telegram requesting: an appointment "for the purpose of discussing" the President's "demand for rescheduling of the hearings on job discrimination in the railroad industry and your new 'work-or-fight' order and how it affects the Negro people."

BIG VICTORY

The President's announcement was "a tremendous victory for the war effort, for national unity and for Negro rights," in the opinion of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., executive secretary of the Upper Harlem and chairman of the New York County Communist Party.

P. M. Daily
New York, N.Y.

New FEPC Chief Sought

Graham Reported Reluctant to Head Revised Five-Man Board

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Plans for a conference of interested groups to reconstitute the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) and give it broader powers to guard against racial discrimination went forward today within the War Manpower Commission (WMC

FEB 5 1943

However, the precise time of the conference has not been decided. Plans call for creation of a full-time, five-man commission to replace the old FEPC. President Roosevelt approved them yesterday. P.M. Daily

Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt is understood to be casting about for a chairman and other personnel. Frank Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and a member of the War Labor Board (WLB), has been mentioned, but is understood to be reluctant to leave the WLB.

While most groups opposing discrimination in war industry felt hopeful about the turn of events, Walter White, executive secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, was reserved in his comments. New York, N.Y.

"It is gratifying to know that the President wishes the Fair Employment Practices Committee to have more power and more personnel, but it is not clear why a conference of organizations is necessary to accomplish these ends," he said. The NAACP and other organizations already have stated their position.

FEB 5 1943

"The war is not waiting for conferences; workers are needed in industry now. Let the President, without further delay, give the committee such power and personnel as may be necessary for the accomplishment of its vital tasks."

47d-1943

Transit Companies of Other Cities Have Orders from FEPC

Tribune
Philadelphia. Pa

PHILADELPHIA.—Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, said, after hearing opening statement by the union to effect that committee had picked out Philadelphia and has not directed efforts at other communities:

"It is true that a formal directive did issue in this case. but there have been complaints against other transportation systems and there has been some informal negotiation in those cases.

"This was the procedure used in Chicago with the result that platform men were hired. The facts are that we have intervened in other transit cases and other cases are pending in the informal stage."

Transit Co. Workers Unaware Union Was Jimcrowing Them

RALEIGH (TINY) JOHNSON, employed by Philadelphia Transportation Company as electric welder. Interview by George Crockett, FEPC attorney.

Q—Have you ever taken up with the company this matter of upgrading of colored men to conductors and motormen?

A—Yes, as far back as August, 1941, other employees like myself got together and formed a committee. We saw that there was surely going to be a need for extra help and we felt it an opportune time to go to the company and ask for upgrading. We finally met with Ralph Senter, president of the company, and Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of industrial relations.

Ralph Johnson

Q—What was the company's response?

"Further Consideration"

A—They admitted that changes were taking place and said they would give our request further consideration. They also agreed to a further conference and at that time, Wayne Hopkins of the Armstrong Association sat with us.

Q—Was anything done about the union's policy?

A—We were told there were certain seniority rights involved and a suggestion was made that colored motormen and conductors be used only on Lombard Street line.

Q—Was anything said relative o this customs clause in the nion's contract?

A—It was verbally agreed that e company would call in union presentatives relative to this ause, but a misunderstanding deloped and the company felt we ould call in the union.

Q—Did the company ever have a meeting with the union?

A—Not to my knowledge.

Q—Did colored fellows meet with the union representatives?

A—Yes, we met with two members of the executive board.

Q—What was decided?

A—Nothing.

DEC 18 1943

Ask NAACP to Help

Q—What did you do then?

A—We took the matter to the NAACP which held a series of meetings with the union and finally sent a letter to the union asking for upgrading and employment opportunities.

Q—Was the NAACP letter ever taken up?

A—Not that I know of.

Q—Before you had this union did you have any other union?

A—We had a Co-operative Association.

Q—Did colored hold any office?

A—Yes, an executive committee.

Q—Is it your view that this clause in present contract refers to rules and customs of the old co-operative?

A—Yes.

By Clark C. Hodgson, attorney for PRT Employees' Union:

Q—When you were a delegate in the union, did you offer any resolution regarding upgrading of colored men?

A—No.

By Milton Webster, FEPC member:

DEC 18 1943

Q—You state that you're familiar with the operation of the prior co-operative organization's agreement with the company. Was it your idea that when the company referred to past practices it meant race was involved?

One Large Family

A—No, it was my idea we were all one large family.

Q—You're a member of this union that you're paying dues in but the union is freezing you in certain jobs and failing to upgrade you. Did you know that?

A—I did not know that.

Q—Did you know until you heard Mr. Coburn this morning that colored members were limited to certain jobs, colored men's jobs?

FEPC

A—I did not. I knew we couldn't disrupt seniority, but not that.

Q—Is it your opinion that colored men in the union knew of this interpretation of this clause put on it by the union?

A—No, they did not.

Q—You don't think they'll take it lightly and continue to pay dues?

A—No, I know they're disheartened and I'm sure they won't continue to pay dues.

DEC 18 1943

President May Rule on Discrimination after FEPC Review

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Ruling on Hiring Policies of 22 Railroads, Brotherhoods' Tactics Will Affect 400,000 Rail Workers

By B. M. PHILLIPS

Editor, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN

WASHINGTON

A ruling by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee which completed a four-day inquiry into hiring policies of the nation's top railroads and brotherhoods on Saturday will affect the working conditions of approximately 400,000 railroad workers.

It is expected that the committee, headed by Msg. Francis J. Haas, will review the evidence presented to it last week and because the majority of the twenty-two railroads admitted they discriminated against colored workers on account of race, their cases will be carried direct to President Roosevelt for action.

None of the fourteen labor unions and railroad brotherhoods charged with participating in discrimination against railroad employees appeared before the body when it sat last week in the Departmental Auditorium nor were replies received from three of them, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

A spokesman for the committee told the AFRO the unions took the position that they were merely parties to the charge and not subject to make formal answers.

Alderman Defends Practice

At the conclusion of the hearings late Saturday, Msg Haas called for statements by the representatives of the railroads.

Sidney Alderman, white, counsel for two of the roads who also made an opening statement on behalf of all the railroads in which he said that the "customs of the South" would not countenance employment of colored people in all types of jobs, defended failure of counsel to cross-examine witnesses.

It was the general feeling that this failure was intended to sabotage the hearings.

"The facts were all brought out," he said, and "there was no need to cross-examine witnesses."

Msg. Haas said that the committee with the evidence before it would "now proceed on the basis of the record and take such action as the committee deems appropriate."

Union Pacific Denies Charges

The Union Pacific Railroad of which William Jeffers, former rubber czar is president, was the only one of the railroads to deny the charges of discrimination and promised an investigation because if true they violated company policy.

Before the hearings ended, he road which is charged with efusing to upgrade persons f Mexican descent and colred people, sent a telegram the committee categorically admitting discrimination ainst Mexicans by stating at four Mexicans had been red, three as helpers and one as boilermaker, jobs which witnesses said had heretofore been denied them.

Bartley C. Crum, chief committee counsel, said that the attitude of the Union Pacific was what might have been expected from a company headed by a man of Mr. Jeffers's reputation of a public servant and that the company's position "constitutes a notable contribution" to the committee.

Mr. Crum declared that there exists a large untapped pool of labor among thousands of able-bodied colored Americans whose full skills and services are denied to the railroad industry by dint of a long history of discrimination which is in violation of President Roosevelt's executive edicts, 8802 and 9346.

Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, former member of the department of economics at Harvard and Cornell and at present a member of the National War Labor Board, was the first witness for the FEPC.

He pointed out that the colored worker is denied a voice in nearly all railroad unions; that his seniority is overlooked; that he is seldom promoted to a better job and that he is limited in the kind of employment he may receive.

"Unless something is done soon, I doubt that there will be a colored fireman or brakeman on the railroads by 1950," Dr. Northrup predicted.

Hits Federal Agencies

Dr. Northrup, author of a book, "Organized Labor and the Negro," soon to be released, stated further that two government agencies, the National Mediation Board and the National Railway Adjustment Board, have sanctioned discrimination by railroads and brotherhoods against colored employees.

Called to the stand Wednesday and Thursday were colored firemen of the railroads who, under questioning by Mr. Crum and his co-counsel, Charles Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York City, related how the railroads' agreement with the brotherhoods and their policies of racial discrimination operate to keep them from being upgraded to engineer jobs and from gaining employment in other capacities, despite their seniority ratings.

Tell of Bias on Diners

Greater part of the last two days' testimony at the hearing

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

New FEPC Holds Its First Session in Washington

JUL 17 1943

Members of the recently organized Fair Employment Practice Committee who held a two-day session at their headquarters in Washington last week. Seated around the conference table are: Miss Sara Southall, supervisor of employment and service, International Harvester Company, Chicago; P. B. Young, Sr., publisher, Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide; Samuel Zemurray, president, United Fruit Company, New Orleans; Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman; George Johnson, chief investigator; John Brophy of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Milton P. Webster, international vice president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Chicago; and Boris Shiskin, American Federation of Labor, Washington.

was concerned with discrimination against employees in the dining car and shop divisions of railroads.

Witnesses testified that railroads prohibit colored employees from advancing above laborers' rank in the various shops and roundhouses and that while colored men are permitted to serve as waiters-in-charge and perform all the duties of stewards and even receive stewards' pay, they are not hired and classified as such.

One of these waiters-in-charge, Frank D. Calmore of San Antonio, Tex., who holds a law degree, told how the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railroad did not learn he was without "administrative ability and balanced judgment" during the 12 years he acted as waiter-in-charge but discovered this only when he asked for a promotion to steward.

Northwestern Grad Talks

Another witness, Richard W. Smith, a graduate of Northwestern University and for ten years waiter on the N.Y. Central, said that the Joint Council of the International Alliance of Hotel and Restaurant Employees, of which he is secretary-treasurer, is only seeking for colored employees an "equal chance for employment and advancement to jobs for which we are qualified."

The FEPC was scheduled to air bias charges against the railroads on two previous occasions, in December, 1942, and again in January of this year, but these hearings were postponed. Last week's public airing was the first by the recognized committee which has authority under Executive Order 8802 and 9346 to probe discrimination in industries with war contracts.

Members of the committee are P. B. Young, Sr., Norfolk publisher; Milton P. Webster, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Miss Sara Southall, personnel manager, International Harvester Co.; Boris Shishkin, AFL; Samuel Zemurray, United Fruit Co., and John Brophy, CIO.

The Globe Trotter

By Cliff Mackay

Hearings Of Great Importance

Daily World

9-12-43

THE FORTHCOMING hearings into discriminatory practices of Southern railroads against Negro workers offers the federal government its greatest opportunity to really prove to the nation's largest minority, many of whose members are frankly skeptical that all this talk about Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter, applies to them to the same degree that it does to all other peoples.

Encouched in the secretly drawn Southeastern Conference Agreements between Southern railroads and big railroad brotherhoods, whose membership is limited to white only, but who boldly claim to represent the hundreds of Negro rail workers, are all the elements of injustice, discrimination and inaquality that have plagued black Americans since they were ostensibly freed from slavery and voted constitutional protection.

MACKAY

HEARINGS SIGNIFICANT

The hearings for this season assume national significance. It is one of the very few times that a government agency has moved toward seeing that Negroes actually are accorded some of the guarantees voted as their right with the adoption of the 14th and 15th amendments—amendments which thus far have benefited labor unions, corporations, just about everybody except the black folk they were designed to assist.

Certainly the vicious attacks to which Negro railroad firemen, brakemen and trainmen have been made victims, violates literally and in principal all those noble pronouncements of the Four Freedoms.

How can a man be free from want when his traditional employer gangs up with his fellow workers of a different race to see that he is kicked out of his job? That is what happened on February 8, 1941 when the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, all of whose members are white, and which under the Railway Labor Act was given the right to "represent" all firemen, concluded its insidious agreement with southeastern carriers.

"PROMOTABLE" IS JOKER

This is how this agreement reads in part 1....the proportion of non-promotable firemen and helpers on other than steam power, shall not exceed 50 per cent in each class of service....on each individual carrier." None may be hired on roads which at the time did not hire them. 2. "....all new runs and all vacancies created by death, dismissal, resignation or disqualification shall be filled by promotable men."

The joker of course is the insertion in the contracts of the word, "promotable." Railroad custom dictates that engineers are promoted from the ranks of firemen; conductors from brakemen and trainmen. Real democracy could rule that color should be no consideration at promotion time. But real democracy doesn't necessarily mean democracy American style. As a consequence within the present century no Negro firemen who was recognizable as such has been promoted to engineer, no Negro brakeman or trainman has been made a conductor.

Under the pernicious working of the southeastern agreement Negro firemen have become vanishing Americans. They have been proportionately restricted on the jobs which they have traditionally held, they are barred from work on other railroads, and must be replaced with whites as they are retired, dismissed, or leave for the armed forces to fight for a democracy whose essential protection they have not always enjoyed.

ELEVEN KILLED ON JOB

The eleven Negro firemen who fell victims to the foul bullets of cowardly assassins as they shoveled coal on their runs through the southland certainly never realized President Roosevelt's golden promise of 'freedom from fear.' They were just as much martyrs to the cause of freedom as are the soldiers who sacrifice their lives in our united battle against human oppressors all over the world.

The fight of the firemen then, is clearly part and parcel of the fight against all fascism, whether it be represented by Hitler or by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers. It cannot be viewed as just another in many recent efforts to drive Negroes from good-paying jobs. It is more than that.

The outcome of the hearings too will influence greatly the economic position of Negroes in the post-war world. It is the first drive to put Negroes out of industrial jobs. The fact that it pre-dates our entry in the war does not matter. It should be plain that if white firemen can get away with their fascist pogrom of racial job exclusion, we stand to lose not only all the job gains made during the war, but many of those employment opportunities which we now view as traditional.

POINT OF STRUGGLE

The hearings thus become the focal point of the impending struggle between those who believe in the basic justice of human equality, and those who profit by the doctrine of "white supremacy" and who lead in the program against black workers.

We are winning against the fascists abroad, it is to be hoped that the decision of the FEPC after the railroad hearings will be the signal of victory against those fascists who make life miserable for black Americans here at home.

47d-1943

FEPC

THE HORIZON

Clapper Is Unrealistic and Amoral in Condemning FEPC Railroad Action

By P. L. PRATTIS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

IT is not to difficult to ignore the patently cock-eyed sophisms of Westbrook Pegler because he aims, not to please, but to displease, to incite controversy. But Raymond Clapper is not Westbrook Pegler. Many Americans are influenced by what they consider the balanced judgment of Mr. Clapper. He is right and impartial on so many issues that you may not be mentally prepared to detect the fact when his train of reasoning begins to run off the track. Mr. Clapper is important to minorities, because, in a sense, he speaks the mind of that considerable group of white Americans who think that they are thoroughly judicial, fair and practical. He, like they, would deny that he has any racial prejudice and he, like they, is against racial discrimination—in principle.

Mr. Prattis

MR. CLAPPER's observations on the directive of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to the railroads, ordering abolition of the practice of discrimination in employment, and on the railroads' reply to the committee, are not only in error, but they constitute a special problem in themselves.

"Only mischief, disunity and further irritations of race relations can come from the point being pressed by the FEPC that the railroads must open up more operating jobs to Negroes," writes Mr. Clapper.

Obviously, Mr. Clapper is thinking in terms of existing racial prejudice in this country and those who harbor it. He is not one of them. He essays the role of the dispassionate, objective commentator. But he believes that fairer employment practices on the railroads will increase the rancor and resentment among prejudiced Americans and possibly add to their numbers. He ignores the existence of thirteen million American citizens who are victims of this discrimination and the reaction among them to this continued discrimination. In effect, he counsels that it is better to ignore the feelings of these thirteen millions, who simply seek the opportunities due any and all Americans, than to challenge the attitude of color-prejudiced Americans who have sought in every way possible to prevent the Negro from making his full contribution to the war effort.

MR. CLAPPER continues: "Racial discrimination should be discouraged wherever practical . . . But such a doctrinaire and arbitrary insistence on racial equality as this committee insists on, is more likely to aggravate our problem than to solve it."

One wonders if Mr. Clapper has no sense of shame to restrain him from writing that "racial discrimination should be discouraged WHEREVER PRACTICAL." Isn't that the same as saying that it should ONLY be discouraged where practical that it should only be discouraged where those who harbor racial prejudice agree that it should be discouraged? Mr. Clapper is quite willing that we should go the limit in combatting Japanese domination in the Pacific and German domination in Europe, but he would restrict our fight against domination of some Americans to the terms proposed by those who dominate. That doesn't make sense and Mr. Clapper knows it.

HE IS UNREALISTIC

MR. CLAPPER says that the railroads are more realistic than the President's committee because they display more solicitude for existing prejudices. He attributes to the railroads the belief that "it is utterly unrealistic to suppose that problems of such delicacy (of paying all Americans the same wage for the same job and of giving all Americans a chance to advance according to merit) can be solved out of hand by the fiat of the committee."

I believe the committee is more realistic than either Mr. Clapper or the railroads. Simply, racial prepudice, either that shown by Germany or that of the Anglo-Saxon nations, Great Britain and the United States, is at the core of this bloody, destructive global struggle in which civilization is involved. Mr. Clapper will not deny this. He knows that to win the war and the peace we have got to convince the hundreds of millions of colored people in Asia that our future relations with them are not to be characterized by the arrogance and racial snobbery which was true of the past. Most Americans know this. Most Americans are willing to try to prove this, to make some concessions in respect to those peoples far away. But Americans, as a whole, refuse to see the relationship between their racial attitudes at home and their racial attitudes abroad. They fail to understand that as long as their prejudices run rampant at home, they will continue to be suspect in Asia, Africa and South America. Billions of dollars in lend-lease cannot change this fact.

That is the realistic point of view which Americans stubbornly refuse to face.

GIVE SONS, HOLD BIAS

AMERICANS don't want to give up their prejudices. They would rather give up their sons and daughters than to give up their prejudices. Just as Negroes fight for an opportunity to work, they also insist that they be given their chance to die on the battlefront. But racial prejudice, so far, forbids. Negro fighters are kept off the battleships. Negro soldiers are held behind the lines to perform the menial, drudge-like tasks of the Army. Of course, a few Negroes are killed and wounded. But young white America, because of prejudice, is being forced to do a disproportionate share of the dying in this war. The next generation of white Americans is being sacrificed on the battlefield. The next generation of black Americans is not. This shows how stubborn race prejudice is.

DANGEROUSLY CONFUSED

I DEPLORE the fact that Mr. Clapper should refer to the delicacy of the problem. That has been the attitude of Americans ever since this country was born with the stain of human slavery on its flag. As a whole, this nation has never had the moral courage to face the issue of racial prejudice. This issue is a closet of dirty clothes in the house of democracy, the door to which we try to keep closed. There are limits to the capacity of the closet. There'll come a time when dirty clothes will be strewn all through the house. This is the time which Mr. Clapper and others will not see. They do not realize that this sin of racial prejudice weakens the character of the nation, that it is a problem which concerns America, as a whole, more than it does the minorities which suffer from it. Any malady, so insidious, so deadly, must be worked on, no matter how delicate the operation. Mr. Clapper is like the man who would take a chance with the ravages of a disease rather than trust to an operation. Sometimes, such persons are cowardly; sometimes, they are stupid. Mr. Clapper is neither. He is mildly but dangerously, confused.

RAIL CASE

Administration Must Now Take Positive Step In Order to Save FEPC

DEC 25 1943

By HORACE R. CAYTON

Courier
Pittsburgh, P

IT'S up to Mr. Big now. What I'm talking about is the case of the southern railroads who've informed the FEPC that they're not going to abide by its directive. That hot potato is being dropped into the President's lap and personally, I can't figure what he's going to do with it. Here's the story ... but you know it already. FEPC called together the southern railroads, both management and the unions, to explain why the number of Negro firemen had been drastically reduced over a period of the last few years. In the lower end of the Mississippi valley, Louisiana and Tennessee especially, from 1919 intermittently through the summer of 1934 the competition between Negro and white firemen had been better. As one method of controling the competition and of circumventing the seniority rights of Negro firemen was a reign of terror which lasted from 1921 to 1922 with other outbreaks in 1931 and 1934. During this time at least twenty-one Negroes were killed and the effects of this violence were enough to force Negroes to agree to agreements which virtually eliminated them from the industry. Testimony in the four-day FEPC hearing held on September 15 to September 18 brought out the fact that on certain roads firemen, who before the last war, were eighty or ninety per cent Negro had been reduced by 1929 to fifty per cent or less. These reductions were accomplished by continued alterations of contracts between the unions and the roads, with each new change reducing further both the percentage of Negro workers and the type of service and territory in which Negroes could be employed. The violence described above made Negroes willing to accept almost without complaint, these changes.

Mr. Cayton

That's not going to mean much either until the President comes out on this railroad business and gets it straight.

WELL, boys and girls, the point is this—the reaction has set in. There is not much to be expected from Washington from here on out. The question of the position of the Negro has to be settled on the local level. Perhaps a mass movement among Negroes dealing with local questions at a local level may gain proportion so that it may again influence national policy. But it's pretty evident that we're back again where we started from years ago before the New Deal, with the necessity of working on local problems with local groups without looking for much help in Washington.

COMMITTEE TO MEET DEC. 27

All this might seem to indicate that I think the FEPC is dead. Probably no committee in Washington has had more obituary notices than has FEPC. I was talking to one of the members recently and he said they are tired of continually being buried by the Negro press every time there is a crisis — that their friends killed them more often than did their enemies. I don't want to fall into this error, but at the same time if the President and the administration can see their way out of this present dilemma without on one hand, taking a more positive step than they're willing to in the matter of race relations or on the other of antagonizing the solid south, they're better than I think they are. Anyway I'd like to be in the next meeting of the committee which is going to be held in Washington on December 27 to see what comes next.

At the hearing, management made a token representation and the unions didn't even appear officially. After much hullabaloo and fanfare the companies and the unions were instructed to cease and desist their prejudiced behavior. The companies have recently announced that they don't intend to pay attention to the directive and the Committee can take a flying jump into the ocean for all they care.

NOW, what comes next? Well, the only thing for the committee to do is to report it to the President and wait for him to act. From where I sit this puts the President in a tough spot. Not only would all of the gains which have been made for Negro labor be jeopardized if the President does not crack down on the southern railroads, but it will make it impossible for this committee to continue its work of helping to utilize more economically the total manpower of the nation. Just a week or so ago the Office of War Information stated in a release that "Women and non-white persons constitute the greatest reservoir of new workers (for the transportation industry) but so far these have been under-utilized by transportation in general." Said the ODT: "In the case of Negroes, much remains to be done to make possible their promotion into more skilled and into supervisory jobs."

MUST RETURN TO LOCAL PRESSURES

The same day that the railroads announced that they would not abide by the directive of the FEPC, the chairman issued a directive to Tom Ray and his outfit of boilermakers on the Pacific Coast instructing them to stop all segregation in the Boilermakers' Union.

Kansas City Call Mo.

A Job for Citizens Everywhere

With the opening of the important railroad hearings in Washington this week, attention again is focused on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, popularly known as the FEPC.

The FEPC and its public hearings constitute the most powerful weapon the Negro has today in combatting discrimination in employment. Before FEPC, we merely complained when we failed to get jobs because of our color. With the creation of the President's committee in 1941, we had a government agency which would act upon our complaints.

SEP 17 1943

Although the FEPC in itself has no penal power, its public hearings have the same effect upon industry as an authoritative command to hire Negroes.

A big industrial concern, called upon by the committee to defend its ban on Negro employees, deems it wiser and less embarrassing to put Negroes on their payrolls rather than to take the witness stand in a public hearing and in a trial-like setting explain why it does not hire dark Americans.

Many an industry has made an about-face when threatened with an FEPC hearing. Just last week one of the 26 railroads expected to appear at the hearings opening Wednesday changed its policy suddenly, rather than face the charges.

SEP 17 1943

The FEPC can stay on the job only if it has adequate funds with which to operate. Congress has control of those funds. The people, the voters, control congress.

It is, therefore, up to the citizens, the voters, the taxpayers to see that congress appropriates enough funds for the FEPC to carry on its program—our program.

The FEPC needs $487,000 a year to operate. It has only $130,000 on hand now. It will not be long before the committee must go before congress for a new appropriation.

Upon the action of congress will depend the fate of the committee. In several instances congress has "killed" race relations bureaus of government agencies simply by refusing to appropriate money for those bureaus. The same method can be used by congressmen not in sympathy with the FEPC program to force that independent agency out of existence.

SEP 17 1943

Congressmen like Rep. Starnes of Alabama and Rep. Wigglesworth of Massachusetts must be prevented by the citizenry from denying the FEPC the funds that it needs. Both are on the house appropriations committee. Both were loud in their condemnation of race relations bureaus at hearings last year.

Negroes who are Democrats and newspapers which are Democratic must begin now to tell their Democratic congressmen that they must vote for funds for the FEPC. Likewise, Negroes who are Republicans and newspapers which are Republican must start now to influence their representatives in congress to give the FEPC the money it needs.

There are many Starneses and Wigglesworths in the congress. There also are congressmen and senators who are as fair-minded and just as public officials should be. It is up to the citizens to see that the fair-minded congressmen speak out in committee hearings which usually are dominated by southern congressmen like Starnes.

SEP 17 1943

It was a long, hard job to get the FEPC created and into action. It must be kept at work, no matter what the cost. It has served us well. We must now do our share.

The Same Old Excuse

One excuse which the railroads gave the FEPC for limiting Negroes to certain jobs was that the carriers cannot "undertake to solve the problems presented by the South's attitude toward the Negro."

SEP 24 1943

The spokesman for 18 railroads said that the "prevailing manners and customs of the various sections of the country would not countenance the employment by the railroads of Negroes in all types of positions."

The principal railroad position with which the hearings dealt was that of locomotive fireman. Years ago when the job of fireman was hot, dirty and heavy it was quite within the customs of the South for Negroes to keep up the steam. But with the coming of the Diesel engine, the job of fireman became a "white collar job" with only a button to push instead of a shovel to wield. Likewise, inside the coaches, Negroes work as porters but not as conductors, even in the jim-crow coaches of the South.

Kansas City Call

The customs of the South have too great an influence over the rest of the nation. Hotels up north refuse to house Negro convention delegates for fear of insulting delegates from the South. Qualified Negroes must not hold membership in certain professional organizations because some of the members are from the South and would not understand.

Kansas City, Mo.

Ever since the Civil War the rest of the country has been catering to the whims of the South as if Dixie won instead of lost the war. If after the present war countries all over the world should set their patterns of living to conform with the customs and principles of Nazi Germany, there would be a great uprising of protest.

Yet America, the stronghold of democracy, continues to let the pre-Civil war customs of the South influence life in other sections of the country.

SEP 24 1943

The railroads are following the pattern cut years ago by other big industries, the unions, municipalities and even the federal government itself in setting a limit on the distance Negroes may travel in employment. But in recent years, especially since the war began, many industries and labor organizations have revised their patterns and are using merit instead of color as a basis of employment and membership. The major war plants throughout the country are employing Negroes in technical positions where a few years ago they were accepted only as janitors. Unions are admitting Negro craftsmen to membership in increasing numbers. While instances of discrimination still exist in too large numbers, the general trend is away from a denial of job opportunity because of color. With the railroads, however, the trend is backward, when Negro firemen are displaced each time that a new Diesel engine is attached to a train.

SEP 24 1943

Through the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, the federal government is attempting to eliminate discrimination in employment based on color wherever it exists. It is helping to change the pattern of employment in America. Negroes are moving up from the traditional "Negro jobs."

The railroads must keep in step. They must not let their policies continue to be more southern than American. If the railroads cannot lead the way, they at least can follow the new pattern instead of clinging doggedly to the old.

SEP 24 1943

LET FEPC INVESTIGATE THE NAVY

The President's order establishing a new Fair Employment Practice Committee states: "As President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States, that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any persons in war industries, OR IN GOVERNMENT by reason of race, creed, or color."

Afro-American

Since July 1, the committee has received 72 complaints against U.S. agencies, 138 against individual employers and 10 against unions. One third of its cases deal with the Government itself, which is a shocking disclosure.

Moreover, the committee held no hearings on the most flagrant case of Government discrimination, that in the Army and Navy. Perhaps it believes itself competent to handle only the Government's civil agencies.

Baltimore, Md.

However, if the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy declares the American policy is no racial and religious discrimination in employment, he makes no distinction between civil and military.

SEP 18 1943

Why, therefore, cannot the President's committee find out why colored women are denied admission to the WAVES?

The Navy ought not be able to avoid an investigation into its discriminatory practices merely by putting its clerks in uniform.

ON THE SPOT

FEPC, Though Sympathetic With Labor, Is Forced to Chastise Unions with Bars

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ORGANIZED LABOR has put the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee squarely behind the eight ball. The Committee isn't anti-union; as a matter of fact it is, on the whole, sympathetic to unions. The trouble is that unions now are the most recalcitrant when it comes to making concessions to Negro participation in industry. Management, at once adamant against inclusion of Negroes in their working force, is now, because of the labor shortage, glad to get them. In the cases where industry has refused to take Negroes, usually management lets the unions carry the ball for this refusal. Anyway, it works out that in every case which has been brought before the new President's Committee for hearing, that Committee has been placed in the embarrassing position of having to crack down on organized labor and give management a clear bill of health.

Mr. Cayton

It started when the railroad unions thumbed their noses at the hearing before the Committee in Washington. Officially the unions did not even attend the hearing. Management, however, appeared and tossed the ball right squarely into the laps of the labor unions. That's pretty smart on the part of management and labor acted as stupidly as it looked sitting in the meeting at the hearings with dead pan expressions.

KAISER MAKES POSITION CLEAR

Then take the Capital Transit case of Washington, D. C., or the Baltimore Transit case of Baltimore, Md. In each one of these the big hitch was that the streetcar men's union did not take Negro memberships. Again management unloosed on the unions and left the American public and Negro workers to understand that they would just love to have their darker brother around but the unions didn't stand for it. These are three cases which have come before the new committee and put them on the spot.

OF COURSE, the prize case is that of the International Boilermakers on the West Coast, where the commitee is holding the hearings in Portland on the 15th and 16th and Los Angeles on the 20th and 21st. Members of the committee informed me that they [illegible] no difficulty in talking to Mr. Henry Kaiser and that Kaiser put it up squarely to organized labor. He said words to this effect: "We're not only willing to hire Negroes but have hired them in spite of a closed shop contract. This made it necessary for the unions to do something about it and they came up with these auxiliaries. Now, if these auxiliaries are not what you like, that's you again with the union. We've got the men to work and did it in spite of a closed contract, so get after your unions."

COMMITTEE WILL BE ON THE SPOT

Just in case you don't know what these auxiliaries are, let me tell you. These auxiliaries are always attached to a white lodge and the Negroes in them are allowed to have no voice in the election of officers to the white lodge, no business agent of their own or any right to elect members to the national conference which is held (shades of Pegler) once every four years. Just how subordinated the Negro is, is indicated by the method which he would have to follow to change his classification of skill. First, he would have to have approval of his Negro auxiliary. Second, he would have to obtain the approval of the local lodge, the supervising white lodge, and third, the endorsement of the executive council of the international in Kansas City. All of which hokus pokus means that a Negro can't vote in Georgia, if you know what I mean.

SO THE President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices is in the West to examine this situation. They're going to stir up a mess in this union which is not only characterized by race discrimination but rank corruption. Again they will be on the spot; friendly and sympathetic to organized labor but forced to chastize it openly while management stands aside and looks "holier than thou." Sometimes I think that certain internationals in the AFL are needlessly and pointlessly committing suicide by their failure to use even common sense when it comes to the problem of Negro workers.

47d-1943

FEPC

Scenes as FEPC Heard Arguments by Philadelphia Transit Company Union Against Hiring of Colored Motormen

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Malcolm Ross, left, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC), and Milton P. Webster, member, who conducted public hearing Wednesday to hear reasons why Philadelphia Transit Co. union objected to its directive to okey employment of colored motormen and conductors.

G. James Fleming, left, Philadelphia regional director for FEPC, as he jots down notes while George W. Crockett, FEPC counsel questions one of the witnesses. The hearing lasted one hour and a half and was held in the City Hall.

These two spectators at FEPC hearings in Philly kept busy while they waited for the investigation to get underway. No decision was rendered at the close of the hearing but all parties were urged to abide by the decision.

DEC 18 1943

Hours before the hearing opened, the SRO sign was out. At least 200 persons crowded into the hearing room and 50 others lined the walls and stood in the corridor outside. Insert is Frank M. Colburn, white, secretary-treasurer of the Transit Co.'s union who said his group objected to employment of colored because such a move would disturb "status quo."

Spectator Says Public Should Talk at Hearing Held by FEPC

DEC 18 1943

PHILADELPHIA—In his opening statement, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, told the 200 persons present that no statements would be accepted from the floor.

Thomas H. Ringgold, 19 N. 42nd Street, a fire insurance agent, amazed the audience when he stood and told the committee he felt it was a public hearing, that majority of those present were taxpayers and supported the transit company and had a right to speak.

Chairman Ross reiterated that no statements would be accepted from the floor but that he could make his thoughts known in writing to the committee.

Hate-Bound Railroads Seeking Scalp of FEPC

Congressmen Get Letters Asking Support Against President's Committee

WASHINGTON

All Representatives and Senators were sent a letter signed by Ernest E. [illegible]s, chairman of the Southeastern Conference, the 16 railroads that refused to obey the FEPC non-bias directives, this week, asking Congressional support against the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

The chairman of the Southeastern Conference asked that its press release the full text of its letter of response to the FEPC, a summary of the FEPC findings and directives to the railroads, and Sidney Alderman's statement (made the opening day of the hearings), all be read into the Congressional Record, to aid in an understanding of the railroad's position in connection with the FEPC directives.

Newberry, S. C., Observer & Herald
December 24, 1943

Government's Washroom Policy

News and Courier, 16th.

The present policy of the Roosevelts' administration, acting through and by the war labor board (WLB), is that colored persons and white persons be compelled to wash their faces in the same basin.

White workers in the Point Breeze Western Electric company's plant, Baltimore, went on strike "in protest against the use of washroom facilities in common with negro workers." Another agency of the Roosevelts' government, the "fair employment practices committee" (FEPC), advised the company that "the discontinuance of common facilities for negro and white employes in the Point Breeze plants would be a backward step which would lead to discrimination against negroes." Then WLB refused to order separate facilities.

So, the government, your government, the same that South Carolians three times have helped to vote into office, holds that the washing of faces in the same basin by white persons and colored should be compulsory.

Your government is ordering the electric company to cease and desist from maintaining separate washrooms for white and colored persons.

If your government can do this and be sustained in it by the votes of you South Carolinians, your government can make compulsory use of the same bathrooms by the two races in your homes. It declares that separate wash rooms in the Point Breeze plants would lead to discrimination against negroes.

The News and Courier clings to the opinion that separate washrooms in the Point Breeze factories and in Johnsmith's house should be permitted, that government should not command to the contrary—but The News and Courier is looked upon as a "reactionary," a "tory" by most of the politicians in office, federal and state, in South Carolina.

In the Point Breeze factories the washrooms for colored workers should be in no way inferior to those provided for white workers. The separate facilties for the two races should be equal in every respect.

In Charleston, in South Carolina, are hundreds of thousands of colored people who do not wish government to force this question upon the two races.

Government's agencies are lighting fires of racial antagonism.

Government agencies are aiding and abetting the organization of "Ku Klux Klans," which become outlaw gangs and which The News and Courier condemns.

The administration's Washroom Policy can be made effective by an army. The administration will not be able to find an army of Americans North or South to make it effective.

Senator Guffey, New Deal and Roosevelt Democrat, accused Southern senators of entering into an "unholy alliance with Republicans."

Southern Democrats, led by Byrd, Bailey, Smith and Rankin, will enter into alliances, holy or unholy, to save the white race to which they belong.

Political alliance of Southern white people with the Guffeys, Marcantonios, Hagues, Walter Whites, Wageners, all their breed, is alliance for the promotion of miscegenation and bastardy.

Malcolm Ross Appointed FEP Head By Roosevelt

Defender
Chicago. Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

OCT 23 1943

WASHINGTON — Malcolm Ross, as predicted by the Defender last week, has been named by President Roosevelt as the new chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

He succeeds Bishop-elect Francis J. Haas, recently appointed by Pope Pius XII as Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Following the suggestion of Bishop Haas, who in his letter of resignation on October 7 asked the President to name his successor at the same time he accepted the resignation "in order that there be no interruption in the work of the committee," the President named Ross as chairman in his communication to Bishop Haas.

It was believed the committee was about to lose two more of its members. P. B. Young, one of the two Negro members of the committee and publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, is in ill health and has been advised by his physicians to cut down on his activities. His resignation in the near future is almost certain.

Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Company of New Orleans, has been appointed deputy director of the Office of Foreign Economic Administration. He has assured the committee, however, that he has no intention at present of resigning from the FEPC.

Lauds FEP Work

The President, in his letter accepting Bishop Haas' resignation and naming Ross the new chairman, said "the increasing usefulness of the FEPC, as reorganized under your direction, has been a source of great satisfaction to me, and I am sure, to all thoughtful people who know the importance of the people who know the importance and difficulty of its work." He said he was anxious that there be not the slightest delay in the work of the committee.

The President also wrote a letter to the members of the committee concerning the resignation of its chairman, and commending them for their work. He said, "I want to add here my appreciation for your own part as members of the committee. There are many difficulties before us. I feel satisfied, however, that in you the country has a committee upon which it can depend for wise and determined dealing with this problem which is essential to the fulfillment of the promises of our democracy."

Ross, the new chairman, is a former newspaperman. He is a graduate of Yale university in 1919, and was a member of the staffs of the Louisville Courier Journal and the New York World before he came to Washington. Here he has been in charge of public relations for the National Labor Relations Board and on the staff of the OWI before being made deputy chairman of the FEPC when it was reorganized under Bishop Haas.

SEPARATE HOUSING IN CAMPS' FACILITIES

OCT 30 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By SIDNEY WALKER
(Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Hitler's Nazis have imposed by decree no more rigid and hate-inspired residence restrictions against Jews and other non-Aryans than custom and understanding among prejudice-dominated white Americans have fabricated to force Negroes to live in separate, slum areas.

That this is true can be proved from the written word imposing these restrictions in civilian life and in the armed forces.

Several weeks ago, The Courier exposed the notorious "ghetto document," the exact words from a book defining the code of ethics of the National Association of Real Estate Boards. This document clearly and shamelessly revealed the intention to prevent Negroes from moving out of the slums, regardless of their culture or financial stability.

The quotation from the Section on Equipment of the Real Estate Broker, by Harry Grant Atkinson and Lester E. Frailey, describing transactions which the reputable broker would not countenance, reads:

"When, for example, in a respectacle (white) neighborhood, a house is wanted for conversion to an objectionable use, no respectable broker will consent to represent the buyer. The latter might be a BOOTLEGGER who would cause considerable anoyance to his neighbor; a 'MADAM' who had a number of 'call girls' on her string, a GANGSTER who wanted a screen for his activities by living in a better neighborhood, a COLORED MAN OF MEANS who was giving his children a college education and thought they were entitled to live among whites; but no matter what the motive or character of the would-be purchaser, if the deal would instigate a form of blight, then certainly the well-meaning broker must work against its consummation."

ARMY FOLLOWS PATTERN

The Courier has repeatedly called attention to the separateness and segregation of garrisons for Negroes in the armed forces. This segregation, in the same camps, is visible to the naked eye. This week, The Courier is in a position to publish an official Army order defining this segregation and exposing it as a part of pre-conceived Army policy.

From an Army manual, Construction for Colored Garrisons, chapter 31, paragraph 263, page 144, The Courier reproduces the following instructions to camp commanders:

"a. Basis—Construction of welfare and recreational facilities for colored troops is provided on the same basis as if THE COLORED CONTINGENT FORMED THE GARRISON OF A SEPARATE CAMP OR CANTONMENT and in accordance established for camps in general and will be based on the strength of the colored troops.

"b. Theatres — Where the strength of the colored contingent is too small to warrant construction of (separate) theatre facilities, they may be accommodated in the theatres provided for the post.

"c. Post Exchanges — Where the colored contingent is too small to warrant authorization of a standard type exchange building and LOCAL CONDITIONS necessitate SEPARATE exchange and recreation building, type OPK-1 is authorized for construction."

It will be noted that the above order refers to welfare and recreational facilities, but its apparent necessity is derived from the fact that the COLORED CONTINGENT does form the GARRISON OF A SEPARATE CAMP OR CANTONMENT in most installations.

LOCAL CONDITIONS MUST PREVAIL

It is also to be noted that the Army bows to prejudiced local conditions in the application of the practice of separateness. Even on federal property, LOCAL CONDITIONS must prevail.

The foregoing revelations from practices prevailing in civilian life and in Army life undoubtedly force a lump to the throat of every American Negro who must face the supreme test in his country's present struggle for survival. They are the cold, blunt, tragic facts.

They tell him not only that he is thought to be an inferior and a pariah, but that it is the low intention of many Americans to keep him so.

FORGE CHAINS HERE AT HOME

This condition cries out loudly for remedy by those Americans who are aware of the irresistible forces motivating the men fighting this war.

The men fighting the war are finding it difficult to become incensed about Nazi de-humanization of Jews when an equally condemnable system of depressing a minority prevails at home.

America cannot justify her claim as freedom's leader so long as the chains are forged to prevent the development of a minority **at home because of its color.**

FEPC Order Invalid, Says WMC Director

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

DEC 25 1943

Can't Force Railroads to Hire Firemen, Brakemen—Fenneman

BALTIMORE

"The War Manpower Commission cannot force the railroads to hire colored men as brakemen and firemen regardless of the President's FEPC's (Fair Employment Practice Committee) recent directive to cease discriminatory employment policies.

Lawrence E. Fenneman, Maryland WMC director, made the above statement in an AFRO interview Wednesday.

"Our job is to refer persons who are qualified, regardless of race or color, to the companies for jobs," he continued.

"As to whether the men are hired or not, that is beyond the limits of the commission," he emphasized.

Mr. Fenneman advised that persons who are denied jobs by the railroads should file complaints with the FEPC for action.

Aiding Lily-White Drive

To offset what looms as an imperiling of operation of war industries and port transportation due to the shortage of railroad men, the War Manpower Commission has been active in the promotion of a campaign to attract workmen here.

Efforts were made by WMC officials, together with heads of railways and unions, to seek out-of-State labor to ease the serious shortage of railway men, and white women are being employed as brakemen despite the ban on colored male help.

War industries were canvassed this week in attempts to persuade them to lend extra help to railroads so that freight and production would not be held up in Baltimore.

Permission has been granted the companies to utilize soldiers and sailors in part-time jobs.

Railroads Defy FEPC

However, officials of local companies refused to consider the hiring of colored men as brakemen or firemen in direct defiance of FEPC orders this week.

Charles Schwab, white, superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, told the AFRO Wednesday that "colored men are accepted only as laborers or baggage room attendants."

He refused to make a statement as to the reason for the company's violation of FEPC orders in denying employment to skilled colored workers.

47d-1943

FEPC

Strange Justice Bared In Fuller And Colman Cases

Courier · Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOV 20 1943

By SIDNEY WALKER
(Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Cock-eyed justice may not prevail in the Army, but a mixture of the Articles of War and ordinary, well known prejudices [illegible] strange concoctions which may well give rise to questions concerning the operation of courts-martial.

The military trials of Chaplain Luther Fuller and Col. William T. Colman are cases in point.

FULLER DISILLUSIONED

Fuller, a lieutenant addicted to the strange belief that one American is entitled to the same rights as another, was returned from the South Pacific where he was serving with a colored unit and was tried on a variety of charges, all under the Articles of War. It seems as though Fuller had stood up for his rights and had encouraged enlisted men to stand up for theirs. An Army court ruled that he had pursued this course further than was good for the service and has recommended his discharge from the Army. At present, he is a patient in an Army hospital at Fort Dix, N. J.

RACKETS EXPOSED

Colman was commander of Selfridge Field, Mich., an Air Force base. He was tried, among other things, for shooting a colored chauffeur, Pvt. William McRae, while under the influence of liquor. His trial also brought out the fact that there had existed a racket of selling rights, privileges and promotions at Selfridge Field.

The court-martial found Colman guilty of careless use of firearms and ordered him reduced in rank from temporary colonel to captain. This verdict and penalty were so outrageous that the public demanded further action by the War Department. The War Department has acted, formally retiring Colman from the service, presumably with pension.

STRANGE PARADOX

In the first instance, a colored officer, for an offense about which there might be great and fundamental difference in judgment, is recommended for discharge without honor and without pay.

In the second instance, a white officer, for an offense of fact, about which there cannot be the slightest difference in judgment, is recommended for retirement, and with pay.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette comments editorially on the case of Colman, as follows:

"RETIRING" A CAPTAIN

"By retiring Captain (formerly Colonel) William T. Colman, the War Department indicates that it takes a much more serious view of officers shooting privates than the court-martial which merely ordered the former commandant of Selfridge Field reduced in rank.

"Whether this action will satisfy the American public which thought the slap-on-the-wrist judgement of the court-martial was outrageous, is doubtful. Had a colored private shot a colonel, the only 'retirement' he would get would be in a prison cell. And it doesn't seem right for an officer to be retired presumably on an Army pension after committing an offense for which a private would have paid with years of hard labor."

No one can review the Fuller Colman cases without asking how much color influences verdicts in Army courts-martial.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

FE C Hears Philly Union's Objection

By B. M. PHILLIPS

PHILADELPHIA

Employment of colored men as motormen and conductors by the Philadelphia Transportation Company as ordered by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) would disturb the "status quo" and "impair transportation of war workers," a panel of the committee was told here Wednesday. DEC 18 1943

Occasion was an hour and a half public hearing in City Hall to hear objections from the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Association (PRT), an independent union, as to why the FEPC directive of November 17, ordering upgrading and employment of colored workers in jobs as conductors and motormen, should not be put into effect immediately.

Union Delays 40 Minutes

The hearings were scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. but were delayed 40 minutes while representatives of the union rewrote one page of their five-page defense.

Sitting as a penel to hear the case were Malcolm Ross, chairman, and Milton Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Some 200 persons crowded the Commons Pleas Court where the hearing was held.

The union statement in addition to the veiled threat about disruption of transportation, argued against enforcement of the order, on the following grounds:

Violates Customs Clause

1. It violates the "customs" clause in union's contract with the company;

2. The Philadelphia Transportation Company is not a war plant, has no contract with a government agency and is not subject to FEPC;

3. Education rather than force in the form of a directive is needed to secure employment of colored conductors and motormen;

4. There is no idle manpower in the Philadelphia area;

Service Adequate Now

5. The service of the transportation company has been adequate for the needs of the people of the city and war industries located here;

6. The order of the FEPC is discriminatory as no similar directives have been sent to transit companies in Baltimore and Pittsburgh which has no colored operators;

7. Hiring of colored men would affect the seniority rights of white employees;

8. One thousand members of the union and employees of the company are in the armed forces and the employer-employee relationship should not be changed in their absence.

Frank M. Coburn, secretary-treasurer of the PRT, under cross-examination by George W. Crockett, FEPC attorney, admitted that the customs clause in the union's contract with the company prohibits employment of colored men in jobs other than they now hold.

He said that the 500 colored employees of the company are eligible to pay dues and have full membership in his union but that despite this the "status quo" cannot be changed and colored men placed in "white men's jobs."

Union Stand Surprise

Raleigh Johnson, a colored employee of the company and a member of the union, said first knowledge he had that this was union policy was during the hearing.

He stated that other colored employees and members of the union were under the impression that the clause in the union-company contract was designed to protect seniority rights.

Mr. Johnson added that he was positive colored employees would not continue to support a union which sought to restrict them to certain jobs.

In his opening statement to the committee, Chairman Ross called attention of all parties to the necessity of ending dscriminatory hiring practices in line with the President's order.

Need All Workers—Ross

"This nation," he predicted, "stands to suffer greatly if we are to permit the screening out of the war effect of 22 million Catholics, 4 million Jews, 3 million South Americans, 13 million colored and several million foreigners simply because an employer or worker wishes to discriminate."

The FEPC panel rendered no decision at the conclusion of the hearing, but Chairman Ross admonished the union representatives and the company that "when the decision is handed down everybody will view his responsibility very seriously."

Ross Cautions Union

The purpose of the FEPC, he added is to "advance the war effort and nothing else."

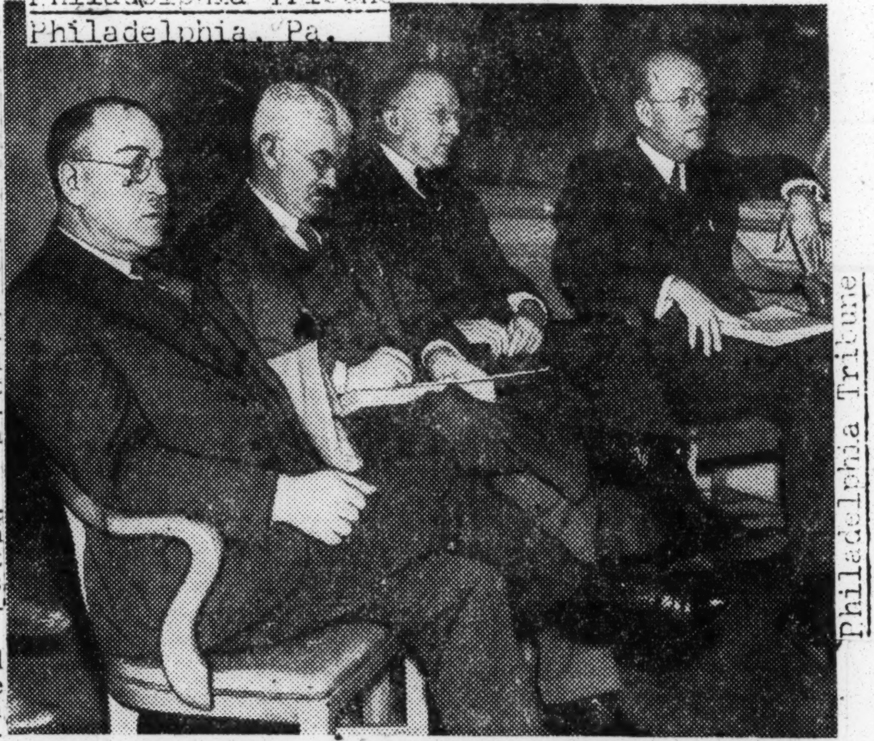
Statements from the local NAACP which has led the fight for transit jobs and other civic groups were admitted into the record.

The NAACP is sponsoring a huge mass meeting December 19 at Town Hall to further spur its campaign.

The Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., NYC councilman, will be the speaker.

Transit Officials Listen

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



Most interested spectators at FEPC hearings in Philadelphia Wednesday were these officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Company. Left to right: Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of industrial relations, Allen H. White, Neal D. Ivey and Charles E. Ebert.

FEPC Head Says All Must Share Responsibility

By Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman:

I feel impelled to make one remark about the union's statement that it "cannot accept responsibility for chaos and impairment of the transportation of war workers if the FEPC directive is carried out."

I urge with all the earnestness I can command that everybody view his responsibility very seriously. The purpose of this committee is to advance the war effort. Nothing this committee is doing is motivated by anything else.

I mentioned the Chicago case before, where quiet discussion with FEPC ended with employment of colored conductors and motormen.

We (the FEPC) will not accept the implication that the responsibility rests on the committee. Mr. Coburn, you and your union have had a just chance to act quietly and you failed.

The responsibility rests with all the parties concerned. I think this thing is better done by quiet campaign. We hope that as a result of this hearing nothing in the war effort will be impaired.

Noah Walters Gets High Union Post

NEW YORK — The appointment of Noah H. Walter as co-manager of the Laundry Workers Joint Board of Greater New York, Almalgamated Clothing Workers of America, was announced recently by Frank Rosenblum, executive vice-president.

Mr. Walter, also chairman of the N.Y. State CIO Committee Against Discrimination, has, during the past ten years, served as organizer, business agent and, for seven years, assistant manager of the laundry workers' group.

The joint board, which he helped establish in 1937, represents more than 20,000 workers of both races.

TUSKEGEE PARALYSIS CENTER SPENDS $242,356

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — A total of $242,356 has been spent for infantile paralysis work at the Tuskegee Institute Paralysis Center here.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Union Head Says Colored May Pay Dues but Can't Be Motormen

FRANK M. COBURN

Secretary-treasurer Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union; interviewed by George W. Crockett, FEPC attorney:

Q—You say in your prepared statement that your union doesn't discriminate. Do you mean you admit colored to membership?

A—Yes.

Q—Do you mean you promote colored?

A—Yes, if it doesn't disturb employer-employee relationship.

Q—So the union does discrim-

Partial Testimony o Before FEPC in Philly

mate?

A—That's a matter of opinion.

Q—What does this so-called custom clause in your contract with the Philadelphia Transportation Company mean?

A—Colored won't replace white and white won't replace colored.

Q—Will that mean the number of colored remains static? How else will you get more colored employees?

A—By creation of additional jobs.

Objects to Colored

Q—Would the company consult the union relative to hiring of streetcar operators?

A—Yes.

Q—Would the union object to employment of colored men in jobs?

A—Yes, at the present time.

Q—What would be the basis?

A—We're being forced into something without our consent.

Q—You admit the union does dictate whom it shall and shall not employ?

A—Yes, the union dictates to the company. It must follow our contract.

Q—Were any communications you received covering employment of colored referred to the delegates? What action was taken?

A—Yes. No action was taken.

Q—On page 2 of your prepared statement you say "Education can change the opinion of free men. Force never enjoys lasting peace." What do you mean by that?

A—I feel the subject requires considerable educational activity for the purpose of breaking down prejudice.

Q—Prejudice on the part of whom?

A—Anyone.

Q—Do you mean prejudice on the part of the union against employment of colored?

A—No, for employees.

Q—Has the union ever done any educational work.

A—No.

Q—You recall a conversation with the NAACP in which you requested an opportunity to go back to the union and work it out? You were given 10 days.

A—I recall the conversation. The understanding was that no publicity be given but that agreement was violated.

Q—Did the NAACP give you he required time to go back to he union and get them in line?

A—No, we had no meeting. The executive board gave it consideration. I recall we did have 10 days but our meeting was about 11 days after that meeting.

Q—It is your view that the com- ittee, before it issues a direc- ve, should engage in an educa- onal campaign?

A—Yes, if it requires an ex- anation.

Q—What do you mean explana- on, didn't you have an explana- on concerning this directive before it was issued?

A—That's right.

Q—As a matter of fact, you made suggestions relative to wording of this directive, didn't you?

A—I don't recall.

Q—You say here on sheet two of your statement "No representations have been made that there is available manpower in the Philadelphia area." What's the basis for that statement? Is anyone supposed to make representations to you?

A—No.

Q—As a matter of fact you don't know what the manpower situation is? Have you ever made any study of it?

A—I happen to have been actually going out to find out. I have knowledge of ads in the paper.

Q—PTC runs ads for manpower, conductors and motormen?

A—Yes.

Q—So there are vacancies in the Philadelphia Transit Company?

A—Well, I don't know.

Must Change Contract

Q—But if there are vacanies your union would not permit the company to fill them with colored?

A—Not without changing our contract.

DEC 19 1943

Q—What is the basis for the statement you made that "the service rendered by the Philadelphia Transportation Company has been adequate for the needs of the people in the Philadelphia area and the war industries located there? Can service be adequate when the company is advertising for additional employees?

A—I would say it could.

Q—But the company feels it needs extra employees, don't you think so?

A—No, I don't. Maybe they want to get a reservoir of workers to take care of service demands.

Q—You say in your statement that the FEPC directive would affect seniority of workers. How does it?

A—Directly it doesn't, but by implication it does by setting the date for the company to examine its employment records. The date you set is June 25, 1941.

Q—That date is the day the President's first executive order was handed down. So that in effect is asking you to go back to that date and check employment records. Now that you understand that you can say it affects seniority rights?

A—That depends on the lists.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Union Asks Committee Not to Enforce November 17 Directive

PHILADELPHIA—Two members of the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) sat as a panel Wednesday to conduct a public hearing here to listen to objections from Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union (PRT) to a Nov. 17 directive from the FEPC ordering them not to interfere with employment or upgrading by the company of qualified colored persons to jobs as motormen, conductors, platform attendants, cashiers, and guards.

Would Disrupt Transportation

The union told the FEPC panel composed of Chairman Malcolm Ross and Milton P. Webster, who conducted the hearing in City Hall, that enforcement of the directive would disturb the "status quo" and "disrupt transportation of important war workers."

The PRT Union also contended that the order should not be carried out because of the following reasons:

1. It violates the "customs" clause in union's contract with the company;

Company Not a War Plant

DEC 18 1943

2. The Philadelphia Transportation Company is not a war plant, has no contract with a government agency and is not subject to FEPC;
3. Education rather than force in the form of a directive is needed to secure employment of colored conductors and motormen;
4. There is no idle manpower in the Philadelphia area;
5. The service of the transportation company has been adequate for the needs of the people of the city and war industries located here;

Charge Order "Discriminatory"

6. The order of the FEPC is discriminatory as no similar directives have been sent to transit companies in Baltimore and Pittsburgh which have no colored operators;
7. Hiring of colored men would affect the seniority rights of white employees;
8. One thousand members of the union and employees of the company are in the armed forces and the employee relationship should not be changed in their absence.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Employee Confirms Fact Union Asked to End Bias

ROOSEVELT NEAL,
Member of PRT Employees' Union and a delegate since 1937.

By George W. Crockett, FEPC counsel:

Q—Were you present at the conference with union representatives referred to here?

A—Yes.

Q—You heard about this NAACP letter. What action was taken?

A—At the second meeting, I asked what action had been taken. A motion was introduced by Harry Cook that the letter be ignored. This motion was carried. Then a colored member, Smith, asked reconsideration and Joseph Miller made a motion that the letter be answered and it finally was.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Transit Co. Union Objects to Colored in White Men's Jobs

By Milton Webster, FEPC member, to Frank C[illegible]urn, secretary-treasurer Philadelphia [illegible] Transit Employees' Union.

Q—In y[illegible] statement you say "The PRT Employees' Union cannot accept responsibility for the chaos and impairment to the transportation of workers to and from war plants which we feel will surely follow any attempt to enforce this directive at this time." Would you enlighten us on what you mean by that?

A—It is my opinion from my observation and contact with union members that they would not at this time accept such a radical change.

Q—Do you mean they'd defy the President's order?

A—I can't say.

Q—Well, what would they do? Would they quit, beat up the men or what?

A—I don't know.

Q—Are you familiar with contracts of this nature? Do you know that clauses like the customs clause in your contract are in all contracts of this kind?

A—No, I'm not familiar with it.

Q—Do you know these clauses have nothing to do with races?

A—I don't know.

Q—There are 500 colored members, 127 of them porters. Are they all members of your union?

A—No, not all but they all are eligible.

Q—Do they enjoy the same privileges and pay same dues?

A—Yes.

Q—But then your union has written a contract which limits these members from holding jobs as conductors and motormen?

A—It means the status quo must remain.

Q—What do you mean status quo? Was there any other union on the scene when your union came and drew up this clause?

A—No.

Q—Then the status quo orginated with your union and your union takes dues from colored members but discriminates against them?

A—We would take the same position if the company hired white men for colored men's jobs.

Army Officers Spread Southern Racial Attitudes

NOV [illegible] 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By EVELYN SHERRER, New York Bureau

NEW YORK CITY—A story of the subtle influences of southern Army authorities, southern-inoculated Canadians and general jim crow-itis was told this week here by a former truck driver on the Alaska Highway, recently released from duty because "someone" decided that Negroes should be limited to manual labor.

Charles T. Augustus, instructor at the Yvonne Beauty school here, before he went to Canada, cited the tale of his Northern adventure from beginning to end, and expressed bitterness at the evidence of jim crowism in a land heretofore oblivious to the system which would allocate Negroes to a position of inferiority.

LEFT IN AUGUST

Augustus left New York in August with 50 other Negroes, all employed through the United States Employment Service of the MHKCBC (Metcalfe, Hamilton and Kansas City Bridge Construction Co.), At Edmonton, B. C., they were met by a company representative, who announced to the entire group of workers, "I'll take charge of the colored boys." The Negroes, according to Augustus, immediately asked why there should be this special consideration for the "colored boys." They were advised to see the Provost Marshal, Capt. R. Shaeffer. Shaeffer embarked upon a discourse on the penalties and [illegible] for rape, theft, etc. Augustus pointed out that the Marshal's attitude antagonised the Negroes, and for the first time, gave them an inkling of what might be in store for them.

"FOR COLORED ONLY"

Once in Edmonton, the group was not allowed to bunk in the camp for construction workers, said Augustus, but made quarters in the local school or else sought rooms in boarding homes. The mess halls did not serve colored.

At Dawson Creek, B. C., the Army barracks where Negroes were lodged were marked "For Colored Only." In the mess hall, certan tables were marked "this table reserved for colored men only."

Seven of the Negro workers were sent back to Edmonton, one of whom was Augustus; one checker, five laborers and one truck driver. Negroes here were working two miles from the place they were to eat; white workers were [illegible] mile away from mess; but the Negroes were not allowed to eat at the white mess hall; consequently a great deal of time was spent in transportation to and from mess. This was eliminated by the Army authorities, who maintained that too much time was being wasted by the colored outfit. They, therefore, brought cold sandwiches to the colored workers, so that they could remain on the jobs.

Texts of Statements on Railroad Hiring

DEC 18 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The texts of the statement by sixteen Southern railroads to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices and the reply of Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, follow:

The statement by the railroads:

This is the joint response of those of the undersigned railroads which are parties to the Southeastern Carriers' Conference of "Washington" agreement, responding to your Summary, Finding and Directives dated Nov. 18, 1943, directed against those railroads and the Brotherhoods of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen with reference to that agreement, and is the joint and several response of all and each of the undersigned railroads to your respective Summaries, Findings and Directives of the same date directed against each of the undersigned railroads and various railway labor organizations regarding various other matters.

These railroads have no response to make to your findings and directives addressed exclusively against various railway labor organizations and dealing with their practices concerning failure to admit colored workers to their membership, or to consult them in representation of employees, etc.

These railroads are engaged, with all their energies and abilities, twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week, in carrying on the most vital business of transportation in the public service and in the prosecution of the war effort. They are contributing their part to the total war effort of the railroads of the country, which has been acclaimed as an unprecedented accomplishment by all branches of the government and of the armed services.

The manpower situation on these railroads is not preventing their most excellent accomplishment in this regard. This accomplishment has been achieved by peaceful and harmonious relations with railway labor and by patriotic and whole-hearted co-operation between these managements, labor and the shipping and traveling public.

Responsibility Repudiated

We wish it to be clearly understood that any disruption of these peaceful and harmonious relations and of this patriotic co-operation which may result from your committee's directives is not the responsibility of these railroads.

The employment relations of these railroads are governed by collective bargaining agreements reached under the controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act. Any change in these agreements is a matter of immediate and vital concern to our employees of various crafts and classes and to their organizations and representatives, as well as to these railroads.

Railroads are forbidden by law to interfere in any way with the self-determination or self-organization of their employees and are entirely without power to dictate to their employees, or to affect by unilateral action, any changes in such agreements. Such changes are controlled by, and can only be accomplished by, the procedures of the Railway Labor Act.

It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible, for these railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them.

Any attempt on their part to comply with those directives, for instance, to promote colored workers to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and co-operative relations with their employees, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present condition of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country.

These railroads cannot assume the responsibility for precipitating such disastrous results.

"Unrealistic" Supposition

These railroads are ready at any time to confer with their employees of various crafts and classes to ascertain whether, under the orderly and controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act, any more generally satisfactory solution of the racial problem of employment can be worked out by mutual agreement.

However, frankness compels these railroads very respectfully to state to your committee that it is utterly unrealistic to suppose that these railroads and their employees can agree to comply with the breadth of your directives or that problems of such delicacy, controlled and governed by a special act of Congress, can be solved out-of-hand by the the fiat of your committee's directives.

A number of your findings and directives against some of these railroads undertake to deal with classes and crafts of railway employees which were given no notice of your charges or hearings, which were not represented, and which were given no opportunity to be heard, and with practices concerning such classes and crafts as to which railroads were given no hearing. Manifestly, such findings and directives are wholly lacking in due process of law and for that reason are without legal effect.

And, finally, with great respect the railroads submit that your committee was and is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to make and issue the directives which it made and issued, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect.

Statement by Ross

The reply by Mr. Ross:

The question of preventing colored railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order.

Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experienced colored firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of colored firemen and give the jobs to white workers.

This is no question of colored workers seeking to displace whites. Colored firemen were the accepted majority for fifty years on Southern railroads, until automatic stokers and diesel-powered engines changed the dirty, heavy work into desirable jobs.

Racial prejudice is not at issue here. White Southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with colored firemen. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, stated: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of colored men as firemen on locomotives."

The firemen problem, and the problems of up-grading, job assignations and seniority rights of colored workers in the operating divisions and the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September.

The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers made a perfunctory appearance. Their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of colored men to be engineers and conductors.

Issue Declared Dormant

The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to colored railroad men in the classifications where reason and public police both urge it.

Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

The Southeastern Carriage Conference agreement, which the committee found in violation of Executive Order 9346, was concerned with the hiring and use of colored men as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers.

The railroads now advance obligations under the Railway Labor Act as barriers to changing the discriminatory Southeastern Carriers' Conference agreement.

There is no conflict of jurisdiction here. The agreement was reached with the brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded.

In asking both parties to make this move, the FEPC is not suggesting anything which cannot be done in conformity with the Railway Labor Act and the procedures adopted by the National Mediation Board.

There are extremely serious racial problems on American railroads. The FEPC did not invent them. It tried, honestly and with the war need for railroad workers in mind, to find out what is wrong and to direct remedial action.

The carriers complain that its directives were too broad, branding them as "impossible and impractical." Let no carriers' move to remedy discrimination was made until these matters were publicly examined. The chance to talk this dilemma through with FEPC has been present ever since the hearing.

Action by Four Roads Cited

Four railroads did so. The Virginia Railroad compiled and relieved itself of a complaint against it before the hearings began.

The Union Pacific did so during the hearings. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central are in amicable and co-operative discussion with the FEPC looking toward solutions. The way is open to the remaining sixteen carriers.

The FEPC is an American committee, trying to help fight an American war. Its duty is to prevent discrimination against any worker, whatever his or her race, creed or nationality, who would be an acceptable war worker were it not for preconceived prejudice.

We may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight, but where war manpower needs are at stake we can and shall try.

To change bad practices now is not "impossible and impracticable." Secretary McAdoo, in 1918 equalized the pay of white and colored firemen as "an act of simple justice." A like need for war manpower inspired that change.

The rails today are giving extraordinarily fine service to wartime America. The FEPC believes that the granting of overdue rights to colored railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of colored Americans who have their own stake in winning the war quickly.

The committee's directives are described as being broad. They extend no further than the problem raised, not by FEPC, but by complex economic and human agencies groping through prejudice and intolerance toward a working democracy of which we need not be ashamed either at home or abroad.

It will take time to raise the structure laid down by the committee blueprint. Not to start now is to acknowledge defeat.

End of Discrimination Not Impossible, Railroads Told

Defender Chicago, Ill

DEC 18 1943

DEC 25 1943

16 Roads Challenge FEPC's Authority, Refuse to Obey Its Anti-Bias Directive

B U L L E T I N

WASHINGTON

Refusal of Dixie railroads to abide by an FEPC order to end job dscrimination may place President Roosevelt in the position of using his war powers to enforce the directive, as he did in the case of Montgomery Ward's defiance of a WLB order to sign a CIO union security contract.

WASHINGTON

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, in a statement issued Monday, denied the contention of sixteen railroads in a letter to the FEPC that it would be "impossible" for them to cease discriminating against colored workers.

The railroads and terminal companies denied the jurisdiction of the FEPC to issue the directives forbidding discrimination toward workers on the carriers and refused to comply with the committee's non-bias orders issued November 24.

This action by the railroads is in open defiance of President

Roosevelt's Executive Order 9346 which forbids any contractor doing business with the Federal Government to discriminate against employees or job applicants on racial or religious grounds.

DEC 18 1943

Charging that the FEPC was "utterly unrealistic" in attempting to solve delicate problems of interracial relations in the Southern States "by fiat," they said it is "wholly impracticable and, indeed, impossible" for them to put the FEPC order into effect.

The letter states that "any attempt, for instance, to promote colored men to locomotive engineers or train conductors" would disrupt their present peaceful relations with their employees, antagonize the public, halt transportation and impair the war effort.

Playing to Galleries—Ross

Branding the letter "a bid for public disapproval of the FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of colored men to be engineers and conductors," Mr. Ross said this issue is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to colored railroad men.

The letter to the FEPC pointed out that railway labor relations are controlled by the Railway Labor Act and that changes in contractural relations between the railroads and labor unions can only be accomplished under that act.

The open challenge from the railroads are the outgrowth of FEPC hearings held here in September during which twenty-two railroads and seven unions were cited for discrimination against colored workers.

Signed by 16 Roads

Railroads that signed the letter are:

Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville and Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Frisco, Seaboard, Southern, Chesapeake and Ohio, Gulf, Mobile and Ohio, Norfolk and Western, Illinois Central, Yazoo and Mississippi Valley, and Gulf and Ship Island.

DEC 18 1943

Among other railroad unions against which the directives were issued were: Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, International Association of Machinists, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, Order of Railway Conductors, and Brotherhood of Railway Carmen.

South Sets Pattern For Navy Treatment Of Negro Sailors

OCT 23 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

(Review of Courier Fight on Navy Policy — Page 13)

Remember Dorie Miller, Charles French, Leonard Harmon? They were Negro messmen serving their country in the present war. But they were "Messmen Heroes," too. Next Wednesday . . . October 27 . . . America will celebrate Navy Day, traditional observance in honor of Theodore Roosevelt. Next Wednesday . . . October 27 . . . The Pittsburgh Courier is asking America to remember the men mentioned above. The Pittsburgh Courier is also asking that this day be set aside to pay fitting and silent tribute to 13 unsung naval heroes of the USS Philadelphia. It was their courage in writing a letter to this newspaper five years ago, which served to spark a campaign against the Navy's discrimination policy, which today envelopes the entire nation.

NO DAY FOR FINE SPEECHMAKING

OCT 23 1943

Navy Day, this year, is deeply significant. In the second year of the war and the sixth year of The Courier campaign for the full and complete integration of Negroes into every branch of the armed services, it is time that we once again open the books and balance the ledger sheets. This Navy Day is not . . . for us . . . a day of fine speechmaking, bugle blowing, band playing or precision drilling. Rather, it is a day of solemn purpose and high intent . . . a day to rededicate ourselves to the fight for real democracy in the Navy.

The Navy must be divorced from the unregenerate South. Our boys who toil and sweat on the seven seas must be given due recognition. The entire pattern of Navy policy must be thoroughly checked and exposed. A race which can produce naval heroes must be given its place in the sun. But the record so far reveals that Dixie still rules the U.S. Navy. Here are some incontrovertible facts to support this statement:

HERE IS THE RECORD

TODAY . . . there is not a Negro commissioned officer serving in the Navy. There is not even a colored physician or minister.

TODAY . . . no Negro attends the Naval Academy at Annapolis, although the cadet enrollment at this institution has been doubled.

TODAY . . . no Negro college has been accepted under the Navy V-12 program.

TODAY . . . with but one exception, no Negro has been accepted for the Navy Reserve training program at a white college.

TODAY . . . not a single Negro has been admitted to Naval aviation. All a colored youth can do is play "nursemaid" to a Navy plane engine at some shore installation.

Trained seamen, graduates of the naval school at Hampton institute, are assigned to ammunition depots as stevedores.

Graduates of Great Lakes Training school are not permitted to serve on seagoing vessels except as stewards or scullions.

Many inductees, [illegible] in as apprentice seamen, are forced into the messman branch or into construction labor battalions.

Discrimination runs riot at every naval establishment.

Sailors who protest the treatment accorded them are charged with mutiny . . . a serious offense during wartime. This follows the pattern set five years ago when the 13 sailors who wrote The Courier were DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.

OCT 23 1943

NAMES SHIP FOR NAVAL HERO

On the other side of the ledger, and showing that some progress has been made, we review the following gains:

Two schools, Great Lakes and Hampton, train Negro sailors for duties in the deck or engineer departments of the Navy.

One camp at Great Lakes was named in honor of Captain Robert Smalls colored naval Civil War hero.

A destroyer-escort vessell, the USS Harmon, was named posthumously in honor of Leonard Harmon, a Texas youth, and a mess attendant, who distinguished himself in the battle of Santa Cruz.

Seven mess attendants have been honored by the Navy for bravery during the present war.

Bernard Whitfield Robinson, a medical student at Harvard university, was commissioned an ensign in the naval medical reserve on June 27, 1942, and will be called to active duty when he graduates on 1944.

OCT 23 1943

Colored seabees . . . naval construction battalion . . . were recently praised by five U.S. Senators upon their return from the Pacific war zone.

This is the picture . . . NOW!

COAST GUARD BEST SERVICE BRANCH

Brightest spot in the Navy picture focuses on the U.S. Coast Guard, a branch of the Navy during wartime. The Coast Guard has two colored commissioned officers holding the rank of ensign. There is no discrimination in the training or assignment of Negro and white sailors in this branch of the service. The men are promoted according to their abilities, and are serving on combat vessels guarding convoys, transporting troops to war areas and serve as crew members of the shore patrol.

This picture contrasts sharply with that of the U.S. Marines, who opened their doors to Negroes for the first time on May 30, 1942. Colored marines train in a separate camp at New River, N. C. The marines have consistently refused to commission a Negro . . . the highest rank now held by a colored marine being that of a buck sergeant.

Yet today, fighting combat units of the Marines are serving in the Pacific area and are standing guard in Philadelphia and on the West Coast.

A Congressional investigation is needed. Write your congressman or senator on NAVY DAY . . . October 27 . . . and give him the facts. Demand action. The Army and its policy is bad enough . . . but something must be done . . . at once . . . about the Navy.

OCT 23 1943

Pursuit Of Democracy

We Can't Afford to Be Indifferent to Abuses of Soldiers

BY MARJORIE McKENZIE

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

IT SEEMS to me that our national organizations are sleeping one of the most urgent current issues facing Negro Americans. The abuses, conviction and lynching of Negro soldiers in the South is a [illegible] which we must not tolerate any longer. The press has done its part in exposing and protesting the facts. Now there must follow organized group action, which means putting pressure on the War department to discharge its obligation to protect Negro soldiers wherever they may be—in the South or the South Pacific. The restrictions and indignities of Jim Crow Army service are burden enough, but the least any soldier ought to demand and receive is respect for the uniform of his country.

NOV 20 1943

Miss McKenzie

Cases such as that of Private Bell, who was awarded a four-year sentence by the civilian authorities of Starksville, Mississippi, for having defended himself against four white hoodlums, and that of the unnamed Negro soldier who was shot last week by an Illinois mob, deserve the absorbed attention of every Negro group which lays claim to leadership. Apparently, the senses of the people can become dulled to outrage. We seem to have arrived at a stage of callous indifference which requires that not one Negro but several must be drawn and quartered simultaneously before we will do anything about the incident but give it a screaming newspaper headline.

As the rush of military events clearly indicates, the war is not going to last forever. If we do not insist on being provided with the ordinary precautions against danger that are taken for the safety of other soldiers, if we do not demand an equal opportunity to fight and therefore, to share victor's spoils, we shall not be able to press our demands with much success in the post-war period.

MEANWHILE, in the relatively brief space of time that remains of armed conflict, with the world talking even now about the future, our organizational leaders are spending most of their time rehearsing their plans to leap from the bosom of the New Deal into the arms of Wendell Willkie. They haggle over terms and discuss the Negro vote as if it were a bolt of goods which they will deliver at the proper time to the highest bidder. Naturally, what happens next year is important and who promises what is part of that picture. But this problem is hot now and it also may be considered political in the sense that its solution lies in the hands of a Democratic administration which will be up for re-election.

NOV 20 1943

ARMY CAN PROTECT MEN IN UNIFORM

It is, therefore, obvious that we are operating in reverse. We are using very bad technique since law and justice and duty are all on our side. The democratic process inducts Negro men into the Army and stops being democratic right then and there. There are, in fact, numerous charges that even induction methods are irregular in the South. The Army puts our men into uniforms, which white civilians in Mississippi may dare, without military interference, to force them to take off. The Army sends our men to foreign fronts to unload barges, drive trucks and cook meals for white soldiers, who dare to criticize us for not being allowed to fight.

IT IS my firm conviction that we can do something about these things if we do not continue to rely upon the Negro press to fight the battle alone. The Army can protect its uniform from ridicule if we convince the Army that we intend that it shall be protected. There are all kinds of federal laws, including one for treason, which sanctify olive drab. The South believes the Army is joking when it sends Negro soldiers into dangerous backwooods country without arranging for their defense. The Army thinks we are joking when we do nothing about the beating and killing of Negro soldiers but write newspaper stories. If our leaders continue to sit out this problem, meanwhile engaging in esoteric discussion of the relative value of this or that political strategy, we shall continue to neglect the proper area for social and political action and fail to use our real political weapon.

NOV 20 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Penalty With Pay!

NOV 20 1943

The U. S. War Department announced last week that Capt. William T. Colman will be retired under public law No. 190, on grounds of "unfitness for duty," thus making it possible for Colman to receive a pension of $1,125 a year during retirement.

Resurrection For FEPC

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOV 20 1943

The President's insistence that his non-discrimination order for government contractors and federal departments is mandatory, amounts to a resurrection of the Fair Employment Practice Committee which Comptroller of the U. S. Warren had virtually killed.

It seems to us that the President had no alternative except to make this clarifying statement or go back on his own order, but nevertheless, all lovers of justice and fair play commend the forthright manner in which he faced the issue raised by the North Carolinian.

The President's statement will have a most salutary effect on the whole question of the employment and upgrading of Negro workers in war industry.

Those industrialists who had been planning to ignore the Executive Order if they chose, now realize that they must obey it or suffer loss of their contracts.

Others who were wavering as a result of the Warren ukase will have to snap back [illegible] line.

The morale of colored Americans which had sunk to a new low as a result of Warren's decision will be tremendously lifted by this re-affirmation of the principles of democracy.

Mr. Roosevelt's action in this case will more effectively spike Axis propaganda than a ream of OWI releases.

Busy as the President is these days, I believe every Negro should send him a brief message of gratitude, either by letter or postcard, for keeping the faith.

However, we should not lose sight of the fact that the FEPC will never be able to do what it wants to do and what we want it to do until a federal law is passed under which contractors who ignore its directives can be punished by fine and/or imprisonment.

PRESIDENT KNEW NOTHING OF ORDER, COURIER LEARNS

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

Ruling by Comptroller General on Executive Order 9346 Stuns Nation — Ross Seeking Opinion from Attorney General on Decision

NOV 6 1943

WASHINGTON—Topping all other developments in the FEPC tangle which resulted last week when it became known that the Comptroller General of the United States, Lindsay C. Warren, had issued a ruling on October 7, which—if allowed to stand—would practically destroy the usefulness of the FEPC, was a flat denial by the White House, given in writing to The Pittsburgh Courier, that President Roosevelt or any other White House official had anything to do with the ruling or knew of it prior to last week's newspaper accounts.

"PRESIDENT KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT"

Replying to a question presented by the Washington Bureau of The Pittsburgh Courier, Stephen Early, secretary to President Roosevelt, wrote: "I can tell you in all frankness that, until he saw a story about this ruling in the newspapers, the President knew nothing about it. It is a fact, also, that no White House official had anything to do with the ruling. It was not asked for by anyone at the White House. And, this includes Director James F. Byrnes, Office of War Mobilization."

Meanwhile—as protests from every section of the country against the decision of Comptroller General Warren flooded the White House—the method by which FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross will seek to save the powers of his committee became apparent. Last Saturday Ross authorized the following comment on the ruling:

"The Comptroller General has recently held that the obligation imposed by Executive Order 9346 upon contracting agencies to incorporate a non-discrimination clause in each contract awarded by them was not a mandatory requirement but merely a directive.

"In view of the doubt which this ruling has cast upon the powers and duties of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the committee is seeking consideration by the Attorney General of the scope and meaning of the Executive Order."

WASHINGTON — Vigorously protesting the decision of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren in the Southwestern Bell telephone case, in which the former North Carolina congressman waived the FEPC anti-discrimination, clause, several national organizations wired President Roosevelt this week and urged him to correct the unfair ruling.

Organizations protesting to the President were:

The Negro Labor Victory committee, National Negro Congress, New York CIO, Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi league, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Socialist Party.

MAY ASK BIDDLE TO RULE ON OPINION

An interpretation of the Ross statement makes it clear that the strategy of the FEPC will be to have Attorney General Francis B. Biddle rule that government agencies must include non-discrimination clauses in all government contracts. Such an opinion would be binding on these agencies and the blow of the Warren ruling would thus be averted.

Informed sources here indicate that it is a practical certainty that Biddle will render an opinion favorable to FEPC. The Early letter to The Pittsburgh Courier, referring to the question of the future of FEPC raised by the Warren ruling, stated that "steps are being taken to look into this phase of the question."

All available information here leads to the conclusion that the ruling of Comptroller General Warren was completely without the knowledge or consent of high-ranking administration officials. Although Warren rendered the opinion on October 7, in answer to a request from the Director of the Division of Central Administrative Services under date of September 11, FEPC officials knew nothing about it until last week.

WARREN'S RULING WOULD DOOM FEPC

First knowledge of the ruling completely stunned them. With a hectic background of numerous chairmen, months of uncertainty as to status, numerous delays of vital hearings, and a growing backlog of unsettled cases, the announcement of the Warren ruling, that government contracting agencies need not insist upon a non-discrimination clause in government contracts, where the person or firm involved refused to agree and where the services sought by the contract could not otherwise be obtained, came as a blow which many observers felt marked the final death of the FEPC. It was pointed out that the Warren opinion was far-reaching, in that it affected not only the future ability of FEPC to enforce its non-discrimination orders through pressure upon government agencies to withhold contracts from jim-crow employers, but as well covered the whole vast network of government contracts, many of which even before FEPC was created, contained anti-discrimination clauses.

Observers pointed out that only recently the National Housing Agency had announced that in 1942 Negro construction workers, protected by non - discrimination clauses, earned 33 million dollars on government housing construction, or 12 per cent of all payroll expenditures in this field.

BYRNES CLEARED OF ANY PARTICIPATION

Until the denial of any knowledge of the ruling, made by Director James F. Byrnes, of the Office of War Mobilization, and quoted in the Early letter to The Pittsburgh Courier, there were many who claimed that the whole episode was a "frame-up" concocted between Byrnes of South Carolina and Warren of North Carolina.

From Richard R. Brown, director of the Central Administrative Services, The Pittsburgh Courier last Friday received confirmation of the Byrnes' statement that he did not ask for and never saw the ruling. "The request was made of the Comptroller General by me," said Director Brown, "and Mr. Byrnes is on no way responsible for it."

Brown, who disclaimed emphatically any anti-Negro bias, pointing out that he had formerly assisted Aubrey Williams of the NYA, and that in his present agency, more than 50 per cent of the 2,000 employees in Washington are Negro, said that the ruling was requested after his office had had extreme difficulty in getting contracts signed for government space in buildings in Southern cities, in securing contracts for water facilities from the Water Commission of the city of Atlanta, Ga., and in the case of contracts for telephone service from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. "I do not anticipate that we will leave the non-discrimination clause out of more than six to ten contracts," he said.

He admitted, however, that on October 16 he had notified regional offices they might proceed, where necessary, to sign contracts without the non-discrimination clause, and that several such contracts had been signed.

WARREN BARRED NEGROES FROM HOUSE RESTAURANT

Informed persons, pointing to the anti-Negro bias shown by Mr. Warren, when a member of Congress from North Carolina, during which time he barred Negroes from the House Restaurant, claimed that the ruling came as the result of pressures from Southern politicians, hostile to FEPC, and from organizations of real estate operators.

In partial proof of this contention they pointed to a news letter of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers dated September 27. A part of this letter read: "The Association is protesting the anti-discrimination order (affecting government leases) . . . while the basis of our objection will be that the lease is not the kind of contract intended by Executive Order 9346, we should be in a position to support our arguments with some tangible evidence that the new requirement is causing trouble around the country." The letter went on to state that the association would seek aid from Comptroller General Warren and the Director of Space Control of the Central Administrative Services. It is significant that precisely from George A. Wilson, Space Control Director, and Comptroller General Warren came the "relief" sought by this organization. Mr. Wilson on Saturday admitted that the Washington lobbyist of the association had been in touch with him, but declined to answer any questions on how the ruling came to be requested of the Comptroller General.

General Counsel to the Comptroller General, J. C. McFarland told The Pittsburgh Courier las week that the framing of the rul ing was a purely routine affair. H denied that it was the result o pressure.

FEPC Receives Credit In Settling Mill Dispute

OCT 30 1943

WASHINGTON.—Credit for considerable aid in bringing about the settlement of a labor-management dispute which had threatened to cause a total shutdown of the 14-Inch Mill of the Jones and Laughlin Steel corporation plant at Aliquippa, Pa., was given to the Persident's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by representatives of the U. S. Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor in correspondence revealed by the FEPC this week.

FEPC action in the case was begun after formal complaints were filed with the committee's regional office in Philadelphia about the middle of September. The case was closed September 28.

FEPC FAIRNESS PRAISED

A letter from Charles R. Ward, commissioner, in the Pittsburgh office of the Conciliation Service, to the FEPC Region III office, expressed thanks for the committee's co-operation and praised the FEPC representatives in the case of his "fairness and keenness in being able to judge the right and wrong side of the case." The FEPC representative was Milo A. Manly.

Working with the Conciliation Service and the FEPC on the case were other governmental agencies concerned, and involved in the discussion were the plant management and Local 1211, United Steel Workers of America, CIO. The basis of the original dispute was a disagreement between management and union over upgrading policies in the 14-Inch Mill. A charge that the management had refused to upgrade two Negro workers because of their race brought the situation to a head.

The company personnel in the 14-Inch Mill is almost entirely Negro and throughout its plants the Jones and Laughlin Steel corporation employs about 12 per cent Negroes in a number of capacities

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

Discriminatry Complaints Against Negro Shipyard Workers Given FEPC Hearings

NOV 27 1943

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Complaints alleging employment discrimination against Negroes in shipyards in the Los Angeles area were examined by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in public hearings, November 19—20.

The hearings, open to the general public, convened at 10 a.m. daily in the Embassy Auditorium, 834 South Grand avenue, Los Angeles. Six of the seven members of the Committee sat at the sessions.

Notified by the Committee to appear at the hearings were representatives of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America; Subordinate Lodge No. 92, and Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35; the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor; the Pacific Coast Metal Trades Council; the Los Angeles Metal Trades Council; the California Shipbuilding Corporation; Western Pipe and Steel Corporation, and the Consolidated Steel Corporation, Shipbuilding Division.

Specific allegations included:

(1) That Negroes have been given employment at lower grades of employment and have been refused employment at the higher skills which their training, qualifications and ability warranted;

(2) That Negroes have been refused advancement to higher skills or branches of employment after their work, training and experience warranted such advancement;

(3) That Negroes who were perfroming useful services in shipyards were down-graded despite the fact that they were performing their work in a successful and satisfactory manner;

(4) That many Negroes have sought to join the Union, but were denied membership in the Union, although qualified in every way; that the Union had requested the discharge of persons without membership, and that employers had honored such requests by actual discharges of Negro workers;

(5) That many Negroes have joined Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35 under threat of discharge if they failed to do so, although Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35 does not give its members equal rights with the members of the subordinate lodges.

Dr. George M. Johnson, FEPC Deputy Chariman, directed preparation for the hearings at which Attorneys Marvin C. Harrison of Cleveland, O., George E. C. Hayes, of Washington, D. C., and Benjamin Dreyfus of San Francisco served as special counsel for FEPC. They were assisted by Attorney Ernest Trimble, Hearings Commissioner of the Committee staff.

MEETINGS
Pittsburgh, Pa
IGNORED BY AFL
Courier

By HERMAN HILL
Pacific Coast Bureau

LOS ANGELES—The vital need for a federal law which would provide the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee's executive orders with "teeth" was never more apparent than during the FEPC's shipyard-union hearings here Friday and Saturday, November 19-20.

Officials of the AFL's shipbuilding unions completely ignored requests that they be present to answer charges of violations of Executive Order 8802 and subsequent amendments. Thirteen of the organizations, as well as local and national officials, were notified of the hearings, but none appeared, nor did th[illegible] any way respond. The commi[illegible] lacke[illegible]er to compel their attendance.

Notified by the FEPC to appear at the hearings were representatives of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Subordinate Lodge No. 92 and Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35, the Metal Trades [illegible] the AFL, the Pa[illegible]Coast [illegible] Trades Council, the Los Angeles Metal Trades Council, the California Shipbuilding corporation, Western Pipe and Steel corporation, and the Consolidated Steel corporation, shipbuilding division.

JIM CROW ADMITTED

These defense plants were represented by attorneys and personnel managers who denied charges that Negroes were being discriminated against, either in hiring or upgrading, although the companies, in a sense, admitted the union's jim crow policy against Negroes, they stubbornly disclaimed responsibility, averring that interference into internal union affairs would make them liable to Wagner Labor Relations Act violations.

George E. C. Hayes, special counsel, presented the FEPC's case, followed by co-counsel Marvin C. Harrison. A parade of witnesses, male and female, was heard, who testified to their bitter aversion to joining and belonging to a jim crow auxiliary and to the various limitations placed upon their respective skills by the shipbuilding companies.

TELLS OF ANTI-RACE BIAS

Others called to the stand included Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, economist and Detroit Labor Relations board member, who told of the anti-race Boilermakers' policy. George Oll, United States Employment service manager of Long Beach, Cal., spoke of the refusal of Consolidated Shi[illegible] accept certain [illegible] o[illegible] ski[illegible] Negroes until he called its attention to Executive Order 8802 and later amendments. Assemblyman Augustus F. Hawkins, lone colored member of the California Legislature, testified that he had learned by experience gained working in shipyards that the CIO did not discriminate against Negroes in shipyards, as did the AFL. He did allow, however, that the CIO yard in question might have been more alert to upgrading of skilled colored workmen. Hawkins said, "Race discrimination is demoralizing to Negroes and harmful to the war effort in general."

HARMONY POSSIBLE

Evidence that Negro and white workers could work together harmoniously was advanced by William Maas, president of the Pacific Sound Equipment company, who explained that at least half of his employes are Negroes and, that, further, the company has a colored woman foreman and two Negro inspectors. Walter Williams, former Cal-Ship employee, who was the first FEPC witness, told of his fight and that of the shipyard workers' committee fo[illegible]ual participation agai[illegible]m crow auxiliary, [illegible]p and he also told of how th[illegible] instituted a job action picket line, but, later, voluntarily withdrew their fight because it was harmful to the war effort.

CAL-SHIP LAWYER CHALLENGED

With Consolidated and Western Pipe and Steel resting their cases, the brunt of the discrimination charges are assumed by Cal-Ship, through Russell A. Bergman, industrial relations manager, who is himself a lawyer. He testified that Cal-Ship had tried, in every way possible, to comply, both in letter and spirit, with "8802." He admitted instances of bias, but said Negroes have been given the same industrial opportunities as others, citing launchings of the "Booker T. Washington" and "Paul Laurence Dunbar" as examples to prove public recognition of the race. Questioned as to the number of colored foremen in the yards, Bergeman contradicted the statement that there were only two. He admitted, however, that there were no Negro female clerks or office help o his knowledge.

The FEPC's counsel, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Bergeman engaged in a legal battle of wits when the former sought to force admission that the President's executive order superseded any master agreement the company might [illegible] a union. Har[illegible] insisted that the companies are morally bound to go beyond whatever contracts exist with unions in opposing race discrimination. Bergeman finally admitted that Cal-Ship would like to see all employees 'on an equal footing."

That sizeable numbers of colored shipyard workers are involved in this big labor controversy is attested by the fact Negro employment with various West Coast firms exist in the following proportion: Cal-Ship 4,067 workers of the plan't gross, of 40,000; Western Pipe and Steel, 800 of 13,000, and Consolidated, 1,500 of 20,000. Of the total of all shipyard workers the Boilermakers' union controls the hiring of fully 65 per cent. Negroes co[illegible]cent of all the n[illegible]ed during the past three months.

The President's FEPC personnel at the local hearings numbered John Brophy, Milton P. Webster, R. A. Southall, Boris Shiskin, P. Bernard Young, Sr., and Chairman Malcolm Ross.

FEPC Members Hearing Railroad Cases in Washington

hn Brophy, abor (CIO)

Milton P. Webster, Labor

Miss Sara E. Southall, Industry

P. Bernard Young, Sr., Industry

Boris Shishkin, Labor (AFL)

Samuel Zemurray, Industry

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Monsignor Francis J. Haas, Chairman

Marcantonio Presses For Action on Permanent FEPC

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) this week in Congress took steps to secure an early vote o[illegible] (H[illegible]1722) to give permanent legal status to the President's Com[illegible]e on Fair Employment Practice. He filed a resolution requesting the House Rules Committee to report his bill for a vote to the floor of the House. This is a technical step prior to the filing of a discharge petition, which when signed by 218 members of Congress will force a vote on the measure, as was the case with the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill.

The New York congressman made clear that he was taking this action as a result of the recent ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren, that the Executive Oder 9346 creating the FEPC was only a directive and not a mandatory order.

"Enactment of my bill," said the congressman, [illegible] settle the question once and for all; it will put teeth in the FEPC and make it impossible for the Comptroller General or anyone else to prevent full enforcement of anti-jim crow regulations in employment in war industries,"

Father Haas Resigns

Kansas City Call Mo.

Father Haas has resigned and the FEPC is without a chairman again. Since it began to function, the President's Committee has been without a chairman and full membership about as much of the time as it has had a complete board.

We hope that a successor to Haas will be appointed immediately and that the work of the committee will not be interrupted as it was for months after the resignation of the first chairman, Malcolm S. MacLean.

47d-1943

FEPC

Warren Pulls The Switch

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

NOV 6 1943

The Fair Employment Practices Committee, which might well be dubb[illegible]Franklin's Football," has been finally ele[illegible]ed by that patriotic Tar Heeler, Controller of the United States, Lindsay C. Warren.

The FEPC had long been in the twilight zone between life and death, revived ever and anon, only to sink back into a state of suspended animation whenever confronted by any fundamental issue.

Not long ago it was dragged from its death bed to stage the hearings concerning racial discrimination practiced by the American railroads and organized railroad Labor, and promptly returned to its death-like slumber.

Now Mr. Warren (who used to be in charge of the .ly-white House restaurant, if memory serves us right), has ended the tragi-comedy which has alternately roused and dashed Negro hopes that the moral force of Presidential Orders 8802 and 9346 might compel employers (including the Federal Government!) to practice that democracy concerning which so much has been said in high places.

The North Carolinian pulled the switch on the FEPC when he decreed the other day that Government contractors need not obey the President's Order in all cases: i.e., they could do as they choose—which is what they have always done in the South and numerous places elsewhere in the country.

The Gentleman from North Carolina says Order No. 9346 is "directory" rather than "mandatory", and can be disregarded where insistence upon it might interfere with the U.S. obtaining vital goods or services.

Thus, the view held by some of our biggest contractors, by the South generally, by the Communists and others finally prevails, and it substantiates the contention of The Pittsburgh Courier from the beginning that only a federal law can succ[illegible]lly cope with the problem of racial discri[illegible]tion in war industry.

While [illegible] FEPC has undoubtedly had some influence for the good, it is crystal clear that mere moral suasion is not enough when dealing with people unmoved by moral arguments when and where the question of color is concerned.

One factor that cannot be ignored in considering the reason for Warren assuming the role of executioner is the political one.

There is an election next year, the stakes are higher than any in our national history and the Democratic Party is determined to stay in office, despite the definite GOP swing.

Under the circumstances it does not feel that it can afford to antagonize the Solid South, the big employers and the craft union moguls by insisting upon non-discriminatory treatment of the Negro war worker . . . which is why so many previous efforts have been made to kill the FEPC.

It is ridiculous to assume that the President is unaware of these maneu[illegible]

Clearly the time has arrived for Negroes to stop wasting time b[illegible]ging for more power for the deceased FEPC, and [illegible] start contending for a federal law providing fines and imprisonment for war contractors discriminating against workers because of color, race or religion.

It ought not be difficult to find Congressmen and Senators willing to introduce and back such legislation at this political juncture.

Capital Transit Company Still Evading FEPC Order

Call

Kansas City, Mo.

Refuse To Employ Negroes

Father Haas Testifies Against Firm

OCT 15 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The hope here is that the appearance of Msg. Francis J. Haas, chairman, Fair Employment Practice committee before the public utilities commission last Tuesday will have put a serious crimp in the application of the Capital Transit company to convert 52 of its old two-man crew streetcars for operation by a single person.

The application is based upon a desire of the company to put on more cars and at the same time use what little labor there is available. The commission decided to postpone its decision pending a study of the matter by the street car men's union.

Unexpected Witness

A totally unexpected witness, Msg. Haas, who wi[illegible]ly be replaced at [illegible] head of FEPC, read from a [illegible]epared statement in which he said that there is a pool of 328 Negroes available at the offices of the United States Employment service who could be used to run trolleys if the company would employ them.

He pointed also to the successful use of Negroes in the capacity of trolley operators in Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Buffalo, Tulsa and San Francisco, stating that there is a total of 2,053 Negroes employed in that capacity. His full statement was as follows:

"The jurisdiction of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices extends to all of the employment policies of the Capital Transit Co., which concerns discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin. The company is, at the present time, under a directive order of FEPC to recruit, hire and upgrade all qualified workers according to executive order 8802.

Some Progress Made

"This directive which was issued Nov. 28, 1942, specifically requested the company to hire Negroes as platform men. Since June of this year, in conferences with FEPC, the company has indicated its willingness to comply with the requirements of executive order 9346 which amends order 8802.

"Since June the [illegible]mittee has been in close touch with the company in an attempt to help it comply in a manner most conductive to good public order. Our latest information from the company indicates that some progress is being made.

"The committee was advised by the USES Oct. 4, 1943, that there is currently a pool of 328 potential Negro applicants who are classified as bus drivers, or in related classifications such as chauffeurs, taxicab drivers, tractor and truck drivers, etc. The USES also reported at the same time that between May 10 and Oct. 1, 1943, 300 Negro applicants having the basic qualifications for platform men were offered referral to the Capital Transit company.

Eight Accepted Referral

"However, the USES further that only eight of this number accepted referral, the others stating they believed nothing would be gained by making application until the problem had been settled.

"Of the eight who have been referred one has been rejected and the applications of the others are pending. I might add that I was informed by USES yesterday that if any of the present employes of the company were to stop work in opposition to th[illegible]employment of Negroes, such workers would not be able to get certificates of availability for employment elsewhere.

"I would like to indicate something of the experience of other cities regarding the employment of Negroes as bus and streetcar operators, conductors and motormen. Reports received by the committee within the last month from Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Buffalo and San Francisco, indicate that there is a total of 2,053 Negroes employed in these capacities.'

FIREWORKS AT OREGON HEARINGS

NOV 27 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

By HERMAN HILL
(Pacific Coast Bureau)

PORTLAND, Ore.—Under the fi[illegible]g probe by President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practice Committee of hiring and upgrading policies at the Henry J. Kaiser shipyards, defense lawyers for Local 72 of the AFL Shipbuilders and Boilermakers' union, Charles Robison and K. C. Tanner, admitted the union's guilt in barring Negroes from membership, but disclaimed its total responsibility for this discrimination and placed the major blame, instead, on the shoulders of the International Brotherh[illegible]in Kan[illegible]ty, Mo.

Testify[illegible] for the policies of Kaiser's three local yards, Edgar F. Kaiser, general manager, and his counsel, Gordon Johnson, alleged that the corporation had complied with both the letter and the spirit of Executive Order 8802 and the later FEPC dictums.

BLAME INTERNATIONAL

In laying the blame for Local 72's discriminatory methods—which barred Negroes from full-fledged membership in lieu of affiliation with a jim crow auxiliary—the union lawyers branded the union's executive council, he[illegible]d by J. A. Franklin, as th[illegible]lty party, charg[illegible]hat it had included in the constitutional ritual a clause which barred "others than whites" from membership.

DEFEND LOCAL 72 HEAD

Tom Ray, regarded as an avowed Negro hater because of his vigorous opposition to awarding Negroes full-fledged membership in the boilermakers' union, was defended by Robison, who asserted:

"Tom Ray is for economic equality for all. He will go as far as the constitution will allow him. He has lived within the structure of his house, but his hands are tied."

Robison labelled Franklin, the international executive, a "pious fraud," who practiced "lip service only" and instigated the setting up of jim crow auxiliaries.

While defending Ray, Local 72 president, a degree of criticism was directed at Tom Crowe, international representative, and even William Green, AFL president, for their "wolves in sheep's clothing" attitude on the Negro question. The non-discriminatory resolution offered by J. P. McGowan, international vice president, in Boston, was termed just more lip service.

Although it had b[illegible]requested to have representati[illegible] the two-day hea[illegible]s, Monday and Tuesday, November 15-16, the International Boilermakers union had no representative present. The FEPC likely will seek to have President Roosevelt call the powerful international into a special conference before its national convention in January. Meanwhile, it is assured, the FEPC probe of hiring and upgrading policies at the Kaiser yards will continue.

PLEA FOR DEMOCRATIC POLICIES

In opening the two-day hearings here by the FEPC, Marvin C. Harrison, special counsel, opened the government's case with an impassioned 3,000-word statement, in which he declared the government's case involved the national policy of equality of employment opportunity without regard to race or color—against practices which have seriously hindered the full mobilization of manpower for the war effort.

However, in its final significance, it is obvious that the case involves, directly and centrally, the right of minority groups to sell their labor in the open market, without discrimination from either employers or unions, because of race, creed or color. This right is so basic

COURIER ANALYZES FEPC'S RAILROAD DECISIONS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON—If the directives of the FEPC to a score or more of railroads and railway labor organizations can be enforced, there [illegible] a new day for Negro railroad workers. This is the unanimous reaction of observers here this week to the news of the sweeping orders issued against discrimination in railroad employment by the committee.

At the same time sober observers expressed the fear that publication of the directives was only the first round in a long and bitter fight to win equal treatment for Negro railway employees.

SEES BATTLE TO HALT COMPLIANCE

There seems little doubt that the committee and the administration will be subjected to tremendous pressures in the attempt to prevent actual operation of the committee's orders. **Already there are indications that poll tax congressmen on Capitol Hill have shown an interest in the directives and will** enter the battle to halt their enforcement.

Presence in Washington last Saturday of legal representatives of ten Southeastern Ca[illegible]nished strong indication [illegible]sibility of the committees' directives being attacked in the courts through injunctions restraining the FEPC from enforcing its directives.

If injunctions were granted by a court, the whole enforcement of the directives could possibly be delayed for several months.

[illegible]ERN LINES WILL MAKE PEACE

At present there seems to be three distinct groups whom the committee will have to face: **the Southeastern Railway bloc, the** Northern and Western lines, the unions. The Southeastern bloc, as already indicated, may test the power of [illegible]ommittee to enforce its order, wh[illegible]e time relying upon "politica[illegible]raising" by such die-hard poll taxers as Rankin of Mississippi, Connally of Texas, and others. The Northern and Western lines, not acting as a bloc, seem likely to make their peace with the committee as the New York Central, Union Pacific and Pennsylvania seem to be doing at the present time. The latter group is impeded by the solid bloc of railway labor unions which have not been represented at the hearings, have made no answer to any charges, and have completely ignored the committee. The danger may well lie mostly with this last group, representing se[illegible]million tightly organized wh[illegible] railroad workers.

Significant in the directives is the fact that at [illegible]e does the committe issue a[illegible] order insisting that Negroes be admitted to membership in the jim-crow unions. This issue is skirted by the directive which insists that Negro workers be given equal opportunity in choosing and conferring with a bargaining agent to represent all the workers of a particular craft.

RULING IGNORED ALL WITNESSES

This concession to the jim-crow unions may promise confusion in the future. Unless Negroes are permitted free and equal membership in the unions, then the problem of selecting a bargaining agent under the Railway Labor Act is rendered most confusing by the committee directive. For equal opportunity to choose a bargaining a[illegible] must carry with it the righ[illegible] only to choose on[illegible] standard national railwa[illegible]or crafts as that agent, but the right to reject such a craft organization and to campaign among Negro and white workers for another representative.

The hesitant approach of the committee towards the powerful labor unions is due, in the opinion of some persons here, to the insistence of Boris Shiskin, AFL representative, that their internal affairs are not subject to committee jurisdiction. Such a position was taken at the AFL convention in Boston in October.

Significant also is the fact that the committee neglected to order employment or upgrading of a single individual worker who testified that he had suffered discrimination.

However careful the committee has sought to be in its approach to the problem, the strong feeling here seems to be that [illegible] until the President hims[illegible]icates his full intention to back up his committee's action, taking over the operation of [illegible] railroads by the government [illegible] necessary, can there be assurance that the directives will be enforced.

At the same time in Congress a bill giving FEPC full power to enforce its decisions moved one step further towards passage last week when Congressman Vito Marcantonio, its sponsor, filed House Discharge Petition Number 18, to force a House vote on the measure. Two hundred and eighteen signatures are necessary to force such action.

TAKES OATH

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Malcolm Ross, new chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was sworn into office recently by Justice Henry Edgerton of the U.S. Court of Appeals. Mr. Ros succeeds Msgr. Francis J. Haa who retired to accept the post of bishop of Grand Rapids, M[illegible] Above picture shows Mr. [illegible] taking the oath, it was witne[illegible] by Mo[illegible] [illegible] Frank Graham, public member of National War Labor Board.

THE HORIZON

BY P. L. PRATTIS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Congress Should Be Asked To Enact Into Law the Power and Scope of FEPC

A NECESSARY and timely organization of force has stemmed from and been activated by the March-on-Washing[illegible]ovement to give permanency, scope and power to the work of the Preside[illegible] Committee on Fair Employment Practice. This is a line of action which challenges the active. effective co-operation of all groups interested in the future of minorities in this country whether they agree with all the proposals or all the methods of the tough-minded intransigents of Seventh avenue. It is a foregone conclusion that unless something is done now to make FEPC stronger, it will grow weaker. Mr. Townsend of the Transport Workers' union has said that FEPC is dead. That is not true. The Committee is sick. It must have treatment. It must be revitalized. As such mechanisms in government go, it is in its infancy. A sick child may become a healthy adult. That is the objective to be sought for FEPC.

Mr. Prattis

If the mortal blow to the President's Committee had been delivered in the railroad hearings, it would have been our fault. We are the ones who have insisted that this infant Committee take on all comers. It could be argued that we have pushed the Committee, impatient for results, for victories, which the Committee has not had the strength to deliver. Sometimes prizefighters are rushed along in the same wa[illegible] brilliant futures spoiled [illegible]ore the young fighte[illegible] developed.

WE SHOU[illegible] KNOW VIEW OF CONGRESS

THIS WRITER is more and more persuaded to believe that money and power and scope for the Committee must be sought through Congress. Once more, as in the Reconstruction Period, the Congress must be asked to take a stand for fair play. It refused in the earlier days by rejecting a national civil rights bill. But times have changed. The question must be asked again. If a majority in Congress does not feel that any action should be taken to keep open the door of economic opportunity for all Americans, we should know it as a fact. The only way to find out is to place before Congress a bill to enact into law provisions for guaranteeing to all Americans the open door to jobs, public and private.

The present Congress may reject such a measure. But this is not the Congress to end all congresses. If it does reject the bill, we can separate our friends from our enemies and return again. But we will never get anywhere if we don't make a start.

The future of the FEPC can and should be made a determinant for Negro political action. There is nothing that means quite so much to all Negroes wherever they live. This is a line of action on which our political leaders, the press, the church, and all other organizations should unite.

There will be many who will fear to put the Congress to the test. They will fear that possible defeat in Congress will doom the Committee. We should not think of defeat. We should think of ultimate victory.

EDUCATION MUST BE MADE ACTIVE FORCE

OUR WHITE FRIENDS, and many colored leaders, have great faith in the educative process so far as race relations are concerned. Educ[illegible]n help. But ther[illegible] be [illegible]positive, conscious [illegible]ort to educate. Who is trying to educate Americans to appreciate one another? Where is the great, educative process in action? Is the national government taking any bold step out in the open to promote education for interracial unity? Are the State governments promoting such education? What tangible, existing process do these viewers with alarm refer to when they speak of education?

If you don't wish to handle racial matters by government fiat or decree, this writer will settle for education if you will activate a program of education. If the President or the Congress do not wish to tell the American p[illegible] that they must not perse[illegible]minorities, this writer will b[illegible]atisfied if, for a starter, they'll invest the price of one battleship into education to combat racial prejudice.

Debate on FEPC will be educative. If Congress will give the FEPC the backing of law, the Committee itself, with punitive power held in reserve, can become one of these educative factors that are talked about.

By all means, let us seek strength for FEPC from Congress instead of bewailing its obvious illness.

Kansas City Call

FEPC Settles 232 Cases in October; 1,713 Still Remain to Be Solved

Kansas City, Mo.

Although 232 cases of alleged employment discrimination were closed during the month of October, 1943, the active case load of the President's Committee on Fair employm[illegible]Practice reached [illegible]igure of [illegible],713 cases o[illegible]v. 1, Malcolm Ross, chairman, said this week.

Of the 232 cases closed in October, 62 cases, or 28 percent, were adjusted satisfactorily, Mr. Ross reported. Thirty-one percent of the cases were dismissed on merits, 25 percent for insufficient evidence, 6 percent for lack of jurisdiction, and 10 percent of the cases were withdrawn by the complainants.

Mr. Ross said there had been a 30 percent increase in the active case load since Sept. 1, 1943, and credited this rise to the establishment of various regional offices of the committee.

Prior to this reorganization, all of the Committee's cases were processed by a small staff in the national FEPC office in Washington, D. C. Nine regional and two sub-regional offices are now functioning in New York city, Philadelphia, Washington, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Atlanta, Kansas City, Dallas, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

The fifth region, embracing Cleveland and Detroit, had the largest case load—366 active cases on Nov. 1, Mr. Ross declared. The third region (Philadelphia) was next w[illegible]17 cases, while [illegible] sixth region (Chicago) w[illegible]third with 220 cases. The New York office listed 136 cases; Atlanta, 126; Kansas City, 95, and Dallas, 76. Approximately 25 percent of the 1,713 cases listed on Nov. 1 had been pending for more than six months, the chairman stated.

Cases are not docketed by the FEPC unless a complaint alleges discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color of national origin.

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FEPC

Atlanta City Council Asks Ouster Of FEPC Office And White Director

Defender
Chicago. Ill. 1943

By HARRY McALPIN

(Chief, Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The City Council of Atlanta, Ga., has passed a resolution which seeks the closing of the regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice there, and orders the regional director, A[illegible]ce Hunt, white and Virginia-born, to leave town.

The reason: FEPC's regional office is located in the Forsythe building, a downtown office structure, and the City Council is opposed to any Negroes working in the building other than as janitors.

It is reported that a petition was drawn up by occupants of the building objecting to Negroes being brought in. There are no Negroes in the FEPC office yet—the only occupants being the regional director and his white secretary. But the report spread that FEPC hires Negroes in clerical and professional capacities.

Sponsor Radio Program

Besides carrying the petition to the City Council, the occupants of the building, who are themselves federal government employees, sponsored an hourly broadcast over an Atlanta radio [illegible], stating that FEPC plans to bring Negro white-collar workers into the Forsythe building. All eight stories of the building are under government lease.

This climax to Atlanta's action followed a two-week effort on the part of Representative Ramspeck (D) of Georgia, Democratic whip of the House of Representatives and chairman of the House Civil Service commissioin, to get FEPC to move out of the building.

In an exclusive interview with the Defender, Ramspeck said he had tried to get hold of Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC several days ago, but Ross was then in California and Oregon for the Boilermaker hearings.

Following this effort, Ramspeck was in Georgia to see his mother, who underwent an eye operation, and at that time, he said, he became acquainted with the problem at first hand. He was then approached by citizens and urged to put a stop to FEP[illegible]lanta.

[illegible]ence Threat

"What FEPC proposes to do," said Ramspeck, "will be harmful to all concerned. There are no separate toilets in the Forsythe building for Negroes, and there is no place in the vicinity for Negroes to eat."

To insist on carrying out the plan, he declared, will set race relations in Atlanta back 25 years. It may even lead to violence.

"You can't force this kind of thing down the peoples' throat," he stated. "FEPC has done a good job of putting Negroes to work in factories and war plants. I am glad to see that. I think Negroes deserve a chance to make a living. But, it is a different proposition when you try to force them into offices with whites. There it is more of a social relationship, and the whites are not going to stand for social equality."

He insisted he was depicting conditions as they exist, not a theory. He said his own personal attitude toward Negroes is one of helpfulness.

Lack of Education

Ramspeck told the Defender that Georgia has more Negroes, numerically, than any other state, though some states have proportionately more Negroes. In Georgia and in the city of Atlanta, N[illegible] are about one-third of the [illegible]ation.

"We have so[illegible]ne people among our Negroes. Some of them have nice businesses, but they are in Negro neighborhoods," he pointed out.

The masses of Negroes, however, are not educated beyond the fourth grade, according to the Congressman. He maintained, however, that Georgia has done as good a job in this respect as its available money would allow. The state, he claimed, spends a larger percentage of its per capita wealth for education than does New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, or any others in the North.

He admitted not much high school training was provided for Negroes, but said this was one reason he supported the Federal Aid to Education bill, which was killed by political trickery of the Republicans led by Senator Taft of Ohio.

Talks To Ross

He also voted for the Wage and Hour Law, he said, and was criticiized by Georgians fo[illegible] doing so. They claimed the la[illegible]d primarily benefit Negroes, who would become u[illegible] if they earned too much. "But I want to see everyone's standard of living raised," Ramspeck declared.

"I have laid off the FEPC," he said, "but now I have to line up on one side or the other. In politics, you can't forever keep quiet. The City Council of Atlanta has called on me and other elected representatives to get FEPC to withdraw. I realize I can't stop them, but I have made the attempt."

He said he talked with Chairman Ross last week about the situation.

"This fellow Saunders in South Carolina had the right idea," he stated. (Ramspeck admitted afterward he was [illegible] to C. C. Spaulding of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company, in Durham, N. C.) "Saunders said in an article in Readers' Digest that Negroes are foolish to seek equality because there is no such thing. He was right. All whites are not equal. All Negroes are not equal. I have heard of a case in New England where Negro residents objected to bringing in outside Negroes to work in war plants.

"Negro leaders are trying to push too far in too many wa[illegible] continued. "Negroes have made remarkable progress since slavery. But trying to go too fast by force will set them back. You can't do it by force."

Race relations, he said, have been very good in Atlanta. "There may be a few cases where Negroes are discriminated against, but on the whole, they know how to get along."

Officials at FEPC had no comment to make beyond saying they had received nothing offcial on the situation, and so far as the agency is concerned, everything remains "as is."

There is apprehension [illegible]me quarters that a concerted move might be developing to kill FEPC. On Dec. 3, Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi declared on the house floor the committee "is doing everything it possibly ca[illegible] drive the white pe[illegible] South out of the D[illegible]atic party."

"When they go out and attempt to force every private enterprise in the south to accept Negroes, force them to employ Negroes and promote them," he declared, "they are simply creating dissension." Further he added: "This so-called Fair Employment Practice committee is really a rump organization without any legal authority, and should be abolished at once."

While objection is being raised in Atlanta to mixed staffing [illegible] regional office, Carl[illegible] [illegible]ta[illegible]da, acting regional [illegible]r operating out of Dallas, is proceeding with no apparent difficulty. The case load there is 120.

FEPC Members Meet and Decide on Five Points

Call
Kansas City. Mo DEC 17 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The President's Committee on Fair Employment practice met Saturday, with two members absent, discussed and reached decisions in the following matters:

1. Confirmed the date of Dec. 8 set for hearing evidence in Philadelphia that a clause in the contract between the Philadelphia Rapid Transit system and the employes' union discriminates against Negroes in that it bars their employment.

2. Announced that it was awaiting the outcome of court proceedings instigated in San Francisco out of which came the injunction prohibiting the firing of 150 Negroes employed at the Marineship Company yards, Sausalito, Cal., regardless of the terms of the closed shop agreement with the boilermakers' union. Further hearing before Justice Roche was scheduled for [illegible]6.

3. Promised that "action of a public nature" will be taken against Capital Transit company, Washington, within two weeks if the committee's director to hire Negroes is not complied with. This is anniversary week for the case.

4. Declared that the Pennsylvania railroad and the New York Central system are "still in the position of considering ways of adjusting their employment policies to fall in line with the executive order." The 30 day period given the companies to comply terminates on Dec. 23.

5. Confirmed the report that an agreement had been reached with the Railroad Retirement board, now handling recruiting for the railroads, whereby Negroes would be referred for jobs just as anyone else. Refusal of the companies to hire them, Chairman Malcom Ross of FEPC, said will allow the offended individuals to file complaints of discrimination.

A source close to the committee declared that counsel for the complainants in the west coast injunction proceedings filed "an interesting brief." This source revealed that not only is the executive order one of the props in the complaint, but that a "strong support" is the citation of the U. S. Circuit court that "the right to earn a livelihood is an inalienable right of property entitled to protection by the constitution."

Boris Shishkin, AFL representative on the committee, took the occasion to point to the "rigging of prices" and the "setting up of special brands for inferior goods" for marketing in Negro neighborhoods. Shishkin is co-chairman also of the labor policy committee of the Office of Price administration.

He poi[illegible] out that [illegible] exclusion of Negroes from price control and rationing boards had come to the attention of the FEPC sometime ago, and that the matter was referred to him for attention in view of his position with OPA. He was therefore announcing some of his observations.

"I have recommended to the OPA to make special effort to continue to look into this problem," he said.

Atlanta Council Wants FEPC Office Closed

Informer
Houston Texas

ATLANTA.—(ANP) — Declaring that the employment of white and Negro personnel to work side by side in downtown Atlanta office buildings would set a "horrible precedent," the Atlanta city councily Monday adopted a resolution calling upon Georgia congressional representatives at Washington to "insist upon the removal of the newly established southeastern regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices."

The "race situation," said the resolution adopted by the Atlanta council, ostensibly at the instigation of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, "can best be handled by local people. The activities of this committee in other parts of the south and particularly in Alabama have resulted in building up racial animosities."

Adopted and signed by [illegible] the 14 members of council, the resolution is expected to reach Mayor William B. Hartsfield's desk for action late Tuesday.

The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, observers say, is interested in keeping Negro workers out of skilled jobs so that there will continue to be a labor reservoir, thus keeping Atlanta from being classed as a labor shortage area and bringing about a mandatory 48-hour week.

FEPC Officials Weigh Negroes' Working Ills

FT. WORTH, Texas—(ANP)—At a meeting Thursday [illegible] FEPC officials and the Tr[illegible]d Employment [illegible]ttee of the Negro Welfare council, it was urged that the USES refer all applicants to available jobs to the various Fort Worth plants, regardless to race, creed or national origin. The conference, held to gather general facts on the employment situation for Negroes here, was attended by Clarence Mitchell, national represenattive, Dr. Carlos E. Castaneda, regional director, and L. Virgil Williams, regional field examiner of the FEPC, and James R. Ellis, Fort Worth area director of the WMV and member of the Training and Employment committee.

The conference revealed that Convair is now asking for 50 Negro men, 25 to be added to the janitorial department and 25 to be placed in semi-skilled and skilled departments. After discussing Convair's willingness to employ 250 Negro men in the Buck Wing division, where airplanes are made, the Negro Welfare council representatives asked FEPC officials to recommend that 250 of the Negro men now serving as janitors, be replaced by women.

Washington Column

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

DEC 25 1943

By MICHAEL CARTER

FEPC

Northern employers are closely watching the developments in the case of the sixteen recalcitrant railroads. If the Administration fails the race and democracy by showing the FEPC's gums and not its teeth, layoffs can result. This will be true in many plants where colored people were hired only under duress.

A move is under foot to test the constitutionality of the FEPC in the Supreme Court. Informed people close to the sixteen Nazi-like railroads operating in the USA intimate that this will be the last resort in the attempt to sabotage the FEPC.

The sixteen railroads are, in practice, no different from the other roads. It has been tacitly agreed that the Southern roads will carry the Swastika ball for their Northern counterparts. Most of the Southern roads have financial ties with the Northern ones anyhow.

The Administration does not want to drop the FEPC. In dropping it, the Solid South would lose some of its anti-F.D.R. feeling, but the Administration would lose the colored vote. It is a question of which is more valuable. Considerations of honesty and fair play are entirely incidental.

Nor does the Administration want the FEPC to be Supreme Court tested. The NRA died in the Supreme Court. On the other hand, the Administration does not want to show weakness in dealing with the Southern Senators, but neither does it want to risk the threatened Civil War in the Democratic party.

Already several English-speaking, Nazi-minded Southern Senators have threatened to create a third party. Jumping on the Administration with both feet they suggest a lily-white, Southern Democratic party.

Such a party would get a great deal of support from Southern States. If the new party were created its obvious effects would be: retention of the poll tax; more repressive legislation against colored people; further disfranchisement in primary and general elections; pellagra and low pay for all industrial workers in the South.

It would also make good propaganda for the Nazis and Japs, widen the gulf between the James and Potomac Rivers and the rest of America.

The new party would also lose national political patronage, but could win several seats in both Houses. The Administration is violently opposed to any splinter Democratic party.

The Southern Congressmen, who hate Roosevelt because of the FEPC, and so-called "coddling of colored workers" and higher wages, are glad to have a chance to slap at the White House and pay more attention to that than anything else except the tiring job of keeping down colored people.

Army

The hinted Congressional investigation on the non-use of colored troops in the US Army will be held only if it is politically expedient. It will not be conducted out of love for the colored soldier or any high beliefs in democracy. It will simply be administered as required to garner race votes.

The investigation, or series of speeches will be led by an ill assorted group of Congressmen who will use this as an instrument to do a bigger job: defeat Roosevelt and blackball Willkie. One of the men who will probably lead the investigation figured in the trial of Nazi Agent George Sylvester Viereck. Another is said to have let fascists use his franked envelopes and inserted Nazi talk into the Congressional Record.

Colored officers have been criticized in Congressional toilets and smoking rooms. "They are too conceited, too superior to their men and woefully unable to maintain proper officer-enlisted man status. They are unaccustomed to authority and abuse it. Only the highest type white officer should be sent to command colored troops. Colored troops are apt to be more indolent, more addicted to crap shooting and more AWOL than whites."

Food

Since a group of white and colored CIO delegates ate in the Capitol restaurant a sign has been posted and guards stationed at the doors. The sign says that the facilities of the cafe are for employees only.

Truth of the matter is that David Lynn, architect of the Capitol, and nominally in charge of the cafes, is afraid that more colored people might come in to eat. Obviously, Representative Dawkins's staff can eat in the hallowed halls, but other colored people are prohibited.

The rule, which once forced out white visitors too, is not now strongly enforced although the sign remains in place. White visitors do eat there now, but the rule is till rigid in regards to dark Americans.

The Senate Office Building makes no pretenses; simply refuses to serve colored people. If you ask "Why?", when you are refused you don't get an answer. An automatic "Sorry, we cannot serve you," is the reply.

David Lynn says this is to conserve food. "There is a food shortage and we must limit service to employees of the building." Contradiction: A colored person may buy as much food as he can carry out of the place.

FEP Vs. Dixie Railroads Battle Placed On President's Desk For Final Verdict

DEC 25 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Undeclared civil war on the racial issue has broken out on Capitol Hill.

With undisguised rebel shouts, Dixie poll taxers in both branches of Congress are on the war path here determined to axe the Fair Employment Practices Committee and with it every government agency that has taken any steps to crack down on race discrimination.

Augmented by a GOP congressional group that Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.) have labeled "Rankin Republicans," the Southern Democrats have threatened an open break with the New Deal if President Roosevelt upholds the FEPC in its order to the nation's railroads to halt job discrimination.

Behind the Dixie bloc is the solid power of the railroad lobby in Washington and certain segments of AFL unions who are determined to keep Negro workers off the railroads except in menial capacities.

Pressure On FDR

They are already exerting pressure on the White House to force the President to back water on the all-important war issue. Meanwhile, the FEPC headed by Malcolm Ross has put the entire matter of railroad employment on the President's desk for final decision after issuing a resounding blast against the "doubtful patriotism" of the Southern railroads.

The President is expected to turn to the FEPC problem the moment he has settled the emergency strike situation in the railroad industry There has been some talk of government seizure of the roads to settle both the strike threat and the FEPC dispute in one move.

In taking up the question the President is expected to seek the opinion of Attorney General Francis Biddle before deciding his course.

Conference Soon

No comment was available at the office of the Attorney General on the FEPC's "cease and desist" order which has been defied by Southern railroads. Although he could go into the court with a request for a bill in equity to seek enforcement of the directive, it was indicated that no action was contemplated pending a canvass of the situation.

A conference with the Attorney General may be arranged soon on the order, which was issued without preliminary consultation with him.

While the attorney general has held that the President's war powers as Commander in Chief of the armed forces are exceedingly broad, Federal legal circles are unofficially discussing the advisability of any action by the President in the railroad case and, if action is deemed advisable, how far he should go in invoking executive sanctions.

Federal Sanctions

It was also pointed out that the President or the FEPC could recommend that Federal agencies take sanctions. For example, the Railroad Retirement Board might be asked to refrain from referring jobseekers to the affected carriers and the War Production Board and the various procurement agencies might be requested to cancel contracts with them.

Because the FEPC was created by executive order and not by statute, it has no way of enforcing its directives. The War Labor Board was in a similar situation last summer before passing of the War Labor Disputes Act, which provided sanctions.

A bill to make the FEPC a statutory body has been offered in the House by Representatives Vito Marcantonio of New York, who is now pressing by petition for a vote on the measure.

Union Defies

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen informed the FEPC the union will not comply with an order to stop limiting its membership to white persons only.

Brotherhood President D. B. Robertson, in a letter to the committee, also said the FEPC had no legal authority to "direct the abrogation of agreements" regarding employment relations between the union and certain railroads, among them the Southeastern Carriers conference.

Meanwhile Rep. Howard W. Smith, (D., Va.) has taken up the cause of 16 Southern railroad corporations, and railway labor unions, which FEPC ordered to stop discriminating against Negro employes.

As chairman of the House committee investigating executive agencies, Smith is threatening to turn loose his staff on the FEPC to ferret out the ways, if any, in which the campaign against discrimination is violating the Constitution.

The anti-labor Virginian revealed that his committee is "considering" such an investigation, explaining that he had received several complaints "that the FEPC has been issuing directives without authority for some time."

Two other poll-taxers promptly joined in the attack. Rep. Robert Ramspeck (D., Ga.) said he felt FEPC "is doing more harm than good in trying to force employment of Negroes on railroads where they will be brought into contact with a public which in a large part resents their employment." Rep. Hugh Peterson (D., Ga.) reported "considerable agitation" over the FEPC order in his district.

The Congressional attack on the FEPC was led by Rep. John Elliott Rankin (D., Miss.).

Lambasts Railroads

It followed a brief speech by Rep. Marcantonio who lambasted the railroads for refusing to comply with an order "in keeping with the war effort."

The New York Congressman charged that the railroad corporations had misrepresented the FEPC order in a letter to all congressmen.

Rankin arose immediately and hotly described the FEPC as a "rump organization" and urged that it be "cleaned out."

The Mississippi poll taxer attacked the "shocking statement" by Marcantonio and charged that "some groups in New York headed by PM" were leading a movement "to harass the white people of the South, who are trying to keep the transportation system going."

"These people are stirring up race trouble in the South as no other before has ever done," Rankin cried. "They have taken it upon themselves to assume Hitler power, Mussolini power over the Southern railroads, which are carrying the burden of the war effort."

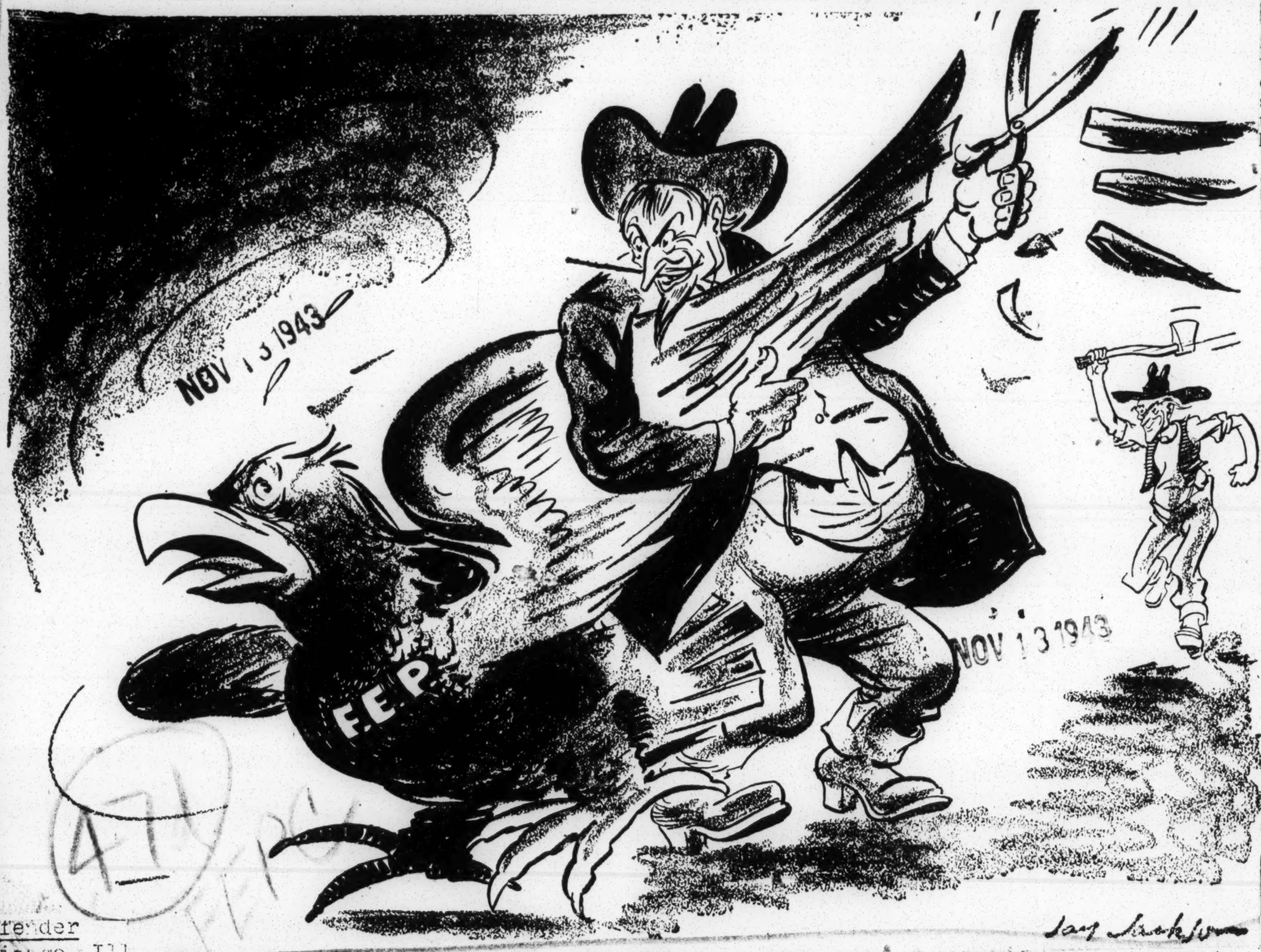
William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said he had no comment on the FEPC directive, but pointed out that there had been no change in the policy of the AFL or its affiliates on the Negro union problem since the matter was discussed at the federation's convention two months ago.

Mr. Green recalled having said then that the solution to the problem lay in education, not in force, that only a few AFL unions were charged with discrimination and that the federation directly chartered federal unions of Negroes.

47d-1943

FEPC

Roosevelt To The Rescue



Defender
Chicago. Ill

471
FEPC

City Council of Atlanta Wants FEPC Office Closed

Kansas City Call
Mo.

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — Declaring that the employment of white and Negro personnel to work side by side in downtown Atlanta office buildings would set a "horrible precedent," the Atlanta city council Monday adopted a resolution calling upon Georgia congressional representatives at Washington to "insist upon the removal of the newly established southeastern regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices."

Race Situation

The "race situation," said the resolution adopted by the Atlanta council, ostensibly at the instigation of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, "can best be handled by local people. The activities of this committee in other parts of the South and particularly in Alabama have resulted in building up racial animosities."

Adopted and signed by 11 of the 14 members of council, the resolution is expected to reach Mayor William B. Hartsfield's desk for action late Tuesday.

The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, observers say, is interested in keeping Negro workers out of skilled jobs so that there will continue to be a labor reservoir, thus keeping Atlanta from being classed as a labor shortage area and bringing about a mandatory 48-hour week.

Chief objection was that "mixed employment of the races' was untenable. The office, with jurisdiction over Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, was opened on Nov. 24 with A. Bruce Hunt, Virginia-born and educated, as the regional director.

Hunt had not even organized his staff when the council passed the resolution. It was planned to hire two field examiners. The offices are located in Atlanta's one skyscraper.

All the papers in Atlanta carried the story and, according to information received here, the local radio stations plugged the action all day.

Discuss Resolution

Hearing of the resolution, Chairman Malcolm Ross of FEPC declined to discuss it. The committee was awaiting a "crystallizing" of sentiment in Atlanta.

From a reliable source, however, it was learned that Ross had contacted the White House, but it could not be determined what was said or done or with whom he talked since the President was known to be out of the country.

It is also understood that he called upon Rep. Robert Ramspect of Georgia to discuss the resolution. Ross would neither confirm or deny this, and when reached for comment, Congressman Ramspect said he had not yet received a copy of the resolution and therefore could say nothing.

There is apprehension in some quarters that a concerted move might be developing to kill FEPC. On Dec. 3, Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, declared on the house floor the committee "is doing everything it possibly can to drive the white people [illegible] South [illegible] of the Democratic party."

"When they go out and attempt to force every private enterprise in the South to accept Negroes, force them to employ Negroes and promote them," he declared, "they are simply creating dissension." Further he added: "This so-called Fair Employment Practice committee is really a rump organization without any legal authority, and should be abolished at once."

While objection is being raised in Atlanta to mixed staffing of the regional office, Carlos Castaneda, acting regional director operating out of Dallas, is proceeding with no apparent difficulty. The case load there is 120.

BISHOP HAAS AND THE FEPC

Defender
Chicago. Ill

47d

Monsignor Francis J. Haas has resigned the chairmanship of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee. He has been appointed to and has accepted the post of Bishop of Grand Rapids. His successor has not yet been named by the President.

The resignation of this fighting Catholic prelate from the Committee to end discrimination in industry raises some interesting questions. For example: Is the bishopric of the city of Grand Rapids of greater significance now in this period of war than the Fair Employment Practices Committee? We believe this evaluation must be made. We feel the answer is No, and although we do not regard Haas' resignation as fatal to the work of the Committee or that the good Monsignor is the only one who can do a good job as head of FEPC, he has in a short time done excellently and the program which he projected holds, we believe, the possibility of still greater results.

The FEPC leadership is an extremely important war job. It is an anti-fascist job. It is the job against un-American and subversive activities in our war industries such as the Dies Committee might perform if it were not itself un-American but were truly seeking for subversive elements. There are many who do not want a good job done in this direction. They are the enemies within.

Another question: Were the recent railroad hearings which exposed the

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jim-crow policies of 22 companies and the railroad brotherhoods and opened to our sight ~~large~~ reservoirs of workers who were discriminated against because of their color, the reason for the elevation of this Catholic leader? Did Haas go too far? We know the railroad operators were particularly incensed at this hearing. Their un-American jim-crow policies served only to show how detrimental such policies are to the interest of the nation.

Were these railroad operators able to influence the Catholic hierarchy and secure Haas' elevation to a bishopric? To those who have noted the failure of the leading Catholic figures to carry on an aggressive fight against the jim-crow policies of their own schools this question looms large. Surely Haas was not the only churchman who could have filled the Grand Rapids bishopric with honor at this moment.

We believe it is a dangerous bit of appeasement to have men removed by promotion or otherwise from positions where they are effective in fighting against the internal workings of fascism to positions where they are removed from politics. Haas is needed in the political arena at this time. We need some of "God's angry men" and we need more men of God to get angry.

But now a new leader is to be chosen. The FEPC has a gigantic war task to perform. No weakling will be tolerated at its head.

TRANSIT UNION TELLS FEPC WHY IT OPPOSES NEGROES

DEC 26 1943

Bee (Magazine Section
Chicago. Ill.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 23 (ANP)—Employment of colored conductors, motormen, cashiers, bus drivers and platform attendants by the Philadelphia Transportation company, as ordered November 18 by the Fair Employment Practice committee under executive order 9346, hit a snag Wednesday when the Philadelphia Rapid Transportation Employes' union, PTC's bargaining agent, protested the hiring directive.

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The protestation, in which the union said the employment of Negroes in the higher-graded positions would bring about a condition of chaos and impairment, was given a City hall meeting attended by 300 or more citizens. Over 100 had to be refused admittance, due to lack of space.

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The union maintained the enforced hiring of colored people for the upper level of positions in the PTC organization would discriminate against the union, would be a tragic mistake and should of necessity be preceded by an educational program of integration among those already in the company's employ.

FEPC Chairman Malcom Ross presided over the meeting. Sitting with him was Milton P. Webster, international vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL.

The NAACP made a statement to the effect that Negroes are employed on the mass transportation systems of New York, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Tulsa and Chicago. Raleigh Johnson, colored PTC welder, told of efforts of Negro employes to get the company to make qualified Negroes trolley or bus operators.

DEC 26 1943

Intimidation of the injection of jim crow, should colored employment be put in operation, was made when Raleigh T. Senter ,president, and Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the PTC committee on industrial relations, said the company might consider such employment on the Lombard street line, where most of the riders are colored.

Senter and Mitten did not make these statements at the meeting. Apparently, the two PTC executives had made these uncertain declarations to Johnson, who repeated them in speaking of the fruitless results of the Negro employes' efforts to urge the company to upgrade them.

DEC 26 1943

The Supreme Court Makes Dred Scott Decision For The Negro Railroad Worker

DEC 24 1943

Expert Labor Organizer Analyzes The Situation

Argus
St. Louis
Missouri

(By Willard S. Townsend, International President United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO)

DEC 24 1943

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. (Special — The pertinent question facing America today is whether the FEPC will prove the instrumentality in breaking this vicious employment practice. Much of the support of this Committee has been drawn on the asssumption that it would eliminate many of the weak areas in our transportation problem.

DEC 24 1943

Rests Case

The 16 southern railroads are resting their case on the so-called Railway Labor Act. The Railway Labor Act is an act of Congress which provides for the disposing of matters relating to conditions of employment and wages. Recently, the Supreme Court in the case of the Switchmen's Union of North America vs, the National Mediation Board, made the decision which stated in substance, that the rulings of the National Mediation Board were absolute inasmuch as the Federal Courts could not take jurisdiction. It might be interesting to note that the National Mediation Board is a Federal Agency created by the Railway Labor Act. With the FEPC unable to enforce its directives. the Railway Labor Act controlling the conditions of employment. and the Supreme Court granting dictatorial powers to the National Mediation Board, the Negro railroad worker finds himself much in the same position as Dred Scott, the runaway slave, who had entered a free state and was ordered back to slavery by the United States Supreme Court. The Negro railroad worker today, actually becomes an industrial fugitive in an industry of opportunity if this decision of the Supreme Court holds sway.

We pointed out sometime ago, that the FEPC was created not out of a keen desire to insure the full partication of Negroes in the war employment, but rather out of the political necessity on the part of the present administration to placate the growing insistence of the Negro communities for greater opportunities in the field of war employment. It was upon this false political placating premise that Executive Order 8802 was issued.

DEC 24 1943

Explains Congress Actions

Following the announcement of the southern railroads rejecting the FEPC order to cease discrimination, Congressman Howard W. Smith of Virginia, immediately broke into print with the statement that an investigation would be made of the FEPC to determine its powers. This again glaringly reveals that the real enemies of fair employment practices and full utilization of Negro manpower, are the same ones who have used this war emergency to harass labor, fight price control, destroy the National Resource Planning Board, destroy the Farm Security Administration, adopt the Smith-Connally Bill, impede anti-poll tax legislation, and supply opposition to post war international cooperation based on equality of nations and people and many other points which translate the Four Freedoms into actual practice. Our present congress is, perhaps, the most anti-labor, anti-Negro and anti-progressive since 1870, when the Northern Republicans controlled by the railroads and other industrial interests joined with the Southern plantation Democrats to defeat the real purpose and aims of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

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However, despite the trials and tribulations of the FEPC, a more dangerous threat to the democratic processes in the railroad industry is obtained in the granting of absolute powers to the National Mediation Board by the Supreme Court through an interpretation of certain sections of the Railway Labor Act. Since this is possible, we emphatically question the constitutionality of that section of the Act which grants this unlimited power to a Federal Agency and denies the right of court review of decisions that in all practical purposes supports the sixteen southern railroads in their organized attack upon the FEPC.

DEC 24 1943

The implications of this challenge to industrial democracy in the railroad industry, takes precedence over many of our immediate problems and should become a "must" for all labor, progressives and liberals interested in ushering in a new day for all in American industry.

FEPC And WMC Agree On Methods Of Procedure

Informer Houston Texas

47a

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice and the War Manpower Commission have agreed on methods and procedures to prevent overlapping of authority in enforcing the ban on discrimination in employment in war industries on account of race, color, religion or national origin.

The agreement, announced by Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission and Monsignor Francis J. Haas of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, was signed on August 2, and will be put into effect "as soon as feasible." It provides that:

1. If any inter-agency dispute arises in any regional office of either agency and cannot be settled by the chairmen, it shall regional directors, it shall immediately be referred to specially designated adjustment officers in the central offices of the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

SEP 11 1943

2. If any inter-agency difference involving questions of procedure arises and canot be adjusted in the above manner, it shall be referred to the two chairmen for final disposition.

3. If a difference involving questions of policy cannot be settled by the hcairmen, it shall be submitted to the President for settlement.

SEP 11 1943

4. If any such differences involve questions of interpretation of the executive orders under which the two agencies are operating, they shall be referred by the two chairmen to the Attorney General for a ruling by which the two agencies shall be bound.

Lynching the FEPC

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

When lynching States send lynch-minded Representatives to Washington, it is to be expected that they will apply the lynch technique to the job of running the Government.

That is exactly what is happening on Capitol Hill today, where Dixie Congressmen and Senators are howling for a probe of the FEPC, as an aftermath of the decision ordering Southern railroads to discontinue discrimination against colored workers.

So we are treated to the spectacle of Congress's wanting the policeman arrested for trying to bring the criminal to justice. As usual, Dixie is on the side of the lawless.

The railroads are engaged in keeping competent workers out of employment on the basis of color alone, and in complete defiance of the President's executive order.

But do any of the holier-than-thou Representatives who make so much pretense at fighting the war of democracy raise their voice in condemnation of the undemocratic practice of denying the right to work to fellow Americans? No, all they want to do is crush the agency through which the President has attempted to iron out the imperfections of our hypocritical system.

But what more could we expect from a bunch of interlopers, who themselves, hold office only by defrauding the majority of the people they pretend to represent out of their franchise?

They are holding office through the slimy tricks of poll taxes and lily-white primaries, and use every subterfuge to keep the intelligent soldiers of the nation from using the ballot, which they know only too well these fighting men would utilize to pry them out of their long-abused places of power.

They know that the fighting men on far-flung fronts of the world are not too busy killing Japs and Germans and crushing fascism abroad to recognize the rising tide of fascism at home, and that the advocates of this home-front fascism are taking advantage of the soldiers' absence to get a stronger hold on the nation while the latters' backs are turned.

Proof of this is seen in the following excerpt from Yank, the official soldier publication:

> We take our views on the post-war race problem from the founders of the United States, who believed that all men were created equal. No man has a right to talk about giving any American that which he already has by inalienable right.

With ten million young men under arms dedicated to this proposition, and with their number growing constantly, waiting for the opportunity to come back home and put those theories into practice, it is understandable why the die hards and the poll tax exploiters are quaking in their boots, and are trying to get in all of the dirty work they can before the day of reckoning comes.

It has been truthfully said, "Old men write with ink, but young men unwrite with blood."

If President Roosevelt is sincere in wanting to see America a democracy in fact, he need but turn toward those, both in the armed services and on the home front, who are victims of the frightened disfranchisers, and help these people get their voice.

Up To The President

Simultaneously with the report that 16 American railroads and the various railroad unions had defied the order of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to end discrimination and jim crowism against Negro workers, came news that President Roosevelt had returned from a series of historic conferences abroad.

Mr. Roosevelt returns to find a lustily bawling infant on the White House doorsteps, and it will be interesting to see what tactic he will evolve for extricating the Administration from this latest dilemma.

The President has said that the orders of the FEPC are mandatory, but the American railroad executives and rail union heads have chosen to flout those which the committee has given.

Of course the President could take over the railroads, as did his mentor, President Wilson, but this is unlikely.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

Equally unlikely is his resort to the alternative of having Federal agencies take sanctions against the recalcitrants in order to force them into line because of possible interference with the war effort.

In other words, it is a question of either granting the Negro railroad workers a square deal with the fear of revolt on the part of the railroads and rail workers interfering with the war effort, or of ignoring the demands and complaints of Negro workers, maintaining the status quo, and so once and for all torpedoing the FEPC beyond rescue.

If we are to judge the future by New Deal action in the past, when confronted with similar dilemmas, the FEPC and the Negro workers will be abandoned again.

Indeed, there are many indications of such a step being taken, such as the threat of Representative Howard Smith's special House committee to investigate the FEPC "if his group received formal complaints" against it, and a wail from the irrepressible Rankin of Mississippi that the FEPC is "a rump organization" that should be "cleaned out" because "these people are stirring up race trouble in the South as nothing before has ever done. They have taken it upon themselves to assume Hitler power, Mussolini power, over the Southern railroads which are carrying the burden of the war effort."

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor added to the general pessimism about the future of the FEPC by pointing out that the recent convention of his group contended that the solution to the problem lay in education, not in force.

Whenever leading Americans begin stressing education as a solution to knotty racial questions, you may be sure that nothing fair and forthright is going to be done about them; and when the Rankins and their ilk turn thumbs down on anything that will give Negroes a square deal, it is unlikely that the White House will buck them very hard.

The entire history of the Negro relations of the Administration from Boulder Dam, the NRA, the TVA, right down to the present military policy, bear eloquent testimony to the unwillingness of the White House to go "down the line" for high principle, except in its foreign policy.

Meanwhile the FEPC, apparently endowed with new life and courage, goes blandly about its way ordering the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and all its lodges at Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles, to stop discriminatory practices; telling five West Coast shipbuilders to reinstate Negro workers discharged because they refused to pay dues to jim crow auxiliary unions, and issuing similar orders to firms in the New York area.

This may be mere whistling in the dark, but the spirit is to be commended highly at a time when every other government agency is cravenly ducking and dodging the issue of common fairness for Negro workers, while periodically expressing loathing for similar practices in Axis countries.

It is obvious, however, that the FEPC cannot prevail against the forces arrayed against it when it has nothing more than moral force and Presidential prestige behind it, especially when the White House shows no disposition to strengthen its hand.

What is needed and has been needed from the first is a federal statute to punish violators of the committee's non-discriminatory directives, and until such a law is passed, the whole business will remain a farce and a Negro morale killer.

Those who insisted upon and hailed the issuance of Presidential orders and the appointment of the powerless committee should have seen from the beginning that its orders would be so many scraps of paper, but instead they ignorantly hailed it as the greatest Negro advance since the Emancipation Proclamation (which was not saying much since the Proclamation emancipated nobody!)

If color discrimination is to be ended by government contractors, there must be a federal law prescribing specific penalties for its violation, and such a measure is the bill introduced recently by Rep. Marcantonio of New York and since buried in the Judiciary Committee whose chairman is a reactionary Texas Democrat.

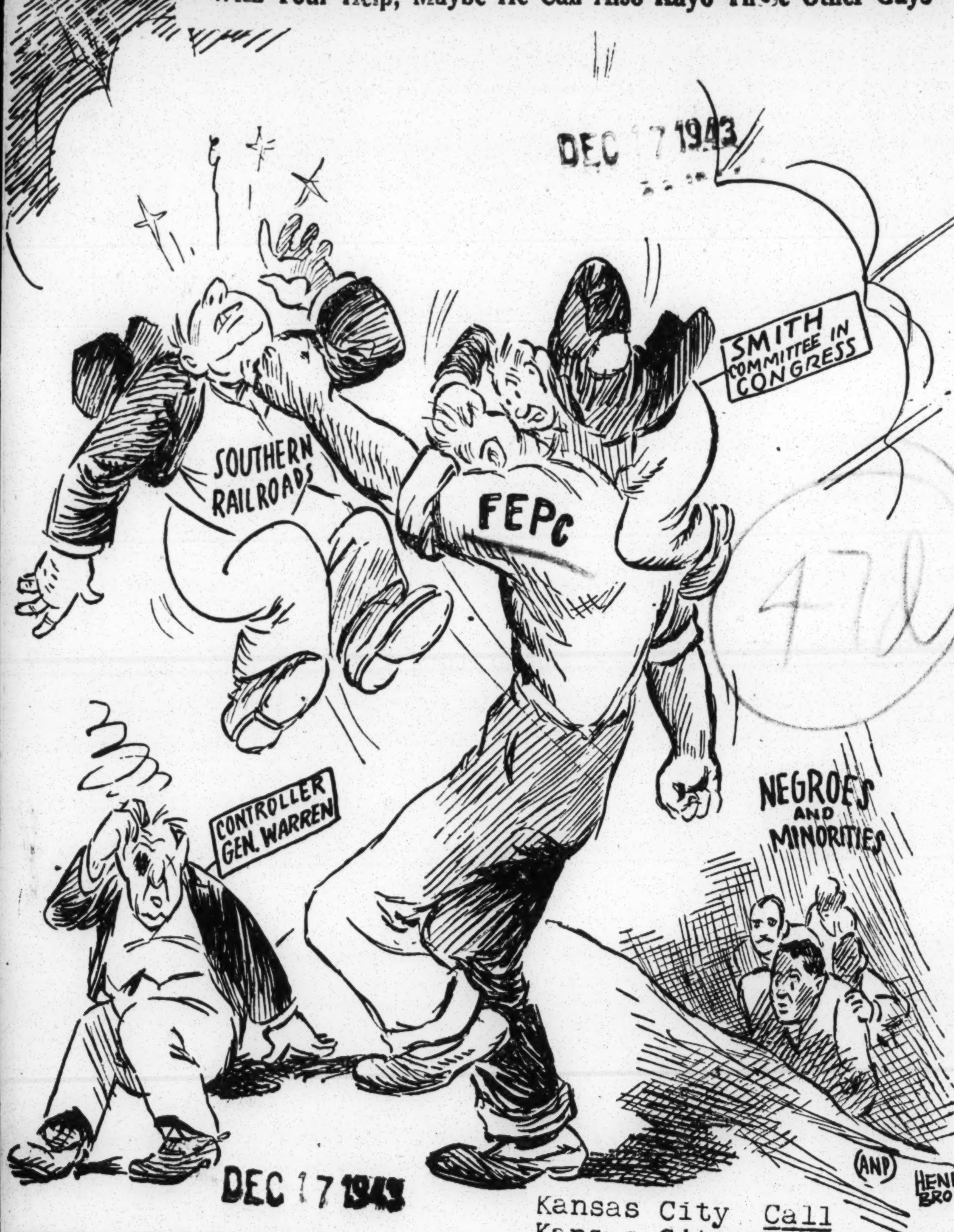
With sufficient signatures, that bill will be forced out of committee and on to the House floor for a vote, and it will probably be passed.

We can only guess how it will fare in the Senate with its filibustering Southern minority, but if the resultant fight has the same effect on the reactionary South as did the various NAACP-sponsored anti-lynching fights, far more progress will be made than the FEPC has so far achieved.

The FEPC has done its best by persuasion. Now it must have force behind it.

DEC 25 1943

With Your Help, Maybe He Can Also Kayo Those Other Guys



DEC 17 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

FEPC Can't Do It All

Kansas City Call

When the regional office of the FEPC was established in Kansas City a few weeks ago, many citizens rejoiced that "now we can get some action without writing to Washington." They were right and they were wrong. They don't have to send their complaints to Washington but they still "have to write" them.

Submitting a complaint in writing seems to be a task which many persons look upon with distaste. They don't understand why they can't just tell somebody their trouble and have it acted upon.

Kansas City, Mo

All government agencies, and particularly those which handle grievances, have a certain procedure which they are bound by law to follow. They cannot vary the procedure to suit anyone's convenience. They cannot go into action until that procedure is followed.

In the case of the FEPC, no investigation can be made into the discriminatory hiring practices of companies except on the basis of a specific complaint. One hundred persons may suffer discrimination at a single plant and they may "talk at the big gate" constantly but until one of them decides to file specific information as to time and place, names and dates, the FEPC can take no action. It is much the same as filing a lawsuit. If one person is injured by another, he cannot collect damages by merely talking about it. He must file a lawsuit, setting down all the facts in logical, orderly fashion.

The FEPC cannot take action on the basis of broad general complaints. When a person submits a complaint it should include specifically the name of the company which the complainant feels discriminated against him, the dates when application for employment was made, and details of the interview which seemed to indicate the refusal of employment was made on the basis of race, creed or color.

With this information, the FEPC can go into action at once but when some of the facts are missing action is delayed until they are supplied.

Every day, the FEPC receives letters from complainants which it is necessary to follow up with additional correspondence in an attempt to secure the specific facts needed to begin an investigation.

The Kansas City office of the FEPC was set up to serve the four-state area of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Persons living in those four states can get immediate action on their complaints if they submit all the details in their first correspondence. The FEPC can be effective only if the people it serves cooperate fully.

DEC 17 1943

FEPC Fired Big Shell.

Bee (Magazine Section

NOT many weeks yet remain for the 20 railroads and 7 railroad unions to come to a decision about ending discrimination against men because of their color or creed.

Chicago, Ill

Even 16 year old white youths have been shown jobs on several of these lines by older Negro employees, yet Negroes must remain as virtual menials, because prejudiced railroad officials and labor unioneers have decreed an undemocratic discrimination against Negroes becoming locomotive engineers and the like. Colored firemen have been diminishing steadily without replacements for the past decade. Thep have been gradually shunted out of the employment picture in that category.

The FEPC has now given these railroads and unions 30 days, two weeks of which have already expired, to end their discrimination.

It will prove very stupid of these railroads and unions to persist doggedly in their current practices. Their schedules have already been markedly delayed in recent months because of inadequate and improperly trained personnel. Men on the far-flung battle fronts are the real sufferers from this unpatriotic malingering carried on by these railroads and their unions.

It is to be urgently hoped that if the President's Executive Order 9346 is not carried out at the end of 30 days, that the President himself will step in and implement the decree of the FEPC. If this is done, the authority of the body will be so fixed and dramatized that subsequent orders will be obeyed with full knowledge of the discredit that will attend wilful violators of FEPC orders.

DEC 19 1943

SIGNIFICANCE OF FEPC

Informer Houston Texas

The FEPC has opened regional offices in Dallas with jurisdiction over Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. A Mexican is in charge,—on leave as a member of the faculty of the University of Texas. The specific accomplishments of the FEPC and this regional office may not be large, but the significance of the movement and machinery is great and far-reaching.

We are making progress when the heretofore terribly hide-bound South is willing to listen with tolerance to the establishment of a federal agency whose special function is to bring to account injustices and discriminations against the Negro population.

OCT 23 1943

PRIVATE INDUSTRY HARD TO CONTROL

Informer Houston Texas

Executive Order 8802 and Order 9346 which strengthened it have been responsible for noticeable increase in the employment of numbers and kinds of Negro workers where government contracts were let. Discrimination in industry where there are no government contracts and where the man power situation will allow is just as rife as ever. The recent hearing of testimonies on the non-promotion and non-hiring of Negroes policies of the several railroads is significant only to the extent that the problem has been opened up and aired. Our hope for change in these artificial practices varies directly with the amount of public airing of them we can secure.

If the Non Partisan Council for a Permanent FEPC can secure for minority groups the much needed enactment of a Fair Employment Practice Act, it will be a second emancipation for Negroes. Such emancipation, if effected, will be economic rather than physical.

DEC 25 1943

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FEPC

Railroads' Solid Color-Line Broken

PM
New York, N. Y. COLE

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, [illegible]pt. 18.—A direct appeal by President Roosevelt requesting the railroad labor organizations to give Negro and Mexican railroad employes full privileges of membership and complete protection for their jobs is being considered as the ~~next~~ step in the campaign to end racial discrimination on the railroads.

Presidential intervention to bring pressure on the unions to change their policies is expected if corporations do not [illegible] their employment policies as a result of public hearings just concluded by the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee).

First break in the solid front of the carriers to upgrade or employ colored workmen in any position above that of [illegible]on laborer or menial came during the hearings when F. E. Burkhages, personnel officer of the Union Pacific Railroad, announced his company was prepared to do something about the complaints involving that road.

Burkhages' statement was:

"The summary of complaints of which we are advised by the FEPC would suggest the existence of conditions not recognizable within the employment policy of the Union Pacific Railroad. The summary suggested a failure to employ persons of Mexican birth or parentage in positions available to them on the basis of their qualifications.

"Examination of our employment rosters on file with the Committee discloses the inclusion therein, in almost all of the many types of positions covered, many persons whose names indicate Mexican birth or parentage. It will be understood, therefore, that such an investigation as we were able to make prior to the hearing into the very general allegations of the summary of complaints gave us no reason to believe that there could be any basis in fact for those allegations.

Only Denial

"Since the hearings have developed specific instances of alleged discriminations we have obtained from the Committees counsel the details of the alleged specific instances. These we will fully investigate with a view toward the speedy correction of any situation inconsistent with the company's policy."

The important part of the statement is the indication that the Union Pacific denies that it maintains a policy of discrimination. No other railroad involved in the hearings has denied it discriminates.

Some members of the Committee predicted that other railroads would follow the lead of the Union Pacific.

Should the carriers agree to stop discriminating, the railroad labor unions would be left as the sole violators of the executive order.

Union Bias

Three railroad brotherhoods refuse to enroll Negroes.

Many of the unions representing maintenance and repair employes refuse full membership to Negroes.

Failure of the hearings to get adequate attention in the newspapers or on the radio was a great disappointment to all Negro organizations and most FEPC officials. The New York *Times* and PM were the only newspapers attempting to give adequate coverage of the hearing. The *Times*, after missing the Washington edition with the story on the first day, thereafter extended itself to tell the details of the hearings.

SEP 19 1943

Cour[illegible]
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Woman Denied Job As Driver

SEP 18 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 16 —(ANP)—The fact that she is a U.S. Army corporal's wife and the mother of a 20-year-old daughter who awaits induction with the WAC, meant nothing to Mrs. Ruby Lyles last week when she answered an ad. which appeared in the Sunday edition of a local paper, as truck driver for the Thornton-Fuller automobile agency.

Although Mrs. Lyles accredits herself with the Fair Employexperience, her interviewer brushed her away without asking a single question about her qualifications.

Mrs. Lyles later registered her complaint with the Fair Employment Practice committee which is investigating the case.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

FEPC Director at Wisconsin U.

MADISON, Wis.—(ANP)—Five different audiences—on and off the campus of the University of Wisconsin—heard G. James Fleming, regional director of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, Philadelphia, in a two-day visit to this city Tuesday and Wednesday.

Fleming, an honor graduate of the university, discussed labor problems as they affect minority group workers and was heard by faculty members Tuesday evening, and by the American Association of University Women, the Union Forum and the Madison branch of the NAACP on the following day.

NOV 20 1943

"Although there have been what may be called tremendous gains in the fair employment of colored workers, the millennium has not been reached," Fleming declared, "and industries are still following discriminatory patterns in their selection of help."

Still Forced to Fight

The exigencies of the war and the great demand for labor of all kinds have eased the barriers, Fleming said, but there is still considerable waste of talent and experience in the higher skills and colored workers must fight for upgrading and promotion.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Railroad Company Settles With FEPC

1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The Virginia Railroad, one of the 26 companies cited by the FEPC to answer charges of discrimination at next week's hearing, settled with the committee, Monday.

The agreement, subject to approval by the Railroad Labor Panel, extends time and a half for overtime, Sundays and holidays work to 46 Negro employes and includes them in any increases handed out to other operating personnel.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

FEPC Finds 21 Railroads Guilty

WASHINGTON

Reports are current here that the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, after public hearings here, has found 21 railroads guilty of discrimination in hiring and promoting colored employees.

Railroads will be given 30 days from publication of the decision to report what steps they have taken to conform to the President's Order.

NOV 27 1943

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

RAIL CONTRACT IS RULED UNFAIR

10 Lines [illegible]outh, [illegible]nion Told Operating Plan Is Discriminatory

DEC 1 1943

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30—(AP)—Ten Southern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen Tuesday were advised that their operating contract unfairly discriminates against Negroes and must be voided.

The president's Fair Employment Practice Committee, handed down its ruling after studying testimony taken at hearings in September.

The contract between the rail union and the railroads "is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions," the FEPC held.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC, said the contract limits the hiring of firemen to "promote men," and specifically designates Negroes as non-promotables, which effectively debars them.

The FEPC decision raises a legal point which the railroad counsel in September said would put them "in the middle" and force them to violate the edict of the National Mediation Board (railway) which approved the contract FEPC voided. The railways, under the congressional act covering railway labor disputes, are required to conform to rulings of the mediation board.

The mediation board said the FEPC ruling, which in effect challenges the board's authority, "would be studied." No other comment was forthcoming.

The railroads, under terms of the FEPC decision, have the choice of voiding the contract and defying the mediation board, or conforming to the existing contract and defying the FEPC order.

The railways ordered to void their labor contracts are the Atlantic Coast Line, the Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk Southern, St. Louis & San Francisco, Seaboard Air Line and the Southern Railway.

Tie Job Bias With Philly Rail Disaster

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa

SEP 18 1943

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—Tying the tragic Philadelphia railroad disaster to refusal by the railroads to hire Negro workers, Dr. George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, wrote Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, that FEPC's forthcoming hearings on discrimination in railroad employment have the staunch support of patriotic Americans throughout the country.

Charging that the very railroads on which recent accidents occurred persistently discriminate against and refuse to upgrade Negro and other minority workers, Dr. Marshall said: "Not only are the safety of our people and the efficiency of our war effort at stake, but the democratic principles for which we are waging this war are threatened by this practice."

FEPC Sets Up Permanent Office in City

~~Daily Worker~~
New York N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6.—A permanent regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice is now opened in the Empire State Building, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York City, it was announced today by Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Committee. The office will receive and investigate complaints of discriminatory employment practices in war industry, labor unions, and government agencies, serving the states of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

SEP 7 1943

Edward Lawson, former executive of the National Urban League for Social Work Among Negroes and managing editor of the magazine **Opportunity**, has been appointed regional director in charge of the office, Father Haas announced.

Jurisdiction of FEPC covers discriminatory employment practices by a private employer engaged to any extent in war work, a government agency, a war training school or a labor organization. Valid complaints may involve refusal to hire, refusal to train, refusal to promote, refusal to register for or refer to a war job, discrimination in wages or working conditions, or refusal to admit to union membership or to issue a work permit. Complaints must be substantiated by evidence and only those which appear valid on the surface, and within the jurisdiction of the Committee, will be accepted for investigation and adjustment.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

DC Transit (Again) Promises FEPC to Hire Negro Conductors

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON—What is termed as the indignation of the "common man" in the national capital is attributed by observers here as the reason for the Capital Transit Company's assurances to the FEPC that the firm is taking steps to comply with the President's Executive Order 8802 to prohibit discrimination in industry.

Monsgnor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC, announced the company's pro-

fessed change of attitude at a re-the Committee on Jobs, which sev-

cent press conference. Meanwhile eral months ago staged an open-

air p[illegible] rally [illegible]st Capital

Transit, hailed the report as a victory over discrimination.

Promises FEPC

The committee stated that the firm "has agreed to the employment of Negroes as bus and trolley operators" and has promised the FEPC that every step possible is being taken to effect the new employment policy agreed to by the

Capital Transit Company."

Despite this announcement, however, Negro motormen, conductors or bus operators have [illegible] yet been seen in the city. Observers say it may be too early for such assignments as yet, but that pressure must be continued to make sure that the agreement is actually put into effect.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Key Witness Jailed Just Before FEPC Hearings

NOV 27 1943

Crime Was That He Joined Union and Earned Promotions As a White Man

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Madison (Tony) Doram, former Baltimorean, who was scheduled to be one of the key witnesses before the President's FEPC investigating discrimination in coast shipyards, began serving a thirty-day jail term two days before the hearings opened here Friday.

Doram was sentenced last July in Municipal Court on a charge of assault growing out of a dispute with a white worker who called him n—r.

An appeal was taken and after four months' deliberation, including a rehearing, he was sentenced to begin his term November 17. The FEPC hearings opened November 19.

Thought He Was White

Supporters of Doram allege that the assault charge was the climax of a long campaign to get him out of the Boilermakers' Union, to which he had been admitted on the assumption that he was white.

They say that this campaign began soon after he was advanced from janitor to welder at the California Shipbuilding Company, and it was discovered that he was colored.

Both the union and the company were charged with discrimination before the FEPC, and Doram was scheduled to testify about the inside workings of the union and the company's policies.

Say Charge "Trumped Up"

Attorneys for Doram allege that the charges which culminated in the jail term were "trumped up" because, following the incident, the two workers were both absolved by company police and it was some weeks later that any court charges were filed.

Doram, who came here three years ago with his family, began work at Calship in February, 1942, as a janitor. Several weeks later he was allowed to take welder training, and promoted. On March 25 he was initiated into the Boilermakers' Local No. 92.

In his off hours he took other training to prepare for advancement to burner and later was promoted to burner instructor. In the meantime, in September, the union learned that he was colored, refused to accept further payment of dues.

Told to Join J.C. Auxiliary

When he went to the union office to inquire about it, he was instructed that in the future he must become affiliated with Auxiliary A35, the jim crow auxiliary for colored union members.

This auxiliary union pays lower benefits and has no vote in the union council.

Vince M. Townsend, Jr., now attorney for Doram, said that because the FEPC had no subpoena power, it was impossible to allow Doram to testify. He indicated that some further action may be ktane in the case.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Ask FEPC To Probe Baltimore Utilities

BALTIMORE, (ANP) — The Fair Employment Practice committee has been asked to investigate the allegedly biased hiring policies of two Baltimore public utilities, the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone company and the Baltimore Transit company.

The request was made by the Total War Employment committee, an organization fighting alleged discrimination against the employment of colored workers in certain job classifications by the two companies.

This group conferred twice with members of the FEPC in Washington last week. While no details of the conferences were disclosed, it is believed that a public hearing on the charges of discrimination against Negro workers was asked.

The T[illegible] headed by Dr. J. E. T.

Camper, charges that the telephone company denies employment to Negro women as switchboard operators and that the transit company refuses to colored men or women as streetcar or bus operators.

Employment Discrimination Is Charged To Ford Company

SEP 5 1943

Union Says Concern Deliberately Refusing To Hire Black Workers

DETROIT — (ANP) — Charges that the Ford Motor Company is violating the President's order prescribing discrimination in the employment of Negroes were made last week by the Ford Local 600 (CIO) in a brief filed with Fr. Francis J. Haas, chairman, FEPC.

"The present policy of refusal to place Negro applicants is in fact a contributing factor to the 'racial tenseness 'of which the Ford management is apprehensive," stated the document. It charged further that the company is "pursuing a policy deliberately aimed at denying jobs to hundreds upon hundreds of Negro workers, a large number of them trained at skills sorely needed in war production in the Rouge plant."

The union also accused the motor company of aggravating the housing shortage, transportation and food situations by hiring migrant labor it had advertised for in Kentucky and Tennessee newspapers, while denying work to available Negroes.

Pointing out that during the racial disturbances of June 21, not one incident occurred at the Ford plant, the union's statement scoffed at the company's expression of "racial tenseness" and charged that the present attitude of the manufacturer repudiates his claim that he hired Negroes because he was "a friend to the Negro people."

The union asserted that the em-

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Kaiser Company Union Appear Before FEPC For Refusing Negroes Into Membership

AUG 14 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Charging the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company, Portland, Oregon, and two lodges of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, A.F. of L. with collaboration in the wrongful dismissal of more than 300 Negro workers from the Kaiser yards and at Portland, Oregon in deliberate violation of the new Executive Order 9436, complaint was filed late last week with the Fair Employment Practice Committee in Washington on behalf of the Portland Branch NAACP and the Negro Shipyard Organization for Victory. Appearing in person before the FEPC to file the complaint was Frank D. Reeves, member of the NAACP legal staff.

The NAACP legal committee described the case as "a major assault on practices of discrimination in labor union membership which are seriously impeding the war effort by restricting the use of thousands of needed Negro workmen.

The discriminatory "lodge" was worked by the simple expedient of denying Negroes membership in the local lodges of the Boilermakers and Shipbuilders Union which have a closed shop agreement with the Kaiser Company and facing them with the alternative of joining a Jim Crow "Auxiliary Lodge" which has no real status in the Brotherhood or with discharge from their jobs, according to the complaint. The "Auxiliary Lodge" is alleged to have been chartered in December, 1942 although up to the date of the complaint no officers or trustees have been elected, no meetings have been held, no charter has been issued and the auxiliary, "in fact and in law", has remained wholly without organization. The complaint asserts further that the entire auxiliary lodge scheme is designed "to deprive Negro workmen of economic security, equal participation in collective bargaining, and the several rights, privileges and benefits which are incidents of membership" in the lodges holding contract with the Kaiser company, and therefore is an untonable arrangement to the Negro employees. Membership in the so-called "Auxiliary Lodge" is limited to "colored male persons."

Specifically named in the complaint as having been discharged because they would not comply with the joint dictum of the Kaiser company and the International Brotherhood lodges were Claude E. Johnson, Jr., and Lee Anderson. Named also were Sidney Wolfe and Fred Perry, who, the complaint states, are now being employed in jobs beneath their skills.

Rev. J. J. Clow, president of the Portland NAACP branch and Juilus Rodriques, President of the Negro Shipyard Organization for Victory, came East to Washington [illegible] New [illegible] and presented the matter orally [illegible] the FEPC, and later enlisted the assistance of the national legal department of the NAACP and the Negro Labor Victory Committee to prepare a formal complaint for presentation.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Test of the New FEPC

SEP 18 1943

The new Committee on Fair Employment Practice faces its greatest test this week with the opening of its hearings on discrimination against Negroes and Mexicans by 23 railroads and 14 railroad workers unions.

The FEPC can blast jim crowism and discrimination, and demand that the collusion between railroad employers and organized employees against colored labor cease at once, or it can make some mealy-mouthed compromise which will leave the problem approximately as it is.

The new FEPC got off to a bad start by blessing the jim crow set-up at the Mobile, Ala., shipyards.

It now has a chance to redeem itself.

If it does not do so, the hopes of millions of colored workers will be blasted, Ku Klux elements will be strengthened and the cause of democracy and national unity will suffer its greatest defeat.

FEPC Gets Evidence On Ford Employment Prejudice

SEP 8 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DETROIT—(A N P)—Documentary evidence was presented to the FEPC last week by L. A. Jordan recently elected recording secretary of Local 50 showing that the Ford Motor company is violating the President's directive to industry to stop discriminating against Negro workers. The complaint of Jordan follows closel similar charges made several weeks ago against the automotive concern.

Jordan estimated that approximately [illegible]000 white, southern immigrant workers have been employed at the Ford W[illegible] Run plant in contrast to 900 Negroes. There are about 30,000 workers at the huge bomber plant.

Citing case after case in which Negro women had been refused jobs by employment office personnel while whites were being imported at the expense of the company, Jordan said: "The Greyhound bus stops in front of the bomber plant and you can see hill billies getting off with sacks of clothes in their hands and Tennessee mud clinging to their shoes and they are signed up immediately.

A survey conducted by the union official revealed that most of the white workers [illegible] less than two years of high school training and most have had no pr[illegible] tory work experience. Many of the Negro applicants he stated, are college trained and have highly developed skills but are overlooked by the company.

47d-1943

Post
Washington, D. C.

Workers Excluded

SEP 17 1943

The long-deferred hearings into discriminatory employment practices by the country's railroads are now being conducted by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee. These hearings should have been held long ago. Scheduled for last January, they were postponed at the instance of War Manpower Commissioner McNutt, who had jurisdiction of the FEPC at that time. They revolve around the touchy and distasteful issue of race discrimination. The new FEPC, reorganized and granted autonomy by executive order last May, is to be commended for grappling with the issue forthrightly and unemotionally.

In a certain sense, these hearings are ritualistic. This is not to say that the FEPC has approached them in anything other than an objective and impartial spirit. But the evidence of discrimination against Negroes is apparent to the naked eye of anyone who has ever traveled on the railroads of the United States. Indeed, the railroads themselves openly acknowledge that discriminatory practices are written into their agreements with railway labor organizations. And the labor organizations, primarily responsible for the discrimination, have not even seen fit to attend the hearings. No doubt their leaders are somewhat ashamed to avow publicly the means by which they have sought to exclude Negroes from railroad jobs.

What has been taking place in the railway industry during the past two or three decades is a systematic and progressive elimination of colored workers from all save the most menial tasks. This elimination has been brought about through a policy of excluding nonwhite members from the Railroad Brotherhoods which have negotiated closed-shop contracts with the managements. These are the ugly facts, and the FEPC hearings can serve only to give them much-needed publicity. What will count will be the recommendations of the FEPC when the facts are on file.

Apart from the obvious violence done to democratic principles by the current practices of the railroad industry, there is an urgent practical need at this time for wider utilization of Negro skills. Early this month Joseph B. Eastman, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, called for a vigorous recruitment program to meet the critical shortage of railroad manpower. He urged utilization of the services of women, of Mexican workers and even of war prisoners.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Reverse Evolution In Railway Employment

SEP 17 1943

The issue which is the subject of the hearings being held in Washington by the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee is one which should stir every fair-minded American and in particular every fair-minded Southerner. By collusion between railroad managements and railroad unions, chiefly in the South, the Negro is being denied equality of economic opportunity in railroad employment and even in some cases is being systematically shoved out of it. The inspiration obviously comes from the unions, since the southern carriers freely employed Negroes before the rise of the unions in their region and, in fact, employed for example more Negro locomotive firemen than white.

The case of the firemen, incidentally, serves very well to illustrate what the Negro has suffered. Even in the days when Negroes were employed without hindrance as firemen, they received smaller pay than white firemen, but a worse irony was that as the fireman's job became less arduous with the introduction of mechanical stokers on steam locomotives and with the increased use of Diesel-electric locomotives, this was when the fireman's job became coveted by white men and the easing of the Negro out of it regardless of his qualifications began. It was a Negro's job when it was just hard and sweaty. It became a white man's job as it got fancier. There were more than 5,000 Negro firemen employed in 1910, considerably fewer than 2,500 in 1940.

The record is full of injustices, of cases of Negroes doomed to "non-promotable" status, of agreements arbitrarily limiting the proportion of Negroes who may be employed in relation to total personnel, and of rules effecting the displacement of Negroes by white men which clearly look ultimately to absolute exclusion of Negroes from railroad employment. Even the dining car waiter, whose jaunty faithfulness has long been familiar to travelers, is denied hope of becoming dining car steward, and instances are of record where the Negro waiters under him have had to teach a new white steward how to do his work. [illegible] this is unjust at any time it becomes utterly outrageous in a time of manpower shortage.

There is no question of the Negro's capacity for railroad employment or of the ability of white and Negro railroad employes to get along together in the South. These things have been demonstrated. In dealing with the larger problem of which this is a part, the "orderly evolution" prescribed by the Southern Railway's attorney, SIDNEY ALDERMAN, is certainly desirable. No general solution can be imposed by legal fiat. But when we get down to cases, here we find one where evolution is steadily operating in reverse, evoluting the Negro out of, not into, a chance to earn his bread and stand on his merits as a worker.

FEPC

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10 Southern Railroads Told to Void Job Pacts

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

DEC 1 1943

Dispatches.

Washington, Dec. 1. (Wednesday)—Ten southern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen today were advised that their operating contract unfairly discriminates against Negroes and must be voided.

The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee handed down its ruling after studying testimony taken at hearings in September.

The contract between the rail union and the railroads "is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions," the F.E.P.C. held.

Large Point Raised.

Malcolm Ross, F.E.P.C. chairman, said the contract limited the hiring of firemen to "promotable men" and specifically designated Negroes as non-promotable, which effectively disbars them.

The F.E.P.C. decision raises a legal point which the railroad counsel in September said would put them "in the middle" and force them to violate the edict of the National Mediation Board (railway) which approved the contract F.E.P.C. order voided. The railways, under the Congressional act covering railway labor disputes, are required to conform to rulings of the mediation board.

The mediation board said the F.E.P.C. ruling, which in effect challenges the board's authority, "would be studied." No other comment was forthcoming.

The railroads, under terms of the F.E.P.C. decision, have the choice of voiding the contract and defying the mediation board or conforming to the existing contract and defying the F.E.P.C. order.

Order Affects L. & N.

The railways ordered to void their labor contracts are the Atlantic Coast Line, the Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk Southern, St. Louis and San Francisco, Seaboard Air Line and the Southern Railway.

The committee also warned the following railroads against discriminatory employment practice:

Baltimore and Ohio, Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal, Chesapeake and Ohio, Chicago and Northwestern, Gulf, Mobile and Ohio, Illinois Central, Louisiana and Arkansas, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, New York Central, Norfolk and Western, Pennsylvania, Union Pacific, and Virginian.

It also warned the following unions to cease discrimination against Negroes in membership regulations:

Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, International Association of Machinists, and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America.

FEPC Hearings Ignored by Unions, Cos.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

4 AFL Unions, 2 of 3 Shipyard Owners Offer No Defense

COLORED BARRED FROM UNIONS

Kaiser Says "Closed Shop" Keeps Him from Taking Action

By B. M. PHILLIPS
Editor, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN

(This AFRO writer traveled 2,313 miles by plane for this story)

(See Additional Stories on Page 5)

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Four unions and two of three war plants charged with discrimination against colored workers in violation of President Roosevelt's executive orders ignored his Fair Employment Practice Committee's public hearings here Friday and Saturday at the Embassy Auditorium.

The unions which did not appear were International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America Lodge No. 92 of the same union and Auxiliary Lodge No. A 35 the Metal Trades Department of the AF of L; the Pacific Coast District Trades Council and the Los Angeles Metal Trades Council.

The Consolidated Steel Corporation, shipbuilding division and the Western Pipe and Steel Company had counsel present but failed to answer charges.

The third, the California Shipbuilding Company (Calship), was present and told the committee that it was following the President's orders, and has instructed its 40,000 workers that discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated.

Russell A. Bergemann, manager of industrial relations for Calship, presented figures to the committee to show that since May, colored employees have jumped from 2,474 to [illegible] and that 40 per cent of new employees now being hired are colored.

Witnesses Tell of Bias

However, a succession of witnesses told the committee that Calship, as well as Western Pipe and Steel and Consolidated, has followed the dictates of the AF of L Boilermakers' Unions and fired colored workers who refused to join jim-crow auxiliaries.

In addition, they stated, colored employees are not promoted in line with the seniority, skills and experience, and the highest paid jobs they hold are journeymen.

Equality in Dues Only

Testimony also disclosed that colored workers who did join the jim-crow Boilermakers' Auxiliary No. A 35 in order to keep their jobs are denied a voice in the operation of their union, are subject to the main lodge No. 92, which appoints their business manager and other officers, and that the only equality is in dues.

Lawyers Urge Action

Carey McWilliams, white, author of the well-known book, "Brothers Under the Skin" and chairman of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, presented a statement to the committee urging that it act quickly to end the discrimination against colored workers and make available additional sources of manpower necessary for the production of more ships.

The statement by McWilliams, presented on behalf of the Lawyers' Guild, also urged the Boilermakers' Union to "clean up its house" and co-operate with the FEPC.

United Fruit Head Absent

All members of the committee except Samuel Zemurray of the United Fruit Company were present for the hearings, which were the first to be presided over by Malcolm Ross, new chairman who succeeded Msgr. Francis J. Haas upon his elevation to the bishopric last month.

Members present were:

Miss Sara Southall, International Harvester Company, John Brophy, CIO; Boris Shiskin, AF of L; P. B. Young, Norfolk Journal and Guide publisher; Milton P. Webster, international vice president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Special counsel for the committee who presented the charges and interviewed witnesses were Marvin Harrison, white, Cleveland; George E. C. Hayes, Washington, and Benjamin Dreyfus, San Francisco.

The hearings here followed a two-day inquiry earlier in the week into charges of discrimination by three Kaiser shipyards in the Portland, Ore., area and similar charges against the Boilermakers' Union in that area.

FEPC Hearings On Railroads Greeted Here

SEP 5 1943

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, was congratulated yesterday in a letter signed by prominent leaders of labor, civic and religious organizations here on the opening of hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry. The hearings begin today and will continue through Saturday. They were termed "a victory for the anti-discrimination policies of our national government."

"The railroad industry has long been a citadel of prejudice and discrimination in the employment and promotion of Negro workers," the letter said. "Many of the leaders of this industry and of certain labor unions operating therein seek to maintain these discriminatory practices, to the detriment of the war effort."

The signers of the letter said they were aware of the fact that "powerful forces in this country, opposed to the fair employment policy of our government," prevented the hearings as scheduled early this year and that such forces even now seek to prevent discrimination against Negro workers in the railroad industry from being brought to light.

PLEDGE SUPPORT

The letter concluded:

"We wish to assure you and your associates that we support fully the democratic purposes of these hearings and are taking constructive steps to interpret their importance to our members and to the public generally. We are confident that the overwhelming majority of the American people want these hearings to lead to the quick end of discrimination in the railroad industry."

Signers included: James Alston, business agent, Amalgamated Meat Cutters, Local 823, AFL; Dr. Lucien Brown; Sam Burt, manager

Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers, CIO; Assemblyman H. O. Catenaccio; Charles A. Collins, business agent, Hotel and Club Employes Union, Local 6, AFL; H. K. Craft, executive secretary, Harlem YMCA; James J. Conroy, president, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 430, CIO; Archibshop William Ernest, African Orthodox Church; Philip H. Van Gelder, national secretary-treasurer, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America; Ben Gold, international president, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO; Frank S. Haylett, chairman, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Local 309, AFL; Lyndon Henry, manager, Fancy Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, Local 88, CIO.

Assemblyman Hulan E. Jack; T. A. Jackson, president, Dining Car Employes Union, Local 370, AFL; Adelaide Lockhart, president, Ladies Auxiliary, Dining Car Employes Union, Local 370, AFL; Lewis Merrill, national president, United Office and Professional Workers, CIO; Irving Potash, manager, Furriers Joint Council of New York, CIO; C. B. Powell, editor and publisher, **Amsterdam News**; Dr. Norman H. Pritchard, president, Central Manhattan Medical Society; Michael J. Quill, national president, Transport Workers Union, CIO; Rev. B .C. Robeson, pastor, Mother Zion Church; Roger Straughn, president, Harlem Labor Union.

Isadore Rosenberg, manager, Joint Council 13, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO; Josephine Timms, international secretary-treasurer, American Communications Association, CIO; Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary, National Maritime Union, CIO; A. Edward Walters, assistant treasurer, Associated Musicians of Greater New York; William Ward, Jr., president, Auxiliary Local 6208, Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers and Station Employes, AFL; M. Moran Weston; state chairman, Elks Civil Liberties Department, Independent Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World; Claude Yearwood, chairman, American Labor Party, 17th A.D., New York City.

First Hearings Expected to Be On Railroads

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

By Eugene Gordon

A permanent regional office of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee was opened yesterday morning in room 5420 of the Empire State Building, Fifth Ave. and 33rd St., with Edward Lawson, a Negro labor specialist, in charge. This office will receive and investigate complaints of discriminatory employment practices in war industry, labor unions and government agencies from the fist and second regions comprising the states of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Vermont and New Hampshire.

Mr. Lawson said that "some complaints" came in as soon as the doors of the new office were opened. He hinted that this office may later handle complaints from the first region only, that being the state of New York, with the New England states, comprising the second region, assigned another office. There is nothing to indicate definitely, however, whether or when such a change may be made.

The new regional director was formely editor of the National Urban League's magazine, **Opportunity.** Previously he was an employment specialist with the FEPC when it was under the War Manpower Commission and, before that, head of the New York office of the Negro Employment and Training Branch, War Production Board.

COOPERATES WITH WMC

The new office will work in close cooperation with the War Manpower Commission, according to Mr. Lawson, although no longer a part of it and being a completely independent war agency. The FEPC was reorganized recently and granted broader powers in dealings with employers or others accused of violating Executive Order 8802, which constituted this body. The FEPC is now directly under the supervision of President Roosevelt.

Jurisdiction of the FEPC covers discriminatory employment practiced by a private employer engaged in any plant in war work, a government agency, a war training school, or a labor organization. Valid complaints may involve refusal to hire, refusal to train, refusal to promote, refusal to register for or refer to a war job, discrimination in wages or working conditions, or refusal to admit to union membership or to issue a work permit.

The new FEPC regional director was not sure but felt that the first big hearings of the national body would be those of the railroads, now hanging fire for many months. Scores of complaints on the discriminatory hiring practices of railroads are from the New England and New York regions, Mr. Lawson said.

Complaints, made out on a form which lists the "type of party" against whom they are brought and whether discrimination was because of "race, creed, national origin, lack of citizenship, or other," must be substantiated by evidence. Unless complaints appear valid on the surface and come within the jurisdiction of the FEPC they are not accepted for investigation and adjustment. The regional office has the power to act on all cases independently.

Most complaints, Mr. Lawson said, are on failure to hire. The regional office, he said, will investigate bona fide complaints and, if discrimination against the complaint is found to exist according to the evidence, the office will have authority to ask the FEPC in Washington to hold a hearing.

It happens, however, that public hearings are sometimes unnecessary, the firm under investigation being represented in negotiations along with the FEPC, the labor union (if any) and the complainant.

WARNS RAILROADS ON NEGRO JOB BAN

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice Directs Lines and Unions to End Curbs

30 DAYS FOR COMPLIANCE

Ruling Stresses Southeastern Agreement and Charts Drop in Jobs for the Race

By LOUIS STARK

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has notified twenty railroads and seven unions that in thirty days they must cease all discriminatory practices which result in unfair treatment of workers and job applicants because of race, creed, color or national origin.

If the roads and unions refuse to comply the cases will be turned over to President Roosevelt for enforcement of the committee's orders.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, made public today the committee's conclusions, based on testimony which showed a sharp decline in the number of Negroes employed in all but the lowest categories during the last twenty years.

Of the twenty railroads cited, ten were directed to set aside the Southeastern Agreement between them and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. This agreement, effective on Feb. 22, 1941, according to Mr. Ross, is a violation of Executive Order No. 9346 because it was designed to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions.

The agreement sought to accomplish this purpose, said Mr. Ross, through setting definite percentages for white and Negro firemen; through limiting firemen's jobs to "promotable" men and then by excluding all Negro workers from promotion.

Railroads in the Agreement

Roads involved in the Southeastern agreement are the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia Railway Company, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company, Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company and the Southern Railway Company.

The other railroads involved in alleged discriminatory practices aside from the Southeastern agreement are the Baltimore & Ohio, Baltimore & Ohio Chicago Terminal, Chesapeake & Ohio, Chicago & Northwestern; Gulf, Mobile & Ohio; Ililnois Central, Louisiana-Arkansas, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, Norfolk & Western and Union Pacific.

Charges filed against the Virginian Railroad were settled prior to the hearings and were withdrawn.

Final action in cases involving the Pennsylvania Railroad and New York Central have been held in abeyance pending discussions between the carriers and the committee looking toward adjustment of the complaints.

Union Named by Committee

Unions cited by the committee in its findings included **The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen**; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; Order of Railway Conductors; Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America; Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; International Association of Machinists and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, and Helpers of America.

None of these unions appeared at the hearings held in Washington from Sept. 15 to 18, and made no official reply to the complaints lodged against them.

In citing as "unfair" the policies of these unions, the committee declared that the labor organizations were maintaining a policy which "discriminates against Negroes, because of race, in regard to membership, thus rendering it impossible (for said Negro workers) to have any adequate voice or representation with respect to grievances and the negotiation of agreements affecting working conditions, employment policy, practices and opportunities."

In each such instance, the union was notified that it must "cease and desist" from "discriminatory practices affecting the employment of Negroes."

During the hearings, the Union Pacific Railroad, accused of discrimination against Mexicans, persons of Mexican descent, and Negroes, because of race and national origin, announced its willingness to conform to the principles of the executive orders and declared that immediate steps were being taken to investigate the specific accusation against the company. The committee has taken cognizance of this announcement and has revealed that several of the individual cases have been [illegible] adjusted.

Decline of Negro Personnel

Testimony before the committee was that on certain roads, firing forces which, before the last war, were 80 to 90 per cent Negro, had been reduced by 1929, to 50 per cent or less. These reductions were accomplished, the committee declared, by continuing alteration of contracts between the unions and the roads, with each new change reducing further both the percentage of Negro workers and the type of service and the territory in which Negroes could be employed.

The committee summary dealing with the Southeastern Agreement alleged that this contract "restricts the proportion of Negro firemen and helpers to 50 per cent or less in each class of service; prevents the hiring of Negro firemen until the number of white firemen employed is 50 per cent or more and requires the filling of new runs and vacancies created as specified in the agreement by "promotable men" who are not and may not be Negroes.

Practically a[illegible] the Southeastern roads which signed the agreement replied to the complaint in identical fashion. They declared that the operation of railroads in the South required the management to observe the customs, manners and racial, social and economic coditions arising throughout the territory in which the roads operated.

47d-1943

FEPC

Ruling by Comptroller General in FEPC Called Blow to Nat'l Unity

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Terming the ruling of Comptroller General Warren that Government contracting officers need not insist on the insertion of fair employment provisions in contracts "a shattering blow at our national unity and the war effort," Joseph D. White, president of the CIO Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers Union here, wrote a letter to Warren demanding a reversal of the decision.

He wrote, "Your action constitutes a flagrant denial of the intents and purposes of our President's Executive Order setting up the Fair Employment Practice Committee, and opens the floodgates for prejudiced employers to exclude thousands of available skilled workers solely on the un-American basis of race, color or religion."

In continuing, he stated "It seems to me that your impertinence has exceeded your wisdom in contradicting a clear and concise order of the President of the United States. You have accomplished in one fell swoop what diehard minority leaders have sought through devious means to do—eliminate the power of the federal government to enforce the 'Civil Rights' Amendments to the Constitution."

Excerpts from the wire sent by Mr. Randolph are as follows:

"I consider the statement of Comptroller General Warren concerning the distinction between 'shall' and 'must' of the Executive Order 8802 as being a distinction without an important difference. The purpose of Executive Order 8802 as issued by President Roosevelt was to provide for full capacity of mobilization of manpower in the country, in order to successfully carry forward the war effort.

"If the effort to mobilize the manpower of the nation is going to be interferred with and restricted by racial discrimination because of some hair-splitting interpretation with respect to the relative meaning of 'shall' and 'must' by the Department of Justice, then a great disservice will be rendered to national unity and the cause of democracy."

NOV 6 1943

Roosevelt Gets Wire On FEPC

A wire was sent to President Roosevelt and Comptroller General Warren this week concerning the latter's statement on the destiny of Executive Order 8802 by A. Philip Randolph, chairman, National Committee for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.

NOV 6 1943

The FEPC Is Dead

Courier-Journal

Lacks Power To Force Decisions

Louisville, Ky.

By Willard S. Townsend

CHICAGO.—The obituary of the much-publicized President's Fair Employment Practices Committee was written in a blaze of glory, pomp and testimony at the railroad hearings held last week in Washington. The burial ceremony was witnessed by an array of "Who's Who in American Professional Race Leadership," who were cast into the unexpected role of pall-bearers at the demise and funeral of another democratic project which never had an even chance in the process of its abortion.

For more than three eventful years, the national government has been satisfied to temporize with the question of full employment of colored workers in war industies. The FEPC was created not out of a real desire to insure this full participation, but rather out of a political necessity to placate the growing insistence of the colored population for greater opportunities in the field of defense and war employment. It was upon this false political premise that Executive Order 8802 was issued. Contrary to other executive orders 8802 assumed the status of a "good will announcement" instead of a positive presidential directive coming from the Commander-in-Chief of our country.

This is not an indictment of the oft-expressed aims and ideals of the Executive Order creating the Fair Employment Practices Committee, but rather an effort to get the record straight on the question of the power and prestige of the FEPC actually to make a recognizable dent in the problem of the full integration of colored workers into American industry.

The instrumentality of the present FEPC with its basic weaknesses and abortive placating purposes is definitely not the answer to the job to be accomplished. Among things needed to gain a toe-hold on the problem of full and fair employment practices is the creation through legislative action of a federal Fair Employment Practices Board with semi-judicial powers similar to the National Labor Relations Board. Such a Board must be a liberal, hard-hitting agency primarily interested in crushing all opposition where the right to equal job opportunity is denied. The movement for such legislation should be a broad movement of all the forces who have a common interest in the democratic process.

The real enemies of fair employment practices and full utilization of colored manpower are the same ones that have used the war emergency to harass labor, fight price control, destroy the National Resources Planning Board, adopt the Smith-Connally bill, impede anti-poll tax legislation, oppose genuine post-war international co-operation and many other efforts that would translate the Four Freedoms into actual practice.

SEP 25 1943

End Negro Ban, RR's Told; Now Let's K. O. Poll Tax

The Worker
New York. N. Y.

(Special to The Worker)

WASHINGTON.—When the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee ordered 22 of the nation's major railroads and seven railroad unions to end their discriminatory practices against Negroes, it struck the heaviest blow against jim-crow in industry yet delivered.

The FEPC order, handed down Wednesday, gave the railroads and unions 30 days in which to comply with the President's order prohibiting the barring of workers from war industry because of race, creed or color.

On Wednesday, too, twelve top leaders of the AFL, CIO and railroad brotherhoods signed an appeal to the Senate to approve a cloture rule to prevent an "irresponsible filibuster" against the anti-poll tax bill. The bill was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee and is scheduled to come to the floor of the Senate soon. Poll-tax senators have threatened repetition of the filibuster which killed a similar measure last year.

The appeal to the Senate to prevent the filibuster was signed by AFL President William Green, by CIO President Philip Murray, by the Secretary of the Railway Labor Executives Association Julius Luhrsen and by A. F. Whitney, President of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

Other signers were CIO vice-presidents [illegible] J. Thomas, Joseph Curran, Sh[illegible] Dalrymple, and Reid Robinson; AFL vice-president Matthew Woll and secretary-treasurer George Meany; and T. C. Cashen and D. B. Robertson, presidents, respectively, of the Switchmen's Union of North America and of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

The FEPC order against railroad discrimination cited numerous instances of the evil effects of jim-crow on the efficiency of the industry. It bluntly attacked the argument that railroads were simply complying with prevailing southern "customs," and it refused to entertain the theory of "gradual education" on the Negro problem.

The order is considered extremely significant not only because the railroads are among the worst offenders in discriminating against Negroes but because it is on this matter of railroad discrimination that the FEPC was almost wrecked a year ago. At that time the agency was under the jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission. Commissioner McNutt cancelled hearings on railway discrimination, thereby causing mass resignations from the committee. It was later reconstituted as an independent agency, and is now headed by Malcolm Ross.

The order marks the emergence of the committee as an effective, independent body.

DEC 5 1943

Negro Offices Again Setup By McNutt Agency

Dr. Robert C. Weaver Named As Staff Chief

SEP 21 1943

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Implementing the conditions of the mutual -operating agreement between the Fair Employment Practices committee and the War Manpower commission in the elimination of discrimination, WMC has re-established its racial relations office and named Dr. Robert C. Weaver as chief, minority group services. No formal announcement has been made or is one expected

The staff which will work along with Dr. Weaver on the regional levels has been agreed upon in at last six of the regions. Two others may be settled shortly. This is the set-up to date: Region 111, Philadelphia, Reginald Johnson; Region IV, Washington, [illegible] Gardner; Region [illegible] Cleveland, J. Lawrence Duncan, Region VI, Chicago, Austin Scott; Region IX, Kansas City, Missouri, Louis Clyme [illegible] Region XII, San Francisco, Clarence Johnson.

Many of the men who will work with Dr. Weaver in seeing that Manpower fulfills its obligations, were formerly identified with him under the old Office for Production of Negro workers into industry.

It was the [illegible] office which did [illegible] in cutting down the barriers to full utilization of Negro manpower, prior to the entry of the FEPC into the field.

FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

OPENS RAILROAD HEARINGS—Bartley C. Crum, chief of special counsel for the railroad hearings of the FEPC (standing) delivers the opening statement at the committee public session in the Departmental Auditorium, Department of Labor last Wednesday as 22 railroad companies and 14 unions faced charges of employment discrimination. Shown at left is Charles A. Houston, associate special counsel, and and Maceo Hubbard, associate counsel and member of the FEPC staff. OWI Photo.

Nation
~~New York, N. Y~~

NOV 6 1943

THE EXECUTIVE ORDER FORBIDDING RACIAL discrimination by firms doing business with the government has been grievously weakened by a ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren that it was "directory" rather than "mandatory." Warren ruled that in stating that all contracting agencies *shall* include a non-discrimination clause in their contracts the President obviously did not mean that they must include such a clause. Thus a minor official in the Administration who is notorious for his bias against the Negro has succeeded in nullifying the order which is the foundation of the efforts of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. From the beginning the FEPC has been hampered by the lack of any clear-cut power by which it could enforce the President's order against recalcitrant employers. Its one weapon was the threat of cancelation of contract, a weapon which has now been taken away by the Comptroller General's ruling. The President can remedy the immediate situation by issuing a new order making clear that compliance is required, but the larger problem of enforcement can be met adequately only by legislative action.

Railroads Face Manpower Crisis

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

SEP 11 1943

IT IS worthy of mention that a statement just issued by Joseph B. Eastman, Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, that the country's railroads face a manpower crisis, and the scheduled FEPC hearings of complaints alleging discrimination against Negroes in railway employment come close together. The hearings start in Washington on the 15th of September and will continue through the 18th.

The statement by Mr. Eastman and the hearings by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice have no direct relation to each other. The hearings, which involve only Southeastern railroads, were originally scheduled months ago.

But Mr. Eastman's warning should give added importance to the hearings. The latter are to deal with the elimination of hundreds of workers — in many cases skilled and experienced workers — solely on the ground of race.

A memorandum reciting some of the circumstances behind this elimination states:

> At one time colored workers comprised the vast majority of switchmen, brakemen and locomotive firemen on Southern roads. Before World War I when the colored locomotive firemen had to shovel tons of coal each trip under adverse conditions in intense heat, with unequal pay, the job was not sought after. Then came the war and government operation with standard hours and equal pay. The return of the roads to private ownership wittnessed the abrogation of many contracts made by the Director-General of railroads, and an increase in labor disputes. Unions entered the field to establish or perfect labor organizations, and it was during this period, also, that colored locomotive firemen were beaten, intimidated and even shot out of the cabs of their engines.
>
> The transportation Act of 1920 was designed to prevent labor disputes but proved ineffective. Then came the Railway Labor Act of 1926, amended in 1934 and 1936, which had a twofold purpose; first, to prevent interruption to railroad operation and the continuity of commerce, and, second, to protect the worker in the exercise of his right to organize and to establish a procedure for collective bargaining. This legislation is mentioned because it is under and by virtue of the Railway Labor Act that the Board of Railway Enginemen and Firemen today assumes to act as sole bargaining agent.

From that point on the story is the usual one of the Negro workers being (1) barred from membership in the unions, and (2) where they are permitted to work as non-union men, or members of an auxiliary union with no rights, they have no participation in the bargaining, nor in determining whether they shall continue to work in the industry at all. In the case of the railroads the Railway Labor Act helps to make this discrimination possible, it is alleged.

Complaint is made that secret and extra agreements are in existence between the labor unions and the carriers, under which colored men have lost their seniority rights and are specifically non-promotable. Having lost their seniority rights, it is charged in the complaints, their juniors, who happened to be whites, have gradually taken their places. This situation is responsible undoubtedly, to some extent, for the crisis in railway manpower which Mr. Eastman sees in the offing. The situation also constitutes, to a large extent, the basis for the exploration of the charges of discrimination the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice will undertake, beginning September 15th.

Fair Employment

Washington, D. C.

OCT 7 - 1943

It is a serious loss to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice that Msgr. Francis J. Haas has resigned as its chairman. His departure will be felt with particular severity at this time because the committee, re-created only four months ago, had just begun to grapple with its vitally important national problem. It gave promise of helping materially to accelerate the war effort by promoting a fuller utilization of our manpower. And it held out to disadvantaged minority groups for the first time a real hope that the Federal Government would take effective action to end job discrimination against them. Any faltering in the efforts of the FEPC at this time would be genuinely tragic.

Under Monsignor Haas, the FEPC had at long last gotten round to holding hearings on employment discrimination in the railroad industry. The testimony given at these hearings is now under consideration, and the committee should soon be able to report its findings. Hearings into discriminatory practices charged against the Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders Union are scheduled for November 15. Locally, there is the problem of our own Capital Transit Co. The FEPC has much important work ahead of it.

President Roosevelt can best insure the continuance of this work by appointing a successor to Monsignor Haas without delay. Another long interregnum such as that

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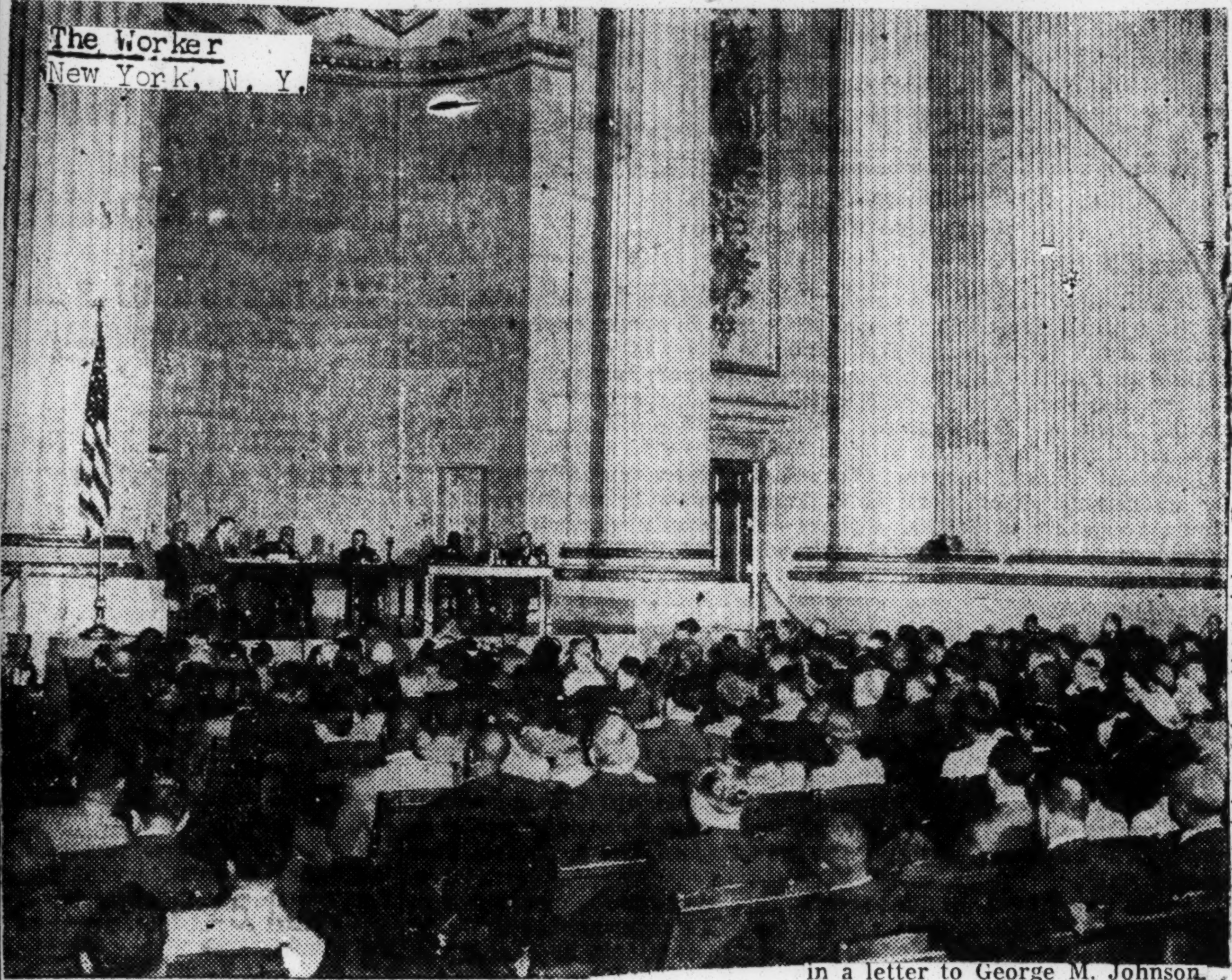
They have endured the injustice and in- as a remedy.
which paralyzed and disintegrated the old nority groups in the [illegible] the capacity of dignity of job discrimination with patience
FEPC might well shatter the faith of mi- the Government to redress their [illegible]vances. only because they looked upon the FEPC

The Worker
New York, N. Y.



Charges of employment discrimination against 22 railroad companies and 14 unions were heard by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in public sessions in the Departmental Auditorium, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., last week. The committee is shown in the background a few minutes after the hearings opened on September 15.—Official OWI photo.

SEP 25 1943

Fair Employment on Railroads

New Republic

SEP 27 1943

The most recent series of hearings before the newly reorganized Fair Employment Practice Committee proves that all the talk months ago about railroad discrimination against Negro workers was probably fully justified. Twenty-two of the major railroads of the United States have been accused of personnel practices which contribute to racial discrimination, in that Negroes are barred from any but menial jobs. The New York Central, the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio are included in the group which contends that their policies are justifiable because they reflect the local customs and standards of the regions in which the roads operate.

New York, N. Y

The most important fact in the situation is that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is now in the process of dropping all Negroes holding jobs which fall within its jurisdiction. The primary problem of the current hearings is what to do about this. Herbert Northrup, who testified on the first day of the current hearings, summarized the problem very well: "The Negro has become a pawn in industrial relations; employers have used him to fight unions and to depress wages; unions have retaliated by attempting either to limit the employment of Negroes or by driving those already employed from the railroads."

FEPC Gets Charge of Bias in U.S. Unit

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

AUG 2 1943

WASHINGTON

The defense of Coast and Geodetic Survey officials against charges of discrimination in the demotion of five colored draftsmen was challenged this week by the Commerce Branch of United Federal Workers Local (CIO).

Appearing before Elmer W. Henderson, FEPC investigator, Oliver C. Short of the Department of Commerce, and Admiral Leo O. Colbert of the Coast Geodetic Survey, said the demotion of the draftsmen to messenger work was the result of a policy of demoting employees who showed no progress in advancing from simple to more complex work.

"Every colored employee of the Coast and Geodetic Survey," Mr. Sherman said, "regards the demotions of these men as part of a deliberate policy to 'liquidate' colored draftsmen of military age so that, should these men be drafted, it will not be required to rehire colored people for drafting work" after the war.

Demands Open Hearing

Robert Sherman, president of the UFWA, Commerce Branch, challenged every point of defense raised by the bureau officials and in a letter to George M. Johnson, assistant to the FEPC chairman, disputed the statements of the officials and called for an open hearing on the case.

FEPC to Fight Railroad Defy

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eva Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee today accepted the challenge of the 16 Southern railroads who arrogantly refused to obey its no-discrimination order.

The question of barring qualified Negro railroad workers from skilled jobs is a "war problem of the first order," Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, declared, adding:

"The FEPC is an American Committee, trying to help fight an American war. We may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight, but where manpower needs are at stake we can and shall try."

The railroad defiance of FEPC is a direct slap at President Roosevelt's insistence that all government contractors abide by his no-discrimination decree, Executive Order 9346.

FEPC ANSWERS RAILS

Answering the railroad tycoons' assertion that "the manpower situation on these railroads is not preventing their most excellent accomplishment in this regard," the FEPC chairman declared:

"The FEPC believes that the granting of over-due rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder could be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning this war quickly."

Ross pointed to a shortage of 850 rail firemen while trained Negro firemen go unemployed. He added that Negro firemen were the accepted majority for 50 years "until automatic stokers and Diesel-powered engines changed the dirty, heavy work into desirable jobs."

In defying the FEPC directive handed down Nov. 24, the Southern railroads, members of the Southeastern Carriers' conference agreement, declared:

"It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible for these railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them."

In answering the railways' false alarm over alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors, the FEPC said that the real issue was one of upgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negro firemen.

The companies, using the Railway Labor Act and the Railroad Brotherhoods, contended that they couldn't interfere with the 50 per cent restriction on Negro firemen in union contracts since railroads are forbidden by law to interfere in any way with the self-determination and self-organization of their employes."

DEC 14 1943

But Chairman Ross made it plain that the "FEPC is not suggesting anything which cannot be done in conformity with the Railway Act."

Ross cited four railroads, the Virginian, the Union Pacific, the New York Central and the Pennsylvania, who are in "amicable and cooperative discussion with the FEPC looking toward solution" and that the "way is open for the remaining sixteen carriers" to do the same.

DEC 14 1943

Riddling the "impossible and impracticable" protests raised by the roads, Ross referred to Secretary McAdoo's action in 1918 equalizing the pay of white and Negro firemen as inspired by a "need for war manpower" which also exists today.

Not to start now to abide by the FEPC decree "is to acknowledge defeat," Ross made clear as he brushed aside the railroads' phony excuses of "chaos" and public "antagonism" which would follow if the order was accepted.

Since the companies have flatly refused to abide by the FEPC order and challenged its constitutionality, it is expected that the matter will now be referred to President Roosevelt for further action.

FEP TURNS SPOTLIGHT ON RAILROADS

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SEP 25 1943

Bartley C. Crum, chief of special counsel for the railroad hearings of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (standing) delivers the opening statement at the Committee's public session in the Departmental Auditorium, the Department of Labor, at Washington, as 22 railroad companies and 14 unions faced charges of employment discrimination. Shown at left is Charles H. Houston, associate counsel, and Maceo Hubbard, associate counsel, and member of the FEPC staff.

Malcolm Ross Named New FEPC Chairman

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, on Monday assumed the chairmanship of the committee following his appointment to the post on October 14 by President Roosevelt. Mr. Ross succeeds Monsignor Francis J. Haas who resigned following his appointment by His Holiness Pope Pius XII as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

OCT 23 1943

The appointment of Mr. Ross, former director of information for the National Labor Relations Board, and staff member of the Office of War Information, was revealed in White House correspondence made public last Friday. He has been succeeded as deputy chairman by George Johnson.

Meanwhile, members of the FEPC announced Monday that a decision in the cases against 22 railroads and 14 labor unions on complaints that they discriminated against Negro employees, will be handed down within the next few weeks. The hearings were completed on September 18.

The text of President Roosevelt's correspondence to Father Hass follows:

THE CORRESPONDENCE

"Dear Monsignor Haas:

"I have received with regret your letter of resignation as Chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. With your other friends I rejoice in your advancement to the position of Bishop

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FEPC Chairman Asks Attorney General Opinion on Ruling by Warren Nullifying Order 9346

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOV 6 1943

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, today made the following statement:

"The Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren, has recently held that the obligation imposed by Executive Order 9346 upon contracting agencies to incorporate a non-discrimination clause in each contract awarded by them was not a mandatory requirement, but merely a directive.

"In view of the doubt which this ruling has cast upon the powers and duties of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the committee is seeking consideration by the Attorney-General of the scope and meaning of the Executive Order."

NAACP Drops Probe Of Levy Case; Is Something Hidden?

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 28 1943

Point Out He Failed to Secure Outside Counsel for Hearing

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Withdrawel of the NAACP from the protest beng made in behalf of the demoted and court-martialed Sergeant [illegible] Levy, serving four-months [illegible] having made certain deregatory remarks [illegible] army oficers, is being construed here as a sign that there is more about the case that has not yet met the eye.

Private Levy, a white soldier, in letters to friends had said that he was being penalized because he dared to speak up to his superiors at camp near Lincoln, Nebraska, about the treatment Negro soldiers were receiving at their hands. As a result, he was hauled on the carpet and told that charges were bein" prefered against him.

Those more inclined to reserve judgment now are pointing out that, while the International Ladies Garment workers, the NAACP, and other liberal organizations had interested themselves in the case none of them had ever seen a copy of the charges and specifications that were presented to Levy. Nor had they seen any of the other data that hed been made available to him.

It is pointed out too that when he was informed that he would be court-martialed, it was his privilege to secure counsel from outside the army to defend him and to cross-examine his accusers. This he apparently did not do.

The feeling is that Levy may have given justification for some of the charges made against him, and seeking to escape punshment, attempted to make himself a martyr, with "mistreatment of Negro soldiers" as his cause celebre.

Phila. Transit Incites Strike Over FEPC Order

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

DEC 5 1943

By Walter Lowenfels

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA.—The President's Fair Employment Practice's Committee is about to hold hearings on the refusal by a company union to obey its order requiring the full use of Negroes in skilled jobs on the Philadelphia Transportation Company. The PTC Action Committee is announcing a Victory Drive to culminate in a mass meeting Dec. 19, to gain still wider support for the campaign. The United Peoples Action Committee is making special efforts to obtain the support of still more AFL and CIO trade unions for compliance with the FEPC order.

The fundamental issues at stake over the question of hiring several hundred Negro men and women as conductors, motormen and cashiers are coming out into the open. The campaign has reached far beyond the immediate organizations involved. It is safe to say that there are few homes in Philadelphia where there has not been some discussion of the wider issues involved. The newspapers, which played down the campaign in its earlier phases, are now giving it front page space. Special articles and letters to the editors are printed showing strong sentiment for compliance.

"STRIKE" INCITEMENT

The PTC is engaging in open strike incitement and union-busting tactics over the FEPC order. At the Germantown Depot, John Green, former president of the company union and now Assistant Director of Industrial Relations for the PTC, in addressing the workers on the question of Negro employment, asked them: "Don't you think this is worth a strike?"

Rabid anti-Negro incitement is permitted on company property.

There are obvious signs that the company plans to use its company union not merely to oppose the FEPC order, but to win public sentiment against legitimate unions and that it has strong support in this policy.

Thus the entire progressive movement, and the issues for which the country is fighting a war for national survival, face a decisive showdown over the question of whether several hundred Negro men and women shall be permitted to work according to an order handed down by a direct agent of the President of the United States.

PTC Awaits Union Reply to FEPC Order

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Says It Can't Hire Colored Motormen Without Union OK

CO. HAS UNTIL SATURDAY TO ACT

Mayor Samuel Still Refuses to Intervene in Fight

DEC 4 1943

BULLETIN

A public hearing on the recent FEPC order to end transit company employment discrimination will be requested by the PRT Employees' Union, Frank P. Carney, union president, announced following an executive committee meeting Tuesday night. The request will automatically delay the effective date of the order, originally November 27.

Although the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee has officially ordered the Philadelphia Transportation Company to cease discrimination against colored employees, the company still wants union sanction before making such a move.

That was indicated Friday by Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the PTC's industrial committee and a member of the board, during a conference with representatives of the NAACP's Action Committee, leaders of the bitter fight to have colored persons employed as motormen, conductors, bus drivers and cashiers.

Union Considers Order

Meanwhile, the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union, which also received a directive, held a meeting of delegates last night (Tuesday) to decide whether it will go along with the FEPC order.

Actually, the meeting is the continuation of a stormy, six-hour session last week in which the union's policy-making body wrestled with the question of approving the upgrading and equal hiring of colored workers—and got nowhere.

The FEPC directive, issued on Thursday after several conferences between representatives of the President's committee and officials of the transit company and union, held that present practices are in violation of the President's executive orders banning discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Order Effective Saturday

Signed by Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, the directive ordered the transit company to begin immediately upgrading and hiring colored workers as trolley car operators, conductors, guards, platform attendants, station cashiers "and all other job classifications" from which they were formerly barred.

The order becomes effective Saturday unless the company or the union asks for a public hearing. Such a request would postpone the effective date.

Union Contract Involved

The President's committee found that discrimination against colored employees had been based on the "interpretation" of a company contract with the union which provides in part that "all existing . . . customs bearing on the employer-employee relationship shall continue in force and effect until changed by agreement between the parties."

Designated as an essential industry by the War Manpower Commission and, therefore, subject to FEPC jurisdiction, the PTC was given the following orders:

FEPC Orders

To cease and desist from all discriminatory practices affecting the employment or upgrading of colored persons; to give written notice to the union with which it has contracts that it will cease all discrimination;

To issue written notices to the U.S. Employment Service and all other employment agencies with which it deals, advising them that it will accept workers for all job classifications without regard to race, color or creed;

To instruct all executives who have power to hire or promote that there will be no distinction made between workers because of race, color or creed;

To reconsider all applications for employment, promotion and transfers filed by colored persons since June 25, 1941, date of the Executive Order 8802 which first established the FEPC;

Monthly Report Asked

To post notices in conspicuous places stating that applications will be received from and examinations given to employees asking for upgrading or transfer, regardless of race, color or creed;

To submit to G. James Fleming the FEPC regional director, a report showing that the orders have been carried out, and every thirty days thereafter, report on the number of "white and non-white" persons employed in every job classification.

After the third report, the committee said, the company may ask for a relaxation of the last phase of the order.

Order to Union

The union was simply ordered "in the interest of the war effort" not to interpret any section of its contract as interfering with the employment of qualified colored persons in any job classification.

In a statement to the committee's representative on October 4, the company said that it "would be willing and ready" to hire colored applicants for jobs they have never held "if it were not a violation of . . . the union contract."

Both Pass Buck

The union admitted to a FEPC representative that the "customs clause" in the contract, "in effect" froze certain jobs precluding colored workers from upgrading or free employment.

It denied, however, ever advocating any discriminatory steps and pointed out that "the company has made no formal request that the union state its position with reference to any change in the company's customary employment . . . of colored persons."

Mitten told the NAACP delegation that executives of the company would discuss putting the directives in operation "if" the union made up its mind to accept integration of colored employees.

"Can't Force Union"

"We can't force the men to take into their operating family any men they don't want," said Mitten. "At least, we can't make them like it, so we are trying to do it in an orderly way."

A spokesman for the union refused to predict the outcome of Tuesday's meeting, pointing out that last week's meeting "left everything in the air."

The union does not discriminate in membership and there are eight colored delegates among the 128 representatives. In some cases the colored delegates also represent white employees. The question of upgrading colored workers was brought up last spring, the spokesman said, but was tabled and never got back on the

Successor to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, PTC owns and operates the entire street railway, trackless trolley and bus system serving Philadelphia. It also operates the city-owned Frankford elevated and Broad Street subway system and the Delaware River Bridge Line.

At present, the company employs 537 colored workers in the maintenance department, ranging from foremen to laborers. Altogether, it employs 10,900 persons.

White Women Used

So acute is its manpower shortage that it has been calling for white women to operate its trolleys. This, it was learned, is also a violation of the "customs clause" but was agreed to by the union as a war measure.

A PTC request that only white persons be referred to the company for positions as motormen was reported to the FEPC by the U.S. Employment Service.

Mayor Refuses to Act

While he and four members of the council are members of the PTC board by virtue of the city's interest, Mayor Bernard Samuel, has steadfastly refused to intervene in the fight against discrimination.

Asked by an NAACP delegation which he tried to duck on Wednesday just what action he had taken to abolish race discrimination as a member of the board, the mayor replied: "I have done a lot of talking.

"I want to know where I tread before asking the board to erase discrimination," Samuel added. "I won't propose a resolution until all steps have been taken."

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

FEPC OPENS NEW OFFICE IN ATLANTA

By United Press.

NOV 24 1943

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, announced the opening today of a permanent regional FEPC office in Atlanta, Ga.

Headed by Virginia-born A. Bruce Hunt, it will have jurisdiction in the states of Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

It will investigate charges of racial and other discrimination in employment as provided in the President's order setting up the FEPC.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

FEPC Opens Rail Hearings

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.— The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee today tackled the wide-spread discrimination against Negroes on the nation's railroads—at a time when there is an acute shortage of manpower in the industry for the war effort.

The effect of anti-Negro discrimination on the vitally important war job which must be performed by the railroad industry was the theme of the hearings which involved 22 railroads and 14 unions charged with discrimination.

Bartley C. Crum, Special Counsel for FEPC, declared that the hearings are "calculated to add greatly to the manpower on our railroads—so desperately required to meet the wartime demands on their facilities."

Crum sharply criticized the manpower program made public two weeks ago by Joseph B. Eastman, head of the Offices of Defense Transportation, which omitted any reference to discrimination on the railroads.

And Now The Verdict?

The four-day hearings into discrimination against Negro and Mexican workers by 22 railroads and 14 railway labor unions, conducted by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, ended last week in the Nation's capital.

Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 26 1943

Twenty-two of the major railroads of the country have been accused of personnel practices which contribute to racial discrimination, in that Negroes are barred from any but menial jobs. Seniority rules and percentage allotments have been used over the years to decrease the number of Negroes in the operation of the roads. Negroes who fired the boilers on thousands of the old style hand-fed locomotives have been discarded, now that the driving heat of the Diesel-powered locomotive can be applied by the twist of a wheel in a white hand. The most serious fact in the hearings is that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is now in the process of dropping all Negroes holding jobs which fall within its jurisdiction.

The New York Central, the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio railroads admit their guilt, but justify their policy of discrimination upon the grounds that they reflect the local customs and standards of the regions in which the roads operate. The Union Pacific railroad admits to unfair practices and pledges to put an end to them. Most of the other railroads, together with the 14 labor unions, with a strange degree of arrogance, admit to the unfair advantages taken against Negro workers, but stated that "racial patterns demanded the exclusion of Negroes from jobs which would place them in control over white employes."

Daily World

Now that the hearings are ended and the facts of discrimination are clearly established and admitted by the major operating lines, what shall the verdict be? Does the committee have the power and authority to call a halt to these practices? Can it deal with witnesses who arrogantly told its members that discriminatory "problems cannot be worked out by any board, politically appointed for appeasement?"

Bartley C. Crum, Chief Counsel for the FEPC, deserves the warmest praise for his forthright stand against such wholesale discrimination against the Negro workers, who saw the railroads through their worst and most critical years. "Today," he said, "the denial of the railroads of equality of job opportunity to Negroes and other minority groups stultifies our moral leadership of the democracies, provides strong material for the Axis propaganda against us, and, as the evidence in this hearing will show, has created a situation which, at this very moment, is seriously hampering our effective prosecution of the war."

Nothing, we believe, will be more damaging to the committee's prestige, past or present, than to submit to the determination of the railroads to continue to practice discrimination and that it is nobody's business at Washington. What shall the verdict be, gentlemen?

A PARTIAL VICTORY

The "worst discriminatory practices", an announcement declares, will be aired at a "monster mass meetng" to be held at Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., Sunday evening, September 12, when colored firemen of Southern railroad systems will tell "their own amazing story" of color prejudice. The meeting is held under the sponsorship of a committee authorized by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and entitled the Provisional Committee for the Organization of Colored Locomotive Firemen. Others listed to address the meeting are Senator William Sanger of North Dakota; A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin, of the national executive board, March on Washington Movement; Attorney Thurman T. Dodson, chairman, local unit of the March on Washington Movement; and B. F. McLaurin, international field organizer, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Boston, Mass

AUG 28 1943

The occasion is in the nature of a celebration of a partial victory. Although duly on schedule several months ago, hearings on the firemen's grievances were abruptly cancelled just before President Roosevelt left to attend the historic conference at Casablanca. The FEPC suffered a tremendous set-back. For months it did not function. Some FEPC members, including its president, resigned. The Administration was accused of kowtowing to powerful railroad interests in the South. Protests against the surrender rang throughout the country. There were insistent demands for the rehabilitation of the FEPC and the rescheduling of the hearings. Rcently th FEPC was reconstituted. The cancelled railroad discrimination hearings are again on schedule and will open in Washington, September 15.

Guardian

Joy over the prospect must be restrained because all of us know the uncertainties that lurk in entrenched race-hatred. There is hope in the experience that good action can come from other causes than a spirit of fair-play. It can come from a rap at the South's pocketbook. The continuing migration of workers from Dixie and the consequent labor shortage may drive Southern railroad magnates to sensible decisions. Even so, there is no certainty that "conversion through "fear of the Devil" will be lasting. A strong law with teeth that actually bite will be required to preserve whatever gains are won at the railroad hearings. Favors, concessions, mean little. Legal enactments to make sure that every gain holds mark the true course of American social progress.

FEPC West Coast Hearing Definite

SEP 10 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — ANP) —It is pretty definite now that the Fair Employment Practice committee is going to hold a hearing on the west coast to determine specifically whether or not Negroes corraled in a jim-crow local of the boilermakers union are being discriminated against, but more important, to test the validity of union rituals which deny a worker from hoding a job because he cannot become an affiliate of the union.

At the outset when about 250 men were known to have been laid off for failure to pay dues into the auxiliary of the union, the FEPC sent a field examiner and a special invesigator out to San Francisco to size up the situation. Contents of their report have never been disclosed by the committee. Shortly after receipt however, George M. Johnson, assistant chairman of FEPC, flew out to the coast and spent several days.

Following his return the committee announced that it would hold a hearing, indicating that no progress had been made in the overall picture.

Meanwhile, it is understood, a small number of the men are back at work on the condition that they continue to pay their dues. This they are doing "under protest." This means that they are doing what they did before, only saying in addition that they don't like the idea.

FEPC Appoints Regional Head

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 19—Following the announcement of its new administrative and departmental structure, Chairman Francis J. Haas, of the President's Committee of Fair Employment Practice appointed Regional directors and associates to five of the 12 original offices which are to be located in the same cities as the War Manpower commission's regional offices.

Only nine of the offices chosen for an expected density of operation will be immediately established. The nine offices will be located in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta and St. Louis. It is expected that offices will be opened eventually at Minneapolis, Boston, and Denver.

DIRECTORS NAMED

The following Regional directors and associates have been appointed:

New York—Edward Lawson, former Senior Employment Specialist, WMC.; Madison Jones, Connecticut YMCA, Associate Examiner.

Philadelphia—G. James Fleming, Senior Field Representative, FEPC Regional Director.

Chicago—Elmer W. Henderson, Baltimore, former Director of Research for the Illinois State Commission of Conditions for the Urban Colored Population, Regional Director.

San Francisco—Harry Kingman, Berkeley, Calif., Regional Director.

Dallas — Carlos Casteneda, University of Texas faculty, Associate Director. No appointment for Regional Director has been made at Dallas or for the other offices to be opened.

47d-1943 FEPC

Father Haas' Labor Day Message

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEPC Head Urges Neighborliness Toward Minority Group Works

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — In a message to all American labor, released this week, Father Francis J. Haas, chairman of FEPC, urged the Labor movement to take responsibility of "developing — in ever-increasing strength — the spirit of neighborliness toward minority group workers."

"We are all workers. We must all be neighbors, working together for victory," he said.

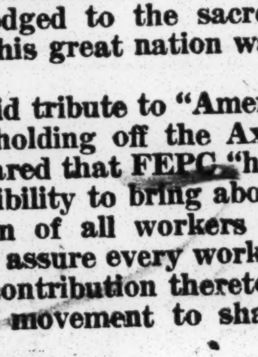
"Out of such a spirit will come increased prestige for labor itself," he declared. "Through complete recognition of the elemental rights of all workers. the Labor movement can and will attain that status as a democratic brotherhood of man, a united movement of the millions of workers pledged to the sacred principles on which this great nation was founded."

The statement paid tribute to "American Labor . . . for holding off the Axis gangsters," and declared that FEPC "has accepted the responsibility to bring about the fullest utilization of all workers in the war effort and to assure every worker to make his fullest contribution thereto." It urged the Labor movement to share this responsibility.

SEP 11 1943

FEPC in Danger

New York, N. Y. New Masses



We don't know what motive lies behind the decision of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren, which virtually cancels the President's executive order prohibiting racial discrimination in war plants. Maybe it just happens that he is a former congressman from North Carolina—or maybe there is more than a coincidence between his recent action and the defeatist policies of the reactionary southern bloc. Regardless of the motive, the effect is certain. The foundation upon which the FEPC has sought to operate, inadequate as it was, is shattered as long as the Warren decree is permitted to stand.

The comptroller general got into the FEPC picture when the Southern Bell Telephone Co. refused to comply with the President's order directing all government purchasing agents to require guarantees against racial discrimination from firms doing business with the government. The company refused to provide such a guarantee, whereupon Lindsay Warren arbitrarily decided that it did not matter anyway and the company could go right ahead with the contract. In effect, he said that the President's executive order does not mean what it says. The order in question was issued by the President on May 27 of this year and is known as Executive Order 9346, superseding the somewhat milder Executive Order 8802. What it says is that "All contracting agencies of the government of the United States shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin, and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts." The comptroller general has taken it upon himself to sabotage the entire intention of the order by decreeing that the order is not mandatory.

This shameful arrogation of authority and perversion of democratic policy have been met with the protests which they deserve. It is of the utmost importance to national unity, to the morale and progress of the Negro people, and to the entire war effort that the original intention of the President on this score be upheld. A sharp public rebuke to Lindsay Warren from President Roosevelt carrying with it a cancellation of the Warren interpretation is the minimum the public should demand.

NOV 9 1943

FEPC in Action

New York, N. Y. New Masses

One of the most flagrant examples of racial discrimination in the gigantic American railroad industry. The discrimination hits Negroes and Mexicans, or persons of Mexican descent, particularly, but other groups too suffer from the "racial superiority" myth which permeates the entire industry. It injures every American, white or colored, for by holding back national unity it hinders our war effort. To their shame neither management nor the unions have taken the initiative in wiping out this blot upon national unity. In consequence there has been terrific pressure brought to bear upon the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee to investigate the industry in order to force compliance with Executive order 8802. Counterpressure from the industry itself and from other influences perfectly willing to compromise with victory over the Axis successfully postponed the hearings for nearly a year. At long last, however, the reconstituted FEPC has opened the hearings in Washington, D.C.

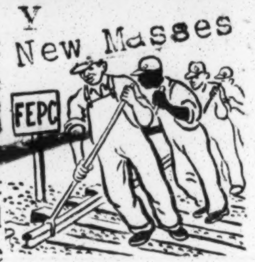
Twenty-two railroads and fifteen trade unions are involved. Both parties, management and labor, are guilty; their crime is now being exposed in all its dirty ramifications. Negro railroad workers charge collusion on the part of management and the unions in discriminating against them. Management seeks to lay the blame on the unions, which it claims have insisted on including discriminatory regulations in their work contracts. The phrase "non-promotable," appearing in many contracts, refers to Negroes; it prevents them from rising to the higher ranks of employment. Evidence given so far indicates a wide variety of discriminatory practices. Not only are equal promotion and seniority rights denied, but in instances which have been cited unequal pay for the same work prevails. In other instances Negroes are made to do a certain type of work while being classified and paid in a lower category. Witnesses have given evidence that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers and other brotherhoods have refused membership to Negroes and forced them to hire special white representatives to handle their grievances befor management.

That this disgraceful state of affairs is grist in the Axis mill is self-evident. The way it is so used has been explained to the committee by Clyde E. Miller of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis. "One of the stronges weapons in the hands of Hitler," testified Miller, "—and American propagandists consciously or unconsciously are following the Hitler pattern—was exploitation of what anthropologists call the myth of racial superiority." The Axis tells the people of the Far East that they "can have no faith in the promise of white Americans when they deny equal rights to their fellow citizens who [illegible]." This type of propaganda, Miller said, was "extraordinarily and almost immediately effective, dynamic, and dangerous."

SEP 28 1943

Jim Crow Takes a Fall

New York, N. Y New Masses



We believe that the locomotive of history will run all the more safely and quickly, now that an incompetent and evil employe of the railroads has been tossed off the train. We refer to that age-old wrecker, Jim Crow, who got his walking-papers last week from the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, which, in its most sweeping order to date, gave both railroad management and unions thirty days to comply with the decision to stop barring Negroes from jobs, from upgrading, and from union membership.

Thus, at one stroke two great advances were made: first, in the direction of eliminating that cancer of our democracy, racial discrimination; second, in overcoming the acute manpower shortage in our crucial transportation industry. And not only in the latter—the ruling will undoubtedly pave the way for maximum employment of Negroes in all other industries.

Needless to say, the proponents of the old—the spokesmen for Southern bourbonism—put up a last-ditch fight. The representative of the Southern Railway insisted that only "gradual processes of education" could eliminate Jim Crow practices. His arguments were crushed both by FEPC officials and by labor's spokesman at the hearings, Frederick N. Myers, vice president of the National Maritime Union. The latter pointed out: "We have a record in our industry of no vessels [illegible], or convoys, because of any disagreement between members of crews on the question of color. Convoy movements are accelerated because of our non-discrimination policy."

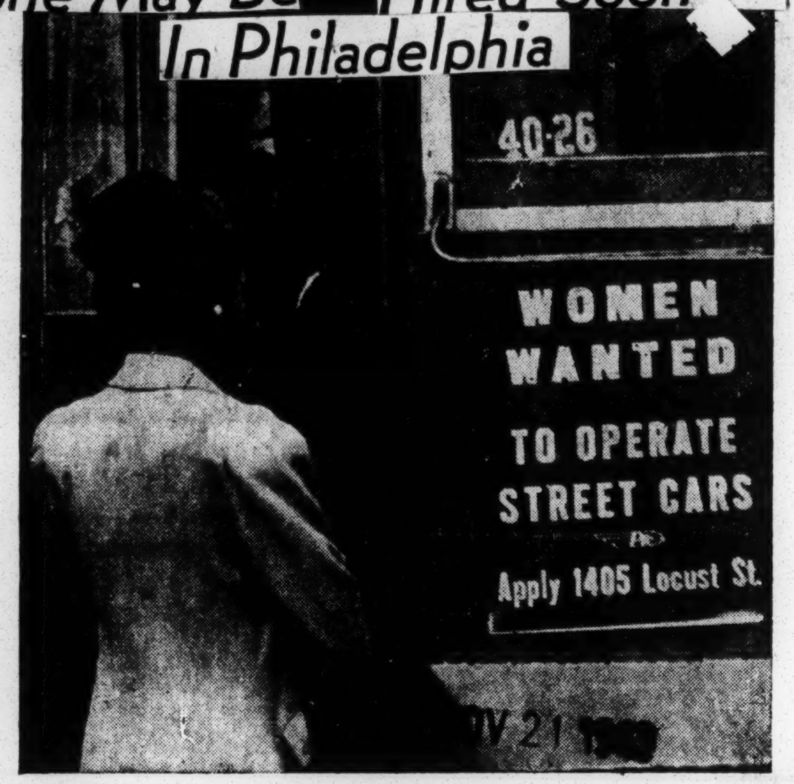
Forward-looking Americans immediately welcomed the ruling as a great advance, both toward winning the war and in guaranteeing the peace. They looked to the next big step: the elimination of Jim Crowism in the armed forces. It was generally felt that this railroad ruling will speed measures to give our Negro citizens in uniform the same privileges and rights their white brothers enjoy. There is no doubt that the railroad decision will bring consternation to certain men in Berlin and Tokyo, and their opposite numbers in the United States.

DEC 14 1943

Democracy in America took another big step forward last week. The long, patient, and aggressive campaign by millions of fair-minded citizens against Jim Crow in sports was rewarded by the official statement of policy pronounced by Judge Kenesaw M. Landis, the head of organized baseball. After eloquent pleas by Paul Robeson and other outstanding Negro and white leaders, Judge Landis said: "Each club is entitled to employ Negro players to any and all extents it desires."

As Mr. Robeson af[illegible]d indicated, the way "is now clear for Negro players to enter the major leagues." What remains now to implement Judge Landis' statement of policy is a continuation of the campaign: the fight now goes down to the various cities where sport lovers can urge managers of the local teams to employ outstanding Negro athletes.

She May Be Hired Soon In Philadelphia


40-26
WOMEN WANTED TO OPERATE STREET CARS
Apply 1405 Locust St.

NOV 21 1943

An FEPC order requiring Philly's Transit System to hire Negroes as motormen, conductors, cashiers is being issued this month according to official sources. This Negro girl who read the "Women Wanted" ads in vain up to now may be one of those hired.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

FEPC to Ban Bias By Philly Transit

NOV 21 1943

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA. — A Fair Employment Practices Committee order, requiring the Philadelphia Transportation Company to employ Negroes as motormen, conductors, cashiers, and other skilled jobs, is being issued by the regional office of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, according to official sources here.

NOV 21 1943

While no formal announcement will be made by the regional FEPC director, James Fleming, before the end of the month, the company has been given ten days to make provision for Negro workers in skilled jobs.

Meanwhile, the campaign of the Action Committee on PTC Employment, in cooperation with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is reaching throughout the city with 25,000 signatures being obtained on petitions demanding an end to Jim Crow on Philadelphia's transit system in the interests of the war effort and to speed up the transportaion service.

At this week's meeting of the Committee, plans were also discussed to throw picket lines around the company's offices if Negroes are not hired for skilled work within the next week or two.

NOV 21 1943

The petition campaign climaxes the mass parade of some 3.000 on City Hall last week, and the big Town Hall rallv earlier in the month.

Evans And Reeves Named To FEPC

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Appointment of Joseph H. B. Evans and Frank Reeves to the staff of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) was announced Tuesday, August 31, by the Committee. Mr. Evans was named a senior practice examiner. Mr. Reeves was appointed an associate fair practice examiner. Both have assumed their duties in the Washington office.

MR. EVANS SEP 11 1943

A native of Washington, D. C., Mr. Evans was formerly regional Negro affairs officer for the National Youth Administration (NYA). In government service since 1934, he has served also as Research supervisor, Federal Emergency Relief Administration; executive assistant, Department of Interior; social economist, Resettlement Administration; social economist, Farm Security Administration, and chief of Negro Labor Relations Section of NYA. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

MR REEVES SEP 11 1943

Reeves, holder of A. B. and LL. B. degrees from Howard University, was formerly with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, serving as research assistant, legal assistant, and administrative assistant. Later he was an instructor at Howard University Law School.

Mr. Evans will work in the Washington regional office of the committee. Mr. Reeves has been assigned to the central office in the capital.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

FEPC Orders Return Of Shipyard Workers

SEP 8 1943

Immediate return to work of the Negroes in West Coast shipyards who had been dismissed for refusal to pay their dues into an auxiliary union local of the Boilermakers' union is being sought by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) as a preliminary move to adjustment of the entire situation, it was announced recently by the committee. As a result of investigation and a conference held in San Francisco on August 20-21, the positions of all parties involved in the dispute have been clarified, the committee reported.

At present attempts are being made to have worked but between management and the union a procedure through which the dismissed workers may be put abck on their jobs at once pending ultimate settlement of the entire dispute.

According to the announcement, the discharge of the workers is explained by the management as being in accord with its contract to discharge any and all workers, regardless of race, creed or color, who do not remain in good standing with the union. The fact that the workers in question, are Negroes, the management insists, has no bearing in the matter.

FDR Knew Nothing of Ruling Against FEPC

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NOV 4 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—An official denial that any one connected with the White House was in any way involved in the ruling of Controller General Lindsay Warren crippling the FEPC became public today.

In a letter to the Pittsburgh Courier, Negro weekly White House Secretary Stephen Early said:

"I can tell you in all frankness that until he saw a story about this ruling in the newspapers, the President knew nothing about it. It is a fact, also, that no White House official had anything to do with the ruling. It was not asked for by anyone at the White House. And this includes Director James F. Byrnes of war mobilization."

The next move in the FEPC case is now understood to be up to the White House.

NOV 4 1943

FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross has asked the Attorney General to decide whether Warren's ruling is valid. But this request by the FEPC must be forwarded by the President to the Attorney General if it is to be effective.

Department of Justice officials were expecting momentarily a communication from the White House asking them to look into the matter, but late today they had not yet received word.

NOV 4 1943

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16 Southern Railways Defy FEPC Order On Racial Discrimination

News
Birmingham, Ala

Directives Described As Impracticable, Threat To Existing Harmony

DEC 13 1943

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Sixteen Southern rai[illegible] Mon[illegible] the president's committee on fair employment practice, in effect, that the agency is wasting its official breath ordering the railways to cease discriminating against Negro employes.

The 16 carriers declared they would not obey the FEPC directives of Nov. 24 forbidding racial or religious discrimination. The FEPC, the railroads said in a joint letter, "is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue the directives, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect."

The action of the railroads openly challenges executive order No. 9,346 issued by President Roosevelt, which forbids any contractor doing business with the federal government to discriminate against employes or job applicants for racial or religious reasons.

The railroads charged that the FEPC was "utterly unrealistic" in attempting to solve delicate problems of inter-racial relations in the Southern states "by fiat."

"It is wholly impracticable and indeed impossible for the railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them," the letter to FEPC declares.

DEC 13 1943

* * *

"ANY ATTEMPT, FOR INSTANCE, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and cooperative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country. These railroads cannot assume the responsibility for precipitating such disastrous results."

The railroads asserted that railway labor relations are explicitly controlled by the railway labor act, and changes in contractual relations between the carriers and railway labor unions can only be accomplished under the act.

The open defiance of the president's executive order and the agency he created to administer it grew out of hearings held by FEPC in Washington in September.

DEC 13 1943

Seven railway labor unions and 22 railroads were then cited by FEPC on complaint of Negro railway workers that "collusive" contracts between the carriers and the unions barred Negroes from advancement, deprived them of seniority rights and were gradually freezing the Negres out of all work on the railroads.

* * *

THE RAILROADS PUT IN NO DEFENSE AT THE HEARINGS. The rail unions were not represented. Voluminous testimony was taken all tending to show that Negroes of 40 years seniority were "bumped" into inferior positions by white employes with less seniority.

The contract between the unions and the 16 railroads representing the Southeastern Carriers' Conference was placed in evidence by FEPC counsel. This contract limits the number of Negroes w[illegible] be employed by the railroads, designates them as "non-promotable," and restricts their choice of jobs by seniority.

DEC 13 1943

Testimony at the hearings also disclosed that Negroes are barred from membership in the railroad unions, and are prevented from forming effective unions of their own for collective bargaining purposes.

The FEPC, acting under presidential authority, on Nov. 24, found that the Southeastern Carriers' Conference contracts were in violation of the president's anti-discrimination order.

47d-1943

FEPC

Negroes Win Discrimination Case Against One of Southern Railroads

PM

SEP 10 1943

New York, N. Y.

Virginia Line Settles a Case Brought Before FEPC

By Gordon H. Cole

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.–A settlement having been worked out, the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) today dropped its case against the Virginia Railway Co., one of 23 railroads scheduled to come up for public hearings next week on charges of refusing to hire Negroes in any but the most menial positions.

SEP 10 1943

Settlement of the Virginia case does not, however, represent any break in the solid front of the Nation's major railroads against using Negroes in responsible positions.

The Virginia Railway case had been brought to the FEPC by the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen, Inc. The only charge filed against the Virginia line, principally a coal carrier, was that it employed 46 car riders, all Negroes, at Sewell Point Coal Pier, Norfolk, Va., at lower wages and under conditions inferior to those which white car riders enjoyed at Norfolk.

The Association withdrew its charges after a settlement was worked out with the aid of the National Railway Mediation Board.

SEP 10 1943

Hearings involving the other 22 lines, including the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore & Ohio, the New York Central and the major lines of the Southeast will begin Sept. 15.

FEPC Finds Roads Guilty

PM New York, N. Y.

PM's Bureau

DEC 1 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.–The FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) found 23 of the Nation's major railroads guilty of discrimination in a long-awaited decision handed down yesterday.

The FEPC decision held that:

¶ The agreement between 10 Southern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen is illegal under the President's order. The agreement, the committee found, is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen. This object is accomplished by limiting firemen's jobs to "promotable" men and then by excluding Negroes from promotion.

¶ The policy of certain railroad unions "discriminates against Negroes because of race in regard to membership . . . thus rendering it impossible for Negro workers to have any adequate voice . . . respecting working conditions, employment policy, practices and opportunities."

DEC 1 1943

Ordered to Desist

In all, 22 railroads and seven labor unions have been notified by the FEPC that all discriminatory employment practices must be eliminated. In each case a reply was requested within 30 days.

FEPC chairman Malcolm Ross announced that final action in the cases of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central has been held up until further attempts can be made to win voluntary settlement from these two roads.

Unions cited by the committee in its findings include the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; Order of Railway Conductors; Brotherhood of Railway Carmen; Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; International Assn. of Machinists, and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

DEC 1 1943

Unions Absent

None of these unions showed up at the FEPC hearings.

The railroads subject to the FEPC findings include:

Atlantic Coast Line; Atlanta Joint Terminals; Baltimore and Ohio; Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal; Central Railway of Georgia; Chesapeake and Ohio. Chicago and Northwestern; Georgia Railroad; Gulf, Mobile and Ohio. Illinois Central. Jacksonville Terminal. Louisiana and Arkansas. Louisville and Nashville; Missouri-Kansas-Texas; Norfolk Southern. Norfolk and Western; St. Louis-San Francisco; Seaboard Air Line and Southern.

DEC 1 1943

Anti-Bias Job

Body Set To Give 'Orders'

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

Mexican Workers On Coast Upgraded Since Charges

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — The Fair Employment Practice committee is progressing on the work of reducing the volumes of testimony taken in the railroad hearings to the "handling point," it was learned last week end.

Already the cases against about six companies and four labor unions have been summarized, foundings made, and directives drafted calling upon all concerned to "cease and desist" various discriminations. An official statement has not yet been prepared, however.

OCT 16 1943

Upgrading Starts

Unofficially but reliably it is understood that telegrams have been received from several Mexican workers on the Union Pacific railroad stating that they had since been upgraded by the company. These upgradings are said to have taken place almost immediately after the testimony of one witness against the company had been taken down. The texts of the messages were not available.

N. Y. Central Waiting

The New York Central system has not yet followed up on its suggestion to sit down with the committee and work out a solution, nor has there been any break since the hearings ended in any other direction. There is the report though that a group of the carriers, mostly northern lines, have had at least one meeting among themselves at which they discussed approaches to the problem.

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

FEPC To Release Order To Coast Shipbuilders

Following the conclusion on November 20 of a two-day public hearing on charges of employment discrimination in the Los Angeles shipbuilding industry, the President's committee on Fair Employment Practice announced this week that its findings would be made public after a thorough study of all evidence.

DEC 4 1943

The hearings, held in Los Angeles, were highlighted by denials of discriminatory practices by representatives of three major shipbuilding firms — the California Shipbuilding Corporation, the Western Pipe and Steel Corporation, and the Consolidated Steel Corporation, Shipbuilding Division. The Boilermakers' Union, also involved in the charges, failed to make an official appearance at the hearings.

Original charges probed by the FEPC had included the three shipbuilding companies, the International Boilermakers' Union, AFL; Subordinate Lodge 92 and Auxiliary Lodge A-35. Invitations to attend the hearings were sent also to the AFL Metal Trades Council, Pacific Metal Trades Council, and the Los Angeles Metal Trades Council. None of the trade union groups made an appearance.

DEC 4 1943

Maas, testifying to the workability of integration of all workers, said that in his plant Negroes, Mexicans and whites were all employed on equal basis and were thoroughly integrated with the most harmonious and productive results.

Testimony about actual instances of discrimination in employment, upgrading and the union situation were offered by a number of witnesses including Walter Williams, Milton Berryman, Andrew Blakeney, Carl Davidson, Mrs. Ruby Johnson, Christopher C. Kemp, William M. Moore, Antonuia Williams, Dorothy V. Glosson, Joyce Robinson, Elmo Jacobs.

On Saturday morning, (November 20) Carey McWilliams, president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, filed with the committee a statement from his organization, endorsing the FEPC hearing and urging full action against discriminatory practices by unions which, the statement declared, "weaken trade unions and imperil as well the fundamental national democracy."

DEC 4 1943

"Auxiliary unions for Negro workers constitute discrimination," the statement declared.

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

FEPC Regional Opens In Atlanta

DEC 4 1943

A permanent regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was opened last week at 525-28 Forsyth Street Building, Atlanta, Ga., Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the Committee, announced today.

The new office, with A. Bruce Hunt as regional director, will have jurisdiction in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Mr. Hunt, with an initial staff of two field examiners, will receive, investigate, and adjust complaints of discriminatory employment practices involving war industries, labor unions and government agencies.

DEC 4 1943

Following the opening of the regional office, the staff will continue to process approximately 120 active cases which have been handled in the national office of the Committee in Washington.

The Regional Director

Mr. Hunt, who is 35 years old, was born and educated in Virginia. A graduate of the University of Virginia, he practiced law in Roanoke, Va., before his appointment to the Review Staff of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C., in 1937. Later, as trial examiner and principal trial examiner for the NLRB, he presided over numerous hearings in the South. In April, 1943, Mr. Hunt joined the staff of the National War Labor Board where he served successively as assistant director of disputes in the Tenth Regional Board and director of the Board's Disputes Office in Los Angeles. He is married and has a son.

DEC 4 1943

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Red Cross Comes Under FEPC Too

NOV 27 1943

John Lord O'Brian, general counsel of the War Production Board, ruled April 29, 1942, that the Red Cross is a quasi-government agency and therefore its employment policies are subject to review by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

NOV 27 1943

Interpretation was asked by the AFRO this week in view of the fact that the Red Cross not only separates the blood plasma for soldiers on the basis of race, but has kept its organization virtually lily-white.

NOV 27 1943

No Complaints Filed

Commenting on the order, Tuesday, William Maslow, assistant chairman, speaking in the absence of Chairman Malcolm Ross, said:

"I think we have jurisdiction over the Red Cross. Our instruction to our regional directors is that it is an open question.

"Concerning the employment and upgrading of colored workers in the Red Cross organization, that question will not be passed upon until a formal complaint is filed against the Red Cross and no one has yet filed such complaint."

The National Red Cross told the AFRO Tuesday that it jim crows its colored workers but denies there is any other discrimination in hiring, upgrading or providing facilities for 98 colored workers most of whom are overseas. No mention was made of the Red Cross own staff and personnel at home.

NOV 27 1943

FEPC Head Raps Negro Segregation

Daily Worker new York n.y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. — The President's Committee of Fair Employment Practice opposes the segregation of Negro workers, chairman Francis J. Haas has announced here.

AUG 25 1943

Chairman Haas's statement was made in answer to a note in the news bulletin of the Employers Association of Chicago, which stated that the FEPC's "Mobile Compromise" gave employers the right to segregate their workers, he said.

"I am surprised that the settlement of a controversy last June at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, Ala., has been interpreted to mean that the committee approves the segregation of colored and white as not a violation of the FEPC.

AUG 25 1943

"The committee accepts the accomplished fact of the settlement made in Mobile to end a crisis in war production, except that it cannot approve the segregation of colored workers on the four ways and does not consider that as a precedent."

Marcantonio Acts On His FEPC Bill

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor-New York today filed a petition to discharge the Rules Committee from further consideration of his bill to strengthen the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee and to bring the measure up on the floor.

NOV 19 1943

The Marcantonio bill, HR 1732, is designed to give the FEPC statutory authority so that it cannot be successfully defied by employers or be sidetracked by reactionary government officials.

NOV 1943

Marcantonio urged that labor and Negro groups ask their Congressmen to sign discharge petition Number 17 which would bring action on the measure when it is signed by 218 members of the House.

Mobile Compromise By FEPC Hurts In Chicago

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 27 1943

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—(ANP)—If Chicago developments are any indication, the Fair Employment Practices committee's famous "Mobile compromise" is going to dog the Negro's fight for integration from here on out.

Employers in the Windy City have been told through a publication serving the Employers' association of Chicago, under Labor News B[illegible], that so long as FEPC has given the practice its blessings, segregation of workers is all right.

"Segregation of Negro workers from white employees is not necessarily a violation of the anti-discrimination executive order 8802, so long as the FEPC recently approved such a solution of a racial controversy at the yards of the Alabama Drydock and Shipping Co., Mobile, Ala.," the item reads (underscoring theirs).

Ross Named to Succeed Haas as FEPC Head

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Looked Upon as Liberal and Has Been Active in Labor Circles

GEORGE JOHNSON NOW 2d ASSISTANT

Retiring Chairman Says Colored Employment Gains Significant

WASHINGTON

Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, was sworn in today (Tuesday) as successor to Monsignor Francis J. Haas who resigned the chairmanship on October 7 following his appointment as bishop of the diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich.

The new chairman is looked upon as a liberal and has long been active in labor and liberal circles. He came to the FEPC from the OWI writer's section and prior to that was director of information for the National Labor Relations board.

About 45 years old, he is the author of an autobiography entitled, "Death of a Yale Man." He was born in Hewaks, N.J., and now lives in Vienna, Va., near Washington.

Terming his final press conference his "swan song," Msgr. Haas on Monday, at the FEPC headquarters, cited what he termed the "real gains made by colored people in war employment since the beginning of the war emergency," saying that the percentage of employees had jumped from 5.8 to 7.3.

Johnson Promoted

Coming on the heels of these important actions also was the information divulged by Mr. Ross at the press session that George Johnson, former assistant to Lawrence Cramer, one-time executive secretary of the FEPC, and then secondary assistant to Father Haas, would be promoted to first assistant to the new chairman "upon the basis of his ability and excellent service."

No decision was forthcoming as yet in the all-important railroad hearings, although it was revealed that this case had been under consideration by the committee throughout its Monday session, and Milton Webster, labor representative, took the defensive position that there are "more than 1,000 pages of testimony involved" and that action should not be hurried because of its momentous import.

Young [illegible] Murray to Stay

Both [illegible] Young, Sr., newspaper publisher, and Samuel Ze-Murray, fruit king, denied any intention of withdrawing from the committee, although Dr. Young later admitted that in the light of his approaching sixtieth birthday, and the heavy tax placed upon his health by Howard University and his own business, he had commented to an official of the FEPC that he might be forced to withdraw.

"I certainly will not take such an action before the railroad decision," he said, and "perhaps not then."

Capital Transit Pending

Action is still pending in the Capital Transit case, with no colored motormen or street car operators employed as yet, although Msgr. Haas said something would be done within a few weeks, and a special consultant is working on integration.

Conciliation Service is still at work on the proposed Western Electric strike in Baltimore, to secure separate toilet facilities for colored and [illegible] workers, but the FEPC has taken no further steps, Mr. Ross revealed on Monday. An independent union at the company voted to strike under the recently-passed Smith-Connally Law.

Praised by F.D.R.

President Roosevelt, who in White House correspondence made public on Friday, stated that he would continue to rely on the "warm-hearted counsel" of Father Haas, and commended him for "the increasing usefulness of the FEPC, as reorganized under your direction," declared of the out-going chairman:

"I have received with regret your letter of resignation. With other friends I rejoice in your advancement to the position of Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids. I am not surprised that His Holiness Pope Pius XII has called you to this high position.

"In all the posts of responsibility in which you have served your government you have shown a humanity and skill which both church and country greatly need in these difficult days. I congratulate you on your new opportunities for service and send you my appreciation with my regrets in accepting your resignation."

The appointment of Chairman Ross was likewise made public in this letter.

Had Biddle Backing

Usually authoritative sources in the capital stated that the appointment of Mr. Ross was at the suggestion of Attorney-General Francis Biddle, and [illegible] that his had been the sole recommendation made by Father Haas in his extensive conference with the President two weeks ago. This information could not be verified.

Father Haas, who said that unknown to him, forces had been at work to have him appointed as Bishop since "last may," added to his statement on Monday concerning gains made by colored workers:

Labor Gains Cited

"There is now one colored worker in every 14, among those who are war workers. There is now one government worker in every 11 employees. There has been an improvement in the appointment of colored persons since 1942—checking July, 1942, with July, 1943, there has been an increase from 5.8 to 7.3.

Pointing out that there was yet a gap between the 10 per cent population ration and the present 7.3 total, the Catholic prelate emphasized the improvement. His parting shot was, "Please do not say that the Catholic church took me out of this job."

FEPC Sets the Stage for Rail Hearings

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

WASHINGTON. (ANP)

Barring an eleventh hour about-face, the Fair Employment Practice Committee will raise the curtain here on its delayed-action hearings into the racial discrimination in the railroad industry on September 15, with repeat performances on the 16 and 17.

Of all the hearings that have been conducted in the two-year existence of the committee, none has succeeded so well in being the "cause celebre" of the masses and at the same time the bane of the top-hat pressure boys as the one now about to take place.

When the average person thinks of a colored railroad worker, his first thought is of the redcap, the sleeping car porter or the waiter who brought him his meals. While these are the primary classifications of colored railway workers, they are not the only ones. As late as 1924 they held at least ten other major jobs.

No Reliable Statistics

Exact figures on the employment of colored rail workers have never been complete or even adequate except possibly the estimate made in 1937 by the Railroad Retirement Board, which claimed that of the 1,957,688 persons engaged in rail transportation, 180,535 were colored.

At one time, before and including World War I, colored workers were in the majority on Southern lines as firemen, switchmen and brakemen. Ninety per cent of the firemen were said to be colored at one time on the Seaboard Air Line, Atlantic Coast Line, Georgia Railroad, Louisville and Nashville, and the Southern Railway.

SEP 4 1943

Switchmen and brakemen were in relatively the same position. In the Florence, S.C., yard of the Atlantic Coast Line, all switching was done by colored men; today there are hardly any. Terminal yards in Houston once had 85 per cent colored switchmen, today there are about 15 per cent.

FEPC ROW MAY GO TO PRESIDENT

Birmingham, Ala

White Electric Workers In Baltimore Plant Out On Strike

DEC 15 1943

Age-Herald

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14—(AP)—A major controversy over the authority of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to order equality of treatment for Negro war workers Tuesday appeared certain to be dumped on President Roosevelt's desk when he returns to the capital.

FEPC orders to end alleged discrimination against Negroes have been challenged by Southern railroads, and others, on the ground that FEPC exceeded its powers.

Meanwhile, members of Congress, the courts and the War Labor Board all were involved in the day's developments as one strike by white workers got under way in a vital war factory.

The War Labor Board, by unanimous action, ordered white strikers at the Point Breeze Western Electric plant in Baltimore to return to work at once or face "all possible action" under the War Labor Board Disputes Act. Point Breeze workers voted to strike Monday night in protest against the use of washroom facilities in common with Negro workers.

The strike was called after WLB refused to order separate facilities. On Oct. 2, FEPC advised the Western Electric Company that "the discontinuance of common facilities for Negro and white employes of the Western Electric Point Breeze plants and the introduction of special facilities would be a backward step which can but lead to discrimination against Negroes."

Rep. Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) praised the FEPC and criticized 16 Southern railroads which defied an FEPC order to cease alleged discrimination against Negro railway workers.

Other developments included:

Rep. Rankin (D., Miss.) declared that FEPC was a "rump organization" which was creating unnecessary racial tensions in the South.

Post
Washington, D. C

Fruit Firm Cleared Of Employment Charge

Charges that the United Fruit Co. had failed to hire qualified Negro maritime officers in New York in [illegible] of Presidential orders were dismissed yesterday after investigation by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

THE FEPC TESTS ITS STRENGTH

This week in Washington, D. C., the President's new Fair Employment Practices committee undergoes its first acid test to prove its worth in the slow process of instilling a democratic philosophy in a democratic nation.

The FEPC, as it is generally known, questions the American railroad on its persistence in discriminating against Negroes, denying them job opportunities and promotion rights, and ignoring their righteous demand for removal of lines of demarkation in its placement policy.

It is a peculiar situation that envelopes the FEPC in Washington this week. It is one of those rare occasions when the trial judge—if it can thus be called—is placed on trial alongside the defendant. It is an herculean task the committee is undertaking, tackling an industrial giant with virtually nothing more than a proverbial pop-gun.

While the old committee failed to live up to expectations, presumably because t did not possess the necessary powers, t is our firm belief the revamped body will fail its purpose, if for no other reason than that it should profit by the mistakes of its predecessor.

Certainly, the Negro people are able to look upon their representatives in the past setup as capable men, equipped with the necessary logic and fortitude and endowed with the admirable quality of knowing when and about what to wage a fight. Neither is imbued with the uncontrolled belligerence which ofttimes appears silly and exasperating.

The rest of the membership, as far as we can determine, possess a maximum of common sense, tolerance and understanding, and a minimum of timidity and shortsightedness.

The nation's capital with the aid of the FEPC, for this week at least, can take its place alongside Aberdeen, Md., where every type of army weapon and mobile unit is put through a rigorous grind to justify its existence in a war-crazed world; alongside Maryland and California, where the Glenn Martin plant and Vultee Aircraft subject each plane intended for war use to seam-ripping, wing-smashing tests to determine its worthiness of a part in freedom's struggle.

The new FEPC enters its baptism of fire this week. It can emerge humiliated and disarmed, or it can come out with colors flying and ready for battle. We hope it is the latter. We believe it will be.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

FEPC PROBES RAILROAD DISCRIMINATION—The long-awaited investigation of discrimination in the railroad industry got under way Wednesday. Bartley C. Crum, chief FEPC counsel, outlined the committee's case. Bartley's statement, forthright and pertinent, defended the committee's investigation of discrimination in the rail industry during the "crises period of our national war effort" with the remark that it was its firm conviction that this issue must be faced during the war. Outlining the objective of the rail probe, Crum stated its sole purpose is to afford "equality of job opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed or color." Crum concluded with the inspiring assertion that "in doing justice to the Negro railroad worker today we shall both serve the practical war needs and eliminate the evil bigotry and discrimination at home and give heart to the peoples of Europe, and Asia. Shown seated around the conference table are: Miss Sara Southall, supervisor of employment and service, International Harvester Company, Chicago; P. B. Young, Sr., publisher, Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide; Samuel Zemurray, president, United Fruit Company, New Orleans, La.; Malcolm Ross, assistant to the chairman; Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman; George Johnson, chief investigator; John Brophy of the Congress of Industrial Organization; Milton P. Webster, international vice-president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Chicago; and Boris Shiskin, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D.C. (Press Photo Service.)

SEP 25 1943

'Closed Door' Hearings For Federal Agencies Is Protested

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—Complaints from private employers that the Government was practicing a form of discrimination in the conduct of its own anti-discrimination drive among federal bureaus, has become a source of worriment to the Fair Employment Practices Committee. The protests have been directed against the FEPC's own procedure, which is believed to have been effected by orders from the White House. It is said that numerous charges of race discrimination against the oGvernment as an employer particularly in Washington offices, are required to be conducted in closed executive session, whereas allegations against private employers are conducted in public.

DISCUSS MATTER

Following a session of the FEPC Monday, Mgr. Francis Haas, chairman of the committee, and George M. Johnson, asistant chairman, discussed the matter with members of the press. They said that complaints had been mounting and that they would carry them to the President and seek his advice on how to deal with the situation.

The matter was brought to the attention of the press with reference to a complaint from Detroit charging one of the governmental agencies there with refusal to upgrade a worker on account of creed. Mr. Johnson, a close questioning revealed that such matters had been handled in this manner since the creation of the old committee.

The members of the committee admitted that such a policy greatly handicapped them in achieving their [illegible].

Protests Hit Warren Ruling Against FEPC

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NOV 6 - 1943

A wave of protests against the ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren, which curtails the power of the FEPC, surged into the White House this week from interracial and labor organizations throughout the country.

A telegram from the New York CIO to President Roosevelt, said:

"Greater New York CIO Council representing 500,000 workers shocked and aroused by decision of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren nullifying your Executive Order 9346 prohibiting discrimination in government contracts. Warren's decision negates drive to recruit all available manpower. This attempt to weaken your anti-discrimination policy will gravely hinder production by eliminating employment of loyal, competent Negro, Jewish, foreign born workers. Inevitable result of this decision aids Hitler propaganda campaign and weakens American morale. Strongly urge you issue statement interpreting 9346 as mandatory in all war contracts and sub-contracts."

The protest of Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, declared:

"The Congress is deeply concerned over the ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren in the Southwestern Bell Telephone case which, if allowed to stand, effectively abrogates the enforcement power of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice. The action of the Comptroller General is another tragic example of appeasing those un-American forces in industry who insist upon placing their prejudices above the war interest of the nation.

"We cannot and must not fail by permitting the Warren ruling to remain unanswered. We call upon you as the President of the nation and the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces to answer this challenge of bigotry and reaction by issuing a clarifying statement on Executive Order 9346."

George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, asked the President to "reaffirm our national policy of fair employment and assure FEPC the authority required to carry it out."

"Under the decision," Marshall pointed out, "any employer who is guilty of discrimination may ignore the Executive Order by pleading that compliance would impair war work. Warren's cynical interpretation places the polices of employers, even though they follow the racist practices of the Nazi foe, above the imperative requirements of the war effort that all Americans, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin be utilized in war production."

The Warren statement was "unfit and prejudiced" by Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., who said in his wire to the White House:

'We respectfully and vigorously urge that you forthwith do whatever is necessary to clarify your intentions expressed in Executive Order 9346." The N.A.A.C.P. telegram further stated, "Recent ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren that your Executive Order is not binding upon war contracts because it is a 'directive' instead of an order virtually nullifies your Executive Order in which you used the explicit statement that 'it is hereby 'ordered.' It would appear to us therefore that such action on the part of a subordinate official is proof of unfitness and prejudice which should be rebuked."

The Negro Labor Victory Committee wired President Roosevelt urging him "to denounce and overrule" the decision of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren relative to Executive Order No. 9346 which has the effect of killing the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The Committee stated that "Warren's decision raises a serious question as to his fitness for "the key office of Comptroller-General.

The wire to President Roosevelt was signed by Charles A. Collins, Executive Secretary of the committee.

Alice Stark, executive secretary of National Council for a Permanent FEPC, declared:

NOV 6 - 1943

"Mr. Warren's statement is an index of the type of postwar reaction which labor and all liberal elements fear. In anticipation of just this kind of threat, a group of concerned individuals established the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. Sens. Wagner and Capper are serving as honorary chairman and William J. Schiefflin is treasurer.

'A week ago representatives of several hundred thousand workers in New York, including such outstanding leaders as David Dubinsky, Samuel Wolchok and A. Philip Randolph met to face the problem and voted unanimously to raise a national fund for this work.

"The objective of the council, which includes the introduction of legislation establishing a permanent FEPC, is a definitive answer to such attempts as this one by Mr. Warren to abort the developing democratic forces which till now have been a New Deal bulwark on the basis of phraseology."

FEPC Acts on Capital Transit, Railway Cases

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Haas Says CTC Has Moved to Comply with F.D.'s Order

SEP 4 1943

WASHINGTON

The southern railroad hearings involving alleged discrimination toward colored firemen and engineers, the Capital Transit Company's employment policies, and the shipbuilding industries' jimcrow auxiliary unions were the principal cases considered by the FEPC at its Saturday meeting.

street-car conductors and bus operators, Father Haas said:

Mum on CTC Action

"Steps are being taken by the company which satisfy the committee that progress is being made toward compliance with the terms of the Executive Order. Both the company and the union have stated that they are not opposed to the hiring and upgrading of colored workers.

"The committee does not feel that it would serve any useful purpose at present to disclose the nature of these preliminary steps."

Three-Day R.R. Hearings

Hearings in the Southern railway discrimination cases were extended an additional day, to include September 16, 17 and 18, "upon recommendation and request of counsel"; and the committee announced that notices to the railroads and to the unions will be ready next week.

Father Haas said that no date has been set for the hearing which will be held to consider the several complaints of discrimination "by management and the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, through the use of auxiliary organizations."

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16 Railroads Defy FEPC's Racial Order

Washington, D. C.
Post

By James F. King

Sixteen Southern railroads yesterday defied the Federal agency established by President Roosevelt to prevent discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups in war jobs and, as if to seek support, sent letters to Congressmen explaining their side of the controversy.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice promptly replied that the railroads were dodging the real issue and, unmoved by the carriers' response, demanded that the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers end alleged discrimination against Negro shipbuilders on the West Coast.

Orders Reinstatement

In addition, the President's Committee directed five West Coast shipbuilding companies to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues to boilermaker auxiliary unions. It also told the companies "to cease discharging or refusing to hire Negroes solely because they had failed to obtain clearance from the union."

Striking at the committee's legal foundations, the railroads said they would not obey the FEPC's order of November 24 because the committee "is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue the directives."

In their letter to members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the railroads said "the Committee on Fair Employment Practice was created by Executive Order 9346, which purported to give the committee power to hold hearings and make findings, but contained no provision empowering that committee to issue any directives."

Allegations Ignored

FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross ignored the railroads' accusations of illegality and declared the primary issue in this dispute is the employment of Negroes as firemen. He said that hearings before the FEPC in Washington in September had been ignored by the seven railway labor unions affected and had been given only "perfunctory" recognition by the carriers.

The railroads' letter, Ross continued, "now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue is dormant and could remain s oif the railroads offer justice to Negr orailroadmen in the classifications where reason and policy both urge it."

War Service Praise

"The railroads today are giving extraordinarily fine service to wartime America," Ross added. "The FEPC believes that the granting of overdue rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a couse for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service and raise the morale of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning this war quickly."

The FEPC acvtion in the shipyards case followed hearings last month on complaints that several hundred Negroes had been fired for refusing to pay dues to auxiliaries of the bailermakers' uunion, which according to the complaints took their money, but barred them from full membership.

The companies, all of whom were represented at the November hearings, although the union representatives failed to put in an appearance, contended that they were bound by a "master agreement" with the union by which all workers under the boilermakers' jurisdiction must becomeand remain members of the union.

DEC 14 1943

FEPC Is Praised For 'Thorough Job' At Hearing

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Walter White In Letter Commends Father Haas

WASHINGTON, D. C. (SNS)—the discrimination against Negro Commendation for having conducted the railroad hearings involving employment "on so high a plane" was expressed by Father Francis Haas, Fair Employment Practice Committee chairman, by Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, in a letter which cited the effective work of the entire Committee staff and particularly that of Barclay Crum, Sepcial Counsel, actively in charge of the hearings.

Mr. White's letter expressed the opinion that the Committee's thorough job . . . . . will have very far reaching effect not only in the matter of the employment of Negroes and other minorities on railroads but other industries as well. Vigorous follow up on the hearings, which we are confident will take place, will greatly help to make FEPC the effeceive force for justice in employment which all of us want it to be."

Also contained in the letter were suggestions that:

1. Discriminatory labor union be barred as collective bargaining agents.

2. FEPC recommend to the President the creation of a non-partisian body to replace the National Railroad Adjustment Board to hear complaints of railroad workers.

3. Railroads be directed not only to change their biased hiring policies but that they be required to submit to FEPC a report of their personnel practices with respect to Negroes and other minority groups at stated intervals.

SEP 28 1943

Ask Removal In Resolution Adopted Monday

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

'Mixed Races' In Same Office Is Opposed

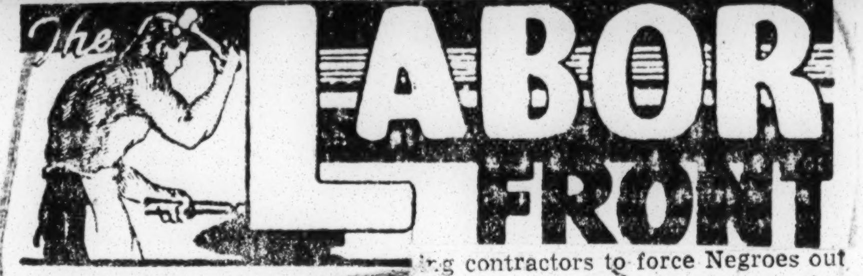
Deploring the prospect of "mixed employment of the races" in one or more Atlanta office buildings, City Council Monday afternoon adopted a resolution calling upon Georgia congressional representatives at Washington "to insist upon the removal of the newly established Southeastern Regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, located in Ten Forsyth Street Building.

The Atlanta office was set up here nearly two weeks ago to investigate and correct grievances arising out of discriminatory employment practice based upon race, color, creed or national origin, having jurisdiction over war industries, labor unions, government departments and agencies in the states of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee.

The "race situation," said the resolution, "can best be handled by local people. The activities of this committee in other parts of the South and particularly in Alabama, have resulted in building up racial animosities."

Adopted and signed by some 11 members of Council, the resolution had not reached the Mayor's desk for action late Tuesday. Attaches of the Mayor's office stated that it will probably reach the Mayor on Wednesday or Thursday for action.

DEC 8 1943



LABOR FRONT

By GEORGE F. McCRAY

Pro-Negro Decisions

THE DECISION of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the fight of Negro workers to reject Jim Crow unionism without loss of collective bargaining rights is our latest victory in the long fight to make equality of opportunity a reality in the United States.

This decision puts an end to a long standing abuse of power by many of our trade unions who seem to be more interested in suppressing the Negro worker than in winning the war. This condemnation of certain restrictive practices among some unions is no more far-reaching, however, than the decision of the War Labor Board, which a few weeks ago, ordered that Negro workers be compensated on the same basis as white workers.

This equal-pay decision could amount to a little revolution in race relations. The South has long insisted upon the exploitative privilege of paying Negroes less than white men for equal work. Often this practice was concealed by placing the white man in charge of the job or by calling the work he was doing by another name even though the actual job was identical to that performed by his Negro companion.

This wage differentian between white and Negro workers was of course, sanctioned by custom and tradition. However, many unions have led successful fights against the evil. But they nor the late General Hugh S. Johnson with all the power of the NRA were able to break down this discrimination against Negroes on a wide front. Now it seems that the unions, backed by governmental policy will eventually be able to stop this systematic robbing of the Negro worker.

FEPC And Closed Shops

IN THE GREAT LAKES discrimination cases, heard in Chicago in April of 1942, on complaint of Negro plumbers and steamfitters, the Fair Employment Practices committee also rendered a historic decision. A few AFL building trades unions had used closed shop contracts with practicall all building contractors to force Negroes out of certain types of construction work entirely. This exclusion had been particularly effective in the case of Negro plumbers and steamfitters. Not even the strenuous efforts of AFL regional organizers were able to move these discriminating unions. Once Mr. William Green himself took a hand, but found opposition strong.

FEPC, just beginning to feel the sting of public criticism, and openly torn by internal conflicts, summoned enough strength, courage, or foresight, to state that closed contracts held by lily white must not prevent Negroes from working in defense employment on the same basis as other men. In substance the FEPC contended Executive Order 8802 was superior to a discriminatory union contract.

The decision was never effectively enforced, but there it stood for all to see. It was up to the President to enforce it. Some discriminatory unions struggled against the decision and openly violated it; a few gave Negroes permits to work,

AUG 21 1943

WLB Ignored FEPC In Transit Case

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 21 1943

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—A joint request by the Capital Transit company and the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric and Motor Coach Employees, AFL, for approval of certain working conditions which affect wage rates, was granted by the National War Labor Board by a 5-4 vote last week, but the board unanimously deferred action on a request of the company and union for a five cents an hour general wage increase.

The dissenting minority—consisting of public members, Wayne L. Morse and Frank P. Graham, and labor members, John Brophy and Carl Shipley—stated that its disagreement with granting, at this time, the requested wage increase is not based on any lack of intrinsic merit in the agreement, "but because we believe that action by the board on the entire matter should have been deferred, as requested by the Fair Employment Practices committee, pending a determination of the relation between the proposed adjustment and the charge that the Capital Transit company is practicing discrimination in employment.

The race discriminatory charges against the Capital Transit company were preferred by militant Negro and white organizations and leaders, including lobbyists of the Alpha Kappa sorority.

47d-1943

FEPC Rail Decision Great War Victory

DEC 2 1943

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By James W. Ford

The verdict of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) gives an answer to a long-standing uncertainty which has faced the Negro people. Twenty-two railroads were found guilty of racial discrimination in their employment practices.

When President Roosevelt took power in 1932 the Negro people faced two roads. Some people thought that the crisis they faced was too great to be overcome under the present system of government. Others on the contrary thought that it was possible to approximate solution of grievances of racial discrimination in capitalist society. The FEPC hearing and its final decision has given an affirmative answer in favor of the latter viewpoint.

James W. Ford

If the decision on discrimination in the railroad industry is considered in the light of the economic and social crisis that has faced the Negro people and, now, in the light of the present war, no other conclusion can be drawn than that a radical change in governmental policy under the Administration of President Roosevelt assures equal citizenship rights for the Negro people.

The FEPC decision [illegible] a definite turn[illegible] from the Jim Crow status of Negro workers in the railroad industry. The policy of Southern feudalism was repudiated. The common interests of Negro and white labor unity was sustained. All of this adds up to the fact that the anti-discriminatiory policy of the government is advancing the democratic way of life for the entire Negro people.

Thus a new era has opened up in the relations of the Negro people and the nation. A condition has been created whereby their full integration in American life can be achieved. There is no doubt that the Negro people will fully agree that their advancing position rests on a solid foundation.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

The pattern for the FEPC decision was the President's Executive Order 8802 announced in 1941. Next in line now for wiping out are other discriminatory practices particularly in the armed forces. The FEPC decisions show that these will be tackled and can be eliminated. Thus in the course of this great liberation war the alliance between the Negro people and the democratic win-the-war forces has been set on a firm foundation.

The policies of the government and the position of labor were outlined as follows:

1—The government representative opened the hearing by declaring:

That the policy of the United States is to encourage full participation in the war effort of all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin in the belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders.

That doing justice to the Negro railroad worker today, shall both serve the practical war needs of our nation, and by the same stroke, eliminate the evil of discrimination at home, and give heart to the peoples of Europe and Asia who look to us to see how well the pattern of democracy can be woven.

2—The representative of labor, Frederick Myers, vice-president of the National Maritime Union, declared:

"We have a record in our industry of no vessels missing, or convoy, because of any disagreement between members of crews on the question of color. Convoy movements are accelerated because of our no-discrimination policy.

Against these democratic declarations was the policy of the representative of the Southern Railroad:

"The solution will not be advanced but, rather, will be retarded by too abrupt an attempt to change, by governmental decree, longstanding practices, rooted in the customs of the people. . . ."

This policy was repudiated.

We must now use this victory as a great opportunity to hasten the complete elimination of Jim Crow and racial discrimination in industry, in the armed forces, in all phases of our American life. A heavy responsibility rests upon the organized labor movement and all departments of government to see to it that the enemy's poison is wiped out, that the basis for fifth column provocations is undermined. The war has entered a stage where that is entirely possible. It is achievable because of the agreements of the Moscow conference in which our country has joined with the Soviet Union, Great Britain and China to hasten the shortening of the war and to bring about freedom and liberty to all peoples.

FEPC

Local Cites Firm's Anti-Negro Policies

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

By Tom Dombrowski

(Special to the Daily Worker)

AUG 25 1943

DETROIT, Aug. 24.—In a brief filed with Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, Ford Local 600, CIO, charges violation of the letter and spirit of Presidential Order 8802 in six different respects by the Ford Motor Company.

"The present policy of refusal to place Negro applicant is in fact a contributing factor to the 'racial tenseness' of which the Ford management is apprehensive," asserts the document. It further charged that the company "is pursuing a policy deliberately aimed at denying jobs to hundreds upon hundreds of Negro workers, a large number of them trained at skills sorely needed in war production in the Rouge plant."

The company is accused of aggravating the already serious housing, transportation, food and wartime living situation by hiring migrant labor for which it advertises in Kentucky and Tennessee while discriminating against the Negroes already resident in Detroit.

The statement also repudiates the fear expressed that "racial tension" will be aggravated through the hiring of additional Negroes by showing that during the June 20-21 anti-Negro riots, not one case of violence occurred in the Ford plant. The present attitude of the company completely exposes the fiction created by the Ford Motor Company over the year before the plant was unionized that it hired Negroes because it was a "friend of the Negro people." The real aim was to use the Negro employes against unions and to keep the workers divided among themselves. The Ford drive saw the Negroes in the first ranks of the union, working with the white workers.

The brief charges specifically that the Ford Motor Company:

SIX POINTS

1. Has consistently refused, since April 1, to hire Negro applicants through regular employment channels.

2. Those who do get jobs after long delays only get them after being subjected to the investigations of the notorious "Sociological Department," which pries into the private lives of Negroes but asks only routine questions of other applicants.

3. In many cases Negroe are permitted to fill out application blanks and then told that "they will be sent for," while white applicants of similar skill are being hired at the same moment. There are also cases where Negro applicants have been urged to get jobs elsewhere pending openings at Ford's, which is in direct contravention of the rules of the U. S. Employment Service.

4. The company has repeatedly refused to honor an agreement with the union providing for job preference for the wives, sisters and daughters of Ford workers called to military service, when these women have been kin of Negroes.

5. The company attempts to justify its present policy by citing Negro employment ratio of 19 per cent, but has failed to point out that induction of Negroes, and the rapid hiring of whites, has steadily reduced that ratio.

6. The company further justifies its present policy on the ground that "The tenseness of the present racial situation" makes this policy necessary.

VA. RAILWAY FORGETS BIAS

SEP 18 1943

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—The twice-postponed railroad hearings, conducted by President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practice committee, had a public opening yesterday (Wednesday) with Monsignor Francis J. Haas, FEPC chairman, in charge. The sessions last through Saturday.

First major devolopment in the scheduled hearing came several days before the actual opening date, September 15, when the FEPC withdrew complaints against the Virginian Railway company and removed its name from a list of 23 railroad companies summoned to appear at the public hearings here.

SATISFACTORY ADJUSTMENT REPORTED

The FEPC's action followed receipt of official notification from the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen, Inc., representing the complainants, that satisfactory adjustment had been reached with the Virginian Railway company through the offices of the National Mediation board, Monday, Steptember 6. The complaints had originally been filed in June, 1942, with the FEPC, 46 workers of the association charging, at that time, that the Virginian Railway company maintained unfair differentials in wages and working conditions among Negro and white workers at its Sewall Point Coal Piers, Norfolk, Va. Negroes were classified as car riders, performed brakemen's work, but were not given a standard rate of pay nor granted overtime pay until after 10 hours a day, the complaints charged, but white workers who did the same work, it was pointed out, received a standard rate of pay higher than that for Negroes and, further, received overtime pay for all work over eight hours a day.

Axis Broadcasts Tell Of Treatment Accorded Negroes

SEP 18 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Revelation Made By Witness Before FEPC Hearing In Washington; CIO Witness Says Antagonism Disappearing

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Axis broadcasts directed at South America, where there is a large Negro population, Africa and the Far East is making capital of of the treatment accorded black American citizens, it was testified here Friday by Clyde R. Miller, co-founder of the Institute of Propaganda Analysis, appearing as a government witness before the railroad hearing being conducted here by the President's Committee on Fair Employment.

The broadcasts, Miller said, are "immediately effective and dangerous to our all out war effort."

Expected to support Miller's contention when they appear as government witnesses are Otto Tolifcus, New York Tokyo correspondent for a long number of years and William L. Shirer, Columbia Broadcasting System's radio news analysist in Europe. Both experts were slated to testify Saturday morning.

How racial antagonism between Southern white seamen and Negro sailors has disappeared at sea "because torpedoes aren't marked 'for white only' was told the committee Thursday by Frederick N. Myers, vice president of the National Maritime Union, CIO, called as a rebuttal witness to the opening statement of Sidney Alderman, counsel for the Southern Railway and spokesman for the 22 carriers involved in the hearing.

Alderman in his opening argument had pleaded that to decree changes in the present labor customes of the South would disrupt vital war rail services, cause racial friction and endanger lives of the Negro workers.

Myers, who was called to the stand by Bartley C. Crum, FEPC chief counsel, testified that the Martime Union had never recognized the principle of segregating white and colored seamen. Negroes and white seamen work together at the same tasks, are paid alike, eat at the same table and live in the same forecastle, he said.

SEP 16 1943

"We have had no race trouble," Myers told the FEPC members. "White seamen board ships at Southern ports, and accept and are accepted by their Negro shipmates without rancor of friction. The flow of vital war goods has been expedited, rather than slowed by abolition of segregation at sea," he concluded.

Peak Case Load Is Reached By FEPC Committee

NOV 30 1943

Daily World

1,713 on File November 1st, Chairman Reveals

NOV 30 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — Although 232 cases of alleged employment discrimination were closed during the month of October, 1943, the active case load of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice reached a peak figure of 1,713 cases on November 1, Malcolm Ross, Chairman, announced Saturday.

NOV 30 1943

Of the 232 cases closed in October, 62 cases, or 28 percent, were adjusted satisfactorily, Mr. Ross reported. Thirty-one per cent of the cases were dismissed on merits, 25 percent for insufficient evidence, 6 percent for lack of jurisdiction, and 10 percent of the cases were withdrawn by the complainants.

NOV 30 1943

Mr. Ross said there had been a 30 percent increase in the active case load since September 1, 1943, and credited this rise to the establishment of various regional offices of the Committee. Prior to this reorganization, all of the Committee's cases were processed by a small staff in the national FEPC office in Washington, D. C. Nine regional and two sub-regional offices are now functioning in New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Atlanta, Kansas City, Dallas, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

NOV 30 1943

The Fifth Region, embracing Cleveland and Detroit, had the largest case load—366 active cases on November 1, Mr. Ross declared. The Third Region (Philadelphia) was next with 317 cases, while the Sixth Region (Chicago) was third with 220 cases. The New York office listed 136 cases; Atlanta, 126; Kansas City, 95; and Dallas, 76. Approximately 25 percent of the 1,713 cases listed on November 1 had been pending for more than six months, the Chairman stated.

NOV 30

Cases are not docketed by the FEPC unless acomplaint alleges discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Retiring Head Of FEPC Make Plea For Negro In Unions

BOSTON, Oct. 14 (ANP)—Addressing the 63rd annual convention of the AFL, Msgr. Francis J. Hass, resigning head of the FEPC, pleaded with delegates to grant Negroes full, union status along with other minority groups. The Catholic priest, who was recently named bishop of the archidocese at Grand Rapids Mich., issued this warning:

"Just as there once existed unhealthy agreements between antilabor employers and anti-labor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members. Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group. Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist, he wants his full stature as an American working man, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt."

"Would you have it otherwise?" asked Msgr. Hass. "Would you have the spirit that founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one 10th of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?"

OCT 15 1943

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11 Railroads, 4 Unions Get Specific FEPC Orders

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Others Covered by Blanket Order to End Bias; Pennsy and N.Y. Central Agree to Change Policy

DEC 4 - 1943

WASHINGTON

A blanket provision ordering twenty-three railroads and fourteen unions to adjust their employment policies and practices so that all needed workers shall be hired, promoted, upgraded, and all job assignments made without regard to race, creed, color or national origin, was officially issued by the FEPC Saturday.

The AFRO announced the FEPC order in last week's editions. The official order consumes some 163 pages.

Eleven companies and four unions were cited specifically for instances in which they had with wilful intent discriminated against colored workers, reducing the number hired, refusing to promote them or upgrade them.

Specific Citations

Specific and general citations made, all involving colored employees, were as follows:

GULF MOBILE AND OHIO RAILROAD

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

Corporal Spends 14-Day Furlough with Relatives

DEC 4 - 1943

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Directed to put helpers on Diesel locomotives, firemen on stoker fired engines, permit brakemen to be promoted to flagmen, conductors, or be employed on work trains, and become baggagemen or yard conductors.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Directed specifically to promote to flagmen and baggagemen.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF BOILERMAKERS, IRON SHIPBUILDERS AND HELPERS OF AMERICA

Cited for both Mexican and colored workers, directed specifically to employ mechanics, or helpers in various mechanical crafts.

SEABOARD AIRLINE

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Ordered to promote to flagmen and baggagemen, with directives "hereby made applicable to the Receivers of the line with the same force and effect as though the said findings had been formally addressed to the said Receivers."

Ask Promotion of Firemen

NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILWAY

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

To promote or hire firemen, trainmen, yard brakemen, senior brakemen, and car retarder operators.

MISSOURI - KANSAS - TEXAS RAILROAD OF TEXAS

Promotion of colored waiters-in-charge to dining car stewards.

LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Promotion or hiring of flagmen and baggagemen.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD, OPERATING THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD SYSTEM, INCLUDING YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY, GULF AND SHIP ISLAND RAILROAD COMPANY

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Observance of equal seniority rights, promotion to locomotive firemen, firemen, trainmen, and switchmen.

May Hire Conductors

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO RAILWAY

Promotion to or hiring of machinists's helpers, and boilermakers' helpers.

CENTRAL OF GEORGIA RAILWAY

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Promotion or hiring to locomotive firemen, flagmen, baggagemen, conductors, and yard conductors.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN

Promotion to or hiring of flagmen, baggagemen, helpers on Diesel engines.

Others Get General Order

Additional companies and labor organizations receiving only the blanket provision to cease discrimination entirely toward workers were:

Atlanta Joint Terminals, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Norfolk Southern Railroad, St. Louis-San Francisco Railway, Chicago and Northwestern Railway, International Association of Machinists, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen,

St. Louis-San Francisco Railway, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Order of Railway Conductors, Jacksonville Terminal, Georgia Railroad, Norfolk Railway, Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal Railroad, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, and the Baltimore and Ohio.

Most frequently cited unions in the FEPC findings and summaries were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Agree to Change Policy

Already agreeing to corrections were the Pennsylvania and New York Central Railroads, whose citations were held in abeyance by the committee, pending actions taken during conferences held last week and to be held in the future.

The Railroad Retirement Board was included in almost every summary, without exception, and all companies and unions are required to report to the FEPC within thirty days what steps have been taken to comply with the directives.

These organizations are also required to give formal notice to employment agencies, public or private, including the Railroad Retirement Board, through which the companies recruit workers or trainees that will accept needed workers in all classifications without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin.

DEC 4 - 1943

P. B. Young to Quit as FEPC Member

OCT 16 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

WASHINGTON.—P. B. Young, Norfolk publisher, one of two colored members of the FEPC, will resign his post within the next thirty days.

He is being urged to stay until a new chairman is selected to succeed Bishop Francis J. Haas, who was recently elected to the Catholic episcopacy of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

OCT 16 1943

Mr. Young, who is resting at home this week, said that directing his newspaper, the Norfolk Journal and Guide, together with a number of other public activities had overtaxed his strength.

OCT 16

Chairman of Board

He is chairman of the Board of Trustees at Howard University; meets with the finance and executive and other committees there; is a trustee of Hampton, which has been busy this summer selecting a president; is a member of the local draft board, and a member of the advisory committee of the Council of National Defense.

Full Time Job

Membership on the FEPC, Mr. Young said, is a full time job. Hearings are held in an atmosphere of controversy and there are pressures from all directions. There have been frequent meet-

47d-1943

FEPC

Father Haas' Labor Day Message

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEPC Head Urges Neighborliness Toward Minority Group Works

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — In a message to all American labor, released this week, Father Francis J. Haas, chairman of FEPC, urged the Labor movement to take responsibility of "developing — in ever-increasing strength — the spirit of neighborliness toward minority group workers."

"We are all workers. We must all be neighbors, working together for victory," he said.

"Out of such a spirit will come increased prestige for labor itself," he declared. "Through complete recognition of the elemental rights of all workers, the Labor movement can and will attain that status as a democratic brotherhood of man, a united movement of the millions of workers pledged to the sacred principles on which this great nation was founded."

The statement paid tribute to "American Labor . . . for holding off the Axis gangsters," and declared that FEPC "has accepted the responsibility to bring about the fullest utilization of all workers in the war effort and to assure every worker to make his fullest contribution thereto." It urged the Labor movement to share this responsibility.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

FEPC SHOWS UP VICIOUS PRACTICE

DEC 2 - 1943

Up until a few years ago, practically all firemen on southern railroads were Negroes. Some were used as brakemen and flagmen. This was considered the dirty work. But as wages increased in these lines and the southern white laborer began to see that Negroes were holding jobs they wanted for themselves, they decided to eliminate them from the service with the consent and approbation of the Railway Labor board. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen so manipulated things that that union became the bargaining agency for all employees in that service and instituted a closed shop. They further manipulated a contract providing that Negroes could not become engineers and followed this up with a further provision that no fireman should be hired whom the contract said could not be promoted to an engineer.

As a result of this trickery and chancenery the number of Negro firemen has become almost extinct.

Recently, the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee held a hearing to which was summoned the southern railroads and the unions. The testimony at the hearing fully substantiated the charges. And upon this evidence the committee found that the agreement is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of whites in those positions. The agreement seeks to accomplish this, through setting definite percentages for white and Negro firemen; through limiting firemen's jobs to "promotable men," and then by excluding all Negro workers from promotion.

The committee told the unions and the railroads to "adjust the employment policy and practices so that all needed workers shall be hired and all company employees shall be promoted or upgraded without regard to race, creed, color or national origin,' as set forth in Executive Order 9346.

Regarding the southeastern agreement, the FEPC directed "that any agreement entered into between the railroads and the brotherhood, in lieu of the denounced one, "shall contain no provisions or terms discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color or national origin."

The committee could find no justification in the argument of the carriers that public resentment would prohibit advancement of Negroes in certain jobs, or their hire for that matter.

Of course, all of these things have been publizised by the Negro Press for years; they have been denounced by the NAACP and other organizations with little notice because the unions and the railway companies have been sufficiently influential to prevent it.

Now that this double cross by the unions, railway companies and the Railway Labor Board has been fully exposed by the FEPC, it is hoped that the practice ceases and that the proper authorities keep watch to see that the order is complied with.

FEPC Probes Into Maritime Industry Bias

Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

DEC 31 1943

NEW YORK, Dec. 27—The National Maritime Union today hailed the newly launched investigation by the FEPC into charges of Negro discrimination in the maritime industry.

The Union expressed its views in a letter to Malcolm Ross, FEPC Director, sent by Ferdinand C. Smith, National Secretary of the NMU, who has just returned from a five-week speaking tour of the West Coast in the interests of promoting greater racial unity. Smith conferred with Mayors Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles, John Slavich of Oakland, Calif. and William Devlin of Seattle, Wash. All of them, he reported, agreed there is greater need for inter-racial unity and discussed with him at length plans to combat racial discrimination.

Smith's letter to Ross emphasized that the racial policy adopted by the NMU at its inception is a vital factor in the unity prevailing among merchant seamen on NMU ships. "This policy, he pointed out, enables us to maintain the bridge of ships delivering the men and material to all the fighting fronts."

The letter also expressed the hope of the NMU that all sections of the maritime industry, both ship owner and union, "will recognize that the greatest contribution to be made by all the defense of our country and for the speedy winning of the war depends upon a correct approach to the basic problem of Negro discrimination. This means making the fullest use of all available manpower, regardless of race color or creed."

Mr. Smith also stated that he hoped that the FEPC will call to account the railroad operators who have refused to carry out the recent FEPC order barring anti-Negro bias in employment practices.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

FEPC Probes Discrimination Of Seamen

Expects to Uncover Rank Jim Crow Tactics of Ship Operators, Owners and Agents

An extensive investigation of discriminatory employment practices in the maritime industry was launched this week by the New York Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC), according to Edward Lawson, FEPC regional director.

The investigation will cover alleged failure of ship operators, ship owners, shipping agents, and the maritime unions to permit the free employment of qualified Negro seamen and officers on vessels carrying goods to the nation's armed forces and its allies.

The New York Regional Office already has received numerous complaints from Negro seamen who have either been refused employment outright or have been accepted only for certain departments. It has also received complaints from a number of Negro trainees of the Maritime Graduate Stations and from qualified Negro licensed officers.

In the FEPC's drive to eliminate the industry's long-standing discrimination against Negro deck hands, engine room workers, and licensed officers, and against mixed crews, the Atlantic coast regional office of the recruitment and manning division, War Shipping Administration, has agreed to cooperate, Mr. Lawson announced. Discrimination is a problem on American-owned vessels whether operated under the American flag or the flags of Pan-American nations.

ROSS NEW FEPC HEAD

OCT 23 1943

F-L-A-S-H

WASHINGTON, D. C.—George M. Johnson was named deputy administrator of FEPC by Malcolm Ross, newly-appointed administrator. Johnson was formerly assistant administrator of the fair employment agency, and now moves to second in command.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON — As announced in The Pittsburgh Courier last week, Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman of the FEPC, is now chairman, succeeding Monsignor Francis J. Haas, resigned to become bishop of Grand Rapids. Formal announcement of Ross' appointment came at the White House last Friday when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt made public an exchange of letters between himself and Father Haas and a letter written by Mr. Roosevelt to the remaining membership of the committee.

In his letter to Haas, the President said: "The increasing usefulness of the FEPC, as reorganized under your direction, has been a source of great satisfaction to me and I am sure, to all thoughtful people who know the importance and difficulty of its work. You have served your nation well in helping to remove the barriers which hold back not only people as individuals but our full power as a people."

WORK TO CONTINUE WITHOUT DELAY

Continuing, President Roosevelt declared: "I know you will be glad to learn that I am naming Malcolm Ross, your deputy chairman, as your successor. I am as anxious as you are that there be not the slightest delay in the work of the committee and also that the work begun by you may be continued by Mr. Ross, who has worked at your side."

In his letter to members of the committee, expressing regret at the resignation of Chairman Haas, the President told the committee: "There are many difficulties before us. I feel satisfied, however, that in you the country has a committee upon which it can depend for wise and determined dealings with this problem which is essential to the fulfillment of the promises of our democracy."

Urge President To Take Over Southern RR's

New York, N. Y.
Daily Worker

President Roosevelt, under his wartime powers, ought to take over and operate the 16 "Wall St. owned" Southern railroads and terminals which, last Monday, insisted on their "right" to continue to discriminate against Negroes and other minorities in defiance of a mandate by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

That was the substance of statements made yesterday by Charles A. Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, and Edward Strong, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, on the Southern railroads.

Mr. Collins' statement in the form of a letter to the President, said:

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee feels that this situation has reached the point where a decision has to be made one way or another. We urge you as President of the United States to use your war powers to repudiate and condemn these un-American employers and to issue a final warning to them that these railroads will be taken over and operated by the government if they persist in their refusal to abide by your mandate."

Mr. Strong, for the National Negro Congress, proposed to people's and progressive labor organizations:

"1. Support of the President in all measures that may be taken by him in this matter, including immediate seizure and operation by the government of the 16 railroads defying the FEPC.

FEPC

"2. Immediate support for the campaign to bring the Marcantonio bill for a permanent FEPC upon the floor of the House.

"3. Supporting letters and telegrams by persons and organizations to President Roosevelt and to Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC."

FEPC NAMES NEW MEMBERS; DICKERSON OUT: CRAMER QUITS

Call
Kansas City, Mo

JUL 4 1943

WASHINGTON—The long awaited appointment of the Fair Employment Practice committee, created by President Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 9346 (replacing 8802) has been made, it was learned this week, and Chicago's Earl B. Dickerson, one of the old FEPC's most militant members has been replaced.

Other members, with the exception of Lawrence Cramer, who started out in 1941 as the committee's executive secretary, are the same. Cramer resigned to accept a post in the army. He has been replaced by Malcolm Ross, former member of the staff of the Office of War Information.

Dickerson has been replaced by P. B. Young, conservative publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide. Hold-overs from the original FEPC set-up are Boris Shishkin of the AFL, John Brophy of the CIO and Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Its roster also includes Mrs. Sarah Southall, formerly with International Harvester and now on the War Manpower Commision and a Mr. Z'muray of the United Fruit Growers in New Orleans.

Although the naming of the new committee is not yet official, it is expected that an official announcement will be made shortly, as much criticism has been leveled at the committee because of its inactivity since President Roosevelt named Father Francis Haas as chairman.

Father Haas, apparently cognizant of the widespread dissatisfaction being expressed in many circles because the committee's hearing of several job discrimination cases have been postponed pending appointment of a new FEPC committee, announced that he was leaving this week for Detroit.

JUL 4 1943

He asserted he personally would investigate complaints against some six corporations charged with refusing to abide by the President's new executive order 9346.

If these corporations continue in their refusal to outlaw discrimination, Father Haas stated, hearings will open the week of July 28 or earlier if possible.

It was also revealed that FEPC plans to set up 12 regional offices in the 12 districts now laid out by the War Manpower Commission.

Southern Railroads Defy FEPC; Say Committee Is Without Legal Authority To Issue Any Orders

Age
New York, N. Y.

47d

DEC 18 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sixteen Southern railways, on Monday, told the FEPC that they would not obey directives of the President's Committee to cease discrimination against Negro employees, as they had been ordered on November 24th following public hearings held here in September.

In a joint letter, the 16 railways, under fire for practices which cut down employment of Negroes as firemen and prevented the upgrading of Negroes, declared that compliance was impracticable, "and indeed impossible,' 'and stated that they did not intend to obey the FEPC which they called "wholly without constitution and legal jurisdiction and power to issue any directives, and for this reason, the said directives are without legal effect."

"It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible," the joint letter of the railways said," for these railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them. Any attempt on their part to comply with those directives, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and cooperative relations with their employees, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present condition of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country."

"Manifestly," the letter continued, "such findings and directives are wholly lacking in due process of law, and for that reason are without legal effect. And, [illegible], with great respect, the undersigned railroads submit that your committee was and is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to make and issue the directives which it made and issued, and for this reason, the said directives are without legal effect."

Ross Speaks Out

DEC 18 1943

In reply to the railroads, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, declared that the railroads by their letter, make "a public bid for disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

"The Southeastern Carriers Conference agreemnt, which the committee found in violation of Executive Order 9,346, was concerned with the hiring and use of Negroes as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers. The railroads now advance obligations under the Railway Labor Act as barriers to changing the discriminatory Southern Carriers' Conference Agreement.

"There is no conflict of jurisdiction here. The agreement was reached with the Brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded.

"In asking both parties to make this move, the FEPC is not suggesting anything which cannot be done in conformity with the Railway Labor Act and the procedures adopted by the National Mediation Board. There are extremely serious Negro problems on American railroads. The FEPC did not invent them. It tried, honestly and with the war need for railroad workers in mind, to find out what is wrong and to direct remedial action."

"The FEPC," Mr. Ross continued, "is an American committee, trying to help fight an American war. Its duty is to prevent discrimination against any worker, whatever his or her race, creed, or nationality, who would be an acceptable war worker were it not for preconceived prejudice. We may not be able to wipe out discrimination over night, but where war manpower needs are at stake, we can and shall try.

DEC 18 1943

"...The FEPC believes that the granting of overdue rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning the war quickly."

While no statement was made as to what future action would be taken, it was predicted that the FEPC will turn the case over to the President for enforcement of its orders. The committee itself has no police powers, but the President can take away war contracts of companies which discriminate.

Kaiser Denies Discrimination In Shipyards Under His Control

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOV 27 1943

Testifying at public hearings in Portland, Oregon, Edgar F. Kaiser, general manager of the Henry J. Kaiser shipyard interests in the Portland-Vancouver area, told the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee on November 16, that the employment policy in shipyards under his control is not and has never been discriminatory in violation of the President's Executive Orders.

Following Kaiser's appearance on the stand and making the last speech of the public hearings. Attorney Charles Robison, representing Local 72 of the Boilermakers Union and also Tom Ray, secretary of Local 72, stated for the record that Ray is in full accord with the Presidential Orders and that any discrimination traceable to operation of the union must be blamed solely on the International organization.

The two-day hearings drew an average attendance of nearly 300 persons of both races, including numerous shipyard workers. The opening speeches of counsel were broadcast.

The hearings originated from complaints filed with the committee over a period of almost a year alleging refusal to hire Negroes in certain skills, threats of discharge and firings because of a union agreement which operated, it was alleged, in a manner discriminatory to Negro workers because of race.

Involved in the complaints were the Kaiser Company, Inc., the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation (in which Kaiser holds an interest); the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, AFL, Subordinate Lodges [illegible] and 401 and Auxiliary Lodge 32-A of the Boilermakers' Union.

47d-1943

Fight for FEPC

DEC 19 1943

New York, N. Y.

Daily Worker

47d

WHEN 16 Southern railroads defied the order of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to stop discriminating against Negro workers, they revealed that the fight for the President's order prohibiting discrimination in industry is now entering its crucial stage.

For more than a year, the powerful political forces of the Southern reaction, abetted by Republican reaction, managed to keep the execution of the Order largely in check. Now that the FEPC has broken through, they have thrown down the gauntlet of battle. They are challenging the Order in the courts, and they are trotting out the notorious Smith Investigating Committee of the House.

Involved in this struggle is execution of basic war policy. The FEPC demonstrated, with facts that cannot be contravened, that refusal of these railroads to upgrade Negro workers is responsible for a severe shortage of qualified manpower that is hampering vital transportation. The railroads' refusal to take the prescribed steps to correct this condition is, in effect, sabotage.

Just as they have refused to budge in their opposition to vital war measures for added food production and for economic stabilization, so these powerful Southern interests are fighting this phase of the war effort. And just as they have found willing allies among the defeatists and the reactionary GOP politicians in these other struggles, so can they bank on these same allies in their war on the FEPC and the President's Order.

Unfortunately, in this struggle, among those aiding the alliance of tory-GOP reaction, in which is centered all that is anti-labor and pro-fascist in the nation, are certain AFL and railroad unions that persist in their discriminatory policies.

It cannot be said that the order is, therefore, anti-union. It is precisely the opposite. It is directed at wiping out some of the ancient, suicidal policies which play into the hands of reaction.

These unions would be aiding themselves, the entire labor movement, and the entire country if they should carry out the war directive of the nation's Commander-in-Chief.

FEPC

16 Railroads Thumb Noses at FEPC;

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Won't Obey; Challenges Authority

DEC 18 1943

47d

Open defiance was hurled at the FEPC this week as 16 southern railroads, in a joint letter, told the President's Committee that they would not obey the FEPC directives of November 24, forbidding racial or religious discrimination.

Claiming that the FEPC is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue the directives, the railroads said that the directives, therefore, were without legal effect.

"It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible for these railroads to put into effect your committe's directives addressed against them," the letter declares.

"Any attempt, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and cooperative relations with their employees, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country. These railroads cannot assume the responsibility for precipitating such disastrous results.'

In a prompt rejoinder, FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross declared that "their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors," pointing out that the FEPC directives dealt mainly with the refusal of the railroads to employ Negroes as firemen, and pointed out that the railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings which were held before the directives were issued.

"The FEPC believes that the granting of overdue rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder, would be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning this war quickly."

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Marcantonio Raps Rankin Defense of Southern Rails

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

DEC 15 1943

47d

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. — The embattled Fair Employment Practices Committee today aimed another major blow at Jim Crow as it ordered five West Coast shipyards and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, AFL, to cease discrimination against Negro workers.

Marcantonio

Rep. John Rankin, encouraged by his success in defeating the soldier vote bill in the House, got up on the floor to praise the 16 southern railroads for defying FEPC.

Rankin expressed hope that the President "will clean out the bunch of crackpots known as the FEPC" as soon as he returns to Washington.

The Smith Committee of the House has already indicated that it will support legislation outlawing anti-discrimination clauses in government contracts.

Smith said today that his group is considering an investigation of the FEPC.

Influential Southern members have been urging the Smith Committee to determine whether FEPC exceeded its authority.

Rep. Robert Ramspeck, D., Ga., Democratic whip of the House, s he felt FEPC "is doing more h than good in trying to force employment of Negroes on railroads where they will be brought into contact with a public which in a large part resents their employment."

Rep. Hugh Peterson, D., Ga., a member of the Smith Committee said there had been "considerable agitation" over the FEPC order in his district, and "I'm ready to vote for an investigation."

RACE-COLOR BARRIERS

Undaunted by the attacks from the southern railroads and Rep. Rankin, the FEPC stepped in and ordered the boilermarkers to eliminate the membership practices which discriminate against workers on the basis of race or color.

In other words, the boilermakers will have to dissolve the so-called auxiliary locals which they have set up for Negro workers.

FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross also made it plain that the companies would have to stop hiding behind the Jim Crow practices of the union locals. Ross declared that "the sincerity of the company motives in this case may be drawn in question."

FEPC held hearings in Portland and Los Angeles after it had received several hundred complaints from skilled Negro workers who had been fired or refused employment because they would not abide by the Jim Crow policies of the boilermakers.

The National Labor Relations Board has already warned the boilermakers that they may lose their exclusive bargaining rights at the Bethlehem shipyard in Alameda if they continue to bar Negroes from full membership rights.

5 SHIPYARDS

The five shipyards cited by the FEPC are the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation, Kaiser Corporation, California Shipbuilding Corporation, Consolidated Steel Corporation and Western Pipe and Steel Corporation.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York clashed with Rep. Rankin on the floor of the House on the FEPC issue. Marcantonio strongly defended FEPC.

The Southern railroads sent their letter of defiance of FEPC to all members of Congress, and are apparently counting on Congress to back them up.

Following Rankin to the floor by a few minutes, Marcantonio branded the defiance of the Southern railroads a "sneak attack" on FEPC.

Rankin promptly obtained the floor to answer Marcantonio, and launch another attack on FEPC.

When Marcantonio attempted to reply to Rankin, he was stopped by a technical point of order made by Rep. Clare Hoffman, Michigan Republican.

Turning to Hoffman, Marcantonio shouted:

"Very nice teamwork, boys."

Marcantonio sent a strong letter to Charles E. Norris, head of the Southeastern Railroad Conference, replying to the letter Norris had sent to Congressmen.

The New York Congressman said that the action of the railroads was "wholly lacking patriotism which should characterize the actions of all Americans and all American corporations in this critical war period in the life of our country."

At the same time Marcantonio asked for 30 minutes to make a full length speech on the soldier vote issue on Thursday.

LIBERTIES GROUP FLAYS RAILROADS

Characterizing the statement of the 16 southern railroads' refusal to comply with the findings and directives of the FEPC as "a frontal attack against the country's wartime anti-discrimination program," George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, urged President Roosevelt today to do everything within his power to see that the decisions of the FEPC are enforced.

FEPC

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Railroad Agreement Invalid

Carrier-Union

Contract Must Be Set Aside

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has ruled that the Southeastern Conference agreement between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and ten railroads is a violation of Executive Order No. 9346 and must be set aside, Malcolm Ross, chairman, announced this week

The agreement, the FEPC ruled, is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions.

The agreement seeks to accomplish this, the committee said, through setting definite percentages for white and Negro firemen; through limiting firemen's jobs to "probable" men, and then by excluding all Negro workers from promotion.

Involved in the Southeastern agreement are the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia Railway Company, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company, Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company, and the Southern Railway Company.

TO REPORT WITHIN THIRTY DAYS

Notification that the agreement violates Executive Order No. 9346 and that it must be set aside has been sent to all parties involved, the chairman announced, with requests that the groups report to the committee within 30 days on steps taken to comply with the directive.

The committee has notified 12 railroads and six other unions that all discriminatory employment practices of the railroads and all policies of the unions which result in unfair treatment of workers and job applicants because of race, creed, color or national origin must be eliminated. The 30-day period for reply was set in each case.

The committee cited as unfair the policy of certain railroad unions which, it said, "discriminate against Negroes, because of race, in regard to membership . . . thus rendering it impossible for said Negro workers) to have any adequate voice or representation with respect to grievances and the negotiation of agreements affecting working conditions, employment policy, practices and opportunities." In each such instance, the union was notified that it must "cease and desist from . . . discriminatory practices affecting the employment of Negroes."

23 RAILROADS INVOLVED IN COMPLAINTS

The complaints involved 23 railroads: Atlantic Coast Line; Atlanta Joint Terminals; Baltimore and Ohio; Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal; Central Railway of Georgia; Chesapeake and Ohio; Chicago and Northwestern; Georgia Railroad; Gulf, Mobile and Ohio; Illinois Central; Jacksonville Terminal; Louisiana and Arkansas; Louisville and Nashville; Missouri - Kansas-Texas; New York Central; Norfolk Southern; Norfolk and Western; St. Louis-San Francisco; Seaboard Air Line; Southern; Pennsylvania; Union Pacific, and Virginian.

VIRGINIAN REACHES SETTLEMENT

Shortly before the hearings, the Virginian Railway reached a settlement with its complainants and the charges filed with FEPC were withdrawn.

During the hearings, the Union Pacific Railroad, accused of discrimination against Mexicans, persons of Mexican descent, and Negroes because of race and national origin, announced its willingness to conform to the principles of the Executive orders and

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Virginia Lawyer Heads Atlanta FEPC Office

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—Headquarters for the Atlanta regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice opened last Tuesday with A. Bruce Hunt, white, Roanoke, Va., lawyer, as the regional director. The 35-year-old director was born and educated in Virginia, having graduated from the University of Virginia.

The Atlanta office, Mr. Hunt revealed at his initial press conference, will investigate and correct grievances arising out of discriminatory employment practices based upon race, creed, color or national origin, and its jurisdiction will consist of war industries, labor unions and government departments and agencies in the states of Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

The initial staff of the new regional office, the first established in the south, will consist of two field examiners, whose appointment will take place in the near future.

ACTIVE CASES ON FILE

More than 120 active cases originating within this region will be completed in the Atlanta office, Mr. Hunt said. The cases had previously been handled from Washington.

The director indicated he intends to carry out the letter and spirit of the President's executive order which created FEPC in his organizational setup. It is understood that colored applicants have been interviewed concerning work with the regional office, which is located in a downtown office building.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

John Hope II Named To FEPC

A Bruce Hunt, Regional Director of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, announced Wednesday the appointment of Mr. John Hope II as a Fair Practice Examiner on the Atlanta staff. Mr. Hunt stated also that he expects to announce very shortly the appointment of an additional Fair Practice Examiner.

Mr. Hope, a native of Atlanta, received his elementary school training in Atlanta public schools and graduated from Morehouse College in 1930. In 1932 he received an M. A. degree in economics from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, and has since worked toward a Ph.D. in economics at the University of Chicago. In his graduate work he has studied under Professors Paul H. Douglas, H. A. Millis, and George Bigge. Upon completion of his graduate work at Brown University, Mr. Hope returned to Atlanta for work in the Atlanta University system, where he has served on the economics faculties of Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Atlanta University.

Mr. Hope is the son of the late Dr. John Hope, former president of Morehouse College and later the first president of the Atlanta University system. Like his father, he has maintained an active interest in movements and organizations aiming at inter-racial understanding and good will. During the 30's he served as an advisor to the Negro Workers Council in Atlanta and has served also as advisor to many labor groups. He is a member of the National Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association.

White Engineers and Negro Firemen Worked in Harmony Over Fifty Years Ago

Prompted by a letter sent by 16 railroads and terminal companies to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Malcolm Ross, the committee chairman, recently issued the following statement:

"The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order. Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experienced Negro firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give their jobs to white workers.

"This is no question of Negroes seeking to displace whites. Negro firemen were the accepted majority for 50 years on southern railroads, until automatic stokers and Diesel-powered engines changed the dirty, heavy work into desirable jobs. Racial prejudice is not at issue here. White southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, stated: 'I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the south would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives.'

The fireman problem, and the problems of upgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the operating divisions and the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September. The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers made a perfunctory appearance. Their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue—necassarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroadmen in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Executive Order Is Mandatory Agencies Told

Discrimination In War Contracts Held Illegal

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— All government contracting agencies have been notified that the provisions of the executive order and the Fair Employment Practice committee are mandatory, following a letter from President Roosevelt to the attorney general on November 5.

In his authority as President of the United States and as commander in chief of the army and navy, he has ordered that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in the federal government because of race, creed, color, national origin or citizenship "This order relates to hire, promotion, tenure, terms or conditions of employment or union membership," an FEPC statement declared.

That the President is not taking any chances with the fair judgment of industrialists and personnel heads was made clear when it was reported that the non-discrimination clause has been inserted in all war contracts and sub-contracts.

The successful prosecution of the war demands the maximu use of all available workers and the democratic way [illegible] within the nation can [illegible] extended successfully [illegible] the help and support of all groups within its borders, is the President's belief.

"We cannot stand before the world as a champion of oppressed peoples unless we practice as well as preach the principles of democracy for all men," he declared in a recent letter to the National Urban league.

47d-1943

FEPC

FEPC REOPENS NEGRO LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN'S CASES

Age
New York, N. Y.

SEP 1 1943

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Provisional Committee to organize Colored Locomotive Firemen from its national headquarters at 217 West 125th street, announced Monday that plans indicating a sweeping victory for the firemen are rapidly reaching culmination. The case involving the firemen's fight to maintain their jobs on the railroads, because white railroad brotherhoods are trying to take them away, will be held in the Nation's Capitol on September 15th-20th.

FEPC Scuttled Because Of Case

It is to be remembered that it was the sensational findings of the FEPC investigators in preparing for the original hearings that doomed the first FEPC. The suspension of the hearings shocked and aroused liberals throughout America, and they formed a coalition of organizations to save and re-establish FEPC under the leadership of A. Philip Randolph, whose March on Washington Movement had convinced President Roosevelt of the necessity of issuing Executive Order 8802. The Save FEPC Committee has been successful in getting FEPC re-estabusned, removed from the jurisdiction of Paul McNutts Manpower Commission, and with an increased budget of $540,000.00

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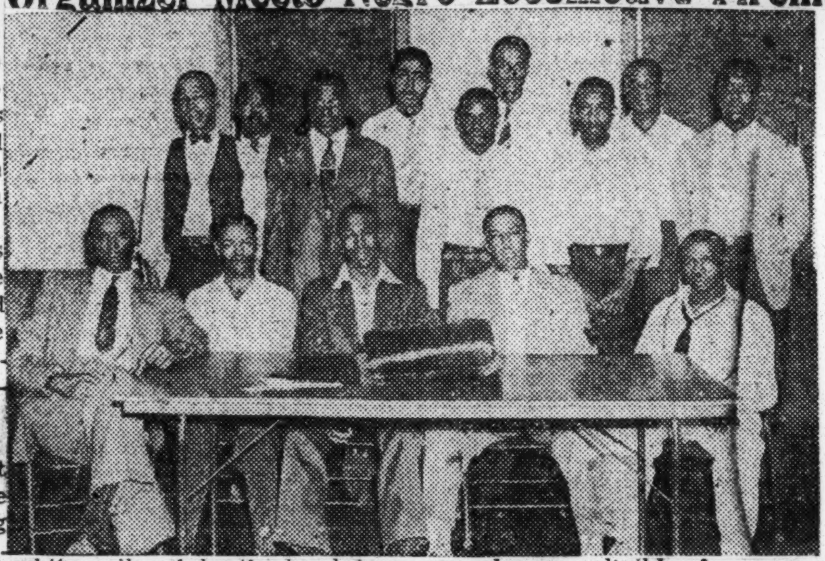
A significant factor to bear in mind is that despite the temporary set-back the firemen experienced, the basis of their case is no less pertinent today. Instead, it is felt in some circles, with qualified justification, that the case is more important today than ever before. This feeling is prevalent because of the greater number of facts which have been compiled, and because a victory for the firemen at this time when bias against Negroes and the general reactionary spirit is at its highest peak, would hail a smashing defeat of the biased Railroad Brotherhoods. It also might signal by a precedent, a turn toward a more liberal attitude in America.

Colored Firemen Terrorized

B. F. McLaurin immediately after a meeting with Colored Locomotive -Firemen of the Augusta, Ga., division of the Provisional Committee to Organize Negro Firemen.

Mr. McLaurin, who is in charge of the organization of the firemen, gathered the necessary facts to substantiate and indict the biased white railroad brotherhoods.

Organizer Meets Negro Locomotive Firemen



SEP 1 1943

Hundreds of firemen from all sections of the country will be in Washington, D. C., September 12 at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church where a mass meeting will be held to inform the public concerning the FEPC hearings which will be held September 15 to 20th.

The forces fighting the colored them jobs—to crush them. During the past decade, eight Negro firemen have been shot from their engine seats on southern railroads. Negroes have fired the trains of America for more than one hundred years. Firing an engine was usually a job counted beneath the white man's dignity. However, today because of the technical improvements which have made engineering more sanitary, plus better pay for firemen, have made whites desirous of these jobs they formerly scorned. Since World War I brought about improved economic conditions for firemen, the bitter secretive battle to remove Negroes from engines has continued. In fact, D. P. Robertson, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive, Firemen and Enginemen said that he hoped by 1927 no colored face would remain on the left side of a railroad engine's cab.

Of the 16 unions which bar Negroes in one form or other, 8 of them are railroad brotherhoods.

These unions have fought for years to bar Negroes from the railroads. Yet it was only in 1941 that the fight crystallized into the open and the national spotlight focused upon it. In that year, it was discovered the Brotherhoods had signed a non-promotable agreement with the Interstate Commerce Commission, which specified that only employees eligible for promotion would have an opportunity to operate the diesel. The inference is that since Negroes can't be promoted to engineers, they can't be transferred to diesel engines. Th agreement further stated that upon the death of a Negro fireman, a white man must fill his place and that Negroes shall not be given new jobs or new runs. As a result of this policy, the number of Negro firemen has decreased 50 per cent. to a mere 3,000.

SEP 11

'Mandatory', He Says Of Order Against Bias

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Roosevelt Makes Himself Clear In Letter To Attorney-General On Bias Ruling

NOV 13 1943

WASHINGTON (Special)—Moving swiftly to prevent any noticeable breakdown in the operation of FEPC due to the recent ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren, President Roosevelt last week asserted that his executive order requiring a "no discrimination" clause in all government contracts was mandatory and must be incorporated in all government agreements.

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Thus did Mr. Roosevelt clear up the confusion caused by Warren's ruling in the case of a government contract with Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. of Kansas City, which had said it would not sign a contract if it contained the "no discrimination" clause.

Oh, Yeah!

The matter was submitted to Comptroller Warren who interpreted the President's order as not being obligatory.

NOV 13 1943

In a letter to Attorney General Biddle, the Peresident wrote:

"There is no need for me to reiterate the fundamental principle underlying the promulgation of the executive order, namely, that the prosecution of the war demands that we utilize fully all available manpower and that the discrimination by war industries against persons for any reason named in the order is detrimental to the prosecution of the war and is opposed to our national democratic purposes.

"I realize the hesitancy of controller general to withhold payments on government contracts in which these provisions have not been included where there is doubt as to whether the order is mandatory. I, therefore, wish to make it perfectly clear that these provisions are mandatory and should be incorporated in all government contracts. The order should be so construed by all government contracting agencies."

In the meantime the National Council for a permanent FEPC, with A. Philip Randolph as director, continues the campaign to secure enactment of federal legislation to accomplish the end.

"Save FEPC" Killed

Following a week of intensive campaigning to secure presidential action, a city-wide "Save FEPC Rally" was set for Wednesday night at Hunter college, under the auspices of the Council Against Intolerance in America. The President's explanation made the rally impossible, and it was called off.

Group Wants Permanent FEPC Body

NOV 6 1943

New York, N. Y.

Anti-Discrimination Body Formed Last Year Attacked; Sees Need For New One

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

PHILADELPHIA, (ANP). — Convening here this month for its sixth constitutional convention, the Congress of Industrial Organizations will have before it at least two important quotations which specifically and definitely affect Negroes. At least one of these will be met with a fight, possibly on the floor of the convention.

NOV 6 1943

Two Major Questions

The first of these will be the question of whether or not the CIO wants to continue the work of its National Committee to Abolish Discrimination. The other is a resolution calling for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee to cope with industrial discrimination after the war.

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Anti-Bias Group

The anti-discrimination committee was established last November when the organization met in Boston. The delegates had deplored the manner in which Negroes were being kept from entering industry at a time when manpower was beginning to go begging.

The men appointed were James B. Carey, chairman, secretary-treasurer of the CIO; Willard S. Townsend, secretary-president of the United Transport Service Employes of America; James L. Leary, secretary-treasurer of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, and Boyd L. Wilson, executive board member of the United Steelworkers of America.

The committee was slow in getting started. In fact, until some prodding developed from the outside nothing was done. Finally attention turned to the selection of someone to do legwork and to give life to the committee. When this became evident, Harry Bridges, West Coast labor leader, came through with the offer to pay the salary of the director for one year providing he was permitted to name the person. His candidate was Revels Clayton.

NOV 6 1943

MSGR. HAAS RESIGNS

NEW YORK AGE
Globe and Independent

OCT 22 1943

The resignation of Msgr. Francis J. Haas, as chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to become Bishop of Grand Rapids, comes at a time when FEPC has just reached the point where it had risen in the esteem of the general public as result of the public hearings held on railroad management and union discrimination against Negroes. The findings of the committee are under process of preparation and when they come, there is no doubt that they will scathingly denounce both management and labor for the un-American employment practices brought out in the public hearings.

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Nashville, Tenn.

FEPC

The resignation is all the more unfortunate at this time because it will deprive the committee of its guiding spirit just as it was beginning to click. There is no doubt that there are many able men and women fully qualified to fill the chairmanship, but it will take a new man or woman approximately the same time it took Msgr. Haas to become fully acquainted with the job in all its ramifications. Assuming that a new chairman is chosen this week, then, it would probably be not before January 1st that he would be sufficiently acquainted with his task to move effectively. Unless, of course, the new chairman were to be chosen from among the six remaining members of the committee or from the executive staff in which event the program of the committee would proceed now as planned without interruption.

OCT 22 1943

In his statement announcing his resignation, Bishop-elect Haas said in part: "In the degree that I know the importance of the work of that committee to the war effort and to our democracy, I leave it with profound regret.

"The terrible needs of war exact, that we use to the utmost the hands and the high skills which Negro citizens, Spanish-Americans, Jews and loyal men and women of foreign extractions, are offering willingly to their country's service. That is the practical side. against which no man who loves his country would knowingly erect the barriers of intolerance or of outmoded industrial habits.

"The essential rightness of the President's Executive Order against discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin appeared later to me when I took office as Chairman of the Committee four months ago. In that brief period the close experience with the problems of the men and women who have suffered discrimination at the hands of fellow-Americans have deepened my conviction that this practice must be purged from our national life if we are both to win this war and consolidate our life as a democratic nation thereafter.

"I have full trust in the members of the Committee. It was not known to me until very recently that it would be necessary for me to end what shall remain as one of the most satisfactory associations of my life. The work of the committee is in good hands."

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

"TO HELL WITH FAIR PLAY" RAILROADS

DEC 16 1943

Sixteen Southern railroads have told the FEPC that it "is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue the directives, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect, and therefore they were wasting their breath when the committee issued a directive forbidding racial or religious discrimination in employment."

They go further in their defiance by dragging in prejudicial statements when the roads assert:

"Any attempt, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and co-operative relations with their employees, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the while war effort of the country."

But striking back equally forceful chairman Ross of the FEPC said, "the primary issue was the employment of Negroes as firemen." This and other problems were taken up at the FEPC hearings in September, he said, but "the railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings," and "the carriers made a perfunctory appearance. The plain fact is that this issue is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men.

DEC 6 1943

For years, hundreds of Negroes worked on the railroads as firemen, brakemen and flagmen. With the combination of the unions, Railway Labor board and the railroads the Negro has been shoved out completely.

DEC 16 1943

Unfortunately, the authority under which the FEPC operates is rather weak. The railroads know it and therefore are willing to defy the committee even in a matter of ordinary fairplay to Negro labor.

It makes any thoughtful fellow smile in disgust when he reads about our high officials who are all over the world telling about the wonderful democracy of America and the type of world we are fighting for when at the same time unlimited denial of the little things in life, and even the Four Freedoms of which Messrs. Roosevelt and Churchill boast, are flouted each day.

Then too our boys in the service are offering thier lives if need be for the protection of America—yes the property of these same railroads. Many of the white boys are at a loss to know just what they are fighting for. How much more so must we find the Negro boy with a fight at his front by the enemy abroad and one at his back by the enemies at home, who after all favor the very things for which Hitler contends, wondering just what he is fighting for?

DEC 16 1943

4

FEPC

FEPC Not In Accord With Mobile Policy

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

Commenting on a bulletin circulated by the Employers' Association of Chicago on August 4, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Practice, issued the following statement Saturday.

"I am apprised that the settlement of a controversy last June at the yards of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, Ala., has been interpreted to mean that the Committee approves the segregation of Negro workers from white employees as not necessarily a violation of Executive Orders under which the Fair Employment Practice Committee operates. In respect to that settlement the full membership of FEPC, meeting for the first time on July 6, 1943, unanimously passed the following resolution:

"'The Committee adopts the accomplished fact of the settlement made in Mobile to end a crisis in war production, except that the committee cannot give its approval to the complete segregation of Negroes on the four ways and does not consider that as a precedent.'"

1943

4

FEPC Regional Office Opened In Atlanta; A. Bruce Hunt Made Regional Director

Age
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A permanent regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice opened last week at 525-28 Forsyth Building, Atlanta, Ga., Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Committee, announced Wednesday.

The new office, with A. Bruce Hunt as regional director, will have jurisdiction in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Mr. Hunt, with an initial staff of two field examiners, will receive, investigate, and adjust complaints of discriminatory employment practices involving war industries, labor unions and government agencies.

Following the opening of the regional office, the staff will continue to process approximately 120 active cases which have been handled in the national office of the Committee in Washington.

Director A Southerner

Mr. Hunt, who is 35 years old, was born and educated in Virginia. A graduate of the University of Virginia, he practiced law in Roanoke, Va., before his appointment to the Review Staff of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C., in 1937. Later as trial examiner and principal trial examiner for the NLRB, he presided over numerous hearings in the South. In April, 1943, Mr. Hunt joined the staff of the National War Labor Board where he served successively as assistant director of disputes in the Tenth Regional Board and director of the Board's Disputes Office in Los Angeles. He is married and has a son.

4

NON-DISCRIMINATION AGREEMENT IS SIGNE AFTER "MUST" ISSUE

Argus
St. Louis, Missou

Way Is Opened For Jobs In The Huge Telephone Company's Employment

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 9—Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, announced today that the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., has signed a Government contract for telephone services to be furnished the National War Agencies in that area. The contract contains the anti-discrimination clause required by Executive Order No. 9346.

Delays Signing

The signing of the contract was delayed when the telephone company questioned whether the insertion of anti-discrmination clause was mandatory. The matter was then referred by the Central Administrative Services, OEM, to the Comptroller General who ruled that the obligation imposed by Executive Order 9346 upon contracing agencies to insert the clause in each contract awarded by them was not a mandatory requirement, but merely a directive.

NOV 12 1943

President Acts

After the Comptroller General's opinion was delivered on October 7, 1943, the President's Committee requested an interpretation of the scope and meaning of Executive Order 9346.

On November 5, President Roosevelt, in a letter to the Attorney General, declared that the anti-discrimination clause was mandatory and should be inserted in all contracts. The President wrote:

"I realize the hesitancy of the Comptroller General to withhold payment on Government contracts in which those provisions have not been included where there is doubt as to whether the Order is mandatory. I therefore wish to make it perfectly clear that these provisions are mandatory and should be incorporated in all Government contracts. The Order should be so construed by all government contracting agencies."

NOV 27 1943

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Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

FEPC Investigates Balt. Public Utilities

OCT 23 1943

BALTIMORE, (ANP)—The Fair Employment Practice committee has been asked to investigate the allegedly biased hiring policies of two Baltimore public utilities, the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and the Baltimore Transit Company.

OCT 23 1943

47d-1943

FEPC

Who's Kidding Who?

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

AUG 4 - 1943

FEPC Told Ford "Friendly" Policy Toward Negro Worker Is Double-Talk

DETROIT.—The charge that the Ford Motor Company has been kidding the public on the subject of its allegedly "friendly" policy towards Negro workers was handed over to the FEPC in a brief filed last week with Monsignor Francis J. Haas, FEPC chairman, Ford Local 600, CIO.

Six specific charges of violation of the "letter and spirit of Presidential Order 8802" have already been made public.

In addition, the brief states that the present policy of the Ford company in refusing to place Negro applicants, has only added to the smouldering embers of racial tension which burst into flame June 20 and 21, and which Ford spokesmen have been publicizing as the thing they most feared.

Refuses Negroes

The Ford River Rouge plant is charged in the brief with deliberately refusing to hire Negro war workers in spite of the fact that many of these workers are skilled and trained in spe[illegible] trades.

The importing of white laborers from the South instead of using Detroit's Negro workers, has only increased the serious strain on food, housing and recreational facilities, a major factor in the taut relations between the races here, the brief charges.

The alleged Ford policy of hiring Negroes because the company was "friendly" to the race, was a blind to hide the real aim of using Negro workers as a means of cleavage to split workers and keep the union out of the plant, the brief states.

Plan Boomeranged

The plan boomeranged when Negro and white union leaders began to work together in unified strength, it is charged. The proof that Negroes and whites have been working side by side in harmony, was cinched during the June riots when there was not one reported instance of violence between the two races in the plant.

Railroad Hearings Open In Washington

Philadelphia Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

By E. Washington Rhodes and William C. Jason

SEP 18 1943

Wednesday, September 15, 1943, is a day which will loom large in the history of integrating colored workers into the economic life of America.

It is the day when the long awaited and often side-stepped issue of the employment and upgrading of colored workers in the Railroad industry will be laid before the Fair Practice Committee at a public hearing in Washington for definite action.

SEP 18 1943

No awaited decision is so all important.

It is the opportunity to make the 14th Amendment mean what it says.

It is the opportunity to translate the words of democracy into concrete acts of democracy.

It is the chance to allay the spectre of unchristian hypocrisy in inter-state commerce and as a corollary it is a challenge to all discriminatory practices in government and public utilities.

To colored Americans, Sept. 15th will go down through the years as a day to be celebrated either as Easter or else as one to be celebrated in sack-cloth and ashes—depending solely on the findings of this committee.

Peoples all over the world will get from the findings of this committee a cue as to what the lot of minority groups will be under democratic policies.

The railroads acknowledge that they are 80,000 undermanned; that they have sought employees from every corner and of every color except from the reservoir of colored labor.

Tragic as this is to the colored railroad employee, who has seen his rights and opportunities wiped away by contracts between the Railroad Brotherhoods and the companies, it is infinitely more so—it astounds the imagination to think that men would attempt to defend this position when the whole world is dependent upon the transportation system of the "arsenal of democracy."

The recent devastating wreck of a crack Pennsylvania Railroad train at Frankford and other wrecks were due to the shortage of manpower. The railroads are strained to the breaking point.

In presenting the case of discrimination against Negroes by the railroads, Bartly C. Crum, Special Counsel, stated, "In common sense, why must w look to women and prisoners of var, when willing workers are vailable? Because restrictions r decades so tied the hands Negro workmen, that neither railroads nor the unions, who s forged these bonds, can nk—even under the spur of r—of how to break them."

Mr. Crum submitted evidence prove that some of these ntractual arguments be- een the unions and the em- oyers were witnessed by an ency of the United States overnment.

The hearings, which began Sept. 15, to determine whether the present wreckless and wanton discriminatory practices of the railroads against Negro workers shall continue, call to memory that it was exactly 81 years ago, less one week, when Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation as a war measure during the horrors of the Civil War.

History records that event as one of the great steps in human freedom. the FEPC now has the glorious opportunity to give a larger measure of freedom to the railroad workers of America.

Malcolm Ross Chosen New FEPC Chairman

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

OCT 23 1943

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman of th Fair Employment Practices committee and next door friend and associate of Attorney Gen. Francis Biddle, was named Friday to succeed Fr. Haas as chairman of FEPC. Fr. Haas recently resigned following his appointment to the Grand Rapids, Mich., diocese of the Catholic church.

Mr. Ross is looked upon as a liberal and has long been active in labor and liberal circles. He came to the FEPC from the OWI writer's section and prior to that was director of information for th National Labor Relations b[illegible]

About 45 years o[illegible] is the author of an autobiography entitled, "Death of a Yale Man." He was born in Newark, N. J., and now lives in Vienna, Va., near Washington.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

George Johnson Gets FEPC

"Top" Position

AUG 14 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Organizational structure of the Fair Employment Practice Committee has been just about agreed upon, it is learned reliably, and as matters now stand, George M. Johnson, formerly assistant secretary of the old committee, will share the secondary level of authority with Malcolm Ross.

Ross will exercise authority over the review and analysis division, and Johnson will keep an eye open on the hearings division. Field operations will be a matter of joint responsibility with Ross handling external affairs such as group and public contacts, while Johnson will concern himself with the internal functioning, primarily the business of the regional offices and cooperation with other agencies.

Will Maslow, formerly with the National Labor Relations Board, has been put actively in charge of field operations, and in all probability Harry Baron will do the leg work in review and analysis.

Ted Jones, administrative officer, will continue in that capacity and will continue to handle personnel and budgetary matters.

AUG 14 1943

Out of the six top ranking posts already filled in the committee, Johnson and Jones will be the only colored, and each will have access to the chairman.

Colorful Witnesses Tell Story Of Discrimination

Courier
—Pittsburgh, Pa.—

By JOHN P. DAVIS, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—In frequently broken English — but with facts which shocked the consciences of the several hundred auditors at the four-day railroad discrimination hearings of FEPC — scores of Negro witnesses told the story of jim-crowism in the railroad industry. Frank Graves, Memphis, Tenn., a retired fireman of the Southern Railroad, who worked for the company from September 1900 to March 1941, told of his vain attempt to get the president of the company, a Mr. Norris to employ his son. He indicated that, with other Negro firemen about to be retired, he had talked to various company officials urging them to employ Negroes. Finally he sent his son to apply for a job. The son came back and said, 'Dad, they told me they weren't hiring no n---rs."

OLDTIMER PLEADED FOR JOB FOR SON

Continuing his testimony Graves said he sought out Norris. He stated: "I says, Mr. Norris, it is human nature for a man to look out for his son. I know that I have established a record here as a locomotive fireman that would merit my boy a job."

Norris gave him some encouragement so Graves stated that he later spoke with another company official. He testified: "I says Mr. Sypes, the road is as full of coughs as a country dog has fleas and he kind of laughed. I says I don't see a black face. I says what is the trouble.

"He didn't make no answer and I says now I am trying to get my boy hired. I says he is six foot two inches, weighs around 190 and I says he has been two years in college.

"He looked at me and kind of smiled. I says not only him, there is Jim and Ed Horter that is going away just about the same time that I am to leave the railroads, and Emmet Watkins that is going to beat any of us to the grave, which he did. I says he laid off there in the swamps of France, he is not able to work now."

TRAINED YOUTH TURNED DOWN FLAT

But the end of Graves story was that his boy, and no other Negro boys, got the jobs vacated by these Negro firemen with decades of loyal service to the company.

In contrast to Graves was the witness, William C. Raines, Negro Army aviation cadet at the Coffee School of Aeronautics, graduate of Carnegie Technical Institute, with one and a half-year's study of law to his credit before he was drafted. Raines stated that he had worked as a waiter on the New York Central railroad during summer vacations and that when war was declared he sought to get a job as a brakeman. He said he applied at the company employment office and was "shooed away" by a girl in the office. Later, he said, he got a white friend to get an application blank, which he filled in and returned in company with white youths. They were "hired on the spot," he told the committee, but, despite the fact that he wrote the company officials calling attention to his engineering training, he was never accepted.

Through questioning of Raines, P. B. Young, Sr., committee member, brought out that Raines present studies in aviation are infinitely more technical than any tasks he could have been assigned to do as a brakeman.

NMU SPOKESMAN GIVES EXAMPLE

Brought to the stand to rebut the claims of the rairoads that employment of Negroes would disrupt wartime transportation services, Frederick N. Meyers, vice president of the National Maritime Union, declared "The NMU is particularly proud that it has succeeded in wiping out discrimination based on race in the South, where, it is so often said, 'it cannot be done'.

"Discrimination does not exist on the American flag merchant vessels for which the NMU is the collective bargaining agent. Negro and white seamen work side by side, eat together in the same messroom and are quartered in the same fo'csle, and die together on the high seas in defense of America," he declared.

Responding to the question of Bartley Crum, counsel for the FEPC, Myers declared that presence of mixed crews in the merchant marine had had a wholesome effect upon the morale of America's allies. Asked Crump: "Have you any evidence from the men on the ships of how our Allies in this war accept the policy of no discrimination?" Replied Myers: "Yes. The most outstanding case in point is the S.S. Booker T. Washington. When she sailed on her maiden voyage, Captain Mulzac tied up in Cardiff, and the Welsh miners held a big celebration, which was attended by something like 30,000 miners, who turned out to greet Captain Mulzac."

AXIS USE REPORTS FOR PROPAGANDA

The counsel for the FEPC presented two expert witnesses to indicate that reports on jim crow practices in America were being widely used by Japan and Italy to sew disunity among the United Nations allies. The witnesses were Otto Tolischus, New York Times correspondent in Berlin and Tokyo, and Clyde L. Miller, Columbia university professor. Tolischus declared that all Japanese propaganda to India, Africa and Asia was based on the proposition that the white man is oppressing the darker races. Berlin propaganda, he said, used the racial argument in a "triple barreled" attack. First, Berlin declares that America's treatment of the Negro confirms Nazi theories of Aryan superiority; second, that the evidences of jim crowism are given to show that American unity is tottering; and, finally, the propagandists reverse the field and declare that the Negro is "mongrelizing Anglo-Saxon" culture. Miller stated that Japan ceaselessly broadcasts to hundreds of millions of darker races every day the distorted statements about discrimination to prove that the United Nations claim to be fighting a war for freedom is false.

Msgr. Haas Resigns As Chairman Of FEPC To Become Bishop; Report On Railroad Public Hearings Due

OCT 9 1943

Age
New York, N. Y.—

WASHINGON, D.C.—Msgr. Francis J. Haas on Saturday, announced his resignation as chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to become Catholic Bishop of Grand Rapids.

OCT 9 1943

The Bishop-elect talked over his resignation with President Roosevelt on Friday, but is understood to have made no recommendation as to a successor, saying that such an announcement should come from the President.

In announcig his resignation, Msgr. Haas said:

"The terrible needs of war exact that we use the utmost the hands and the high skills which Negro citizens, Spanish-Americans, Jews and loyal men and women of foreign extraction are offering willingly to their country's service.

"The essential rightness of the President's Executive Order against discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin appeared clear to me when I took office as chairman of the committee four months ago.

OCT 9 1943

"In that brief period, the close experience with the problems of the men and women who have suffered discrimination at the hands of fellow-Americans have deepened my conviction that this practice must be purged from our national life if we are both to win this war and consolidate our life as a democratic nation thereafter."

Msgr. Hass said he would not leave his office for some days and that the committee was losing no time in acting on charges against railroads and railway unions which just three weeks ago were the object of a public hearing on charges of discrimination.

More than 75 per cent of the complaints filed with the Committee during the month of September, involved alleged discrimination against Negroes in war employment. A marked increase in the total number of complaints received during the month, may be accounted for by the fact that seven regional FEPC offices have recently been opened.

All complaints are being processed by the Committee as rapidly as possible. Those which appear to merit investigation and over which the Committee has jurisdiction are docketed. The others are either rejected or held pending receipt of sufficient further proof to warrant [illegible]. Only valid complaints [illegible] discriminatory employment practices based on race, creed, color, national origin or alienage against employers over which FEPC has juridiction, are accepted for investigation by the Committee.

OCT 9 1943

Utilities Commission Refuses Request of President's FEPC

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOV 20 1943

The Public Utilities Commission has granted the request of the Capital Transit Company, permitting it to convert thirty-two of its two-man cars to one-man operation.

The request of the Capital Transit Company had been held up by the P.U.C. following an appeal by former chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Commission, Father Francis J. Haas.

It was the contention of Father Haas that the conversion was unnecessary as long as there was available manpower to operate the two-man cars. The F.E.P.C. head warned the P.U.C. that the motive of the Capital Transit Company was to evade its directive of employing Negroes as operators, conductors, and platform men.

As long as Father Haas remained chairman of the F.E.P.C. the Public Utilities Commission refused to grant the request of the transit company. Father Haas, however, recently resigned to assume his duties as Bishop of the diocese of Michigan. Less than ten days after his resignation, the P.U.C. granted the request of the transit company.

NOV 20 1943

The only member of the utilities commission to agree with Father Haas was Gregory Hankin, liberal member, who said he had reached the conclusion that the transit company had not made full use of available manpower. He gave in to the transit company's reguest, however, defending it on the ground that he felt that the conversion would make available more street cars than to deny the application would.

NOV 20 1943

The Capital Transit Company, several weeks ago, promised the F.E.P.C. that [illegible] would comply with its directive. The F.E.P.C. said it had a working understanding with the United States Employment Service that would deny work to any employee who quit his job because of the hiring of Negroes.

The transit company, however, has yet to hire any Negroes, either as platform men, conductors, or operators, in defiance of the F.E.P.C. directive.

47d-1943

FEPC

FEPC Rules Agreement Between Railroads And Brotherhood Of Locomotive Firemen A Violation

DEC 4 - 1943

Age
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has ruled that the Southeastern Conference agreement between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and ten railroads is a violation of Executive Order No. 9346 and must be set aside, Malcolm Ross, chairman, announced Wednesday, December 1.

DEC 4 - 1943

The agreement, the FEPC ruled, is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions. The agreement seeks to accomplish this, Mr. Ross said, through setting definite percentages for white and Negro firemen; through limiting firemen's jobs to "promotable" men, and then by excluding all Negro workers for promotion.

Involved in the Southeastern agreement are the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia Railway Company, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company, Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company, and the Southern Railway Company.

30 Days To Comply

Notification that the agreement violates Executive Order No. 9346, and that it must be set aside, has been sent to all parties involved, the chairman announced, with requests that the groups report to the Committee within 30 days on steps taken to comply with the directive.

The Committee has notified 12 other railroads, and six other unions that all discriminatory employment practices of the railroads and all policies of the unions which result in unfair treatment of workers and applicants because of race, creed, color or national origin must be eliminated. The 30-day period for reply was set in each case.

DEC 4 - 1943

The committee cited as unfair, the policy of certain railroad unions which, it said, "discriminates against Negroes, because of race, in regard to membership...thus rendering it impossible (for said Negro workers) to have any adequate voice of representation with respect to grievances and the negotiation of agreements affecting working conditions, employment policy, practices and opportunities." In each such instance, the union was notified that it must "cease and desist from...discriminatory practices affecting the employment of Negroes."

DEC 4 - 1943

The complaints involved 23 railroads: Atlantic Coast Line; Atlanta Joint Terminals; Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal; Central Railway of Georgia; Chesapeake and Ohio; Chicago and Northwestern; Georgia Railroad; Gulf, Mobile and Ohio; Illinois Central; Jacksonville Terminal; Louisiana and Arkansas; Louisville and Nashville; Missouri-Kansas-Texas; New York Central; Norfolk Southern; Norfolk and Western; St. Louis-San Francisco; Seaboard Air Line; Southern; Pennsylvania; Union Pacific, and Virginian.

Age
New York, N. Y.

FEPC Railroad Hearings End In Washington; Only One Of 14 Labor Unions Present At Hearing; Railroad Represented But Silent

AWSHINGTON, D.C.—Details of discriminatory practices by which some railroads and unions have been successfully eliminating Negroes and other minority groups from employment in all but the lowest categories, were unfolded before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) in a four-day hearing which ended Saturday, September 18. The sessions were held in the Interdepartmental Auditorium, 14th street and Constitution avenue, N.W.

SEP 25 1943

The full Committee h[illegible] evidence by some witnesses, including experts on propaganda who testified on the use made by the Axis nations of reported instances of discrimination against minority groups in the United States.

Following the conclusion of the hearings Saturday, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Chairman, announced that the Committee would study the complete record before issuing its findings and directives.

Of the 22 railroads and 14 unions cited in the FEPC complaints, 18 railroad companies were represented by counsel at the opening session. Representatives of the other four made their appearance later.

Only one of the unions, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, put in an official appearance, although seven of them notified the Committee they would be represented. The Engineers' group, on Saturday, put on the record a statement that they would make a deposition in the matter within four days.

SEP 25 1943

The Union Pacific R[illegible] of which William Jeffers, former rubber stockpile administrator for the government, is head, officially notified the Committee on Friday of its willingness to conform to the principles of the President's Executivt Orders 8802 and 9346 under which the FEPC functions. F. E. Baukhages, counsel for Union Pacific, issued a statement that the co[illegible] immediate steps to investigate the specific charges made against it.

On Saturday, the New York Central indicated a willingness to cooperate in seeking adjustment of the complaints against it when F. L. Wheeler, general attorney for the company, issued the following statement to the Committee: "The New York Central is willing to sit down any time with members of the Committee to discuss this matter to see if there is some solution."

The other companies represented at the hearing, all of whom had previously filed detailed answers to the separate charges, declined to offer any further evidence at the hearings. In a statement read by Sidney S. Alderman, representing the Southern Railway Company, and to which, he said, all the companies present except the Union Pacific and the Norfolk and Western had subscribed, it was declared:

Railroads Go On Record

"....the railroads involved wish to make it clear to the committee that they recognize and view with sympathy the difficulties of the problem before it, and that they have no wish to place obstacles in its way. In their replies to the summaries of complaint being considered by the committee, these railroads have given you the essential facts...

"....As to the general problem before you—a problem which all the wisdom and statesmanship of America have not yet been able fully to solve—it is the view of the railroads that the solution lies in a gradual and moderate process of education, base on mutual goodwill and respect. The solution will not be advanced, but rather, will be retarded and made more difficult, by too abrupt an attempt to change by governmental decree, long standing practice, rooted in the customs of the people."

An audience of over 400 attended daily, listened in silence as Msgr. Francis J. Hass, FEPC Chairman, officially opened the proceedings Wednesday morning with a short prepared statement in which he declared that the Committee under the authority of Executive Order 9346, had "received complaints.... and directed investigation" on them and would seek to make a "finding of fact."

Special Counsel Bartley C. Crum, in his opening statement, asserted that the proceeding "is completely objective in intent" and that the aim is to "permit the hard facts to speak for themselves."

First witness Wednesday was Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, former member of the Departmnets of Economics at Harvard and Cornell Universities, now on the staff of the National War Labor Board. Northrup declared the Negro railroad worker's plight is both bad and unusual, He criticized the labor unions which either barred the Negro or imposed unfair restrictions on him through their agreements with management. He assailed the railroad managements who, he said, "have used Negroes to weaken unions," and the Railway Labor Act and its administration which, he said, had maintained labor peace on the railroads but only "by tolerating, if not encouraging, discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups." He also criticized the National Railroad Adjustment Board, asserting that it "has denied aggrieved Negroes a hearing, let alone justice."

Propaganda For Axis

Testimony on how Axis propagandists make excellent use of the existence of discrimination in this country was offered on Thursday by Dr. Clyde R. Miller, Associate Professor of Education at Columbia University, New York City, and co-founder, secretary and director of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis. "Japanese and German exploitation of feelings of racial superiority and racial inferiority," said Dr. Miller, "is extraordinaily and immediately effective, dynamic and dangerous."

Otto D. Tolischus, formerly of the New York Times staff and veteran of many years experience as foreign correspondent in Berlin and Tokyo, testified Friday. He produced an official statement of the Japanese government which, he said, cited the American race question and its treatment by the United States government as major points.

Among the other witnesses who testified in detail about instances of unfair treatment of workers and the discriminatory conditions created through agreements between the railroad companies and unions were L. R. Molloy, George Sams, Henry A. Dawson, V. T. Snowdon, Arthur Lewis, Frederick M. Myers, B. W. Steele, William C. Rainer, Joseph C. Waddy, Zettler Z. Clay, A. L. Thomas, George B. Bruce, jr., Joseph Gonzales, Philip Nercado, Ray Abner, Will Whitfield, Ed Sullivan, Joe Munlin, D. H. Hinton, Rufus L. Edards, S. H. Clark, Ben Rhodes, Luther Harris, Alexander Frazier, William C. Donnell, Ed Jackson, Frank Graves and Willard Wilkins.

In addition to Mr. Crum, counsel for FEPC included Attorneys Charles A. Houston, Maceo Hubbard, Harold Stevens and Benjamin Dreyfus. Crum and Dreyfus are white.

The hearings were the first public hearings to be held by the FEPC since its reorganization under Executive Order 9346 last May. Some of the original complaints out of which the hearings were based were filed as far back as June, 1942.

FEPC Public Hearings On Railroads Begin

Age
New York, N. Y

Negro Editors Hear Msgr. Haas Explain FEPC's Functions

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The editors of 20 Negro newspapers, here for a series of conferencs with government officials, on Saturday heard Father Francis J. Haas, chairman of the newly re-created FEPC, and members of his staff, explain the workings of the new committee and answer questions of policy.

Meeting at the offices of the FEPC, 10th and U streets, N. W., the editors were given a graphic description of the functions of the committee and on all matters, ex-

SEP 18 1943

cept the Capital Transit Company case—[illegible] a sore spot with Negroe not only in the nation's capital but all over the country—were granted permission to quote whatever was said. The Capital Transit Company case was discussed "off the record" because action is still pending.

Comparing the old FEPC, which was instituted with Executive Order 8802, with the new FEPC, created by Executive Order 9346, the newspaper executives learned that very little difference exists between either committee. As a matter of fact, the new FEPC is still without the power of subpoena and can merely request the presence of witnesses, but cannot order them. The committee is empowered to make recommendations to the President.

Op[illegible] on [illegible] annual budget of $4[illegible]0, the FEPC plans twelve regional offices in the 12 regional districts presently housing WMC regional offices, and will work as an autonomous body although it recently signed an operating agreements with the WMC. It is presently in the process of negotiating agreements with the WLB and NLRB and the Maritime Commission.

At the close of the fiscal year, the FEPC will cease to receive its operating funds from the President's Emergency Fund, and will have to go to Congress next year for funds with which to operate. With the las[illegible] of Congress openly hostile to the FEPC, the feeling persists that unless some pressure is brought, the Congress next year will punish FEPC if it is too vigorous in its fight on discriminatory practices against the Negro, by failing to vote funds for its continuance, thereby signing the death knell of the committee.

Editors attending the FEPC conference were: Carl Murphy and Furman Templeton, Baltimore Afro-American; Eustace Gay, Philadelphia Tribune; Louis Martin, Michigan Chronicle; Roscoe Dunjee, Black Dispatch; Chester A. Franklin, Kansas City Call; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis Argus; Carter Wesley, Houston Informer; Miss Olive Diggs, Chicago Bee; Harry McAlpin and [illegible], Chicago Defender; P. L. P[illegible] Pittsburgh Courier;

Ludlow W. Werner, The New York Age; Frank Stanley, Louisville Defender; William O. Walker, Cleveland Call and Post; Julius Adams, Amsterdam Star-News; P. B. Young, jr., Norfolk Journal and Guide; Fred Williams, Detroit Tribune; I. Willis Cole, jr., Louisville Leader.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

FEPC MEMBER

Miss Sara E. Southall, Supervisor of Employment and Service, International Harvester Company, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

FEPC CHAIRMAN

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis J. Haas, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

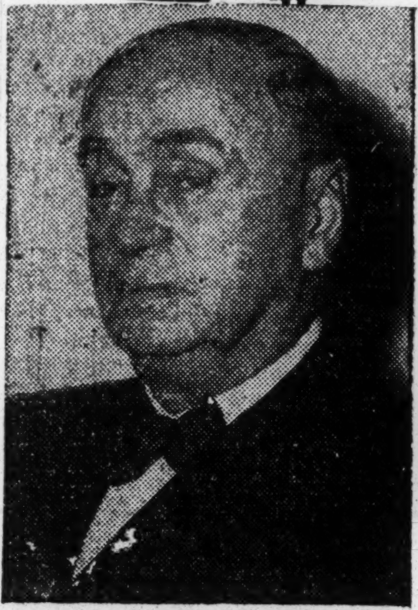
FEPC MEMBER

P. Bernard Young, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

FEPC MEMBER

Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor, labor representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.



Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

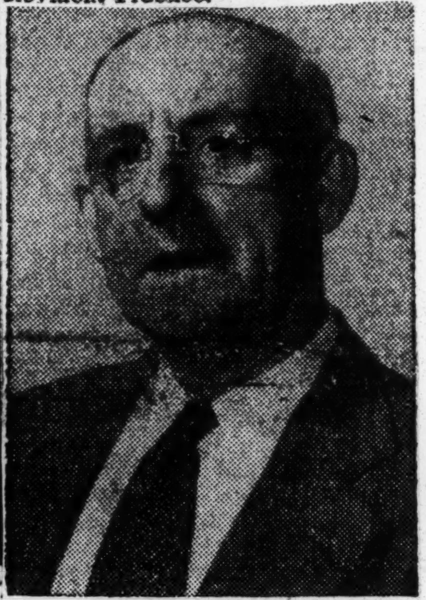
FEPC MEMBER

Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Company, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

FEPC MEMBER

Milton P. Webster, International Vice President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and labor representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.



Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

FEPC MEMBER

John Brophy, Congress of Industrial Organizations, labor representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

47d-1943

FEPC

Texts of the Statements on Negro Rail Employment

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—The texts made public today of the statement by sixteen Southern railroads to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practiecs and the reply of Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, were as follows:

The statement by the railroads:

This is the joint response of those of the undersigned railroads which are parties to the Southeastern Carriers' Conference of "Washington" agreement, responding to your Summary, Findings and Directives dated Nov. 18, 1943, directed against those railroads and the Brotherhoods of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen with reference to that agreement, and is the joint and several response of all and each of the undersigned railroads to your respective Summaries, Findings and Directives of the same date directed against each of the undersigned railroads and various railway labor organizations regarding various other matters.

These railroads have no response to make to your findings and directives addressed exclusively against various railway labor organizations and dealing with their practices concerning failure to admit Negroes to their membership, or to consult them in representation of employes, etc.

These railroads are engaged, with all their energies and abilities, twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week, in carrying on the most vital business of transportation in the public service and in the prosecution of the war effort. They are contributing their part to the total war effort of the railroads of the country, which has been acclaimed as an unprecedented accomplishment by all branches of the Government and of the armed services.

The manpower situation on these railroads is not preventing their most excellent accomplishment in this regard. This accomplishment has been achieved by peaceful and harmonious relations with railway labor and by patriotic and whole-hearted cooperation between these managements, labor and the shipping and traveling public.

Responsibility Repudiated

We wish it to be clearly understood that any disruption of these peaceful and harmonious relations and of this patriotic cooperation which may result from your committee's directives is not the responsibility of these railroads.

The employment relations of these railroads are governed by collective bargaining agreements reached under the controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act. Any change in those agreements is a matter of immediate and vital concern to our employes of various crafts and classes and to their organizations and representatives, as well as to these railroads.

Railroads are forbidden by law to interfere in any way with the self-determination or self-organization of their employes and are entirely without power to dictate to their employes, or to affect by unilateral action, any changes in such agreements. Such changes are controlled by, and can only be accomplished by, the procedures of the Railway Labor Act.

It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible, for these railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them. Any attempt on their part to comply with those directives, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and cooperative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present condition of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country. These railroads cannot assume the responsibility for precipitating such disastrous results.

"Uurealistic" Supposition

These railroads are ready at any time to confer with their employes of various crafts and classes to ascertain whether, under the orderly and controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act, any more generally satisfactory solutin of the racial problem of employment can be worked out by mutual agreement. However, frankness compels these railroads very respectfully to state to your committee that it is utterly unrealistic to suppose that these railroads and their employes can agree to comply with the breadth of your directives or that problems of such delicacy, controlled and governed by a special act of Congress, can be solved out-of-hand by the fiat of your committee's directives.

A number of your findings and directives against some of these railroads undertake to deal with classes and crafts of railway employes which were given no notice of your charges or hearings, which were not represented, and which were given no opportunity to be heard, and with practices concerning such classes and crafts as to which railroads were given no hearing. Manifestly, such findings and directives are wholly lacking in due process of law and for that reason are without legal effect.

And, finally, with great respect the undersigned railroads submit thta your committee was and is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to make and issue the directives which it made and issued, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, C. G. Sibley, general manager.

Atlanta Joint Terminals, Marshall L. Bowie, assistant to chairman, board of control.

Central of Georgia Railway Company, R. R. Cummins, general manager.

Georgia Railroad, Marshall L. Bowie, assistant to general manager.

Jacksonville Terminal Company, J. L. Wilkes, president.

Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, L. L. Morton, assistant vice president.

Norfolk Southern Railway Company, L. P. Kenardy, general superintendent.

St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company, debtor, C. P. King, assistant to chief operating officer.

Seaboard Air Line Railway, J. C. Wroton, general manager.

Southern Railway Company, C. D. Mackay, assistant vice president.

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company, J. B. Parrish, vice president.

Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company, R. C. Lauten, assistant to vice president.

Norfolk & Western Railway Company, G. E. Bruch, chief of personnel.

Illinois Central Railroad Company, the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company and Gulf & Ship Island Railroad Company, C. R. Young, manager of personnel.

Statement by Ross

DEC 14 1943

The reply by Mr. Ross:

The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order.

Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experiencedNegro firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give the jobs to white workers.

This is no question of Negroes seeking to displace whites. Negro firemen were the accepted majority for fifty years on Southern railroads, until automatic stokers and diesel-powered engines changed the dirty, heavy work into desirable jobs.

Racial prejudice is not at issue here, White Southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, stated: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

The firemen problem, and the problems of up-grading, job assignations and seniority rights of Negroes in the operating divisions and the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September. The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers made a perfunctory appearance. Their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FSPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors.

Issue Declared Dormant

The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public police both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

The Southeastern Carriers Conference agreement, which the committee found in violation of Executive Order 9346, was concerned with the hiring and use of Negroes as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers. The railroads now advance obligations under the Railway Labor Act as barriers to changing the discriminatory Southeastern Carriers Conference agreement.

DEC 14 1943

There is no conflict of jurisdiction here. The agreement was reached with the brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded.

In asking both parties to make this move, the FEPC is not suggesting anything which cannot be done in conformity with the Railway Labor act and the procedures adopted b ythe National Mediation Board. There are extremely serious Negro problems on American railroads. The FEPC did not invent them. It tried, honestly and with the war need for railroad workers in mind, to find out what is wrong and to direct remedial action.

The carriers complain that its directives were too broad, branding them as "impossible and impractical." Yet no carriers' move to remedy discrimination was made until these matters were publicly examined. The chance to talk this dilemma through with FEPC has been present ever since the hearing.

Action by Four Roads Cited

Four railroads did so. The Virginia Railroad compiled and relieved itself of a complaint against it before the hearings began. The Union Pacific did so during the hearings. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central are in amicable and cooperative discussion with the FEPC looking toward solutions. The way is open for the remaining sixteen carriers.

The FEPC is an American committee, trying to help fight an American war. Its duty is to prevent discrimination against any worker, whatever his or her race, creed or nationality, who would be an acceptable war worker were it not for preconceived prejudice. We may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight, but where war manpower needs are at stake we can and shall try.

To change bad practices now is not "impossible and impracticable." Secretary McAdoo, in 1918, equalized the pay of white and Negro firemen as "an act of simple justice." A like need for war manpower inspired that change.

The rails today are giving extraordinarily fine service to wartime America. The FEPC believes that the granting of overdue rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning the war quickly.

DEC 14 1943

The committee's directives are described as being broad. They extend no further than the problem raised, not by FEPC, but by complex economic and human agencies groping through prejudice and intolerance toward a working democracy of which we need not be ashamed either at home or abroad. It will take time to raise the structure laid down by the committee blueprint. Not to start now is to acknowledge defeat.

Shipbuilding Hearings Will Be Held Soon

SEP 3

Daily World

Based on The Current West Coast Situation

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Extension of the railroad hearings scheduled for September 15 from three to four days, revelation that "progress" in the Capital Transit company case promised a satisfactory settlement in a "reasonable" time, and plans for a public hearing on the [illegible] of [illegible]ion of Executive Order 9346 [illegible]edly practiced by management and the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers of America, AFL, were announced by the Fair Employment Practice press conference.

SEP 3

At the same time, Chairman Francis J. Haas revealed that the appointment last week of Samuel Zemurray, member of FEPC and president of the United Fruit company, to the Office of Economic Warfare (OEW) will not interfere with his continued membership on FEPC.

The extension of the railroad hearings, it was said, had been decided upon at the request and recommendation of the committee's counsel. Notices to the railroads and unions involved would be ready next week, it was revealed also.

The planned hearings in the shipbuilding industry are based, it was admitted, on the current west coast situation where several hundred Negro workers, discharged for refusal to pay union dues into an auxiliary local setup, have carried their case to the committee.

In the Capital Transit case, the committee declared that "steps are being taken by the company which satisfy the committee that progress is being made toward compliance with the terms of the executive order. Both the company and the union have stated that they are not opposed to the hiring and upgrading of Negroes.

SEP 3 1943

The statement indicated, however, that the Committee "does not feel it would serve any useful purpose" at present to disclose the nature of these "preliminary steps."

Daily World

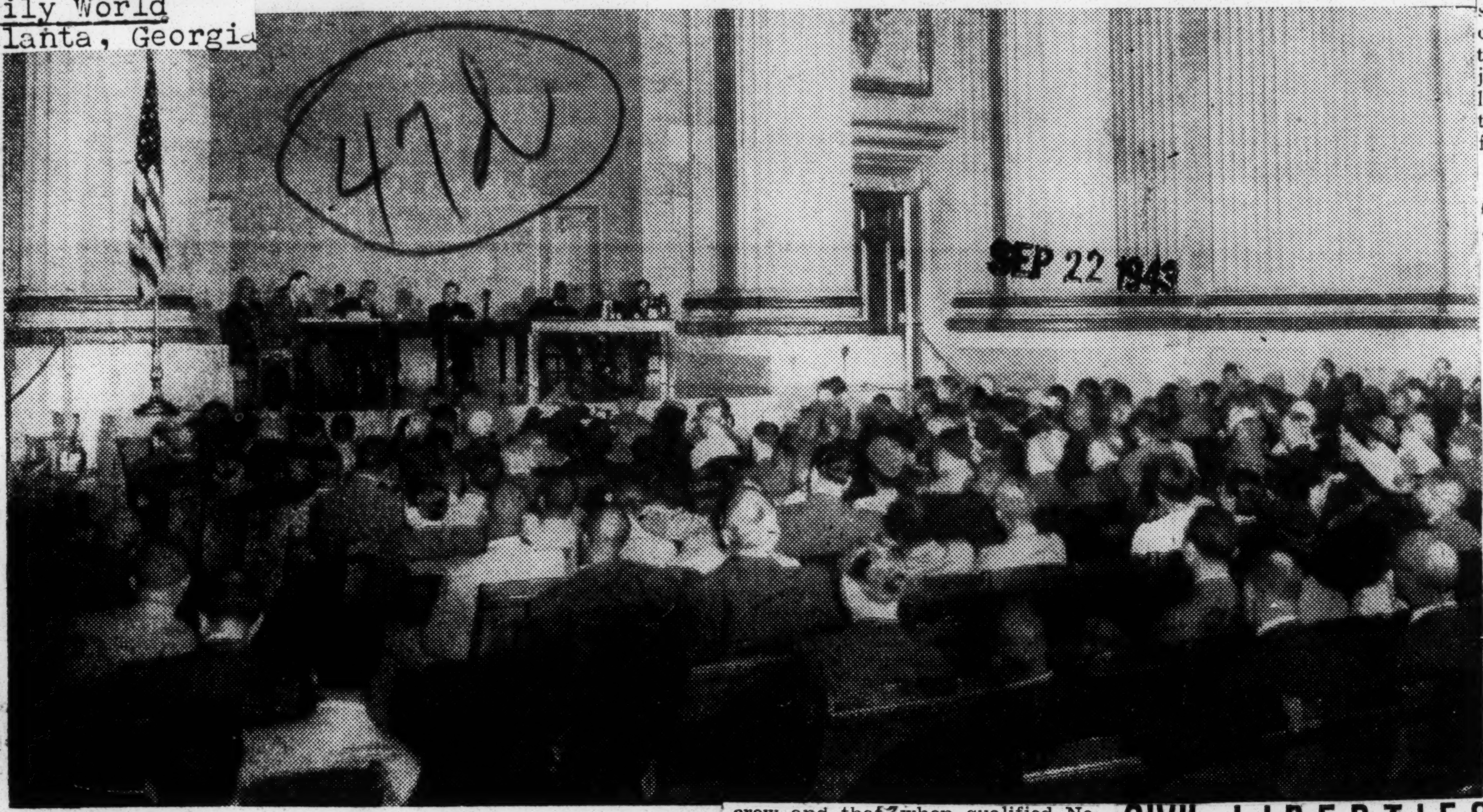
FEPC Officer To West Coast Confab

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (ANP)—George M. Johnson, assistant chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, left Wednesday for the West Coast where he will participate in conferences seeking to have 300 Negro shipworkers re-instated following a dispute arising out of their unwillingness to pay dues to a jimcrow auxiliary of the Boilermakers' Union.

As FEPC Held Railroad Hearings In Nation's Capital

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia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SEP 22 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — Charges of employment discrimination against 22 railroad companies and 14 unions were heard by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices in public sessions in the Departmental Auditorium last Thursday, lasting through Saturday. The committee in this photograph is shown in the background as the hearings got underway. The staff of counsel, including Arthur D. Shores of Birmingham and Maceo Hubbard of Forsyth, Ga., can be seen in front just in front of the committee.—(OWI Photo by Roger Smith)

SEP 22 1943

FEPC CHAIRMAN DENIES UNITED FRUIT GUILTY

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 3 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Allegations that the United Fruit company had been guilty of discrimination in the employment of Negro officers on ships supplying the united nations with vital war materials were denied Saturday by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC.

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Evidence of discriminatory practices on the part of the company were submitted sometime ago by the New York office of the FEPC and Francis Haas revealed at his press conference Saturday that these allegations were without foundation in fact. In support of his contention as revealed by a sweeping survey of the charges, he said:

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices on July 13, received from its New York office a report that the United Fruit company had failed to hire qualified Negro maritime officers who had presented themselves for employment. These allegations have been investigated and have been dismissed for lack of merit.

"The report concerning the United Fruit company as presented to the New York office, asserted that the company had requested a full crew and that, when qualified Negro officers applied, the company had refused to accept them. This was found to be without foundation in fact. No request for a crew was made by the company. Investigation revealed that a suggestion was made that Negro officers, not specified as to persons or qualifications, be hired by the United Fruit company. Upon report of the full facts to responsible officers of the company, a readiness by the company to employ qualified Negro officers was expressed.

"In the course of its investigation of this case, the committee found that about 25 officers are presently serving in the merchant marine and that the total number of qualified Negro officers, including the 25 afloat, is less than 50. Due to the shortening of training time for officers from 36 to 18 months, more qualifying Negro officers are becoming available. The committee found that the United Fruit company has employed unlicensed personnel without regard to color. With respect to the unlicensed personnel, the committee has received assurances from the United Fruit Company that any qualified officer meeting the requirements of the War Shipping adminisration will be employed without regard to race, color, creed or national origin."

SEP 3 1943

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION SUPPORTS FIGHT ON KAISER

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

AUG 20 1943

FEPC Gets Protest Against Bias of Ship Builder and A. F. of L. Union

NEW YORK, August 19—(ANP) The American Civil Liberties union has filed with the FEPC a document in support of the complaint by the Portland, Ore., branch of the NAACP against the Kaiser Shipbuilding company of Portland and two lodges of the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, A. F. of L.

AUG 20 1943

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The NAACP complains that the Kaiser shipyard and the unions collaborated in the wrongful dismissal of more than 300 Negro workers in deliberate violation of the New Executive Order 9463. The complaint was lodged in Washington by the legal staff of the NAACP.

Discrimination was achieved, according to the complaint, by denying Negroes membership in the local unions of the Boilermakers and Shipbuilders which have a closed shop agreement with the Kaiser company. Negro workers were then faced with the alternative of joining a jim crow "auxiliary lodge", which has no real status in the brotherhood, or with discharge from their jobs.

AUG 20 1943

The auxiliary lodge is alleged to have been chartered in December, 1942, but so far, the NAACP complaint says, no officers or trustees have been elected, no meetings have been held, no charter has been issued and the auxiliary has remained without organization in face and in law.

AUG 20 1943

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The complaint, supported by the civil liberties union, asserts that the auxiliary lodge scheme was designed "to deprive Negro workmen of economic security, equal participation in collective bargaining, and the several rights, privileges and benefits which are incidents of membership" in the unions which have contracts with the Kaiser company. Membership in the lodge is limited to "colored male persons."

AUG 20 1943

FEPC Probing C. and P. Policies

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE.—The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee is now conducting an investigation of employment policies at the C. and P. Telephone Company, it was learned Monday.

A hearing on charges of race discrimination in employment was held August 28 and it is expected that some announcement on the findings will be made soon.

C. and P. refuses employment to colored women as telephone operators, although a number of the young women who applied and were turned down completed a course in telephone operating sponsored by the Total War Employment Committee.

Conference Requested

This committee, headed by Dr. J. E. T. Camper, chairman, and Calvin Douglass, executive secretary, has requested a conference with FEPC chairman, Father Francis J. Haas.

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Malcolm Ross, FEPC representative, queried in Washington, Monday, said that the investigation of C. and P. charges is still under way.

Picketing of the C. and P. headquarters on St. Paul Street, which was halted several weeks ago after nearly five weeks, is expected to be resumed unless the conference with the FEPC chairman is satisfactory.

Young women attending graduating exercises of the telephone class voted unanimously to take this action.

Rail Hearings To Start September 15

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Twenty-three railroad companies and eleven unions have been called upon to defend themselves against chargs of discrimination for which the President's Fair Employment Committee will hold hearings for four days, beginning September 15.

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Father Haas Social Science Dean At Catholic University

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

JUN 5 1943

WASHINGTON (ANP)–Cornered by White House correspondents just as he left a scheduled conference with President Roosevelt last Tuesday, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, dean of social sciences at Catholic University, here, and well-known labor conciliator, admitted that he had accepted the chairmanship of the Fair Employment Pratice committee.

Owing to the fact that a new executive order is in process of release, but was not yet ready at the time, the news break was considered premature and some of the edge has been taken off the piece of information which has been breathlessly awaited since early in January.

Meanwhile, other developments in connection with the affairs of the FEPC were taking place at such a rapid pace that reporters were busy for two days scurrying about trying to tie up bits of information. Of primary importance, however, was the postponement of two hearings which the committee had scheduled, one of which was to have been held on Tuesday.

Late Monday afternoon this notice was posted on the board:

"The Committee on Fair Employment Practice was today officially advised that a new chairman had been appointed and the committee's reorganization will be effected immediately upon his assumption of the chairmanship.

The committee has therefore been requested to postpone its public hearings scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, in Washington, D. C., on the Capital Transit Company case.

"Pursuant to this request, the committee, at its meeting today postponed the Capital Transit Company hearing from Tuesday, May 18, to Wednesday, June 2. At the same time and for the same reason the committ stponed its scheduled h g in Detroit from May 24 and 25 to June 28 and 29."

Late Monday the Associated Negro Press learned that Fr. Haas was the man who had been agreed upon. The next day the President's appointment list included the name of the prelate. The two men talked for an hour beginning at 11:10 a. m., compelling former chairman of the Democratic National Committee Edward J. Flynn to wait for his turn to see the President.

Fr. Haas was then buttonholed as he left the Executive chambers, and the story was out.

The man who is to head up the committee has a lenghy record in connection with labor work. He hails from Wisconsin, where he was a champion of liberal legislation in a state which has been to the forefront long before the New Deal came upon the scene.

He was a member of the National Labor Board, predecessor to the National Labor Relations Board; member of the labor advisory board of NRA for 2 years to 1935; special commissioner of conciliation, Labor Department, since 1935, and has identified himself with leading social work and sociological societies of the country.

Fr. Haas is an ordained prie of the Jesuit order of the Catholic Church.

JUN 5 1943

News regarding the reo ganization plan is still expec ed momentarily.

P. B. Young Named to Replace Earl Dickerson; Milton Webster Remains

JUL 9 1943

Three Members Represent Labor, And Three Industry; Two Negroes And Four Whites Make Up Group

WASHINGTON, D. C.—At long last, President Roosevelt Friday, July 2, appointed six members of the new Committee on Fair Employment Practice of which the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis J. Haas is chairman.

The members, representing labor and industry, include:

For Labor

John Brophy, Congress of Industrial Organization, Washington, D. C.

Milton P. Webster, international vice president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. F. of L., Chicago.

Boris Shiskin, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

JUL 9 1943

For Industry

Miss Sara Southall, supervisor of Employment and Service, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Ill.

P. B. Young Sr., publisher, Norfolk Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

JUL 9 1943

Samuel Zemurray, president, United Fruit Company, Audubon Place, New Orleans, La.

Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago attorney who was on the old committee was omitted from the new commi e. He was replaced by P. B. Young. The new committee, like the old, is made up of two Negroes (Young and Webster) and four white persons.

Malcolm Ross, white, was named executive secretary.

Under New Executive Order

The new committee, established under executive order 9346 on May 27, charged with the responsibility of promoting "the fullest utilization of all available manpower and the elimination of discriminatory practices in employment." It replaces the old Committee on Fair Employment Practice established by executive order 8802 on June 25, 1941.

All three labors members were held over from the old committee. Mr. Brophy, a member of the United Steelworkers of America and national director of the Industrial Union councils of the C. I. O., acted as alternate on the old committee for Philip Murray, CIO president.

Mr. Shiskin, economist for the American Federation of Labor, served as alternate for William Green, A. F. of L. president. Both have been appointed as full members of the new committee, along with Mr. Webster, who also was a member of the old committee.

JUL 9 1943

Has Wide Experience

Of the industry representatives, Miss Southall has had extensive experience in the field of labor utilization. A member of the Board of the Chicago Urban League and active in the industrial division of the Y. W. C. A. she was serving as consultant to the War Manpower commission on the utilization of women

JUL 9 1943

ON FEPC.—

P. Bernard Young, Norfolk, Va., publisher who was named as a member of the Fair Employment Practice Committee to replace Earl B. Dickerson who served on the old committee.

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BUFFALO CABS TO TAKE NEGRO DRIVERS

NEW YORK — (ANP) — An agreement to abolish the color line in their employment of drivers or maintenance workers was reached by five of the seven taxicab companies in Buffalo last week following a conference with representatives of the Fair Employment practice committee and the War Manpower commission, it was announced this week by Edward Lawson, acting examiner in charge of the FEPC New York reginal office.

JUL 17 1943

FEPC Tells Capital Bus Firm to End Jim Crow

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 7-28-43

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has notified the Capital Transit Company here that it expects Negroes to be employed on its lines in compliance with the President's executive order, 8802, barring discrimination.

If there is no "affirmative action" soon, it was indicated, a public hearing of the case will be ordered.

If the FEPC really goes through with its directive to Capital Transit, it will be a good indication that the committee, recently reorganized, is now equipped to meet its big responsibilities in cracking down on discrimination.

The company has long refused to employ Negroes as bus and street car operators. FEPC hearings on the complaints were scheduled, then postponed, then rescheduled in May.

The FEPC, now headed by Mgr. Francis J. Haas of Catholic University, will meet again Aug. 9. At the meeting yesterday it was indicated that if the transit company's response was unsatisfactory, recommendations, based upon the suggested public hearing, would be forwarded to the President.

Six New Members Still To Be Named By Chief

Atlanta Daily Atlanta, Ga.

May 28

WASHINGTON, — (SNS) — The old committee on Fair Employment Practice passed out of existence Friday and President Roosevelt set up another designed to insure that persons of every race, creed, color or national origin may have an opportunity ot participate in the war effort without discrimination.

MAY 29 1943

As announced earlier in the week by the Associated Negro Press, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, dean of the School of Social Science of Catholic University in Washington, will head the new agency.

ORIGINAL NLB MEMBER

The educator was a member of the original National Labor Board and has been a special conciliator for the Labor Department since 1935. The White House said he had helped to settle some 1,500 labor disputes.

An executive order setting up the new committee gives the chairman authority to appoint personnel and "power to promulgate such rules

FEPC

and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order."

Presidential Secretary Stephen Early said the committee is authorized specifically to enforce the non-discrimination policies.

The Chief Executive decreed that hereafter all contracting agencies of the Government shall include in all contracts a provision obliging the contractor not to discriminate against any employe or job applicant because of race, creed, color or national origin, and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts.

OTHER MEMBERS TO BE NAMED

Six other members of the committee are to be named by the Chief Executive. It will receive and investigate complaints of discrimination and is empowered to conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and "take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discriimaniton."

Mr. Roosevelt's order said "it si the duty of all employers, including the several federal departments and agencies and all labor organizations in furtherance of this policy and of their order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color or national arigin."

The President declared there was evidence that "available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in war production" to the detriment of the prosecution of war, the workers' morale and national unity solely by reason of their race, creed, color or origin.

The successful conduct of the war, he added, demands the maximum employment of all available workers and "the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders."

FEPC Invites Testimony on Navy Yard Bias

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

Samuel Risk, examiner for the New York office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, at a joint meeting recently of the Brooklyn Council, National Negro Congress, and the Brooklyn Urban League, assured Negro workers who complained about discrimination in the Brooklyn Navy Yard that they would be protected from intimidation if they testified. He then proceeded to instruct them in the proper way of filing written complaints.

President over by Edward Strong, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, and Lorenzo F. Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League, the meeting was made up of representatives from such leading civic organizations as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Central YMCA, the New York State Conference of Negro Youth, trade unions, and a large number of Negro Navy Yard workers.

Following a discussion of workers' grievances a number of complaints, embracing refusal to upgrade Negroes, segregation and unequal working conditions, were recorded.

Jobs Committee Confers With President of FEPC

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

A delegation from the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities conferred recently with Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice. The Jobs Committee which has led the [illegible] for employment of Negro bus and street car operators with the Capital Transit Company is the first group of its kind which has been able to obtain a conference with Father Haas.

W. S. Johnson, spokesman for the delegation, pointed out to Msgr. Haas that local newspapers have carried reports of FEPC conferences with Merrill, president of the Transit Company and expressed the Committee's desire to know the exact state of progress which has been made to assure the hiring of Negro operators.

The delegation was informed that conferences between the entire FEPC membership and officials of the company and the union hav been held. The understanding which resulted from these conferences is that the Transit Company has been given a period of grace in which constructive steps to integrate Negro operators into the present ranks must be reported to the new FEPC. The length of time in which the company must take such steps has not yet been set by the Committee.

Msgr. Haas, Mr. Ross, the new executive secretary and George Johnson, assistant executive secretary, stressed to the delegation the fact that the newly- organized FEPC has many cases yet to be considered and that the Transit Company case has occupied much time in the discussions which have thus far been held by the total committee. Whether the hiring of Negro operators can be effected without the holding of public hearings depends on what the Transit Company accomplishes as a result of the meetings which have been held.

The Jobs Committee urges that qualified men continue to apply to the company for operators' jobs in order that evidence of available manpower be on hand when the period of grace is terminated.

Members of the delegation were Dr. and Mrs. Eugene C. Holmes, Miss Margaret Buffum, Miss Selma Kaslick, Ernest Harper, Miss Mayme Brown and W. S. Johnson.

AFL Urged to End Jim Crow Rules

World-Telegram

New York, N. Y.

By the Associated Press.

BOSTON, Oct. 6.—Mgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, pleaded today with delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention to accord full union status to Negroes and other minority groups, and issued this warning:

"Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between antilabor employees and antilabor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members. Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group. Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist, he wants his full statute as an American working man, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt."

Monsignor Haas, who is bishop-elect of Grand Rapids, Mich., said the executive order creating his committee held out to minority groups "something akin to what the Wagner Act held out to dominated workers in the year 1935."

The convention also heard talks by Capt. John R. Perry of the Seabees and Edward J. Phelan, acting director of the International Labor Office.

New FEPC Head's Proposal Seen As Discriminatory

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

MOBILE, Ala., June 17—According to J. L. LeFlore, regional official of the Southern wing of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, consisting of all the local branches of the NAACP in four major States, apparent calm exists at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company where, two weeks ago, a near-riot resulted when white workers walked off their jobs in resentment of the upgrading of colored welders.

However, Mr. LeFlore reports general unrest among colored people and liberal organizational forces over an announced plan of Monsignor Francis Haas, new chairman of the Fair Employment Practices committee, published in the Mobile Press-Register and other dailies in this section.

TELEPHONE "TIP" HINTED

According to information, these newspapers received a long-distance "tip" from Washington, D.C., that Negroes would be upgraded only in skills necessary to do bare hull construction work and would not be employed on interior and superstructure jobs.

Immediately after hearing of the highly unsatisfactory proposal, the Southern NAACP immediately wired the FEPC for a comprehensive statement of the Haas plan. The NAACU frankly advised the FEPC that colored workers rightfully expected equitable integration of Negro workers in all fundamental training and employment capacities. It regarded as unsound, unwise and unfair, any plan which would permit emasculation of the purposes of Executive Order 8802 — and further abridgement of the rights of Negroes to employment on any and all jobs they may be qualified to hold.

FEPC, WMC Pact To Be Worked Out

Atlanta Daily World.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(A N P)—The "sphere of influence" and modus operandi" agreement being worked out between the Fair Employment Practive committee and the War Manpower commission is expected to be completed and approved sometime this week, it is learned.

According to one source, it will be substantially the same as the agreement that was concluded between the committee and the commission on Oct. 26, 1942, but which never became effective for one reason or another.

The objective of the agreement is to clearly define where each of the organizations will head in the elimination of discrimination in industry, and in securing the fullest possible utilization of manpower.

FEPC meanwhile is going ahead selecting personnel to set up its 12 regional offices. These directorships will be handed out to both Negroes and whites, but where whites are in charge, there will be a Negro associated closely with him, one source pointed out.

The respective functions of George M. Johnson and Malcolm Ross have not yet been defined either. Both have been told individually what is expected of them, it is understood, but the parceling of the work has not been done with both men present. Mgr. Francis J. Haas, committee chairman, described the two men as "assistants to the chairman," It is hoped in many quarters that this will actually be the case rather than have either of the two men in an ascendant position.

The New FEPC

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

President Roosevelt has finally appointed three new members to the Fair Employment Practice Committee, thereby bringing it up to full strength. Of the two original Negro members, one of them, Milton P. Webster, vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was retained, but Earle B. Dickerson, of Chicago, the other one, was dropped. However, with the appointment of P. B. Young, publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, the FEPC still has two Negro members.

The other new members are Miss Sara Southall, supervisor of employment and service for the International Harvester Co., and Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Co.

We hope that Fr. Francis J. Haas, new chairman of the FEPC, and his revamped committee will now get down to some real hard work and do all they can to see that fair employment practices really obtain in war industry. We also hope that this new committee does a better job than its predecessor. Meantime, we reserve our judgment about FEPC until it shows some action.

47d-1943

FEPC

JEFFERS PLEDGES 'FAIR EMPLOYMENT'

Union Pacific Head Tells Committee That Racial Discrimination Is Against Road's Policy

SEP 18 1943

New York Times

NAZI PROPAGANDA CITED

Tolischus Quotes 'Triple Barreled' Attack on Treatment of Negroes Here

New York, N. Y.

By LOUIS STARK

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17—William Jeffers, president of the Union Pacific Railroad, authorized a statement to the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee today to the effect that the railroad's policy was opposed to discriminating in jobs or promotions against Mexicans or persons of Mexican parentage.

In a statement read to the committee today by F. E. Baukhages, personnel director, it was said that the complaints filed by the committees "suggested the existence of conditions not recognizable" in the carrier's employment policy, since examination of the employment roster disclosed that positions of all types are filled by persons whose names indicate Mexican birth or parentage.

While inquiry prior to the hearings made the company feel there was no basis for the allegations, disclosures at the hearings developed specific cases of alleged discrimination, the statement added.

"These we will investigate fully with a view toward the speedy correction of any situation inconsistent with the company's policy," the statement concluded.

Bartley C. Crum, chief counsel to the committee, addressing Mgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the committee, commented that the Union Pacific's posiion was "a notable contribution to the purposes of the President's Executive Order (creating the committee)."

Tolischus Explains Propaganda

Continuing its presentation of testimony citing 22 railroads and 15 unions on charges of discriminating against racial minorities, the committee offered further support to the allegation that Axis propaganda used such occurrences for its own purposes.

Otto D. Tolischus, former New York Times correspondent in Berlin and Tokio, summarized "The Way of the Subjects," an official document issued by the Japanese Ministry of Education which, he said, was based on the charge that the white man was exploiting and oppressing all colored races.

Therefore, said Mr. Tolischus, it was maintained in the document, that Japan, in fighting the white men, as represented by Britain and the United States, had become the champion of the colored races. That was the basis, he explained, of the slogan, "Asia for the Asiatics."

At the same time, according to Mr. Tolischus, Nazi propaganda used [illegible] incidents in this country involving the Negro in a "triple-barreled" manner, as follows:

First, alleged Negro treatment was used to support the Nazi idea of superiority and inferiority of races and it was said that Americans themselves endorsed the idea.

Second, Nazi propaganda used the Negro question as a basis for showing that there was a possible revolutionary element here which could eventually be used for German purposes.

Third, it was urged, contrary to the other two arguments, that Negro ideas and folkways had resulted in a decadent and "Negrofied" civilization which could easily be overthrown.

Negroes Cite Specific Cases

Negro employes of a group of railroads offered testimony to prove that they were discriminated against in various ways by the carriers. Although there is a shortage of firemen, they said, experienced Negro firemen, now reduced in rank, are passed over and used as teachers to young white men, preparing them to take firemen's jobs not only on mechanized stoker engines but also on Diesel engines.

To refute replies by some of the railroads that employment of Negroes as firemen would be resented by white employes one Negro witness, Edward Jackson of Meridian, Miss., said that for thirty-three years he had been a fireman on the Southern Railroad and that his treatment by his white associates was such that "I had to look in the mirror to know I was colored, for they treated me like a white man."

According to Luther Harris, Negro employe of the Atlantic Joint Terminals, if he were permitted to exercise his seniority he could hold any one of forty-one jobs, but, he added, Negroes are denied their seniority rights.

Frank Graves, 68 years old, a retired Negro fireman on the Southern Railway, told of his lengthy and unavailing efforts to ascertain from road officials and from officials of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Engineers why his 180-pound son, with two years college to his credit, and 6 feet 2 in his stocking feet, was not able to get a job as fireman to fill the place he was about to vacate upon retirement.

"Save FEPC" Cry Of New York Rally

NOV 13 1943

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(ANP)—A citywide "Save the FEPC" rally was scheduled for Wednesday at Hunter College Auditorium under auspices of the Council Against Intolerance in America.

The rally protests Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's ruling nullifying President Roosevelt's directive in establishing the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Unless reversed, this ruling will permit an employer to discriminate against Negroes, Jews, Catholics, and other minorities if he so chooses.

Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, co-chairman of the council, in announcing the rally said: "The FEPC has been the greatest single accomplishment toward just treatment of all Americans in our day.

"To nullify it, as would be done if the Comptroller General's decision is allowed to stand, would be a terrible blow to the war effort and to our democracy."

THE SPEAKERS

Among the distinguished speakers who will address the rally are: Francis J. McConnell, bishop of the Methodist church; Miss Fannie Hurst, novelist; Mark Starr, educational director of the I. L. G. W. U.; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress; Walter White, secretary of the NAACP; Henry Epstein, former solicitor-general of the state of New York, who resigned as consultant for the FEPC in protest against the discontinuation of the railroad hearings, will speak of the legal aspects.

James Waterman Wise, research director of the Council Against Intolerance in America, will be chairman of the rally.

Roads Defy Order Barring Discrimination

Courier-Journal

16 Southern Firms Deny Board's Power

Louisville, Ky.

DEC 14 1943

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The committee appointed by President Roosevelt to prevent discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups in war jobs was defied today by sixteen Southern railroads, which termed its orders empty of authority.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice disputed the railroads' contention and followed up with another and similar order, this one directing West Coast shipyard unions to end alleged discrimination against Negro shipbuilders.

The sixteen carriers wrote that they would not obey the F.E.P.C. order of November 24 (which was chiefly designed to permit promotion of Negroes to better jobs on the railroads) because, they said, the committee "is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue the directives, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect."

Based On Executive Order.

Both the railroad and shipyard orders were issued under an executive order in which the President forbade any contractor doing business with the Government to discriminate against employes or would-be employes for racial or religious reasons.

It is wholly impractical, the railroads said in a joint letter to the F.E.P.C., to attempt to handle delicate inter-racial problems in Southern states by decree. Further, they argued that changes in relations between carriers and unions can be accomplished only under the Railway Labor Act. They spoke of "disastrous results" resulting from, for instance, the promotion of Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors which "would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them."

Would "Raise Morale."

Chairman Malcolm Ross of the F.E.P.C., replying, said the engineer-conductor idea wasn't even at issue, but that "the granting of overdue rights to Negro railroad men" aspiring to jobs like firemen or brakemen, "far from being a cause for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service" and raise Negro morale.

The roads are the Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Frisco, Seaboard, Southern, Chesapeake and Ohio, Gulf Mobile and Ohio, Norfolk and Western, Illinois Central, Yazoo and Mississippi Valley, and Gulf and Ship Island.

The F.E.P.C. action in the shipyards case followed extensive public hearings in November on complaints of Negroes that contracts between the shipbuilders' and the union barred Negro workers from full membership. The Negroes alleged they were herded into auxiliary locals, had no voice in union affairs, and that the auxiliaries, in effect, were formed only to mulct them of dues while the white unions conspired to prevent the Negroes from earning promotion and pay increases.

Several hundred Negro shipyard workers were discharged because they refused to pay dues to the auxiliary unions. This is basis for dismissal under terms of the present contract. The union refused to participate in the hearings, the F.E.P.C. reported.

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Harry Barron Leaves FEPC

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Harry I. Barron is out at the Fair Employment Practice committee. The former chief of the compliance and analysis division, more recently renamed review and analysis, quit the post he had held since April, 1942, on Saturday.

The change does not exactly come as a surprise. Sometime ago before Lawrence W. Cramer, then secretary of the committee, had left and when it was generally known that he would be entering the army, the question arose as to who would succeed him in that position.

Since George M. Johnson, now assistant to the chairman, was Cramer's assistant, it was assumed that he would get the post. But a fear developed in certain quarters that it might have been handed to Barron. Eventually, the committee was reorganized, Malcolm Ross was brought in from the National Labor Relations board and he and Johnson were given equal rank and similar titles.

Barron, an official of the Bureau of Jewis Employment Problems in Chicago before joining GEPC, has long differed with other members of the administrative organization on questions of techniques and phases of policy. The feeling is that because of this duobts that the objectives of the committee were being adequately attained, he chose to resign. There are also those who infer that Barron suffered a diminution in influence with Cramer's exiting, and so has been a bit disgruntled about the new order of things.

No official explanation was given for the resignation.

PM

New York, N. Y.

FEPC Begins Kaiser Probe

AUG 29 1943

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 28.—President Roosevelt's FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) has begun a preliminary investigation of charges made by Negro leaders that the Henry J. Kaiser shipyards and the Boilermakers Union, AFL, in the Portland area are unfairly discriminating against Negro shipyard workers.

The FEPC heard the charges from the Rev. J. J. Clow, president of the Portland Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Julius Rodriguez, president of the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory.

Citizens Deplore Attack On FEPC

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 9 1943

Following publication of our story on the action of City Council in adopting a resolution at its Monday's session calling upon Georgia's representatives at Washington to insist upon the removal of the Atlanta office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices because of the prospect of the "mixing of the races" in one or more office buildings here, the Atlanta Daily World sought for publication, opinions and reactions of some leading colored Atlantans.

The statements follow:

DEC 9 1943

Rev. J. C. Wright

Pastor, First Congregational Church

"The story carried in this morning's WORLD of a possible action on the part of City Council to bar a Regional office of FEPC from the city of Atlanta is a note almost as shocking to lovers of democracy, fairplay and justice as were the explosion of Japanese bombs at Pearl Harbor. Needless to say that any such effort should and probably will be opposed to the very last ditch. But at a time when America is assuming the leadership in the planning of a world that shall be composed of a family of democracies, such as a revelation of her own practice of democracy must be a problem to her friends and a source of infinite comfort to her enemies."

DEC 9 1943

Rev. Amos Ryce, Jr.

Vocational Secretary, Atlanta Urban League

"The times indeed seem out of joint when a citizens' group, the calibre of that of the City Council, protests a measure as democratic in procedure as that of the FEPC. Are there those who fear that justice will be done, even in just a few places, for laborers, white and black, who have been bled, fleeced, and exploited by those who have no human interest? Is this the way Atlanta intends to lead the South NOW and in the POST-WAR world? Can Atlanta, exposed as it is to most of the influence of culture, do this?

"It is said that the races will be thrown together. That has always been true. In every large building in Atlanta, the races work together. The Negro janitor, the Negro maid, the Negro elevator operator move with freedom among white people of every level and every sex every day. Are there those who would keep every Negro out of sight but janitors, maids, and elevator operators? Does a Negro become contemptible when he is not one of these? What difference does it make?

DEC 9 1943

"Somebody is about to admit what this thing is all about. Could it be that Negroes in Atlanta must not be permitted to feel happy on jobs above the traditional categories? Some things are not expected of people who go to church."

FEPC Opens Offices In N. Y.; To Serve Seven-State Area

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—A permanent office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice opened Tuesday, in the Empire State building, 350 Fifth avenue, New York City. The office is to receive and investigate complaints of discriminatory employment practices in war industry, labor unions, and government agencies serving the states of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

ABLE HEAD

Edward Lawson, former executive of the National Urban league for Social Work Among Negroes and managing editor of the magazine Opportunity, has been appointed regional director in charge of the office, chairman Francis J. Haas annouced. Mr. Lawson comes to the Fair Employment Practice committee from the War Manpower Commission, where for the past year he has served as an employment specialist. For one year previously he had been head of the New York office of the Negro Employment and Training branch, War Production board.

ESTABLISHED IN 1941

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was established by Executive Order 8802 on June 25, 1941, at which time the President reaffirmed the policy of the United States "that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or Government because of race, creed, color or national origin," and declared, "that it is the duty of all employers and of labor organizations, in furtherance of said policy and of this order to provide for the full and equitable participation of all workers in defense industries, without regard to race, creed, color or national origin." The committee was reorganized and strengthened recently by Executive Order 9346, making it an independent war agency.

SCOPE OF JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction of FEPC covers discriminatory employment practices by a private employer engaged to any extent in war work, a government agency, a war training school, or a labor organization. Valid complaints may involve refusal to hire, refusal to train, refusal to promote, refusal to register for or refer to a war job, discrimination in wages or working conditions, or refusal to admit to union membership or to issue a work permit. Complaints must be substantiated by evidence, and only those which appear valid on the surface, and within the jurisdiction of the Committee, will be accepted for investigation and adjustment.

The seven-man Committee on Fair Employment Practice will, if necessary, hold hearings on cases which cannot be adjusted by the regional office, according to Chairman Haas.

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Chairman Haas Warns Labor of Color Prejudice

OCT 2 1943

TORONTO, Canada.—Upon labor's attitude toward workers as a whole, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, depends a large measure of its future, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC, told the annual convention of the United Rubber Workers of America, CIO, here Tuesday night.

Monsignor Hass, referring to the post-war period, said, "If white Americans want to hold their gains, if they want to hold on to their high standards, they cannot afford to leave their flanks exposed to the competition from the unorganized and unwanted, who, in the very nature of things, will be less friendly to those who shut them out."

Must Take Stand

OCT 2 1943

The FEPC chairman went on to declare that racial tolerance is not a negative code of behaviour, but rather an affirmative issue upon which all American labor will some day be called on to make the basic decision whether or not to cut across habit of excluding as members those not belonging to the majority racial group.

Implying that in its own defense labor must forego color bars, Monsignor Haas said, "There cannot be a strong labor movement where there are pockets of the unorganized who want work;" that to be an enlightened trade unionist one must be interested in employment for all who want to work and in production for the needs of mankind.

OCT 2 1943

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Mobile Compromise Hits FEPC In Chi

AUG 15 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—If Chicago developments are any indication, the Fair Emloyment Practice committee's famous 'Mobile compromise" is going to dog the Negro's fight for integration from here on out.

Employers in the Wind City have been told through a publication serving the Employers association of Chicago, under Labor News Brevities, that so long as FEPC has given the practice its blessings, segregation of workers is all right.

"Segregation of Negro workers from white employes IS NOT NECESSARILY A VIOLATION OF THE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION EXECUTIVE ORDER 8802, so long as the FEPC RECENTLY APPROVED SUCH A SOLUTION OF A RACIAL CONTROVERSY at the yards of the Alabama Drydock and Shipping Co., Mobile Ala., "the item reads (underscoring theirs). "An FEPC, directly responsible to the President, is empowered to investigate complaints of discrimination, conduct hearings and take any appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination."

AUG 15 1943

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

FDR Praised On Ruling Backing FEPC

NOV 8 1943

The Council Against Intolerance in America, in a statement yesterday through its research director, James Waterman Wise, hailed President Roosevelt's reaffirming the mandatory character of his Executive Order against discrimination in war employment. The President on Saturday sent a letter to Attorney General Francis Biddle to the effect that Executive Order 9346 was mandatory for all war industries holding government contracts. This letter canceled a recent ruling by Comptroller General Lindsay Warren that the Executive Order was not mandatory.

NOV 8 1943

"A defeat for the FEPC would have constituted a major victory for Axis propaganda," Mr. Wise's statement said. "By overruling Comptroller General Lindsay Warren, who sought to nullify the FEPC the President has made it clear that equality in employment is to remain a guiding principle of government for the duration."

NOV 8 1943

In view of the President's letter to the Attorney General, Mr. Wise said, the public rally scheduled for Wednesday evening, Nov. 10, under the slogan "Save the FEPC," will not be held.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Recalcitrant Railroads

When the President returns to the White House one of the first matters to be considered as "must" should be a request of Congress to give statutory sanction to his Executive Order 9346, establishing the FEPC.

Sixteen Southern railroads have challenged his authority to create a committee to deal with discrimination in war industries on account of race, and have flatly told the FEPC where to go in connection with its recent directive to the roads to cease discrimination.

DEC 18 1943

The time has now come for the President to implement his Executive Order by providing his committee with the means of enforcing its directives. If he has no authority to delegate such power, then Congress should be asked to promptly pass the Marcantonio bill which will give FEPC the needed authority.

One thing is certain,—the President can take over these railroads and operate them in the name of the Government, just as was done in the case of a Western railroad that ignored an Executive directive, and just as was done in the case of the coal mines. Such action would not need the approval of Congress. The President already has such power.

Unless swift action is taken, we are bound to see other industries flouting the reasonable and equitable directives of the FEPC, such as the Western Electric Co. in Baltimore is doing today.

DEC 18 1943

In Baltimore, we have the spectacle of the white employees striking because the War Labor Board refused to order separate toilet facilities for white and colored workers.

At a time when white and colored men are battling and dying together for a common cause on the battle fronts, we have in this country an industry, manufacturing war products, stopping work because whites consider themselves too good to use a common toilet with Negroes.

If stoppages of work for such reasons as that are to be condoned by permitting them to go unchecked, then we might as well give up the fight for democracy or prepare ourselves for a long, drawn-out war.

Men in Congress like Rankin of Mississippi, and Hobbs of Alabama, whose daily venom is spilled in the halls of Congress, are doing much to create racial disturbances and to encourage dissension in war industries.

DEC 18 1943

They would rather see the war lost than to have it won with tools and implements of war made by Negroes working side by side with whites.

The people of this country and of the allied nations are looking to the President to act and to act swiftly and decisively upon his return. The people want to see this war end quickly, and they will not tolerate its delay by an intolerant minority who are causing its prolongation over a simple matter of whether white and colored should use a common toilet.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

RAILROADS CAN'T STAND FEPC EXPOSE

The people who asked, "What's the use of an FEPC railroad hearing?" had their answer last week.

Few realized the extent to which railroads and unions conspired to exclude colored workers. The picture of hate—deliberate, cruel, bloody—impressed itself with frightening impact as the hearings proceeded.

OCT 2 1943

Wrongs like this cannot be perpetrated year after year without an awful reckoning some day. Corporations like the respected(?) and respectable(?) railroads and the venerable American Federation of Labor were proved to be the most gosh awful cads and curs.

A locomotive engineer is no more than a plane pilot or a truck driver. A conductor is no better than any other usher, doorman or ticket-taker, yet railroads and unions have taken simple jobs like these and, with the connivance of the U.S. Government itself (Interstate Commerce Commission), put a tag on them "lily white." The same was done with positions as firemen, oilers, switchmen, brakemen, and hostlers.

The railroads cannot stand this FEPC expose. To be sure, the daily press as a whole wasn't cooperative in giving the hearings publicity, but word got around. The weekly press did an excellent job, and the FEPC, as a government agency, can print and distribute reports of the testimony.

OCT 2 1943

Railroads will have to yield, B. & O., Pennsy, N.Y. Central with the rest. It's shocking to find them in such bad company.

SEES INTOLERANCE HURTING EFFORTS TO WIN THE WAR

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 9 1943

Chairman Will Remain until Decisions Are Completed; Reported P. B. Young, Sr. May Resign in a Few Weeks

OCT 9 1943

WASHINGTON—Four months after being named chairman of the new seven-member FEPC by President Roosevelt, Monsignor Francis J. Haas last Friday at the White House tendered his resignation to the President to accept the post of Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich., to which position he was elevated by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII. He announced his resignation at a press conference here Saturday, declaring that he was leaving the FEPC "with profound regret."

At the same time it was reliably reported that P. B. Young, Sr., new industry member of the board, had been contemplating resignation because of ill health and would proably resign in a few weeks.

PUBLIC SHOCKED BY RESIGNATION

The announcement [illegible] father Haas left members of his committee and the public here stunned. Coming as it did shortly after reorganization of the committee by the President — a reorganization which had been preceded by months of inertia without a chairman— and on the heels of the first full dress public hearings on railroad discrimination held by the new committee, the resignation was wholly unexpected.

While admitting that he had discussed the FEPC problems thoroughly with President Roosevelt on Friday, Father Haas declined to indicate whether his successor had been chosen. "That announcement must come from the White House," he said. Committee members and persons on the staff of FEPC hazarded the guess that Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman, would be named by the President to the vacancy. No other names were mentioned by anyone having even the slightest familiarity with the committee.

RAPS INTOLERANCE

In a prepared statement which he presented at Saturday's press conference, Father Haas stated:

"To assume my duties as Bishop of Grand Rapids it will be necessary that I resign as chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. In the degree that I know the importance of the work of that committee to the war effort and our democracy, I leave it with profound regret.

LEAVES FEPC

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

OCT 9 1943

Monsignor Francis J. Haas announced, Saturday, his resignation, after but four months as chairman of President Roosevelt's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Father Haas abandoned the FEPC, he said, to assume new duties as bishop of Grand Rapids, to which position he has been elevated by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII.

"The terrible needs of war exact that we use to the utmost the hands and high skills which Negro citizens, Spanish-Americans, Jews and loyal men and women of foreign extraction are offering willingly to their country's service.

"That is the practical side, against which no man who loves his country would knowingly erect the barriers of intolerance or of outmoded industrial habits.

CONVINCED PRACTICE MUST BE PURGED

"The essential rightness of the President's Executive Order against discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin appeared clear to me when I took office as chairman of the committee four months ago. In that brief period the close experience with the problem of the men and women, who have suffered discrimination at the hands of fellow-Americans, has deepened my conviction that this practice must be purged from our national life if we are both to win this war and consolidate our life as a democratic nation thereafter.

"I have full trust in the members of the committee. It was not known to me until very recently that it would be necessary for me to end what shall remain as one of the most satisfactory associations of my life. The work of the committee is in good hands."

RESIGNATION MAY EFFECT FUTURE

Few observers here doubt that Haas resignation leaves the committee in a precarious position unless a strong nationally known public figure can be found quickly to take his place. The long period of indecision through which the committee passed without a chairman, while hundreds [illegible] of discrimination backlogged in its files, the months of behind-the-scenes maneuvers paticipated in by Attoney General Francis Biddle, War Manpower Commissioner McNutt and others, the refusal of the first three or four persons selected for the post to accept it, the uncertainty which still remains as to whether the committee must go before a hostile Congress for funds—all are factors which have led many persons to despair of the enforcement of the President's executive order. Only the railroad hearings, carefully planned and competently administered gave the public a renewed feeling of confidence in the committee. The Haas resignation has created a general feeling of pessimism here.

Monsignor Haas has insisted, however, that he will remain long enough to guarantee the continuity of the committee's work and to complete the special tasks which he began.

Expressing regret at his resignation members of the committee were high in his praise. "He contributed mightily towards advancing the aims and purposes of the executive order," said Committee Member Brophy. "His leaving is a terrible loss to the committee. He showed leadership necessary at this time," said Boris Shishkin. Other members expressed similar appreciation for his work.

Racial Discrimination Issue Of Railroads Now In F. D. R.'s Lap

Birmingham, Ala.
News

Problem Is Turned Over To President [illegible] FEPC; Investigation Is Voted

WASHINGTON— (AP) —Enforcement of President Roosevelt's order against any racial discrimination in war industries was up to the president himself Tuesday.

The problem was turned over to the chief executive by the Fair Employment Practice Committee late Monday after a congressional committee moved to investigate the agency's activities.

The FEPC, set up by the president under the second war powers act, certified 14 Southeastern railroads and seven railway labor unions as violators of presidential order No. 9346 which forbids racial or religious discrimination against workers or job applicants by any firm doing any work for the U. S. government.

Operators of the railroads involved were in effect removed from the picture, however, by the president's seizure of the entire railway system in the current wage dispute. While the railroads are being operated by the secretary of war, any decision by the president on enforcement of the non-discrimination order could be carried out immediately without concurrence of the railway managements.

* * *

THE FEPC'S AUTHORITY was openly challenged [illegible] Dec. 13 when the 14 railroads [illegible] now have been certified to the president served notice on FEPC that they intended to disregard its directive designed to carry out the president's no-discrimination edict.

Three of the seven railway unions have also formally denied the FEPC has powers to enforce the president's order.

Submission of the issue to the president for further action has unusual political implications. Southern congressmen who opposed the administration soldier vote and poll tax measures have been outspokenly critical of FEPC, while Northern Negro organizations which carry considerable voting power in several industrial cities have been urging FEPC to take even stronger action to carry out the president's order.

* * *

ORGANIZED LABOR'S RIGHT to draw contracts with employers also is at issue. The seven unions cited to the president are accused by FEPC of writing clauses into operating contracts with the railroads which discriminate against the job rights of Negroes.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, declared the railroads' refusal to obey the agency's directive constituted an "open challenge to presidential authority."

He declined to comment on an investigation initiated by a special House committee headed by Rep. Smith (D., Va.), co-author of the Smith-Connally labor disputes act. Smith said the inquiry was decided upon after his committee received complaints from West Coast shipyard workers and Southern railways management that FEPC had exceeded its authority.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

FEPC Is Dead, Townsend Says

CHICAGO. — "Like a beautiful swan caught in its [illegible] death-shrieking [illegible], emitting its ugly sounds, the much publicized Fair Employment Practice Committee died in a blaze of glory, pomp and testimony during the railroad hearings," Willard S. Townsend declared last week.

Continuing, Mr. Townsend, president of the Red Caps' Union, said "the burial ceremony was witnessed by an array of 'who's who in American colored leadership,' who, whether they knew it or not, were pallbearers at the funeral of another projected democratic ideal which never had an even chance in the process of its abortion."

Cites 2 Primary Jobs

Citing what he termed "the primary jobs" facing us today, Mr. Townsend said we must first join with the progressive forces of labor and elect a democratic-minded Congress in 1944.

The next, he said, [illegible] develop a nation-wide movement for State and Federal fair employment legislation creating a Federal fair employment practice board with power to enforce its decisions," State boards to have similar powers. This movement, he said, should include all of the forces with a common interest in democratic progress.

FEPC Findings In The Railroad Cases

THE President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has made public its findings and directives in the railroad cases involved in the hearings held in Washington September 15-18.

Evidence given at the hearings revealed that there is in existence an agreement between certain Southeastern railroads and the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen, known as the "Southeastern Carriers Conference Agreement," entered into February 18, 1941, which has operated to eliminate Negro firemen regardless of seniority. If the agreement should stand approximately 2,400 Negro firemen will have been dropped for no other reasons than color by the time the terms of the agreement become fully effective.

The techniques employed to liquidate the Negro firemen are few and simple. Number one, while the Negro firemen are not permitted to join the union, the latter is given the right to act as the bargaining and grievance agent of the former. Number two, the agreement specifies that only "promotable" men shall be employed, and the terms of the agreement make it plain that only white men are "promotable." There are other specifications in the agreement which implement the discrimination against Negro firemen, but the two already named suffice to indicate its general character.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

The agreement, which the railroads entered into reluctantly, and only after great pressure was brought upon them by the union, does not concern itself with wages and hours. Its objective is solely to eliminate Negroes as firemen on railway locomotives.

The "promotable" clause was inserted, ostensibly to raise a phase of the race question, which for 50 years had not bothered the railroads. The assumption was raised that every fireman would eventually be promoted to the position of engineer or was in line for such promotion. That was, of course, within the possibilities, but the record is that since the beginning of the railroads in the Southeast Negroes had done most of the firing, without one having been promoted to the engineman's side of the cab. Although the railroads might have continued to by-pass with impunity the Negroes eligible for enginemen, the union made this unnecessary by exacting an agreement which eliminated them altogether. In this consumation the Railway Mediation Board played an important role.

The Mediation Board, be it remembered, is a government agency set up under the Railway Labor Act. The agreement worked out and signed by the representatives of the railroads, the Railway Brotherhoods and the Board stipulated:

1. Only promotable men will be employed for service as locomotive firemen or for service as helpers on other than steam power. (This eliminated colored men from diesel engined locomotives. Ed.)

2. When new runs or jobs are established in any service, only promotable firemen or helpers will be assigned to them. (This eliminated colored men eventually from other than deisel engined locomotives. Ed.)

3. When permanent vacancies occur on established runs or jobs in any service, only promotable firemen or helpers will be assigned to them. (This prevented a colored senior fireman from succeeding to a job vacated by the death or retirement of a colored senior fireman. Ed)

4. It is understood that promotable firemen or helpers on other than steam power are those who are in line for promotion under the present rules and practices to the position of locomotive engineer. (Later, the term "non-promotable fireman" was defined as meaning a colored man. Ed.)

Nine railroads that were not a party to the Southeastern Conference Agreement were before the FEPC on various complaints involving discrimination against Negroes as brakemen, switchmen, trainmen, et cetera.

In the matter of the railroads involved in the Southeastern Conference Agreement involving firemen, and the other carriers involving other types of jobs, the Committee heard testimony for four days, received the answers of the carriers through their attorneys, and after more than two months of deliberation reached its findings and issued directives to the effect that both the railroads and the unions (Railway Brotherhoods) are in violation of the President's Executive Order 9346.

The Order stipulates that—

Whereas the successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin; and

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the war effort by all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help of all groups within its borders; and

Whereas there is evidence that available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in war production solely by reason of their race, creed, color or national origin, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale and national unity: . . . . . .

The Committee shall formulate policies to achieve the purposes of this Order and shall make recommendations to the various Federal departments and agencies and to the President which it deems necessary and proper to make effective the provisions of this Order . . . .

The Committee shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by this Order. It may conduct hearings, make findings of fact and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination.

Brief Against Phone Unit Bias Filed With F.E.P.C.

OCT 1 - 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By BARBEE W. DURHAM

COLUMBUS—(A N P) — Charging the refusal of the Ohio Bell Telephone company to consider the application of a serviceman's wife for employment because of her race was a direct violation of the President's Executive Order 8802, the Vanguard league last week filed an affidavit with the FEPC against the public utility.

The telephone company constantly advertises for help, said a league spokesman, yet refused to even accept an application from Mrs. Rebecca White when she applied for a job. Mrs. White's husband was inducted into the army a few days before the incident.

E. L. Keenan, director of the Ohio state war manpower commission, has been urged to appoint a Negro to the agency and has promised to do so, it was reported. The duties of the appointee would be to investigate complaints of discrimination in war plants and file affidavits with the FEPC when warranted. Such an appointment, stated a league official, would greatly stem the rising tide of employment prejudice in Ohio war plants.

47d 1943

FEPC

14 Unions Failed To Show Up

Journal and Guide

Experts Testify On Axis Propaganda About R. R. Policy

Norfolk, Virginia

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

SEP 25 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Hearings on complaints of employment discrimination against colored workers involving twenty-two railroads and fourteen labor unions were ended last Saturday before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Throughout the hearings, which lasted four days, no representative of any of the labor unions involved in the proceedings put in his official appearance.

UNIONS DIDN'T APPEAR

Notice of the fact that "the unions have presented no evidence and have not appeared" was taken by Mgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the committee.

In bringing the four-day sessions to a close, Chairman Haas thanked the representatives of the railroads for "coming here to participate in this procedure and for the expression of their desire to arrive at a solution of the problems involved."

NEXT STEPS

"The committee now has the evidence before it and on the basis of the record will proceed to take such action as it may deem appropriate," the chairman said.

From three of the fifteen unions to which letters were addressed by the committee no replies were received, according to Bartley C. Crum, committee counsel.

These were the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Order of Railway Conductors, he said.

OBSERVER ON HAND

Following the announcement, inquiry was made by the chairman in response to which Thomas G. O'Brien of Boston rose and identified himself as counsel for the railroad trainmen and the locomotive engineers.

"I am present, but not as a participant," he told the chairman. "I am, shall we say, an unofficial observer."

SAY EQUAL JOB OPPORTUNITY DENIED

Complaints of dining car employees and railway repair shop workers that they are denied equality of treatment in their jobs because of their race or color were heard by the committee last Saturday as it wound up the hearings.

Testimony of the dining car employees centered on the refusal of the railroads to promote waiters to dining car stewards.

PROMOTIONS WITHHELD

Seven unions holding jurisdiction over shop craft workers were accused by witnesses of denying colored workers promotions to which seniority entitled them.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, according to the testimony presented last Saturday, is the bargaining agent for dining-car employees and as by its constitution and by-laws it refuses membership to colored trainmen, it is held by them largely responsible for the policy by which they are denied employment or upgrading to the position of steward, however experienced and well qualified by long service as waiters in charge.

DINING CAR SITUATION

Not only is there no opposition to the service of food by colored dining-car employees on the part of the traveling public, but the situation in the South is even better than in the North in the matter of their employment as supervisors of dining cars and of restaurant employes, Richard K. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the joint council of Dining Car Employees, told the committee.

Equal opportunity for advancement, now denied them, is what colored dining-car waiters want, said the witness, a graduate of Northwestern University, with twelve years of experience on the Pennsylvania.

FAIRNESS ALL ASKED

"We have no complaint if we do not measure up," he said. "If we do, then we want what we have a right to expect. And some time, somehow, somewhere, we are going to get what is coming to us."

The Union Pacific Railroad, one of the twenty-two railroads charged with racial discrimination against colored workers, last Friday assured the committee of speedy correction of any specific cases "inconsistent with the company's policy."

William M. Jeffers, Union Pacific president and former rubber czar, wrote Mr. Crum that the company would appear to answer charges, but was "confident" an examination of complaints would reveal they "are not justified."

ONLY DENIAL MADE

The Union Pacific was the only railroad involved in the hearings to deny that it discriminates against racial minorities in employment.

Philip Macado of Cheyenne, Wyoming, last Thursday told the committee that a representative of the American Federation of Labor Machinists Union had refused to allow his promotion from laborer to helper "because you are a Mexican."

MEXICAN REFUSED JOB

"I told him I was born and raised here," said the witness in flawless English. "I told him this was the only country I knew. I said he would have to prove I was not an American."

The union official, he said, then replied, "Well, your folks are Mexicans."

"Yes, but they are not asking for a job," the witness said he replied, explaining that the incident occurred on the Union Pacific Railroad.

USED AS JAP PROPAGANDA

Otto D. Tolischus, New York newspaper man and former correspondent in Berlin and Tokyo, testified that Japan's propaganda program is based on the racial argument.

Charles H. Houston, associate committee counsel, read into the record a reply to a complaint alleging discrimination against colored workers by the Norfolk and Western Railroad.

The railroad explained that under its own rules and under an agreement made in 1941 with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the railroad was not hiring colored firemen.

ADMITS RACIAL BARRIERS

The union agreement, the reply declared, was made by the firemen's union with the Southeastern Carriers' Conference and the limitations imposed on colored workers were "understood to be racial."

The definition of "non-promotable firemen," in the agreement, the letter said, "means Negroes."

The company, the letter continued, has not hired colored men for use as firemen since 1903 and had never promoted firemen to be locomotive engineers for racial reasons, "as this complaint surmises."

N. & W. EXPLANATION

In explanation of this refusal the railroad said that locomotive engineers give orders to firemen and other crew members.

"The sentiment of the employees of this company and of the public in the territory in which it operates condemns the placing of Negroes in positions of command over white men," the letter added.

"That sentiment controls the management."

RAMSPECK RAPS FEPC'S NEGRO EQUALITY PLAN

Georgian Says Government Can't End Prejudices Born Of Centuries

DEC 30 1943

Birmingham Post

Birmingham, Alabama

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30. — Rep. Robert Ramspeck (D., Ga.), today had questioned the wisdom of the Administration's attempt through the President's Fair Employment Practice committee to change existing the discrimination against Negro workers "overnight."

Ramspeck, Democratic whip, told newsmen that neither the Government nor anyone else could tear down in a brief period of time the "prejudices and discriminations" that have existed for centuries.

"And remember, too, there are still economic and educational inequalities among the white races," Ramspeck added. "We cannot change the situation overnight."

Seeks Steady Progress

President Roosevelt at his news conference yesterday said that in the fight against racial discrimination the objective should be steady progress, because he did not think the millennium could be brought about right away.

In the meantime, the FEPC was involved on two fronts:

1—President Roosevelt has before him the FEPC [illegible] case of 16 railroads and seven unions which defied the committee's edict that they cease discriminations against Negro workers. The railways and unions have claimed the FEPC was without authority to issue the order. The President said he probable would appoint a committee to get Southern and Northern labor together with the railroads to go over the whole problem.

2—The special House committee to investigate executive agencies is studying records in the railroad case and another involving auxiliaries maintained for Negro shipyard workers on the West Coast by the Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers Union (A. F. of L.) to determine whether FEPC orders in the two cases are an excess use of power.

Public Hearings Planned

Chairman Howard W. Smith (D., Va.), of the committee said that public hearing of complaints filed with him in the two cases probably would open shortly after the congressional recess ends Jan. 10.

Meanwhile, Lieut. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Federal operator of the railroads, said that the Army does not intend to concern itself with discrimination by the railways as it is interested solely in operating the lines.

The FEPC has no power of enforcement against employers and unions, and must rely on other elements of the executive branch of the Government to enforce its orders.

Army Prepares To Use Troops If Necessary To Run Trains

Age-Herald

SETTLING OF RACE QUESTION SOUGHT

Fleet Of Trucks To Be Used To Move Food, If Needed

Birmingham, Ala.

BY WILLIAM T. PEACOCK

DEC 29 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—(AP)—Hope that the railroads can be turned back to private operation sono was expressed by President Roosevelt Tuesday as the Army, on his orders, extended its control to all major carriers and prepared to use troops to run trains, if necessary.

Mr. Roosevelt was not specific at his press-radio conference, however, as to the conditions under which government operation would be surrendered.

He was asked if the carriers would be restored to private management if the three operating brotherhoods which had not done so agreed to arbitration of their wage dispute. The question was too "iffy," he replied.

"Will the government keep the railroads for the duration of the emergency?" another reporter asked.

Mr. Roosevelt said yes, but when asked whether the emergency meant the duration of the war or the strike threat, he replied that he wanted to turn the carriers back to private operation as soon as he could.

Strike Now Unlawful

In response to another question, he said a rail strike would come under the Connally-Smith act. This law makes it a criminal offense to conspire to strike, or encourage a strike, in a government-operated war facility.

Mr. Roosevelt also told the conference he hoped to appoint a committee to get labor and railroad management together on the question of an order from his Fair Employment Practices Committee. The committee ordered that advancements among railroad personnel be without discrimination as to race.

Seventeen Southern railroads and terminals replied that they were prevented by union contracts from complying with the order, and also challenged the authority of the FEPC.

The president observed that there has been progress on the subject of racial problems in the past 10 years. The idea, he said, is to achieve some steady progress. No one expected the millennium immedately.

A reporter brought up the case of the 15 non-operating railroad unions which agreed Monday to accept a government award of 4 to 10 cents an hour wage increase and leave to Mr. Roosevelt the question whether they should receive overtime pay for work over 40 hours a week. Railroad management wants both the pay raise and the overtime issue arbitrated.

The reporter said there seemed to be some difference of opinion as to what was before him for arbitration.

Defender.

Chicago, Ill.

Two File

Complaints With FEPC

JUL 5 1943

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Branch of the N.A.A.C.P., headed by Atty. Theodore M. Berry, acting on reports of repeated racial discrimination here in employment centers, has submitted two affidavits to the FEPC for investigation.

The Ordnance department, U. S. Engineers office of the War department, and the L. and N. Railroad company were named by two affiants, Mrs. Hattie Mae Reed of Covington, Ky., and Thomas Hall, Cincinnati, in filing the complaints.

Mrs. Reed, a graduate of Hampton Institute, Va., was informed upon applying at the Sixth U. S Civil Service Region office in Cincinnati, in November 1942, that her qualifications were acceptable. Her certification for a position of under-inspector of naval material was turned down because of uncertain locality of service.

On May 19, 1943, Mrs. Reed was informed by telegram to report for an interview at the U. S. Engineers office, regarding a position as apprentice [illegible]ftsman. On the morning of May 20 she was told by a Mr. Vogt that it was all a mistake. There was no such position available. Several have been appointed to the position of apprentice draftsman, in the Cincinnati U. S. Engineers office, since May 20, 1943. Mrs. Reed has not received any further notice.

Thomas Hall h[illegible]een an employe of the L. and N. Railroad company for the past 17 years. From 1926 until 1942 he worked as a shop laborer. In May 1942 he bid for and was awarded a position as motor cycle operator. This method of upgrading is quoted from the contract between the Louisville and Nashville Railroad company and System Federation No. 91 of the Railway Employes department of the American Federation of Labor, "A promotion is an advancement from a lower to a higher rank or from a lower to a higher pay rate."

Hall said that early in June 1943 he questioned the method of upgrading and applied orally to the union committeeman for the job of pipe fitters' helper. The committeeman refused to discuss the matter. He then went to his foreman, who in turn advised him to consult the master mechanic.

About July [illegible]er a letter was addressed to the personnel department by Attorney Berry, Hall was called into the master mechanics' office. There Hall alleges, it was stated that Mr. Bodamer and the personnel department had decided he should not be accorded any upgrading. Hall was then asked "if he was satisfied." Hall filed complaint with the FEPC charging that he was ta victim of collusion between the L. and N. Railroad company and various brotherhoods of the AFL solely because of his race. Both cases are pending investigation in the office of FEPC.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Murray Backs FEPC Order On Rail Lines

DEC 28 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The order of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to certain railroads to [illegible] Negro workers "should receive the wholehearted support of every American lover of democracy," President Philip Murray said here this week in a wire of support to President Roosevelt.

The Committee order, which applies to 16 southern roads, "represents a decided step forward in achieving the principles that this country was founded upon," Murray's wire said.

"It is the firm r[illegible] of this organiz[illegible] [illegible]easingly toward this goal in the mine, in the shop, in the factory and in the social and political life of the community.

"We feel that your support of the Committee is to be highly commended and should receive the wholehearted support of every American lover of democracy," Murray added.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Employment Of Firemen Cited As Basic Issue

Southeastern Agreement Hit As 'UnAmerican'

DEC 15 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — Prompted by a letter sent by 16 railroads and terminals companies to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Malcolm Ross, the committee chairman, Tuesday issued the following statement:

The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order. Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen of American railroads, this at a time when trained an dexperienced Negro firemen were unemployed and the cariers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a someti[illegible] it and sometimes [illegible] between the rail[illegible] and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give their jobs to white workers.

This is no question of Negroes seeking to displace whites. Negro firemen were the accepted majority for 50 years on southern railroads. until automatic stokers and Diesel powered engines changed the dirty heavy work into desirable jobs. Racial prejudice is not at issue here. White southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, stated: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the south would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

HEARINGS IGNORED

The fireman problem, and the problems o fupgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the operating divisions and the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September. The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers m[illegible]e a perfunctory appea[illegible] [illegible]ter now makes a [illegible] public disapproval of FE[illegible] by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue — necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered — is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroadmen in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

The Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement, which the Committee found in violation of Executive Order 9346, was concerned with the hiring and use of Negroes as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers. The railroads now advan[illegible]ligations under the [illegible] Labor Act as barriers t[illegible]ging the discriminatory Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement. There is no conflict of jurisdiction here.

The Agreement was reached with the Brot[illegible] and by mutual ag[illegible] altered or discarded. In asking bo[illegible] parties to make this move, the FEPC is not suggesting anything which cannot be done in conformity with the Railway Labor Act and the procedures adopted by the National Mediation Board. There are extremely serious Negro problems on American railroads. The FEPC did not invent them. It tried, honestly and with the war need for railroad workers in mind, to find out what is direct remedial action.

MAKE NO CHANGES

The carriers complain that its directives were too braod—branding them as 'impossible and impracticable." Yet no carrier's move to remedy discrimination made until these matters were publicly examined. T[illegible]k this dillemma [illegible]through w[illegible] FEPC has been present ever since the hearing. Four railroads did so. The Virginia Railroad complied, and relieved it self of a complaint against it, before the hearings began. The Union Pacific did so during the hearings. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central are in amicable and cooperative discusion with the FEPC, looking toward solutions. The way is open for the remaining sixteen carriers.

The FEPC is an American Committee, trying to help fight an American war. Its duty is to prevent discrimination against any worker, whatever his or her race, creed or nationality, who would be an acceptable war worker were it not for pre-conceived prejudice. We may be not abel to wipe out discrimination overnight, but where war manpower needs are at stake can and shall t[illegible]

To change bad practic[illegible] is not "impossible and impract[illegible]e," Secretray McAdoo, in 1918, equalized the pay of white and Negro firemen as 'an act of simple justice.' A like need for war manpower inspired that change. The rails today are giving extraordinarily fine service to war-time America. The FEPC believes that the granting of over-due rights to Negro railroad men, far from being a cause for disorder, could be so managed as to improve service and to raise the morale of tens of thousands of Negro Americans who have their own stake in winning this war quickly.

The Committee's directives are described as being broad. They extend no further than the problem raised, not by FEPC but by complex economic and human agencies groping through prejudice and intolerance toward a wroking democracy of which we need not be ashamed either at home or abroad. It will take time to raise the structure l[illegible]down by the Communist blue pr[illegible] Not[illegible] start now is to acknowledge de[illegible]at.

Malcom Ross
"Chairman, FEPC.

Time
Chicago, Illinois

The Railroad Hearings

SEP 17 1943

THE Fair Employment Practice Committee Wednesday opened its four-day public hearings on charges of Negro discrimition in the railroad industry. These hearings were originally scheduled for last Dec. 7, 8 and 9; were p[illegible]oned to Jan. 25, 26 and 27; were indefinitely [illegible] by Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt. The FEPC in the long interval since then has undergone near death and a complete rebirth. The railroad hearings are the first under the FEPC's reconstitution as an autonomous body headed by Msgr. Francis J. Haas and responsible only to the President.

These four-day public hearings held, appropriately, in the nation's capital, will involve 23 railroads. Fourteen railroad labor unions will share this unfavorable spotlight. Negro rail workers charge that they are in general considered to be "non-promotable" and they blame both the railroad and the union. The road[illegible]ion, they charge, negotiates agreements set[illegible]certain restrictions on the percentage of Negro workers to be hired in given categories.

Other charges: All wage contracts carry the "promotable clause" excluding Negroes from promotion; that wage differentia exist between Negro and white workers doing the same tasks; that on some northern railroads waiters are made to do stewards' work while denied stewards' rating or pay; that Negroes may not proceed from the ranks of trainmen into the ranks of conductors; that Negroes are not upgraded in shops where many are employed; that Negroes are denied clerical jobs with the carriers.

The unions involved should be tremendously concerned. They should be leading in the fight for the Negro workers' rights; instead, they are charged, with the railroads, with denying these rights. Every progressive rai[illegible] local in the country should be represented at these hearings. AFL and CIO unions should shout support of the Negro workers' rights, realizing that they are shouting for unity and for victory over the common enemy.

47d-1943

FEPC

KILLING FEPC

NOV 6 Age
New York, N. Y.

WE HAVE LONG charged that many of our elected officials in Washington, D.C., and many citizens of these United States would rather keep the Negro "in his place" — down — than use his services for a speedy conclusion of the war. They would rather lose the war than see the Negro come into his own.

Last week, Lindsay C. Warren, Comptroller of the United States by appointment of President Roosevelt, aided our home-grown Hitlers, by ruling that the Presidential order forbidding racial or religious discrimination by government contractors need not be obeyed in all cases. Comptroller Warren held that the President's order was "directory" rather than "mandatory", and could be disregarded where necessary to obtain vital goods or services.

In other words, unless the President now speaks out, government contractors can now point to Comptroller Warren's ruling and continue whatever discriminatory practices they now have in action. In other words, the FEPC, created by Executive Order 8802 and amended, re-affirmed and in a measure strengthened by Executive Order 9346, need no longer function, because the Comptroller has ruled that the order is "directory" rather than "mandatory".

This ruling by Comptroller Warren is not entirely unexpected because Mr. Warren will be remembered a[illegible]ame Representative Warren, of North Carolina, [illegible] back in 1934 as chairman of the House Committee on Accounts had supervision over the public restaurant in the House of Reprsentatives which excluded Negroes from being served. From the files of The New York Age comes the following data on Mr. Warren:

January 23, 1934 — "The refusal of the manager of the House Restaurant at the Capitol to serve Morris Lewis, Congressman DePriest's secretary and Mr. Lewis's son in the public eating room on Tuesday, has raised the race issue very pointed on 'The Hill'.

"Representative Lindsay C. Warren of North Carolina, chairman of the Accounts Committee, who issued the order prohibiting further service to Negroes [illegible]ask[illegible]bout the refusal said:

"'It never came to my attention until Monday that Negroes were eating in the House Restaurant. I ordered that the practice of serving Negroes cease as soon as I discovered that it was being done. In refusing to serve two colored persons, Manager H. P. Johnson was acting under my orders and instructions."

March 24, 1934 — "New battle lines were drawn last week to fight to the bitter end race discrimination in federal restaurants when mixed parties presented themselves at the House Restaurant and the Negro members of the party were twice refused service."

March 31, 1934 — "Representative Oscar DePriest has won his fight to bring his resolution on the House Restaurant issue out of the committee which had consigned it to oblivion. He has succeeded in getting the required 145 signatures to take the resolution from the Rules Committee. So on April 9, the House of [illegible]esenta[illegible] will go on record and make known to the world whether the chief requisite to eat in a Government institution maintained by the people's taxes is the color of one's skin. Representative Lindsay Warren of North Carolina, chairman of the Accounts Committee, in a twenty-minute speech teeming with prejudice, bigotry and un-Americanism, sought to justify his exclusion policy in reply to the stinging rebuke recently administered him by Representative DePriest."

May 24, 1934 — "The special committee of the House of Representatives to investigate the authority exercised by the Accounts Committee in refusing service to colored persons in the House restaurant held a hearing on the matter . . . Chairman Lindsay Warren sought to defend his right to deny colored persons the privilege of eating in the restaurant."

No more wa[illegible] of [illegible]esentative Warren after his Democratic colleagues in the House of Representatives found him within his rights to exclude Negroes until in August, 1936, when rumors were circulated in Washington that President Roosevelt was planning to appoint him as Comptroller General of the United States, a 15-year appointment which carries with it a greater degree of independence from any kind of control than any other federal office.

In August 1936, the N.A.A.C.P. and other liberal organizations forwarded protests to President Roosevelt against the rumored appointment of Warren. The protests were based on Warren's anti-Negro policy. Said the NAACP protest:

"This association believes that a man who faithfully transplants the customs and prejudices of his local community to the seat of the national government of all the people and enforces those prejudices as the law of the land, does not have the prospective required of a man to fill the office of Comptroller General. In this office he will be called upon to pass upon expenditures of a greatly varied nature for the benefit of [illegible]sections of the population. As we understand it, [illegible]office is one of great independence and in exercising its powers the appointee would be able to disregard the wishes of great sections of the population. We submit that if Mr. Warren in so small a matter as the accomodation of citizens of the United States in a restauarnt believes it right and proper to enforce the customs of his local community in North Carolina, he will be certain to exercise the same narrow philosophy in administering the affairs of the office of Comptroller General."

The publicity at the time was so effective that President Roosevelt promptly forgot about Congressman Warren. But in July, 1938, very quietly one day, the President nominated Warren as Comptroller-General and the Senate concurred. Ever since that time, Mr. Warren has been Comptroller-General.

The fight Negroes made against his appointment probably smouldered long within the Comptroller-General, but it wasn't until FEPC came along that he had an opportunity to do something about it. His ruling that FEPC need not be obeyed in its findings, if not overridden by President Roosevelt, will kill FEPC just at a time when its work is becoming most effective, and on the eve of release by the FEPC of its findings on the railroad and labor union discriminations aganst Negro workers.

NOV 6 1943

President Roosevelt owes it to justice-loving people evrywhere to come out forthwith with a strong statement reaffirming FEPC and its powers. His statement should for all times settle the question of whether FEPC was created as a sop to Negroes or whether it was created to do a much-needed job.

White Dailies Either Ignore Or Bury FEPC Hearing Story

SEP 23 1943

Progressive PM and N. Y. Times

Only Journals to Carry Release

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — To those who question the need for Negro papers and those staunch supporters of white dailies as purveyors of "all the news that's fit to print," the answer to their query is found right here at the present time.

White dailies, for the most part, have not seen fit to mention the most important meeting held recently that had to do with Negroes, the FEPC hearings on discrimination practiced by railroads in collusion with their unions and with the tacit approval of the federal government's board.

Those papers that did carry the news printed only small portions of it and hid that little bit so it couldn't be found.

Only the famous PM of New York, which is as a red flag to a bull to Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, told the interesting details of how Attys. Houston, Crum, Johnson and others tied up the high-priced counsel for the railroads involved and had them answerless to the charges repeated time after time.

Fifty-eight capable witnesses took the stand and related their stories of discrimination.

No white daily paper other than the New York Times thought this news sufficiently important to give it [illegible] space it deserved, but Negro new[illegible]ers saw to it that the jim crow [illegible]ctics of the roads and unions were given full exposition, giving the axis powers another weapon to use with the darker races against democracy.

The railroads thought they were too strong and powerful to be brought to answer their treatment of Negroes who had given years of service to building them to their present state. Through their legislations and machinations, Negroes ultimately would be entirely out of fields where they now earn good salaries. Most white papers would not carry a full detailed account of the proceedings, despite their protestations to the Negro publishers with whom they met last spring in New York City to discuss what type of news Negro papers should print and what type of news with reference to Negroes, white papers would print.

SEP 23 1943

FEP Counsel Blasts Rail Job Bans As Probe Opens

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 18 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Holding that the denial of equal job opportunities to Negroes "stultifies our moral leadership of the democracies and provides strong material for Axis propaganda against us," Bartley G. Crum, special prosecutor, opened the railroad hearings before the President's Fair Employment Practices committee, here Wednesday.

Representatives of 22 railroads accused of discriminating against colored workmen, sat in silence as Crum patiently weaved a latticework of evidence around them, which he asserted justified criticism and correction of their bigotrous policy.

Crum promised to present the "truths" he has obtained during his long investigation "without rancor and free from emotion." But, he said, "whether the facts hit management, labor, or even government itself, they will be developed and no fact will be suppressed or distorted because of its impact or temporary damage to any or all of the three groups involved."

One Firm Settles

Twenty-three railroads were originally summoned to appear before the committee but charges against one, the Virginian Railway Co., were dropped and its name withdrawn from the list by the FEPC.

The committee's action followed receipt of official notification from the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen, Inc., representing the complainants that satisfactory adjustment has been reached with the Virginian Railway company through the offices of the National Mediation board on Monday, September 6.

Among the charges to be taken up at the hearings are: that railroads have refused to hire or upgrade Negroes ignored their seniority rights deprived them of full-time employment, unfairly and maintained unfair differentials in wages paid Negroes for identical work as done by whites.

It is also charged that Negroes have been consistently barred from opportunities to work on diesel-engined locomotives, and have been refused employment or promotion to jobs as locomotive engineers flagmen, carmen, machinists and helpers, boilermakers and helpers, hostlers, baggagemen, conductors, trainmen, pipefitters and helpers, crane operators, dining car stewards, clerks, road brakemen, coach painters, oilers, dining car supervisors, and car retarder operators.

Slaps At Eastman

Condemning the attitude of the railroads in permitting a manpower shortage to exist in the face of a pressing need for more help, the prosecutor said:

"There is, at the present time, an absolute shortage of these experienced workers on the very railroads whose cases we are today considering. One road alone, among those represented here, reported a need for 362 additional brakemen, 123 firemen, and 949 mechanics and helpers."

An indirect slap at OCD Director Joseph B. Eastman was couched in Crum's appraisal of the condition. He declared:

"We are indebted to the railroads themselves for an analysis of their own requirements. Only two weeks ago, the director of the Office of Defense Transportation, announced in the most serious terms, a critical lack of railroad manpower. He called for vigorous remedies on the part of labor, or management, and of government. Among the points proposed were a recruiting drive for railroad workers, the utilization of the services of women, the utilization of Mexican workers, and even the utilization of war prisoners.

"Untapped Pool"

"We make no criticism of this search for essential rail workers. It is a necessary and a valid search, but we point out to this committee, to the OCD, and to the railroads of the United States, that there exists an untapped pool of labor among thousands of able-bodied Negroes, whose full skills, and sometimes even their services, are denied to the railroad industry by dint of a long and unhappy history of discrimination against Americans whose skins are darker than those of other Americans."

Continuing, the prosecutor said: "In common sense, why must we look to women and prisoners of war, when willing workers are available? Because restrictions for decades so tied the hands of Negro workmen, that neither the railroads nor the unions, who thus forged these bonds, can think—even under the spur of war—of how to break them.

"The essential facts of how all this came about and what the present situation is comprise the business of this hearing.

"In short, our responsibility in this hearing is to place before you, the members of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, acceptable evidence that Negroes in the United States have suffered continuous, wholesale and increasing discrimination in employment by most of America's larger railroad systems.

"There will be placed before your committee presently the evidence and the agreements made between the railroads and the unions, whereby Negroes were declared non-promotable to higher skilled jobs.

Negro Ranks Depleted

"We will show by patent evidence how seniority rules and percentage allotments have been used over the years to decrease the number of Negroes in the operation of our railroads.

"We shall show how the Negroes who fired the boilers on thousands of the old style hand-fed locomotives have been discarded, now that the driving heat of a Diesel-powered locomotive can be applied by the twist of a wheel in a white hand.

"We shall prove to you that this discrimination has been carried on with the active participation and the encouragement of certain of the large operating railroad brotherhoods—labor unions which in other spheres have so much of constructive achievement to their credit.

"And, therefore, we hope and trust that the facts developed at this hearing will be viewed in their proper perspective, and that no wholesale indictment of the trade union movement will be drawn from the evidence we present to this committee and to the conclusions which you may reach. In this very field of discrimination the trade union movement has done much to eliminate discrimination from the entire social fabric.

Food For Axis Cause

"And we shall show that far from improving, this discrimination has grown progressively indefensible during the last two decades.

"In criminal and civil proceedings throughout our nation, both state and Federal, during the last two years, we now have conclusive proof that racial and religious prejudice were deliberately used against us by the Axis powers. Armed with that knowledge, my associates and I submit with all of the earnestness at our command, that you, as the direct representative of the United States, cannot do less than destroy this menace which our enemies wish us to retain as a continuous cancer in our American civilization.

"We must not forget that there is a credit side to this ledger. In the very midst of this global war, we Americans are sufficiently aware of our obligations one to another, and of our collective obligation, under which we have pledged ourselves to total victory, publicly to scrutinize our own unworthy deeds as against our great words. It takes courage, yes, and humility too, thus to make an open audit of our democracy, thus to appraise this prejudiced-drenched facet of our national life. We do not find our Axis enemies today either able, willing or strong enough to submit to such self-analysis, such self-criticism.

"We shall submit, that in this immediate emergency of the war, it is imperative that Negroes be allowed full and equal participation in all phases of the war program.

Dangers Clear

"We cannot measure the detrimental effect of race discrimination on the war program merely in terms of man-hours lost by our own failure to use the loyalty and skills of Negro workers. This loss is compounded by an active undercurrent of bitterness among Negroes and other minorities in an apparently growing spirit of cynicism toward the whole war effort. The potential dangers here are evident to every thinking person.

"If the practice of discrimination is continued—if we fail to integrate the Negro worker in employment on railroads, uniformed white workers will look with suspicion, yes and with possible hostility, on a group that is forced to remain apart and is not permitted to contribute its full skills and resources to winning this war.

"But if discrimination is ended, if white workers see Negro workers in there pulling too, there will inevitably be generated in the railroads of the United States an appreciation for the Negro as a man and a fellow-worker, as has been shown over and over again in shipbuilding yards, in the iron and steel industry, and particularly, in the aircraft industry, where they work together. As does all cooperative and united effort, this cooperation has the effect of raising morale."

Houston to Assist

Assisting Mr. Cdum in the presentation of the evidence supporting the complaints of discrimination will be Charles Houston, noted constitutional lawyer for the NAACP, and Harold A. Stevens, New York attorney of some accomplishment. Maceo Hubbard, field examiner for the committee, is the only regular member of FEPC who will be identified with the counsel for the plaintiffs. He is a lawyer also.

Counsel for the 22 railroad companies and 14 labor unions and brotherhoods could not be learned, nor the manner in which they will be represented. This information was promised for early in the week.

Chairman Haas disclosed that in addition to the Virginian Railway company, complaint against which has already been withdrawn, mediation is now going on with one other company, which was not identified, looking to early settlement.

Expect Sweeping Agreements

Fr. Haas and administrative officials of the committee discussed the various phases of the work of FEPC in the course of which some information was brought out that had not been previously published. Much of this dealt with the extent of the case load for the various regions, a breakdown of the cases on the basis of reasons for discrimination and types of discrimination. While 70 per cent of the complaints involve Negroes, it was pointed out, 14 per cent came from aliens, 7 per cent from Jews, and the 9 per cent scattered.

In line with the recent cooperating agreement reached with War Manpower commission, the FEPC expects to reach similar agreements with the National Labor Relations board, War Labor board, Maritime commission, war department, navy and possibly with the Interstate Commerce commission.

Since July 1 the committee has been financed out of an unexpended balance of $130,000 from the previous fiscal period. It is anticipated that a full budget covering operations for the balance of the 1943-44 fiscal period will be approved shortly, and that the money will come out of the President's emergency fund. After that there is the almost inevitably likelihood that FEPC will have to ask congress for money to carry them on after June 30, 1944.

47d-1943

Permanent FEPC Council

People's Voice

New York, N. Y. NOV 27 1943

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Those who had fought for the establishment of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and who were keenly aware of the limited powers and transiency of this wartime agency had long felt that it was necessary to give it a permanent legislative basis. For this purpose a group of individuals representing more than 15 organizations met in Washington September 13 and 14 in a Conference to Save the FEPC.

Out of that conference grew the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, with a minimum executive board appointed to set up the organization and control its activities. A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Dr. Allan Knight Chalmers of the Broadway Tabernacle Church, NY, were elected co-chairmen. A budget was drawn up, a constitution adopted and bills which would establish a Fair Employment Practice Act were discussed.

The objectives of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC are:

- To promote in every possible way the establishment of equal opportunity for employment, to secure hiring with due regard to the already existing skills and experience of the applicant, equality of wages for the same work, and the full right of upgrading employees within industries regardless of race, creed, color or origin.

Negro Girls Get Jobs After Probe

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — When representatives of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice convinced officials of a large Eastern war plant that their reason for rejection of Negro women as employes had no factual basis, the company relaxed its barriers and has made great steps toward eliminating a labor shortage a report filed with the Committee in Washington, D. C., revealed this week.

Will Maslow, FEPC Director of Field Operations, said that Negro girls have been hired by the company and found quite satisfactory since the company issued strict instructions to all its supervisory and personnel staff to eliminate any consideration of race, religion or nationality in employment.

The matter was referred to the Committee by the United States Employment Service after a check had disclosed that all Negro girls referred to the firm had been rejected. Over a two-month period 500 white girls were referred to the company of whom 300 were hired. During the same period however, of 100 Negro girls referred, all of whom met the same basic standards, none was hired.

Investigation brought from the management the explanation that the jobs required handling of small mechanisms and that the Negroes were rejected because they "all had 'sweaty' hands." It was found that the "test" for "sweaty hands" was superficial and questionable as to its validity.

When these findings were presented to the management at later conferences, officials of the company admitted the possibility of error in the original belief and promptly moved to correct any employment practices which might in any way violate the principles of the Executive Orders 8802 and 9346. As a result, a number of Negroes was accepted.

FEPC

Some Gains Already In FEPC Railroad Hearing

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

OCT 2 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Two "breaks" in the united front, and the confidence in certain responsible quarters that others may follow, were evident immediately Saturday following the conclusion of four days' testimony before the Fair Employment Practice Committee inquiring into allegations that 22 railroads and 14 labor unions had shown discrimination on the basis of color and national origin in their employment policies and practices.

The first of these appeared on Friday when the Union Pacific Railroad, charged with refusing to hire Negroes, Mexicans, or American citizens of Mexican descent in certain shops and job classifications, entered a statement through its counsel, F. E. Baukhages.

"The summary of complaints of which we are advised by the committee counsel (Bartley C. Crum, special counsel) suggested the existence of conditions not recognizable within the employment policy of the U. P. railroad," the statement opened.

It concluded with this:

"Since, however, the hearings have developed specific instances of alleged discrimination, we have obtained from the committee counsel the details of the alleged specific instances. These we will fully investigate with a view toward the speedy correction of any situation inconsistent with the company's policy."

IS THANKED

Thanking counsel for the U. P., Mr. Crum declared that it was just the type of thing that might have been expected from a company headed by "a man of William Jeffers' reputation as a public servant," and in his opinion represented a "notable contribution" to the purposes of the executive order.

On Saturday, F. L. Wheeler, general attorney for the New York Central Railroad, on authority of L. W. Horning, vice president in charge of personnel, entered this statement in behalf of the company:

"The New York Central is willing to sit down at any time with members of this committee to discuss this matter to see if there is some solution."

Sidney S. Alderman, representing the Southern Railway Company, said that they had avoided putting "obstructions" in the way of the cases.

Among those railroads which filed answers to the bill of particulars which had been sent to them on Sept. 3 by the committee, that of the Norfolk and Western Railway Company appeared to be saying with greatest clarity what evidently was in the minds of the others.

The company had been charged, among other things, with refusing to fill vacancies as firemen with what are called "non-promotable men." Counsel flatly told the committee that "non-promotable men means Negroes."

Later Mr. Rivinus said, in answer to invitation to make a statement if he chose, that he preferred not. "We simply present the bald fact which we regard as completely responsible to and pertinent to the subject of the complaint. We offer no comment and we make no justification," he concluded.

EXPERTS' ROLES

Outside of the discussion of the specific charges involved, perhaps some of the most striking contributions to the hearing were made by the expert witnesses who testified that the treatment being accorded minority groups in the United States is being made the subject of short-wave broadcasts to South America, Africa, the Far East, and "even to the folks at home," for the purpose of spreading disunity.

Clyde R. Miller, associate professor of education, Columbia University, and a co-founder in 1937 of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis, was the first of the two witnesses. He took the stand on the opening day, was shown sample broadcasts which had been made available to the committee's counsel by the intelligence division of the Federal Communications Commission, which he identified as "typical."

AXIS PROPAGANDA

"Japanese and German propagandist exploitation of feeling of racial superiority and racial inferiority is extraordinarily effective, almost immediately effective, dynamic and dangerous," Mr. Miller declared.

HURTFUL CLAIMS

"They say, in effect, that our promises to the people of the world are built on hypocrisy, that certainly the people of the Far East can have no faith in the promises of white Americans when they deny equal rights to their fellow citizens who are not white."

On Friday afternoon, Otto D. Tolischus, journalist and lecturer, and for years the New York Times correspondent in Tokyo and in Berlin, read portions of a document called the "Way of Subject," used by the Japanese Ministry of Education for the guidance of educational as well as the propaganda system of Japan.

This pamphlet sets forth, he said, the thesis that the white man is oppressing and exploiting the all-colored races, and that Japan is fighting the white man as the champion of the colored races.

PUT IN EVIDENCE

Mr. Crum offered in evidence excerpts from the broadcasts which Mr. Miller had been shown. Some of them he read to the committee, others he told in summary form because of their "inflammatory content."

The Germans, he testified, use the material in a "triple-barreled" manner. First, he said, the Nazis point to American treatment of Negroes as supporting evidence that Americans themselves believe in Nazi theories about racial superiority.

Second, they use the Negro question as indications of "discontent and possible revolutionary elements" here.

The third argument, contrary to the first two, he said, insist that Negro ideas and folkways have become a part of American civilization sufficiently to "Negrofy" it, to coin a word. Jazz was the illustration.

COMMITTEE'S POWERS

Section five of the order gives the committee the authority to "conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination."

Section seven says the committee, in the performance of its functions and exercises of powers, may utilize such state officials (meaning government officials) "and agencies and in such manner as it may determine."

The conclusions being reached unofficially have it that the committee may pursue one or more of the following courses:

1. Present their findings to the railroads and negotiate a solution.
2. Permit the railroads to reply to the findings and then make public the findings, followed by directives to the companies relating to the findings.
3. Submit the findings to the President, along with recommendations as to what should be done to win compliance.

Whatever is done, it is expected that two or three weeks at least will elapse before any move can be made effectively.

All-Colored Plant Makes Good, but Disturbs FEPC

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

SANDUSKY, O. (ANP) — Although the all-colored Simplex Radio Corp., a subsidiary of the Philco company, is ahead of schedule in production, the FEPC is worried lest this development tend to dodge the issue of discrimination in industry and freeze colored workers out of jobs when the war boom ends.

The Simplex plant came into being as an experiment after the War Manpower Commission announced a labor shortage and colored leaders began intensified agitation for jobs.

Only one white man, the manager, has anything to do with production at the Sandusky subsidiary. There are five other whites employed, but their duties are confined to other matters. Employees included almost 200, most of them women.

The Real Danger

Wages at the plant are the basic wage scale earned by whites in the company employ, 60c for women, and 70c for men per hour. Company officials explain that the reason colored have not graduated into higher income brackets is because they lack the necesary seniority to qualify.

However, the FEPC and other Washington officials view the tend of this and other all-colored plants, despite their success, as a furtherance of segregation of colored workers to their own peril and the eventual detriment of white workers and industry as well.

They point out that the tendency is toward the creation of segregated union locals, aborting the fight to obtain union membership for colored in labor organizations on the basis of complete equality, that it dodges the real issue of discrimination, and forecasts the widespread unemployment of colored in the post-war world since it would be natural for these "auxiliary" plants to be the first to shut down during an economic slump.

NOV 6 1943

FEPC Spotlights Railroad Race Bias

SEP 26 1943

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eva Lapin
(The Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The Fair Employment Practice Committee turned the spotlight on one of the major ways to relieve the manpower shortage—full employment of Negroes—at its recently concluded hearings on discrimination in the railroads.

Striking the keynote of the hearings, Bartley Crum, chief counsel, stated the objective of the FEPC investigation was "calculated to add greatly to the manpower in our railroads."

Once the "shackles" of discrimination are broken in the railroads, he pointed out "other victories will follow with less effort and with even greater effect."

Immediately on the heels of the four-day hearings, which was the first aggressive action taken by FEPC in months, came signs that the solid wall of discrimination built by the 23 railroads was beginning to crumble.

The Union Pacific Company announced that it was taking steps toward "speedy correction" of the FEPC charges.

The New York Central announced it was "willing to sit down any time with members of the committee to discuss the matter to see if there is some solution."

And the Virginian Railways Company had previously withdrawn its discriminatory practices of which Negro employes complained.

JIM CROW BARS

With lack of manpower reaching the proportions of a crisis in the railroad industry—at least 80,000 workers are needed today—traditional bars against promotion and employment of Negroes are still maintained by the industry.

The volume of evidence piled up at the four-day hearings held in the impressive Labor Department Auditorium left no doubt of the restrictions imposed by the railroads on Negroes.

At the present time, the members of the FEPC, headed by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, are studying the transcript of the hearings and will soon announce their findings and directives.

There is little doubt as to the committee's report. The big question is whether the railroads will pay any attention to the expected directives to cease discrimination on account of race.

FEPC officials point out that in case its directives are ignored, the issue will be dumped square into the lap of the White House.

First witness at the hearings was Dr. Herbert Northrup, who pointed out that the discriminatory practices followed by the 14 railroad unions were "in no way typical of those of organized labor in general."

All 14 railroad brotherhoods have been charged by the FEPC with discriminating against Negroes. Most agreements between the unions and the companies put Negroes in the class of "non-promotables" and prevent them from being upgraded from firemen to engineers. Many unions also deny membership to Negroes and allow unfair wage differentials to exist.

AIDS THE AXIS

Proof of the aid this discrimination is giving to the Axis came from D. Clyde Miller, director of the Institute of Propaganda Analysis, who reported that Japanese broadcasts to the East have questioned how "faith" can be placed "in the promises of white Americans when they deny equal rights to their fellow citizens who are not white."

Scores of employes who had complained to the FEPC of the discrimination and unfair wage differentials they had suffered appeared on the witness stand.

From the 18 railroads represented at the hearing came admission of the discriminatory practices but no recognition of the need for a change so that railroads could make their maximum contribution toward the war effort.

None of the Railroad Brotherhoods showed up at the hearings, except one lone representative from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who came around the last day and declared he would have a statement four days after the hearings closed.

FEPC officials are still waiting for that statement.

SEP 26 1943

FEPC Aims Under Fire From Smith Committee

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Dec. 1943

WASHINGTON (FP)—All guarantees in government contracts banning discrimination against Negroes, Jews and other minorities should be "prohibited by law," the Smith committee asserted, in its latest broadside on key war agencies. The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee was thus marked as the newest victim for the witch-hunting House committee, which until now has directed most of its heckling at OPA. The report specifically attacks the Federal Surplus Commodities Credit Corp. for insisting that all government contracts with dairy companies must include anti-discrimination clauses. The full committee signed the report, including those two much-vaunted liberals—John J. Delaney (D., NY) and Jerry Voorhis (D., Calif.).

"The subsidy program, the Lend-Lease Act, as well as the needs of our armed forces, were never intended by Congress to be used as a subterfuge to impose legislation upon the country which Congress has failed or refused to enact," said the report. "Any effort to use subsidies, Lend-Lease funds, or rather appropriations for any such purpose should be prohibited by law."

The Surplus Commodities Corp. was also attacked for requiring some producers to pay time and one-half for employers who work on orders for military and Lend-Lease. OPA was not neglected by the committee, which charged the agency with enforcing ceilings on meat prices and with fixing ceiling prices on live cattle without the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture.

DEC 17 1943

FEPC Row Brewing

Unions Seek Definition of Powers

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

DEC 14 1943

By FRED W. PERKINS,
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—A Congressional inquiry was forecast today into the powers and actions of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices as that agency apparently was heading into a concentration of opposition to its directives against work discriminations because of color or race.

The committee yesterday received a direct refusal from 16 railroads and terminal companies operating in Southern states to heed the committee's orders, which they declared violated the collective bargaining procedures set up by the Railway Labor Act.

Fred W. Perkins.

Today the committee entered a fresh controversy when it ordered the big boilermakers' union, of the American Federation of Labor, to cease discriminations against Negroes.

* * *

The Congressional inquiry, it was learned, has been suggested by some of the unions in the controversy. It would be based on the question of how much authority the committee has, and where it got it.

Committee spokesmen said there had been no test of its authority because there has been no defiance in any important case. If necessary, it was said, noncompliance cases would be sent to the White House, for handling under the President's war powers. In noncompliance cases from the WLB the President has a formula of seizing the facilities of the companies, but he has never proceeded against labor unions, which are involved in all important cases of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The railroad case, which has been in the making for [illegible] months, involves seven railway unions and 22 railroad companies. The unions, including [illegible] Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, have ignored the committee.

* * *

The boilermakers' case involves, in addition to the union, five West Coast shipbuilding companies which were directed to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues, under the closed shop plan, to the auxiliary boilermaker unions that were set up for them. The auxiliaries have been labeled "Jim Crow unions" by their critics.

The committee said it had found "the auxiliaries are created only for Negro workers and are placed directly under control of the white (regular) lodge for the area. Auxiliary members have no vote or voice in conduct of the union's affairs and must accept as their business agent the business agent of the supervising lodge in whose election the auxiliaries have no part. The committee was set up by a Presidential thing. Before Sicily 1941.

47d-1943

Rail Job Bias Case Certified To President by the FEPC

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The President's committee on fair employment practice called on President Roosevelt today to enforce its orders for sixteen Southeastern railroads and seven unions to cease discrimination in the employment and promotion of Negroes. Three of the unions and the carriers have defied the committee's authority to issue such orders.

Representative Howard W. Smith, Democrat, of Virginia, announced that he had started an investigation to determine whether the committee had gone beyond its authority in ordering war industries and unions in a number of instances to cease discrimination against employes because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Case Reviewed by Ross

In announcing that the committee was certifying the railroad case over to President Roosevelt, Chairman Malcolm Ross told a press conference that the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen, the International Association of Machinists and the Order of Railway Conductors had challenged the authority of the committee to proceed against them, while the other four unions had ignored the committee's order, issued Nov. 30, which gave the railroads and the unions thirty days to cease discriminatory practices.

On Dec. 13, the Southeastern railroads, in a joint reply to the order, refused to comply on grounds that the committee had no constitutional or legal authority to act. Six other railroads did not join in defying the committee and Mr. Ross said that conversations between them and the committee were proceeding in an effort at settlement of the issues involved in the order.

The possibility of executive sanctions against recalcitrant companies and unions arose as a result of today's action by the committee. The only precedent, however, is for personal negotiation by Mr. Roosevelt with the disputing parties, the method by which the President ended the one other fair employment case turned over to him by the committee. That case involved the refusal by the International Association of Machinists to comply with orders against discrimination in a shipyard and an aircraft plant on the West Coast. The dispute was settled last December.

House Group Takes Records

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—The House committee investigating activities of executive agencies to see whether they are exceeding their authority took from the FEPC today the records in the case against the railroads and the action involving the boilermakers union and five West Coast shipyards which were also recently ordered by the FEPC to end allegedly discriminatory practices affecting Negro employes.

Representative Howard W. Smith, chairman of the committee, had said two weeks ago that it "might be necessary" to investigate the FEPC "if complaints were received."

He declared today that the Southern railways and West Coast shipyard workers had filed complaints that the agency had exceeded its authority.

The President's seizure of all the railroads in the wage dispute puts him in position to enforce any decision he may make in the racial discrimination cases. The Secretary of War, the present operator, could put the President's decision in the FEPC case into immediate effect without the concurrence of the operators of the roads which defied the FEPC.

Job Discrimination Reported Gaining

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Though the number of cases of employment discrimination against Jews is rising, cases involving Negroes still form 80 per cent of all reported to the Fair Employment Practices Committee, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, said today at the regional office in the Empire State Building.

Most of the cases involving Jews are based on charges of retfusal to hire, he said, while Negroes are not so much having trouble finding jobs as in being upgraded to their proper skills.

He would not discuss the current FEPC case involving 16 refused to obey an order to cease discrimination beyond saying that the roads needed 80,000 workers and that many Negroes are available for the jobs.

FEPC

New Group to Consider Railroad Jim Crowism

PM
New York, N. Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—President Roosevelt is planning to name a committee representing railroad management and labor groups to seek settlement of the controversy over discrimination against Negro workers on the railroads.

The President disclosed his intention in response to an inquiry yesterday as to what action the Government—now in possession of the railroads—would take on the discrimination charges certified to the White House by the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The FEPC had turned its findings over to the President after a group of Southeastern carriers and railway labor organizations had flatly defied an order to halt discrimination against Negroes in certain railroad jobs.

In answering the question FDR indicated hope that the projected committee study would pave way for a harmonious settlement of the row and obviate the necessity for any drastic measures by the Government. He did not discuss the possibility of what stand the U. S. A. would take if no agreement satisfactory to the FEPC as well as the railroads groups is reached.

Observing that distinct advances had been made in curbing general employment discrimination against minorities, the President said he did not believe the millenium could be achieved overnight and that his objective was steady progress.

His plan to appoint a committee to discuss the FEPC order was expected to avert any immediate clash over the status of the committee or its railroad findings. FEPC officials are known to have been hopeful that the carriers and unions would reopen voluntary consideration of the case. It is anticipated that the President's appointment of a committee will at least force resumption of conferences.

This may temporarily be enough to save the FEPC from a fatal loss of prestige.

FEPC HEAD'S RED LEANING BARED IN HOUSE PROBE

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Ross Is Blamed for Racial Unrest.

BY WILLARD EDWARDS.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.—Communist sympathies of Malcolm H. Ross, chairman of President Roosevelt's fair employment practices committee, which has been denounced in congress as a promoter of disunity and racial unrest, were disclosed today by investigators for the house committee on un-American activities.

Another house committee, authorized to investigate excesses of authority by government agencies, has seized files of the FEPC and is compiling evidence on the legality of its status, functions, and orders. Open hearings will be held.

The FEPC, which has caused an uproar in the south by ordering 14 railroads and seven unions to cease alleged unfair labor practices, was created by Mr. Roosevelt to report on employment conditions in general. From the first, however, it has centered its attention on Negro employment practices.

Communist Line Followed.

This is in line, investigators noted, with the Communist party practice of inciting Negroes to unrest and an examination of the record of Chairman Ross gives the answer, they said, to the FEPC's attitude.

Ross is a protege of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the President's wife, according to reports, and of Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle. A Wall street messenger and bond peddler in the '20s after his graduation from Yale, Ross later worked on southern newspapers. He came to Washington with the New Deal in 1933 and was press agent for the national labor relations board. He joined the FEPC last July and was appointed chairman in October.

Book Called Pro-Red.

In 1939 Ross wrote a book, "Death of a Yale Man," which is studded with expressions of sympathy for the Communist cause, investigators reported. In its comment on labor disputes in particular, this work reflects a pro-Communist tone, they declared. A typical paragraph was cited:

"The impact of Russian communism lent direction to west coast thinking. All thru our history the idea of communism has been associated with groups of idealists who saw America as a new scene for the coöperative life of superior human beings."

On the NLRB, Ross was closely associated with Edwin S. Smith, board member who was later dropped because of his pro-Communist ideas, according to the investigators' report. Smith is now executive secretary of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

Blamed for Racial Unrest.

Ross is given full credit for the edict of the FEPC finding the southern railroads and unions guilty of racial discrimination, which has been widely assailed as productive of mischief, disunity, and racial disturbances. James W. Ford, once a candidate for vice president on the Communist party ticket, hailed the order, however, as "repudiating the policy of southern feudalism."

In the Communist party's official organ, the Daily Worker, the FEPC was urged to make its next step "the wiping out of other discriminatory practices, particularly in the armed forces."

Ford wrote in this publication:

"We must now use this victory as a great opportunity to hasten the complete elimination of Jim Crow and racial discrimination in industry in the armed forces, in all phases of our American life."

Rep. Vito Marcantonio [A'. L., N. Y.], the Communist party's unofficial representative in congress, introduced a bill to make the FEPC a permanent organization.

Upheld by Roosevelt.

The FEPC's order to the southern railroads and unions came Nov. 18 shortly after President Roosevelt had met a threat to the agency's authority which came from Controler General Lindsay C. Warren. Warren had ruled that the committee's orders were permissive only, but the President immediately clarified his original executive order, holding the group's decrees were mandatory.

The railroads and unions were given until Dec. 30 to cease their alleged discriminations against Negro labor. When the railroads pleaded that any attempt to promote Negroes to the positions of conductor and engineer on southern railroads would disrupt relations with unions and employes, and create disorder in war, since the FEPC certified the cases to the President for enforcement.

Under this procedure the President might use any of several enforcement methods, including abolition of union privileges, seizure of property, or withholding of government contracts. Subsequent government seizure of the railroads, because of strike threats, makes it possible for immediate enforcement of the order, but officials have refused thus far to reveal what action they may take.

FEPC Knocks Out Nit Wit Idea To Black-Girls

Argus
St. Louis, Mo

When representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice convinced officials of a large Eastern war plant that their reason for rejection of Negro women as employs had no factual basis, the company relaxed its barriers eliminating a labor shortage.

The matter was referred to the Committee by the United States Employment Service after a check had disclosed that all Negro girls referred to the firm had been rejected. Over a two-month period 500 white girls were referred to the company of whom 300 were hired. During the same period however, of 100 Negro girls referred, all of whom met the basic standards, none was hired.

Investigation brought from the management the explanation that jobs required handling of small mechanics and that Negroes were rejected because they "all had 'sweaty' hands." It was found that the "test" of "sweaty hands" was superficial and questionable as to its validity.

FEPC Saves the Jobs Of 7 Colored Seamen

DEC 22 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

Jim Crow tried to sign on a U. S. merchant vessel recently, but thanks to the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) got pushed off when the ship reached New York.

The United States Lines' Calobre appealed to the WSA (War Shipping Administration) early this month for crew replacements. through the joint hiring pool maintained by the WSA and the National Maritime Union, seven seamen—six Negroes and one Chinese—were hired and sent to Baltimore where the ship was docked. The WSA paid their fares.

The men understood they were to be taken for foreign service. When the ship left Baltimore for New York, however, the captain indicated that the articles provided for coast-wise service—this, despite the fact some of the seven are aliens and thereby barred by law from such service.

At New York, the seven were fired. The white members of the crew were kept on.

The NMU got in touch with the FEPC. The FEPC investigation showed, according to Edward Lawson, Regional Director, who yesterday announced their rehiring, that the seven men had been fired "for no apparent reason other than their race."

Officers of the ship and the United States Lines denied the men had been fired because of discrimination. The company says that any captain in its employ who discriminates, would, in fact, be fired.

Captain James Ferrari, master of the vessel, explained that his chief mate, who previously told an FEPC representative that the master didn't want colored men, had made a mistake. Actually, he said, the men were fired for "incompetence."

All seven later presented proof of their ability as seamen and were rehired.

DEC 22 1943

Lawson credits the victory to the recent decentralization of the FEPC's work, which places greater responsibility upon field offices.

1,713 Cases Before The FEPC Set A New Record

Age—New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Although 232 cases of alleged employment discrimination were closed during the month of October, 1943, the active case load of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice reached a peak figure of 1,713 cases on November 1, Malcolm Ross, chairman, announced Saturday.

Of the 232 cases closed in October, 62 cases, or 28 per cent, were adjusted satisfactorily, Mr. Ross reported. Thirty-one per cent of the cases were dismissed on merits, 25 per cent for insufficient evidence, 6 per cent for lack of jurisdiction, and 10 per cent of the cases were withdrawn by the complainants.

Mr. Ross said there had been a 30 per cent increase in the active case load since September 1, 1943, and credited this rise to the establishment of various regional offices of the Committee.

FEPC Hearings On Job Discrimination In Los Angeles End

DEC 4 - 1943

Age
New York, N. Y.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Following the conclusion on November 20 of a two-day public hearing here on charges of employment discrimination in the Los Angeles shipbuilding industry, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice announced this week that its findings would be made public after a thorough study of all evidence.

The hearings were highlighted by denials of discriminatory practices by representatives of three major shipbuilding firms — the California Shipbuilding Corporation, the Western Pipe and Steel Corporation, and the Consolidated Steel Corporation, Shipbuilding Division. The Boilermakers' Union, also involved in the charges, failed to make an official appearance at the hearings.

Original charges probed by the FEPC had included the three shipbuilding companies, the International Boilermakers' Union, AFL; Subordinate Lodge 92 and Auxiliary Lodge A-35. Invitations to attend the hearings were sent also to the AFL Metal Trades Council, Pacific Metal Trades Council, and the Los Angeles Metal Trades Council. None of the trade union groups made an appearance.

Six of the seven members of the Committee sat at the hearing with Malcolm Ross, chairman, presiding. Special Counsel included Attorneys George E. C. Hayes of Washington, D. C.; Marvin C. Harrison of Cleveland, O.; and Benjamin Dreyfus of San Francisco.

Specific charges heard were that Negro workers, although qualified, were refused upgrading of promotion and were either forced to quit or threatened with discharge if unwilling to subscribe to a union membership which was described as discriminatory.

Group to Probe FEPC Doings

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(AP)—Enforcement of President Roosevelt's order against any racial discrimination in war industries was up to the President himself today.

The problem was turned over to the chief executive by the Fair Employment Practice Committee late yesterday after a congressional committee moved to investigate the agency's activities.

The FEPC, set up by the President under the second war powers' act, certified 14 southeastern railroads and seven railway labor unions as violators of Presidential Order No. 9346 which forbids racial or religious discrimination against workers or job applicants by any firm doing any work for the U. S. government.

Operators of the railroads involved were in effect removed from the picture however by the Pesident's seizure of the entire railway system in the current wage dispute. While the railroads are being operated by the secretary of war, any decision by the President on enforcement of the non-discrimination order could be carried out immediately without concurrence of the railway managements.

DEC 29 1943

The FEPC's authority was openly challenged December 13 when the 14 railroads which now have been certified to the President served notice on FEPC that they intended to disregard its directive designed to carry out the President's no-discrimination edict.

Three of the seven railway unions have also formally denied the FEPC has powers to enforce the President's order.

The FEPC Winning Discrimination Fights

Argus

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 24—The hiring of Negro women by a New York City firm engaged in war work which had never before given such employment to Negro workers was announced by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice this week. The company, General Desserts Corporation produces packaged foods for the armed forces.

OCT 29 1943

The FEPC announcement also cited the following adjustments as typical of recent developments in its work.

When the representative of a New York City firm doing war work hired only Christian white workers, the FEPC was notified. As a result, the firm, when it next had occasion to hire, included both non-whites and non-Christians among those employed.

St. Louis, Mo.

An East Coast firm producing war material, although declaring it would employ no Negro women on the night shift, acceding to a request from the FEPC the company placed several Negro women and reported results which exceeded any expectations.

Similarly, another plant in Region, II, had hired no Negro women although a number was available. Negro men appeared to be used exclusively in the lowest categories of work. Through the intervention of the committee, Negro women were hired and qualified Negro men already employed there were upgraded to production work also.

FEPC Gets 'Statement' By Transit Co.

Post
Washington, D. C

E. D. Merrill, president of the Capital Transit Co., yesterday signed a "statement of fact" expressing "willingness on the employer's part to abide by the Presidential order" banning employment discrimination against minority groups in war and war-related industries, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, announced.

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Ross said this agreement, although "not necessarily meaning a change of the company's policy," represented "the first written commitment" in the case which has been under investigation by the FEPC since early summer.

On July 26, when Father Francis J. Haas, now a bishop in Michigan was still FEPC chairman, notice was served on the company "to end discrimination against Negro employment."

In a statement before the Public Utilities Commission on October 5, Father Haas said "the company has indicated its willingness to comply with the requirements of the executive order."

Asked whether the FEPC will seek a similar agreemen with the union, Ross said this was not the intention of his committee.

John H. Cookman, organizer, Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America, with whom Capital Transit has a closed shop agreement, asserted that "the union is neutral" in the issue.

"The company d[illegible] hiring," Cookman declared, "and we would rather not make a statement one way or the other."

Ross explained that the company was under the FEPC's directive order which covers all establishments connected with the war effort.

R.R. Discrimination Case Up To F. D. R.

Advertiser—
Montgomery, Ala.

FEPC Calls For Enforcing 'Fair Employing Rules

DEC 28 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The fair employment practices committee today by unanimous vote certified to President Roosevelt for enforcement cases of alleged discrimination against negro labor involving 14 southeastern railways and seven unions.

The railroads previously had refused to abide by the committee's order to cease discrimination. Certification of the cases to the President is under the same procedure as certification of War Labor Board orders which management or unions refuse to abide by. Enforcement methods include abolition of union privileges, seizure of plants or withholding of government contracts.

The committee's move came shortly after a special House committee requested the committee's records in the rail discrimination cases and in a west coast case.

The cases turned over to the President involved both asserted railway and union refusal to permit employment of negroes as firemen and trainmen in spite of FEPC directives. The railroads involved are the Atlantic Coastline, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville and Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Seaboard, Southern, Frisco, Chesapeake and Ohio, Gulf, Mobile and Ohio, Norfolk and Western, and Illinois Central.

47d-1943

FEPC

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News
Birmingham, Ala.

AMERICA'S HONOR IS VINDICATED AND RADIO TOKYO IS ANSWERED

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE TO ORGANIZE COLORED LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, International President.
MILTON P. WEBSTER International Vice-President.
ASHLEY TOTTEN, International Secretary-Treasurer.
B. F. McLAURIN, International Organizer.

TOKYO AND BERLIN WERE LISTENING, YOU MAY BE SURE, WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE HELD ITS LONG DELAYED HEARINGS ON THE CASE OF THE COLORED LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN. But neither Dr. Goebbels nor Radio Tokyo, which for many months has been shrieking its malignant version of the all too ugly facts of race discrimination on the southern railroads, will wish to broadcast the truth of wh[illegible]appened at those hearings.

What happened was that a Committee of seven members representing industry, labor, and the public, and including two Negroes, strove in all honesty and good faith to execute the terms of the President's Executive Order No. 9346, which says:

> **"There shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in government by reason of race, creed, color, or national origin." No, this could not have happened in Tokyo or Berlin.**

Imagine Hitler's kept judges or Tojo's military courts permitting Polish Jews or Korean patriots to testify in open hearings concerning the injustices and the outrages which had been perpetrated upon them!

But it could and did happen in Washington. And already it has done more to restore the belief of Negro Americans in the genuineness of their country's democratic faith and aspiration than anything that has happened since the President issued his original anti-discrimination order in June, 1941.

Cited in the complaint filed with the FEPC were the following railroads and railroad unions: New York Central, Pennsylvania Railroad, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Union Pacific, B. & O., Seaboard Air-line Railroad, Southern Railroad, Jacksonville Terminals, St. Louis, San Francisco, Atlantic Coast Line, Norfolk & Western, Chicago Northwestern, Atlanta Joint Terminal, Illinois Central, Gulf, Mobile & Ohio, Chesapeake & Ohio, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Georgia Railroad, Louisiana and Arkansas, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, and Virginian; Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, International [illegible] Machinists, and nine other unions.

At the close of the hearings the spokesman for the carriers said:

"Mr. Chairman, we have no evidence to offer . . . These witnesses by and large have testified to facts. . . ."

As for the all-white unions, they conspicuously failed to participate in the hearings. In brief summary the evidence presented to the Committee proved beyond question:

—That for the past thirty years, experienced and competent Negro firemen, switchmen, brakemen and other Negro railroad workers have been systematically eased out of their jobs for the sole reason that the all-white railroad brotherhoods had decreed their elimination.

—That in the execution of this policy the all-white unions have employed countless devices of evasion; that while denying union membership to Negro railroad workers they nonetheless assumed to "represent" them in negotiating agreements with the carriers, the effect of which was to bring about the expulsion of the Negroes.

—That the railroad managements with few exceptions made no attempt to protect their Negro employees and in many cases collaborated actively in their displacement by inexperienced whites.

—That between 1920 and 194[illegible] percentage of Negro firemen employed [illegible]the s[illegible]thern roads dropped from 41.4 to 29.5; of [illegible]gro trainmen from 22.2 to 15.1; if this trend had been continued colored workers would have been almost completely eliminated from these jobs by 1950.

—That when railroad employment declined during economic depressions Negro firemen were literally shot out of their cabs; in all, fifteen Negro firemen were killed and twenty-nine injured during two outbreaks of violence, in 1921 and again in 1931.

—That as late as February, 1941, the most objectionable of the anti-Negro pacts was negotiated with the Southeastern Carriers; this and subsequent agreements sealed the ultimate doom of 2,400 colored firemen still employed on the southern lines.

—That in June of this year, with railroad traffic at an all-time peak, Negro firemen were still being eased out of their jobs on the southern lines, though 850 **more** firemen were needed and the total shortage of railroad workers had reached 80,000. **It was even proposed to use women and war prisoners—this in preference in hiring thousands of available Negroes, many of them with years of railroad experience behind them.**

—That during this period railroad accidents and delays have increased, racial tensions have been exacerbated, and the war effo[illegible]has suff[illegible]oth at home and on the fighting fronts.

A Shameful Record—Shot Through With Light and Hope

IF THE RECORD SHOWED ONLY THIS MONOTONOUS SEQUENCE OF PREJUDICE, EVASION AND INJUSTICE, BERLIN AND TOKYO MIGHT WELL GLOAT AND REPEAT THEIR JEERS AT THE "AMERICAN HYPOCRITES." BUT IT SHOWS MORE, a good deal more. It shows that many of the white railroaders didn't like or want this callous purge of Negro fellow-workers whom they had come to trust and like, and that they rebelled against it, often at considerable personal cost. Here, for example, is George M. Bruce, Jr., white locomotive engineer, age 33, answering Radio Tokyo in the only way it can be answered.

Question: Did there come a day when you did get displaced from your position as a main line engineer?

Answer: Yes.

Question: What was the occ[illegible]o[illegible]tha[illegible]

Answer: Well, I was asked to roll a senior colored locomotive fireman and I refused to do it.

Negro Americans will not forget George M. Bruce.

There were Negro voices, too, that helped to redeem the record. Here is R. H. Russell, Negro switchman, telling how sixteen-year-old inexperienced white boys were hired over the heads of experienced Negroes, including his own son.

"We trained those white young boys. We gave them the best on the job, knowing that they were displacing me and my boy; nevertheless, I wanted to do the very best I could.

"Every young boy we trained is alive today and doing fine, but those that was trained by the ones that we trained are the ones who got killed, seven or eight of them. And I believe if they would have let us contine to train them, those men would not have been killed."

READING THIS REC[illegible]SEES AGAIN AND AGAIN, THROUGH THE MURK OF DISCRIMINATION AND FEAR, A WHITE HAND EXTENDED IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF A RESPONSIBLE AND DANGEROUS CRAFT, AND ALWAYS A BLACK HAND OUTSTRETCHED TO CLASP IT. For American civilization, north or south, just isn't as mean and hypocritical and helpless as Radio Tokyo would have us believe. If it were, the railroad hearing would not have been held at all. What seemed the most powerful political and economic forces in America were moibilzed to stop them, and to destroy the FEPC itself. On January 11, 1943, Paul McNutt announced the indefinite suspension of the railroad hearings. The propagandists of Berlin and Tokyo rubbed their hands and the next morning the short-wave listeners of three continents—black, brown and yellow—heard all about the debacle of America's democratic pretensions on the racial front.

Then things started to happen. Detroit labor came to Washington, white and black, side by side—the same Detroit labor that wrote and signed the magnificent Cadillac agreement—and spoke its fearless and uncompromising piece. With labor and beside labor in the fight stood the leaders of the three great religious faiths. On February 12, Lincoln's birthday, a little group of these religious liberals, white and black, marched in solemn pilgrimage to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington as they inten[illegible] year and every year, so long as the memory of Abraham Lincoln is held in honor in this country. "There can be no second class economic citizenship, no ceiling on color or creed in the defense of democracy," declared the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish churchmen in an open letter to President Roosevelt released on this occasion.

Four days after the President returned from Casablanca he announced that the suspended hearings would be resumed. They were held September 15-18 and on December 1 the FEPC announced its findings and directives which are here summarized.

The intent of the Southeastern Conference Agreement of February, 1941, was the chief grievance of the Negro firemen who filed complaints with the FEPC. The Committee found that "its sole purpose and effect is to restrict the employment opportunities of Negro firemen solely because of their race." Ten railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, parties to the agreement, have been ordered to set it aside.

In relation to the railroad companies, the Committee directed: That the carriers instruct all agencies through whom they employ workers that they will in the future accept needed workers in all classes of employment without discrimination.

That no new agreements between the carriers and unions may contain discriminatory clauses.

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That each carrier found guilty of discrimnatory practices report to the Committee within thirty days what steps it has taken to insure fair practices.

In relation to the railroad unions, the Committee found them guilty of many discriminatory practices against Negro workers. A frequent charge against a union was that "it denies them membership in its organization; refuses them any voice or part in the negotiation of agreements . . . and refuses to represent them in respect to their grievances."

In each such instance, the Committee ordered the Union to cease and desist from such practices.

In respect to the 23 carriers cited by the Committee, one railroad, the Virginian, reached a settlement with FEPC before the hearings. The Union Pacific, during the course of the hearings, ordered immediate corrections of any unfair practices. Final action in the case of the Pennsylvania and New York Central roads awaits the outcome of discussions between the carriers and the Committee.

DEC 20 1943

WILL A GREAT AMERICAN TRAGEDY BECOME A GREAT AMERICAN TRIUMPH?

Thus with brave and forthright words has the President's Committee on Fair Economic Practice answered Dr. Goebbels and Radio Tokyo. But great words must be made good by great deeds. Will the Committee's directives be obeyed?

We who sign this, Negroes of the South and the North, would be fools if we permitted ourselves to believe that our struggle has ended with the Committee's decision. How long will it be before the great and powerful railway brotherhoods can be brought to abandon the tragic error which has so deeply stained an otherwise splendid record? How long before the carriers stop passing the buck to our civilization—and to the unions—and start brightening the corner where they are?

We cannot say, but this we know: that we can go in only one of two ways in this matter of race relations and it must not be Hitler's way. We who sign this are Negroes whose grandfathers and great - grandfahers were slaves. There is no power great enough to make us slaves again; no power great enough to forbid our claim to the equal rights for which every other oppressed American minority has fought and for which we pledge ourselves to fight, as long as we have breath and life.

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Our tragedy, so richly documented in the railroad hearings, is not our tragedy alone. It is your tragedy, too. It is one of America's great tragedies. And it is for America—all America, white and black and brown—"with charity to all and malice toward none," to transform that tragedy into a great American triumph.

FEPC Files Seized as Group Meets to Certify Rail Case

Post
Washington, D. C.

By Mary Spargo

DEC 28 1943

Files of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee concerning the Southeastern Railroad and West Coast boilermakers' cases were taken over yesterday in a surprise move by the Smith Committee of the House investigating the acts of executive agencies.

Congressional action occurred just as members of the FEPC were meeting to certify the rail case to the President, and is the first public step in a sweeping House investigation of FEPC, its directives, personnel and orders concerning discriminatory employment practices.

Subsequent to the committee action the FEPC turned to the President to settle its case against 14 Southeastern railroads charged with discriminating against Negroes in employment.

Complaints Filed

Chairman Smith (Democrat) of Virginia said the committee's investigation of FEJC was prompted by complaints from railroad management in the Southeast and appeals by West Coast ship workers to look into FEPC directives handed down in the case of five or six shipyards, among them the Henry J. Kaiser and regon ehipbuilding companies.

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Armed with subpenas, which were not served when the committee agred to surrender its documents voluntarily, four representatives of the Smith committee, headed by the new general counsel, Aaron L. Ford, appeared at the executive offices to secure the documents, a bundle wore than 4 inches thick.

Because the committee was then using some of the papers relating to the rail case in preparing to refer the matter to President Roosevelt, the congressional representatives agreed to allow Chairman Malcolm Ross to keep some of the documents until today. They were identified and counted for reference purposes.

At the FEPC meeting beside Ross were Sara Southall, Boris Shishkin and Milton P. Webster. Plummer Bernard Young, sr., and John Brophy, other members of the committee, were absent.

Interested in Copies

Accompanying Ford were his assistants, John [illegible], Harold F. Haney and Joseph H. Stratton.

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Ford said that for the present the committee was most interested in securing copies of the directives handed down by FEPC and in learning who actually wrote the documents in question.

He indicated it was likely that the committee would ask for further FEPC files containing correspondence.

After the committee and its staff has had an opportunity to examine the records, public hearings on FEPC will probably be held. The committee has held a long series of open hearings on OPA, WPB and other executive agencies and has issued interim reports from time to time.

DEC 28 1943

Union Protests

Protests by railway labor unions against the FEPC order to the 14 Southeastern railroads to cease discriminartoy practices against Negroes resulted in a defiance of the directive by rail management.

In the West Coast case the unions are more involved than management. In this case some 500 to 600 Negroes who are members of "B" locals or auxiliary unions are involved.

These shipyard workers, members of the Boilermakers Union, AFL, protested because as members of a "B" local they paid dues but had no vote. Fnally they refused to pay dues. The [illegible]er union thereupon requested the shipyards to discharge them. The case went to the courts and the the FEPC.

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The Smith committee is particularly interested in learning whether or not in issuing orders in these two, and possibly other cases, the FEPC has exceeded the authority conferred upon it by Congress, which holds the purse strings.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Union Action Against Negro Rail Workers.

By George E. Haynes, Executive Secretary, Department of Race Relations, Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The column by Raymond Clapper on "Race Relations," while it does not represent opinions of your excellent newspaper, seems to me to require some public statement of the other side.

DEC 23

Mr. Clapper says that the point stressed by the Fair Employment Practice Committee that the railroads open up more operating jobs for Negroes can bring only "mischief, disunity and further irritation." He admits that before the last World War 80 to 90 per cent of the locomotive firemen in the Southeast were Negroes and that by 1929 more than 50 per cent had been dropped.

He does not explain that this was done by agreements between the railroads and the unions, one of them witnessed by an agency of the United States Government, that Negroes seeking jobs should be excluded from employment as firemen and that those already on the pay roll should have the doors of advancement barred simply because white men wanted their jobs. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was the officially designated bargaining agent for these Negroes although they had no vote as members on its policies. And yet the Brotherhood and these railroads negotiated an agreement excluding them. Mr. Clapper does not report the fact that there is a shortage of firemen but unemployed experienced Negro firemen. There are other shortages, but Negroes are denied upgrading rights of other railroad workers.

Mr. Clapper's argument ignores the fact, too, that we are now struggling in a world war for the four freedoms, one of them freedom from want. What are Negroes and others who, like these firemen, are barred because of race or national origin from jobs to earn their living going to think about such declarations?

As Mr. Clapper's column appeared, two photographs were published in one of the leading morning papers—one of a four-man machine gun crew of Negroes operating in New Georgia Island of the Solomons; another of a Negro staff sergeant of an infantry regiment receiving a Legion of Merit award for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service." These men are able to operate machine guns and perform other meritorious services against the Japanese in the jungles, but they are not permitted to operate stoker-fired locomotives and Diesel engines on Southern railroads. The thing just does not sound even decent or make sense.

Furthermore, three out of every four of the Allies in this world struggle against the Axis are either yellow people of China, brown people of India or black and brown people of Africa and South America. What will they think when the Axis propagandists again tell the world about this action of the railroads and the railroad unions? What will they say about this as an example of the way democracy works in America?

DEC 23

Manhattan.

FEPC Deadline In Philly Dispute

PM
New York, N. Y.

Special Correspondence

NOV 17 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17.—The Philadelphia region of President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practice Committee has given the Philadelphia Transportation Co. a time limit to change its policy against hiring Negroes as bus and trolley operators and conductors.

That was confirmed here today by C. James Fleming, regional director of FEPC. But Fleming declined to make the deadline public.

On Nov. 6, more than 900 Negroes paraded here in protest against the company's refusal to hire members of their race as motormen and drivers despite its admitted labor shortage. Recently it started hiring white women as trolley conductors and motormen.

NOV 17 1943

47d-1943

OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN FEPC, WMC IS REACHED IN WASHING'N

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 13 1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — An operating agreement between the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee and the War Manpower Commission on the non-discrimination program has been reached and harmonious and expeditious enforcement of anti-bias policies promised by the two agencies.

The Non-discrimination Order provides that the FEPC "shall formulate policies to achieve the purposes of the order and shall make recommendations to authorities, which it deems necessary and proper to make effective the provisions." Further the committee will recommend to the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission approprate measures for bringing about full utilization and training of manpower in and for [illegible] production without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

All departments and agencies of the Government concerned with vocational and training programs for war production "shall take all measures appropriate to assure that such programs are administered without discrimination," the agreement states. FEPC still will receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by the non-discrimination order, hold hearings, make findings of fact and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination. FEPC "may utilize the services and facilities of other Federal departments and agencies and such voluntary uncompensated services as may from time to time be needed. Services of state and local authorities and officials also may be accepted by FEPC.

SPECIFIC MEASURES

Under the new agreement, it is the duty of FEPC to recommend to the Chairman of WMC specific measures to enforce non-discrimination, and of the staffs of the two units to cooperate and assist in handling and investigating the cases involving discrimination. The two groups also will prepare and develop educational programs and materials relating to non-discrimination in the training, placement and utilization programs of WMC.

Responsibilities of WMC include "overall responsibility for the utilization of manpower;" formulation of plans, programs and the establishment of basic national policies to assure the most effective and mobilization and maximum utilization of the nation's manpower in the prosecution of the [illegible], to issue such policies and operating directives as may be necessary to achieve its plans; after agreement with FEPC, the chairman of WMC 'shall establish administrative machinery and issue administrative directives to the regional, state area, and local offices with regard to their respective duties in securing full utilization and training of manpower without discrimination; to cooperate with FEPC in enforcement of the non-discrimination order in the carrying out of FEPC policies and "in the promulgation of such measures and programs on non-discrimination as the chairman of WMC may authorize.

PROVISIONS

The agreement further provides that the employes of FEPC and WMC shall work with a spirit of teamwork to attain maximum efficiency and economy in the administration of the non-discrimination order, to avoid duplication of effort, and to prevent overlapping of jurisdiction. Differences shall be settled amicably and through designated high officials.

FEPC and WMC agreed to proceed with the aid of each other's files and personnel in the investigation of all cases, maintaining an interchange of [illegible]ts and information relevant to the effecutation of non-discrimination programs and policies.

The agreement was signed August 2 by Fran[illegible] Haas, [illegible]man of FEPC, and Paul V. McNutt chairman of WMC.

FEPC

16 Rail Companies Balk At Employment Decree

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

DEC 13 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(Special)—Sixteen railroads and terminal companies today told the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, in a letter of response, that they cannot comply with the committee's directives of Nov. 18, regarding the hiring and promoting of Negro railroad workers. To do so, they stated, would seriously and irreparably prejudice the war effort, would be impracticable and impossible, and would violate the railway labor act. These railroads also denied the jurisdiction of the committee to issue the directives.

After a four-day hearing in Washington in September, the committee made both specific and general findings. It held that 22 railroads of all sections of the country, including these 16 railroads, and also seven railway labor unions were guilty of discrimination against Negroes in various respects. It made both specific and general directives that the labor unions admit Negroes to membership and that the railroads employ and promote Negroes in and to all positions without discrimination.

Orders Hiring Of Negroes

Although most of the evidence at the hearings concerned certain agreements between the railroads and the labor unions restricting employment of Negroes as firemen and as trainmen, the directives issued by the committee are not so confined, but undertake broadly to require the railroads to employ Negroes in and promote them to positions as locomotive engineers, train conductors, yard foremen, station agents, clerks working with white clerical personnel, and, in fact, any and all positions without exception.

The position in which railroads would be placed by attempt to comply with these directives was presented by the response filed by the 16 railroads today.

"These railroads," they said, "are engaged, with all their energies and abilities, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, in carrying on the most vital business of transportation in the war effort. They are contributing their part to the total war effort of the railroads of the country, which has been acclaimed as an unprecedented accomplishment by all branches of the Government and of the armed services.

Relations Harmonious

"The manpower situation on these railroads is not preventing their most excellent accomplishment in this regard. This has been achieved by peaceful and harmonious relations with railway labor and by patriotic and whole-hearted co-operation between these mangements, labor, and the shipping and traveling public. We wish to be clearly understood that any disruption of these peaceful and harmonious relations and of this patriotic co-operation which may result from your committee's directives is not the responsibility of these railroads."

Pointing out that their employment relations are governed by collective bargaining agreements reached under procedures of the Railway Labor Act and that any change therein is a matter of immediate and vital concern to their employes and their labor organizations, the responding railroads said, "Railroads are forbidden by law to interfere in any way with the self-determination or self-organization of their employes and are entirely without power to dictate to their employes, or to effect, by unilateral action, any changes in such agreements."

[illegible] Of Chaos

"Any attempt," they said, "to comply with those directives, for instance to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, inevitable would disrupt their present peaceful and co-operative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present condition of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the [illegible]."

Assert[illegible] their re[illegible]s at any time to [illegible]er with their employes under the Railway Labor Act, to see if any more generally satisfactory solution of the racial problems of employment can be worked out by mutual agreement, the 16 railroads said:

"However, frankness compels these railroads very respectively to state to your committee that it is utterly unrealistic to suppose that these railroads and their employes can agree to comply with the breadth of your directives or that problems of such delicacy, controlled and governed by a special act of Congress, can be solved out-of-hand by the fiat of your committee's directives."

[illegible] Railroads

The railroads filing this response were Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Frisco, Seaboard, Chesapeake & Ohio, Gulf, Mobile & Ohio, Norfolk & Western, Illinois Central, Yazoo & Mississippi Valley, and Gulf & Ship Island.

Among other railroad unions against which the directives were issued were Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, International Association of Machinists, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, Order of Railway Conductors, and Brotherhood of Railway Carmen.

Fair Enough

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

AUG 14 1943

A few weeks ago, President Roosevelt's committee on fair employment practice requested the reinstatement of 300 Negro workers in shipyards on the Pacific Coast who had been [illegible] out because they refused to be segregated in a separate auxiliary of the Boilermakers Union of the AFL. This union, with sharp business acumen, had foreseen the great development of the shipbuilding industry and had moved in fast to obtain a closed shop whereby many thousands of future workers here were bound to join up and pay personal tribute to Harold M. Franklin, the son of J. A. Franklin, president of the union. Young Franklin, a quiet operator in a small town, Kansas City, Kan., operates one of the ripest rackets in the entire nationwide shakedown of the workers in the war effort. An article of the constitution of his old man's union compels all "regular" members to buy insurance through him and pay their premiums, which are high, along with their dues or forfeit their jobs in the war effort.

Thus, it will be seen that discrimination sets in right there, and with the support of the national government. If a white worker has the character and fortitude to refuse to pay tribute to the son of the union's president he is fired, the nation, in its manpower emergency, loses his man-days of work and he is liable to such penalties as Paul V. McNutt and the draft boards may contrive for him.

This discrimination, however, has received the sanction and confirmation of general practice. It operates in most of the war industries, although the ingenious racket which old man Franklin arranged for his kid is something rather special.

Now a question has been [illegible] whether the segregation of the colored workers constitutes discrimination. The union thinks not, provided Negroes are readily received into the auxiliary and having been admitted, are freely permitted to work.

Of course, such segregation is discrimination because it is expressly written that the members of the Negro auxiliary shall not be permitted to buy young Franklin's insurance and contribute to his great income derived from commissions on the compulsory premiums. The union's constitution contains a proviso that "Article XII does not apply to membership in auxiliary divisions which may hereafter be organized." This article makes it necessary for "regular" members to buy insurance through the president's son. Furthermore, the insurance contract between the union and the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California says that the constitution, including this exclusive provision, is made a part of this agreement, and for a clincher, the second paragraph of the group policy says in these words that "members of the Negro auxiliary division" among other auxiliaries shall not be insured under this policy.

In this manner the colored brethren are denied an important social gain, to wit, their right to enrich Harold M. Franklin, the national union treasury in Kansas City, and the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California, which also has a very good thing running in this deal as examination of the policy and the tables has shown.

Now it may be [illegible] or unkind of the company to enter into any such di[illegible]natory agreement but there is nothing in any law which forbids it and there are many union precedents which never have been disturbed by any labor agency of the New Deal. On the contrary, many unions have subhuman or robot auxiliaries made up of socially degraded workers subordinate to the aristocracy, or full membership. Such are the B-class locals and the "permit" men who are forced to pay their dues and fees but are not allowed to vote or hold office or even participate in meetings. They constitute a large group in all, and their case is gloomy if not hopeless, and the only difference between them and the members of the Negro auxiliary of the Boilermakers' Union is that they are segregated for reasons other than those of race:

Is racial discrimination then the only wrongful discrimination that President Roosevelt's directive takes notice of? It is. And are the directive and the committee charged with its enforcement or implementation opposed to discrimination as such?

They are not.

They are indifferent to discrimination for other causes and, in the present case would perform a financial disservice to the colored workers by forcing the boilermak[illegible] admi[illegible]n to "regular" membership; for in that status they would have to swell to even vaster size the rakeoff of a man whose income already represents a monumental profit from the war for the freedoms everywhere in the world except only the U. S. A.

AUG 14 1943

WHILE President Roosevelt was in the Near East laying the foundation of the anti-fascist coalition to destroy the Axis and build [illegible] peace, forces were at work on the home front undermining domestic unity. They defeated the soldiers' vote bill in the Senate; the House refused to permit food subsidies; and sixteen southern railways, supported by the railroad brotherhoods and abetted by the House Smith Committee, have arrogantly defied the rulings of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee against discrimination in hiring. The disrupters chalked up what they first considered "victories"; yet their achievements have a hollow ring and even the so-called victors have begun to suspect that their finagling may not pay off as they had hoped.

DEC 28 1943

The fact is, the majority of congressional poll-taxers and their Republican allies uneasily wonder if they have gone too far. The outraged protests over the Senate's refusal to grant the soldiers the ballot has set them back on their heels. The effort to kill subsidies has aroused the indignation of labor and the consuming public. The railway employers' bald-faced defiance of the FEPC has proved about as popular as the flu. The reactionaries have outgrown their pants, which is mighty uncomfortable.

DEC 28 1943

The opportunity to take the initiative away from the die-hard bloc in Congress has never been better since the war began.

The bloc has already begun a "disengaging" action—they have temporarily extended the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation and they talk of subsidy "compromises"; the House is "reconsidering" the Senate action on the soldiers' vote; it is hinted that perhaps the southern railways can even see their way to abiding by the FEPC order, as the Union Pacific and the Virginia railway companies have.

Teheran committed the nation to coalition. The reactionaries are behind the times with their divisive policies which endanger the prosecution of the war. The moment for nation-wide action is *now*. A wire or a letter written today can have powerful influence. National unity will be preserved if each of us takes an hour off to write a few letters, if each of us persuades his friends to do the same, if each of us stirs up his fellow members in lodges, church groups, fraternal bodies, community clubs, union locals, and every other organization.

DEC 28 1943

To enforce the FEPC ruling, wire or write to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, White House, Washington, D. C., supporting his determined fight against discrimination. Wire or write to Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC, Room 408, 10th and U Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C., commending his forthright stand against the sixteen rebellious southern railway companies.

DEC 28 1943

To pass the soldiers' vote bill, wire or write your Congressman (all representatives can be reached by addressing them at the House Office Building, Washington, D.C.) and your senator (Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.). Also wire or write to Rep. Eugene Worley, chairman of the Committee on Election of President, Vice-President, and Representatives in Congress urging him to continue to give his full support to the soldiers' vote bill he has sponsored, the counterpart of the Senate Lucas-Green bill. It will be effective to write to the majority leader, Rep. John McCormack, who has fought for the Lucas-Green bill, and to minority leader, Rep. Joseph Martin, who has done everything to prevent the soldiers from voting. If your congressman's name appears on the following roster of the Election Committee, by all means write to him urging the Committee to report the original Lucas-Green-Worley bill to the House without delay:

Democrats Eugene Worley, chairman Texas; John Rankin, Mississippi; Herbert Bonner, North Carolina; Carter Manasco Alabama; John Gibson, Georgia; Daniel K. Hoch, Pennsylvania; John Lesinski Michigan; Ewart Hart, New Jersey.

DEC 28 1943

Republicans Ralph Gamble, New York; Karl M. LeCompte, Iowa; Harris Ellsworth, Oregon; Chas. W. Vursell, Illinois; Leon Gavin, Pennsylvania.

To authorize subsidies, needed if we are to have real price-control and prevent inflation, wire or write to your senators at once, and to your congressman.

Order No More Jimcro In Boilermaker Union

People's Voice
New York, N. Y
DEC 18 1943

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and its local lodges in Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles, Calif., have been directed by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to eliminate all membership practices which discriminate against workers because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, announced last week.

DEC 18 1943

At the same time, Ross revealed, five west coast shipbuilding companies have been directed by the Committee to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues to Boilermaker auxiliary unions. The companies were also ordered to cease discharging or refusing to hire Negroes solely because they had failed to obtain clearance from the union.

Firms notified by the Committee included the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation and the Kaiser Company, Inc., in the Portland-Vancouver area, and the California Shipbuilding Corporation, Consolidated Steel Corporation (Shipbuilding Division), and the Western Pipe and Steel Corporation in the Los Angeles area. Both the unions and the companies have been directed to report to the Committee within 45 days on actions taken toward compliance.

DEC 18 1943

CREATED FO[illegible]

DEC 18 1943

The Committee findings were that the auxiliaries are created only for Negro workers and are placed directly under control of the white subordinate (regular) Lodge for the area. Auxiliary members, the findings continued, have no vote or voice in the conduct of the union's affairs and must accept as their business agent the business agent of the supervising (subordinate) lodge in whose election the Auxiliaries have no part.

DEC 18 1943

Other Committee findings on the Auxiliary question included unfair differences in insurance benefits provided for members by the union and the agreements for admission to membership.

DEC 18 1943

FEPC Orders Kaiser To Rehire Negroes

AUG 24 1943

The Fair Employment Practice Committee has requested the Kaiser Shipyards in the Portland-Vancouver area, along with the AFL Boilermakers Union, to rehire Negro workers discharged from those yards.

The chairman of the FEPC, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, said in a letter to the Negro Labor Victory Committee that he and his associates are endeavoring "to bring about the reinstatement of these workers pending a full investigation and final action by the committee."

The AFL union in the Portland-Vancouver area, holding closed shop contracts covering 75 per cent of the 80,000 workers employed in the Kaiser yards, has been asked by the FEPC to "restore the status of discharged workers."

Msgr. Haas' letter was written in response to a letter from the Negro Labor Victory Committee, signed by Charles A. Collins, executive secretary, dated Aug. 11, 1943, in which the Negro Labor Victory Committee [illegible]ed that the Kaiser Co. "has continued to discharge Negro workers for the reason that they are not members of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers." Mr. Collins' letter followed a special report received from the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory of Portland, Oregon, which stated that dismissals had continued up to Aug. 8th.

AUG 24 1943

This exchange of letters was based on a conference between Msgr. Haas and a committee composed of M. Moran Weston of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, Julius Rodriguez, President of the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory of Portland - Vancouver, Rev. J. J. Clow, President of the Portland Branch, NAACP, and Rev. Dr. W. H. Jernigan, Director of Washington Bureau of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, held in Washington, D. C., July 28, 1943.

At this conference the delegation charged that the Kaiser Company had at that time discharged more than 300 Negro employees on or after July 14 on the demand of Locals 72 and 401 of the Boilermakers International Union (AFL).

The notorious Tom Ray, who heads these locals, made the demand because Negro workers refuse to join the Jim Crow auxiliary created by him and his associates to force N[illegible] workers [illegible] of employment.

AUG 24

A Citizens Committee for Equal Rights of Minorities was organized in Portland on August 12, 1943, composed of white and Negro trade union and civic leaders, to carry on the fight to eliminate the discriminatory practices of the Kaiser Co. and the Boilermakers Union. The Negro Labor Victory Committee is acting as the eastern representative of the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory, which first organ-ized the Negro workers to combat this discrimination.

47d-1943

FEPC

Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

THE FEPC

Say what you may, we still hold to our belief that the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices is undertaking a herculean task in a spirit that has gotten and is getting and will continue to get the doors to many industries unlocked, which heretofore have been barred against minority groups, especially the Negroes.

As one who has seen some of the workings and plans of this committee, we have no hesitancy in saying that the future for rendering a greater service to all the people is much brighter today than at any time in the past, because in the first place, the present budget calls for over five hundred thousand dollars against the eighty thousand dollars originally appropriated. And secondly, an aroused public is demanding forthright action that will either get results or a scrapping of the committee.

Despite the so-called defiance on the part of the big brotherhoods of railroad unions, the public should remember that the United States government is bigger than the brotherhoods and that the influence of the government and the power of an executive order by the President is behind the committee. And may we add here that no corporation, industry, firm or individual can, under our system of government, ignore a summons citing them for violation of an executive order of the President in time of war, and feel comfortable.

Of course, it must be admitted however, that two forces like those of southern racial prejudice and the influence of powerful labor unions are not easy to move. But the courage, determination and the fortitude with which the FEPC has gone about its work, leaves little or no doubt in our mind but that satisfying results will be won.

And finally, may we say if there has been any doubt in the minds of the most skeptical as to the sincerity of President Roosevelt in creating such a committee, let them get this brief picture of the present set up: To begin with, everybody knows that the Negro worker is the chief victim of discrimination in every kind of employment. Wishing to break up this sort of discrimination, President Roosevelt issued an executive order prohibiting such discrimination based upon race, creed or national origin. Quite naturally a deal of opposition to this order soon became evident, and the President appointed a committee composed of white and colored to help enforce his orders by collecting evidence, facts and figures of such discrimination, and citing violations to show cause why they should not be punished (not for crime) but in the form of penalties.

The present committee has a field and office force, including special workers, of about one hundred and twenty-five persons and a budget of more than five hundred thousand dollars, all of which, or the principal part thereof, is to fight and finally break up work discrimination against the Negroes in this country.

We submit these facts and figures to the considerate public to judge whether the President is sincere in his efforts to break up work discrimination against minority groups in this country.

Of course obstacles in our paths have not been moved as fast as our desires have called for, but our comment relative to the success of this committee thus far is, more power to the Fair Employment Practice Committee and a double portion to Franklin D. Roosevelt, the President of the United States.

FEPC Showdown Near As Smith Starts Probe

FDR Must Establish Authority of Race Bias Board

PM

New York, N. Y.

By Gordon H. Cole

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—A public showdown is being prepared today between President Roosevelt and reactionary Southern Democrats. Sole issue is the President's policy of prohibiting racial discrimination in war work.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee, having been openly defied by both employers and unions, has certified to the White House "for such action as the President may determine" the Committee's orders against 14 Southern railroad corporations and seven labor unions.

At the same time, Rep. Howard W. Smith (D., Va.) ordered the seizure of FEPC records in both the railroad and the West Coast shipyard cases.

Proper Authority

Smith, who is chairman of the Special House Investigating Committee that bears his name, sent Aaron Ford, former Democratic Congressman from Mississippi and now the Smith Committee's counsel, and two investigators, to FEPC headquarters to seize the records.

Later, Smith announced that his Committee would conduct public hearings on charges that the FEPC has acted without proper authority. The Committee's authority, of course, comes from President Roosevelt.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, explained that the Committee's action in turning the railroad case over to the President had only one precedent. About a year ago the Committee asked the President to enforce an order against the International Assn. of Machinists, AFL. The IAM had been found to have prevented the hiring of Negroes in the Boeing Aircraft plant at Seattle, Wash., and at the Bethlehem Shipyard at San Francisco.

In that case the President obtained compliance with the FEPC order by calling in Harvey Brown, IAM president, and William [illegible] president of the [illegible]

Against 7 Unions

In the railroad case, the order is against seven unions, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, all independent and three AFL unions. They are the International Association of Machinists, the International Union of Boilermakers, and the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen.

These seven unions are now defying the FEPC order that they stop discriminating against Negroes. But so are 14 railroad corporations operating south of [illegible] Mason-Dixon line.

And in the railroad case, both unions and corporations are being encouraged to continue their defiance of the FEPC order by the action of the Smith Committee in hauling the Committee up on charges of exceeding its authority.

In announcing certification, Ross told reporters that six non-Southern railroads which have made offers to confer with the FEPC were excluded from the case sent to the White House. These six, with which FEPC still hopes to work out an amicable settlement, are the Pennsylvania Railroad, New York Central, Baltimore and Ohio, Chicago Terminal Co., Missouri, Kansas and Texas and the Union Pacific.

Ross also disclosed that a final directive had been issued against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees Union, Ind., ordering it to eliminate all barriers to the employment or upgrading of Negroes into platform jobs on the Philadelphia street cars and buses.

A written statement of facts, text of which was not disclosed, has been obtained by the FEPC from the Capital Transit Co. of Washington. This, Ross explained, is a step toward enforcing the Committee's order here.

Workers Excluded

Journal and Guide

A Strong Plea For Justice In Employment

Norfolk, Virginia

From Washington (D. C.) Post

THE long-deferred hearings into discriminatory employment practices by the country's railroads are now being conducted by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee. These hearings should have been held [illegible] ago. Scheduled for last January, they were postponed at the instance of War Manpower Commissioner McNutt, who had jurisdiction over the FEPC at that time. They revolve around the touchy and distasteful issue of race discrimination. The new FEPC, reorganized and granted autonomy by executive order last May, is to be commended for grappling with the issue forthrightly and unemotionally.

In a certain sense, these hearings are ritualistic. This is not to say that the FEPC has approached them in anything other than an objective and impartial spirit. But the evidence of discrimination against Negroes is apparent to the naked eye of anyone who has ever traveled on the railroads of the United States. Indeed, the railroads themselves openly acknowledge that discriminatory practices are written into their agreements with railway labor organizations. And the labor organizations, primarily responsible for the discrimination, have not even seen fit to attend the hearings. No doubt their leaders are somewhat ashamed to avow publicly the means by which they have sought to exclude Negroes from railroad jobs.

What has been taking place in the railway industry during the past two or three decades is a systematic and progressive elimination of colored workers from all save the most menial tasks. This elimination has been brought about through a policy of excluding non-white members from the Railroad Brotherhoods which have negotiated closed-shop contracts with the managements. These are the ugly facts, and the FEPC hearings can serve only to give them much-needed publicity. What will count will be the recommendations of the FEPC when the facts are on file.

Apart from the obvious violence done to democratic principles by the current practices of the railroad industry, there is an urgent practical need at this time for wider utilization of Negro skills. Early this month Joseph B. Eastman, director of the [illegible] of Defense Transportation, called for a vigorous recruitment program to meet the critical shortage of railroad manpower. He urged utilization of the services of women, of Mexican workers and even of war prisoners. That he did not mention Negroes is testimony to the rigidity of the barriers which have been placed in the way of their full employment. It is time to knock those barriers down. The Railroad Brotherhoods can best show their devotion to democracy by bringing their practices into conformity with democratic principles. If they fail to do so, the Government's power should be exerted to break their monopolistic control. We need the full energies of Negroes, as of all other Americans, for the prosecution of the war.

Railroad Reply

Post Washington, D. C.

There appears in another column on this page a letter from the Secretary of the Southeastern (Railway) Presidents' Conference. It makes clear how inexpedient, and even difficult, it would be for the railroads to comply in full with the directive of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee. The directive was sweeping indeed, enjoining the railroads as it did to end all racial discrimination in their employment policies. Could the railroads have expected less from an agency of a Government "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal?"

This letter reinforces our belief that the Southeastern railroads do not desire to cooperate with the FEPC in the solution of a serious social problem, that they manifest, as we said before, a "contempt for the committee's purposes as well as for its authority." Racial discrimination is deeply imprinted upon our national mores. It is not peculiar to railroad managements which have been, in fact, mere accessories to discriminatory practices initiated by unions of their employes. But as Dr. Leo Wolman, noted labor economist, observed in an article in last Sunday's Post, "Employers and labor would find it worth their while, in the interest of fair labor practices and to avoid violent racial conflict after the war, to approach this problem in a more liberal and farsighted spirit." Citing discriminatory practices by railway unions, he declared that "the statement just issued by 16 Southern railroads does not seem an adequate or fair reply."

Discrimination can be eradicted only if the dominant white element of our society will make reasonable adjustments to the legitimate aspirations of our Negro people. It is wise to begin these adjustments in the economic sphere. Granted that gradualism is necessary, the important thing is to make a beginning. It will not be made through the type of legalistic obstructionism with which the Southeastern railroads have responded to the appeal of the FEPC.

FEPC

RACES

Time

FEPC v. the Railroads

Chicago, Illinois

Hottest problem on Franklin Roosevelt's desk—so hot that White House aides let word get out that the President would not touch it for some time—was race relations. The issue had been raised by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Last month FEPC bluntly ordered 16 Southern railroads to stop discriminating against Negroes, to give them an equal shot with whites at almost all jobs, including the best paid, most aristocratic job a Negro can aspire to in the South, that of railroad fireman. Last week the railroads replied with equal bluntness. Said they:

"It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible. . . . Any attempt to comply, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt present peaceful relations with employes and . . . antagonize the traveling public. . . .

"It is utterly unrealistic to suppose that . . . problems of such delicacy can be solved out-of-hand by the fiat of your committee's directives. . . . Manifestly, such directives are wholly lacking in due process of law and for that reason are without legal effect. . . . Your committee was and is wholly without Constitutional and legal jurisdiction. . . ."

To such high, hot talk, the tall, tough new FEPChairman Malcolm Ross, 48, had a ready answer. FEPC, said Mike Ross, did not contemplate promoting Negroes to the job of engineers. FEPC merely wanted to restore the Negroes' chance to rise to the job of fireman, to give them an equal chance at other jobs down the line. He cited figures showing a recent shortage of 850 firemen on U.S. railroads, although trained Negro firemen were unemployed. Chairman Ross was itching for a showdown. Said he: "We may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight, but where war manpower needs are at stake we can and shall try."

Crossfire. FEPC was, in fact, attempting to do nothing more than re-establish what was once the *status quo*. Almost the oldest tradition in Southern railroading is the Negro fireman. For years, no white wanted the job; and every Negro railroader recalls that Casey Jones's fireman was a Negro. But in time, whites wanted and took the job of fireman. The firemen's union barred Negroes from membership. Whenever a Negro fireman died, he was replaced by a white.

In trying to restore an old practice, and in trying to fill the railroad manpower shortage, FEPC had run smack into the biggest hornet's nest in domestic politics. Franklin Roosevelt's relations with Southern Democrats have never been worse. The FEPC ruling merely poured gasoline on a fire. Virginia's Representative Howard Smith, always ready to investigate the New Deal, stood ready to probe the whole FEPC setup.

But FEPC, and the Democratic Party, are under equal pressure from Negroes. FEPC, itself, was established as the result of a Negro threat in 1941 to march, 50,000 strong, on Washington. The threatener: Florida-born, New York-educated A. (for Asa) Philip Randolph, 54, who, though no porter himself, runs the airtight sleeping car porters union. He has been the main author of the relentless pressure on FEPC ever since. In political terms, if FEPC moves forward, it is damned by Southern Democrats; if it stands still, it receives the scorn of the Negro population—and may lose the all-important Negro vote.

At least once before, Franklin Roosevelt has been able to finesse the question; in July 1942, he turned FEPC over to WMCzar Paul McNutt, who conveniently forgot to take any action. But Mike Ross, one of the original bright boys of the early New Deal, has no intention of treading water. A Hotchkiss & Yale graduate, onetime miner, newsman and author (*Death of a Yale Man*), Mike Ross believes in FEPC's principles. Franklin Roosevelt cannot outwait this one.

Race Relations

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Only mischief, disunity and further irritation of race relations can come from the point being pressed by the President's committee on fair employment practices that the railroads must open up more operating jobs to Negroes.

Racial discrimination should be discouraged wherever practical and that is the purpose of the committee on fair employment practices. But such a doctrine and arbitrary insistence on racial equality as this committee insists upon is more likely to aggravate our problem than to solve it.

The chairman of the committee is Malcolm Ross, who was one of the early dynamic forces in the National Labor Relations Board. The policy of the committee seems to be the overnight attainment of the goal, regardless of the deep complex of human emotions bound up in the matter.

The railroads of the Southeast are more realistic than the fair practices committee. Chairman Ross directed the railroads by Dec. 30 to correct inequalities which had grown up over the last 20 years. Before the last war [illegible] 90 per cent of the locomotive firemen in the Southeast were Negroes. By 1929 [illegible] had dropped to 50 per cent or less under restrictive regulations. The President's committee says there must be no discrimination because of race or color.

World-Telegram New York, N. Y.

* *

The railroads take a realistic position. They say they are engaged with all their energy in the most vital work of the war. Their work, they state, has been achieved by harmonious relations with railway labor and the patriotic co-operation of the shipping and traveling public. They caution against disruption of these relationships.

The railroads say that to comply with the committee's directive and be compelled, for instance, to promote Negroes to lomocotive engineers or train conductors would disrupt present peaceful relations with their employees and would antagonize the traveling and shipping public.

The railroads are willing to confer with their employees regarding racial problems, but they say that it is utterly unrealistic to suppose that problems of such delicacy can be solved out of hand by the fiat of the committee.

The railroads challenge the jurisdiction of the committee and intend to ignore the directive.

* * *

Time and again the New Dealers, with an excess of zeal and lack of common sense, have done disservice to desirable purposes. The country is on a right-wing rampage now and I wish it were possible to know how much of this anti-New Deal reaction is disapproval of clumsy and unwise tactics rather than of the objectives.

Surely the American people are not ready to say that we must go back to the time when wages were fixed by the length of the line at the hiring gate. Surely the American people do not regard it as fair that one humble steel worker, who never had the advantage of an education, must bargain alone against the great corporation that runs the mill. Why can't he and his fellow workers hire a lawyer to bargain with the corporation's lawyer?

But many of the things done by NLRB have made a mockery out of that rule of fair play. Just as the present fair practices committee betrays the common sense of its title by such an unrealistic and unenforceable edict as it is now trying to force on the railroads.

FEPC Extends Shipyard Probe To Los Angeles

PM New York, N. Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The Government's effort to end discrimination against Negroes in the West Coast shipyards was extended today to Los Angeles.

With hearings already underway at Portland, Ore., the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) announced that public hearings will be held in Los Angeles on Nov. 19 and 20.

Representatives who had been asked to appear before the FEPC include officials of AFL Boilermakers Union, the Pacific Coast Metal Trades Council, the Los Angeles [illegible] Trades Council, the California Shipbuilding Corp., Western Pipe and Steel Corp., and the Consolidated Steel Corp.

Specific charges are:

¶ That Negroes have been given employment at lower grades and have been refused employment at the higher skills which their training, qualifications and ability warranted;

¶ That Negroes have been refused advancement to higher skills or branches of employment after their work, training and experience warranted;

¶ That Negroes who were performing useful services in shipyards were down-graded despite the fact that they were performing their work in a satisfactory manner;

¶ That many Negroes have sought to join the union, but were denied membership although qualified; that the union had requested the discharge of persons without membership and that employers had honored such requests by actual discharge of Negro workers.

¶ That many Negroes joined Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35 under threat of discharge, although Auxiliary Lodge No. A-35 does not give its members equal rights with the members of other lodges.

FEPC Is Credited With Settlement

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

OCT 29 1943

WASHINGTON—(S N)—Credit for considerable aid in bringing about the settlement of a labor-management dispute which had threatened to cause a total shutdown of the 14-Inch Mill of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation plant in Aliquippa, Pa., was given to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by representatives of the U. S. Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor in correspondence revealed by the FEPC this week.

FEPC action in the case was begun after formal complaints were filed with the committee's regional office in Philadelphia about the middle of September. The case was closed September 28.

A letter from Charles R. Ward, commissioner, in the Pittsburgh office of the Conciliation Service, to the FEPC Region III office, expressed thanks for the committee's cooperation and praised the FEPC representative in the case for his "fairness and keenness in being able to judge the right and wrong side of the case." The FEPC representative was Milo A. Ma[illegible]

OCT 29 1943

In a telegram to Dr. John R. Steelman, chief of the Conciliation Service, Mr. Ward referred again to the FEPC examiner who "cooperated to the fullest extent and deserves a lot of credit for hard work."

Working with the Conciliation Service and the FEPC on the case were other governmental agencies concerned, and involved in the discussion were the plant management and Local 1211, United Steel Workers of America, CIO. The basis of the original dispute was a disagreement between management and union over upgrading policies in the 14-Inch Mill. A charge that the management had refused to upgrade two Negro workers because of their race brought the situation to a head.

The matter was adjusted when management and union finally agreed to a progression schedule which would protect the upgrading rights of each worker. In the individual complaints, the management recognized the claim of one man and promised him a chance at the first available promotion, while the second worker agreed to submit his case to arbitration.

Prior to the entrance of FEPC into the situation there had been three short work stoppages in the 14-Inch Mill, threatening total shutdown of the mill and disruption of the production in other parts of the plant.

Because of the position of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation as one of the leading industries in the greater Pittsburgh area, the committee cited the adjustment as significant since it may well establish precedent for other industries in the section.

FEPC MUST ACT TO SAVE FACE

SEP 11 194

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—The public hearings of the FEPC on discrimination against Negroes and Mexicans by 23 railroad companies and 14 railroad workers' unions—which will be held September 15-18, in the Department of Labor auditorium here, are certain to mark the beginning of a battle against jim-crowism in war industry. The outcome of these hearings will be an acid test of whether the Roosevelt administration intends to carry through and enforce a policy of no-discrimination in war industry.

All other actions of either the old or new FEPC—considered against the background of the railroad hearings—have been mere skirmishes. In the railroad hearings, the "chips are down." Either collusive agreements between the railroads and the unions and jim-crow practices arising out of these agreements are knocked down by the FEPC and the administration and thousands of Negro workers are given new jobs and upgraded to higher skills and higher pay, or else the hearings will end in findings and decisions—big in words and small in deeds—which will certainly cause the FEPC to lose face among the minority groups it is designed to protect, and among employers in other war industries, watching the outcome of the railroad hearings to determine their future policy on Negro employment.

CRUCIAL TEST

Judged from every point of view, there seems to be no more crucial test of the Roosevelt administration's policy toward Negro participation in the war effort than the pending railroad hearings.

Evidence has been mounting for many months to indicate that the jim-crow practices of railroad carriers and railroad unions have been a serious handicap to the war effort. Last week, reports reached here that in the New York area alone 5,000 freight cars loaded with vitally-needed munitions, destined for our fighting forces in North Africa could not be moved to ports of embarkation, because the carriers were short 1600 a day in the freight yards. Despite this, railroad and union officials have refused to relax restrictions against employing thousands of available unemployed Negro men in the New York area. In another terminal, crowded with war material, it is reported that 33 freight trains were delayed in one 24-hour period and could not be moved into the terminal because of the inexperience of new white employees, while Negro skilled railroad men with 20 and 30 years of experience were not permitted to touch the engines.

USE 16-YEAR-OLDS

Throughout the industry, FEPC investigators report, that 16-year-old white boys and white women—with no previous experience—are being used to replace white railroadmen who have been drafted, while Negro workers with years of experience and seniority are passed over. In many hundreds of cases, these investigators state, the Negor men are compelled to teach the new and inexperienced white workers how to operate the engines and perform other skilled work.

Investigation of conditions in the industry has developed the fact that the issue at stake in these hearings is not only whether Negro workers will be free to enter the many new jobs available on railroads—but, as well—whether they will even be permitted to maintain their present jobs. An abundance of proof is in the hands of the FEPC to indicate that jim-crow practices have resulted in a decline of the total number of Negro railroad workers.

One of the principal methods of company and union anti-Negro discrimination, which will be exposed at the hearings, will be the negotiation of agreements limiting use of so-called "non-promotables," which term, as used by the agreements, is synonymous with "Negro." A contract signed February 18, 1941, between the Southeastern Carriers' Conference committee and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen declares:

"It is understood that promotable firemen or helpers on other than steam power are those who are in line for promotion under the present rules and practices to the position of locomotive engineer." This provision—aided by other agreements which limit the number of "non-promotables" who may be employed on a railroad—not only limits new Negro employees, but it also guarantees the ultimate exclusion of Negroes from the industry as firemen or trainmen.

PAY TOO HIGH

Back of this provision is the fact that the job of fireman has changed in the industry. Previously, when steam engines were used exclusively on the railroads, a fireman had a dirty, hot job at wages running from $1.50 to $2 a day. In recent years, however, Diesel engines have been introduced, and wage rates increased. The job of a fireman, consequently, has become, say FEPC investigators, "almost a white-collar occupation where a fireman may make anywhere from $50 to $75 a week." This is why Negroes are being forced out of the jobs as firemen on Diesel-engined trains.

One example of the effect of the provision was taken from among the hundreds of cases to be presented at the public hearings. In this case, a Negro fireman had worked for the railroad from 1923 to 1941. In September, 1941, the company put in a Diesel engine and gave his job to a white worker employed that same month. The Negro fireman was then forced to move his family 279 miles to take a job on a steam engine. In 1942, he was again called back to his former location to fire another steam engine and, again he was displaced by a new white worker when a Diesel engine was installed on the run. He then, for a second time, had to move 279 miles for a job as fireman on a steam engine.

Typical of the hundreds of other charges to be presented at the four-day hearing are the following:

"That in 1942, the Missouri-Kansas and Texas railroad removed all of its waiters-in-charge from their positions—because of race—and replaced them with newly-hired and inexperienced dining car stewards, after denying to every Negro waiter-in-charge in its employ the right to qualify for and be promoted to the position of dining car steward because of race."

That the New York Central railroad refused to upgrade shop and roundhouse workers in its Mott Haven yards in New York City and its 63rd Street yards in Chicago. Both of these yards are close to large Negro communities.

That the Baltimore and Ohio refused to upgrade Negroes in the shop crafts at its yards in Dayton, Ohio, and Newcastle, Pa.

That the Chesapeake and Ohio refused jobs to Negroes as machinists' helpers, boilermaker helpers, at its Huntington, W. Va., shops.

That the Louisville and Nashville railroad would not upgrade Negroes in its Birmingham, Ala., Knoxville, Tenn., or Cincinnati, Ohio, shops as machine shop workers and denied clerical positions in the freight office of the company in Louisville, Ky.

OTHER CHARGES

In addition to being charged with maintaining collusive agreements with the companies in violation of the President's non-discrimination Executive Orders 8802 and 9346, the unions are charged by the FEPC with being sole bargaining agent in their several crafts on the railroads, and nevertheless refusing to admit Negro or Mexican workers to membership, refusing to handle their grievances and carrying out policies disadvantageous to these minorities.

Among the organizations that have filed complaints with the committee are the Provisional Committee to Organize Colored Locomotive Fireman, the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen, the NAACP, and the National Urban league.

Special FEPC counsel who will present the cases to the committee are: Bartley C. Crum, of San Francisco, Calif.; Charles H. Houston, Washington, D.C., and Harold Stevens, New York City, and Benjamin Dreyfus, also of San Francisco.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Believe FEPC Is Stalling On Capital Transit

AUG 15 1943

Full History Of Case Is Given By ANP Reporter

AUG 15 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Question of the week is this: "Is the Fair Employment Practice committee stalling on the Capital Transit company case?'

There is in the capital an increasing feeling that the President's committee "to eliminate" discrimination, in its anxiety to be safe and sound in its approach, is rapidly achieving the ultra of vacillation.

As matters now stand, both the company and the union, the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric and Motor Coach employes, (AFL), are enjoying an indefinite postponement of the day when they will be publicly called upon to explain why they have been dilatory about hiring Negroes on the buses and cars of the district.

AUG 6 1943

LAUNCH FIGHT

Last year a citizens' committee begun the fight to have Negroes employed by the utility companies of Washington, and Capital Transit was the first objective. The fight was crystalized on November 3, when an over-flow mass meeting was held here to demand action. Early in December the War Manpower commission ruled that the transportation system of the district is an essential industry, and that its employes would enjoy certain advantages against immediate drafting.

Paul V. McNutt, WMC chairman, then directed the Capital Transit company to immediately employ Negroes, and the company was given 30 days in which to comply. On January 5, the company reported that they were in the process of complying with the directive, but no Negroes had been hired up to then, nor were any of the maintenance men being upgraded.

One Negro had been hired and put into training. He is B. D. Simmons. He got a degree of preliminary training, but when he was sent over to the garage for practical instructions the whites refused to take him out on a trial run.

CASE DRAGS ON

AUG 15 1943

The matter dragged along until April 19 when the committee—the old one—decided to get rough with McNutt, and scheduled hearings in Detroit and in Washington, the latter one for May 18.

On May 17, eve of the hearing, the committee met and learned for the first time, so it is reported, that the company was preparing to counter FEPC charges with one that when they reported to Lawrence W. Cramer, then secretary of the committee, that the employes had presented an impasse, they were told by Cramer to sit tight and wait instructions from the committee.

Being totally taken by surprise and unprepared to meet this argument, the committee was compelled to postpone the hearing for 48 hours. The same day, however, they were hurriedly reconvened and were informed that a new chairman had been appointed, and given the request that the Capital Transit hearing be postponed even longer. The new date set was June 2.

About the same time, it was disclosed that Cramer and the former area director for WMC, Ramy Deschner, along with company officials, had been trying to negotiate themselves out of a tough situation. Deschner tried to read FEPC out of the picture, but McNutt, knowing that FEPC was going to be restored to independent status, told him, in effect, to mind his won business. He later fired Deschner.

HEARING POSTPONED

The new executive order was released on May 28, along with the announcement that Msgr. Francis J. Haas would be its chairman, and on June 1, on the "advice" of the remaining members of the old committee, the June 2 hearing was postponed indefinitely for the second time. The announcement said, however, that jurisdiction over the case would be retained.

A rough month later the new committee was appointed and among its first acts was one to seek "additional information" with regard to the dispute, and to make a final determination at its next meeting.

AUG 15 1943

At its meeting July 20 the committee agreed that if steps to be taken by the company "are not adequate' in the committees judgment, FEPC "proceed against Capital at its August 9 meeting.

STILL NEGOTIATING

Last Monday Fr. Haas told his press conference that the committee had received a statement "of what the company proposes to do" and that as a result," the matter is still in a state of negotiation. He refused to disclose the contents of this proposal, but did say it was different from other statements received from the company.

Meanwhile, both the company and the union have been getting means of outmaneuvering the their heads together on ways and committee. Two days before the Monday meeting of the committee, a case came before the National War Labor board in which the company and the union were seeking approval for a new wage agreement.

The agreement, innocent on the face of it, actually was a method of making it possible to fork over to men with seniority and holding the short afternoon runs, a salary increase providing they would permit women to take those run. In this way, the personnel shortage could be met. Up to Wednesday, all phases except the actual amount of wage increase had been approved.

The activities of the Citizens Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilties has tapered off in the last month, probably owing to the heat But unless there is a revival of demands that the FEPC stop dilly-dallying with the case, and instead, go ahead and hold the public hearing it has promised, nothing is going to be done.

The company and the union are working together to cook up new delaying actions. The committee is being "nice Nelly" about the entire matter, afraid to offend and just as scared of being forthright even though it has the law on its side. There is a sag somewhere that has to be eliminated.

SAYS FOES EXPLOIT OUR RACE DIVISIONS

SEP 17 1943

Clyde Miller Cites Japanese-Nazi Propaganda Based on Anti-Negro Discrimination

JOB EXPERIENCES TOLD

Witnesses Before Fair Employment Committee Say Railroads Refuse to Promote Them

By LOUIS STARK

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Clyde E. Miller of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis testified today before the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee that Japanese and German propagandist exploitation of the feeling of racial superiority and racial inferiority was "extraordinarily and almost immediately effective, dynamic and dangerous.'

Commenting on Axis short-wave broadcasts, some of which were read into the record by Bartley C. Crum, committee counsel, Mr. Miller said that "one of the strongest weapons in the hands of Hitler—(and American propagandists consciously or unconsciously are following the Hitler pattern)—was exploitation of what anthropologists call 'myth of racial superiority.'"

In the Far East, according to Mr. Miller, the Japanese unremittingly direct their broadcasts to hundreds of millions of colored Asiatics alleging that despite President Roosevelt's statements that the war is one for human freedom the contrary is the fact, because of discrimination by White Americans against colored people, not necessarily Negroes but including Indians, Chinese, Japanese and others.

"They say in effect that our promises to the people of the world are built on hypocrisy," he said. "They say that the people of the Far East can have no faith in the promise of white Americans when they deny equal rights to their fellow citizens who are not white."

Mexican Case Presented

The hearings which are developing charges of discrimination against minorities by twenty-two railroads and fifteen labor unions disclosed today cases covering alleged refusal of railroads to promote or give employment to Mexicans as well as Negroes.

Philip Macado of Cheyenne, Wyo., told the committee that a representative of the American Federation of Labor Machinists Union had refused to allow his promotion from laborer to helper "because you are a Mexican."

"I told him I was born and raised here," said the witness in flawless English. "I told him this was the only country I knew. I said he would have to prove I was not an American."

The union official, he said, then replied, "Well, your folks are Mexicans."

"Yes, but they are not asking for a job," the witness said he replied, explaining that the incident occurred on the Union Pacific Railroad.

Charles H. Houston, counsel for a group of Negro railway labor unions, read into the record a reply to a complaint alleging discrimination against Negroes by the Norfolk & Western Railroad. The railroad explained that under its own rules and under an agreement made in 1941 with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the railroad was not hiring Negro firemen.

The union agreement, t*he reply declared, was made by the firemen's union with the Southeastern carriers' conference and the limitations imposed on Negroes were "understood to be racial." The definition of "non-promotable firemen," in the agreement, the letter said, "means Negroes."

The company, the letter continued, has not hired Negroes for use as firemen since 1903 and had never promoted Negro firemen to be locomotive engineers for racial reasons, "as this complaint surmises."

In explanation of this refusal the railroad said that locomotive engineers give orders to firemen and other crew members.

"The sentiment of the employes of this company and of the public in the territory in which it operates condemns the placing of Negroes in position of command over white men," the letter added. "That sentiment controls the management."

Ray Abner, a "white American," general chairman of the Firemen and Oilers Union on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, testified that on this road Negroes were hired only for laborers' work, although they were qualified as firemen. This discrimination, he asserted, went on despite the road's pledge that it would show no partiality in hiring or promotion.

Some of the Negro employes now on the road, he said, were more qualified for jobs as firemen and helpers than the junior white employes who are promoted to these posts.

South of Nashville, he said, Negroes were promoted from laborer to helper and there was no trouble from white employes. He quoted a company official as willing to make Negro promotions throughout the lines "if the unions give the go-ahead sign."

Henry A. Dawson, Negro fireman on the Atlantic Coast Line, said that a Negro fireman whose service dated back to 1910 was skipped over contrary to seniority consideration when it came time to man Diesel engines. A similar thing happened to him, he said.

Negroes, he explained, were not permtited to join the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the union refused to handle their grievances. When he began his service on the road in 1919, he said that 85 per cent of the firemen were Negroes as against one-third today.

Arthur Lewis of Memphis, president of the International Association of Railway Employes, declared that since Negro firemen could not join the white firemen's union many of the employed on the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad paid a white engineer $1.50 a month to represent them on grievances they had with the management.

B. W. Steel, a Negro fireman of Birmingham, Ala., who said he was the oldest fireman on a division of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad with seniority dating from 1910, told of being displaced by a junior white fireman from a crack passenger run which took two hours a day and being demoted to a hand firing engine which took sixteen hours a day to make the daily complement of 100 miles.

RAILROADS CALLED UNFAIR

Complaints Are Voiced at Opening of the Hearing

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15—President Roosevelt's new committee on Fair Employment Practice, of which Mgr. Francis J. Haas is chairman, began a series of public hearings today on complaints of employment discrimination against Negroes filed by the committee against twenty-two railroads and fifteen labor unions.

Witnesses asserted that Negroes were ineligible for production on most railroads and yet promotion was based largely on seniority. It was maintained that Negro employees, denied a voice in the affairs of the railway unions, were presumed to be represented by these unions in collective bargaining yet had no way of getting their griveances considered.

Negro fireman who, unlike white firemen, are never promoted to engineers, according to the testimony, are now facing elimination from their jobs as a result of the so-called "non-promotable" agreement made by major Southeastern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen in February, 1941.

While the racial policies of the rail unions which bar Negroes were not regarded as typical of all unions, it was said that out of seven unions in the railroad shops where repairs are made, but one, the firemen are oilers, admits Negroes. Of twenty-nine unions which exclude Negroes nineteen were said to be in the railway field.

Roads Make General Reply

Although each of the roads on which specific complaints have been served has made or will make individual reply to the charges, they combined today to make one general reply.

Presented to the committee by Sidney S. Alderman, who is also of counsel for the Southern Railway, the carriers asserted that the solution to the problem presented at the hearing "lies in a gradual and moderate process of education" and would be retarded "by too abrupt an attempt to change, by governmental decree, longstanding practices rooted in the customs of the people."

It was contended thtat "such problems cannot be solved overnight by a stroke of the pen," that they must be worked out through social evolution and civic reform."

⅛"Railroads do not operate in a vacuum or in a theoretical utopia," the reply declared. "They have to operate in and serve the civilization in which they find themselves."

In its reply brief, the Pennsylvania Railrad denied discrimination against Negroes, basing its assertion on a percentage of Negroes in their employ as compared to white employes.

The Southern Railway, however, frankly stated in its brief that it has never employed a Negro locomotive engineer, for to do so in its territory would be "bitterly resented," might "result in boycott and bloodshed" and would also result in suspension of service by the white engineers and firemen.

The gravity of the problem before the committee was mentioned by Mgr. Haas in calling the hearing to order. He said the committee would make findings of fact and recommendations upon completion of its work.

Problem Is Called Economic

He was followed by Bartley C. Crum of San Francisco, the committee's chief counsel, who summarized the charges as involving an economic rather than a racial problem, urging that the issue be faced during the war and not postponed.

47d-1943

FEPC

Fair Practices InEmployment Stir Headache

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

President's Powers May Be Necessary To Bring Racial 'Job Equality'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP)—A major controversy over the authority of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) to order equality of treatment for negro war workers today appeared certain to be dumped on President Roosevelt's desk when he returns to the capital.

FEPC orders to end alleged discrimination against negroes have been challenged by Southern railroads, and others, on the ground that FEPC exceeded its powers.

Meanwhile, members of Congress, the courts and the War Labor Board all were involved in the day's developments as one strike by white workers got under way in a vital war factory.

The War Labor Board, by unanimous action, ordered white strikers at the Point Breeze Western Electric plant in Baltimore to return to work at once or face "all possible action" under the war labor disputes act. Point Breeze workers voted to strike last night in protest against the use of washroom facilities in common with negro workers.

The strike was called after WLB refused to order separate facilities. On Oct. 2, FEPC advised the Western Electric Company that "the discontinuance of common facilities for negro and white employes of the Western Electric Point Breeze plants and the introduction of special facilities would be a backward step which can but lead to discrimination against negroes."

Other developments included:

Representative Marcantonio (AL), New York, praised the FEPC and criticized 16 Southern railroads which defied an FEPC order to cease alleged discrimination against negro railway workers.

Representative Rankin (D), Mississippi, declared that FEPC was a "rump organization" which was creating unnecessary racial tension in the South.

The Federal District Court for Northern California at San Francisco has before it a case involving negro workers in which the constitutional authority of the FEPC to order discrimination ended was a collateral issue.

In the California case, 18 negro shipyard workers petitioned Federal Judge Michael J. Roche for a permanent injunction restraining the Marinship Corporation from discharging them for failure to pay dues to an auxiliary negro union of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers (A. F. of L.)

The boilermakers union was ordered yesterday by the FEPC to dissolve its auxiliary local unions for negroes and to receive colored shipyard workers into full membership. Five West Coast shipyards were also ordered by the FEPC to cease cooperation with the union in alleged discrimination against negro employes.

The decision of the Federal Court will be the first in which authority of the FEPC to order employes and unions to halt alleged discriminatory practices for reasons of race or religion is at issue.

The FEPC was set up by President Roosevelt in executive order No. 9,346, under the second war powers act.

DEC 15 1943

FEPC Gets Facts On Phila. Transit

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

PHILADELPHIA.—In the first hearing of its kind to be held in the Eastern industrial area, the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee saw a company union make a sorry showing here as it tried to justify refusal to obey an order requiring hiring of Negroes as conductors and other skilled jobs on the Philadelphia Transportation Company.

An audience of over 300, including outstanding Negro and white leaders in many fields, overflowed the City Hall court room where Chairman Malcolm Ross presided. Other members of the panel were Milton P. Webster, International Vice President of the AFL Sleeping Car Porters, and John Prophy of CIO, who was not able to be present.

With no dispute as to the facts concerning discrimination, the brief hearing was confined mostly to tearing to shreds by committee counsel Crocket, [illegible] Webster [illegible] the company union [illegible] pretext that its discriminatory practice was justified by a contract clause requiring no change on company-union relations.

One company union representative and two Negro workers were heard. The latter verified the refusal of the company union, which is generally known to be a pawn of the PTC, to allow Negro promotions to skilled jobs. Among the interested organizations who filed briefs urging compliance with the FEPC order was one from the so called "Council for Equal Job Opportunity." This was widely greeted for one reason. It listed among its affiliates the **AFL Central Labor Union.** This was the first time a large AFL Official body had come out in support of the FEPC order.

Malcolm Ross warned against a company union statement that employment of Negroes would result in chaos and a strike. He urged that whatever the FEPC decision, all concerned should act in the interest of the war effort and take their responsibilities very seriously.

The committee reserved decision until it can examine the testimony

DEC 12 1943

Negro Rights Urged on AFL By Msgr. Haas

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

By Joseph A. Loftus

Associated Press Staff Writer

Boston, Oct. 6.—Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, pleaded today with delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention to accord full union status to Negroes and other minority groups and issued this warning:

"Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between antilabor employers and antilabor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members.

"Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group, be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist—he wants his full stature as an American workingman, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt.

Cites [illegible] of AFL

"Would you have it otherwise? Would you have the spirit which founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one-tenth of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?"

Monsignor Haas, who is Bishop-elect of Grand Rapids, Mich., said the executive order creating his committee held out to minority groups "something akin to what the Wagner Act held out to dominated workers in the year 1935. In trade union terms they wish to own the right to settle grievances and to negotiate contracts through representatives of their own choosing, to work for their seniority right to share in the opportunity for security for their families, and to participate as free men in the modern equivalent of the New England town meeting, the trade union."

Declaring that these are the rights of minority groups, he cautioned: "Restrictions on inalienable rights will always breed revolt."

The convention also heard talks by Cap. John R. Perry of the Seabees, and Edward J. Phelan, acting director of the International Labor Office.

Returning Servicemen

Increasing concern among labor leaders about the attitude of returning servicemen was reflected today in resolutions proposed at the AFL convention, notably one which would make an honorble discharge a ticket of admission to unions inl ieu of an initiation fee.

Other resolutions proposed vocational training and rehabilitation programs, amendments to state insurance and compensation laws to protect disabled or aging veterans, and a labor press service for servicemen to help thwart any open shop drive which employers say attempt after the war.

Honorable discharge in lieu of initiation fee is proposed by the Santa Cruz, Calif., Central Labor Union in an advisory resolution which sys that the armed forces "have been flooded with strongly anti-union propaganda advising them that organized labor is holding up production of materials vital to the prosecution of the war.

As to Initiation Fees

"This fact will tend to turn many of these fighting men, who never before had occasion to seek employment and become familiar with the principles of organized labor, against any form of unionism.

"High initiation fees," the resolution added, "to secure future employment may tend to crystallize this antiunion feeling among war veterans upon their return."

One resolution proposed a labor press service to inform service men and their familier regularly of the "true picture of the conrtibution of American labor to the war effort."

OCT 7 1943

FEPC Charges Press Ignores Race Hearings

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Says Only PM Isn't 'Freezing Out' Hearings On Discrimination

By Gordon H. Cole

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—A conspiracy of silence threatened today to defeat the effort of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) to call public attention to racial discrimination practiced by the railroads and the extent to which it is impairing the war effort.

Bartley C. Crum, chief counsel for the FEPC, linked the Nation's three press associations and the 22 railroad corporations in a charge that "attempts are being made to soft pedal these hearings."

PM Praised

"Except for PM," Crum said, "we are getting a nice case of freeze-out in the press."

The press tables bore testimony to the charge. Besides reporters for the Negro press, the New York *Times*, PM, the *Reader's Digest* and *Newsweek* were represented. The Associated Press and the United Press sent reporters for a [illegible] look-see [illegible] a briefer story. International News Service passed up the hearing as not newsworthy.

On the first day of the hearings, only one of the four Washington papers, the *Evening Star*, mentioned the hearing. The New York *Times* carried nothing on the hearing in its Washington edition, and less than a column in its late city edition.

Ads Proposed

The Committee itself met last night to consider ways and means of breaking through the unofficial boycott of these hearings at which the case against the railroads is being built up by witness after witness.

One Committee member, Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Co., proposed that the FEPC take full-page advertisements to tell the story.

The FEPC counsel, a San Francisco lawyer, called to Washington to handle this case, asserted that the railroad hearings are "undoubtedly the most important ever held so far as minority groups are concerned either in this country or abroad."

"This," he declared, "is a test of whether we in the U. S. A. mean what we say by the Atlantic Charter and the other fine, high sounding words of President Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie and other national leaders."

Strategem Fails

The lawyers representing the railroads, who spend part of the hearings reading their newspapers, have refused except in one instance to attempt to cross-examine witnesses or in any way to dramatize the proceedings.

Yesterday all defense lawyers rose at one point and went up on

SEP 17 1943

the dais with the proposal that as long as the roads were not denying discrimination that the witnesses be dispensed with.

This "soft pedaling" tactic failed. Crum announced that the prosecution would present its case.

The witnesses whom the roads were unable to head off included two Mexican boys from Cheyenne, Wyo., Jesse J. Gonzales and Phillip N. Mercado, both laborers working for the Union Pacific.

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Denied Job

Mercado, a graduate of a Lincoln, Neb., high school, explained how he had tried to get a job as machinists' helper—the first step toward a skilled job—and was turned down.

"I wanted to get a helper's job. First I heard they weren't hiring any Mexican boys. But I went around to the committeeman for the machinists.

"He says he couldn't hire me. I asked him why. He says:

"'I can't put you on because you're a Mexican.'

"But, I says, I am an American. I was born here. How can you prove I'm not an American?

"He says, 'Well, your folks were Mexicans.'"

Mercado said most of the men who started out as laborers with him have bee'n promoted to skilled jobs. Many were his classmates in high school; none had Mexican parents.

Negro witnesses told an even tougher story of being displaced by white men without regard to seniority rights.

Clyde R. Miller, founder of the now defunct Institute for Propaganda Analysis, was called to the stand to explain what ammunition such discrimination was furnishing Axis propagandists. Miller testified that:

"One of the strongest weapons in the hands of Hitler is exploitation of what anthropologists call 'the myth of racial superiority.'"

Jap Weapon

"Certainly in the Far East the Japanese unremittingly direct attention to hundreds of millions of colored Asiatics to the fact that the American Government's statements—the statements of our President that this is a war for human freedom—are statements proven false by the [illegible] of white Americans who discriminate aaginst colored people, not necessarily Negroes, but Indians, Chinese, Japanese, peoples with colored skins.

"They say in effect that our promises to the people of the world are built on hypocrisy, that certainly the people of the Far East can have no faith in the promises of white Americans when they deny equal rights to their fellow citizens who are not white."

Crum salled a number of white witnesses, including Frederick N. Myers of the National Maritime Union, CIO, to testify that whites and blacks can work together peacefully.

FEPC Gets WMC's Cooperation Pledge

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
SEP 18 1943

(Amsterdam Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Special)—Establishment of 12 Regional Offices, seven of which have been completely staffed and ready for work, was announced last week by Chairman Francis J. Haas of the FEPC.

At the same time the Chairman announced the signing of an Operating Agreement on No-Discrimiation by the FEPC and the War Manpower Commission.

The Agreement

Under the agreemnt, certain specific responsibilities are set up for each agency. For example, "The FEPC shal recommend to the chairman of the WMC appropriate measures for bringing about the full utilization and training of manpower in and for war production without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin."

On the other hand WMC has the responsibility in the actual fields of training, placement and utilization and may issue administrative directives to the regional, state, area and local offices with regard to their respective duties in securing full utilization and training of manpower without discrimination.

WMC's Function

Under the agreement each regional office of WMC shall, upon receipt of complaint or knowledge of evidence of violation of non-discrimination order, have ten days to adjust the matter in accordance with agreed and prescribed procedure, provided, however, that additional time may be allowed after consultation between Regional Offices of FEPC and WMC. Where there is no adjustment within the time specified or allowed, or where in the opinion of the Regional Office of FEPC, the adjustment is not satisfactory, the Regional Office of FEPC shall take appropriate steps to make the proper adjustment Any regional matter may be appealed to the full.

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Regional Duties

FEPC's Regional Office follows the regular procedure of investigating complaints, including inspection and study of information in WMC files, holding hearings, issuing directives and finally reporting to the President if its recommendations are not adopted.

Complaints may be made to FEPC or WMC, but must be made in person or in writing. It was made plain that no action would be taken on unsigned complaints, but the committee said all material that fell into its hand from whatever source would be used in any manner in which it should prove valuable.

The 12 WMC regions into which the country is divided wil serve as the geographical regions for FEPC, which will establish its offices in the same city as the WMC's.

Only nine of the Regional Offices, chosen for the expected density of operation, wil be immediately established.

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Regional Directors

The following Regional Directors and associates have been appointed: New York, Edward Lawson, former Senior Employment Specialist, WMC, Madison Jones, Connecticut YMCA, Associate Examiner; Philadelphia, G. James Fleming, Senior Field Representative, FEPC, for the last vear and a half, to be Regional Director; Cleveland, William McKnight; Chicago, Elmer W. Henderson, Baltimore, former Director of Research for the Illinois State Commission of Conditions of the Urban Colored Population, to be Regional Director; Atlanta, A. Bruce Hunt, San Francisco, Harry Kingman, Berkeley, Cal., since 1923 active in adjustment of race relationships, now with the University of California YMCA, to be Regional Director; Dallas, Texas, Carlos Casteneda, University of Texas faculty, Associate Director. No appointment for Regional Director has been made at Dallas.

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Other offices which the committee will open, but to which no appointments have as yet been made are: Detroit, St. Louis. It is expected that offices will be opened eventually at Minneapolis, Boston and Denver.

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Major Divisions

Announcement was also made last week that the administrative and departmental structure of the committee has been established and that many of the positions have been filled. Working under Chairman Haas in headquarters here, there are four divisions: Administrative, Field Operations, Review and Analysis, and Hearings.

FEPC regional directors will be responsible to the Committee's Field Operations Division. The Review and Analysis Division will conduct the statistical and program planning functions for Committee. The Hearings Division will assist the Committee in the conduct of its public hearings, and the Administrative Division is responsible for the budget and the fiscal operations, personnel administration, and administrative planning.

SEP 5 1943

Northern Lines Affected:

14 Big Unions Also Face Inquiry

PM
New York, N. Y.

By GORDON H. COLE
PM's

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—The FEP (Fair Employment Practice Committee) today extended to 23 railroads and 14 major railroad labor unions, including the Pennsylvania, the New York Central and the Baltimore & Ohio, its investigation of charges of discrimination against Negroes.

At the same time the FEPC rescheduled for Sept. 15 its oft-postponed public hearing on complaints that the railroads are refusing to employ Negroes above the grade of common laborer and refusing to promote those already employed.

The most controversial race question which the Government ever has attempted to handle, the railroad complaints were the prime cause for the crackup and subseque[illegible]organization of the FEPC ear[illegible] the Summer.

Pressu[illegible] Brought

Originally the railroad complaints involved only the railroads operating in the Solid South, where the carriers have some influence in Democratic Party affairs. Strong pressure was brought on the White House to have the complaint squashed.

Instead of dropping this hot potato, however, the President strengthened the FEPC, brought in as its chairman Msgr. Francis Haas, dean of social sciences at Catholic University and a veteran labor conciliator.

Investigation by the FEPC has resulted in the compilation of a long list of charges involving collective bargaining agreements between railroads and unions.

Axis Cashes in On Rail Jim Crow

Daily Worker New York

SEP 17 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 — Propaganda analysis expert Clyde R. Miller told the Fair Employment Practice Committee today the Nazi and Japanese short-wave radio stations exploit discrimination against Negroes in this country.

Miller's testimony was one of the highlights at the FEPC hearings on discrimination against Negroes in the railroads.

A dozen Negro railroad workers appeared on the witness stand to tell how they had been denied advance[illegible] despite decades of satisfa[illegible] servic[illegible] because of their race.

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CITES DISCRIMINATION

Typical was the case of Henry A. Dawson, who told how he had worked for the Atlantic Coast Line since 1919 as a fireman—and was passed over while white workers were put on as firemen in the new Diesel engines.

One example cited to show how Tokyo and Berlin are utilizing just this kind of thing was a broadcast from Japan to the United States in English which said:

"Today [illegible] Washington chiefs, being up against [illegible] manpower shortages, are making appeasement gestures towards the Negroes. But these are, as all intelligent Negroes now know, only futile attempts to induce them to shed more of their blood."

"Japanese and German propagandists exploitation of feeling of racial superiority and racial inferiority is extraordinarily effective, almost immediately effective, dynamic and dangerous," Miller said.

Other propaganda experts including Otto D. Tolischus, former New York Times correspondent in Berlin and Tokyo, and William L. Shirer, author of "Berlin Diary," will testify tomorrow.

A case history of a union which does not discriminate against minorities in any form was given by Frederick N. Myers, vice-president of the National Maritime Union.

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"Discrimination does not exist on the American flag merchant vessels for which the NMU is the collective bargaining agent," Myers said. "Negro and white seamen work side by side, eat together in the same mess room and are quarted in the same fo'csle and die together on the high seas in defense of America."

Bluntly, Myers told the committee:

"If the problem of discrimination in industry had not been solved in the merchant marine the result would have been the delay of vessels bringing troops and the materials of war to the fronts where they are needed, by the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines all over the world."

Negro Leaders Greet FEPC Rail Ruling

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

DEC 2 1943

Negro leaders in the field of labor-management relations yesterday expressed satisfaction with the Fair Employment Practice Committee's directive to 20 railroads and seven unions to cease within 30 days to discriminate against employes because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Edward Lawson, heading the regional FEPC, with offices in the Empire State Building here said the action was the "most signficant step" that body has taken to date. It was signficant also, he said, that the railroads and the unions were simultaneously ordered to correct their unfair practices.

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"It means that the old game of passing the buck is at an end," Mr. Lawson said, adding that, because the FEPC action was taken nationally, "no one road or union can claim it's being picked on."

Charles A. Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, which was born fighting the railroads' discrimination policy, was glad that "a group of unions has been cited equally with management for the first time."

"The entire labor movement should be encouraged by the FEPC victory over the railroad companies," Mr. Collins said. "The findings clearly indicated that employers who discriminated have been able to utilize certain backward elements in the labor movement to perpetuate their policy. **The findings, therefore,"** he said, **"must not in any sense be construed as an attack on the labor movement but as a warning that the President of the United States and the country at large do not intend to have victory over fascism impeded by fascist-like acts home."**

DEC 2 1943

Roy Wilkins acting secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declared that if the Illinois Central and other railroads feel it necessary to conduct schools for 16-year-olds because of a "labor shortage," they "ought to be willing to tap that vast reservoir of Negro labor available for use."

"Old Lady Democracy" is showing the "Doubting Thomases" that she still has "quite a kick in her," Lyndon Henry, business manager, Joint Board, Fancy Fur Dyers Union, Local 88, CIO, observed, adding:

DEC 2 1943

"Let us hope that the railroad companies will demonstrate their loyalty and patriotism . . . and that the unions will carry out their historical role of protecting all labor, regardless of race, creed, color or nationality, thus helping to defeat fascism at home."

FEPC Pushes 2-Day Probe of Kaiser Shipyards at Portland

Company, AFL Boilermakers' Union Accused of Discrimination Against Colored Workers

Afro-American
NOV 1943

Baltimore, Maryland
NOV 1943

By B. M. PHILLIPS
Editor Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN

PORTLAND, Ore.—The FEPC opened its two-day hearing here Monday into charges that three Kaiser Shipyards, the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and the Boilermakers Union Locals 72 and 401 are violating the provisions of President Roosevelt's executive orders.

Charges are that the company has concurred in the discrimination against colored workers, some of whom have been refused employment, although they are qualified; that colored workers have been employed in unskilled jobs and denied upgrading, and that the union has denied membership to workers and has forced the company to discharge colored employees who refused to join a jim-crow union, known as Auxiliary A32.

This auxiliary, it is charged, does not give colored employees equal rights—they must pay dues but have no voice in the Union or its management.

Demands End of J.C.

In an opening statement to the committee, meeting in the Public Service Building with 200 persons in attendance, Marvin C. Harrison, white, Cleveland, Ohio, special counsel, warned that "unless this discrimination in Portland shipyards is broken up, we will have gone a long distance toward fastening discrimination upon Americans in future generations."

Counsel for the two locals disclaimed responsibility for their policies and blamed the International Brotherhood. The International has no representative present.

Co. Denies Discrimination

Gordon Johnson, counsel for the Kaiser Company, told the committee that the "policy of our companies has been to comply not only with the spirit but with the letter of the President's orders."

Dr. Herbert R. Narthrup of Detroit, author of the forthcoming book, "Organized Labor and the Negro," first witness before the committee, said that the Boilermakers' Union is one of the most vicious of organized groups and has never admitted colored workers on a free and equal basis.

He cited figures to show that because of discrimination on behalf of this and other unions, the employment of skilled colored workers in shipyards has decreased rather than increased since the last war.

NOV 20 1943

NAACP Head Testifies

J. J. Clow, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church pastor and president of the NAACP, testified that colored workers who appealed to him for help in keeping their jobs at Kaiser were refused a chance to join the Brotherhood and told by union representatives that they must join a jim-crow auxiliary or else lose their jobs.

He said he was told by Tom Ray, white, recently ousted as president of Local 72, that this was the policy. He testified also that colored workers preferred to quit rather than be forced into jim-crow auxiliaries and that the only solution was integration into bona fide unions.

Other witnesses were:

The Rev. Richard M. Steiner, white, pastor of First Unitarian Church, a member of the draft board of appeals for this area and panel member of WLB, who said that when he found that white skilled shipyard workers were being granted deferments on the grounds that they were essential and yet qualified colored men were refused jobs, he voted against their deferments.

Says J.C. Not Necessary

Joseph Lake, white, business agent and financial secretary of the AFL Electrical Workers' Union, which has 16,000 members, 500 of them colored, testified that discrimination and segregation did not have to exist.

He pointed to the fact that his union admits colored workers employed in Kaiser and other local shipyards on an equal basis, that they have a voice and vote and the right to hold office, and that relations in the union and the yards are harmonious.

2 Fired Workers Testify

Two New York men transported here by the Kaiser yards to work in skilled jobs, then classified as laborers and later discharged by the company at the union's demand because they refused to join jim-crow auxiliaries were the keynote witnesses Monday afternoon.

Robert Rhone, 17, who came here from New York October 3, 1942, said he was classified on the train en route as a shipwright's helper, but when he went to work was made laborer.

He was denied a chance to go to welder's school, but the company trained and employed him as welder for two months. When he refused to join the auxiliary, he was dismissed. He is now a waiter on the Union Pacific.

He said he was willing to join a bona fide labor union, but would rather quit than be forced into a jim-crow setup.

NOV 20 1943

Raymond Gee, 31, Atlantic Highland, N. J., former Auto mechanic, left there last October. He began work as a laborer, was upgraded by the company to welder trainee, but after the union insisted that he join the jim-crow auxiliary and he refused, was dismissed. He is now working as a fireman at a Van Port Housing Project.

Says Company Fosters Bias

Gee indicated during his testimony that the company itself was fostering segregation and discrimination and recalled that his all-colored welding gang was assigned to work in the fore of the ship and whites in the aft.

Edgar Kaiser, manager of the company, admitted that "there have been incidents in the yard where there have been some attempts at segregation, but in general the policy of our company is no segregation."

The hearings will continue on Tuesday. It is expected that Kaiser will take the stand and further elaborate on his testimony.

After hearings here the committee will go to Los Angeles where hearings open Friday. All members of committee are present.

Return to Jobs For Negroes Is Sought

AUG 29 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Men Dismissed For Not Paying Dues

Washington, Aug. 28 (INS)—The President's Committee On Fair Employment Practices tonight declared it is seeking immediate return to their jobs of a number of West Coast shipyard Negroes who were dismissed for refusing to pay dues in an auxiliary union.

AUG 28 1943

"At present attempts are being made to work out between management and union a procedure through which the dismissed workers may be put back on their jobs at once pending ultimate settlement of the entire dispute," the committee said.

The workers were dismissed because they would not pay dues in an auxiliary union of the Boilermakers Union, charging that the auxiliary did not give them full membership in the regular union local.

"The F.E.P.C. has received assurance from the complainants that they are willing to pay their union dues but in return desire full union membership," the committee [illegible]ted.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the committee, said investigation showed no basis for charges that the United Fruit Company had refused to hire qualified Negro maritime officers when seeking a full crew.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

FEPC Arbitrates Upgrade Tangle

OCT 1943

ALIQUIPPA, Pa.—The FEPC smoothed out difficulties between labor and management of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation plant here on the policy of upgrading, and prevented a possible work stoppage, it was revealed this week.

The basis for the complaint, made during the middle of September, was the charge that the company refused to upgrade two colored workers because of their race. The matter was adjusted when management and union agreed to a progression schedule which would protect the upgrading rights of each worker.

Investigation proved that the personnel in the company is almost entirely colored, while throughout its plant the corporation employs only about 12 per cent of the colored workers in certain capacities.

Colored Firemen--Vanishing Americans--Fight For Jobs

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 7 1943

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters' Provisional Committee to Organize Colored Locomotive, is shown with a small portion of the men who are being threatened with the loss of their jobs on American railroads. The white American railroad brotherhoods are attempting to remove Negro firemen entirely from the left side of an engine's cab, according to the railroaders' contentions which will be presented at the Fair Employment Practice Committee hearing in Washington September 15-20. Eleven firemen have been murdered during terror campaigns in the South.

Post
Washington, D. C

10 Railroads Ordered to Void Union Pact; Race Bias Charged

DEC 1 1943

Ten Southern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen yesterday were advised that their operating contract unfairly discriminates against Negroes and must be voided.

The President's committee on fair employment practice (FEPC) handed down its ruling after studying testimony taken at hearings in September.

The contract between the rail union and the railroads "is designed for no other purpose than to cut down the employment of Negroes as firemen and to increase the hiring of white persons in these positions," the FEPC held.

Malcom Ross, FEPC chairman, said the contract limits the hiring of firemen to "promotable men," and specifically designates Negroes as nonpromotable, which effectively debars them.

The FEPC decision raises a legal point which the railroad counsel September said would put them "in the middle" and force them to violate the edict of the National Mediation Board (railway) which approved the contract FEPC ordered voided. The railways, under the Congressional Act coering railway labor disputes, are required to conform to rulings of the mediation board.

The mediation board said the FEPC ruling, which in effect challenges the board's authority, "would be studied." No other comment was forthcoming.

The railroads, under terms of the FEPC decision, hae the choice of voiding the contract and defying the mediation board or conforming to the existing contract and defying the FEPC order.

The railways ordered to void their labor contracts are the Atlantic Coast Line, the Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal Co., Louisville and Nashville, Norfolk Southern, St. Louis and San Francisco, Seaboard Air Line and the Southern Railway.

FEPC Drops Charge Against Va. Railway

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

SEP 10 1943

[illegible]ily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 8.—The first break in the solid Jim-Crow wall of discrimination against Negro workers by the nation's railroads came today when the Fair Employment Practises Committee announced the dropping of its complaint against the Virginian Railway Company.

The Virginian Railway was one of the 23 companies being investigated by FEPC for discriminating against Negro workers.

FEPO crossed the company off its list when the National Mediation Board ruled in favor of 46 Negro employes who had charged the company with discriminatory practises.

The Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen, Inc., charged the Virginian Railway classified Negroes as car riders although they performed the duties of brakemen, did not give them a standard rate of pay nor overtime pay until after ten hours of work. [illegible] contract, white workers doing the same work received a standard rate of pay higher than the Negroes and overtime after eight hours per day.

Joseph C. Waddy, chairman of the association, in informing the FEPC of the victory, declared the company's recent action "has the effect of substantially wiping out the major differential between the working conditions of the white pier employes and the car riders."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Manley Named FEPC Examiner

PHILADELPHIA

Appointment of Milo Manley, former district supervisor of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Assistance, as an examiner for the Fair Employment Practice Committee was announced on Monday by G. James Fleming, regional director.

The FEPC regional office, to serve the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, opened here on Monday at 803-4 Stephen Girard Building, 21 S. Twelfth Street.

Mrs. Gorgas, Secretary

A second examiner named was Miss Mildred Greenblatt of Paterson, N.J., who was transferred from the New York FEPC. Mrs. Helen Gorgas will serve as secretary.

This office will seek to correct grievances growing out of discrimination against war workers because of their race, creed, color or national origin, in accordance with Executive Orders 8802 and 9346, Mr. Fleming explained.

G. JAMES FLEMING

The new director is and has been a field representative and a senior fair practice examiner with FEPC since establishment of the agency two years ago. Until two weeks ago, when his appointment was announced, Mr. Fleming was examiner in charge of FEPC's field office in Detroit.

MISS MILDRED GREENBLATT

The Philadelphia FEPC office is one of nine regional offices in process of being established. Others are scheduled for Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, Kansas City, Mo., Dallas, and San Francisco.

FEPC Post Resigned By Barron

Defender
Chicago, Ill

AUG 14 1942

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Harry I. Barren is out at the Fair Employment Practice committee.

The former chief of the compliance and analysis division, more recently renamed review and analysis, quit the post he had held since April, 1942, on Saturday.

The change does not exactly come as a surprise. Sometime ago before Lawrence W. Cramer, then secretary of the committee, had left and when it was generally known that he would be entering the army, the question arose as to who would succeed him in that position.

Since George M. Johnson, now assistant to the chairman, was Cramer's assistant, it was assumed that he ought to get the post. But a fear developed in certain quarters that it might have been handed to Barron. Actually, the committee was reorganized, Malcolm Ross was brought in from the National Labor Relations Board, and he and Johnson were given equal rank and similar titles.

Barron, an official of the Bureau of Jewish Employment Problems in Chicago before joining GEPC, had long differed with other members of the administrative organization on questions of techniques and phrases of policy. The feeling is that because of this doubts that the objectives of the committee were being adequately attained, he chose to resign. There are also those who infer that Barron suffered a diminutive in influence with Cramer's exiting, and so has been a bit disgruntled about the new order of things.

No official explanation was given for the resignation.

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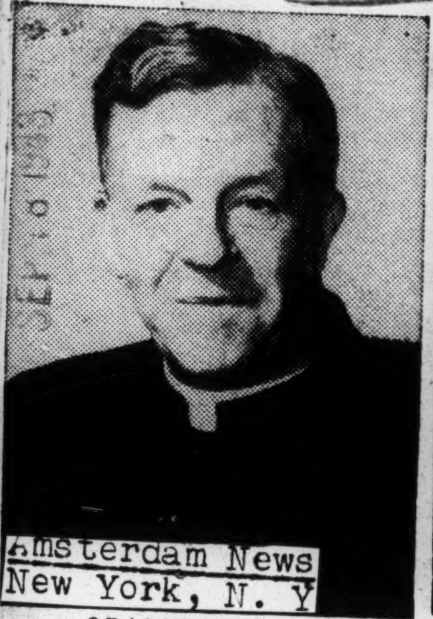
FEPC

Full Committee On Fair Employment Practice



Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

RT. REV. MONSIGNOR Francis J. Haas, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

MISS SARA E. SOUTHALL, Supervisor of Employment and Service, International Harvester Company, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

MILTON P. WEBSTER, International Vice-President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and labor representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

SAMUEL ZEMURRAY, president of the United Fruit Company, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

47d

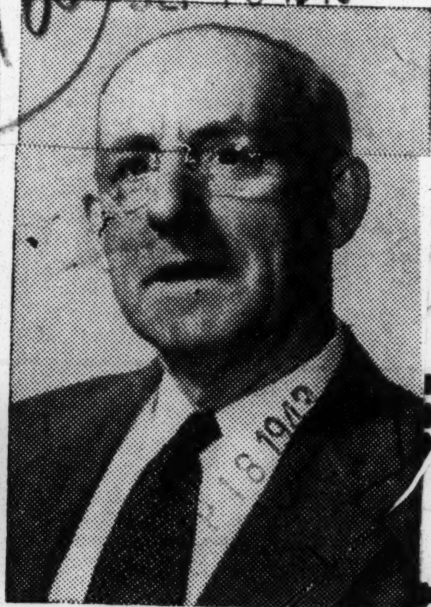
SEP 18 1943

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

BORIS SHISHKIN, American Federation of Labor, labor representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

P. BERNARD YOUNG, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, and industry representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.



Official OWI photo by Roger Smith

JOHN BROHPY, Congress of Industrial Organizations, labor representative on the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Kaiser In Hot Water Before FEP Probers

Defender
Chicago, Ill
1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Henry Kaiser, the wizard shipbuilder, who keeps his ships floating out to salt water and his labor problems floating in hot water, was a visitor at the office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee last week. He asked for the conference with Chairman Francis J. Haas.

Though no comment was forthcoming as to the nature of the discussions, it is known that several of Kaiser's yards are involved in the West Coast dispute over the firing of several hundred Negroes who had refused to pay their dues in auxiliary unions set up by the AFL Boilermakers union specifically for Negro workers.

A formal complaint was filed with the FEPC week before last, citing the Kaiser yards specifically, for discriminations in upgrading Negroes and in using them at their maximum capacities. The complaint also hit against the auxiliary union scheme.

The matter is still pending settlement. There is a strong possibility that public hearings may be held on the West coast, possibly in San Francisco. The shipyard and union representatives have been asked to meet with FEPC representatives to discuss the problems.

Publicity Question

Complaints that the Federal Government was, in effect, practicing a form of discrimination in the conduct of its own anti-discrimination drive among employers have been made to the Fair Employment Practices committee, according to information gleaned from officials of that organization.

The protests in question have been directed against the FEPC's own procedure, said to have been dictated largely from the White House, whereby charges of race discrimination against the government as an employer—which are said still to be numerous in Washington—are required to be conducted in closed executive session, whereas allegations against private employers are conducted in public.

The objections have reached the point where members of the FEPC may take the matter to the President and ask him to put both Government and private employers in the same class and make them subject to the same procedures so far as conduct of the anti-discrimination drive is concerned.

Detroit Case

Both Mgr. Haas and George M. Johnson, assistant chairman, said that complaints against the practice had been mounting. They indicated their own lack of enthusiasm for it, apparently believing publicity itself is one of the strongest sanctions that can be used in putting down discriminatory practices in hiring anywhere.

Discussion of the subject arose between the FEPC officials and a group of newspaper men and women at a press conference when

Mr. Johnson disclosed that a complaint had been received from Detroit charging one of the governmental agencies domiciled there with refusal to upgrade a worker on account of creed. When a reporter asked for the names of the agency and the employe, Mr. Johnson declined to give them, saying the committee had established a definite policy against making public the details of charges of discrimination against the Government.

When pressed for the reason for such policy—which required the very reverse in cases involving private employers working on war contracts—Mr. Johnson at first said that it came under the President's directions against publicizing disagreements within the government as renewed soon after the episode involving Vice President Henry A. Wallace and Secretary of Commerce Jesse H. Jones. He added later that it had been the policy of the old committee since its birth. When a reporter pursued the matter further, Mr. Johnson finally related that it was laid down from the start by the White House itself.

Name Officials

The FEPC announced that Bartley C. Crum of San Francisco had been retained as chief counsel for the hearings, September 15 to 17, in which charges against 26 railroads and railway unions for discriminating against Negro workers are to be aired. Associated with Mr. Crum will be Charles A. Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York City.

At the same time, the committee announced that its administrative departmental structure had been rounded out, and that numerous positions had been filled, lifting its total staff to 48. Under Mgr. Haas in the Washington office will be four divisions—administrative, field operations, review analysis and a hearings unit. Eventually the committee will have twelve regional offices, in the same cities as field officers of the War Manpower Commission.

The following personnel appointments were announced by Mgr. Haas:

Malcolm Ross of Vienna, Va., former director of information of the National Labor Relations Board, deputy chairman; George M. Johnson of Berkeley, Calif., former professor of law at Howard university, assistant chairman; Will Maslow of New York, former trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, chief of field operations; Clarence Mitchell of Baltimore, former assistant chief of the Negro Manpower Service, associate chief of field operations; Eugene Davidson of Washington, assistant chief of field operations; Theodore A. Jones of Chicago, administrative officer; George Crockett of Fairmont, W. Va., hearings examiner.

The following regional directors and associates have been appointed: New York, Edward Lawson; Philadelphia, G. James Fleming; Chicago, Elmer W. Henderson; San Francisco, Harry Kingman; Dallas, Texas, Carlos Casteneda.

Other offices which the committee will open, but to which no appointments have as yet been made, are: Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, St. Louis. It is expected that offices will be opened eventually at Minneapolis, Boston and Denver.

It was also announced that President Roosevelt will be the final arbiter on government policy for combating racial and religious discrimination in training and employment.

An operating agreement announced by the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practice Commitee called for cooperative action between the agencies but provided that where WMC Chairman Paul V. McNutt and FEPC Chairman Francis J Haas are unable to agree on policy, they will submit the disputes to the President for "final disposition."

Union Pacific Pledges Speedy Removal Of Bars

SEP 19 1943

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

Southern Roads Still Adamant On Charges

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Counsel for the Union Pacific Railroad, in a surprise move Saturday, informed the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices that immediate steps would be taken to bring about the "speedy correction" of charges that the road had discriminated against Negroes, Mexicans and American citizens of Mexican descent.

The announcement provided the first rift in the solid front which the railroad companies, who had been charged by the government with violation of the Presidential Executive Order 9346. Hearings on the charges started here Thursday and were concluded Saturday.

JEFFERS IS PRESIDENT

In announcing that an investigation of the Union Pacific's employment policies would be immediately inaugurated, the lawyers appearing for the company contended that the charges were "wholly inconsistent with company policy."

William Jeffers, until recently federal rubber czar, is president of the Union Pacific.

The hearings were marked by the solid opposition of both the railroads and the big railroad brotherhoods to lowering the barriers against Negro workers. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the Southern Railway, who served as spokesman for the 22 carriers, reiterated the belief that if Negro workers were given equality of opportunity, the move would bring about a wave of riots and would expose Negro workers to all sorts of danger.

"ANOMALOUS POSITION"

Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, former member of the department of economics at Harvard and Cornell Universities and writer of numerous articles dealing with labor, in giving a general picture of the situation confronting Negro employes in the railroad industry, described it as an "anomalous position."

Dr. Northrup has spent much time doing investigating work in the field and dealing with problems coming within the purview of the FEPC. He was a member of the staff of the Carnegie corporation of New York's "Negro in America" survey, and wrote his Ph. D. thesis on this subject. He is the author of a forthcoming volume called "Organized Labor and the Negro." Presently he is on the staff of the National War Labor board.

"The Negro has become a pawn in industrial relations," Dr. Northrup stated, "Employers have used him to fight unions and to depress wages; unions have retaliated by attempting either to limit the employment of Negroes or by driving those already employed from the railroads."

CITES FIGURES

He cited censure figures to support his view and went on to show how, as a result of the spread of collective bargaining, the proportion of Negroes in the railroad industry has steadily declined since World War 1.

Dr. Northrup declared that the racial policies of the railway labor unions are unique and in no way typical of those of organized labor in general. "Of the 29 national unions which habitually discriminate against Negroes, 19 are found in the railroad industry," he testified. "This is in sharp contrast to the situation in most industries, e. g. iron and steel, automobiles, needle trades, where the dominant labor unions have made equality of all races a basic tenet of their policies, and have done much to improve the economic statue of Negroes working under their jurisdiction."

CONDEMNS RAIL BOARDS

A feature of Dr. Northrup's testimony was his condemnation of the Railway Labor act and its administration. He specifically attacked the allegation that this act is anything like the model labor law which it has been characterized. "No labor law can provide a 'model labor policy' if it is used as a means of economically disfranchising a minority race,' he declared. "Yet the Railway Labor act has served such a purpose."

In this vein, he attacked both the National (Railway) Mediation board and the National Railroad Adjustment board.

FEP Put On Spot In Coast Kaiser Case

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 14 1943

By **HARRY McALPIN**
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The question whether auxiliary union lodges, as established by the AFL International brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America in the Kaiser Shipyards and other west coast shipbuilding companies, is in violation of Executive Order 9346 outlawing discrimination has been put square before the Fair Employment Practice Committee by the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory and the Portland, Oregon, branch of the N.A.A.C.P., in a complaint and request for redress filed last week.

The complaint asks that such auxiliary lodges be declared in violation of the Executive Order, in which the President declares it to be the duty "of all employers, including the several federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

The complaint asks further that the FEPC hold hearings in Portland to establish the facts generally and specifically alleged that reference to racial discrimination in employment, upgrading and union membership; and that pending final determination, the Kaiser company be instructed to reinstate with back pay all Negro employees who have been dismissed on the pretext they are not in good standing with the union.

300 Fired

The complaint has grown out of the dismissal of some 300 Negro shipyard workers about July 14, on the pretext, says the complaint, that they were not in good standing with the union.

Local Lodges 72 and 401 of the Boilermakers, which have consistently refused membership to Negroes, have set up auxiliary lodges restricted to "colored male" persons only.

The auxiliary Lodge No. 32-A, says the complaint, is alleged to have been chartered in December, 1942. Up to the present time, however, no officers or trustees have been elected or appointed for the auxiliary, no meetings have been held, no charter has been delivered to the alleged membership, and the auxiliary remains wholly without organization in fact or in law.

The auxiliary lodge scheme is exposed as a subterfuge for limiting and restricting the employment of Negro workmen and for depriving them of economic security, equal participation in collective bargaining, and the rights, privileges and benefits which are incidents of membership in the subordinate lodges of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, which holds a closed shop contract with the shipyards.

No Voice Or Vote

The auxiliary lodges are subject to suspension by the international president, their members have no voice or vote in the quadrennial convention. The business agent, who is elected by and responsible solely to the members of the subordinate lodge, is also the agent for the auxiliary. Changes of classification of Negro members of the auxiliary lodge from helper to the higher paying grade of mechanic must be approved by the all-white supervising lodge. The age limits and participation on grievance committees differs in the auxiliary lodge from the subordinate lodge.

The complaint filed with the FEPC also outlines discriminations directly imposed by the Kaiser company. Among them are refusal of the company to utilize the services of qualified Negroes at their maximum skills, solely because of their race and color. No Negroes are hired in the sheet metal shop, employment has been denied a qualified draftsman in the drafting department, and no Negroes serve as foremen.

The question involving the union looms as of prime importance. Close watch is being kept on the FEPC to see whether it will take a firm and unequivocal stand, or be frightened by the character, size and influence of the Boilermakers Union.

It was this same union, and the machinists on the west coast, who were responsible for the recent congressional action tying the hands of the National Labor Relations Board in dealing with union contracts in force more than three months. The CIO had challenged the bargaining rights of the AFL unions in some of the shipyards on the basis that closed shop contracts, particularly in the Kaiser Yards, had been entered into before any workers were employed in the plants, and hence the workers had not been given an opportunity to select their bargaining agent. Fearing action on the part of the NLRB, the AFL unions lobbied for and obtained an amendment in congress prohibiting any disturbance of a contract in force for three months or more.

47d-1943

"Railroad Hearings A Landmark" Says A. Philip Randolph

OCT 2 1943

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

NEW YORK—A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, stated that after listening to the statements by counsel for the railroad, and Special Counsel, Bartley C. Crum for FEPC, and the testimony of colored locomotive firemen and others, he considers that the railroad hearings were of far reaching significance.

The leader of the March, On Washington Movement said that the greatest lesson that the railroad hearings hold for colored people, is that colored people possess the power to bring about profound and constructive economic, political, and social changes themselves; because had it not bee nfor the March On Washington Movement, the President's Executive Order 8802 would not have been issued, under which FEPC was established, and the railroad hearings would not have been held.

The hearings provide the basis for FEPC to halt not only the elimination of colored firemen from the railroad industry, Randolph stated, but also the elimination of colored brakemen, flagmen, switchmen, and the policy of confining colored railroad workers to a blind-alley, dead-end employment condition under which promotion and the recognition of their seniority rights are unheard of and impossible.

OCT 2 1943

Randolph expressed the conviction that the FEPC can "issue cease and desist orders that will disestablish and abolish forthwith the agreement between the Southeastern Carriers Conference Committee and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen" and thus end the discriminatory practices in the railroad industry. He calls for the mobilization of colored and white sentiment behind FEPC, to give it the moral force that will command respect for its orders and instructions.

FEPC Orders Public Probe Of AFL Union

SEP 4 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2—FEPC hearings on discrimination against Negro railroad workers by 26 companies and six railroad unions will be extended for an additional day from September 16 to 18 because of the large number of witnesses to be heard, announced Father Francis J. Haas, FEPC chairman, at his regular bi-monthly press conference held here last Saturday.

At the same time Father Haas stated that a public hearing of complaints against the AFL Boilermakers' union on the West Coast had been ordered by the FEPC at its committee meeting Saturday.

SATISFIED WITH TRANSIT CASE

SEP 4 1943

Other committee developments included announcement that the FEPC was satisfied that in the Capitol Transit company case, both the company and the union were taking necessary steps to comply with the President's Executive Order against discrimination, and that the International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL building trades group, had reaffirmed in writing to the committee its pledge not to discriminate against Negro workers qualified for membership. The committee also dismissed, as lacking in merit, the complaint made against the United Fruit company, whose president, Samuel Zemurray, is an industry member of FEPC.

Action in the Boilermakers' case came after a report to the committee by the assistant chairman, George Johnson, who returned from California last week, after an unsuccessful conference with representatives of the union. An estimated 300 Negro war workers have been fired from important shipbuilding work at the Henry Kaiser shipyards in Vancouver, Washington, because they refuse to pay dues into a Jim-Crow auxiliary union set up by the Boilermakers.

SEP 4 1943

DISMISS UNITED FRUIT CHARGES

At present attempts are being made to put the Negro workers—now away from vital war work for some five weeks, despite the telegraphic request of FEPC for their reinstatement—back to work pending ultimate settlement of the case in the public hearing.

In an official statement concerning the complaint against the United Fruit company, Father Haas stated:

"In the course of its investigation of this case, the committee found that about 25 Negro officers are presently serving in the Merchant Marine and that the total number of qualified Negro officers, including the 25 afloat, is less than 50. Due to the shortening of training time for officers from 36 to 18 months, more qualified Negro officers are becoming available.

FEPC

The committee found that the United Fruit company has employed unlicensed personnel without regard to color. With respect to the licensed personnel, the committee has received assurances from the United Fruit company that any qualified officer meeting the requirements of the War Shipping Administration will be employed without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

Regional FEPC To Probe Bias; Surface Lines Hit

SEP 26 1943

Discriminatory practices by employers and unions and failure of the Chicago Surface lines to hire Negro motormen will be numbered among the complaints to be investigated by the regional office of the FEPC, according to Elmer W. Henderson, regional director of the committee, Wednesday at the opening of his new office in the war agencies building.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

ELMER W. HENDERSON.

Though the regional head declined to discuss details or to state the number of complaints being investigated, he said all hearings will be public. He said that when discrimination complaints are received, "every effort" will be made to settle them first through negotiations and conferences. The cases of recalcitrant employers, unions or agencies will be referred after a fact-finding hearing to the committee in Washington or will be dealt with on a regional basis.

Henderson, a native of Baltimore, completed his education at the University of Chicago.

Charles H. Houston, Washington Attorney, Named FEPC Counsel

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

AUG 1943

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice announced appointment of Bartley C. Crum of San Francisco as Chief in its forthcoming hearings, September 15, 16, and 17, on alleged employment discrimination by a number of railroad companies.

Associated with Mr. Crum will be Charles A. Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York City.

In hearings in the railroad cases scheduled by the former FEPC and subsequently cancelled, Henry Epstein of New York City had been engaged as committee counsel. He was offered the position by the present committee.

At the same time, the committee announced that its administrative and departmental structure has been established and that many positions have been filled. Under Chairman Francis J. Haas, in its Washington office, there will be four divisions: administrative, field operations, review and analysis, and a hearings division. Eventually the committee will have 12 original offices, located in the same cities as the War Manpower Commission's regional offices. Only nine of the offices chosen for an expected density of operation will be immediately established.

President Clears Its Status

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

NOV 13 1943

Declares Executive Order Mandatory

In War Effort

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt has ruled that provisions obligating contractors not to discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin **are mandatory** and should be incorporated in all government contracts. The President's ruling was revealed in a letter to Attorney General Biddle and released by the White House on Saturday, November 6.

The letter discussed a recent opinion of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren that the obligation imposed by Executive Order 9346 upon contracting agencies to incorporate a non-discrimination clause in each contract awarded by them "was not a mandatory requirement, but merely a directive."

Following delivery of the comptroller general's opinion on October 7, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice requested a interpretation of the scope and meaning of Executive Order 9346.

TEXT OF LETTER

The full text of the President's letter follows:

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

You have brought to my attention the Comptroller General's opinion holding that Executive Order 9346 is directory and not mandatory in requiring insertion in all government contracts of a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on account of race, creed, color, or national origin; and requiring the contractor to include similar contractural provisions in all sub-contracts.

NOV 13 1943

There is no need for me to reiterate the fundamental principles underlying the promulgation of the Executive Order, namely, that the prosecution of the war demands that we utilize fully all available manpower and that the discrimination by war industries against persons for any of the reasons named in the Order is detrimental to the prosecution of the war and is opposed to our national democratic purposes.

I realize the [illegible] of the Comptroller General to [illegible] payment on government contracts in which these provisions have not been included where there is no doubt as to whether the Order is mandatory. I therefore wish to make it perfectly clear that these provisions are mandatory and should be incorporated in all government contracts. The Order should be so construed by all government contracting agencies.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

November 5, 1943.

'CLEARED UP, ONCE AND FOR ALL"

The comptroller general's opinion was given to James F. Byrnes, director of war mobilization.

Stephen T. Early, the President's press secretary, said he believed the subsequent action of the President "clears it up once and for all."

BACKGROUND OF MATTER

The comptroller general's opinion was given under date of October 7 in a case in which the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., refused to execute a contract containing a clause forbidding discrimination against any worker on account of race, color, creed or national origin.

NOV 13 1943

The company's refusal, Mr. Warren held, was no barrier to a contract because the President's Executive Order (No. 9346) was only a "directive" and was not binding upon contracting officers.

Meanwhile, Malcolm Ross, newly appointed chairman of the FEPC, announced Tuesday morning that the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., had signed a government contract containing the "no discrimination" clause ordered by Executive Order No. 9346.

The action came after President Roosevelt, in reply to the recent ruling by Comptroller General

Warren, emphasized that the clause was an order and not a "directive" as Warren had interpreted it in a letter to James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization, on October 7.

Warren had ruled that the President's order could be disregarded where the contractor refuse to sign a contract carrying the anti-discrimination clause, and the government could not obtain vital goods or service elsewhere.

FDR Weighs FEP Fate After Ruling Of Warren

Defender
Chicago, Ill. NOV 6 - 1943

NOV 6 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The FEPC hot potato was again back in the lap of President Roosevelt this week.

The much-battered, much-malinged and much-debated committee set up to crack down on job discrimination was again in deep water as a result of a concerted offensive by wily Dixie politicians. Through a slick maneuver by Assistant President James F. Byrnes, "white hope" of the South for the Presidency, the Fair Employment Practice Committee was clipped of all power through a ruling by an obscure Carolina ex-congressman, now comptroller general.

He is Lindsay Warren, who on the request of Byrnes ruled that the President's Executive Order 9346 (formerly 8802) is directive only and not mandatory. In effect the ruling accuses the President of not meaning what he said when he created the FEPC.

Wide Protest

The dictatorial effort of the Bourbon bloc to upset the President's order brought a widespread movement of protest from minority groups and it is believed that President Roosevelt will step in to get Attorney General Francis Biddle to countermand Comptroller General Warren's edict by issuing a ruling of his own upholding the FEPC powers.

Opening the way for such a step was the immediate request by FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross to Biddle to explain "the scope and meaning of the executive order."

The ruling, handed down by Warren, goes into lengthy detail to prove that when the President used such language as "it is hereby ordered," he did not mean it. And when he said "all contracting agencies of the government of the United States SHALL INCLUDE IN ALL CONTRACTS . . . a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminated . . . because of race, creed, color or national origin . .," he was only playing with words.

Appeasement Move

In effect, Warren has ruled that employers who put their prejudices ahead of the war effort and refuse to contract with the government for necessary war services, unless the non-discrimination clause is removed, are to be appeased by removing the clause — and he, Warren, will authorize payment of government funds under such contracts, the orders of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

Nine days after this ruling was made on October 7, the Director of the Division of Central Administrative Services, on October 16, sent a directive to his field agents informing them of it. Contracts have already been negotiated with the clause excluded.

But this is not a feud between the Comptroller General and the President. It has more of the earmarks of teamwork between the Comptroller General and the assistant president, James Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization and former Senator from South Carolina prior to becoming an associate justice of the Supreme Court. Byrnes is the South's "white hope." The southern bloc is grooming him as a candidate for the presidency.

NOV 6 1943

White House Knew Nothing

It was Byrnes, in his capacity of liaison officer of the Office for Emergency Management in the executive office of the President, who asked for the ruling from Warren. And despite the fact that Byrnes practically sits on the President's knee, Stephen Early, press secretary of the President, said the White House knew nothing of the ruling as of last Wednesday —three weeks after it was issued.

The occasion for the ruling was the refusal of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., to furnish telephone service to the federal government in Kansas City if the contract for such war service carried the non-discrimination clause ordered by the President. Byrnes wrote Warren saying the OEM wanted to know whether the Comptroller General would authorize payments under the contract for telephone service if the non-discrimination clause were left out.

NOV 6 1943

Warren said yes, of course he would — the prejudices of an employer transcend the orders of the President. Then he set out to prove that when the President says he orders, he doesn't mean he orders; and that when he says "shall" he doesn't mean "must."

Hidden From FEPC

But neither Warren nor Byrnes thought the matter important enough to confer with the FEPC, or even to advise the committee of the action afterwards. The committee learned of the ruling from another government agency almost three weeks after it was issued. The ruling was dated October 7, 1943 — the same day on which Monsignor Francis J. Haas resigned as chairman of the FEPC to become Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich. The coincidence of these dates, and Haas' leaving before the very important Railroad discrimination case decision was reached, have caused some "eyebrow raising."

The matter was not a hidden secret to the industrialists, however. Almost a week before the FEPC had heard of the ruling, the full text was published in the Labor News — a reactionary paper published for management to tell them how to handle labor. Labor News is put out by the same group which edits the United States News — David Lawrence and his crowd.

The text of the ruling concludes with this statement: "Accordingly, it is concluded that the paragraph of Executive Order No. 9346 involving the inclusion in government contracts of a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin, and requiring him to include a like provision in sub-contracts, was intended only as a directive to the contracting agencies of the government, so that FAILURE TO INCLUDE SUCH A PROVISION WILL NOT RENDER VOID an otherwise proper contract or RENDER OBJECTIONABLE otherwise proper payments thereunder."

Clause Never Tested

This will no doubt be construed as an open invitation to war contractors to disregard the executive order, not only in the negotiation of a contract, but in adherence to such a clause in contracts already negotiated, or even to the very principle of non-discrimination.

Though the non-discrimination clause in these contracts had never been tested. there was always the possibility that FEPC might call upon a government agency to withhold payment from a contractor who violated the clause. This threat was the only sanction the FEPC seemed to possess to get its orders and directives enforced. Warren's ruling, if allowed to stand, will reduce the FEPC to a mere fact-finding agency and a laughing stock to employers.

Negroes are anxious to learn from the President just what he did mean. They want to know whether Warren has spoken the President's mind or broken the President's good faith!

'Sweaty Hands' Prevent Hiring Of Negro Girls

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
NOV 6 - 1943

WASHINGTON.—Convinced by representatives of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee that the reason for their rejection of Negro women employees had no basis in fact, officials of a large Eastern war plant relaxed their barriers and are now hiring Negroes, a report filed with FEPC headquarters here this week revealed.

NOV 6 1943

Investigation by the regional FEPC office into the policies of the company which rejected 100 Negro girls, while accepting more than 300 of the 500 white girls referred to them by the U. S. Employment Service over a two-months period, brought from the management the explanation that the jobs required handling of small mechanisms and that the Negroes were rejected because they "all had sweaty hands."

However, when FEPC findings revealed that the "test" for "sweaty hands" was superficial the company admitted the possibility of error in its belief and promptly ordered its supervisory and personnel staff to eliminate racial considerations in employment.

Group Hits Labor Policy of New FEPC Member

Afro-American
Baltimore
SEP 1943

4/14

WASHINGTON

Latin American labor sources expressed their disapproval this week of appointment of Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Company and recently appointed industrial member to the FEPC, to a key office of Economic Warfare post.

At the time that the "banana king" was appointed to FEPC, information available on him was that he was a member of the board of directors of the Atlas Corporation and Tulane University, and that some of his friends in New Orleans said he was a "swell fellow."

Unions Opposed

The labor sources of South America this week, however, according to PM newspaper, "cite the long struggle of seamen and Latin farm workers to improve their conditions under the banana boat and plantation system typified by United Fruit."

"They assert," the report continues, "that an examination of United Fruit's labor record in Central and South American countries, where it has extensive holdings, shows a steady resistance to collective bargaining and other social legislation."

Mr. Zemurray was appointed a principal consultant to OEW, together with Arthur A. Allan, executive vice-president of United Fruit.

FEP Assured Funds But Still Stalls On Action

Chicago Defender —
Chicago, Illinois

4/14

WASHINGTON — What threatened to be a possible death-knell of the Fair Employment Practice committee (FEPC) has been dispelled by the lifting of restrictions on the use of the President's emergency war funds. The committee may now survive by receiving money for operating through the President's war emergency fund.

Earlier action of the Congress had threatened to limit the use of the President's funds to the War, Navy and State Departments and the Office of Strategic Services. Had this restriction remained, the FEPC would have had to appear before the Congress for funds to operate. In the present anti-administration, anti-racial attitude of the Congress, led by the Republicans and the southern bloc, it is doubtful whether the FEPC could have run the gauntlet successfully. Any proposal for funds would have been subject to point of order on the ground that the purposes to be carried out by the appropriation are not authorized by law. This is because the FEPC is a creature of Executive Order and not of legislation.

JUL 3 1943

In the meantime, FEPC remains static for lack of a committee to work with Father Francis J. Haas, recently appointed chairman. Father Haas has been requested by telegram to meet with a delegation of representatives of interested organizations to discuss the future of the FEPC.

The telegram reads: "Disturbed at delay in rescheduling railroad discrimination hearings and reorganization FEPC. Also troubled by government acceptance Mobile compromise in violation Executive Order 8802. Organizations which conferred with Messrs. McNutt and Biddle February 19 on strengthening FEPC request an early conference with you for frank discussion future FEPC."

The telegram was signed by Roger Baldwin, Mrs. Maudelle B. Bousefield, Dr. Warren Brown, Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, Lester Granger, Abner Green, Dr. Willard Johnson, Morris Milgram, Martin Popper, A. Philip Randolph, and George I. Sanchez. All the signers were members of the group which was invited to confer with McNutt and Biddle last February.

47d-1943

FEPC

FEPC at Work in Philadelphia

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

SEP 11 1943

'FEPC Not Out To Break Trade Unionism'--Ross

NOV 13 1943

~~Courier Pittsburgh Pa.~~

WASHINNGTON—Hearings and investigations conducted by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices should not be construed as an attack upon trade unionism, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, said this week.

The purposes and very construction of the committee give evidence that labor is under no indictment, he pointed out.

EXPLANATION MADE

"No accomplished step of relationship betwen employer and union is in any wise being subjected to inquiry unless within that relationship, itself discrimination is practiced contrary to the Presidential order," declared the FEPC chairman.

The statement was made by the FEPC in connection with its announcement to hold hearings in Portland, Oregon, and Los Angeles to examine the complaints of several Negro shipyard workers who allege that limitations placed upon their union membership result in discrimination in the terms of their employment.

Mr. Ross said the committee recognizes the problem of internal affairs of trade unionism and "finds it advisable to make a statement concerning the FEPC's intervention into such matters."

Continuing, he said:

"In respect to the employee-employer relationship, now fixed by both legislative and cour action, no one wishing the stability of that relationship and the good health of democratic procedures would in any way disturb that balance of bargaining power. The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice stands four-square for collective bargaining as the approved and legal method of negotiating agreements and adjusting disputes between employers and employees. However, the question of what constitutes the bargaining rights of those who are discriminated against because of race, creed, color or national origin has been formally placed before the committee.

"Executive Order 9346 placed upon the committee the duty to eliminate discrimination in regard to union membership. The examination of complaints alleging that a form of union membership does, in fact, result in discrimination is an obligation upon the committee. Furthermore, Executive Order 9346 enjoins the committee to obtain the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, color, creed or national origin for the successful prosecution of the war."

Post
Washington, D. C.

Agreement Nears For Negro Hire On Trolleys, Buses

AUG 30 1943

Eventual solution of the problem of the hiring of Negroes to operate trolleys and buses by the Capital Transit Co. is foreseen by Father Francis J. Hass, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practises Committee.

Father Haas announced the union, company and committee were reaching agreement although he would not disclose the nature of the talks. He said they all were agreed on plans to promote Negroes in the employ of the company.

FEPC to Hear Discrimination Pleas in West

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOV 13 1943

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, issued the following statement in behalf of the committee: "The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice is preparing to hold hearings in Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles, to examine the complaints of certain Negro shipyard workers who allege that limitations placed upon their union membership result in discrimination in the terms of their employment.

"Executive Order 9346 placed upon the committee the duty to eliminate discrimination in regard to union membership. The examination of complaints alleging that a form of union membership does, in fact, result in discrimination is an obligation upon the committee. Furthermore, Executive Order 9346 enjoins the committee to obtain the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, color, creed or national origin for the successful prosecution of the war.

When the 168th anniversary of the U. S. Marine Corps is observed on November 10, tribute will be paid for the second time to Negro recruits in this branch of the service.

Although the Marine Corps only began active training of Negro Marines on September 1, 1942, more than 8,500 of these recruits are now enrolled in the service. The first group of 1,200 Negro volunteers began training at Camp LeJune, New River, N. C., and six months later on March 1, the first Negro Marines were on active duty in the Far Pacific. Since 1921, November 10 has been observed as the birthday of the Marine Corps.

Railroad Hearings To Open Next Week

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SEP 11 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Barring mishaps, last minute White House cancellation, or a miracle of reform on the part of companies and unions, the long awaited and much juggled railroad hearings will be held in Washington next week, Sept. 15-18

That the hearings are held at all will mark a signal victory for united and collective action by Negro groups.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee is tackling a herculean task. Like little David against Goliath, it is pitting its small powers against the strength of one of the giants of the industrial world, the railroad industry; and against the strong, vicious and closely organized railroad brotherhoods. Its only weapons are right, public opinion, and Presidential support. It is assured of the first two, but it will need all three if it is to emerge victorious.

The railroads summoned to appear at the public hearings include the Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals Baltimore 'and Ohio, Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal, Central Railroad of Georgia, Chesapeake and Ohio, Chicago and Northwestern, Georgia Railroad, Gulf-Mobile and Ohio, Illinois Central, Jacksonville Terminal Co., Louisiana and Arkansas, Louisville and Nashville, Missouri Kansas-Texas, New York Central, Norfolk Southern, Norfolk and Western, Pennsylvania Railroad, St. Louis-San Francisco, Seaboard Airline Railroad, Southern Railroad, Union Pacific, and Virginia Railroad Co.

Summon Many Unions

The unions include the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Order of Railway Conductors, System Federation No. 105, System Federation No. 103, International Association of Machinists, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers, Sheet Metal Workers International Association, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers and Station Employees, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Shop Crafts.

Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color have been lodged against these 23 railroads and 14 labor unions. Some of the cases involve Mexican workers as well as Negroes.

FEPC investigations have resulted in a lengthy list of allegations involving agreements between railroads and unions whereby the effective utilization of qualified manpower has been hampered because of discrimination. Chief among the practices has been that of considering Negroes as "non-promotables," which allegedly has een done through agreements setting certain restrictions on the percentage of Negroes which may be employed in stipulated categories.

Non-Whites Decline

The FEPC has found through investigation that there has been a steady decline in the number of non-white railroad workers during recent years.

SEP 11 1943

Among other charges to be taken up at the hearings are: that railroads have refused to hire or upgrade Negroes ignored their seniority rights deprived them of full-time employment unfairly and maintained unfair differentials in wages paid Negroes for identical work as done by whites.

It is also charged that Negroes have been consistently barred from opportunities to work on diesel-engined locomotives, and have been refused employment or promotion to jobs as locomotive engineers, flagmen, carmen, machinists and helpers, boilermakers and helpers, hostlers, baggagemen, conductors, trainmen, pipefitters and helpers, crane operators, dining car stewards, clerks, road brakemen, coach painters, oilers, dining car supervisors, and car retarder operators.

Alleging collusion between railroads and unions, the FEPC charges in addition that some of the labor organizations consistently bar non-whites from membership or deny them the vote on organization policies, and that Negro grievances are not handled fairly when such grievances conflict with the interest of white workers.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Comptroller General Warren And The Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

From Jackson (Miss.) Advocate

Last week the Comptroller General of the United States, Mr. Lindsay Warren, former Congressman from North Carolina, all but abrogated the President's Order No. 9346, and rendered all but useless the past efforts, and possible future good to be accomplished by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, created by the President to put into effect the provisions of the order, when, in a ruling respecting the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, he denied that the President was seriously intent upon all employers of labor, handling government contracts, a biding by the provisions of the order, and the ruling of the committee, which outlawed discrimination in the hiring of labor, based upon race, religon, and national origin.

From the beginning of the national emergency through to the declaration of war and up to the present day, Negroes, Jews, other racial and religious groups, comprising the nation's minorities have been chiefly concerned with the right and opportunity to acquire jobs in the ever expanding war industries of the nation; and the issuance of Executive Order 8802, the creation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, and the subsequent issuance of Executive Order 9346, gave evidence that the President, the highest authority in the nation, was mindful of the justice of their cause and concern. It would be difficult indeed to over estimate the spiritual and moral affect of the issuance of these orders, and the creation of the Committee upon those racial and religious groups, long the almost defenseless victims of prejudice and discrimination in the nation. It would be equally difficult to determine the ill that would result to the spirit and morale of these groups should the order and the committee become permanently nullified and destroyed.

When Executive Order 8802 was issued and the Committee created, the action was everywhere regarded as placating the Negro of the nation whose protest over denial of job opportunity had become nationally embarrassing. Subsequently destroyed, but resurrected through Executive Order 9346, as the war progressed and the demands for more and more manpower developed, this action of the President grew in importance as affecting, not alone the spirit and morale of the Negro, but as regards the whole picture of national manpower; which is today faced with a number of serious dislocations because of the refusal of a large number of employers, as well as labor unions, to abide by the President's Order and the ruling of the Committee.

It seems all to evident, in the action of Comptroller Warren, that he has proceeded upon the assumption of authority and power greater than that of the President of the United States, the tragedy of which lies in the fact that both he and the Soutwestern Bell Telephone Company, seems to still regard FEPC and Executive Order 9346, as action taken primarily to placate the Negroes of the Nation, and regards neither of any important significance as they relate to the national manpower problem and the national war effort.

But the greater tragedy lies in the fact that the action of Comptroller Warren, and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, as symbols of two elements of power in the U. S., gives greater cause to those, both at home and among our allies, who, as victory nears, views with growing cynicism, our claims to the champions of those principles of universal brotherhood, and Christian democracy for which thousands of the flowers of the nation's youth have died, and for which other thousands will die before the end of the war.

NOV 12 1943

FEPC Concludes Railroad Hearings; Decision Awaited

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Employment practices of 22 railroads and 14 unions were examined in public hearings by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Pracitces September 15 to 18, in the Indepartmental Auditorium, Fourteenth and Constitution Avenue, Northwest

The full seven-man committee heard testimony by more than three dozen witnesses, including experts on Axis propaganda who testified on the use made by the Axis nations of reported instances of discrimination against minority groups in the United States.

Following the conclusion of the hearings Saturday, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman, announced that the committee would study the complete record before issuing its findings and directions.

Eighteen of the 22 railroads cited were represented by counsel as the hearings opened Wednesday morning, September 15. Although replies were received by the committee from seven of the unions involved, none was officially represented by counsel during the first three days of the hearings.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company on Friday indicated its willingness to conform to the principles of the President's Executive Order 8802 and 9346 when F. E. Baukhages, representing the company, issued a statement that the company was taking immediate steps to investigate the specific charges made against it.

An audience of more than 400 persons attended the hearings daily. Msgr. Haas, officially opened the proceedings Wednesday morning with a short prepared statement in which he declared that the committee, under the authority of Executive Order 9346, had "received complaints . . . and directed investigation of them and would seek to make a "finding of facts."

Special Counsel Crum, in his opening statement, asserted that the proceeding "is completely objective in intent" and that the aim is to "permit the hard facts to speak for themselves.

"But whether the facts hit management, labor or even the government," he declared, "they will be developed and no fact will be suppressed or distorted because of the impact or temporary damage to any or all of the three groups involved."

Crum also cited the recent announcement of Joseph B. Eastman, Director, Office of Defense Transportation, calling for the recruiting of railroad workers among women, Mexicans and war prisoners as illustrations of the seriousness of the shortage of needed labor. Acknowledging that the search for workers is "necessary and valid," he pointed out that "there exists an untapped pool of labor among thousands of able-bodied Negroes whose full skills, and some times even their services, are denied to the railroad industry by dint of a long and unhappy history of discrimination against Americans whose skins are darker than those of other Americans."

First witness Wednesday was Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, former member of the Department of Economics at Harvard and Cornell Universities, now on the staff of the National War Labor Board. He testified that he had devoted most of the last four years to intensive study of and field work in the railroad problems with which the hearings are concerned.

According to Dr. Northrup the Negro railroad worker's plight is both bad and unusual.

"He is denied a voice in nearly all railroad labor organizations, although the same group control his working conditions. He is barred from promotion and frequently is the victim of unfair wage differentials and is habitually discriminated against in railroad shops as well as in transport jobs."

The educator's testimony criticized certain unions, whose discriminatory policies, he declared, were "in no way typical of those of organized labor in general," and the railroad managements as well who, he said, "have used Negroes to weaken unions."

Sitting throughout the hearings were all the members of the FEPC: Msgr. Haas, chairman; Miss Sara Southall, Milton P. Webster, Samuel Zemurray, Boris Shishkin, P. B. Young, Sr., and John Brophy.

SEP 25 1943

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FEPC

Asserts Fight Part Of War Effort; Accused Firms, Unions Make Replies

SEP 17 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) — In an 18-page, strongly worded opening statement, Bartley C. Crum, chief council for the Fair Employment Practices committee's hearing into the railroad complaints, [illegible] down [illegible] objective, stoutly defended the committee's justification for going into the charges of discrimination at this critical moment, and firmly declared neither management, labor nor the government would be spared and that "no fact will be surpressed or distorted because of its impact or temporary damage to any or all of the three groups involved."

He stated that the responsibility in his hearing was to place before the committee evidence that Negroes in the United States have suffered "continuous, wholesale and increasing discrimination" in employment by most of America's largest railroad systems. He did not agree with those who considered it unwise to air the problem during the war, pointing to the experinece of World War 1 when the industry was strikebound for a week because Negroes were not getting equal pay for equal work. Public sentiment now as then will wrok for justice, he said.

—Daily World—

HEARINGS PROCEED

WASHINGTON — (S N S)— The FEPC hearing opened Wednesday with indications that 18 of the 22 railway companies and seven of the 14 labor unions charged with discrimination would make replies. While spoke[illegible] for the [illegible]riers were present, counsel for none of the unions failed to respond when called upon during the Wednesday afternoon proceedings.

SEP 17 1943

STULIF[illegible]EADER[illegible]

"Today, the denial by the railroads of equality of job opportunity to Negroes and other minority groups stulifies our moral leadership of the democracies," Mr. Crum asserted, "provides strong material for axis propaganda against us as the evidence of the hearing will show, has created a situation which, at this very moment, is seriously hampering our effective prosecution of the war."

Later he added that if "we can break the shackles of special, artificial, and restrictive privilege" on the railroads of the United States, "we will have breached so strong a portion of that stout fortress ruled by blindly selfish prejudice, that other victories will follow with less effort and with even greater effect."

The loss in man-hours as an effect of race discrimination on the railroads, he said, is compounded by an "active" undercurrent of "bitterness" among Negroes and other minorities in an "apparently growing spirit of cynicism toward the whole war effort." He viewed the potential dangers here as evident to "every thinking person."

DIDN'T MENTION NEGROES

Mr. Crum recalled the announcement two weeks ago of Joseph B. Eastman, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, that the railroads of the country are being hampered by a serious lack of manpower, and in which Mr. Eastman called for the utilization of the services of women, Mexican workers and war prisoners. He deplored Mr. Eastman's failure to recognize the "untapped poll of labor among thousands of ablebodied Negroes."

In sharpening the axe for certain labor unions and operating brotherhoods of the railroad industry, the chief counsel emphasized that he was not attempting a "wholesale indictment of the trade union movement," and commented upon his awareness of the efforts which have been made among labor to eliminate discrimination.

Concluding his opening statement, Mr Crum said that "in doing justice to the Negro railroad wroker today, we shall both serve the practical war needs of our nation, and by the same stroke, we shall eliminate the evil of bigotry and discrimination at home, and give heart to the peoples of Europe and Asia who now look to us to see how well the pattern of democracy can be woven.

Regional FEPC Opens Here; To Probe Discriminations

Daily World

NOV 24 1943 Atlanta, Georgia

Staff to Conduct Investigations In Seven States of Southeast

By WILLIAM FOWLKES, Jr.

Headquarters for the Atlanta regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment practice opened Tuesday at 525-28 Ten Forsyth Street Building.

Announcement was made to press representa[illegible] here by A. Bruce Hunt, white, [illegible]ed Regional Director, and in Washington by Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the Committee, who pointed out that Executive Order 9346 which was issued by the President on May 27, 1943, creating the Committee, provides that "the successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment of all available workers, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

The Atlanta office will investigate and correct grievances arising out of discriminatory employment practices based upon race, creed, coolr or national origin, and its jurisdiction will consist of war industries, labor unions and government departments and agencies in the states of Georgia, South Carolrina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

The initial sta[illegible] the Atlanta regional office will co[illegible] of two Field Examiners, whose appointment will take place in the near future, and Regional Director Hunt.

Mr. Hunt said Tuesday that his office would commence operations by continuing the processing approximately 120 active cases which have been handled in the national office of the Committee in Washington.

Among complaints which the regional office will investigate are cases of "refusal to hire, refusal to train' refus[illegible] promote, refusal to register for [illegible] to a war job, discrimination in [illegible] or working conditions, refusal to a[illegible] to union membership or refusal [illegible] issue a work permit" all based on color discrimination and prejudicial action.

Complaints will be investigated to determine their validity and merit. Complaints must be substantiated by evidence, or they will not be investigated, Director Hunt pointed out. If complaints have no merit they will be dropped from the consideration of the office.

Director H[illegible] indicated [illegible]he intends to carry out teh letter and spirit o the President's Executive Order which created FEPC in his organizational setup. It is understood that colored applicants have been interviewed concerning work with the regional office.

The new director is a native of Virginia, where he has lived nearly all of his life. After obtaining a law degree at the University of Virginia, he practiced law in Roanoke, Va., until September, 1937, when he was appointed to the Review Staff of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C. In March 1939 he was appointed a Trial Examiner of the N. L. R. B., and later became a Principal Trial Examiner. As such Mr. Hunt presided over numerous hearings in the South. In May, 1943, he became Assistant Director of Disputes for the Tenth Regional War Labor Board and had charge of that Bo[illegible] Disputes Division in Los Angeles until his appointment as Regional Director by the Committee.

At his Tuesday press conference, he presented the picture of being fair-minded and impartial in answering the queries by representatives.

On the walls of his reception office hang two large copies of Executive Order 8802 and a poster of a white and a negro worker combining their technical skills above the caption "United We Win."

Executive Order 9346, under which the FEPC operates, reads in part as follows: "NOW, THERFFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constittuion and statutes, and as President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in Government by reason of race, creed color, or national origin, and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all [illegible] orga[illegible]s, in furtherance of this policy and of this Order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms, or conditions of employment, of union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

The Atlanta FEPC regional office is one of several established recently and designed for the better working of the anti-bias body.

NAACP Raps Columnist Opposed to FEPC's Work

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

OCT 2 1943

NEW YORK — Frank R. Kent, who in his syndicated column, "The Great Game of Politics," in the September 22 issue of the Washington Evening Star labeled the anti-discrimination activity of the Fair Employment Practice Committee as being in "conflict" with the war effort, drew a scathing blast from the NAACP in a telegram signed by Walter White, secretary.

[illegible]t, attacking the FEPC specifically on the score of the recent railroad hearings which revealed flagrant discrimination against colored persons in hiring policies, made the questionably wise statement that:

"It takes no particular insight to realize that any serious effort to force a change in the situation (of discrimination) would result in trouble of a serious kind," and scored colored people generally because, he said, they see in the war a chance to break down discrimination.

He insisted vehemently that this is a "poor time" to attempt the task of insuring equality in employment for colored workers.

Mr. White's telegram to Mr. Kent follows:

Text of White's Telegram

"Bias and plain distortion of fact in your column September 22, dealing with work of [illegible]esident's Committee on Fair [illegible]ployment Practice, and particularly the public hearings conducted by that committee on discrimination against colored employees by railroad industry, shocks and angers all right thinking Americans.

"At a time when the nation is in dire need of maximum utilization of existing manpower skills it is unthinkable that any responsible person would try to justify the brazen and systematic exclusion of qualified persons from employment or promotion in any craft or class on account of race and color.

"That a large part of the railroad industr[illegible] confesses it[illegible]uilty of such a [illegible]tice is [illegible]tter of public rec[illegible].

"Federal agencies charged with the duty of securing the most effective use of the nation's manpower would be derelict in their duty if they failed to bring any vital industry practicing such discrimination to account."

Jim Crow Plan Is Refuted By FEPC

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
AUG 1

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC declared last week in a public statement that the committee was opposed to the segregation of Negro workers, and explained that the Mobile incident was a move to end a crisis in war production.

The FEPC head issued the statement in reply to the Employers Association of Chicago which had stated in its news bulletin that the agreement with the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company of Mobile, which segregated Negro workers was a "compromise" granting employers the right to separate their Negro workers from whites.

"I am surprised that the settlement of a controversy last June at the Alabama. Drydock and Shipbuilding company. Mobile, Alabama has been interpreted to mean that the committee approves the segregation of colored and white as not a violation of the FEPC," said Father Haas.

"The committee accepts the accomplished fact of the settlement made to end a crisis in war production, except that it cannot approve the segregation of colored workers on the four ways and does not consider that as a precedent."

JOHNSON NOT EQUAL WITH ROSS IN FEPC

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Contrary to original reports George M. Johnson will not hold corresponding rank and authority with Malcolm Ross in the set-up of the Fair Employment Practice committee

AUG 16 1943

This fact was disclosed in the committee's announcement of the organization and personnel that has been agreed upon to carry out the term of the amended executive order 8802.

Th committee met on August 3 and concluded the details of organization, and named Ross deputy chairman, and gave Johnson the title of assistant chairman. This distribution was made on other titles:

Will Maslow, New York, chief operation; Clarence Mitchell Baltimore, associate chief of field operations; Eugene Davidson Washington, D. C., assistant chief of field operations; Theodore A. Jones, Chicago, administrative officer; George Crockett, Fairmont, W. Va., hearings examiner; Maceo W. Hubbard. Philadelphia, senior field representative, Ernest G. Trimble, Lexington, Ky., hearings examiner; and St. Claire Bourne, New York City, information specialist

The following regional directors and associates have been appointed: New York, Edward Lawson and Madison Jones; Philadelphia, G. James Fleming; Chicago Elmer Henderson; San Francisco, Harry Kingman; and Dallas, Carlos Casteneda.

The committee is opening offices in Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta and St. Louis. but no appointments were made yet. Minneapolis, Boston and Denver may also expect offices eventually

Counsel for the railroad hearings scheduled for September 15, 16 and 17, was also named Barttey C. Crum of San Francisco will be chief counsel. Associated with him will be Charles A. Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York City. Mr. Crum is president of the San Francisco chapter of the National Lawyers guild, a corporation attorney with a wide experience in labor cases

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War "Widow" Refused Job Local FEPC's First Case

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA

The complaint of Mrs. Ruby Lyles, 35, of 1918 N. Eleventh Street, was the first case handled by the local branch of the FEPC, which opened offices Monday in the Stephen Girard Building, 21 S. Twelfth Street.

Mrs. Lyles, who answered an advertisement in a local paper, asking for women drivers for army trucks was the first to appear at the designated place.

She was not given an application, nor were her qualifications asked. Truck driving is no novelty to her, as she has been driving cars and trucks for the past six years.

Her husband, Cpl. Talmadge Lyles, was inducted into the army in August, 1941, and her daughter, Miss Cleo Smith, 20, is awaiting her call to assume duties with the WAC.

Evans, Reeves Named To Staff Of FEPC

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia
1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Appointment of Joseph H. B. Evans and Frank Reeves to the staff of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) was announced Tuesday, August 31, by the Committee. Mr. Evans was named a Senior Practice Examiner. Mr. Reeves was appointed an Associate Fair Practice Examiner. Both assumed their duties in the Washington office last week.

DEC 4 1943

A native of Washington, D. C., Mr. Evans was formerly Regional Negro Affairs Officer for the National Youth Administration (NYA). In government service since 1934, he has served also as Research Supervisor, Federal Emergency Relief Administration; Executive Assistant, Department of Interior; Social Economist, Resettlement Administration; Social Economist, Farm Security Administration, and Chief of Negro Labor Relations Section of NYA. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

Reeves, holder of A. B. and LL. B. degrees from Howard University, was formerly with, the Nationau Association for the Advancement of Colored People, serving as Research Assistant, Legal Assistant, and Administrative Assistant. Later he was an instructor at Howard Univerity Law School.

Mr. Evans will work in the Washington Regional Office of the Committee. Mr. Reeves has been assigned to the Central Offic in the capital.

Southern Roads Will Ignore Fair Employment Unit Fiat

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(U.P.) —Sixteen Southern railway carriers today repudiated orders of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee to halt discrimination against negro employes as unconstitutional and evocative of chaos in the transportation industry.

The FEPC discriminatory findings against the carriers and seven labor unions were announced Nov. 18 after Mr. Roosevelt had clarified his order setting up the committee by holding that its orders were mandatory.

Committee Chairman Malcolm Ross replied to the carriers' charges, asserting the companies were trying to undermine the committee's public standing by "viewing with alarm alleged pretentions of negroes to be engineers and conductors."

"The plain fact," he added, "is that the issue is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offered justice [illegible] negro [illegible] men in the c[illegible]ations where reason and public policy both urge it. . . . We may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight but where manpower needs are at stake we can and shall try."

DEC 14 1943

In a letter to the committee the carriers charged the orders lacked constitutional authority, violated the railway labor act and "gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort." The signers were the Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville and Nashville, Norfolk Southern, Frisco, Seaboard, Southern, Chesapeake and Ohio, Gulf, Mobile and Ohio; Norfolk and Western; Illinois C[illegible]l, Ya[illegible]d Mississippi [illegible]y, and [illegible] and Ship Island.

DEC 14 1943

They said that under the railway labor act railroads "are entirely without power to dictate to their employes . . . or to effect any changes in agreements" reached with union and that any attempt "to promote negroes to locomotive engineers or conductors would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and cooperative relations with their employes."

Such compliance "would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos . . . would result in stoppages of transportation and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country," they added.

They said "the undersigned railroads submit that your committee was and is wh[illegible] without constitu[illegible] and legal jurisdiction and power to make the issue the directives which it made and issued, and for this reason the said directives are without legal effect."

DEC 14 1943

Who Is Malcolm Ross?

Background of the new FEPC head, Malcolm Ross, includes a record of working in the oil [illegible] mines, f[illegible] government and as a newspaper man.

Baltimore, Md.

Born in Newark, N.J., and a graduate of Yale University in 1919, the newly-appointed FEPC chairman was a flying officer in the U.S. Air Corps for two years during World War I, worked in the Texas oil fields, for eight years in the West Virginia coal mines, was a reporter for the Dallas, Tex., News, [illegible]ville, Ky., Courier-Journal, and the New York Morning World.

Afro-American

He is the author of several books on southern coal mining, labor relations, and technical aviation, and also the writer of three novels. During his 10 years in the government service, he was with NLRB, OWI, and FEPC, since July. He is married and the father of two sons, with residence in Vienna, Va.

Marcantonio Moves to Make [illegible]EPC Permanent

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

First step toward forcing House consideration of a bill to give the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice full statutory powers was taken this week by Representative Vito Marcantonio, president of the International Labor Defense.

Mr. Marcantonio on Nov. 4, filed a resolution to discharge the Judiciary Committee from consideration of his bill HR 1732, which would set up the FEPC with powers similar to those of the National Labor Relations [illegible], and provide penalties for [illegible] who discriminate in employment [illegible] of race, color or creed.

NOV 8 1943

After this resolution has been before the Rules Commitee for one week, if that group does not take favorable action upon it, Mr. Marcantonio announced, he will file a discharge [illegible]ion, and open a campaign to secure the signatures of 218 members of the H[illegible] of Representatives to force consideration. This procedure is the same that was followed in the successful blasting of the antipoll tax bill from the Judiciary and Rules Committee files, bringing it out, and securing its passage in the House of Representatives.

"Enact[illegible] my bill," Mr. Barcanto[illegible] said, "[illegible]ettle the question once and for [illegible] will put teeth in the FEPC and make it impossible for the Comptroller General or anyone else to prevent full enforcement of anti-Jim Crow regulations in employment in war industries.

NOV 8 1943

47d-1943
FEPC

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Storm Brews As FEPC Nips Probe On Southern Railroad Work Bias

JAN 16 1943

Postponement of the hearings on discriminatory practices of Southern railroads against Negro firemen first reported to *PV* last Saturday by its Washington correspondent and confirmed Monday by official announcement from Manpower Czar Paul McNutt in a press conference, has stirred up a tempest which may rock the entire nation. Immediate result of the action is blocking of what was expected to be a major blow at the prejudice in employment problems of the country.

The hearings were set for January 25-27 in Washington. Attorney Henry Epstein, former NYState solicitor general, had been retained by the FEPC as counsel for the body against the Southern railroads. Had the companies involved been found guilty, repercussions would have been far-reaching.

PV contacted Atty. Epstein Monday. He said he could make no comment. Tuesday he announced his resignation as FEPC counsel.

Monday, McNutt told his Washington press conference, to whom he had promised an official statement, that the decision to postpone (he insisted they had not been cancelled outright) the hearings was unanimously approved by members of the FEPC.

CONFIRM OR DENY STATEMENT

PV immediately wired each of the seven FEPC, Dr. Malcolm MacLean, William Green, Milton C. Webster, Earl Dickerson, Philip Murray, Mark Etheridge and David Sarnoff (Sarnoff is understood to have resigned but no official announcement has yet been made) asking each to confirm or deny McNutt's statement.

Dr. MacLean and Dickerson had replied up to Tuesday evening. MacLean wired: "I approved postponement railway hearing."

Dickerson telegraphed: "I have not approved postponement of railway hearings. If the hearings have been definitely postponed, the act of postponement was done by Chairman McNutt. The committee has not acted formally or otherwise on the question based upon facts available to me at the moment. As one individual member of the committee, I am opposed to the postponement."

Federated Press (FP), the labor news service, reported Tuesday that FEPC members had indicated determination to seek a showdown with McNutt. A meeting before Jan. 25 will be urged, FP reported, by committeemen who view McNutt's action as a challenge to FEPC's power. Failure to effect clearing up of the matter, it was hinted, may bring resignation of the group as a body.

MEADE TO MAKE INQUIRY

Senator James Meade of NY, contacted in Washington by phone, said Tuesday he would see McNutt, find out who called the postponement and why. Meade also said he would contact his NY colleague, Senator Robert Wagner to work out what further action could be taken.

From other, unofficial, sources in the capital, it was pointed out that McNutt's action was a reversal of former statements from both himself and the White House. In correspondence McNutt has said he could not order hearings, that the Committee itself ordered them when the need was discovered.

At the time the FEPC was placed under the War Manpower Commission (WMC) a statement from the White House declared that FEPC would be more powerful than ever, that under WMC it could function more freely than before.

JAN 16 1943

Capital rumors about conferences and congressional influences rampant in Washington and the White House itself were many over the weekend. By Monday, when McNutt made his announcement officially, many quarters, recalling McNutt's frequent press declarations that he was responsible to his "Boss" (meaning the President) promptly assumed the cancellation order had its origin directly from the executive mansion.

SECOND HEARING CANCELLED

This is the second important hearing cancelled with no reason being given. The first was in El Paso, Tex., believed to have been killed by the state department.

Although no official confirmation could be obtained, it was reported Tuesday that hearings planned for February in Detroit have also been cancelled. Ralph Bard, assistant secretary of the navy, has written to McNutt, asking that the Detroit hearings be put off on the grounds that the proceedings would interfere with the navy's program of having Negroes hired.

In NYC, report of the cancellation resulted in a meeting early Monday of Warren Banner, National Urban League research director; Edward Lewis, NYUrban League executive secretary; Max Yergan, National Negro Congress head; Ferdinand Smith, National Maritime Union secretary; Joe Ford, People's Committee executive secretary, and *PV* Editor A. Clayton Powell jr. with Wendell Willkie. Plans were discussed at this meeting, it was admitted, but details were withheld temporarily.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Gunning for FEPC

"THE fight on discrimination is the main front of the home fight against fascism." This sentence appeared in NEW MASSES two weeks ago as part of a statement by John Beecher, New York Regional Representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. And **this sentence was the key idea of President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, setting up the FEPC.**

JAN 26 1943

But pressure of various employer groups, poll-taxers, and defeatists is endangering this major front. Succumbing to this pressure, Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt canceled the FEPC hearing on job discrimination in the railroad industry which was scheduled for Jan. 25. This move was described last week by Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress and a contributing editor of this magazine, as "a serious capitulation to Governor Dixon of Alabama, to the white supremacists, and to other reactionary forces who have seen the FEPC not only as a threat to the citadel of Jim-Crowism but also as a major contribution to the unity of the Negro people with their fellow Americans in the national front for victory over fascist enslavement."

The same firm position has been taken **by the CIO, the Negro Labor Victory Committee, and several other win-the-war groups. Henry Epstein, former attorney general of New York, resigned as lawyer for the FEPC when he learned that the hearings were to be canceled.**

JAN 26 1943

It is imperative that these hearings be held by the FEPC, particularly in Detroit and in the Southwest. The FEPC must be restored as an autonomous committee within the executive offices of the President. On the whole domestic front, there is no issue that calls for more determined work by united front committees to mobilize public opinion in support of the FEPC and the administration's declared anti-discrimination policy.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

FEPC Puts Off RR Probe

Jan. 15, 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—The FEPC scheduled hearing on discrimination in employment by the railroads has been postponed indefinitely it was learned here last week. The hearing involving the powerful Big Four Brotherhoods of railroad organizations was originally slated for November, then was put off to January 18.

The hearing was considered to be filled with dynamite as it involved the powerful A. F. L. unions, the race question, and the opposition of the South. Considerable pressure is believed to have been brought to bear to prevent the FEPC from taking up the issue. At present Negroes are excluded from thousands of jobs in the nation's great transportation system.

Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, laid the delay to efforts to thrash out matters with Southern railroads.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
January 13, 1943

Epstein Quits in Protest Over Job 'Discrimination'

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Henry Epstein has announced he had resigned as chief counsel of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in protest against postponement of public hearings on railroad employment discrimination against Negroes.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Committee Wants 300 Negroes Returned to Jobs

JUL 27 1943

Washington, July 26 (AP)—The Fair Employment Practice Committee announced today it would request reinstatement of about 300 Negroes discharged from shipyards in "three West Coast areas" pending investigation of complaints they had been victims of racial discrimination.

Chairman Francis J. Haas said there had been complaints that the Negroes were discharged by five companies having yards in California and Washington because, he told his press conference, they had refused to pay union dues on the ground that they were refused outright union membership and put into auxiliary locals for Negroes.

He declined to name the companies or specify the localities, but said the union was the boilermakers' union, which F.E.P. staff members identified as an A.F.L. affiliate.

Detroit Unions, Negro Groups Fight Hitch in FEPC Hearings

NEW YORK N.Y. "DAILY WORKER"

By Tom Dombrowski JAN.16, 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Jan. 15.—The report of cancellation of proposed hearings on discrimination by the Fair Employment Practices Committee here has evoked quick response from labor, civic and Negro organizations.

Following an emergency meeting Wednesday evening, a delegation left yesterday for Washington to see Paul V. McNutt to protest any attempt to forestall or call off the hearings in Detroit. It included representatives from United Auto Workers' locals, the Urban League, Citizens' Committee, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Council of Churches, Civil Rights Federation, the Interracial Committee of the UAW-CIO and other organizations.

Shelton Tappes, secretary of the Ford Local 600 and chairman of the emergency meeting, told the Daily Worker that "if the hearing would be called off it would be a serious blow to the entire war effort and would affect the morale of tens of thousands of Detroit citizens. To call off the hearing would be tantamount to toleration of the rank discrimination rampant in this critical war area and would imply that the influence of the poll taxers in Congress was gaining strength."

When asked by the Daily Worker whether the hearing has been called off, G. James Fleming, examiner in charge of the hearings, declared: "It is no more than a rumor although a very strong one. I have received no official word about it. Whatever action is taken is done on the Washington level. I will continue my work on the assumption that the hearing will go through."

JAN.16, 1943

BARD BACKS HEARING

Chances for survival of the FEPC were brightened Jan. 13 when Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard made it clear that the Navy's position was not opposed to the proposed Detroit hearings on racial discrimination.

Only because of the mass pressure was a hearing scheduled for the latter part of February in Detroit. Way back in November, when the situation was considerably sharpened by the failure to hire thousands of Negro women willing and able to work, many with training, R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW, sent a sharp wire to Washington urging that the "government move effectively at once" and "hold a public hearing not later than Dec. 3," if the morale of the Negro people were not to be lowered even more.

Actually, up to November less than 100 Negro women were hired in the 185 war plants in the city. Following the pressure for an open hearing of the FEPC, several larger corporations hired Negro women so that by January there were slightly over 1,000 employed. It is felt that the recent increased hiring is but token compliance with the Presidential order aimed at obviating the need of a hearing. One hundred of the 185 plants do not hire any Negroes at all today.

The Citizens Committee for War Jobs for Negroes, the Urban League, the Jewish Community Council, the UAW-CIO Interracial Committee and many union locals have compiled a long list of discriminatory practices and cases. One of the most frequent is the question of upgrading Negroes according to seniority. This problem is faced by virtually every local in the city.

One of the most flagrant cases raised deals with the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, which has consistently refused to hire any Negroes at all. After considerable pressure, several women were hired to work in the company restaurant.

White Hits FDR's Secretary In the Squelching of FEPC

"P.M Daily" New York, N.Y.

By James A. Wechsler JAN 14 1943

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Walter White, chairman of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, charged today that White House Secretary Marvin McIntyre was partly responsible for suppression of the Fair Employment Practices Committee's (FEPC) long-planned exposure of anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry.

Asserting that Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's ban on the FEPC railroad hearings must have been first considered at the White House, White accused McIntyre of "making decisions for the administration on the Negro issues" while "President Roosevelt is occupied with military problems."

"McIntyre is insufficiently informing the President of the real status of the discrimination problem," White said, "and is making decisions with his own particular slant on the race issue. In effect, McIntyre of Kentucky is setting himself up as self-appointed President of the Negroes."

Basis for Charge

White said his charge was partly based on the fact that all recent replies to communications to the White House on Negro issues had been signed by McIntyre. He said he doubted that the President had been given full appraisal of the situations discussed in the letters. White also said the President subsequently had admitted that he was not aware of all details of the executive order transferring the FEPC to the WMC at the time the order was signed.

JAN 14 1943

White House Secretary Marvin McIntyre

McIntyre refused to comment on White's statements. However, a White House source said that the fact that letters were signed by McIntyre did not mean that the President was uninformed of the exchange. It also was pointed out that a large part of White House mail was signed by the secretaries. The same source declared that White's letters always had received the President's attention.

While White's charges sharpened the conflict created by the ban on the railroad exposure, these other developments were taking place in the anti-discrimination row:

¶ A delegation of 14 Detroit Negroes, led by the Rev. Charles Hill, chairman of the Detroit Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industry, conferred with Lawrence W. Cramer, executive secretary of the FEPC, to protest the curtailment of the railroad hearings and to oppose threatened scrapping of similar hearings in Detroit.

JAN 14 1943

Bard Changes View

¶ Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard is understood to have informed Manpower Commissioner McNutt that the Navy was not opposed to discrimination hearings in Detroit if McNutt believed they would be helpful. Previously, Bard was reported as taking the stand that the hearings would hamper Army-Navy morale plans.

¶ Cramer revealed that a meeting of the FEPC had been scheduled for a week from tomorrow, at which a showdown on the Committee's future is expected. While some members of the Committee are pressing for an earlier date, efforts to arrange an immediate session have been unavailing so far.

The battle began last Saturday, when McNutt informed Cramer that the projected railroad hearings, originally announced last October, would have to be called off. When members of the FEPC balked at issuing the announcement in the Committee's name, McNutt officially broke the news on Monday. Both the railroad unions and railway management were slated to face sharp attack at the public sessions, which were to begin on Jan. 25.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

JUST FURTHER STALLING

APR 15 1943

Manpower Commissioner Paul Mc Nutt told a committee of prominent churchmen last week that the reason the Fair Employment Practice Committee was not active was due to the fac tthat he was unable to find the right type of man to head it.

These gentlemen must have been amused, knowing full well that Dr. Malcolm MacLean, who was the last one to act a schairman, not only was a very able man, but by his aggressive action got some results. The committee was well on its way toward opening new and better opportunities to Negroes in industry. A hearing on discrimination in employment on railroads was scheduled, but was suddenly called off or postponed by Mr. McNutt. To date, the hearing has not been held. And every since the committee was transferred to the Manpower Commission its work has not proceeded.

On that record, we are wondering just what type of chairman Mr. Mc Nutt is looking for. Evidently, Dr. MacLean, an aggressive man, who wants something done, is not the right type. Then, we must assume that the man he wants will do little other than touch the high spots and not make the offenders of Executive Order 8802 mad.

APR 15 1943

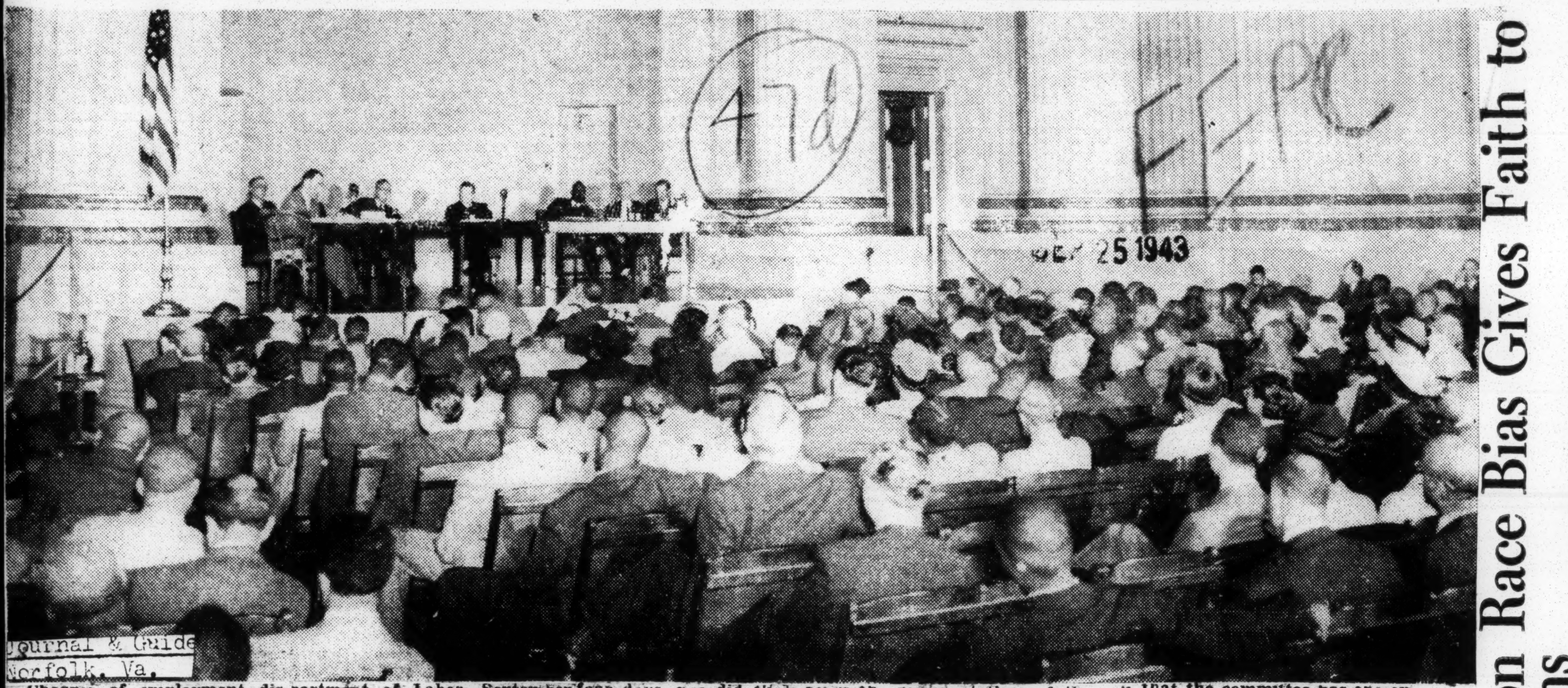
Prior to McNutt's entry into the picture, the committee was making a real contribution to the war effort, but under its new status we doubt whether it can do very much that is worth while.

APR 15 1943

47d-1943

FEPC

★ ★ Public Listens As Democracy's Way Seeks Justice ★ ★



47d

FEPC

DEC 25 1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Charges of employment discrimination against 22 railroad companies and 14 unions were heard by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in public sessions in the Department Auditorium, Department of Labor, September 15-18. This committee is shown in the background a few minutes after the hearings opened on September 15. The labor unions did not offer any evidence during the four days, nor did their representatives put in an official appearance. Notice of this fact was made by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the committee, center table on platform, in his closing remarks. He thanked the representatives of the railroads for "coming here to participate' in this procedure and for the expression of their desire to arrive at a solution of the problems involved." Now that the committee has the evidence, said the chairman, it will proceed to take such action as it may deem appropriate. (Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith.)

SEP 25 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

White Workers At Electric Plant Strike In Protest

DEC 15 1943

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DEC 15 1943

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—A major controversy over the authority of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to order equality of treatment for Negro war workers appeared certain today to be dumped on President Roosevelt's desk when he returns to the Capital.

F.E.P.C. orders to end alleged discrimination against Negroes have been challenged by Southern railroads, and others, on the ground that F.E.P.C. exceeded its powers.

Board Orders On Negro Equality Arouses Controversy

15 1943

DEC 15 1943

Members of Congress, the courts and the War Labor Board all were involved in the day's developements as one strike by white workers began in a war factory.

Workers Ordered Back.

The War Labor Board, by unanimous action, ordered white strikers at the Point Breeze Western Electric plant in Baltimore to return to work at once or face "all possible action" under the War Labor Disputes Act. Point Breeze workers voted to strike last night in protest against the use of washroom facilities in common with Negro workers.

DEC 15 1943

The strike was called after W.L.B. refused to order separate facilities. On October 2, F.E.P.C. advised the Western Electric Company that "the discontinuance of common facilities for Negro and white employes of the Western Electric Point Breeze plants and the introduction of special facilities would be a backward step which can but lead to discrimination against Negroes."

Criticises Railroads.

Other developments included:

Representative Marcantonio (A.L., N. Y.) praised the F.E.P.C. and criticised sixteen Southern railroads which defied an F.E.P.C. order to cease alleged discrimination against Negro railway workers.

Representative Rankin (D., Miss.) declared that F.E.P.C. was a "rump organization" which was creating unnecessary racial tensions in the South.

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FEPC

The Federal District Court for Northern California at San Francisco had before it a case involving Negro workers in which the constitutional authority of the F.E.P.C. to order discrimination ended was a collateral issue.

In the California case, eighteen Negro shipyard workers petitioned Federal Judge Michael J. Roche for a permanent injunction restraining the Marinship Corporation from discharging them for failure to pay dues to an auxiliary Negro union of International Brotherhood of Boilermakers (A.F.L.).

The boilermakers' union was ordered yesterday by the F.E.P.C. to dissolve its auxiliary local unions for Negroes and to receive colored shipyard workers into full membership. Five west coast shipyards were also ordered by the F.E.P.C. to cease co-operation with the union in alleged discrimination against Negro employes.

The decision of the Federal Court will be the first in which authority of the F.E.P.C. to order employers and unions to halt alleged discriminatory practices for reasons of race or religion is at issue.

DEC 15 1943

The F.E.P.C. was set up by President Roosevelt in executive order No. 9,346, under the Second War Powers Act.

AN EDITORIAL

PM
New York N. Y.

FDR's Order on Race Bias Gives Faith to Millions

NOV 8 1943

We applaud President [illegible]velt's prompt and decisive action in [illegible]sing Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's ruling on anti-race discrimination clauses in Government contracts.

In holding that the President's anti-discrimination order was "directive" rather than "mandatory," Warren had virtually robbed the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) of its most powerful weapon. The Committee's life was imperiled, and a new blow was administered to the morale of thousands of men in our armed forces and on our production front.

The President has now stated that the anti-discrimination clauses are "mandatory and should be incorporated in all Government contracts." He adds pointedly that "the order should be so construed by all Government contracting agencies."

There can be no misinterpretation of this language.

Warren's fantastic ruling may have inadvertently served the purpose of provoking a new, direct and unequivocal affirmation of the Administration's policy on racial discrimination. We hope that it is a prelude to a new and bigger offensive by the FEPC and a further indication that the war against bias will be fought to a finish.

NOV 8 1943

In the present political atmosphere in Washington President Roosevelt's move was a real exhibition of courage and defiance. It is difficult enough for a chief executive to issue what amounts to a public rebuke to one of his major officials. It is even more difficult these days to stand up and fight against the poll tax bloc in Congress.

There will be some bitter denunciations of the President for the stand he has taken. There will be irresponsible speeches and snide thrusts. But these are a small price to pay for the new faith and hope that the President has given to millions of Americans in the meaning of this war and the goals for which we fight. The members of many minority groups must have felt a growing disillusion and despair when Warren's ruling was announced. The President has dramatically revived their confidence. He has destroyed what might have been the beginning of large-scale disaffection.

NOV 8 1943

He has given us one of the best pieces of news in months. And he made the news. —JAMES A. WECHSLER

Lynching the FEPC

When lynching States send lynch-minded Representatives to Washington, it is to be expected that they will apply the lynch technique to the job of running the Government.

That is exactly what is happening on Capitol Hill today, where Dixie Congressmen and Senators are howling for a probe of the FEPC, as an aftermath of the decision ordering Southern railroads to discontinue discrimination against colored workers.

Afro-American

So we are treated to the spectacle of Congress's wanting the policeman arrested for trying to bring the criminal to justice. As usual, Dixie is on the side of the lawless.

The railroads are engaged in keeping competent workers out of employment on the basis of color alone, and in complete defiance of the President's executive order.

But do any of the holier-than-thou Representatives who make so much pretense at fighting the war of democracy raise their voice in condemnation of the undemocratic practice of denying the right to work to fellow Americans? No, all they want to do is crush the agency through which the President has attempted to iron out the imperfections of our hypocritical system.

DEC 25 1943

But what more could we expect from a bunch of interlopers, who themselves, hold office only by defrauding the majority of the people they pretend to represent out of their franchise?

Baltimore, Md

They are holding office through the slimy tricks of poll taxes and lily-white primaries, and use every subterfuge to keep the intelligent soldiers of the nation from using the ballot, which they know only too well these fighting men would utilize to pry them out of their long-abused places of power.

DEC 25 1943

They know that the fighting men on far-flung fronts of the world are not too busy killing Japs and Germans and crushing fascism abroad to recognize the rising tide of fascism at home, and that the advocates of this home-front fascism are taking advantage of the soldiers' absence to get a stronger hold on the nation while the latters' backs are turned.

Proof of this is seen in the following excerpt from Yank, the official soldier publication:

DEC 25 1943

> We take our views on the post-war race problem from the founders of the United States, who believed that all men were created equal. No man has a right to talk about giving any American that which he already has by inalienable right.

With ten million young men under arms dedicated to this proposition, and with their number growing constantly, waiting for the opportunity to come back home and put those theories into practice, it is understandable why the die hards and the poll tax exploiters are quaking in their boots, and are trying to get in all of the dirty work they can before the day of reckoning comes.

DEC 25 1943

It has been truthfully said, "Old men write with ink, but young men unwrite with blood."

If President Roosevelt is sincere in wanting to see America a democracy in fact, he need but turn toward those, both in the armed services and on the home front, who are victims of the frightened disfranchisers, and help these people get their voice.

FEPC Calls For Showdown

Taking on surprisingly new life, the Fair Employment Practices Committee has given 20 railroads and seven railroad unions 30 days in which to cease all discriminatory practices which result in unfair treatment of workers and job applicants because of color, creed or national origin.

DEC 11 1943

Courier

The long and disgraceful story of the collusion of railroads and unions to maintain a closed lily-white shop against persons of African ancestry is well known and does not need repetition.

Pittsburgh, Pa

Year by year we have seen the percentage of skilled Negro workers get smaller and smaller as white workers took their places, and on several occasions colored firemen have been terrorized and some have even been murdered from ambush.

DEC 11 1943

Neither the railroads nor the unions have done anything to stop this "cold pogrom" despite repeated appeals from the NAACP and other organizations.

Now the FEPC has called for a showdown, and if these violations of Executive Order 9346 do not cease entirely by January 1, 1944, the whole sorry mess will be tossed into the lap of President Roosevelt.

This is a great test case. If the railroads and the railroad brotherhoods do not heed the warning, and if President Roosevelt does not act in the circumstances, we shall know that these corporations and labor unions are above the law, and that any effort to end discrimination based on color in this industry is futile.

However, there is hope in the fact that the FEPC issued this ultimatum; for it is unlikely that it would have done so had it not felt that the President is prepared to take drastic action if these offending groups do not promptly mend their ways.

DEC 11 1943

Perhaps we are on the threshold of a new day in the railroad industry.

President Is Expected To Back Decision

DEC 30 1943

DEC 31 1943

No Compromise

Daily World

Will Suffice, Say Railroads

Atlanta. Ga

DEC 31 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— The sixteen southern railroads and the Presiden't FEPC are expected an agreement with each other concerning discrimination practices against Negroes, sometime in early January, it was announced Thursday. The President is expected to back the stand taken by Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, who ordered the railroads to stop discrimination against Negroes.

DEC 17 1943

Railroad officials, basing their views on the President's actions in the past when problems concerning the FEPC or racial and religious discrimination in employment were involved, said that no compromise could be made without endangering the fight discrimination and the life of FEPC itself.

DEC 17 1943

Anti-discrimination clauses are mandatory in all war contracts, ruled the President in the last dispute with the FEPC. The President backed the committee completely, and declared that firms who refused to include them were ineligible for government business.

Ross countered with a statement that the railroads were making a "public bid for disapproval of FEPC by viewing wih alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors."

He said the plain fact is "that this issue is dormant and oould remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classification where reason and public policy both urge it."

Holcombe Parks, secretary of the Southeastern Carriers' conference, called Ross' statement "a strange apology for his committee." He said that even though the FEPC head had made the statement that the committee may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight, he "orders the railroads to forthwith employ Negroes in and to upgrade them to all positions without exception and without discrimination."

DEC 17 1943

Parks said that the committee's power does not exceed the authority to hold hearings and find facts; that the railroads deny that it can issue directives against them.

47d-1943

F.E.P.C.

Several Cases Adjusted By FEPC Announces Chairman

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 7 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The newly organized Committee on Fair Employment Practices of which Father Francis J. Haas, is chairman, announced this week that several cases in which emplo[illegible] had [illegible] charged with violating the provisions of Executive Order No. 9346, outlawing discrimination in industry on account of race had been adjusted without public hearings.

COMMITTEE GETS JUDGE'S REPORT

A summary report from Judge Wolfe was presented to the committee last week and a complete report is expected within a few days, Father Haas said.

The committee, he explained has jurisdiction in this case only because there appears to be some indication that by forcing colored workers into Jim Crow "auxiliaries" race discrimination is being exercised against them in violation of the order establishing the committee.

Turning to another case involving complaints of discrimination the seven-member committee voted to inform the Capitol Transit Company, which operates the local street car and bus transportation system, that it expected affirmative action leading to compliance with the executive order. If such action is not taken, it was indicated, a public hearing of the case will be ordered.

The transit company has admitted a failure [illegible] employ available colored workers as motormen and conductors on its streetcars and as drivers on its buses. While it has been willing to employ colored workers, its officers maintain, it has been unable to do so because of the attitude of its white employees, of public reaction, and of inability to obtain trainers for prospective colored employees.

TO MEET IN TWO WEEKS

The committee will meet again in two weeks, and it was indicated that if the company's response was unsatisfactory, recommendations, based upon the proposed public hearings, would be forwarded to the President.

Of seven cases in the Detroit area, the committee reported, four appeared to have been adjusted through expressed willingness of employers to comply with the executive order.

About 500 complaints of discrimination a[illegible] [illegible]e committee. All [illegible] except those now actually settled, it was said at the committee headquarters, probably will be turned over to the field division for regional handling.

The following cases, identified merely by region and industry and announced on Monday are typical of recent settlements made by the committee:

Upon refusal of a western engineering company to hire Negroes on the ground that there was a lack of housing for them, FEPC intervened and the company in late June hired available Negro workers.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS TO BENEFIT

An agreement was made between a Government agency and a foreign Government, that Negroes imported to do agricultural work would be given the benefits of Executive Order No. 9346, and that should this order be violated the workers would be removed from the area of violation.

Upon complaint that 22 Negro women in a middle western garment plant were refused employment because of race, the FEPC intervened with the War Department as the contracting agency, and agreement was obtained to employ the complainant workers. In another garment plant arrangements were made to train 30 Negro women after FEPC intervention.

White workers in a middle western war plant refused to instruct Negro trainees. The FEPC, with the cooperation of the War and Navy Departments, were successful in restoring Negroes to training classificat[illegible] of them are now on the production lines.

STAND REVERSED

A Pennsylvania war plant refused to employ Negro workers until all available whites were employed. The FEPC persuaded the company to reverse its stand and to take on Negroes immediately.

A Government air depot refused to appoint a Negro to a position in which he was qualified under civil service. Upon intervention of the FEPC the appointment was made.

An agreement was made with the commandant of a Navy Yard to hire Negro women who had been refused employment solely because of their race.

TO USE NEGOTIATION

Under the procedure now being used by the committee, as in the case of the Henry Kaiser Shipyards on the West Coast, negotiation and [illegible] form the basis of action leading to adjustment of complaints of discrimination. Formerly the committee used the device of public hearings to "crack down" on recalcitrant management.

Public hearings will be the last resort before the committee certifies an offender to the President as a violator of his executive order.

FEPC Maneuvers To Get Race Men On D.C. Busses

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

AUG 4 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. (ANP) — The Fair Employment Practice committee won [illegible]mporary respite in the effort of the Capital Transit company to out-maneuver the committee's directive to hire Negroes, when the National War Labor board on Saturday, by a vote of 5 to 4, approved certain changes in working conditions which affected wage rates, but unanimously holds out on a five-cent general increase pending a study by the board of the present wage structure.

Informed by the Associated Negro Press of what was taking place, at the WLB, George M. Johnson, assistant to the FEPC chairman, dismissed it saying "we've known about it for three weeks." Malcolm Ross, the other assistant, however, showed surprise and grabbed a telephone to determine whether or not final action could not be delayed until the committee had met on Monday at which time it was scheduled to make another move.

The four votes cast against the agreement were those of public members Wayne L. Morse and Frank P. Graham, and labor members John P. Brophy and Carl Shipley. Brophy is a member of FEPC also. Explaining their action, the minority said their dissent was not based on any lack of intrinsic merit in the wage agreement, "but because we believe that action by the board on the [illegible] matter should have been deferred as reques[illegible] the FEPC pending a determination of the relation between the proposed adjustment and the charge that the Capital Transit company is practicing race discrimination in employment."

Voting for the changes in the agreement were vice president George W. Taylor, industry members Almon E. Ross, Reuben B. Robertson and Walter Margetts, and labor member Louis Lopez.

The explanation given in informed quarters is that in order to avoid compliance with the FEPC, the company is seeking to put women on their lines. Already they have a few [illegible] some runs, but a District law [illegible]its [illegible] from working on any job in which they must stand continually for more than six hours at a time. The company has shifts that would permit them to hire women and conform to the District law. These are the 12 to 4 and the 4 to 8 runs.

The drawback is that these are the choice runs, and are mostly held by men with long seniority who have been able to bid into them. Naturally, they are reluctant about relinquishing them, that is, without some material advantage to themselves.

In order to make it worthwhile for these men to be "bumped" by women who would be brought onto these shifts it is explained that the company and the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric and Motor Coach Employes (AFL) worked out the agreement which was before the WLB last week, and jointly submitted.

The provisions approved include vacation allowance for employes with more than five years' service and payment of time and half for platform work after regular run; allowance of a minimum of 20 minutes for the dinner trip; payment of five minutes of preparatory time at the beginning of a run; and payment of full time instead of half-time for trainmen who are required or have agreed to stand "extra." These changes are all desirable, but apparently it is the general wage increase of five-cents an hour that is needed to clinch the deal and make the "bumping" concession sufficiently attractive.

Since it is an AFL union involved, it was not expected that their representatives on the board would favor a delay. One of them explained to this reporter that he could not see where the board had any authority to hinge its determinations on the difficulties of another government agency. At least in this case, he said, he had not been conclusively shown that the Capital Transit was actually trying to circumvent the directive of the FEPC.

Give FEPC More Power.

Chicago. Ill
Bee (Magazine Section

OCT 3 1943

WITH a candor amounting to insolence, representatives from the 22 railroads and 14 unio[illegible] a[illegible]abashedly admitted to discriminatory practices against Negroes. The exception to these viciously undemocratic admissions were the Pennsylvania Railroad, The Union Pacific, New York Central and Illinois Central.

The others had their viewpoint summarily expressed by the L&N Railroad. Their representative testified in part thusly: "It is true that the L&N for a number of years has not hired Negroes as locomotive firemen. It is true Negro firemen have been displaced by white locomotive firemen, their juniors in service, and it is true that Negro trainmen are not permitted to serve as flagmen or baggagemen and that they are not eligible to promotion to positions as conductors."

The L&N representative further testified: "To adopt toward the employment of Negroes, a policy different from the one in effect would be to fly in the face of the sentiment and wishes of [illegible]verwhelming majority of both the public and the employees."

There you have it! After four days of hearings the anwers are in. What action can now be taken? Must decent American citizens whose faces happen to be of color capitulate to this suffocating prejudice and discrimination?

The FEPC must be empowered by congressional action to enforce its opinions arrived at as a clear cut result of admissions of guilt on the part of employers who both refuse to hire new employees or fail to upgrade qualified veteran employees regardless to race or color, when such employers or industries are receiving federal contracts or subsidies. This must be done or else the FEPC will exert a negligible effectiveness.

A. Philip Randolph asks that the National Labor Relations Act be amended to give National Labor Relations Board power to act in cases of discrimination. In either eventuality, greater headway toward tackling this disgraceful situation can be made.

An aroused public opinion must speak out against discrimination. Many plants, many railroads are failing in their schedules because of a labor shortage. Yet competent Negroes, Mexicans and Jews are not permitted to take over important jobs for which they are qualified. Meanwhile, some of these same employer's relatives and sons are being deprived of sorely needed services and supplies. This nation must now fish for democracy or cut bait.

Bee (Magazine Section

FEPC Railroad Hearings.

Chicago. Ill

THIS week, September 15-18, in the auditorium of the Labor Department in Washington, the public hearings of the FEPC against 23 railroad companies and 14 unions will begin.

These hearings will be closely scrutinized, for this will be an all-out attack against jim-crowism in war industries. The FEPC will have an excellent opportunity to buoy its status in the minds of the average man, or fail ignomiously as its enemies have presaged that it will.

Recently, it was reliably reported that in the New York area alone 5,000 freight cars packed with sorely-needed munitions, destined for fighting men in North Africa could not be hauled to ports of embarkation because of a shortage of 1600 men a day in the freight yards.

In another terminal it was also reported that 33 freight trains were delayed 24 hours and could not be moved into the terminal because of new inexperienced white employees, while at the same time, 'skilled Negro railroad men were not permitted to touch the engines."

Negroes with long terms of service are refused upgradings. Seniority counts for nil at present. It is alleged that often Negroes are showing 16 year old white youth how to perform various kinds of skilled work, currently denied to themselves.

It seems that the fireman's pay of $50 and $75 is considered too high a rate of pay for Negroes. This coupled with racial hostility is proving that these 23 railroad companies and 14 unions do not believe in what we are supposed to be fighting for. They should be compelled to comply with the Fair Employment Practice executive order or suffer the condign penalties common to law breakers.

It will be mandatory for the FEPC to pull no punches at these hearings for its tenure and effectiveness likewise, will be on trial. It has incentive to succeed, for the times favor, with intelligent exertion, the fight for justice.

FEPC's Alton Job Probe.

Bee (Magazine Section

EVERY time there is a new attempt by congressmen to foist labor conscripts bills on the nation because of the "grave urgency," we wonder if even Ripley would believe some of the things they tell us.

Take for example the situation in East Alton, Illinois, at the Western Cartridge company where the FEPC's regional director, Elmer W. Henderson, is formally conducting an investigation to determine whether or not the company discriminates.

Dean William A. Spencer, regional manpower director, requested this inquiry or the simple reason that if the "arsenal of democracy" is to keep functioning it must use its citizens in the total effort without regard to their race or color.

The request for an investigaiotn of the Western Cartridge company was made because preliminary inquiry has shown that of the 13,000 employees in the plant, none were Negroes. This is so despite the fact that the U. S. Employment Service has referred many Negroes to this company. Dean Spencer reports that these efforts have been made repeatedly and the sum of which still left the Negro on the outside.

Chicago. Ill.

The company has offered the reason that the community's and employees' attitudes are such that the hiring of Negroes would be unfeasible. To this ossified reply which is quite as sterile as the theory of the earth's flatness, we can only repeat that this contention was everywhere maintained before Negroes were extended job opportunities.

What are the facts? Negroes and whites **are working together** and as a result production records are being smashed all over the country. That there will arise minor misunderstandings and using the same as a basis for denying Negroes employment is about as senseless as banning interscholastic sports because contestants occasionally in the heat of misunderstanding brawl.

The President's Executive Order 9340 recently re-defining such cases and the order's application to same should be immediately invoked. The archaic drivel ladled out by the Western Cartridge company is becoming positively nauseating. I would be greatly to their profit to share our nation's war aims.

Charges Against

Call

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23 Roads

Kansas City, Mo

14 Unions Also Accused of Job Discrimination

SEP 10 1943

WASHINGTON—Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color, lodged against 23 railroads and 14 labor unions, will be examined by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) at hearings to open Wednesday, September 15, here in Washington.

The hearings will be held at the departmental auditorium, Department of Labor, 12th and Constitution Ave., Northwest. They are scheduled to last for four days, through Saturday, Sept. 18.

Complaints received by the FEPC allege that the practices and policies under question fail to conform to the provisions of Executive Order 8802 as amended by Executive Order 9346, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale and national unity.

Most of the charges involve the question of discrimination against Negro workers. In some cases, workers of Mexican origin are involved. One or more of the several charges involves each railroad and union cited.

Exhaustive investigation by the FEPC has resulted in the compilation of a lengthy list of allegations involving agreements between railroads and unions whereby the effective utilization of available qualified manpower has been hampered because of discriminatory employment practices based on race.

Chief among the practices coming under scrutiny of the committee is that of considering Negro railroad workers "non-promotables." This is alleged to have been done through the negotiation of agreements between union and railroad which set certain restrictions on the percentage of Negroes which may be employed in a stipulated category.

These agreements, together with enactment of union regulations limiting or barring non-white membership serves, it is charged, tend to reduce sharply the number of qualified Negroes employed by the railroads despite an increasing need for such labor.

Bartley C. Crum of San Francisco will be chief counsel for the FEPC at the hearings. Associated with him will be Charles H. Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York city.

Notables Hit Courtmartial Of White For Rap At Bias

Defender

SEP 18 1943

Chicago. Ill

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A thorough review of the court-martial of Sgt. Alton Levy of Lincoln, Neb., has been requested of President Roosevelt and the War Department by a group of national liberal figures.

Sgt. Levy, who is white, is serving four months at hard labor in the Lincoln Air Base guardhouse, after having been demoted to a private, allegedly for protesting the discriminatory treatment accorded Negro troops stationed at his base.

In an open letter to the President, War Secretary Stimson, Army Chief of Staff Marshall, and Judge Advocate Cramer, the group pointed to the dangerous reaction upon army and civilian morale resulting from the persecution of those who believe in democracy and equality between races.

Sgt. Levy is from New York City. He was formerly an organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. Within a year in the army, he rose to the rank of staff sergeant. At the Lincoln Air Base, he was assigned to work with Negro troops, where he noted the discriminatory treatment accorded them. He protested this treatment at staff meetings and to his associates.

Ask Full Review

A WAC, allegedly planted by the intelligence division, reported Levy to his superior officers. She is reported to have had dates with 12 soldiers, but reported only six, all of whom had Jewish names.

The letter sent the President and the army officials said in part: "In view of the fact that the major charges against Levy seem to have been his criticism of the treatment of Negroes in the camp, we feel that it is extremely important that you conduct a full review of this case and a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding it. This is needed to prevent a miscarriage of justice which would hurt not merely a single individual but also would react unfavorably upon democratic morale within the army and the civilian population. The existing racial tensions in this nation are already so great that we must be extremely careful not to penalize those who seek to establish better relationships between the races."

Urging immediate action in the case, the letter was signed by Irving Abramson, president of the New Jersey State CIO; William M. Agar, director of Freedom House; Roger N. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Daniel Bell, managing editor of the New Leader; Harry L. Binsse, editor of Commonweal; John Chamberlain, author and New York Times book reviewer; Leon Dennen, editor of Voice of the Unconquered; Harry Fleischman, secretary of the Socialist Party; Samuel H. Friedman, editor of the Call; Lester Granger, secretary of the National Urban League; Ann Arnold Hedgeman, of the Brooklyn NAACP; Sidney Hertzberg, editor of Common Sense; George K. Hunton of New York City; Father William C. Kernan, director of the Christian American Institute for Democracy.

Harry W. Laidler, former New York Councilman and executive director of the League for Industrial Democracy; Layle Lane, columnist of the New York Age; Alfred Baker Lewis of the Union for Democratic Action; Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers Defense League; Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board, ILGWU; Reinhold Niebuhr, president of the Union for Democratic Action.

A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Lawrence Regin, educational director of the Textile Workers Union of America; Monroe M. Sweetland, national director of the CIO War Relief Committee; Norman Thomas, chairman of the Post War World Council; Noah C. A. Walter Jr., chairman of the New York State Committee Against Race Discrimination; Charles S. Zimmerman, vice president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and chairman of the Trade Union Council of the American Labor Party of New York State

47d-1943

The Globe Trotter

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Why No Teeth For The FEPC?

AUG

IT APPEARS THAT eve[illegible]ar agency created by President Roosevelt can get real power to act except the one agency that bears his name — the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

The Office of Defense Transportation speaks with authority and those subject to its orders have nothing to do but obey. The Office of Price Administration can enforce its orders by taking violators of price ceilings and rationing rules to court, exposing them to a possible long federal prison term.

The War Production Board, through its rigid control of raw materials, has ample means of enforcing its priority decrees. Adequate punishment is provided in the executive order issued by the President in its creation to make willful violators 'stay in line."

McNUTT HAS POWER

War Manpower Commissioner McNutt knows that his orders will get respectful attention, because in his hands has been placed the power to change the draft status of any worker who chooses to ignore his directives.

Latest of the many wartime bureaus to get, as one government official put it, "teeth in both the upper and lower jaws" is the War Labor Board. The Presidential order last week gives the WLB power to punish both recalcitrant unions and employers. The unions who defy the board stand to lose "checkoff dues" while a club is held over the heads of stubborn employers by the threat of war contract cancellation.

One can be sure that neither John L. Lewis nor the Atlantic Basin Iron Works, Inc., of Brooklyn, both of whom have on occasion thumbed their noses at the board, will dare take the risk of making this gesture again.

IMPORTANCE INCREASED

All of which poses the query so puz[illegible] to many why no similar punitive power has been placed in the hands of the FEPC? Certainly it is a war agency whose importance has not diminished, but increased since its creation July 25, 1941. It is vital not only from the standpoint of bringing about the full use of all available manpower. It also serves a needed propaganda purpose by impressing our more or less skeptical darker allies that America is trying desperately to make this nation in actuality the democracy it professes to be.

True, the President on May 27, this year, re-created the FEPC after it had passed into oblivion under the strangling grip Southern industrialists placed upon it after the Birmingham hearings, but so far as power, the new is no improvement over the old.

The luke-warm, go-easy approach toward enforcing of its decisions encouched in the FEPC directive stands in strange contrast to the positive, determined, mailed-fist wording of the new War Labor Board order.

NO THREAT HERE

Here is in the President's own wording the only power, if that word can be correctly used here, that the FEPC has: "The Committee shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by this order. It may conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination."

There is nothing here that stands as a threat to recalcitrant and prejudiced employers to amend their traditional color-biased employment policies. There is no threat that their war contracts will be cancelled if they fail to comply. No club is held over those unions with "white only" clauses in their constitutions and rituals to wipe out their undemocratic practices. Nothing is said about denying them the right to sign "closed shop" contracts and that "checkoff dues" would be withheld.

Little wonder then that the Capital Transit Company goes merrily about its business of snubbing the FEPC's directive to employ Negroes without discrimination. It is no surprise that more than a year has passed since the Birmingham hearings and Vultee Aircraft at Nashville has continued its deliberate refusal to carry out its promise to employ Negroes on production lines. This too, despite the fact that Vultee is desperately in need of more workers and is lagging far behind on its war contracts.

FEPC IS POWERLESS

FEPC

Had powers similar to those delegated to other war agencies been given FEPC, two cases of wide ramifications would not now be hanging fire, a piercing thorn in the side of a democracy at war to save democracy.

The obstinate Boilermakers' Union, which arrogantly places protection of its hateful racial exclusion policy ahead of winning the war, could be blasted from its "closed shop" contract with Kaiser, if the FEPC possessed the power to enforce its orders.

Instead, 300 skilled workers stand idle in the Kaiser shipyards solely because they are the wrong color to belong to the Boilermakers' Union and thus far the FEPC has found itself helpless to do anything about it.

AUG 22 1943

RAILROADS ARE "SAFE"

The forthcoming railroad hearings will add up to little positive action for the same reason. The hearings will be held, the obvious color discrimination bared and that's all. Nothing can be done by the FEPC to break the secret conference agreement between the railroads and the big rail brotherhoods, designed to undemocratically eliminate all black faces from railroad jobs.

AUG 22 1943

That's why [illegible] the President to act is so great. Certainly the need for the FEPC to be given punitive power pre-dates that of the War Labor Board. Decisions of no other government agency have been ignored with so much impunity as have those of the FEPC. If "teeth in both the upper and lower jaws" can be given the ODT, the WLB, the OPA and other agencies, they should also be given the FEPC. Surely the President by now realizes this. Why the hesitancy in giving the Committee this badly needed power is most puzzling to justice-loving Americans.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Herbert N. Northrup, the first witness, who said that he has spent most of the last four years in an intensive study of the relation of Negroes to the American labor movement, occupied the attention of the committee several hours and offered specific charges in which he criticized the National Mediation Board and the National Railroad Adjustment Board, both created und[illegible] Railw[illegible]bor Act. He a[illegible]ed that they had helped to continue racial discrimination on the railroads.

SEP 17 1943

The hearing ended with testimony of Negro firemen who charged discrimination on the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad ,and un[illegible]g efforts to obtain redress from the carrier and the firemen's union.

On this road it was testified that Negroes are not allowed to work on Diesel engines, that in one case a Negro fireman with seniority going back to 1895 had been displaced by a white fireman, his junior in service, contrary to normal seniority procedure.

Dr. Northrup, former member of the Department of Economics at Harvard and Cornell Universities, at present on the staff of the National War Labor Board, said that as a result of discrimination by railroads against Negroes the proportion of Negroes employed by the carriers has declined in the case of firemen from a total of 41.3 per cent in 19[illegible] 33.1 pe[illegible] in 1930. For the same period the percentage of Negro trainmen has declined from 29.8 per cent to 16.3 per cent.

SEP 17 1943

The attitude of the National (Railway) Mediation Board toward Negroes, especially in disputes with the "Big Four" rail unions, Dr. Northrup maintained, "has not been above criticism."

"He was more severe on the National Railroad Adjustment Board, set up to decide on certain contract disputes between the roads and their employes, saying that this board was composed mainly of partisans from organizations which do not afford the Negro equal status. The adjustment board, he added, in holding that a craft of workers "own" a particular type of work, whether they have ever done such work, "threatens" to eliminate Negro brakemen from the industry."

Charles H. Houston, counsel for a group of Negro railway labor organizations, put on the stand L. R. Moloy of Jackson, Tenn., Negro fireman on the Illinois Central Railroad and George Sams, Negro firem[illegible] the Gu[illegible]bile & Ohio Railroad, who des[illegible]d their unsuccessful efforts to obtain membership in the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen and Enginemen and also challenged "non-promotable" practices of these carriers.

SEP 17 1943

White firemen began displacing Negroes on the G. M. & O. in 1921, according to Mr. Sams, who said that while his own service dates back to 1895, a white fireman, his junior in service, had been promoted to a Diesel engine.

Coast Union Is Found Guilty Of Discrimination

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

FEPC Holds It Must Rid Self Of Practices

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Guilty as charged is finding of the FEPC against the Boilermakers union and its local lodges in Portland, Oregon, and Los Angeles, and the unoin [illegible]been ordered to elimi[illegible]member-ship pra[illegible] which discriminate against workers because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced Saturday.

DEC 18 1943

Nor were five west coast shipbuilding companies relieved of any responsibilities in the discrimnation charged. The committee pointed out that the rejection of qualified Negro applicants and the discharge of others on the basic of the "master agreement" with the unions was incompatible with the known manpower shortage which exists in the area, and a detrim[illegible] to the prostitution of the [illegible] companies were [illegible] ordered to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues to the boilermakers' union, and to forget about the failure of some Negroes to secure clearance with the union before applying for jobs.

DEC 18 1943

The committee's findings and directives, signed by all seven members resulted from public hearings held in Portland, Nov. 15-16, and Los Angeles, Nov. 19-20. The hearings followed complaints filed with the committee after several hundred Negro shipyard workers had been fired for refusing to pay dues to auxiliary boilermakers' locals. The union and the companies maintain a closed shop ag[illegible]ment. The Negroes charged th[illegible]iliary locals were dis[illegible]minatory.

The commi[illegible] found:

1. The auxiliaries were created only for Negro workers and are placed directly under control of the white subordinate (regular) lodge for the area.
2. Auxiliary members have no vote or voice in the conduct of the union's affairs and must accept as their business agent the agent of the supervising lodge in whose election the auxiliaries have no part.
3. There are unfair [illegible]ences in insurance benefits [illegible] provided for members [illegible] union and in the age limits for admission to membership.

DEC 18 1943

Firms involved and [illegible] are the Oregon [illegible] corporation and the [illegible] company in the Portland Vancouver area; and the California Shipbuilding corporation, Consolidated Steel corporation (shipbuilding division) and the Western Pipe and Steel corporation in the Los Angeles area.

Unions and companies have 4 days in which to report on compliance.

FDR Will Decide Between Agencies Policy Disputes

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—A plan signed August 2, but not announced until last week, by War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt and Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of President Roosevelt's Committee on Fair

Employment Practices, calls for "harmonious and expeditious" execution of the ban against employment discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color or national origin.

Under the joint plan, the FEPC shall formulate policies preventing discrimination and make its recommendations to Mr. McNutt, since the WMC has over-all responsibility for utilizing and training manpower.

AGENCY TEAMWORK

The [illegible] federal agencies emphasized that a [illegible] of teamwork existed between them which will make it possible to obtain the utmost efficiency and economy in the enforcement of the non-discriminatory order, in the avoidance of all duplication of effort, and in the prevention of all overlapping jurisdiction.

To cover disputes between agencies, however, it was decided that (1) Disputes arising in regional offices which cannot be solved by regional directors of the two agencies will be referred to their central offices. (2) Those involving questions of procedure which cannot be adjusted by the central offices will be referred to Monsignor Haas and Mr. McNutt for final disposition; and (3) If Mr. McNutt and Monsignor Haas are unable to agree on policy disputes, the question will be submitted jointly to President Roosevelt.

BIDDLE, ALSO MEDIATOR

A further agreement was reached whereby the dispute, if it involves interpretation of the non-discriminatory order, will be submitted for a final ruling to U.S. Attorney General Francis Biddle.

The non-discriminatory order under which the WMC and FEPC now operate is Executive Order No. 9346, of May 27, 1943, which calls for the closest possible cooperation between the FEPC, which is responsible for the formulation and execution of policies under the Order, and the WMC, which is responsible for full utilization of the nation's manpower in the prosecution of the war.

The agreement became effective immediately upon its joint signing by McNutt and Haas August 2, in accordance with a clause in the articles of agreement.

Future of Committee Uncertain

Kansas City Call

Congress Soon Will Pass Upon Appropriations

Kansas City, Mo.

By Andrew F. Jackson

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — The resignation Saturday of Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices came with dramatic suddenness. There had been no outward indication to press and public of the contemplated resignation.

Following so closely on the railroad hearings and the anticipated West Coast Boilermakers' hearings, the resignation of Msgr. Haas, carries deep significance.

In his final press conference, before the appointment of a successor, Chairman Haas said: "To assume my duties as bishop of Grand Rapids it will be necessary that I resign as chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

"In the degree that I know the importance of the work of that committee to the war effort and our democracy, I leave it with profound regret.

Should Employ All

"The terrible needs of war exact that we use to the utmost the hands and the high skills which Negro citizens, Spanish-Americans, Jews and loyal men and women of foreign extraction, are offering willingly to their country's service.

"That is the practical side, against which no man who loves his country would knowingly erect barriers of intolerance or of outmoded industrial habits.

"The essential rightness of the President's Executive Order against discrimination because of race, color, creed or national origin appeared clear to me when I took the office as chairman of the committee four months ago.

"In that brief period the close experience with the problems of the men and women who have suffered discrimination at the hands of fellow-Americans have deepened my conviction that this practice must be purged from our national life if we are both to win this war and consolidate our life as a democratic nation thereafter.

Has Trust in Committee

"I have full trust in the members of the committee. It was not known to me until very recently that it would be necessary for me to end what shall remain one of the most satisfactory associations of my life. The work of the committee is in good hands."

Announcement of his appointment to the bishopric of Grand Rapids was received from the Vatican by Archbishop Amlete Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic delegate to the United States.

Bishop-Elect Haas has long been known as one of the most active Catholic prelates in the field of social and labor relations. As a member of the labor advisory board of the NRA and a special labor department conciliator for the last eight years, he has participated in the settlement of more than 1,500 strikes.

His appointment last May to the chairmanship of the FEPC was hailed by both labor and management alike as one of the most astute appointments that the President has made. His resignation leaves the FEPC at the mercy of Congress and with 1944 just around the corner, observers here are extremely cautious to make any predictions as to its future.

Hearings on the West Coast Boilermakers' case will open in Portland, Ore., Nov. 15 and 16th; and in Los Angeles, Nov. 19 and 20. George E. C. Hayes, prominent Washington attorney and Marvin Harrison, white, of Cleveand, will represent the FEPC in both hearings.

FEPC Asked To Probe Western Cartridge Company's Race Ban

Age

New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO, Ill.—An investigation by the FEPC of the Western Cartridge Company, of East Alton, Ill., was asked Saturday by Dean William H. Spencer, regional director of the War Manpower Commission.

In a letter to Elmer Henderson, regional director of the FEPC, Mr. Spencer said he had requested an investigation and such further action as may be deemed advisable.

The company, he said, employs 12,000 persons, and does not have one Negro employees among them although the United States Employment Service has referred many workers, without regard to their race, color or national origin.

The company stated that it employed Negroes in its other plants situated in cities with a Negro population, such as at St. Louis, or New Haven. Conn. However, the company said, there was no Negro population in East Alton or other towns in the immediate industrial area and local residents have maintained a hostile attitude toward hiring of Negroes at Western Cartridge or other local industrial plants."

FEPC WINS CHICAGO CAR CASE

Courier

Surface Lines Hire Colored Motorman, Malcolm Ross Announces

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON — Following an agreement made by the Chicago Surface Lines with the Chicago office of the FEPC to cease discrimination against Negro workers, the Surface Lines employed its first Negro street car motorman last week, according to an announcement by Malcolm Ross, newly-appointed FEPC chairman.

Holding the distinction of being the first Negro street car motorman in Chicago is Patrick McReynolds, 3537 South Cottage Grove avenue, Chicago.

"This company has promised complete compliance with the provisions of the Roosevelt Executive Order against racial discrimination," said Ross. At the same time, the new FEPC chairman said he expected to be able to report in a short time, similar employment of Negro platform men by the Capital Transit company, here.

ROSS SWORN IN

Sworn into office last week, the new chairman has made rapid progress in gearing the FEPC for strenuous activity this winter. With a decision on railroad cases of discrimination scheduled to be made soon, the FEPC plans to hold hearings on cases of discrimination against Negro machinists on the West Coast next month, and on cases of discrimination involving telephone companies in Pittsburgh shortly afterwards. In addition, there has been an acceleration of the work of regional offices in California, Chicago and Philadelphia in investigating and adjusting local cases of discrimination.

47d-1943

FEPC

Southern Railroads
Post
Washington, D. C.

A Communication

THE AUTHOR of the editorial entitled "Railroad Protest" in The Wahington [illegible] of December 16 should at least have read the orders issued by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice before he set out to charge the Southern railroads with an "arrogant and cynical contempt for the committee's purposes as well as for its authority" and with "distorition of the issue at stake."

If he had, of course, he probably would not have written:

"Jobs for firemen—the nub of the problem because these are the jobs Negroes want and are trained to fill—are ignored by the complaining carriers. Instead, they dwell on the possibility that Negroes might want to become engineers or conductors. . . . At the moment, however, it (promotion of Negroes to engineers and conductors) does not happen to be a real problem."

The answer to these misleading statements is to be found in the several "Findings and Directives" of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, issued against 22 railroads in groups and individually on November 18. The gist of the whole matter is expressed plainly in one of the committee's "directives" issued against 10 Southeastern railroads and terminal companies. It says:

"The committee directs that the carriers adjust their employment policies and practices so that all needed workers shall be hired and all employes shall be promoted or upgraded without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

The committee's own summary of the case, as stated in its ruling against one of the railroad's involved, contains these paragraphs:

"The fourth charge was that the company denies to Negro trainmen, because of their race, the right to qualify for and be promoted to the position of conductors.

"The sixth charge was that the company denies to Negro locomotive firemen in its employ, because of race, [illegible] right to qualify for and be promoted to locomotive engineer, although white locomotive firemen may thus qualify and be promoted."

Committee's Findings

The committee's findings contain these paragraphs:

"The committee further finds that the company discriminates against Negro firemen, because of their race, in that it refuses to permit them to qualify for and be promoted to the position of locomotive engineer."

"The committee finds that the company and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen are parties to an agreement entered into in 1940 which discriminates against Negro trainmen and switchmen, because of their race, in that it bars Negro trainmen from acting as flagmen or baggagemen and Negro switchmen from acting as yard foremen."

"The committee finds that the company denies to Negro trainmen in its employ, because of their race, the right to qualify for and be promoted to positions as conductors."

Among the committee's directives we find these paragraphs:

"The committee directs that the company issue formal instructions to all of its personnel officers and employes, having authority to hire and ugrade workers, to carry on their activities in the recruiting, training and upgrading of workers, or prospective workers, solely on the basis of the qualifications of applicants or workers without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

"The committee directs that the company give formal notice to all employment agencies, public or private, including the Railroad Retirement Board, through which the company recruits workers or trainees, that it will accept needed workers for all classifications of employment without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

"The committee directs that the company give formal notice to all labor unions with which it has contracts that it will comply fully with its obligations under Executive Order 9346 not to discriminate against workers, because of race, creed, color or national origin, in recruiting, upgrading or in any other terms or conditions of employment."

The author of the editorial could have also found this statement in the railroads' recent reply to the committee:

"These railroads are ready at any time to confer with their employes of various crafts and classes to ascertain whether, under the orderly and controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act, any more generally satisfactory solution of the racial problems of employment can be worked out by mutual agreement."

Facts [illegible] Record

Judging from these facts of record, your editorial writer has adopted the extraordinary gloss put upon the situation by Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, in a recent press release. In that release Mr. Ross said:

"Their (the railroads) letter now make a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro reailroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoi the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads."

Mr. Ross presents a strange apology for his committee. He suggests that the issues as to engineers and conductors are "dormant" and might remain so if the railroads would employ more Negroes as firemen, yet in the same sentence he admits that the engineer and conductor issues were "necessarily covered."

Nothing in the committee's directives says that the engineer and conductor issues are "dormant." The chairman's extraordinary suggestion means, if it has any meaning, that the railroads should have understood that FEPC was not serious as to some of its directives and ought to have used better judgment in picking out those as to which it was serious. The very suggestion reduces the directives to triviality. If they are legal and binding directives, then the railroads cannot pick and choose, obeying some as serious but disobeying others as frivolous or "dormant." If the railroads are thus at liberty to pick and choose, then the directives are not legal orders.

Mr. Ross implicitly admits that "reason and public policy" do not urge employment of Negroes in all classifications, or in engineer and conductor classifications, and argues entirely about firemen. But FEPC's directives make no such admission.

In addition, Mr. Ross' intimation, echoed by you, that four railroads (Pennsylvania, New York Central, Union Pacific and Virginian) have agreed to employ Negroes in all classifications of work, is without foundation. Not one of these railroads has agreed to employ Negroes as engineers, conductors, yard foremen, station agents or clerks. The Union Pacific agreed during the hearings only to upgrade some Mexicans from helpers to machinists. The Virginian only agreed to pay standard, instead of substandard, wages to certain Negroes already employed as dockhands. We understand that the Pennsylvania and the New York Central have under dfiscussion with FEPC only the promotion of certain Negroes to dining car stewards or, perhaps, to other positions of comparable rank.

Mr. Ross' press relase further admits that "we may not be able to wipe out discrimination overnight" and asserts that "it will take time to raise the structure laid down by the committee's blueprint." Yet the FEPC "directives" do not simply order the railroads to start erecting the blueprint structure. They order the railroads forthwith to employ Negroes in and to upgrade them to all positions, without any exceptions, and without any discrimination.

Finally, your editorial wholly overlooks the fact that the executive order setting up FEPC does not purport to give it the power to issue directives, nor to do more than hold hearings and find facts. The railroads deny that FEPC has any power to issue directives against them.

HOLCOMBE PARKES.
Secretary, Southeastern Presidents' Conference.
Washington, Dec. 17.

Letters To The Editor

Railway Letter (cont.)

Your reproduction of an edited version of my letter [illegible] editor dated De[illegible] in this morning's Post together with your action in editorially reiterating your unfair charges against the Southeastern railroads which have been compelled to question both the soundness and the legality of the recent "directives" issued by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, can only be interpreted as an effort to keep the full facts in this case from the readers of your newspaper. If this interpretation is incorrect, you will surely want to publish this further communication which includes a summary of the facts of record which you deleted from my previous letter.

Your original editorial on this subject attempted to becloud some of the important issues in this case by claiming that jobs for Negro firemen are "the nub of the problem" and that the promotion of Negroes to become engineers or conductors "does not happen to be a real problem."

One deletion from my previous letter contains verbatim quotations from the FEPC's orders which conclusively prove that your analysis of the case was misleading. For instance, the FEPC specifically "finds" that some of these railroads "discriminate against Negro firemen, because of their race, in that they refuse to permit them to qualify for and be promoted to the position of locomotive engineer." Another "finding" similarly refers to promotion to "positions as conductors." Still another "finding" charges discrimination because of a 1910 agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen which "bars Negro trainmen from acting as flagmen or baggagemen and Negro switchmen from acting as yard foremen." Post

And finally, the FEPC treats this allegedly "dormant issue" by ordering the railroads to issue notices to all concerned—railroad officers with authority to hire and promote employes, employment agencies through which the railroads recruit employes, and labor unions with which they have contracts—that "workers for all classifications of employment" will be hired and promoted "without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin."

Thus these "Findings" and "Directives" specifically order the railroads concerned to begin promoting Negroes to all positions, without exception, within 30 days. That would mean the promotion of Negroes throughout the South to positions of authority over white employes, both male and female. And under present conditions, the railroads reply that such drastic orders are "impracticable . . . impossible . . . and utterly unrealistic." Washington, D. C.

Finally, in your latest comment on this delicate subject, you grant that "gradualism is necessary" and that "the important thing is to make a beginning" in view of the quotations deleted from my first letter perhaps your editorial should have blasted the FEPC instead of the railroads. For there is no evidence whatever of "gradualism" in the FEPC's orders nor can anyone find the slightest indication that the FEPC had any desire "to make a beginning" toward "reasonable adjustments to the legitimate aspirations of our Negro people."

HOLCOMBE PARKES.
Secretary, Southeastern Presidents' Conference.
Washington, Dec. 22.

Editorial Note: The original letter would have taken up two columns. We printed one column and excised only what we thought were redundancies. The above letter is printed as received.

Historic FEPC Order

THE order of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to 22 railroads and seven Brotherhood and AFL unions to stop discrimination against Negroes within 30 days will long be remembered as one of our great decisions to broaden democracy.

This was a big step toward enforcing the right of all people to work without discrimination, as the fight for the anti-poll tax bill—which must be won—is to guarantee Americans the right to vote without discrimination. The Worker New York, N. Y.

The decision is all the more important as it comes soon after the recent short-lived scare when Comptroller Warren almost interpreted the FEPC out of existence.

FEP

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The President, in moving swiftly to slap him down, served notice that America meant business when it set out to put an end to employment discrimination. His clear-cut step then laid down the course that led to the FEPC's inevitable order.

The decision is of historic importance because it applies to the railroads, the principal citadel of discrimination, where companies and union leaders are still combined on a policy of excluding Negro workers. It is not a blow against unions. It is a long-needed step to wipe out pre-Civil War slave hangovers in the labor movement. The consequence of the order [illegible] only make the unions stronger and far better able to discharge their legitimate duties.

Unfortunately some of the union leaders chose to ignore warnings of progressives that labor itself ought to take the needed step. They remained blind to the obvious anti-discrimination trend that has been so marked since Pearl Harbor.

The overwhelming majority of organized labor and all Americans, we are sure, will greet the FEPC decision as a great progressive step. We hope the AFL's executive council will share in this enthusiasm and will itself take the long-overdue steps to end every vestige of race discrimination in labor ranks. The FEPC must be upheld not only with general resolutions but with practical measures to enforce its decisions.

DEC 5 1943

Their Personnel Methods Reflect Civilization, Spokesmen Tell FEPC

By GORDON H. COLE
PM's Bureau

PM
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Spokesmen for 22 of the Nation's leading railroads have shrugged off responsibility for personnel policies under which the roads are refusing to hire Negroes for any but menial jobs.

Charged before the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) with violating the President's order forbidding racial discrimination in war jobs where it interferes with the war effort, the big railroad corporations argue only that their employment policies reflect the civilization in which the railroads operate.

Big Lines Cited

These roads include the New York Central, the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore & Ohio, as well as most of the major Southern lines.

The B. & O., for example, contends that although it discriminates, the discrimination does not interfere with the war and therefore is not a violation of the President's order.

That was the defense that Bartley C. Crum, special counsel for the FEPC, set out to break down yesterday as the long-awaited hearings into railroad race policies got under way.

Crum, a vice president of the National Lawyers Guild, brought to the stand yesterday the first of a long procession of railroad experts and railroad workers to testify that discrimination does exist and that it is harmful to the war effort.

Axis to Be Quoted

Three star witnesses, already scheduled, are Clyde R. Miller, founder of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis; Otto D. Tolischus, former Berlin and Tokyo correspondent for the New York *Times*, and William L. Shirer, author of *Berlin Diary* and pre-Pearl Harbor correspondent for CBS in Berlin.

The text of Axis broadcasts is expected to be introduced in evidence.

In opening the case against the railroads, the FEPC counsel called attention to the critical lack of railroad manpower and pointed to the proposal by Joseph B. Eastman, director of the ODT (Office of Defense Transportation) for the use of women, Mexican workers and even the utilization of war prisoners.

"In common sense," Crum asked, "why must we look to women and prisoners of war, when willing Negro workers are available?"

'Negro a Pawn'

He answered his own question: "Because restrictions have for decades so tied the hands of Negro workmen that neither the railroads nor the unions, who thus forged these bonds, can think—even under the spur of war—of how to break them."

The essential facts of how all this came about and what the present situation is on the railroads is the purpose of the hearings—the first in which charges of racial discrimination have been aired publicly since Msgr. Francis Haas became chairman of the committee.

The first witness to appear, Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, an expert on the position of Negroes in the labor unions, charged:

"The Negro has become a pawn in industrial relations; employers have used him to fight unions and to depress wages; unions have retaliated by attempting either to limit the employment of Negroes or by driving those already employed from the railroads."

Northrup condemned the Railway Labor Act and its administration. He charged that the Railway Mediation Board and the Railway Adjustment Boards have fostered discrimination on the railroads. Northrup, currently an employe of the War Labor Board, said that actions of the National Mediation Board "have caused serious doubts as to its impartiality in disputes involving Negro workers and the Big Four Brotherhoods."

Roads' Argument

Sidney S. Ulderman, attorney for the roads, read a statement in which he argued that the solution of racial problems "lies in the gradual and moderate process of education, based upon mutual goodwill and respect."

He called attention to the great legal responsibility of the railroads for the safety of passengers in suggesting reasons why Negroes could not be employed in positions of responsibility—a close approach to an argument for racial superiority.

Ulderman then asserted:

"Railroads do not operate in a vacuum, or in a theoretical Utopia. They have to operate in and serve the civilization in which they find themselves, and must adapt their operations and employment practices to the social solutions and racial questions as worked out by the prevailing mores and legal systems of the states they serve."

FEPC Fate Up to F. D. R.

If the 14 railroads are permitted to get away with their defiance of the FEPC, the effectiveness of the President's committee will be seriously impaired.

The companies made [illegible] flat statement to the FEPC that they would not obey the committee's order to hire Negroes on the same basis that anyone else is hired. As is customary with those who cannot find a good reason for their action, the railroads said that it would "cause trouble" if they obeyed the FEPC directive, that "strikes, chaos, public antagonism" would result. The companies also told the FEPC that it is without authority to back up its orders which have no legal effect.

DEC 3 1943

There is no merit to the railroad company's argument. In his answer to the railroad statement, Malcolm Ross, REPC chairman, pointed out the fallacies in the railroads' position.

There would be no occasion for chaos and strikes," Ross said, because white southern engineers have been used to working with Negro firemen over a period of 50 years. Negro firemen were displaced only a few years ago with the installation of automatic stokers and Diesel engines.

The FEPC has issued an order that Negroes be employed by railroads up to their capacity. The railroads have answered that they will not obey. The next move obviously is up to the President. He created the FEPC and it is his personal responsibility to see that its findings, based upon his own executive order, are carried out. If the FEPC is weakened to the extent that executive orders 8802 and 9346 cannot be carried out, all of the other executive orders issued by the President can also be disregarded.

There is no doubt but that President Roosevelt intends for his executive orders affecting the employment of Negroes to be obeyed. He must not let political expediency prevent him from speaking out at such a critical time in the existence of his committee.

DEC 31 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Roosevelt Asked to Outlaw Jim Crow in Armed Forces

NEW YORK—The National Negro Congress made a request last week to President Roosevelt for a conference with leaders to discuss the abolition of jim-crow in the armed forces, as an added effort in helping to win the war.

The Congress's letter to the President declared that the "continued deterioration in the conditions facing colored soldiers has reached such a point as to inhibit the maximum use of our armed forces for coalition warfare," and "hampers seriously national unity and serves to undermine the morale of colored people."

The Chief Executive was called upon to issue an outright order to eliminate "all forms of segregation and discrimination in every branch of the armed forces as a requirement for a speedy victory and a people's peace."

DEC 5 1943

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I Can Depend on You—FDR

President Roosevelt's letter to the FEPC concerning the resignation of Mons[illegible]

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
OCT 23 1943

Gent[illegible]:

I am sure I do not need to tell you that I share your deep feeling of regret in connection with the resignation of Monsignor Francis J. Haas as chairman.

Both Monsignor Hass and you as members of the FEPC have contributed to the accomplishment of a difficult and continuing task. Certainly I agree that in the future, as in the past, we shall need the wisdom, the skill and the devotion which Monsignor Haas has given to this work.

Many Difficulties Ahead

I am happy to say that he has offered to continue to give us his counsel. I have told him that I know the committee will need and ask that he continue as counselor on whose wisdom and experience it can always depend.

I have written my appreciation to Monsignor Haas. I want to add here my appreciation [illegible] your own [illegible] as members of the committee. There are many difficulties before us. I feel satisfied, however, that in you the country has a committee upon which it can depend for wise and determined dealing with this problem which is essential to the fulfillment of the promises of our democracy.

Very sincerely yours,
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

Railroads Promise Less Job Prejudice

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
SEP 25 1943

(Amsterdam Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON (Special) - Although FEPC has not issued its official findings and directives following the hearing last week of discriminatory practices of railroads and unions, the firms have agreed to start scuttling their jim crow policies in employment before President Roosevelt is forced to issue a direct appeal because of their "do-nothing-attitude" which is hampering the war effort. The 22 railroads and 14 unions cited in FEPC's complaints issued a joint statement which said they were in "sympathy with the difficulties of the problem" and would do "something" about it.

Only O[illegible] Complaints

All concerns brought [illegible] for a hearing admitted guilt of Jim Crow employment policies except one—the Union Pacific Railroad. UP said, however, it would investigate to see whether the complaints were true.

An audience of over 400 attended the four-day hearing. The full committee heard evidence by some 40 witnesses, including experts on propaganda who testified on the use made by the Axis nations of work toward a solution of the problem, but it nevertheless warned the committee that there is no hurry to wipe out this blot. The statement said in part:

". . . as to the general problem before you—a problem which all the wisdom [illegible] statesmanship of America have not yet been [illegible] fully to solve—it is the view of the railroads that the solution lies in a gradual and moderate process of education, based on mutual good-will, and respect. The solution will not be advanced, but, rather, [illegible]ill be retarded and made more [illegible]cult, by too abrupt an attempt to change, by government decree, long statnding practice, rooted in the custom of the people."

Debunks the Bunk

FEPC's Special Counsel Crum adequately debunked the railroads' "slow-but-sure" excuse and "solution" when he pointed out that failure to integrate at once the Negro in railroad employment will only [illegible] to force "uniformed white [illegible]ers to look with suspicion, yes and with possible hostility, on a group that is forced to remain a part and is not permitted to contribute its full skills and resources to winning the war.

"But if discrimination is ended," he pleaded, "white rairoad workers will inevitably generate an appreciation for the Negro as a man and a fellow worker, as has been shown over and over again in shipbuilding yards, in the iron and steel industry, and particularly, in the aircraft industry where they work together. As does all cooperative and united effort.

FEPC

Virginian Seeks To Smash Order Of Mr. Roosevelt

Globe & Independent
Nashville, Tenn.
DEC 10 1943

Claim Is President Did Not Have Power To Rule Against Race Discrimination Without Permit From Congressmen

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9—(ANP)—A new attack upon President Roosevelt's executive order banning race discrimination and the effectiveness of the FEPC was launched Monday by the Smith committee of the house in a report which stated that all anti-discrimination clauses in public contracts should be prohibited by law.

The report, which mentioned neither the FEPC nor the executive order by name, declared that any such contractural provisions must come only after laws to that effect had been enacted by congress, and that no government agency had any authority on its own to insert such clauses.

Head of the committee is Rep. Howard Smith, Virginia Democrat. Other members are Reps. Hugh Peterson, Georgia; John J. Delaney, New York, and [illegible] Jerry Voorhis, California, Democrats, and Reps. Clare Hoffman, Michigan, John Jennings, Tennessee, and Fred Hartley, New Jersey, Republicans.

Several federal agencies were attacked in the report and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. was specifically condemned for insisting that dairy companies which sell to Uncle Sam include anti-discrimination clauses in their contracts. This is the same committee which also took potshots at the OPA for seeking to enforce price ceilings on meat.

Said the committee report after citing the regulation anti-discrimination clause in surplus commodities contracts:

"Congress has never enacted such a law and, however laudable its purposes may be, no government agency has been authorized by legislation to impose such a condition.

"The subsidy program, the lend lease, as well as the needs of our armed forces, were never intended by congress to be used as a subterfuge to impose legislation upon the country which congress had failed or refused to enact.

"Any effort to use subsidies, lend lease funds or other appropriations for any such pu[illegible]ould be prohibited b[illegible]"

Alth[illegible]he Roosevelt executive order was not mentioned by name, the report condemned "unauthorized executive directives which are bound, sooner or later, to fall of their own weight."

Seeking to justify its stand, the report continued:

"Progress in the interest of the common people of America will not be made if devious or unconstitutional methods, or methods not authorized by congress, are used to bring about such progress.

"Sooner or later, the whole basis of such action will be swept away and the net result will be loss rather than gain for the people's cause.

"Some members of the committee are opposed to discrimination regarding employment and are strong in their support of all the provisions of the wages [illegible] hours act.

"However, the members of this committee a[illegible]nanimous in their conviction that neither the objectives of the wages and hours act nor the prevention of discrimination can be accomplished by the device of making subsidy payments conditional upon what amounts to the writing of new law by an executive agency."

AUG 7 1943

THE PRESIDENT'S REORGANIZED COMMITTEE on Fair Employment Practices seems to be getting off to a good start under its chairman, Monsignor Francis J. Haas of Catholic University. It has ordered the reinstatement of 300 N[illegible] workers in West Coast shipyards dis[illegible]ed under [illegible] closed-shop agreement when they refused to pay dues to a separate "auxiliary" union set up for them by the American Federation of Labor boilermakers' union .The committee must decide whether establishment of a separate union based on color, race, or creed constitutes discrimination. We ceratinly think it does, and the committee cannot hold otherwise without losing public confidence. The new committee has also voted to enforce the old FEPC order to the C[illegible] Transit Company in Washington. Capital Transit still refuses to hire Negro help, although many transit companies in Southern cities do so. Nothing has caused more bitterness among Negroes in the capital than [illegible]fusal [illegible]mit them, in the midst of a great man-power shortage, to enjoy the privilege—for such it seems to be considered—of driving a bus.

Seizure of FEPC Records Protested

DEC 30 1943 PM

New York, N. Y.

The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties has protested to House Speaker Sam Rayburn against the action of the House Smith Committee investigating executive agencies in seizing records of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee).

Urging immediate termination of the Committee's "irresponsible investigations which disrupt the work of important war agencies," the Federation characterized Rep. Howard Smith (D., Va.) as a "notorious anti-labor and poll-taxer Congressman," charging an "attempt on the part of enemies of the FEPC to embarrass it and to undermine its important war work.

Rail Defiance of FEPC Puts Race Issue to FDR

PM
New York, N. Y.

President May Enforce Job Order Under His War Powers

DEC 14 1943

By Gordon H. Cole
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Enforcement of the FEPC's (Fair Employment Practice Committee) order that the Nation's railroads stop discriminating against Negro employes appeared headed for the White House today after 16 Southern railroads and terminal companies joined in a letter defying the FEPC.

Public defiance of the FEPC by these Southern railroads ranks them with Sewell Avery, president of Montgomery Ward & Co., who at one time publicly refused to accept an order of the WLB (War Labor Board) that he sign a union security contract with a CIO union.

President Roosevelt, whose war powers form the basis of both the FEPC and the WLB, as originally set up, wrote three letters to Avery ordering him to abide by the Board's order before Montgomery Ward ended its defiance.

Up to Roosevelt

Now the President is confronted with the necessity of enforcing his order creating the FEPC and authorizing the campaign to stamp out racial discrimination on the job.

In the one big test of Executive Order 9346 setting up FEPC—the dispute with Comptroller General Lindsay Warren—the President showed no hesitancy in backing up the FEPC when he was asked to.

The problems of making the FEPC order against the railroads stick presents more problems than any ever confronting the President with the WLB.

The Southern railroads announced in their joint letter to the FEPC that they "cannot comply" with its order, that to do so "would seriously and irreparably prejudice the war effort, would be unpracticable and impossible and would violate an act of Congress—the Railway Labor Act.

Deny Jurisdiction

The railroads also denied the jurisdiction of the Committee to issue the directives.

"Any attempt," said the Southern roads, "to comply with these directives, for instance to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and co-operative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country."

Ross' Answer

A copy of the letter was mailed to all Congressmen together with a note requesting that the letter to the FEPC, a press release announcing it, a summary of the findings and directives issued by the FEPC and a statement by the railroad counsel at the hearings last September be read into the *Congressional Record.*

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, immediately answered the Southern railroads, asserting:

"The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order.

"Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experienced Negro firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give their jobs to white workers."

Ross recalled that the railroad unions chose to ignore the FEPC hearings in this case and the carriers made only a perfunctory appearance.

"Their letter," he charged, "now makes a bid for public disapproval of the FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dorman and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it."

The FEPC chairman cited the statement by Sidney Alberman, railroad counsel, made at the FEPC hearings:

"I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

FEPC Issue Seen Headed For President

Post
Washington, D. C.

DEC 15 1943

A major controversy over the authority of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to order effuality of treatment for Negro war workers yesterday appeared certain to be dumped on President Roosevelt's desk when he returns to the capital.

FEPC orders to end alleged discrimination against Negroes have been challenged by Southern Railroads, and others, on the ground that FEPC exceeded its powers.

Meanwhile, members of Congress, the courts and the War Labor Board all were involved in the day's developments as one strike by white workers got under way in a vital war factory.

Orders Strike Ended

The War Labor Board, by unanimous action, ordered white strikers at the Point Breeze Western Electric plant in Baltimore to return to work at once or face 'all possible action" under the War Labor Disputes Act. Point Breeze workers voted to strike Monday night in protest against the use of washroom facilities in common with Negro workers.

The strike was called after WLB refused to order separate facilities. On October 2, FEC advised the Western Electric Co. that the doscontinuance of common facilities for Negro and white employes of the Western Electric Point Breeze plants and the introduction of special facilities would be a backward step which can but lead to discrimination against Negroes."

Other developments included:

Representative Marcantonio (American Labor) of New York praised the FEPC and criticized 16 Southern railroads which defied an FEPC order to cease alleged discrimination against [illegible] railway workers.

Representative Rankin (Democrat) of Mississippi declared that FEPC was a "rump organization" which aws creating unnecessary racial tensions in the South.

Issue in California

The Federal District Court for Northern California at San Francisco had before it a case involving Negro workers in which the constitutional authority of the FEPC to order discrimination ended was a collateral issue.

In the California case, 18 Negro shipyard workers petitioned Federal Judge Michael J. Roche for a permanent injunction restraining the Marinship Corp. from discharging them for failure to pay dues to an auxiliary Negro union of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers (AFL).

The Boilermakers union was ordered Monday by FEPC to dissolve its auxiliary local unions for Negroes and to receive shipyard workers into full membership.

FEPC HEAD HOPEFUL IN RAIL HIRING ROW

DEC 22 1943

'Steps in the Works' to End the Impasse Over Southern Bias Against Employing Negroes

New York Times

SOME IMPROVEMENT SEEN

New York, N. Y

For U. S. Industry as a Whole, 'Upgrading,' Not Jobs, Is Said to Be Biggest Obstacle

The apparent impasse between the sixteen Southern railroads and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice over the committee's order to cease discriminatory practice affecting employment of Negroes will soon be broken, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, predicted yesterday.

"Steps are in the works," he said in the regional office of the FEPC in the Empire State Building.

Asked if the committee intended to enforce its directive, issued Nov. 18, Mr. Ross said, "ultimate authority lodges with the President."

He scored the railroads' complain, that the directive was too "broad," asserting that the railroads failed to present evidence when they had the opportunity at the hearing. The testimony of the FEPC was not challenged, he said.

Stresses Shortage of Help

Although he held that recent train wrecks were too isolated to take as examples of tragedies caused by the manpower shortage, he said that there was a shortage of workers. He estimated that 83,000 workers were needed last June.

Many Negroes are available for these jobs, he said, adding that on Southern roads today there are only one-half as many Negroes as there were twenty-five years ago. This, he said, has been the result of tacit and sometimes formal agreements over a period of years between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give their jobs to white workers.

In reviewing the cases brought before the committee in the last few months Mr. Ross revealed that there had been a rise in those involving anti-Semitism. The month of July showed two cases; September, twenty-six, October, forty-two, and November, nineteen.

"The fact that we opened up regional offices making it possible for people to come in may have accounted for the increase," he commented. There are nine regional offices throughout the country.

In the over-all picture of the 1,800 cases now on the docket, 80 per cent of the complaints have to do with discrimination against Negroes, 6 per cent with Jews and "a good many cases" with Mexicans and Spanish-Americans in the Southwest, he said.

Negro Employment Gains

In the last year the rate of placement of Negoes in war industries was three times as fast as whites, he said. Twice as many women as Negroes were placed in jobs during the last tabulated quarter, July to September, but while one out of every four women was placed as better than common labor, only one out of every twelve Negroes was similarly placed, he said.

"In the over-all use of 13,000,000 Negoes that is a rather low proportion having a chance to get into skilled or semi-skilled work," he said. "It may be a detriment to the war effort if barriers are placed against them."

Negroes and Jews are not having so much difficulty in obtaining jobs as they were in being upgraded to higher jobs, Mr. Ross said. Relations between whites and Negroes are improving, he declared, citing a number of war plants that once had no Negroes at all but were now employing them with satisfactory results.

He pointed out that the riots in Detroit did not flare in the war plants, where the two races were working side by side, or in quarters where they lived in close proximity, but rather where one group was segregated and pitted against the other.

Government employment of Negroes has increased, he said. A test in March of thirty-eight agencies showed 9 per cent of the employes were Negroes—higher than in industry which employs less than 8 per cent—which was followed by another three months later of forty-four agencies, which showed a rise to 1[illegible] cent, he reported.

On the whole, the response to the committee's efforts to adjust complaints on the part of employers has been "pretty good," the chairman said.

FEPC

47d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Body Ordered Not to Conduct Hearing on Railroad Jim Crow

Action Suppressing Expose of Discrimination in Employment May Force Folding Up of Committee

JAN 16 1943

WASHINGTON

The Fair Employment Practice Committee has been directed to drop its investigation into race discrimination in employment by railroads, it was learned Saturday.

These instructions were said to have been issued by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, under whose supervision the committee comes, on orders from the White House. The hearing was originally set for January 25 in Washington.

Other Case Postponed

It was pointed out that this action was in line with the move of the Department of Justice in postponing anti-trust indictments which were to have been returned against motor and rail carriers.

Indictments charging rate fixing by carriers were postponed recently at the request of the Secretaries or War and the Navy and the director of defense transportation.

JAN 16 1943

The reason given was that if the Government proceeded with the indictments, the efforts of the carriers during the war would be injured.

Postponement of the indictments, prepared from evidence given a Chicago grand jury, was in accord with the program agreed upon by President Roosevelt and officials last March.

Members and officials of the FEPC, queried about the postponement, declared that they had not sought or favored it.

Members Oppose Postponement

Told of the decision for postponement of the hearings on Saturday, a majority of the members of the committee advised Lawrence Cramer, FEPC executive secretary, that they saw no reason for the postponement.

JAN 16 1943

Mr. McNutt, however, while admitting on Monday that the FEPC had not requested the postponement, said that he had received "no objection from the committee."

He then said that settlement of the dispute in the "normal way would be better than by force," and denied that the postponement would result in cancellation of the hearing.

Dickerson Objected Saturday

Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago alderman and a member of the committee, however, told the AFRO that he voiced his objection as soon as he learned of the McNutt order. He said: "I have not approved postponement of the railroad hearings. If ordered it was the sole responsibility of Chairman McNutt, for the FEPC has not considered postponement in any meeting, formal or otherwise.

"When I learned last Saturday of Mr. McNutt's request to Lawrence Cramer, executive secretary, for postponement, I asked Mr. Cramer to have the request put in writing with the reasons for the same and I asked Mr. Cramer to submit the question of postponement to the committee in a special meeting. I am opposed to postponement."

McNutt Put on Spot

When Mr. McNutt's final decision to block the hearings was given Mr. Cramer, secretary of the committee, Saturday, it is reported, Cramer conferred with other members of the body, then told McNutt he would have to make the announcement himself.

The manpower chief did not state this as his reason for side-stepping the issue, but it is reported that representatives of the railroads and of the brotherhoods conducted a behind-the-scenes campaign to force abandonment of the probe, charging that it would create "friction" among railroad workers.

The Railway Mediation Board is also accused of having a hand in the affair it being charged that it faced a bitter attack in the hearings for its reputed approval of one of the jim crow contracts which the FEPC was slated to condemn.

Jan 16, 1943

The Dynamite in the Bomb

The "non-promotable" aggreement between the all-white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen with the Southeastern Carriers' Conference, representing twenty-five Southern roads, it is understood, was to be the pivotal point on which major indictment against the railroads was based.

Under this aggrement, colored fire- on these roads are eliminated as fast as Diesel or stokerized engines replace hand-fired coal engines. (This must be completed by July 1, 1943, under an I.C.C. ruling.) Colored firemen are barred from the brotherhood, but it is permitted to act as "sole bargaining agent" for them.

Jan 16, 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Outgrowth Of Public Hearings

3 Other Firms Must Comply With FEPC Order

JAN 9 - 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Vultee Aircraft, Inc., has taken steps, in keeping with directions recently issued to the company by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to eliminate discrimination against war workers because of their race and color, Lawrence W. Cramer, executive secretary of the committee announced this week.

The directions followed a public examination of the complaints against the Nashville, Tenn., division of the company, at public haering held in Birmingham, Ala., last June.

JAN 9 - 1943

At the same time, the committee announced it had also issued directions to the Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock Corp., Mobile., Ala.; the A. J. Honeycutt Co., Birmingham, Ala., and the Gulf Shipbuilding Corp., Chickasaw, Ala., after it had found that each of the companies had violated Executive Order 8802 in its hiring and upgrading practices so far as Negro workers are concerned.

JAN 9 - 1943

The Vultee Company was directed to "cease and desist: from discriminatory employment practices; to issue formal instructions to its personnel officers that recruitment, trainnig, and upgrading must be on the basis of qualifications of applicants without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin; and to give formal notice to all employment agencies that it will accept workers "for any and all classifications of work or training" solely on the basis of qualifications.

Vultee was further directed to issue formal instructions to its appropriate officers to delete reference to race or religion from application for employment forms; to inform training agencies from which it recruits workers of its new policies, and to notify all labor unions with which it has contracts that "it will comply fully with its contract obligation not to discriminate against workers because of their race, creed, color, or national origin in recruitment, upgrading, or in any terms or conditions of employment."

In the case of Honeycutt, which was erecting pre-fabricated houses for the government, the committee found that the company had refused to employ Negro carpenters who belonged to unions chartered by the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, A. F. of L., and one of which unions belonged to the Mobile Building and Construction Trades Council.

The committee also found that the practices of Mobile Local 89 of the Carpenters and Joiners "operate to bar qualified Negro capenters from employment with the A. J. Honeycutt Company because of their race."

In regard to the union, the committee directed that Local 89 "ontify the A. J. Honeycutt Company in writing that it has no objections to the employment of Negro carpenters on United States Government and defense construction on the same basis as other carpenters are employed. . ." and that "written notice to the same effect be sent to other contractors engaged in United States government and defense construction. . . ."

JAN 9 - 1943

In Mobile, the committee found that there are two all-Negro locals of the Carpenters and Joiners Union, No. 92 and 1105, and that Local 92 is also a member of the Mobile Building and Construction Trades Council; but, through concerted action by the Honeycutt Company and the all-white Local 89, Negro carpenters were effectively barred from employment.

In its findings on the Gulf Shipbuilding Corporation, the committee found that the company refused to employ Negroes, except as porters and janitors, "contrary to its obligation under Executive Order 8802." In view of the attitude of the Mobile [illegible]tal Trades Council the committee also found "that there is not sufficient evidence to support the corporation's contention that white employees will refuse to work if Negroes are hired."

In regard to the Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock Corp., the committee found that the corporation "has refused to employ skilled Negro labor and has failed and refused to upgrade or promote into skilled positions Negroes already in its employ, solely because of their race, and in so doing has failed to provide for the full and equitable participation of all workers without discrimination because of race or color in violation of the provisions of Executive Order 8802."

The full direction to each company followed the lines of those issued to Vultee, detailing specific steps which the company involved must take to bring its hiring, upgrading, and training program in line with national policy as expressed in Executive Order 8802.

In keeping with a procedure established between the committee and the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy and the Chairman of the Maritime Commission, the committee also notified the Federal departments, for which the offending companies are executing contracts, of the directions issued and recommended to the department head involved that it "call upon the company...to take appropriate steps to comply with Executive Order 8802 and specifically to carry out the directions."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Biddle And McNutt To Confer Friday With Leaders On FEPC

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Representatives of 15 minority group organizations, with a direct stake in strengthening the powers of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, will meet here Friday with Attorney General Francis B. Biddle, War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, Deputy Commissioner Fowler Harper and possibly other government officials in a conference ordered last week by the White House to attempt to iron out the present difficulties preventing resumption of FEPC railroad discrimination hearings and continuance of normal anti-employment discrimination activity of the Committee.

FEB 20 1943

Among the groups invited to send "representatives of their own choosing" to the conference are the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Association of Negro Land Grant colleges, the recently formed Southern Charter Group, the March on Washington Movement, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups representing Catholic, Mexican and similar religious and racial minorities.

Representation along these lines is expected to bring to the conference table such individuals as Walter White of the NAACP, Lester Granger of the National Urban League, A. Philip Randolph of the MOW, Dr. John W. Davis of the Land Grant colleges, Dr. George E. Haynes or Dr. James Myers of the Federal Council of Churches and Tuskegee's Dr. F. D. Patterson or Fisk's Dr. Charles S. Johnson from the Southern Charter Group.

NEGRO PRESS NOT INVITED

No representatives of the Negro press have been invited to the conference, nor have any members of the present FEPC been issued invitations. The reason advanced for the exclusion of the press is that government representatives wish to have a full and frank discussion of the whole problem unhampered by publicity. The decision not to invite the Committee is said to be based on the desire to have the conference free to discuss reorganization of the entire Committee and replacement of its present personnel.

PRESENT JOB TO HOLD DR. GRAHAM

FEB 20 1943

Meanwhile the crucial question of a fulltime paid committee chairman to take the place of Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, who recently resigned, remains unsolved. Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and member of the National War Labor Board, who has been frequently mentioned for the post, told the **Pittsburgh Courier** this week that while he had no personal reluctance to becoming chairman, members of the National War Labor Board were unwilling for him to leave his present duties.

Dr. Will Alexander, also mentioned as a possible choice, similarly indicated to close friends that he was not available. Left in the field is former Lieutenant Governor Charles Polletti of New York. While recognizing his marked ability, certain labor and government circles have questioned the wisdom of his selection both because of the storm of protest his choice is apt to raise among poll tax congressmen and because of the frequent mention of his name as a candidate for mayor of New York City.

OLD COMMITTEE MET WITH BIDDLE

Preliminary to Friday's conference Biddle, McNutt and Harper met here ten days ago with Mark Ethridge, Milton P. Webster, Earl B. Dickerson, John Brophy and Boris Shiskin, comprising the present committee membership.

After a lengthy afternoon's discussion all members of the committee agreed with Attorney General Biddle on the proposal for a full-time, paid chairman of the committee, but with the exception of Ethridge, the committee insisted that its present personnel be retained on a non-paid, part-time basis. No agreement was reached on the proposal for a full-time, paid committee. It is to be expected that this question will be a central point of discussion at the conference.

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

ROOSEVELT SAYS NO CHANGE MADE IN FEPC SETUP

JAN 2 - 1943

NEW YORK CITY—In answer to resolution passed by the November meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which urged that the Fair Employment Practice Committee be restored to its full independent status as an organization separate from the War Manpower Commission, the NAACP received from the White House the following statement:

"The action of the president in issuing the Executive Order 8802 was taken after long deliberation and thorough study. In the light of developments since issuance of this order, under the free and unhampered operation of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the president feels that there is little basis for a request for a change.

JAN 2 - 1943

Still Under Executive Control

"However, he has asked me to bring to your attention two facts: one, that in the final analysis the committee is still under direct control of the chief executive, and the other, that Chairman McNutt is reorganizing the entire manpower setup and is relying strongly on decisions and recommendations made by the committee on all questions pertaining to the Negroes.

"The president directs me to tell you, therefore, that under the existing circumstances, he sees no necessity for the change as recommended by the resolution of your board."

JAN 2 - 1943

Acknowledging this communication, the NAACP further pointed out "There is very considerable scepticism among not only Negroes generally, but other minorities as well created, for example, by such circumstances as the insistence of the War Manpower Commission that its regional offices shall controll the operation in those regions of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice

Probes In North Only

JAN 2 - 1943

"Another situation giving rise to apprehension is the fact that only Northern or border cities are included in those where the FEPC will conduct hearings based on investigations of discrimination the NAACP said. Since the majority of Negroes live in the South, it is there that discrimination, particularly with respect to the use of Negroes in skilled and semi-skilled capacities, as well as in the matter of training and upgrading, is most deep-rooted

47d-1943

McNutt Closes Door To FEPC Protests

P.M. Daily, New York, N.Y.

JAN 2 0 1943

Refuses to See Delegation Representing 28 Organizations

By GORDON H. COLE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—A delegation of 40 leaders of church, labor, and liberal organizations was turned away by Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt yesterday when they came to protest his order postponing hearings into charges of racial discrimination on Southern railroads.

The delegation was stopped by uniformed guards at the entrance to the new Social Security Building, which houses the War Manpower Commission and other Government agencies.

McNutt sent down word that he would see no more than four of the group. The delegation was herded into a vacant auditorium near the building entrance and there the leaders drafted a note to McNutt, stating:

"Downstairs are representatives of 28 national labor, religious, and civic organizations for the appointment regarding your order to postpone the Fair Employment Practice Committee hearings on railway discrimination.

JAN 2 0 1943

Suggest Compromise

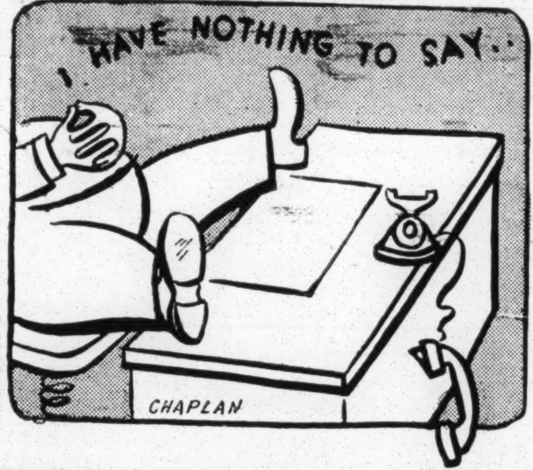
"We have come at our own expense. Now we are told you will see only four persons. We respectfully insist that the full delegation be permitted to attend, with the understanding that not more than four persons shall speak.

"Otherwise, we feel we must return, respectfully declining the interview."

The spokesmen were to have been picked from these five: Rev. James Myers, industrial secretary of the Federal Council of Churches; George K. Hunton, secretary of the Catholic Inter-Racial Council; Rabbi Abraham Shusterman, A. Philip Randolph, chairman of the Provisional Committee to Organize Colored Locomotive Firemen, and Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

JAN 2 0 1943

The petition, signed by all 40, failed to win the group access to Manpower Commissioner McNutt's office.


I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY..
CHAPLAN

Commission officials explained that the Chairman's refusal to see the big delegation stemmed from a meeting with another large group on the same subject last Friday. At that time, it was said, McNutt decided that nothing could be accomplished with big conferences.

Having been turned down, the delegation returned to the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, where a telegram reporting McNutt's conduct was drafted and sent to the White House for the President's attention.

Action Deplored

One of the leaders, Rev. James Myers, industrial secretary of the Federal Council of Churches, later issued a statement, publicly deploring as "most regrettable" McNutt's action in postponing indefinitely hearings which had been scheduled by the FEPC on discrimination against Negroes working as firemen and on other jobs on Southern railroads.

Myers contended that the incident raises "the whole question of the status and future usefulness of the FEPC, which has been like a beacon of hope in a heretofore dark picture of race discrimination and lack of democracy in employment practices in many industries."

Plans for the attempted conference with McNutt were organized by the Citizens' Committee to Save Colored Locomotive Firemen's Jobs. Mayor La Guardia is chairman of that committee and Eleanor Roosevelt honorary chairman.

FEPC

Four FEPC Men Tire of Waiting, Call Hearings

APR 2 5 1943

New York, N. Y. ____ The Daily Worker

Four members of the Fair Employment Practices Committee told the nation this week that they're sick of waiting for War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to reorganize the agency.

APR 2 5 1943

These four got together last Monday and decided to open public hearings on May 18 on the failure of the Capital Transit Company in Washington to end discrmination in its employemnt practices, as it was directed to do by FEPC. Following that, there will be public hearings in the Detroit area on widespread discrimination practices there.

APR 2 5 1943

FEPC ceased to function after it was transferred to the War Manpower Commission last summer. Up to that time, it had been an independent agency, directly responsible to the President, and was doing a good job.

APR 2 5 1943

Cancellation of scheduled public hearings on discrimination on the railroads by McNutt led to the resignation of several members, including the chairman. Following these resignations, the agency has been inactive, waiting for McNutt to "reorganize."

GREET MOVE

Negro leaders here hail the move of the four FEPC members, who are: Earl Dickerson, prominent Chicago Negro attorney; Boris Shishkin, AFL representative; John Milton Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

These leaders say that the move will force the hand of McNutt on the matter. They believe that the cancellation of the railroad hearings was a deliberate attempt to ditch FEPC, inspired by pressure from poll tax Congressmen.

Since the cancellation of the hearings, and the consequent resignations, these Negro leaders have been after McNutt and the President for reorganization of FEPC as an independent agency, with strong leadership, power to enforce decisions, and money to do the job.

They say that this runaround confirms their original opinion that McNutt was out to kill FEPC when he cancelled the railroad hearings.

APR 2 5 1943

PETITION CAMPAIGN

The action of the four FEPC members in reopening hearings on the old basis won't slow up the fight for reorganization of the agency as an independent body, the Negro leaders say. Right now there is a petition campaign for a million signatures, sponsored by National Negro Congress, urging the President to set up the agency as an independent body, with the powers mentioned above.

National Negro Congress headquarters report that hundreds of these petitions have been filled out, and thousands more are being circulated throughout the eastern seaboard and in the middle west. A few trade unions, notably the Furriers Union, have been doing a big job in getting the petitions filled out, according to NNC leaders. They feel, however, that they will have to get stronger support from organized labor to put the drive across.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

McNutt Wants Army To Draft More Negroes

MAR 8 1943

He Is Advised To Give FEPC Same Consideration

MAR 8 1943

WASHINGTON--(ANP)—Draft more Negroes for the army, regardless of past rulings and considerations of percentages, is the plea of Paul V. McNutt, who sees in this step the elimination of necessity for drafting whites in other classifications. McNutt has pointed out that the percentage system has kept more Negroes out of the army than any other method. By eliminating this method of calling draftees for the army and by taking Negroes in all branches of the services, army, navy, marine corps, without regard for the percentage quota, an easement on the number of whites being called will be effected.

MAR 8 1943

McNutt did not clarify his statement nor elaborate on it when made to his press conference Monday, however, his statement was clear enough to be understood.

War department officials had no comment to make on the elimination of their percentage calling system.

While McNutt is willing to see that Negroes are called into the army regardless of the number or percentage, he has done nothing about the FEPC in which Negroes themselves are intensely interested.

Calling Negroes for the army by quota has left a large pool of Negroes with 1-A classifications, McNutt says. On the other hand, a large number of whites has been called into the army exhausting completely the 1-A classification.

DENIED PRIVILEGE

Earlier in the war it was possible for whites to enlist in all branches of the service. Negroes were denied this privilege. As a result, white men were already draining their own manpower pool before Negroes were permitted to join up.

In the first days of the selective service system, even when men were being called to the colors, they were slow in calling Negroes, declaring there were no facilities for training them at that time. The recent statement of the war department that there are now 450,000 Negroes in the armed services bears out the statement that there are slightly over 10 per cent in the Military service.

McNutt's new suggestion will bring to the navy, marine corps and army an influx of men which they say they are not ready to accept.

Mr. McNutt has been advised to apply the same principles to the FEPC and the labor situation.

The war and navy departments bluntly refused to accept McNutt's proposal to draft Negroes without reference to the percentage quotas which they have followed in the past. Such action would upset all of the departmental plans and arrangements.

FAIR JOB COMMITTEE TAKEN FROM McNUTT

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.
June 5, 1943

WASHINGTON, June 3—There is an amended Executive order governing the work of the FEPC, a new FEPC chairman in the person of Monsignor Francis Joseph Haas, dean of the School of Social Science of Catholic university here, and a new six-man FEPC in the making. Last Thursday, President Roosevelt formally appointed Monsignor Haas as FEPC chairman and issued simultaneously a new executive order outlining the policies of the United States regarding discrimination in war industry and establishing the powers of the new committee.

PLEDGES ACTION

At a press conference held at FEPC offices last Thursday afternoon the new FEPC chairman told the press that he would not "dodge anything" in connection with his new job.

The new executive order places a responsibility upon all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies as well as upon all labor organizations "to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin."

Under the terms of the new order the FEPC is transferred from the jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission and placed in the Office for Emergency Management in the Executive Office of the President. Asked the meaning of this change of jurisdiction, Monsignor Haas told The Pittsburgh Courier that the committee would probably have one of the White House secretaries as a liaison between itself and President Roosevelt.

FDR LAUDS ABILITY OF FATHER HAAS

In his letter of appointment of Father Haas, President Roosevelt expressed confidence in the ability of the new chairman to deal with the problem of war time discrimination in industry. The letter to Father Haas stated, "Under your prudent and able direction, I am confident that the committee will make substantial progress in the solution of the vexing problems of discrimination in industry."

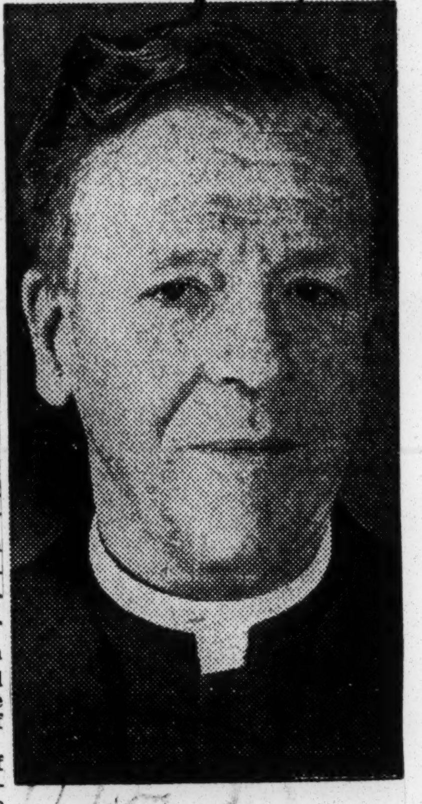
Speaking of the importance of the new executive order, Roosevelt's letter said: "It assures the participation in the war program of workers who are inadequately used or not used at all in war industry. The work of the committee will thus be intimately related to our national war effort."

Under the terms of the new executive order the salary of the new chairman is fixed at a sum "not exceeding $10,000 per year," while that of the other six members is fixed at $25 a day, plus travel and subsistence allowance on days when actually engaged in committee work. The order gives the President leeway, however, to prescribe other compensation for committee members.

GETS POWER TO ACT

The committee is given authority to formulate policies for carrying out the executive order, to recommend to the President and Federal agencies steps for meeting discrimination problems and to propose to the chairman of the War Manpower Commission "appropriate measures for bringing about the full utilization and training of manpower in and for war production without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin." It may also hold hearings, conduct investigations, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of discrimination.

SELECTED June 5, 1943



A veteran of labor disputes, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, dean of the School of Social Science at Catholic university, was selected by President Roosevelt to head a new committee designed to prevent discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin, in Federal departments and labor unions. The latter in the matter of memberships.

SOME PREDICTIONS ON FEPC SET-UP

The new FEPC order leaves open many questions which have for the last three months of FEPC inaction and confusion been the subject of sharp controversy. No one can now answer these questions finally, but here are some predictions: Look for the retention of Brophy, Shishkin and Webster on the new committee and the substitution of a Negro businessman for Dickerson. Look for the replacement of Lawrence Cramer, who is soon to go to the Army, by a white Southerner with an excellent record on Negro problems. Look for the appointment of President Hoffman of the Studebaker company as an industry representative. Look for the holding of the Railroad hearings some weeks or months hence, but the use of hearings in other cases only as a matter of last resort. Look for Marvin McIntyre, White House secretary, to play a leading behind-the-scenes role in the committee, with James Byrnes, former South Carolina senator, having final authority.

The new order also leaves in doubt the question of power of the FEPC to enforce its findings of fact. While it seems certain that the commitee will have a substantially increased budget, it seems equally certain that it can be effective only by persuasion and not by force. It can be said authoritatively that the new order is greatly weaker than the one sought for by Haas and prepared by the Department of Justice.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

FEPC to Hear Job-Bias Cases In Capital

MAY 17 1943

By Eva Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee which has been lying low these last few months is about to come to life again.

Two hearings on discrimination against Negroes in industry have been scheduled by the FEPC which observers here believe will bring about a showdown on whether the Committee can actually gain a new lease on life.

On Tuesday, May 18, the FEPC will hold a hearing to put the Capital Transit Company here on the spot for its continued failure to employ Negroes despite repeated directives.

MAY 17 1943

And on May 24 and 25, the committee has scheduled an investigation in Detroit on discriminatory practices against Negro women and failure to advance and up-grade Negro workers already in industry.

TOOK INITIATIVE

It is understood that the FEPC went ahead with these hearings on its own initiative without direct orders from its "boss," War Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt.

This action brings to a head the demand by Negro and white groups that FEPC be given independent status, that a chairman be appointed, and that the committee get down to work to stop discrimination which is on the increase in war plants.

Ever since the Southern tories in Congress succeeded in pressuring McNutt to call off the hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry, FEPC has been sitting on its hands.

MAY 17 1943

For one thing there has been no chairman appointed since Mark Ethridge resigned in February.

Although more than six important people have been offered the chairmanship of FEPC, none of these men has accepted the job. The main reason is that FEPC is considered a "hot potato" because of the strong pressure exerted by Southern tories in this capital against its activities.

In addition, the FEPC is in a confused status and no chairman has any idea of how much authority he would have.

Among the men to whom the important job has been offered were former Senator George Norris, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman, Dr. Will Alexander, Professor Cole of the University of Tennessee, and Mark Ethridge, former chairman who was asked to come back.

MAY 17 1943

NO CHAIRMAN YET

Although WMC director McNutt promised a delegation of Negro leaders on Feb. 19 that he would immediately appoint a chairman to direct the work of the FEPC, the committee is still without a head.

Malcolm Dickerson has been carrying most of the work alone, but there is little hope that he could succeed to the position of chairmanship inasmuch as he is a Negro and the Southern poll-taxers in Congress would never hear of such a thing.

Responsible Negro and white groups have insisted all along that FEPC be removed from the jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission and be set up as an independent agency with funds from President Roosevelt's own contingency fund.

MAY 17 1943

If the funds came from the President, Congress would not be able to obstruct the work of the FEPC through cutting down appropriations as easily as if it continued under WMC.

The hearing scheduled on Tuesday to inquire into the non-compliance of the Capital Transit Company with FEPC's order to cease discrimination is being watched with great interest here.

The Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities has been hammering away at the company to live up to the President's Executive Order 8802 with no success. Not a single Negro platform worker has been hired, and it is hoped that this public hearing will finally force the arrogant company to abandon its discriminatory policies.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

New Board To Act Against Job Race Bias

MAY 29 1943

Msgr. Haas Heads Group Replacing Old McNutt Setup

MAY 29 1943

By Edwin D. Gritz
Post Staff Writer

An autonomous committee to "eliminate" discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin was established by President Roosevelt yesterday under Msgr. Francis J. Haas of Catholic University, who told a press conference shortly after that he was determined to clear up "this filthy situation" of discrimination.

The new Committee on Fair Employment Practice supersedes one of the same name which fell into inactivity recently. Under the executive order, the new committee was granted clear powers to eliminate discrimination by all employers, Federal departments and labor unions, the latter in matters of membership.

MAY 29 1943

McNutt Control Abolished

As reconstituted, the committee was removed from the jurisdiction of Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt and can itself formulate policies and make recommendations to Federal departments and agencies. The old committee was independent, but under McNutt in the actual mechanics of operation.

Father Haas, who has taken leave as dean of the School of Social Science of Catholic University, was a member of the original National Labor Relations Board, a special conciliator for the Labor Department since 1935, and a participant in the settlement of about 1500 labor disputes.

Stressing that the new committee "is not going to dodge anything," Father Haas asserted that "our country is too big for discrimination."

Father Haas declared that manpower is not being effectively used because of still prevalent discrimination, adding, "And this should not be tolerated, not only for the prosecution of the war, but in fairness and decency to all American people."

MAY 29 1943

Among other executive order provisions the committee was empowered to bring about inclusion in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated clauses by contractors not to discriminate against any employe or applicant. The employers are also obligated to include similar clauses in subcontracts.

Likewise, Government departments and agencies concerned with vocational and training programs for war production are required to administrate these programs without discrimination of any kind.

Father Haas indicated that the six-man membership of the committee may not be determined in time for next Wednesday's hearing, scheduled by the old committee, for the Capital Transit Co. an charges of discriminating against hiring Negroes.

MAY 29 1943

47d-1943

FEPC

Anti-Negro Bias in Railroad Industry Too Full of Dynamite for Manpower Commissioner; Major Blow-up Threatened

JAN 11 1943

P.M. Daily
N.Y., N.Y.

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt has intervened to suppress the Fair Employment Practice Committee's dynamite-packed exposure of anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry, it was learned today.

Under pressure from McNutt, the FEPC, a unit of the Manpower Commission, has been forced to "postpone"—indefinitely—public hearings at which it was prepared to shoot the works against railroad management and unions for defying President Roosevelt's anti-discrimination order.

McNutt's move appeared certain to create a major blow-up on the discrimination issue and may lead to sudden collapse of the FEPC, spearhead of the drive for equal rights in war work. With Negro groups expected to interpret McNutt's action as a "death sentence" for the FEPC, key members of the Committee already were reported on the verge of resignation.

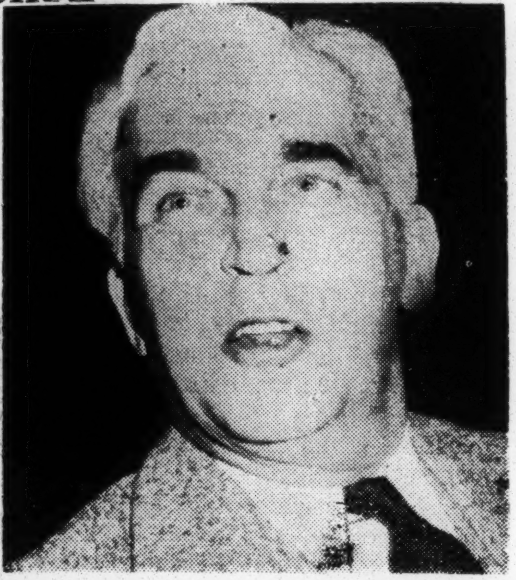
Who'll Take Rap?

Official announcement of the "postponement" of the hearings, scheduled to begin here next Monday, may come at McNutt's weekly press conference today. Members of the FEPC are understood to have flatly rejected McNutt's request that the Committee issue the announcement on its own. They told him bluntly that, if he insisted on abandonment of the hearings, he would have to "take the rap" himself.

It is understood that McNutt's final decision to block the hearings was communicated to Lawrence W. Cramer, executive secretary of the FEPC, on Saturday. Cramer conferred with other members of the Committee, then informed the manpower chief that he would have to make an announcement under his own name.

The gravity of the case is underlined by the fact that the projected railroad hearings have been heralded as a key test of the FEPC's prestige and power. Heretofore, most FEPC probes have been confined to single war plants or localities rather than to an entire industry. Moreover, the railroads long have been a target of sharp attack among Negroes because of widespread and flagrant discriminatory practices.

Indicating the importance attached to this case, the FEPC decided at the outset not to rely exclusively on its own staff and called on Henry Epstein, former Solicitor General of New York State, to conduct the hearings. Epstein has been working with a group of aides for many weeks and was ready to open the hearings on schedule. Railroad management and labor organizations already had received "bills of particulars" from the FEPC, summarizing the major findings of the investigation.



Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt who has suppressed a report of racial discrimination in the railroad industry.

What reasons McNutt offered for side stepping the hearings could not be ascertained. Representatives of the railroad magnates and of the railroad brotherhoods have been carrying on a behind-the-scenes campaign to force abandonment of the inquiry, on the ground that it would create "friction" among railroad workers.

Some sources suggested that members of the Railway Mediation Board may have used their weight to scuttle the probe. The Board, it is understood, also was slated for sharp attack at the hearings for approving one of the "Jim Crow" contracts which the FEPC was expected to condemn.

Jim Crow Agreement

A major part of the indictment against the railroad groups is understood to rest on a "non-promotable" agreement between the all-white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen with the Southeastern Carriers Conference, representing 25 Southern railroads.

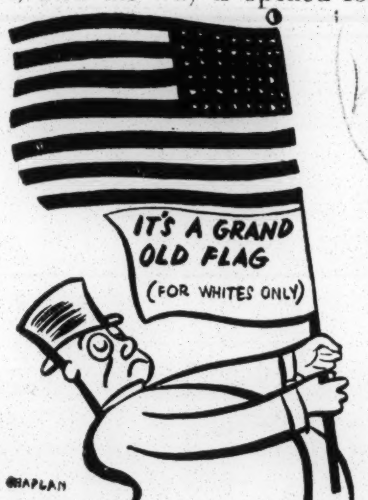
This agreement, it is charged, provides in effect for elimination of all Negro firemen on the roads as fast as Diesel or stokerized engines replace the hand-fired coal engines (The Interstate Commerce Commission has ruled that these replacements must occur by July 1, 1943.) No Negroes are admitted to the Brotherhood, but that organization is permitted to act as "sole bargaining agent" for them.

Commenting on this agreement, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, said recently:

"If the FEPC cannot prevent the unfair and illegal elimination of Negro workers from jobs in which they have been established for nearly a century, its ability to open new opportunities for Negroes will be hopelessly impaired."

In the same statement, issued a few days before McNutt's intervention to block the hearings, Randolph declared that the FEPC's railroad investigation is "a showdown for executive order No. 8802 and for the Committee itself."

"If we can stop this vicious 'non-promotable' offensive by the brotherhood-carrier coalition, then the way is opened for more upgrading of Negro workers, not merely on the railroads, but throughout industry."



"If the FEPC permits defiance or evasion of the President's order by the powerful all-white railroad brotherhoods, we'll sooner or later face a relapse into Jim Crowism by other unions which only recently have begun to see the light."

Randolph's views reflected the feeling throughout Negro circles and among anti-discrimination groups generally.

The railroad hearings originally were scheduled to begin last December, but were postponed until January 25, to permit completion of the investigation. Plans for the hearings were announced as far back as last October and have been widely publicized, especially among Negro organizations, in the ensuing months.

Members of the FEPC include Mark Ethridge, liberal Southern publisher, Boris Shishkin of the AFL, John Brophy of the CIO and Milton Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Dr. Malcolm MacLean is chairman. David Sarnoff is understood to have submitted his resignation recently, but whether his move was linked to the collapse of the railroad case is not known.

A mass meeting had been planned here for January 24—eve of the railroad hearings. Labor and Negro leaders were to deliver speeches celebrating the launching of the attack on Jim Crow on the railroads.

That meeting probably will be converted into a protest demonstration.

Back Dickerson for Reorganized FEPC

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 19 1943

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Leading Negro and white lawyers urged upon Paul V. McNutt the retention of Earl B. Dickerson as a member of the Fair Employment Practices Committee which is in the process of being reorganized.

The letter was sent on behalf of the National Lawyers Guild, and was signed by Robert W. Kenny, president, National Lawyers Guild, William H. Hastie, vice-president, National Lawyers Guild, Martin Popper, National Executive Secretary, National Lawyers Guild, Lee Pressman, General Council, Congress of Industrial Organizations, Hubert T. Delaney, Justice, Domestic Relations Court and Thurgood Marshall, Special Council, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in the face of rumors circulating in Washington to the effect that Mr. Dickerson was not to be reappointed because he insisted upon the vigorous enforcement of Executive Order No. 8802.

The letter to Mr. McNutt stated "the failure to appoint Mr. Dickerson, the disregard of his proven ability and of the valuable experience he has acquired in the fight against discrimination in employment, will inevitably have the effect of arousing renewed suspicion concerning the wholeheartedness with which the President's policy is to be put into force."

The full text of the letter to Mr. McNutt follows:

On June 25, 1942, the National Lawyers Guild wrote to President Roosevelt, urging the appointment of Honorable Earl B. Dickerson as a member of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, which was then being established. The reasons which were the basis of our request are still valid, and to them has been added the valuable experience which Mr. Dickerson gained as a member of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, and the ability he has shown in that position.

Mr. Dickerson is an outstanding leader of the Bar. His record over many years has been that of a leader in the cause of our Negro citizens. He has a clear understanding of the issues facing the country today, and of the paramount necessity for winning the war.

It is not necessary for us to point out to you the importance of national unity at this time, or the vital necessity of securing from the Negro people their full measure of cooperation in our crucial struggle against fascism. The appointment of Mr. Dickerson as a member of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, which is now being reorganized, will go far toward maintaining and building still further that national unity which we must have if we are to win the war. His appointment will be an assurance that the objectives of the President's policy against discrimination will be vigorously carried out. The failure to appoint Mr. Dickerson, the disregard of his proven ability and of the valuable experience he has acquird in the fight against discrimination in employment, will inevitably have the effect of arousing renewed suspicion concerning the wholeheartedness with which the President's policy is to be put into force.

Three FEPC Members Hit McNutt In Letter To FDR

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 8 1943

Committee Reported Worried Over Present Condition

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — With the morale of the office force at a low state, and the members of the committee itself perturbed over the present condition, the three members of the FEPC who met on Monday addressed a very strong letter to President Roosevelt, expressing entire dissatisfaction at the manner in which Paul V. McNutt has handled the affairs of that organization recently.

MAR 8 1943

Present and presiding was Earl Dickerson; with him John Brophy of the CIO and Morris Shiskin of the AFL were the other members. Etheridge, the chairman, was absent as was Milton Webster.

Feeling that the President has deserted the group in the crisis, there was nothing for the members to do but express their sentiment to the man who originated the idea of the committee

PREDICT DEATH

With only routine work proceeding in the office, no policies established, no routines established whereby the committee will be able to see its way clear to do an effective job, there is little reason to expect anything except disgust and dissention. Some have said this will be the policy of the powers that be, to let the committee die a natural death unnoticed and unheeded.

The recent meeting of "leaders" from all over the country is being considered more or less a political gesture to soften the blow. It is felt in high places that nothing will come of this meeting, no matter what has been promised.

MAR 8 1943

A similar case is pointed out in Maryland, where about a year ago there was a "March on Annapolis." Two thousand Negroes laid their grievances on the governor's doorstep. He promised to "look into all of the complaints." Election time was drawing near and some excuse had to be made. Since then, there has been nothing heard of the committee appointed by the governor to investigate the charges.

FEPC is in a similar spot. No one seems to know what to do. The original sponsors have deserted the group leaving the entire matter in the hands of underlings who are constantly under fire and taking a severe going over because of their failure to comprehend the situation or attempt to do anything about it.

OF VITAL INTEREST

The FEPC is of vital interest to every member of a minority group in the United States and the manhandling of that organization may be seen as the handwriting on the wall as far as liberalism toward minority groups is concerned.

The contents of the letter to the President were not revealed, but it is known that a careful reading would show a complete dissatisfaction with both Mr. McNutt and Atty. Gen. Biddle, the latter too strongly influenced by the professional white solvers of Negro problems, who know only how to line their pockets off Negroes' earnings or live off their misfortunes.

"The Negro is determined not to let the FEPC die without holding a wake that will resound down to the very edges of the 'fourth term,' said one speaker when questioned on the matter. "If Mr Roosevelt has any ideas about a fourth term, he had better stop flirting with the unreconstructed south and stick with those who have carried him thus far. Surely, the Negro had an important part in his successes."

No satisfactory word may be had from the FEPC representatives, none of whom seem to know what is going on nor how long they will be functioning

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CIO Assails McNutt For Gagging FEPC

P. M. Daily
New York, N.Y.

AFL Joins in Protesting Suppression of Hearings on Jim Crowism in Railroad Industry

JAN 13 1943

By James A. Wechsler
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt today faced mounting protest over his ban on the Fair Employment Practice Committee's long-prepared exposure of anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry.

In a sharp attack on McNutt's action, CIO Secretary James B. Carey charged that postponement of the railroad hearings "is a serious blow to the war morale of 10,000,000 Negro citizens and to all white persons who know that racial discrimination is a Hitlerite weapon."

Acting as head of the CIO's anti-discrimination committee, Carey appealed directly to McNutt to "correct this grievous error before we lose the faith of millions of people, at home and abroad." He said that McNutt's announcement calling off the railroad exposure "constitutes a setback of the first magnitude on the home front."

Simultaneously, an AFL spokesman disclosed that President William Green had instructed Boris Shishkin, Federation representative on the Fair Employment Practice Committee, to ask for an immediate meeting of the FEPC and to register AFL's opposition to McNutt's stand. Green was represented as feeling strongly that the railroad hearings should go on as scheduled.

Committee May Dissolve

JAN 13 1943

With John Brophy, CIO representative on the FEPC, and Shishkin expected to join in demanding that McNutt back down, it appeared that the Committee would make a strong fight for survival before any resignations take place. If McNutt refuses to yield, the FEPC—a unit of the War Manpower Commission—is believed almost certain to go out of business.

Henry Epstein's withdrawal as chief counsel to the FEPC in the railroad case, announced in New York yesterday, also was expected to help crystallize the revolt stirred by McNutt's action. Epstein, former Solicitor General of New York State, had spent many weeks directing the FEPC probe. (*Story in Column* 3.)

Some sources close to the Manpower Commission expressed belief that anti-discrimination groups still had a fighting chance to force reversal of McNutt's decision. It was said that protests from labor, liberal and Negro groups had started coming in almost as soon as the news broke.

CIO Secretary James B. Carey said yesterday Manpower Commissioner McNutt's gag on FEPC is a serious blow to morale.

The projected railroad hearings were slated to expose the "lily-white" coalition of management and unions in the railroad industry designed to keep Negroes from gaining advancement and to reduce the number employed on the roads.

Decision 'Disappoints' CIO

With the hearings scheduled to start on Jan. 25, McNutt last week end informed Lawrence Cramer, executive director of the FEPC, that the show wouldn't go on. On Monday McNutt told a press conference that the Manpower Commission would use "other ways" to combat discrimination on the railroads. He didn't say what they would be.

JAN 13 1943

In protesting McNutt's move, CIO Secretary Carey said:

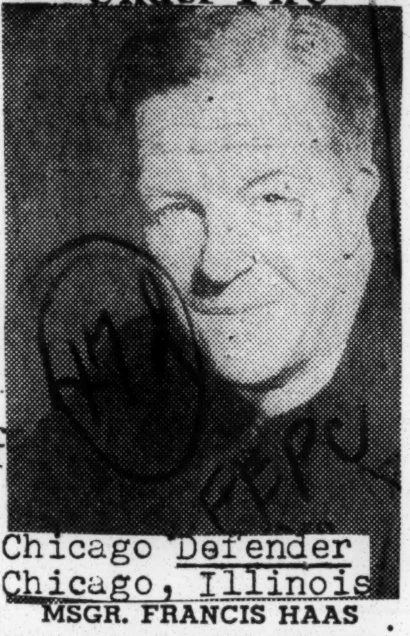
"Mr. McNutt's announcement constitutes a setback of the first magnitude on the home front of this Nation's war effort. Unless speedily corrected, it well may develop into an equally serious obstacle to achieving full unity among all the peoples of the United Nations, regardless of color or creed, in their global war against the Axis.

"The home front is linked indissolubly with our battlefronts. And the time has come for Mr. McNutt to show the same courage and valor at home as our fighting service men, regardless of color or creed, are displaying in their daily engagements with the enemy. . ."

Paul Robeson, addressing a banquet in honor of the Negro Merchant Marine skipper, Capt. Hugh Mulzac, at the Hotel Commodore in New York last night said:

"We must see that the words of McNutt do not stand. We must call on the President for an investigation."

Under Fire



Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MSGR. FRANCIS HAAS

New chairman of the Fair Employment Practice committee who was criticized this week for condoning segregation in the Mobile shipyard dispute.

JUN 19 1943

47d-1943
Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

FEPC Not Obeyed in Mobile

Negro Workers Not Being Used To Full Capacity

JAN 1 1943

By REV. H. E. CARTER

MOBILE, Ala. — (ANP) — Unfortunately in the Mobile area, Negro labor is not being utilized where it can be the greatest asset to America's war effort. The rule applies wherever "defense" or war work is being done, including Brookley field, the army air port.

At the Alabama ship yards, Negroes are not even promised to be up-graded. There are a few helpers in some shops. They are men who have been there some years, before war work began, and in order not to nemote them, they are retained as helpers.

In almost every case of this kind the Negro is not a helper, in fact, but in name and pay only; and actually he is the blacksmith or tinner as the case may be. In these particular shops, (blacksmith and tinner) there are men with 25 or 30 years' experience. From these men the heads of the shops seek and get information regarding the work to be done.

Fifteen years ago, Negroes did work as pipefitters. Today Negroes are not used, even as pipefitters' helpers. In the electrical department, no Negro helpers are used.

NEGRO ELECTRICANS

There is one licensed Negro electrician in Mobile; and there are five others who are qualified as such. The matter of their being employed in war industries in Mobile is out of the question. They are not even considered for employment as such. In this case, as in many other, the labor union is responsible for the Negro being shut out.

There is one "test case" of a Negro whose application has been on file in the electricians' union for quite a few years. So far as he knows, no action has ever been taken. The only licensed Negro electrician in Mobile has qualified by civil service examination ,to become an instructor in electricity at the United States Navy yard, Mare Island, Cal. He also has very lucrative offers from Puget Sound, Bremerton, Washington, and Chanute field.

In the boiler makers' department no Negro helpers are used. Men of years of experience are working as helpers.

JAN 1 1943

In the machine shop there are four Negroes whose experience averages 20 years who can do any type of work in their line. Other Negroes, along with them, who have been there for several years remain there as helpers and laborers, having absolutely no chance for promotion or up-grading.

Other men who have come in recently, having a few short weeks of experience, are promoted or upgraded all around and over those well trained and experienced Negroes. This applies in all shops where Negroes are employed.

There are no Negroes employed as ship-carpenters. Only a few Negroes are used in this work, some of whom could easily qualify as carpenters. In caulking and riveting, the Negro is employed as laborer with no chance for up-grading.

PAINTERS

Negro painters are hired as dockmen at 80 cents per hour, and assigned to painters' jobs even as spray-gun painters. The regular painters' scale is $1.20 per hour. Other painters on the same job, painting behind those Negroes are getting the regular painters' scale.

TRAINED WITH-IN INDUSTRY

JAN 1 1943

In spite of the elaborate T. W. I. setup, Negroes are systematically and consistently excluded. At least 500 women are being trained as welders, sheet-metal workers, burners and lay-out crews, but no Negroes. Those trained are paid a nominal wage while in-training. There are at least 70 trained welders in Mobile, men who were trained at the expense of the federal government.

These men have applied at the shipyards for employment as welders but have been either hired as laborers or left unemployed. This, in spite of the fact that sometime ago there was a statement published o the effect that there were no more male welders available. Therefore the shipyards had to resort to training women welders.

BROOKLEY FIELD

There is as much discrimination at Brookley field, the army air port, as can be found anywhere else in the area. There Negroes are employed as classified laborers and assigned to skilled jobs, with classified labor pay. This is especially applicable in the packing department. Negro applicants are not admitted to the examination for storekeepers.

FEPC

JAN 1 1943

There are instances where Negroes were sent, by their foreman, to certain places to work and the subforeman refused to accept them, saying they could not work with him or that he would not have them.

In every instance of this kind, the foreman had acquiesced to common labor. Others would not accept the compromise. Several girls were qualified as typists by civil service examination, two rating very highly wer turned away with the statement, "We have no place for colored typists."

The expressed desire of the general supervisor of depot supply is to keep Negroes out of jobs where the pay is above $1500 per year.

CARPENTERS

There are about 200 Negro carpenters in Mobile. On jobs where they are employed, they do not work on the same building with white carpenters. Approximately 3,000 carpenters are working on various jobs that are financed by the federal government, but less than 100 colored carpenters are employed.

JAN 1 1943

BRICK MASONS

Negro brick-masons work harmoniously along with white brickmasons; not only on the same job, but on the same building, the same wall. They are together in the same local union. Their business manager is fair and sees that no discrimination is practiced on any job where brickmasons are employed.

White and colored plasterers and cement finishers are not only in the same local union, but have a colored business manager. They all work together, thus destroying the idea that white craftsmen wil not work with Negro craftsmen.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FEPC Will Open Office In Atlanta

A regional office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee is to be opened in Atlanta, it was announced here Tuesday. Father F. J. Haas, chairman of the committee, made the announcement in Washington, it was reported.

AUG 1 1943

Such an office here would investigate Defense plants and production centers that discriminate against Negroes.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland.

Say Skilled Workers in Mobile Rated Unskilled Despite FEPC

JAN 2 - 1943

By THE REV. H. E. CARTER

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At the Alabama shipyards, colored workers are not even promised up-grading. There are a few helpers in some shops. They are men who have been there some years, before war work began, and in order not to demote them, they are retained as helpers.

Electrical Jobs Out

JAN 2 - 1943

Fifteen years ago colored men did work as pipefitters. Today they are not used, even as pipefitters' helpers. In the electrical department, no colored helpers are used. There is one licensed colored electrician here and five others who are qualified as such.

In the boiler makers' department no colored helpers are used. Men of years of experience are working as laborers. None are employed as ship carpenters, the few caulkers and riveters being classed as laborers.

In the machine shop there are four colored men whose experience averages twenty years who can do any type of work in their line. Others who have been there for several years remain there as helpers and laborers with no chance for promotion.

Colored painters are hired as dockmen at 80 cents per hour and assigned to painters' jobs, even as spray-gun painters. The regular painters' scale is $1.20 per hour. Other painters on the same job, painting behind these men are getting the regular painters' scale.

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Brookley Field

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There are about 200 colored carpenters in Mobile. On jobs where they are employed, they do not work on the same building with white carpenters. Approximately 3,000 carpenters are working on various jobs financed by the Federal Government, but less than 100 are colored.

Brick Masons Work Together

JAN 2 - 1943

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White and colored plasterers and cement finishers are not only in the same local union, but have a colored business manager. They all work together, thus destroying the idea that white craftsmen will not work with colored craftsmen.

Jacksonville, Fla. Times-Union
January 19, 1943

Negro Resigns As Civilian Aid To War Secretary

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, (AP)—The resignation of William H. Hastie, negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, was disclosed today. Hastie declined to say why he was resigning or what he expected to do.

"I wish to state my sincere appreciation for the measure of friendly support and co-operation which my office has received from the press," he said in a statement. "I shall have no further or amplifying statement to make until after my official duties shall have terminated" at the end of this month.

Hastie was born in 1904 at Knoxville, Tenn., and is a graduate of Amherst College and the Harvard Law School. He has been on leave as dean of the Howard University Law School here since he joined Secretary Stimson's staff November 1, 1940, as an adviser on negro affairs. Hastie was Federal judge in the Virgin Islands from 1937 to 1939.

Hastie said that his assistant, Truman K. Gibson Jr., and Louis Lautier, administrative assistant in charge of matters affecting negro civilian personnel, would remain on duty with the department, "at least through such transitional periods as may be necessary to prevent any discontinuity in efforts which have been undertaken by this office."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Dee Cee To Protest McNutt FEPC Ruling

1/19/42

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Final plans have been made for the biggest demonstration Washington, D. C., has ever witnessed in the form of a monster protest mass meeting to be held at Vermont Avenue Baptist Church Sunday, January 24, 3:00 P. M.

The meeting is a direct protest to the recent ruling of Paul V. McNutt postponing the scheduled hearings of FEPC in the case of the Negro railroad firemen and railroad workers, in alleged discriminations. The hearings were slated to disclose what is termed as the most flagrant job of discrimination ever perpetrated upon a group of workers.

1/19/43

Negroes throughout the country have been greatly alarmed ever since President Roosevelt switched the FEPC to McNutt. There was general discontent at that time and floods of telegrams poured into the White House. They were fearful at that time that the committee would lose much of its effectiveness and the recent ruling and action of McNutt have justified their contentions.

1/19/43

Members of FEPC are at a loss to determine the reason for McNutt's sudden decision, due to the fact that much time and money have been spent to gather the vast amount of information which was to be used at the hearings. Henry Epstein, former solicitor of New York state, Harold A. Stevens, New York and Charles H. Houston, of this city, were the attorneys handling the case for FEPC.

With a number of committees at work, the protest meeting bids fair to be attended by 5,000 persons or more. Every church, club, civic, labor, and fraternal organization, of Washington and vicinity is being urged and requested to take part, so that McNutt and the forces responsible for the calling off of the hearings may know the people of the country, and particularly the Negro, are determined to see that the Negro workers keep their jobs and be free from discrimination.

Speakers slated to appear on the program include B. F. McLaurin, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; James B. Carey, CIO; A. Philip Randolph, Director, March On Washington Committee; Paul Scharrenberg, AFL; Theodore A. Jackson, President, Dining Car Employees Union; Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin, and Thurman L. Dodson.

Addes Calls Gag on FEPC A 'Disgrace'

"Daily Worker"
"Daily Worker"
New York, N.Y.

JAN 26 1943

DETROIT, Jan. 25.—George F Addes, secretary-treasurer of the UAW-CIO and director of the War Policy Board sent a strong letter of protest to Paul V. McNutt of the indefinite postponement of the public hearings on discrimination against the Negroes in the railroad industry.

Stating that "during this present war emergency is no time for the government or government officials to show signs of weakness or adopt an appeasement policy on this matter. The principle of no discrimination should not be made a political football or the subject of political bargaining," Addes went on to blast the discrimination against the Negro in the railroad industry as a "disgrace to our democratic country."

"The UAW-CIO has consistently fought against discrimination of any kind and character and insist that a non-discriminatory policy be followed in all plants wherein the UAW-CIO has collective bargaining agreements. In these plants Negro men and women are today working side by side with other workers and are contributing a great deal towards the success of the war production drive" his statement continued.

NEED ALL TO HELP

"We need the help of the Negro people to win this war, and failure on the part of government to cooperate in denouncing those industries and managements that refuse to abide by the Constitution will unquestionably tend to lower the faith of many in the democratic ideals for which we are today fighting" concludes the statement.

JAN 26 1943

Walter P. Reuther, vice-president of the UAW-CIO and member of the Labor-Management Policy Committee of the United States War Manpower Commission added his voice to the protests flowing in to Paul V. McNutt.

Reuther emphatically protested the postponement of the hearing and urged that they be opened forthwith so that remedial steps can be taken to improve the situation. In addition Reuther declares that "The UAW-CIO is disturbed by reports that proposed hearings by the FEPC in Detroit may also be postponed. Our union desires to register its protest also against any postponement of projected Detroit hearings."

He also charges that railroad executives and short-sighted unions are working together "to abrogate President Roosevelt's order 8802 against racial discrimination, and that these activities are a serious blow to the morale of millions of colored citizens whose contribution to the war effort is so vital to victory."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Halt To Rail Probe Ordered

JAN 16 1943

McNutt Acted On White House Order, Is Capital Report

JAN 16 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Committee on Fair Employment Practice has been directed to drop its investigation into race discrimination in employment by common carriers (railroads), it was learned Saturday.

Instructions to the committee not to pursue further its plans for a hearing on charges that the railroads practice discrimination in their hiring of workers were issued by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, under whose supervision the committee comes, it was reliably reported.

Mr. McNutt is said to have acted on orders from the White House.

FOLLOWS JUSTICE LINE

While the calling off of the hearing was attributed in some quarters to the influence of reactionaries who are opposed to the efforts of the committee to combat race discrimination, it was pointed out in other quarters that this action was in line with the move of the Department of Justice in postponing anti-trust indictments which were to have been returned against motor and rail carriers.

JAN 16 1943

Indictments charging rate fixing by carriers were postponed recently at the request of the Secretaries of War and the Navy and the Director of Defense Transportation.

The reason given for the postponement of the indictments was that if the government proceeded with the indictments, the efforts of the carriers during the war would be injured.

Postponement of the indictments was in accord with the program agreed upon by President Roosevelt and officials last March.

Attorney General Biddle said the indictments had been prepared after evidence was given to a Chicago grand jury "involving abusive and coercive practices in the private fixing of rates by motor and rail carriers."

JAN 16 1943

The committee was rushing preparations for the hearing when Mr. McNutt directed it not to proceed in the matter.

Special counsel had been employed by the committee to prepare the case against the railroads and adduce evidence during **the hearing.**

JAN 16 1943

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

F.D.R. WARNED OF AIDES' BIAS

JAN 23 1943

White Urges Reversal of Ban on FEPC Probe

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Because the decision which is now made will profoundly affect the course of things to come, we renew our request that the Fair Employment Practice Committee be restored to its independent status," said Walter White this week, in a letter urging the President's reversal of McNutt's War Manpower order of the postponement of the Jan. 25 FEPC hearing on discrimination in railroad employment.

JAN 23 1943

"We want you to know," said White, "that we are deeply sympathetic because of the difficulties which the making of such a decision will entail. We know the terrible dilemma you face in the 78th Congress because of the coalition formed against you and against all liberal legislation by members of your own party from the South and of certain members of the Republican party. We have been informed of the lobbying being done among these members by representatives of the railway brotherhoods and the railroads, who bitterly oppose any action which would attempt to correct the vicious discrimination against Negroes on certain of the public carriers. But we respectfully submit that any surrender to such forces would be disastrous, not only for the Negro, but for the principles of democracy itself.

"We know, also, that certain members of your secretariat, who are distinctly unsympathetic to Negroes, may have given you less than a complete picture of the situation. I have been informed, for example, by distinguished white visitors to the White House of violently denunciatory statements by one of your secretaries against Negroes. I am informed that Mr. A. Philip Randolph and myself are the particular objects of attack."

White pointed out that on matters relating to the Negro the President has conferred exclusively with white Americans.

JAN 23 1943

Birmingham, Ala. News
May 13, 1943

FEPC Statement Says New Chairman Will Be Named Soon

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The self-sought reorganization of the Fair Empolyment Practice Committee, a government unit charged with combating racial and religious discrimination, appeared imminent Tuesday.

The committee, in a statement, said it had been "officially advised that new chairman had been appointed and that the reorganization will be effected immediately upon his assumption of the chairmanship."

The committee has acceded to a "request" to postpone two hearings it had scheduled for inquiry into charges of discrimination against Negroes and others.

One hearing was postponed from May 24-25 to June 28-29. The other was set back from Wednesday to June 2.

Identity of the new chairman was not disclosed. Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission indicated that President Roosevelt would deliver the appointment personally.

The new chairman will succeed Dr. Malcolm S. McLean, Hampton (Va.) Institute president.

The committee's work has been virtually at a standstill since early this year, when a hearing it had scheduled into alleged discrimination against Negroes by the railroad industry was "postponed indefinitely" by McNutt.

47d-1943

FEPC

Fair Practice Committee Held Essential

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Statements of Chairman and Director of Southern Conference On Race Relations To Chairman McNutt of WMC At Hearing In Washington

EDITOR'S NOTE—Invited to confer with Chairman Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, February 19, on the future of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, were heads of numerous organizations representing Jews, Catholics, Spanish speaking Americans, the foreign born, and Negroes. The Southern Conference on Race Relations was represented by P. B. Young, of Norfolk, chairman, and Dr. Gordon B. Hancock, Richmond, director. Their remarks, stenographically reported, are printed on this page.

MAR 6 1943

Statement By Mr. Young

Chairman, Southern Conference On Race Relations

Mr. Chairman, I want to say at the outset that I believe that the members of our Conference would endorse the idea of this Committee being continued as an independent agency, working directly under the executive control of the President.

That is not because any of us feel a lack of confidence in the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission. I hope you will not feel that the insistence that the Committee be kept directly under the President and under his executive control is due to any feeling that Mr. Paul McNutt would in any sense do anything to hinder the work of this Committee. I think that is the general sentiment—certainly of all the Negroes in the southern regions—if not the sentiment of some of those in the northern regions.

RANDOLPH CHARGES TRUE

However, there are several things to be taken into consideration if you set this Committee up as an agency of the Manpower Commission or as an independent agency, that have to do directly with getting its appropriations from the Congress. We have all had practical illustrations within the past week or so of what the present Congress will do with any budget that is presented for the committee on Fair Employment Practice. If it goes to Congress,—the present Congress — that is what will happen. We have the feeling that had it not been for the President's Executive Order 8802, and the establishing of this Committee, Negroes would have been excluded almost entirely — especially Negroes that are skilled in any particular craft — would have been excluded almost entirely from participation in the war effort.

Though we may not agree with all that Mr. Randolph implied in the March on Washington Movement, whatever gesture that was, or whatever he had in mind, when this Committee was set up, when this Executive Order was issued and the Committee set up, he rendered a distinct service to this nation in many ways. I want to emphasize here also that what Mr. Randolph has said this morning about the precarious position in which Negro railroad employees find themselves at the present time, is all true. He hasn't made an over-statement of the case in the slightest degree. In fact, I think it is much more precarious than he has stated.

Statement By Dr. Hancock

Director, Southern Conference On Race Rlations

MR. HANCOCK: Mr. Chairman, we are essentially interested in this matter of race relations. As my good friend Mr. Young said, in other parts of the country, you have race relations cooked and seasoned, but in the South, we have them in the raw.

When you speak about helping the Negro economically, you go to the heart of the matter. I heard a little speech one time:

> "I had a little dog and his name was Rover:
> When he died, he died all over."

I think that is true about a man economically. If you make him alive economically, he is alive all over. If you kill him economically, he is killed all over. When you attempt, therefore, to let the Negroes come within the purvey of this Fair Employment relations because there can be no amicable race relations while a large segment of our people are discriminated against.

We are therefore, as Mr. Young has said, loking to the continuation of this Committee because it looks forward to the thing we so much desire.

Hopes Tied Up With Order 8802

Hendrik Van Loon said some time ago in attempting to describe eternity, "If you will imagine a rock that is one mile wide, one mile long, and one mile high, in the middle of the ocean and a little bird comes once every thousand years to sharpen his bill when that little bird would have rubbed that rock away, that would represent just one day of eternity."

There are forces in this country that are attempting to postpone this, but we are very glad that this Order 8802 looks forward to not putting it off until the little bird wears the stone away. Therefore, our hopes, our aims, are definitely bound up in this thing.

As Mr. Churchill said, "We are a warrior nation now working in the fear of God, heavily armed." I would like to see this committee not only rejuvenated but heavily financed.

Dealing With Hostile Congress

While we are in agreement on all fundamental points here — I don't believe there is any disagreement among any of us with reference to what we are trying to do — I don't agree, however, with some of what has been said here concerning the apparent disposition of the Administration to evade or to dodge its responsibility in this great work. I do not believe the President of the United States wants that to happen.

However, we do feel that this Administration, dealing with a Congress that is at present certainly out of control so far as the leaders of the Government are concerned, and which has started out to do some things which have very dangerous implications for all minority groups, particularly when it by overwhelming vote the other day gave two years more to the Dies Committee with a $75,000 appropriation, connot ignore the implications of that situation.

I think that all of us are realistic enough to know what will happen to this Committee if it goes up to Congress for an independent appropriation; the thing that almost the entire — not all of the gentlement of Congress — but the southern members of Congress and the reactionary members from other regions, want done. That is. they want dismantled, liquidated practically everything that has been set up here that will give minority groups or the working men security.

I think that most of us are realistic enough to know that the Administration now is trying to get the war effort on in spite of Congress, and that is what you are going to have to do, we feel certain, in whatever steps you take about this particular committee. I won't take the position, the emotional position, that because it is idealistic I will throw aside all of the implications in a Congress that is hostile and say. "Yes, we are going to do this thing anyhow," because I want to see it done.

On several questions, particularly that of giving it independent status, of continuing the public hearings, and some other phases of the question that have been raised here, I am in agreement, short of any steps that would close the door to accomplishing anything. We don't want to close the door, and we know that all of this is involved in politics. All of this is involved in the political attitude, the social attitude of the people who right now are riding high and pretty hard in this country.

Now, as to the question of a paid or unpaid committee. The first thing we have to face is that the Committee at the present time is in a state of flux. There is no Committee, so to speak. The Chairman, with whom I happen to have been closely associated with you have already stated. There are those members whose resignations, as you state, are on your desk. Your first problem is to get another chairman and a

Stand Of Conference Cited

We went one step further and recognized the fact that one of the main reasons why this Executive Order was issued and why this Committee was set up, was the attitude of the unions toward the integration of Negroes. I don't want to be misunderstood as taking any position here at all against the unionization of labor, or against organized labor. I don't want to get into any quarrel with organized labor. I am not opposing organized labor in any sense. I am committed to the principle of organized labor, but it is a fact that a large number — I think Mr. Randolph could tell you exactly how many of them — by ritual or constitution exclude Negroes from membership in their unions.

So we said that we held that only those labor unions which admit Negroes to membership and participation on a fair and democratic basis should be eligible for the benefits of the National Labor Relations Board, Railway Labor Act, State Labor Relations Act, and other protective labor legislation.

GOVERNMENT HAS OBLIGATION

It seems to me obligatory upon the part of the Government, that something be done to protect the interests of the Negro worker because it is true that the Government has given organized labor a blank check to go ahead to do anything it wants to do, and this action is supported by statutory law. On the other hand, these acts do not protect the Negro, because most of the unions exclude Negroes from membership.

Confidence In President Roosevelt

We do not share any apparent lack of confidence in the President. We believe that the President has been entirely sincere and courageous in what he has done prior to his Executive Order and since his Executive Order; that he has given support to the Committee; that he is sincere in whatever he wants to do now.

This administration certainly has done more for minority groups, certainly has done more for labor, certainly has done more for Negroes, than any administration since the administration of Abraham Lincoln. I think that is true.

full committee.

NEED MEN OF HIGH CALIBRE

The question of whether those men should be paid or unpaid would involve this, as to whether or not, when you go out for paid men, you are going to have sufficient funds to get the caliber of men who are willing or able to do the thing that you want done. I don't think there is any question of their integrity or their intent involved there. So I think our Conference group would be inclined to feel that you would be on better ground if you sought to proceed with an unpaid committee, but with big men and strong men who would be willing to give their time and their services to the cause.

Negroes Excluded From Railway Jobs

It is alarming, if not appalling, when we consider the fact that just a decade, or two decades ago, a large segment of the Negro population, especially in the southeastern states, was employed in various railroad occupations. But it is true that these powerful Railroad Brotherhoods are gradually eliminating them; have done that until they have gotten them down to the place when almost the only participation of the Negro in the railroad industry is by indirection. He is a red cap, a pullman porter, a dining car waiter, a dining car cook. I cant' think of anything else much he has to do with reference to the operation of railroads.

Now, at our conference in October, we went on record with the following statement: "That the only tenable basis of economic survival and development for Negroes in inclusion in unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled branches of work in the industrial or occupations of the region to the extent that they are equally capable. Circumstances will vary so as to make impossible and impractical the exact numerical balance, but the principles enunciated by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee are regarded by us as sound and economically essential."

There is one other thing — I think I speak for the South; I can't speak for all of the country. Negroes do believe that this Administration really wants to give them a fair deal along with all other minority groups, along with all other segments of the population; that there is no conspiracy, no conniving, no darkness in these things being done on the part of the administration as such to deprive us of anything to which we are entitled under the Constitution and the laws of our country.

MAR 5 1943

'Save FEPC' Conference Is Held

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

Urge Voluntary Rather Than Paid Members

FEB 12 1943

WASHINGTON.—The latest upshot of Commissioner Paul V. McNutt's indefinite postponement of the FEPC railroad hearings was the arrival in Washington, Friday, Feb. 4, of more than 150 delegates from 13 states to a "Save the FEPC Conference."

FEB 12 1943

While applauding President Roosevelt's announcement, made five days after his return from Casablanca, that the railroad hearings will be resumed, the conference declared that the fight to keep Order 8802 from becoming a scrap of paper vas by no means over.

FEB 12 1943

In sharp contrast with the rumored plans of official Washington was the conference's demand that FEPC be removed from the jurisdiction of the War Manpower Commission and that instead of becoming a paid board, it continue as a voluntary committee.

FEB 12 1943

Reactionary Wave

Delegates from 42 organizations declared "The recent action of Commissioner McNutt in summarily postponing the railroad hearings is another indication of the tremendous reactionary wave which has begun in this country.'

"If the federal government is forced to capitulate to the reactionary and anti-liberal forces of this country who insist on imposing their pattern of discrimination and intolerance upon the minorities of this country, then serious and irreparable injury to the morale of these groups will result," said the conference in its resolution.

FEB 12 1943

After calling on 13 senators and congressmen, the conference went on record as endorsing five principles enunciated by its chairman, A. Philip Randolph. These principles were:

FEB 12 1943

1.—The railway hearings should be held as scheduled by the original committee which prepared them.

2.—The committee must have an adequate budget.

3.—The principle of public hearings as a sanction must be maintained.

4.—The FEPC must be removed from the War Manpower Commission and given the indepedent status it originally had.

5.—The FEPC must be a voluntary board representing various interests, and must not become a paid appendage of any political administration.

FEB 12 1943

COMMITTEE MOVES TO CURB JOB BIAS

Agency Under New Mandate With Mgr. Haas as Chairman Tackles Vexing Problems

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

OLD DISPUTES WAIT ACTION

By W. H. LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON, June 26—Dealing with one of the most delicate and potentially explosive issues in the whole war, that of discrimination, especially against Negroes, in war industry employment, the revived Fair Employment Practices Committee, headed by Mgr. Francis J. Haas of Catholic University, has been moving slowly in carrying out the mandate given it by President Roosevelt.

JUN 27 1943

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FEPC

The race riots in Detroit, at Beaumont, Tex., and in Mobile, Ala., were indicative of the moral atmosphere in which the committee has to work in some towns in the United States. These outbreaks, the most serious of which was in Detroit and which had nothing to do with the committee or the breaking down of color-line barriers in war plants, already were having a serious effect on war production and emphasized the need for a cautiously firm approach to the problem.

Problems for Committee

The committee's job is one of the most difficult in the war. It encounters prejudices which have been built up for many years, especially in the Deep South. The committee faces pressure groups on both sides. It must combat discrimination not only by employers but by organized labor groups, some of which either bar Negroes from membership or require them to join "Jim Crow" locals. It has a task which probably never will be completed perfectly, but which, most persons agree, must be done in large part because the nation needs the Negro manpower to carry out its huge war production commitments at a time when more than 10,000,000 men are to be drawn into the armed forces.

JUN 27 1943

The campaign to wipe out discrimination against not only Negroes but all other types of religious and racial minorities is important, also to the cause of the United Nations on the propaganda front. Officials say that Japanese agents have been spreading the word that this is "a white man's war against the colored peoples," depending on the ignorance of the listener to overlook the fact that the assertedly 100 per cent Aryans of Germany started the war in Europe.

Racial Ruling by WLB

As Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and public member of the War Labor Board, pointed out in a recent decision abolishing pay differentials based solely on race, this country needs the Negro "whether as vigorous fighting man or for production of food and munitions," and the Negro needs the equal opportunity to work and fight.

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"The Negro is necessary for winning the war and at the same time is a test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting," Dr. Graham said. "Under Hitler and his master race, their movements backward to slavery and despair. In America the colored people have the freedom to struggle for freedom."

JUN 27 1943

FEPC

Recent governmental figures show that slow, steady progress is being made in breaking down racial barriers. The War Manpower Commission reported last week that the proportion of non-white workers in 16,000 establishments employing about 14,600,000 was 6.7 per cent in March, an increase from 5.8 per cent reported nine months before.

The New Committee

Mgr. Haas has been on the job only since May 28, when the President restored the FEPC as an independent agency, taking it from under the control of WMC Chairman Paul V. McNutt. The old committee ceased to function after Mr. McNutt forced postponement of a hearing on charges that some railroads and unions were discriminating against Negroes.

JUN 27 1943

Well-informed persons think one of the most difficult cases which the new committee will be called upon to handle involves discrimination in Pacific Coast shipyards and aircraft factories.

The new committee's position is considered stronger than that of its predecessor. Under the executive order creating it all contracting agencies of the government are required to include in all new contracts or renegotiated contracts a provision obligating the contractor or subcontractor not to discriminate because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

P. B. Young New Member of FEPC For Industry

The President has appointed six members of the new Committee on Fair Employment Practice, of which the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis J. Haas is chairman. The members, representing labor and industry, include:

JUL 10 1943

For Labor: John Brophy, Congress of Industrial Organizations, Jackson Place, Northwest, Washington, D.C.;

Milton J. Webster, international vice-president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A.F. of L., 4231, South Michigan Avenue, Chicago;

Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor, 901 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C.

For Industry: Miss Sara Southall, supervisor of Employment and Service, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Ill.;

P. B. Young, Sr., publisher, Norfolk Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.;

Samuel Zemurray, president, United Fruit Company, Audubon Place, New Orleans, La.

The new committee, established under Executive Order 9346 on May 27, 1943, is charged with the responsibility of promoting 718 Jackson Place, Northwest, vailable manpower and the elimination of discriminatory practices in employment." It replaces the old Committee on Fair Employment Practice established by Executive Order 8802 on June 25, 1941.

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FEPC

Job Discrimination Goes On As FEPC Remains Dormant

P.M N.Y., N.Y

Delay in Reorganizing Committee Is Hindering Efforts in the City

APR 2 1943

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN

Delay in the long-promised reorganization of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), particularly the appointment of a chairman, is seriously hindering the anti-discrimination work of the Committee's regional office in New York.

The local office, Room 2240, 11 W. 42d St., was created last August, although no public announcement of its existence has ever been made. It was to be followed by creation of 11 other such FEPC regional centers throughout the country. More than $200,000 has been allocated for such a set-up, but so far only the New York office exists.

Even without any publicity, the local FEPC headquarters receives about 50 discrimination complaints weekly. Of these, it is able to handle only 15 a week because of lack of office and investigative personnel. Most of the complaints come from private organizations which concern themselves with racial or religious discrimination in war industry, rather than directly from individuals.

APR 2 1943

$200,000 Cut

Meanwhile, concern was expressed today that the $200,000 cut in the New York State War Council budget would seriously affect the appropriation of the Council's State Committee on Discrimination in Employment. The Committee is charged with running down complaints against companies refusing to hire workers because of race, religion, color, creed, or national origin.

A report made to the regional office of the War Manpower Commission (WMC) charged that, despite an increase in Negro employment in New York war plants, violations of President Roosevelt's anti-discrimination rule still prevailed.

According to this survey, there still are 500 war plants—working directly on Government contracts—which refuse to hire Negro workers. In upstate plants, there are 640 plants which reject Negro workers—making a total for the state of 1140 such factories.

Southern Pressure

The WMC in Washington under which the FEPC now operates, has several times been on the verge of announcing the appointment of a chairman. But pressure by Southern Senators on one occasion, it is reported, delayed designation.

Previously, the chairmanship had been offered to former Gov. Poletti of New York, former Gov. Price of Virginia, Dr. Will Alexander of the WMC, Dr. Frank Graham of the War Labor Board and former Sen. George W. Norris. All have refused the job.

The FEPC, created by FDR in June 1941, has been in a state of virtual suspension since last August, when it lost its independent status and became part of the WMC under Paul V. McNutt.

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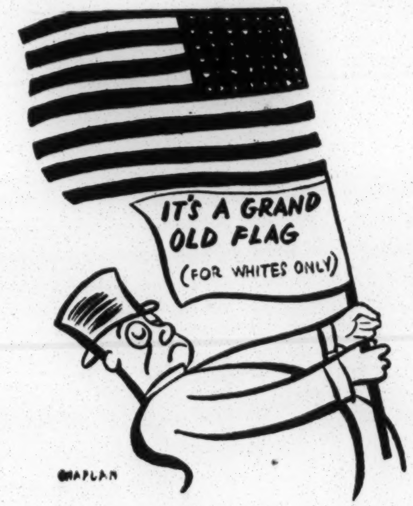
Of the original committee of seven, only four remain. Its previous chairman, Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, now a Navy officer; David Sarnoff, president of RCA; and Mark Ethridge, general manager of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, resigned following McNutt's order postponing scheduled public hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry. Henry Epstein, appointed as the Committee's general counsel to conduct these hearings, also resigned in protest.



Last February, FDR directed McNutt to call a conference of interested groups to consider strengthening the FEPC's powers. Several such conferences have been held.

Under the proposed reorganization plan, the Committee chairman would have greater powers and the Committee itself, according to assurances received by several Negro groups here, would be more independent of the WMC.

APR 2 1943

In the meantime, however, the regional FEPC office is struggling along waiting for permission to appoint additional investigators augmenting the present overworked staff of three, which is supposed to cover the state.

According to the latest survey, employment of Negroes in war plants is rising gradually. In New York City, nearly 20,000 Negro workers are now employed, a large proportion of whom are women. The 20,000 represent about 5 per cent of the total war workers employed in New York City.

38,000 in State

Negro war workers upstate total almost 18,000, making a total for the entire state of 38,000.

These totals represent substantial increases in Negro employment over last July, when a similar survey was made.

Beyond the single question of discrimination against Negroes in war work, Negro organizations want the FEPC to investigate the relationship of the Negro to the draft. This does not envision any direct interference with the Army's quota system under which Negro men are drafted. The inquiry would concern itself with the effect of the quota system on the employment chances of Negro workers.

According to groups which have made preliminary studies of the question, many Negro boys, classified 1A, aren't inducted over long periods because of the Army's quota system, by which Negro draftees are limited to the Negro proportion of the total population.

APR 2 1943

War Jobs Hard to Get

As a result of this protracted 1A status, it is almost impossible for these Negro workers to get war-plant jobs because employers fear they may be inducted within a short time.

"Of course, these boys can get jobs as soda-jerkers or as busboys," said one Negro leader, "but no employer is going to put them in a war job. And naturally these boys can't learn any kind of trade or skill."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

FDR's Executive Order 8802

APR 10 1943

By James W. Ford

One urgent requirement for winning the war is that the government right the status of the Negro people. The manpower capacities and political enthusiasm of 13,000,000 Negro American citizens are still not yet fully mobilized. These capacities and enthusiasm are key needs for an effective second front to smash Hitler now. They are a tremendous strength for our armed forces and for mills and factories on the home front.

James W. Ford

APR 10 194

We are in this war fighting for our very existence. We are fighting for the four freedoms, for the application of the broad principles of the Atlantic Charter, for the restoration of freedom and independence to peoples and nations who have lost their liberties, for the firm establishment and retention of liberties and democratic rights for citizens within our own country.

This urgency to safeguard these principles and victory in the war effort is brought sharply to our attention because there are forces at work struggling against President Roosevelt's war effort, at home and abroad. Soviet - American relations are being strained by these forces; they are trying to hold up the opening of the Second Front; they are out to hamstring labor; they are trying to destroy economic stability in the nation by skyrocketing prices; they are carrying on a campaign of anti-Semitism and Negro baiting. If the attacks and policies of these forces prevail and gain ascendency the United States will lose this war and enslavement will come to America and all of its people.

APR 10 1943

ESSENTIAL WAR STRUGGLE

The establishment of full rights for the Negro people is a part of the struggle against the defeatists, red-baiters, labor baiters and snipers at the government's war policy, and is an essential requirement for the unification of the nation to defeat the Axis.

The government has a well-established policy against discrimination of Negro citizens in war industries. That policy was established by President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, issued June 25, 1941. One cannot deny that much has been accomplished in the elimination of job discrimination, that many hundreds of thousands of Negro workers have been put to work in war industries. The Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) was an effective instrument in exposing cases of discrimination and forcing employers to hire Negro workers until it met its death by defeatists and Negro haters at the time of the scheduled railroad hearing. Now at a time of crisis in the war effort wide-spread discrimination is still holding back production and causing dissatisfaction among the Negro people. The treatment of Negro troops is intolerable.

BLOW TO ARMY MORALE

APR 10 194

Negroes are patriotic and willing to fight for their country, but it is stupid and narrow-sighted to think that Jim-Crow and undemocratic practices do not gall them. Negro soldiers have Jim-Crow imposed upon them in busses and train transportation in the South. They are only allowed transportation facilities after white soldiers have been served, and are often late returning from furloughs and army duties. The recent announcement that Negro troops trained for combat service would be used for cotton-picking shows the work of the reactionary farm bloc in Congress not only to attack Negroes but also to attack labor and farm workers.

Political discrimination against

Negro Communists and Negro trade unionists, against their training and advancement to combat service and for officer and non-commissioned officer ranks, has reached a point of alarm and causes demoralization among non-Communist Negro soldiers.

APR 10 1943

Jim-Crow regiments in the infantry and artillery, as has already been shown by the example of the air corps, are not conducive to the most efficient and democratic means of running the army.

The Negro people are more and more conscious of the role the defeatists are playing and are responsible for this state of affairs. **But they are also troubled by the laxity of the Administration in using its full powers to put down the practices of Jim Crow and discrimination.**

APR 10 1943

PUT TEETH IN ACT

Executive Order 8802 was and still is an historic document. But it has to have teeth in it. President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. It was not however until Lincoln, seeing the practical need of full enforcement of his Executive Order, took further steps to put teeth in this proclamation. A joint resolution by Congress established the means of enforcement.

APR 10 1943

President Lincoln was clearly moved to take these measures because of danger to the nation. He said that the nation could not survive half slave and half free. Today we are fighting against a slavery far greater than Negro slavery of 1860. The nation today requires unity of all its people; it demands measures that unloosen the powers of every American.

APR 10 1943

President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of our nation and our armed forces, is obligated to take steps similar to Lincoln to preserve and save our nation by creating absolutely effective means through legislation or the full use of the powers of his office to enforce Executive Order 8802 to wipe out discrimination in war industries and in the armed forces. If President Roosevelt is to meet the requirements of our day and to follow in the footsteps of Lincoln, he will have to take a strong hand against the poll taxers and defeatists **and make the FEPC an effective instrument to enforce his orders against discrimination.**

APR 10 1943

The Negro people on their part must be fully aware of the critical crisis in the war effort. They must do everything in their power and join with labor and the win-the-war forces to speed-up the opening of a Second Military Front because their destiny as that of the nation is wrapped up in victory over Hitler. The Negro people can render great service to the nation by supporting all those measures of the President to win the war, and help him fight the poll taxers and defeatists.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

State FEP Wins Okeh By Solons

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The House committee on appropriations unanimously approved recommendation of a bill to create a state Fair Employment Practices Board here Wednesday following endorsement of the measure by former Alderman Earl C. Dickerson, member of the President's Fair Employment Practices committee.

The bill introduced by Rep. Ernest A. Greene, advocates establishment of an FEP board "to prevent discrimination in defense and other industries and employments."

Dickerson, after visiting Governor Dwight Green, addressed the committee on appropriations and won that body's hearty approval of the measure. However, a recommendation for appropriation of $75,000 for operational expenses was cut to $35,000 before its approval was won.

Also appearing in favor of the bill were: Dr. Charles M. Yard, former chairman of the Metropolitan Council of FEPC, and Arnold Aaronson, director of the Jewish Bureau of Employment.

Henry Epstein, Former Counsel, Tells Kind of Powers New FEPC Would Need

APR 17 1943

By Eugene Gordon

A new President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice needs the kind of powers that the old one—that broke up over the cancellation of railroad hearings—never had.

This is the opinion of Henry Epstein, Solicitor General of New York State in the Lehman administration, and former chief counsel of the Committee.

Epstein, in discussing the possibilities of reviving the FEPC, in which the Negro people and other minorities had so much hope, said that a new **FEPC**, or similar agency, must have the kind of authority that the old one never possessed.

He said also that he would like to see in the State of New York some agency "to compel employers to pay back salaries or wages to persons they had denied employment because of race, color, creed, or national origin"—that is, paid the amount of money the person would have received had he been employed instead of rejected.

Mr. Epstein resigned early in January as chief counsel of the FEPC in protest against postponement of hearings into the railroads' barring Negroes from certain jobs. He spoke Monday night at the New School for Social Research on Negro discrimination in industry.

TELLS OF RESIGNATION

He told this writer of the circumstances leading up to his resignation.

The whole membership of the FEPC was prepared for hearings into railroad discrimination, scheduled for Jan. 25 through 27. Mr. Epstein, as special counsel to handle the hearings, visited the Mediation Board in Washington on Jan. 6 to inform it that everything was ready. Constitution Hall had been procured for the overflow open meeting expected.

On the morning of Jan. 8 he asked a member of the Mediation Board to permit examination of its agreements with railroads. The next evening, having returned to New York, Mr. Epstein was informed over long distance phone that the hearings had been cancelled.

THERE'S HOPE, HE SAYS

There has been much speculation on reasons for the cancellation. Mr. Epstein declined to add his. Others have alleged, however, that the railroads, officials of the Railroad Brotherhoods and, even members of the Mediation Board, appealed to Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt not to permit the hearings. Nobody in authority in the government has ever denied these allegations.

"Do you think the **FEPC** can be reconstituted, new life breathed into it and set again to functioning?" Mr. Epstein was asked.

Yes, he did think so. It must have as its head, however, a "guiding spirit who would have the tenacity and the courage to go ahead in spite of pressure from any variety of sources." Above all, it "must have the power of subpoena with additional power, in some form, of enforceable sections."

He expanded the latter point: "Sanctions might include the power to rescind agreements between railroads and representatives of workers" when such agreements showed clear violations of Executive Order 8802, which created the FEPC.

APR 17 1943

Referring to his suggestion that the State of New York set up an agency to compel employers to pay back salaries or wages to persons they had denied employment, because of race, color, creed or national origin, Mr. Epstein recalled that some persons say it would drive employers out of the state.

"They made similar objections to the Workmen's Compensation Act and to the Eight-Hour Law," he said.

"So your answer to that objection is?"

"Hooey," said Mr. Epstein. "Businesses don't run away for any such reason."

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Johnson Tells Group of 8802s Powers, Rights

MAY 1 1943

Said to Answer Critics Holding FEPC Can't Attack Segregation

Although Executive Order **8802** is not specifically directed against segregation, it is a fact that in most cases segregation of workers on account of race results in discrimination and denial of equality of opportunity, and where this is true the President's committee on Fair Employment Practice has the right to act.

MAY 1 1943

This was the theme of a speech here April 21 by George M. Johnson, assistant executive secretary of FEPC, before the New York chapter of the National Lawyers Guild at the Park Central hotel.

The speech was regarded as an answer to the extremist critics who have maintained that **FEPC** must not and may not, under its executive order, attack segregation in any form.

Explaining that Executive Order 8802 prohibits discrimination in the employment of workers because of race, creed, color, or national origin and makes it the duty of employers and labor organiaztions "to provide for the full and equitable participation of all workers . . . without discrimination," Mr. Johnson posed the question of whether, in the operation of the policy of segregation, workers were denied full and equitable participation without discrimination.

MAY 1 1943

He pointed out that many employers, both in government and private industry, have a segregation policy on the job, "which may place a particular race on a particular shift, or limit that race to certain types of work, or place them in certain buildings, shops, or sections by themselves."

Promotions Consideration Basic

"Basic to the right to equality of opportunity for employment is the right to be considered for employment for any position on the same terms as other persons," Johnson said. "Equally basic is the right to be considered for promotions and upgrading to better paying and supervisory positions.

MAY 1 1943

"Where the policy of segregation obtains in any of the forms mentioned above, there will be a denial of employment opportunity if and when an available and qualified worker is refused consideration for a position because it is in a skill from which members of his group are excluded, or because it is in a building from which they are excluded."

Hits Jim-Crow Locals

Johnson said the **FEPC** recognized that its jurisdiction was limited in discrimination, but he reiterated that where segregation produced discrimination violative of Executive Order 8802, the FEPC was obligated to act.

Striking at separate jim-crow local unions, set up as auxiliaries of established unions, Johnson said that "to the extent that the minority group deals only thruogh the regular union of which it is simply a part, it seems clear that the unions' policy of racial separation has violated 8802."

PM
New York, N. Y.

FEPC to Hold Probes On Anti-Negro Bias

APR 20 1943

PM's Bureau

APR 20 1943

WASHINGTON, Apr. 20.—Earl B. Dickerson, former Chicago alderman and acting chairman of the Committee on Fair Employment Practices (FEPC) announced yesterday that the FEPC will hold a public hearing in Detroit May 24 and 25 on complaints of discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups in war plants in that area.

He said also that hearings would be held later in St. Louis, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Fair Employment

Group Blamed For Racial Strife

Charges that President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee is creating more racial disunity than any other factor in the county were voiced Saturday by Representative Manasco (Democrat) of Alabama at the last of the House Civil Service Investigating Committee's hearings on the War Department.

Manasco's attack was launched after Col. Gordon Clark, chief of the Civilian Personnel Division, Army Air Forces, testified that 14 per cent of the employes in his division are colored.

JUN 28 1943

Strengthens FEPC Scope Power, Raps Job Jimcrow

Feb. 13, 1943

Feb. 13, 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

By JOHN A. SAUNDERS

As important to colored Americans as the Casablanca "unconditional surrender" conference and the nvasion of North Africa, were President Roosevelt's orders issued last week strengthening the powers and scope of the Fair Employment Practice Commmittee, FEPC.

The President's order stipulated, in so many words, that Negroes be given a fair and equal share of all defense jobs in all sections of the country, the Negro-hating South included.

On the heels of the President's order, Congressman Vito Marcantonio, of New York, introduced into Congress a bill which would cloak the FEPC with broad powers to stamp out discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed or religion.

The Marcantonio Fair Employment Practice Act establishes as the public policy of the United States the repudiation and prohibition of all forms of employment discrimination by any employer furnishing or manufacturing any goods for use by any agency of the Federal Government.

To Continue Hearings

At the same time that President Roosevelt asked War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to revise the FEPC, he said that "when the machinery has been established to meet the problems," the postponed hearings on race discrimination in the railroads will be continued. Feb. 13, 1943

The railroad hearing, which was scheduled for January 26 and was postponed by McNutt about the time President Roosevelt left for his conference with Prime Minister Churchill in Casablanca, was the FEPC's first attempt to attack discrimination on an industry-wide scale. 2-13-43

Object of Hearings

Object of the hearing was to bring to public attention reputed discrimination against Negroes by the railroads and railroad brotherhoods—particularly those operating in the Southeastern States. 2-13-43

Roosevelt announced his request for the conference, to which he is to invite members of the FEPC and leaders of groups opposing discrimination in war employment, after a luncheon conference with McNutt and Attorney General Francis Biddle. He also took occasion to praise the committee's work.

"For nearly two years", the announcement said, "the Fair Employment Practice Committee and its executive director have done an excellent piece of work, placing workers in war jobs. They, however, have been handicapped by the fact that the members of the committee were working on a part-time voluntary basis, and did not have powers for personnel commensurate with their responsibilities."

More Power Needed.

The committee's lack of authority has been a sore spot with minority groups since it was created by a Presidential order. Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said last week that to combat discrimination, the committee must have "sanctions such as the right to impose money penalties and prison sentences and to hold public hearings when war contract holders, labor unions or Government officials refuse to comply" with the order. 2-13-43

Biddle's presence at the White House conference today might indicate the President is seeking legal grounds for these sanctions.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP stated last week that to wage an effective battle against discrimination in industry, the committee must be armed with "sanctions such as the right to impose money penalties and prison sentences and to hold public hearings when war contract holders, labor unions or government officials refuse to comply" with committee orders.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal
June 27, 1943

Fair Employment Agency Accused of Stirring Up Strife

WASHINGTON, June 26.—(AP). A complaint that President Roosevelt's Committee on Fair Employment Practices is "doing more to stir up racial bias than any other single factor in the country" was laid before the House Civil Service Committee by Representative Manasco (Democrat, Alabama).

Manasco expressed his opinion after Colonel Gordon F. Clark, chief of civilian personnel division, War Department, testified that his division is employing approximately 14 per cent Negroes.

Manasco contended that Government officials had been placed under "terrific pressure" to employ Negroes solely because they are Negroes, and added:

"I am not opposed to hiring Negroes. I worked side by side with them digging coal. I am merely opposed to hiring people because of their color. As a matter of fact, it is extremely unfair to a Negro to hire him for a job for which he is unqualified.

"Agencies are being forced to take on Negroes. Some of the higher-ups in Government feel that a certain percentage of Government personnel should be Negroes, regardless of their abilities."

Manasco contended also that some Government officials are "afraid" to discharge Negroes because the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "would get on their neck."

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

CRAMER FEPC HEAD, HITS JIM CROW IN LABOR

APR 25 1943

ST. LOUIS, Apr. 22—(ANP)—Lawrence W. Cramer, FEPC executive secretary, in an address read Thursday before the regional meeting of the National conference of Social Work at Hotel Jefferson stated that the United States has discarded business as usual, under pressure of the war, but is still indulging in the costly luxury of "prejudice as usual." Due to the absence of Cramer, the address was read by Theodore Jones of FEPC.

Cramer said that discrimination because of race creed or nationality has resulted in "a substantial and continuing waste of available man power and skills" which is of great importance in the present labor shortage crisis.

He asserted that in many cases Negroes and other non-Caucasians do not get jobs in accordance with their skills because of the policies and practices of labor organizations even though both AFL and CIO formally oppose race discrimination within their organizations.

APR 25 1943

He said that even though AFL and CIO officers have helped to work out satisfactory adjustments in certain cases, the railroad brotherhoods have not taken such a position and apparently act on the opposite policy.

APR 25 1943

He said that the barring by the southeastern railroads, of non-whites or their exclusion from certain classes of employment, is encouraged by "percentage" or "non-promotable" clauses in union agreements. He added that such practices weaken the labor movement and extend an invitation to certain employers to use unorganized workers at low wage scales, or for strike-breaking purposes.

In speaking of the wave of discrimination against other minority groups, he charged that in the southwest there is discrimination against Mexicans and Spanish-Americans, while anti-Jewish discrimination is strongest in the eastern and Northeastern seaboard states. He said that even those non-citizens who are our allies find it hard to get jobs, although there are no legal restrictions on their employment in non-war industries or even in war industries if the labor is not on confidential and restricted contracts.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

LAST MINUTE MOVE BY FDR DELAYS QUIZ

MAY 22 1943

New Chief, Believed Rev. Haas, Will Have Power

To Name Members

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—An eleventh hour White House move that had all the earmarks of a final act of desperation this week upset plans of the Fair Employment Practices Committee for Capital Transit Co., and Detroit hearings on job discrimination.

Coming a short 24 hours before scheduled Washington bus hearings and resembling the recent cancellation of the FEP's scheduled railroad probe, the postponement was assertedly caused by the final naming of a new FEP chairman—believed to be the Rt. Rev. Francis J. Haas, dean of social studies at Catholic university.

But from facts disclosed by reliable sources to the Defender, the delay of the two hearings may be permanent!

MAY 22 1943

Furthermore the entire present personnel of the FEP may be out.

Challenge Jurisdiction

Coming in quick succession were these sudden developments:

1. On the eve of the scheduled Capital Transit hearings Tuesday, the White House told FEP members that a new chairman had been named and requested that all scheduled hearings be cancelled.

2. The FEP met the White House request but was not informed whom the new chairman was.

3. Meeting in its regular session, the FEP learned that Lawrence Cramer, committee secretary, had informed the Capital Transit Co. to hold off on hiring Negro drivers without any consultation with FEP members.

MAY 22 1943

4. At the same time the jurisdiction of FEP in the bus case was challenged by R. B. Dresh[illegible]er, War Manpower Commission area director, who claimed the case came under his sole supervision.

Altogether the sum total of FEP trends added up to open desperation by government officials to stop the important transit hearings at all costs.

May Never Be Held

Signs were that the Capital Transit case will never be held despite the FEP announcement of a delay until Wednesday, June 2.

It was learned by the Defender from officials close to the White House that the new executive order which will be issued at the time of official appointment of the new FEP chairman will make him a virtual czar—having complete power [illegible] other members of FEP.

That the present FEP members will be "dumped" is taken for granted by high Washington officials, who have been gunning for them.

MAY 22 1943

Father Haas, who is mentioned as the choice for the post is sponsored by Attorney General Francis Biddle. He is considered a labor man and is formerly from Milwaukee.

Official Announcement

The official FEP announcement of the delayed hearings said:

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was today officially advised that a new chairman had been appointed and that its reorganization will be effected *immediately upon the assumption of office by the chairman.*

"The committee has therefore been requested to postpone its public hearings scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, in Washington, D. C., on the Capital Transit Co. case. Pursuant to this request the committee at its meeting today postponed the Capital Transit Co. hearing from Tuesday, May 18, to Wednesday, June 2.

"At the same time and for the same reason, the committee postponed its scheduled hearing in Detroit from May 24 and 25 to June 28 and 29."

MAY 22 1943

Cramer Under Fire

The announcement came a short several hours after War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt at his press conference said he had no statement to make on the status of the FEP.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Cramer, FEP secretary, came under heavy fire of the committee members at their session after disclosure of his statement to the Capital Transit Co. telling the firm to "hold up" on hiring Negroes.

Cramer, it was divulged, met with Leo R. Wertz, WMC director of manpower operations; George Johnson, assistant FEP secretary; E. D. Merill, president of Capital Transit and J. D. Bigelow, local president of the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electrical Railway and Motor Coach Employes, of America, to discuss the Capital Transit case recently.

Merill at the meeting maintained that he had done everything to meet the FEP's order on employing Negroes. He related that the company had trained several Negro bus drivers and attempted to put one man on but a number of white employes refused to work with him. Then it revealed, he consulted with

Cramer who told him to "hold off" on hiring Negr[illegible] MAY 22 1943

Confesses Statement

That was the first time FEP members learned of Cramer's action and at Monday's meeting he confessed making the statement to Merill. It was believed that Cramer's statement would have been the company's defense in case the scheduled hearing were put on [illegible] week.

It was also learned that the FEP meeting Monday had voted to hold the Capital Transit hearings on Thursday instead of Tu[illegible], when Marvin MacIntyre, President Roosevelt's secretary, called asking for the delay until the new chairman took his post.

MAY 22 1943

The original delay was made to allow the AFL's Boris Shiskin and the CIO's John Brophy to attend.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Tell About Conference On 'FEPC'

FEB 26 1943

Large Crowd Hears Reports Of Delegates

A large crowd of Kansas Citians, proud and happy over their achievements, went to the Ebenezer A.M.E. church Sunday afternoon, Feb. 14, to hear their delegates to the "Save FEPC" conference make reports on that national meeting.

The delegates told in detail what happened at the conference held in Washington, February 5 at the call of A. Philip Randolph.

Thomas A. Webster gave an over-all picture of the conference which brought representatives from many parts of the country to the capital in the interest of preserving the Fair Employment Practice Committee as an independent agency to act in cases of discrimination in war plants.

He read the resolution adopted at the conference calling upon the President to restore the FEPC to its original status and to reschedule hearings postponed by Paul V. McNutt.

FEB 26 1943

Mrs. Frances Hayden, industrial secretary of the Paseo Y.W.C.A. gave details of the conference held with senators following the "Save FEPC" conference. Committees were named to call upon various senators enlisting their support in restoring FEPC.

Mrs. Hayden, member of a committee which called upon several the congressmen. Senators Trusenators, told of the reaction of man of Missouri, Wagner of New York and Capper of Kansas were especially generous in pledging their support, she said.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Fair Practice Unit Accused of Stirring Race Bias

Washington, June 26 (AP)—A complaint that President Roosevelt's Committee on Fair Employment Practices is doing more to stir racial bias than any other single factor in the country" was laid before the House Civil Service Committee by Representative Manasco (D., Ala.).

JUN 27 1943

FEPC

Manasco expressed his opinion after Col. Gordon F. Clark, chief of civilian personnel division, War Department, testified that his division is employing approximately [illegible] per cent Negroes.

Manasco contended that Government officials had been placed under "terrific pressure" to employ Negroes solely because they are Negroes, and added:

"I am not opposed to hiring Negroes. I worked side by side with them digging coal. I am merely opposed to hiring people because of their color. As a matter of fact, it is extremely unfair to a Negro to hire him for a job for which he is unqualified.

"Agencies are being forced to take on Negroes. Some of the higher-ups in Government feel that a certain percentage of Government personnel should be Negroes, regardless of their abilities."

Manasco contended also that some Government officials are "afraid" to discharge Negroes because the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "would get on their neck."

JUN 27 1943

TRANSIT PROBE MAY SETTLE FEPC MUDDLE

MAY 15 1943

"Pittsburgh Courier"
Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 13—There will be a showdown on the FEPC next Tuesday, May 18, when Ernest Trimble, FEPC attorney, presents in open hearing to the remaining four members of the committee, the record of persistent refusal by the Capitol Transit company here to employ Negroes. Faced with the declinations of at least six, and possibly seven persons to accept chairmanship of the FEPC, Governor Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner and other high ranking officials who have had a finger in the FEPC pie will be confronted with the problem of vetoing another vital committee hearing, as they did in the case of the railroad hearings, or else permitting the present membership of the committee to move against the jim-crow policies of the Capitol Transit Company.

MAY 15 1943

PHILADELPHIAN DECLINED POST

The note of optimism which came last week when Governor McNutt told his press conference that he expected to have a new chairman by last Wednesday and when Marvin McIntyre, secretary to President Roosevelt, told members of the FEPC who met with him last week, that a chairman would be announced "in a day or so," fell flat on last Friday when Otto Tod Mallery, industrial relations expert and economist of Philadelphia, is said to have turned down the offer of chairmanship. Mallery's declination was the sixth or seventh in a long line of persons offered the post which includes: Dr. Will W. Alexander of the Southern Interracial commission; Oscar Chapman, assistant secretary of the Interior; Monsignior Francis Joseph Haas of Catholic university; Frank P. Graham of the University of North Carolina; William Earle Coles of the University of Tennessee and former Senator George Norris of Nebraska. It is not certain that Senator Norris was definitely offered the post but it is known that his name was considered. In addition there was some consideration given to bringing back former chairman Mark Ethridge.

At the meeting with McIntyre, last Wednesday, members of the committee insisted that they be permitted to proceed with their work of stamping out job discrimination, unhindered by the War Manpower Commission, regardless of the Commission's success in getting a chairman or not. At that time McIntyre is said to have agreed that the committee's work should go on, but to have insisted that the matter of a new chairman was only a question of a few days.

MAY 15 1943

Present at the meeting were Earl B. Dickerson, acting chairman; Milton P. Webster, John Brophy and Boris Shiskin, committee members, and Lawrence Cramer and George Johnson, secretary and associate secretary of the committee. McIntyre is reported to have told this group that the new Presidential executive order governing the authority and work of the committee could not be issued until the new chairman had approved.

Meanwhile the FEPC went forward, in the face of growing protest against jim-crowism in employment on the bus and street car lines here, to plan a formal hearing on May 18. All of last week Negro and white citizens picketed terminals of the Capitol Transit company, held a monster parade and an open air mass meeting to demand jobs for Negroes in this vital war industry. The demonstrations were attended by widespread rumors of threatening race riots, which brought to the scene of the final open air mass meeting more than 300 policemen and plainclothesmen. No violence developed. MAY 15 1943

To further cloud the final solution of the problem of use of Negro manpower came last Saturday the protest resignation of Fowler V. Harper, deputy War Manpower Commissioner, who has had direct responsibility for FEPC. Thus the War Manpower Commission is left with no person directly acquainted with the problems of the committee.

The Future of the FEPC

MAY 10 1943

Since before Christmas, the President and a good part of the Cabinet have been trying to find someone willing to take over the red-hot driver's seat of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee. The FEPC was left in such miserable condition last fall that no one has yet been found willing to take the job. At Christmas time the White House asked Dr. Will Alexander to do so; but Dr. Alexander thought the request came two years too late. He suggested a few possible chairmen, and many other lists of prospects were thrown into the hopper. It is no exaggeration to say that the post has now been offered to literally scores of men. Every last one has refused it. The joke around the Manpower Commission last week was that the chairmanship should be smuggled into Horace Heidt's "Treasure Chest" and palmed off on some unsuspecting winner in that telephone-radio lottery. MAY 10 1943

There are some well informed observers who feel that the difficulty in finding a suitable man is principally due to the fact that sights have been set too low. Top-flight men, for the most part, are not among those who have been offered the plum. We have heard of a few sensible suggestions ourselves which seemingly have not yet been considered. Harold Swift of the packing-company family, chairman of the Board of the University of Chicago, and well known for his fair policies with regard to Negro workers, is one. President Ernest Hopkins of Dartmouth College is another. It is imperative that the FEPC be reconstituted immediately, and desirable that it be returned to White House jurisdiction and established as a quasi-judicial body, leaving the administrative phases of the work to be carried on by the appropriate divisions of the Manpower Commission.

MAY 10 1943

People's Voice New York, N.Y.

Refused A Clerical Job In A War Plant? Squawk!

JUN 26 1943

Every Negro office worker refused employment in war industry solely because of color can do herself and the war effort a service by reporting cases to the Fair Employment Practices Committee and the Governor's Committee on Discrimination.

This statement made last week by Lorenzo Davis, industrial secretary, Brooklyn Urban League, exposed the fact that, while war plants place women workers on the assembly lines, few will use them in front offices.

Davis stated that there is no justification for this condition when it is known that Executive Order 8802, prohibiting discrimination, applies to war offices as well as factories. No argument exists for those who say that Negro women have no previous experience, since the majority of such offices accept mostly unskilled white applicants. There are also hundreds of qualified Negro women available as skilled office personnel such as typists, stencil cutters, stenographers and office machine operators.

With the exception of some local government offices which have hired numbers of them, the overwhelming majority of Negro office workers have had to make the difficult choice between accepting employment only in over-crowded Washington, D.C., or abandoning their field entirely and entering factories.

Negro women are advised to train themselves for such office work with an eye to post-war employment. The National Youth Administration offers a complete range of office work courses for women 15 to 25 years of age and will pay them $40 a month whiletraining.

See FEPC Test Of Power In Coast Shipyard Dispute

Daily Worker
AUG 23 1943
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — With the dispatching of George M. Johnson, assistant chairman, Fair Employment Practice Committee, to the West Coast to participate in conferences developing out of the firing of about 350 Negro shipworkers, it would appear that the Committee is shaping up a real case on which to test its powers under the new order as regards labor unions.

Early in July complaints began to pour into the Committee headquarters here from the vest coast regarding the firing of the Negroes pursuant to the terms of a closed shop agreement which the Boilermakers Union (AFL) has with shipbuilders out there. The Negroes insisted that they were being discriminated against by being organized into an auxiliary union on a Jim-Crow basis ,and that they were being denied a participation in union affairs.

They ceased to pay dues to the auxiliary and thereby became uniinancial. According to the union agreement with employers, these members were no longer qualified to work in the shops and on the ways, and so were laid off. Some 3,000 men in all are estimated to be affected.

SENT EXAMINER

Immediately FEPC sent out Daniel Donovan, a field examiner, and asked Judge James H. Wolfe, chief justice, Utah Supreme court, and a labor conciliator of some experience to join him in San Francisco for the purpose of making a quick appraisal of the situation, particularly with an eye to having the fired men restored to their jobs pending final solution.

Following the July 26 meeting of the Committee, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chariman, requested union and industry representatives to sit down with FEPC spokesmen to work out a plan to put the men back to work until the entire matter is settled. It is understood that the union has finally ben brought around to agree to sit down, and that it is for these conferences that Johnson has made the trip.

PRESENT ISSUE

Once the men have been returned to their jobs, the issue will revolve about that portion of the amended executive order which places a responsibility on trade unions to eliminate discriminations within their ranks. The Commttee's authority is considerably strengthened in the new order.

Originally, it was the "duty of employers and of labor organizations, in furtherance of said policy (of non-discriminatoin) and of this order to provide for the full and equitable participation of all workers, irrespective of the uusal grounds for discrimination.

Invariably the emphasis under the old order was placed upon recalcitrant business rather than stubborn and unyielding labor. Besides, so long as labor saw that Negroes were participating, they had discharged their obligation.

The new order takes a little different slant. The amended order goes further and makes it the duty of all employers, "including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin."

HALT DISCRIMINATION

Clearly then it becomes the responsibility of unions to wipe out discriminations within their organizatons. Faling this, the Committee is obligated to achieve this same end on its own initiative.

The Boilermakers refuse to admit Negroes to anything other than an auxiliary. They do not vote for officials of the body that collects their dues. They cannot influence union policy nor select delegates to convention. In short, they are paying dues just for the privilege of holding down a wartime job. When peace returns, and shipbuilding begins to taper off, the thinking is that the auxiliaries will be very easily disposed of, whereas a sifting process within the union of Negroes might be a good deal more difficult.

If the committee can get somewhere in the boilermaker case, it will have established a precedent and can then move on to those other unions, and brotherhoods, which now carry discriminatory clauses in their constitutions.

Mayor Hartsfield Signs Bill Asking FEPC Removal

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Many Citizens Make Protests All In Vain

DEC 12 1943

The resolution passed in city council Monday night by the vote of 11 out of the 14 councilmen gathered, calling upon Georgia representatives in the United States Congress at Washington "to insist upon the removal of the recently established Southeastern Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, (FEPC), located in 10 Forsyth Street Building," has been approved with the signature of Mayor W. B. Hartsfield on whose desk the resolution was placed Tuesday morning.

The mayor's office stated Saturday that he had signed the resolution Wednesday of this week. Large numbers of Atlantans on learning of the action of council of Monday night were waiting with much interest to learn whether the mayor had signed what many termed a "deplorable action" of the city fathers.

The Atlanta office of FEPC was set up here more than three weeks ago for the purpose of investigating and correcting grievances arising out of discriminatory employment practices based on race, color, creed and national origin, having jurisdiction over the war industries, government departments and agencies in the states of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee, and into labor union compaints.

LETTERS OF PROTEST

Several letters of protest have been sent to the mayor, most of these before he had affixed his signature to the bill, and others went to councilmen for reconsideration of a matter which vitally affected the war effort. In addition to these protests direct to those in authority of city government, the WORLD published opinions of some of the leading men of the city who represent various stratas of life.

This is the resolution which was passed by council and signed by the mayor:

**A RESOLUTION
BY ALDERMAN BREWER;
COUNCILMEN ALLEN, COUCH
AND BELL, ET AL:**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention that those in charge of the President's Committee on Fair Employment are planning to open an office in the City of Atlanta for the southesatern district and that they plan mixed employment of the races in one of the office buildings of Atlanta, and doubtless they intend to insist upon the same in other Federal offices, and

WHEREAS, the activities of this Committee in other parts of the south, and particularly in Alabama, have resulted in building up racial animosities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND GENERAL COUNCIL that we express our view that the race situation can best be handled by local people acting in a spirit of fairness and justice without the intervention of Federal agencies, and that we call upon our representatives in the National Congress to insist upon the removal of said office from the City of Atlanta.

Approved December 8, 19943
December 6, 1943.
Approved December , 1943
By Mayor W. B. Hartsfield,
A true copy,
J. L. Richardson,
Clerk of Council.

FEP REACHES RAIL DECISION

NOV 6 1943
Defender
Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Fair Employment Practice committee has concluded its consideration of the evidence in the railroad discrimination cases.

The decision is being withheld, however, until the companies and unions cited in the hearings have received and had an opportunity to study and react to the committee's findings.

Twenty-three companies and fourteen labor unions were involved in the charges of discrimination before the committee. It is believed that all but one of the companies and all of the unions have been ordered to cease and desist in their practices of discrimination by the committee, after being found guilty as charged in the complaints.

A different finding may have been made in the case of the Union Pacific Railroad, headed by former rubber director, Jeffries. That company repented during the hearings, after hearing the evidence against it, and promised to adjust its practices to its policy.

The evidence introduced at the hearings—which was uncontested—on Sept. 15-19, could not lead logically to any other action by the committee.

What remedial action on the part of the companies and unions has been proposed by the committee could not be learned immediately. Nor could it be learned whether any recommendations were made affecting government agencies shown in the hearings to have collaborated with the railroads and unions in fostering discriminations against Negroes and Mexicans. The National Mediation board was specifically cited in the evidence.

A. P. Randolph Suggests Court For Hearings

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Would Apply To Employers And Unions Alike

SEP 21 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—That legislation will be introduced shortly looking to the establishment of what has been described as a Court of Fair practices, to carry on the work in peace-time that is being done through the Fair Employment Practice committee currently, has been disclosed to the Associated Negro Press.

Active sponsor of the bill, understood to be rapidly approaching final form, is said to be A. Philip Randolph, national director, March on Washington movement and president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. As yet, no names has been advanced as one who will introduce the bill, although some names are running through the minds of a few people.

BASED ON WAR CONTRACTS

Need for this type of legislation, it is explained, develops out of the fact that at the end of the war, the present FEPC will have little of discrimination which it may standing inasmuch as the cases handle are based largely upon violations by companies holding government war contracts.

Outline of the measure as it now stands places responsibilities upon both employers and labor unions alike. One is prohibited from refusing employment to, or discharging from employment, or discriminating in conditions of employment, a person on the basis of race, color, creed, or origin. Unions would be called to book if they deny membership, expel from membership or discriminate in any way against an individual for similar reasons.

The act would apply to any employer hiring five or more persons, and engaged in intensive or foreign commerce, or under contract with the United States or any of its agencies. Sub-contractors are included in this responsibility. Unions with five or more in membership at any single employer are included.

WOULD SETUP COURT

Determinations with regard to complaints for violations of the act would be made by a Court of Fair Employment practices consist-ng of a presiding judge and six associates, all receiving a salary of $10,000. They would be appointed by the [illegible] with the consent and a[illegible] of the [illegible]e, and would serve for a term of seven years.

SEP 2? 1943

CONGRESSIONAL 'FAIR PRACTICES' INQUIRY LOOMS

Birmingham Post

AFL Boilermakers Union Ordered To End Negro Discriminations

Birmingham, Alabama

By Fred W. Perkins
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—A congressional inquiry was forecast today into the powers and actions of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, as that agency apparently was heading into a concentration of opposition to its directives against work discriminations because of color or race.

The committee yesterday received a direct refusal from 16 railroads and terminal companies, operating in Southern States, to heed the committee's orders, which they declared violated the collective bargaining procedures set up by the Railway Labor Act, and had no adequate authority back of them. The committee charged discrimination chiefly [illegible] the matter of promotions.

DEC 14 1943

Today, the committee entered a fresh controversy when it ordered the big boilermakers union, of the American Federation of Labor, to cease discriminations against Negroes.

The congressional inquiry, it was learned, has been suggested by some of the unions in the controversy. It would be based on the question of how much authority the committee has, and where it got it.

Authority Never Questioned

Committee spokesmen said there had been no test of tis authority bcause there has been no defiance in any important case. If necessary, it was said, non-compliance cases would be sent to the White House, for handling under the President's war powers. In non-compliance cases from the War Labor Board the President has a formula of seizing the facilities of the companies, but he has never proceeded against labor unions, which are involved in all important cases of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The railroad case, which has been in the making for 18 months, involves seven railway unions and 22 railroad companies. The unions, including the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, have ignored the committee from the beginning.

The defying railroads—including the Southern, Atlantic Coast Line, Seaboard, Chesapeake & Ohio, Norfolk & Western and Illinois Central — declared that their employment relations "are governed by collective bargaining agreements reached under the controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act . . . railroads are forbidden by law to interfere in any way with the self-determination or self-organization of their employes. . . . It is wholly impracticable and indeed impossible for these rairoads to put into effect your committee's directives. . . With great respect, the undersigned railroads submit that your committee was and is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power."

Refused To Pay Dues

The boilermakers case involves, in addition to the union, five West Coast shipbuilding companies which were directed to reinstate all Negro workers discharged because of their refusal to pay dues, under the closed-shop plan, to the auxiliary bailermakers unions that were set up for them. The auxiiaries have been labeled "Jim Crow unions" by their critics. The companies also were ordered to cease discharging or refusing to hire Negroes solely because they had failed to obtain clarance from [illegible] unions.

The committ[illegible] it had found "the auxiliaries a[illegible] created only for Negro workers and are placed directly under control of the white (regular) lodge for the area. Auxiliary members have no vote or voice in conduct of the union's affairs and must accept as their business agent the business agent of the supervising lodge in whose election the auxiliaries have no part."

The committee was set up by a presidential o[illegible] on June 25, 1941. Malcolm Ross, [illegible]erly with the National Labor Relations Board, is chairman. The six members are John Brophy, representing CIO; Boris Shishkin, A. F. of L.; Milton P. Webster, vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (A. F. of L.); Miss Sara Southall, Samuel Zemurray, and P. B. Young Sr., the last three representing the management. The members serve without Government pay. Mr. Ross receives $10,000 a year.

Pressure

Amsterdam News

New FEPC's Ready To Try Bias Cases

New York, N. Y.

SEP 18 1943

Chairman Haas Tells Negro Press He's Ready To Try All Bias Cases

WASHINGTON—Chairman Francis J. Haas of the FEPC last Saturday, at a press conference with Editors and Publishers of Negro newspapers, put his organization on record as being sincerely interested in wiping out discrimination in industries that have to do with the war effort, and outline the operation of the machinery that has been set into motion to accomplish the task.

Under the term of Executive Order 9346, which, in effect is an amendment to Executive Order 8802, which created the original FEPC, the new committee's scope has been broadened to include all labor organizations within its jurisdiction.

Newsmen Like Haas

Father Haas is a most gracious man. His infectious smile and solicitude for the comfort and convenience of the newsmen didn't hurt his cause, although most of the editors even before the meeting had adopted a friendly attitude toward the new committee. They pointed out that Father Haas and his associates should not be hampered by unfair criticism for conditions created and passed down to them by the previous committee.

Test For FEPC

While Chairman Haas' smile was charming, and the Editors expressed confidence in the committee, the newspapermen were quick to point out to the chairman that the FEPC will meet its crucial test in the manner of its handling the Railroad case hearing which is taking place here this week, and its final disposition of the Capital Transit Company case, in which the company has ignored a directive of the previous FEPC to hire Negroes as platform men.

"The FEPC will rise or fall on the Railroad case", one Editor told Chairman Haas. "In view of the limited authority of the committee', he continued, "the FEPC will not be blamed for what it has not the power to do, but it will be held strictly accountable for the prosecution with the utmost vigor of the case with every facility at its disposal."

Bartley C. Crum of San Francisco named a chief counsel for the committee in the Railroad cases, arrived here last week and immediately began work with Attorney Charles A. Houston and Harold Stevens, who have been selected to be his associates in the presentation of the case.

SEP 18 1943

Victory Expected

Mr. Crum told newsmen that he has had the fullest cooperation from all government agencies and other groups since he entered the case, and that there has appeared nowhere the slightest evidence of any pressure by hint or deed to interfere with his handling of the case in a manner that would produce any other than a victorious conclusion.

Section "Five" of the Executive Order provides that the committee "shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by this Order. It may conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination."

The Railroad cases in which the roads are charged with discrimination against Negroes are the result of an investigation of complaints. The next step is the hearing to ascertain the facts. If the charges are sustained the railroads will be directed to eliminate the discrimination.

Force, If Needed

Chairman Haas admitted that if the Railroad or any other employer refused to heed a directive the only course open would be to invoke the assistance of other government agencies that could possibly bring pressure to bear to such an extent as to force compliance.

He pointed out that the War Manpower Commission, which now controls the United States Employment Service, and with which the FEPC has a working agreement could refuse to honor requests for workers from employers who ignored a directive or an appeal from the FEPC to quit discrimination.

"We believe much can be accomplished through a public hearing", Chairman Haas said. "Somehow or other the big companies just don't like to have these sorts of charges tossed about in public."

Faced with the airing of its "linen" the Virginian Railway Company which operates the Norfolk and Western and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads subsequently made adjustments of the complaints and on September 9, FEPC announced the complaint against that company had been withdrawn and that its name had been removed from the list of firms summoned to appear at the hearings here for four days beginning Wednesday.

Asked what would the committee do if all these efforts fail to force compliance, Chairman Haas said the case or cases would then be cited to the President from whom the committee derives its power. The chairman left no doubt in anyone's mind that he favored strong recommendations to the President if any employer found guilty persisted in disobeying the committee's directives.

Rail Cases Will Break Or Make It

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

SEP 18 1943

Neither Management, Labor Nor Government to Be Spared, Chief Counsel Crum Says

WASHINGTON —(Special) — The much discussed and often postponed Jim Crow Case of Railroads was opened at a FEPC hearing here Wednesday in what many hold to be the "making" or "breaking" test of the President's new Executive Committee. In a sound and carefully prepared opening statement, FEPC's Chief Counsel Bartley C. Crum of San Franciso, declared that the three day hearing had only one purpose: "To seek out the essential and pertinent truths," and would not suppress or distort findings to "save the face" of any of the concerned parties. Whether the facts hit management, labor, or even the Government itself, they will speak for themselves without rancor and free from emotion, he assured.

36 Groups On Trial

In opening the hearing which involves alleged employment discrimination of twenty-two separate railroads and fourteen labor unions, Counsel Crum recalled the President's Executive Order (9346) which holds that employment discrimination hampers "the successful prosecution of the war," and reminded the guilty parties that they were giving aid to the Axis forces.

At present, there is a labor shortage of over 80,000 on the railroads. Some attempts have been made to relieve this condition with women and prisoners of war. Crum pointed out that this was not even "common sense," in view of the vast "untapped pool of able-bodied Negroes, whose full skills, and sometimes even their services, are denied to the railroad industry by dint of a long and unhappy history of discrimination against Americans whose skins are darker than those of other Americans."

Union Bias Attacked

The attitude of labor unions who limit the Negro to "Negro Jobs," and take them away from them as they become more desirable was attacked in the opening statement, which outlined the nature of the complaints and alleged conditions which have brought about the present plight of the Negro railroad worker.

Assisting Chief Counsel

Associated with Mr. Crum are Charles A. Houston of Washington and Harold Stevens of New York City.

Future Outlook

Hence, the Famous Jim Crow Case of Railroads and associated labor unions is in process before FEPC in the Nation's capital. Its success or failure may determine all other cases of discrimination scheduled to appear before the Executive Committee. Based on the strength of the opening statement by Chief Counsel Crum, FEPC means business and Jim Crow employment on the railroads and elsewhere in major industries aiding the war effort is on the way out.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

P. B. Young to Continue as Member of FEPC

P. B. Young, employer member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice who has been ill, announced this week that he would continue to serve as a member of the committee, and that he would be able to attend the committee's forthcoming public hearings at Portland, Ore., November 15 and 16, in cases involving shipyard workers in that area.

Following an acute illness in September, Mr. Young had expressed doubts of his ability to continue as a member of FEPC. A return to normal health has led to the decision that he will be able to give the full time required to Committee matters. Mr. Young is publisher of The Norfolk Journal and Guide and was recently elected chairman of the Board of Trustees of Howard University.

47d-1943

Support Of Roosevelt Sought For FEPC Trial

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

International Railroad Employes Demand Justice on Negro's Grievances

JUL 31 1943

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ATLANTA (ANP)—President Roosevelt was called upon Wednesday by the International Association of Railway Employes to use his influence to wipe out the color bar to Negro employment as locomotive firemen and trainmen "so that the burdens of the war and the chance to contribute to the war effort may rest equally on all elements of the population."

The letter to the Chief Executive was drafted during the closing session of the association's national convention at the Butler Street YMCA. Representatives of every major railroad using Negro firemen, brakemen and trainmen were in attendance. Copies of the letter to the President were sent to WMC Chairman Paul V. McNutt, Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of selective service, and Charles E. Houston, general counsel of the association.

The nation's Chief Executive was asked to give his official support in seeing to it that his FEPC hold hearings on grievances of the Negro trainmen.. The committee has already scheduled hearings on the case in Washington, August 15-17.

Text of the association's letter to the President follows:

"The International Association of Railway Employes, Inc., a national railway labor union of Negro locomotive firemen and Negro trainmen, in biennial convention in Atlanta, address you on the gross discriminations against Negros in the railway industry, both on the part of railway management and on the part of the white railway brotherhoods.

THE CASE IN BRIEF

"The railroads under pressure from the white railway brotherhoods refuse to hire Negroes as locomotive firemen or trainmen. They refuse to promote Negro firemen, regardless of how competent, to engineers; Negro trainmen are never promoted to conductors, either in freight or passenger service. The white Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, using their bargaining position as majority representatives under the Railway Labor act, negotiated secret agreements with the railroads depriving Negro firemen and trainmen of their seniority rights.

JUL 31 1943

"Our complaints concerning deprivation of our seniority rights and insertion of non-promotable clauses in working contracts, have been presented to you before and we trust that this time you will see that the hearings into these discriminations set by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices for Sept. 15-17, 1943, will not be called off, but it will be given your official support.

"However, what we specially point out to you is that the refusal of the railroads to hire Negroes places an unjust discrimination and hardship on every Negro home under the selective service administration. In February, 1943, Mr. McNutt issued his famous work-in-war-activity or fight order which became effective April 7. There under, a large number of occupations were listed as non-deferrable. Most Negro men are classified in non-deferrable occupations because race prejudice has limited them to such jobs, for example, bell boys, butlers, elevator operators, housemen, messengers, newsboys, chauffeurs, valets, waiters, etc. Railroad occupations are deferrable; locomotive firemen and trainmen are deferrable.

JUL 31 1943

WANTS NO FAVORS

"We are not trying to find a loophole to keep Negroes out of the draft, but we point out that every time a Negro father or husband is refused deferment and taken into the armed forces because he is chauffeur, who has been denied employment as a locomotive fireman or trainman solely because he is a Nego, a Nego home is broken up to the unfair advantage of some white home. We are all in this war together. We should bear equal risks. Certainly the Negro has never gotten such benefits from this country that he should be asked to bear a greater risk than the white man.

JUL 31 1943

"We do not believe you will suffer such injustice to continue and we, therefore, ask you to use your great influence to wipe out the color bar to employment of Negroes on the railroads as locomotive firemen and trainmen, so that the burdens of the war and the chance to contribute to the war effort may fall equally on all elements of the population."

The letter was signed by Arthur Lewis, president, and E. L. Leonard, chairman of the board of the association. It constituted the resolutions of the group which began sessions here Monday with delegates from 17 states. Jul 31, 1943

Reports on the progress of legal action instituted by Chief Counsel Charles Houston, Washington, D. C.; Atty. A. T. Walden, Atlanta and Atty. Arthur D. Shores, Birmingham were heard Tuesday. Methods of co-operation and combatting discrimination against seniority rights in contracts of the roads under the Southeastern Conference agreement were suggested. This agreement halted the further employment of "non-promotable" firemen. The clause "non-promotable" referred to the unwillingness of roads to promote Negro firemen to engineers. N.Y. Amsterdam News

FEPC

Text Of New Roosevelt Order On Fair Employment Practices

Defender
Chicago, Ill

JUN 5 1943

FEPC

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WASHINGTON—The White House this week issued the text of the new executive order establishing a new Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

The full text of the new order defines the powers and duties of the committee as follows:

"In order to establish a new Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower, and to eliminate discriminatory employment practices, Executive Order No. 8802 of June 25, 1941, as amended by Executive Order No. 8823 of July 18, 1941, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

WHEREAS the successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin; and

"WHEREAS it is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the war effort by all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders; and

Evidence of Bias

"WHEREAS there is evidence that available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in war production solely by reason of their race, creed, color, or national origin, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale, and national unity:

"NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, and as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in government by reason of race, creed, color, or national origin, and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of all employers, including the several federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

Nine-Point Order

"It is hereby ordered as follows:

"1. All contracting agencies of the government of the United States shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts.

"2. All departments and agencies of the government of the United States concerned with vocational and training programs for war production shall take all measures appropriate to assure that such programs are administered without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

"3. There is hereby established in the Office for Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President a Committee on Fair Employment Practice, hereinafter referred to as the committee, which shall consist of a chairman and not more than six other members to be appointed by the President. The chairman shall receive such salary as shall be fixed by the President not exceeding $10,000 per year. The other members of the committee shall receive necessary traveling expenses and, unless their compensation is otherwise prescribed by the President, a per diem allowance not exceeding $25 per day and subsistence expenses on such days as they are actually engaged in the performance of duties pursuant to this order.

Tells Powers

"4. The committee shall formulate policies to achieve the purposes of this order and shall make recommendations to the various federal departments and agencies and to the President which it deems necessary and proper to make effective the provisions of this order. The committee shall also recommend to the chairman of the War Manpower Commission appropriate measures for bringing about the full utilization and training of manpower in and for war production without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

"5. The committee shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by this order. It may conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination.

"6. Upon the appointment of the committee and the designation of its chairman, the Fair Employment Practice committee established by Executive Order No. 8802 of June 25, 1941, hereinafter referred to as the old committee, shall cease to exist. All records and property of the old committee and such unexpended balances of allocations or other funds available for its use as the director of the bureau of the budget shall determine shall be transferred to the committee. The committee shall assume jurisdiction over all complaints and matters pending before the old committee and shall conduct such investigations and hearings as may be necessary in the performance of its duties under this order.

Provides For Funds

"7. Within the limits of the funds which may be made available for that purpose, the chairman shall appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel and make provision for such supplies, facilities, and services as may be necessary to carry out this order. The committee may utilize the services and facilities of other federal departments and agencies and such voluntary and uncompensated services as may from time to time be needed. The committee may accept the services of state and local authorities and officials, and may perform the function and duties and exercise the powers conferred upon it by this order through such officials and agencies and in such manner as it may determine.

"8. The committee shall have the power to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order.

"9. The provisions of any other pertinent executive order inconsistent with this order are hereby superseded."

FEPC GETS $544,000 FOR JOB BIAS PROBES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 8—The new seven-man Committee on Fair Employment Practice, named recently by President Roosevelt, met here Tuesday in its first formal meeting and discussed future activities of the agency with Monsignor Francis J. [illegible], chairman.

The members of the committee, evenly divided between employers and labor representatives are: Labor representatives — John Brophy of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Boris Shishkin of the American Federation of Labor; Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, all members of the old commitee; and, employer representatives: Miss Sara Southall of the International Harvester company; P. B. Young, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, and Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit company.

GETS $544,000; TO DOUBLE STAFF

Monsignor Haas, who spent several days last week surveying cases of anti-Negro discrimination in war industries in Detroit, reported on his trip and upon the budget for the committee's work.

A budget of $544,000, enabling FEPC to double its present staff of 45 employees has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget, and, according to present indications, will come out of emergency funds appropriated by Congress last week and placed at the disposal of the President.

Fear that the FEPC, certain to be the target of anti-Negro Congressmen, such as Rankin of Mississippi and others, would have to go to the House Appropriations

JUL 1943

committee for funds for the next fiscal year were dispelled last week by Congressional action freeing the President's special fund from restrictions which would have forced the committee to appeal to Congress.

YOUNG REPLACES EARL DICKERSON

So far as funds are concerned, the new FEPC will have available for the next 12 months a sum more than double the amount available to the old committee. But grave doubts were expressed by observers here regarding the future effectiveness of the committee.

Th substitution of P. B. Young, Sr., for Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago, was interpreted by some as a definite attempt to satisfy the criticisms of Southern poll tax congressmen. These observers point out that the reason most frequently stated by officials around Father Haas, who did the actual selection of the committee, that he wanted a committee equally balanced between employers and employees was pure whitewash, inasmuch as the committee will have no dealings with Negro employers on questions of discrimination. They declare the employer-labor set-up was created for the sole purpose of getting rid of Earl Dickerson and that this step was dictated by Atty. General Biddle, who is known to have played an active part in setting up the new committee.

JUL 10 1943

PRAISE WOMAN APPOINTEE

The selection of Tennessee-born, Miss Southall, a personnel director of the International Harvester company in Chicago, and an active member of the executive board of the Chicago Urban league, was greeted with enthusiasm here, however. Persons familiar with her work in securing placements of Negroes in war industry praised her accomplishments.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

P. B. Young Will Not Quit FEPC

NOV 15 1943

NORFOLK—P. B. Young, a member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice who has been ill, announced this week that he would continue to serve as a member of the committee, and that he would attend the committee's forthcoming public hearings at Portland, Oregon, November 15 and 16, in cases involving shipyard workers in that area. He left for the West Coast Saturday.

Following an acute illness in September, Mr. Young had expressed doubts of his ability to continue as a member of FEPC. A return to normal health has led to his decision that he will be able to give the full time required to committee matters.

Mr. Young is publisher of the Journal and Guide and last spring was elected chairman of the board of trustees of Howard University.

NOV 13 1943

AFL Backs Haas' Appeal For End of Negro Bias

New York, N. Y. PM

AUG 1 1943

Msgr. Francis J. Haas

Union Magazine Publishes Plea to End Union Discrimination

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee), is calling for an end of racial discrimination by labor unions.

A number of cases in which AFL unions have barred Negroes from membership already are pending before the FEPC.

Writing in a forthcoming issue of the *American Federationist*, official journal of the AFL, Father Haas chides union leaders for "endless explanations, excuses and justification" of why racial barriers and other discriminatory practices are continued.

Hits 'Buck Passing'

"For the most part," the FEPC chairman reports, "union leaders have said 'they won't stand for it,' meaning that their white members are opposed to a non-discriminatory membership policy."

"In too many cases, 'they' is just symbolic of buck-passing," he adds. "However this may be, the clear duty of leaders is to lead, and in the present case the duty is crystal clear."

Despite the critical tone of his article, Father Haas cites considerable progress—of which the AFL's publication of this frank piece of self-criticism can be taken as an indication. He points out:

"It should not be passed over that, during all the rioting in Detroit, black and white workers continued working in most of the plants without friction; in several instances white workers escorted Negro workers home and protected them from the mob."

Other Unions Guilty

Father Haas also made it clear that "not all unions which bar Negroes or other minority group workers are in the AFL by any means, and neither do all locals follow whatever may be the policies of their international bodies."

Nonetheless, the FEPC chairman makes the statement of fact:

"Although elemental self-interest points but in one direction, there are still several major international labor unions which close their doors to Negroes as members by constitution, ritual or tradition and there are hundreds of locals which follow suit."

Father Haas praised both the AFL and CIO for establishing inter-racial action committees to develop goodwill.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Philly Transit Co. Must Hire Colored

NOV 27 1943

PHILADELPHIA

The Philadelphia (Pa.) Transportation Company, ordered by FEPC to cease race discrimination in hiring streetcar conductors, motormen, guards, cashiers and platform attendants, wants union sanction before making such a move.

The company union, which has a clause excluding colored workers met Tuesday night to consider the FEPC order, advising that insistence upon its contract is a violation of FDR's order.

Deadline Saturday

FEPC gave the company until Saturday, November 27, to upgrade and hire colored workers on the same basis as all others or to request a public hearing. PTC has 10,900 workers, 537 of whom are colored laborers.

The order requires the company to notify the union that discrimination will cease and so instruct its executives; to reconsider all colored applications received since June 25, 1941, post notices in conspicuous places stating that there will be no more color line in employment and promotion, and notify FEPC Regional Director G. James Fleming every 30 days for the next three months that these orders are being carried out.

Declares Negro Workers Must Be Strong To Overcome New Wave Of Anti-Negro Reaction

New York, N. Y. New York Age

By LORENZO F. DAVIS

JUL 3 1943

If Negro workers are to hold their own through the present wave of anti-Negro reaction, they must be determined to put forth their best effort on the job and stay clear of violence whenever possible.

While the foul stench of the anti-Negro riots and strikes of the Mobile Alabama shipyard, the Packard Motor Company of Detroit, and the Sun Shipbuilding Company of Pennsylvania, is still fresh, we had last week the most recent and worst outbreak of anti-Negro sentiment since this war began—the Detroit race riot which has already brought death to twenty Negroes, at this writing. The recent case of the Acme Backing Company of Brooklyn, where within the fortnight, 135 white workers "walked out" because a Negro was upgraded to his rightful job, gives ample evidence that this anti-Negro sentiment is not confined to the South or West, but is spreading right into New York City.

Several reasons for this condiiton have been advanced, the most prominent being: resentment of whites to the increasing number of Negroes in war jobs, practice of job segregation creating racial differences, wage differences for Negroes and whites, the revived activities of the Ku Klux Klan and "fifth columnists" or "domestic saboteurs."

But whatever the reason or reasons, the Negro worker's first duty is to protect his job and act in his best interests. Because he knows there are many hostile forces working against him, he should have all the more reason to do his job and act beyond reproach and shun bitterness.

If friction should arise with a white worker, report the incident to the shop steward if the factory is unionized, or to the foreman. If you can get no satisfaction on the job, take your grivance to the offices of the Fair Employment Practice Committee or the Governor's Committee on Discrimination for New York City. The telephone directory will give you their addresses. But in any case, avoid violence.

In this same connection, organized labor has the uncompromising duty to uphold the rights of its Negro members and impress upon its white members the need for understanding the problems of their fellow Negro unionists.

Management must be prevailed upon to treat the Negro workers with the same fairness as the whites; it must not be afraid to stand its ground against Negro-haters and trouble-makers, who demand to tell it when to hire, upgrade and fire Negro workers on the threat of organized retalliation. All must help in putting the Negro's strength to work for victory.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEPC SEEKS TO PUT NEGROES BACK ON JOB

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—Immediate return to work of the Negroes in West Coast shipyards who had been dismissed for refusal to pay their dues into an auxiliary union local of the Boilermakers' union is being sought by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) as a preliminary move to adjustment of the entire situation, it was announced last week by the committee.

As a result of investigation and a conference in San Francisco on August 20-21, the positions of all parties involved in the dispute have been clarified, the committee reported.

Workers' Defense League Quizzes New FEPC Head

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

NEW YORK, June 17—For the avowed purpose of assisting in speedy enforcement of the President's Executive Order 8802 banning discrimination, the Workers' Defense league, through National Secretary Morris Malgram, directed a number of pointed questions at Monsignor Francis J. Haas, newly appointed chairman of the Fair Employment Practices committee.

Of one the five questions asked Monsignor Haas in a letter dated June 7 was: "In view of the broad language of the President's Executive Order, which certainly means that the armed forces are included in the words of the Executive Order banning discrimination in the "several Federal departments and agencies," when do you propose to ask the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy to end the grave discrimination now going on in the armed forces—in violation of the Selective Service Act of 1940 and the President's recent executive order?"

JUN 19 1943

Other questions asked Monsignor Haas dealt with whether he had re-scheduled the railroad discrimination hearings called off in January by War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt; whether he proposes, as some anti-discrimination leaders have suggested, to call together the 1-9 organization leaders who met at the President's request February 19 with McNutt and Attorney General Francis Biddle; whether he recognized that the chief weapon of the forces seeking to throttle the FEPC has been delay after delay in the holding of vital public hearings; and whether there is in the records of the four present members of the FEPC—Messrs. Sniskin, Dickerson, Webster and Brophy—anything that warrants the slightest doubt concerning their service on the new board.

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FEPC

Roosevelt Issues Order Establishing New FEPC

JUN 5 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Text of the Executive issued May 27 further amending Executive Order No. 8802 by establishing a new committee on Fair Employment Practice and defining its powers and duties:

In order to establish a new Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower, and to eliminate discriminatory employment practices, Executive Order No. 8802 of June 25, 1941, as amended by Executive Order No. 8823 of July 18, 1941, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"WHEREAS the successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin; and

"WHEREAS it is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the war effort by all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders; and

Reaffirms Policy

"WHEREAS there is evidence that available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in war production solely by reason of their race, creed, color, or national origin, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale, and national unity:

"NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, and as President of the United States and commander in chief of the army and navy, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in Government by reason of race, creed, color, or national origin;

"And I do hereby declare that it is the duty of all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

"It is hereby ordered as follows:

of the Government of the

"1. All contracting agencies United States shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts.

"2. All departments and agencies of the Government of the United States concerned with vocational and training programs for war production shall take all measures appropriate to assure that such programs are administered without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

Part of OEM

"3. There is hereby established in the Office for Emergency Management of the executive office of the President a Committee on Fair Employment Practice, hereinafter referred to as the committee, which shall consist of a chairman and not more than six other members to be appointed by the President.

"The chairman shall receive such salary as shall be fixed by the President not exceeding $10,000 per year.

Pay for Members

"The other members of the Committee shall receive necessary traveling expenses and, unless their compensation is otherwise prescribed by the President, a per diem allowance not exceeding $25 per day and subsistence expenses on such days as they are actually engaged in the performance of duties pursuant to this order.

Duties of Committee

"4. The committee shall formulate policies to achieve the purposes of this order and shall make recommendations to the various Federal departments and agencies and to the President which it deems necessary and proper to make efective the provisions of this order.

"The committee shall also recommend to the chairman of the War Manpower Commission appropriate measures for bringing about the full utilization and training of manpower in and for war production without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

"5. The committee shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination forbidden by this order. It may conduct hearings, make findings of fact, and take appropriate steps to obtain elimination of such discrimination.

"6. Upon the appointment of the committee and the designation of its chairman, the Fair Employment Practice Committee established by Executive Order No. 8802 of June 25, 1941, hereinafter referred to as the old committee, shall cease to exist.

"All records and property of the old committee and such unexpended balances of allocations or other funds available for its use as the director of the bureau of the budget shall determine shall be transferred to the committee.

To Assume Work of Old FEPC

"The committee shall assume jurisdiction over all complaints and matter pending before the old committee and shall conduct such investigations and hearings as may be necessary in the performance of its duties under this order.

"7. Within the limits of the funds which may be available for that purpose, the chairman shall appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel and make provision for such supplies, facilities, and services as may be necessary to carry out this order.

"The committee may utilize the services and facilities of other Federal departments and agencies and such voluntary and uncompensated services as may from time to time be needed.

"The committee may accept the services of State and local authorities and officials, and may perform the functions and duties and exercise the powers conferred upon it by this order through such officials and agencies and in such manner as it may determine.

"8. The committee shall have the power to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order.

"9. The provisions of any other pertinent Executive order inconsistent with this order are hereby superseded."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

New FEPC Chairman Has Press Conference

Kansas City Call Kansas City, Mo.

JUN 4 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Immediately after the issuance of the new executive order reorganizing the FEPC, a press conference was called by Msgr. Francis J. Hass, the newly appointed chairman, to explain and discuss its contents.

Boiled down to its essentials, Fr. Hass declined to explain how the order would be implemented, pending the appointment of the other members of the committee. He could give no indication when these appointments would be made, but did not believe them likely before June 2, the date to which the hearing into the Capital Transit Company had been postponed.

"Here is a document which has importance and authority," Fr. Hass declared. "What methods and means are used to achieve its purposes are going to be used, and the committee is going to be such as will use these powers."

SAW ORDER EARLY

Fr. Hass admitted that he had seen the order before he accepted the offer of appointment, and that he had made some suggestions with regard to its final contents. He declined, however, to point out what suggestions he may have made.

He could not say anything about the complexion of the committee to be named to work with him, but said that he expected to be consulted on the appointments.

Although Fr. Haas anticipated no staff changes, Lawrence W. Cramer, executive secretary for the committee, practically admitted that he won't be around long.

HAS PASSED EXAM

He told reporters that the army has asked for him, and that he has no objections whatsoever to going but he said he had been asked "to hold off a while" in order to assist the new chairman to get his bearings. "I shall try to adjust so that everything will be done that should be done," Cramer said.

JUN 4 1943

Cramer's intention to go into the army were first learned of more than six weeks ago, when the Associated Negro Press learned exclusively that he had taken and passed the physical examination preparatory to entering the school for military governors at Charlottesville, Va. He had been expected to leave about May 1, but the delay in the selection of a chairman for the committee is what held up the transition.

JUN 6 1943

The appointment of Fr. Haas to the chairmanship was dated May 27, the day on which Catholic university where he is dean of the social science department, held its commencement exercises. This followed by approximately 10 days the unofficial report that he was the man. The President's letter to him said in part:

"Under your prudent and able direction, I am confident that the committee will make substantial progress in the solution of the vexing problems of discrimination in industry."

AN UNEXPENDED BALANCE

The ANP in another exclusive has been able to get a line on the budget probabilities confronting the new committee. For the fiscal period ending June 30, 1943. FEPC had been allowed $340,000 of which there is an unexpended balance.

This balance is due to the failure of WMC to transfer the field force of 30 men formerly working under Dr. Robert C. Weaver to the committee according to the agreement reached with manpower boss Paul V. McNutt last October.

In submitting his budget to the bureau of the budget for the fiscal year 1944, McNutt allowed nothing for FEPC, but denied that this indicated the status of the committee. The committee itself, however, did submit its estimates to the bureau of the budget and called for $650,000, a difference of $310,000 over the previous allowance.

In view of the issuance of the new order, it is possible that this figure will be worked, but the committee has won a concession from budget that the bureau will no longer make up estimate for the committee without first consulting with its fiscal officials.

A. Philip Randolph, national director of the March on Washington movement, made the following comment on the new order:

"The crux of the question is still the immediate rescheduling of the postponed railroad hearings. It is the judgment of the organizations participating in the February 19 conference with Messrs. McNutt and Biddle, that the four remaining members of the FEPC be retained because they investigated the railroad situation and rendered good service to minorities through the FEPC. These organizations feel it would be to the best interest of the committee were the new chairman, Fr. Haas, to call together the 19 organizations to discuss the future plans of FEPC before any major action is taken."

FEPC Gives Capital Transit Ultimatum on Race Job Bias

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

JUL 31 1943

Somewhat disturbed about some 800 cases of racial discrimination on its files, including some local ones, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice notified the Capital Transit Company here Monday that it either must cease its discriminatory practice against Negroes on its lines or face the wrath of a public hearing to be decided on August 9 when the Committee holds its next meeting.

According to a statement made by the Very Rev. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC, the

Capital Transit Company has taken "some steps" to alleviate the existing conditions but has "admitted a failure to employ available Negroes on its lines. "If these remedial steps are found to be inadequate by the time of our next meeting, August 9, we will need no further action. Otherwise, we shall call a public meeting to decide the issues," Father Haas further stated.

Chairman Haas revealed further that a complaint has been made by a Mexican consul that there has been discrimination against Mexicans brought into the United States for wartime work also.

JUL 31 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Denies Negro-Officer Sea Ban

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28 (AP)—Charges that the United Fruit Company had failed to [illegible] qualified Negro maritime officers in New York in violation of Presidential orders were dismissed today after investigation by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. Mgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the committee, said representations had been made that the company had requested a ship's crew, and had refused to hire qualified Negro officers who a[illegible] The committee's investigation disclosed that the company had made no request for a crew, Mgr. Haas said.

AUG 29 1943

Earl Dickerson Dropped; Committee to Promote Utilization of Manpower

Washington.—The President this week appointed six members of the new Committee on Fair Employment Practice of which the Rt. Rev Monsignor Francis J. Haas is chairman. The members, representing labor and industry, includ[illegible]

JUL 8 1943

For Labor

John Brophy, Congress of Industrial Organizations, 718 Jackson Place, N. W, Washington, D. C.

Milton P. Webster, International Vice President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. F. of L., 423 South Michigan avenue, Chicago.

Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor, 901 Massachusetts avenue, Washington, D. C.

For Industry

Miss Sara Southall, Supervisor of Employment and Service, International Harvester Company Chicago, Ill.

JUL 8 1943

P. B. Young, Sr. Publisher, Norfolk Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

Samuel Zemurray, President, United Fruit Company, Audubon Place New Orleans, La

The new committee, established under Executive Order 9346 on May 27, 1943, is charged with the responsibilitiy of promoting "the fullest utilization of all available manpower and the elimination of discriminatory practices in employment." It replaces the old Committee on Fair Employment Practice established by Executie Order 8802 on June 25, 19[illegible]

JUL 8 1943

Dickerson Dropped

The three labor members had served on the old Committee. Mr. Brophy, a member of the United Steelworkers of America and National Director of the Industrial Union Councils of the CIO acted as alternate on the old Committee for Philip Murray, CIO president. Mr. Shishkin, economist for the American Federation of Labor, served as alternate for William Green, A. F. of L. president. Both have been appointed as full members of the new Committee, along with Mr. Webster, who also was a member of the old committee. Earl B. Dickerson, former Chicago alderman, was dropped from the new committee.

JUL 8 1943

Of the industry representatives, Miss Southall has had extensive experience in the field of labor utilization. She is a member of the Board of the Chicago Urban League and was active in the industrial division of the Y.W.C.A.

Mr. Young, publisher of one of the leading Negro newspapers, is chairman of the Board of Trustees of Howard University, in Washington, D. C., and a member of the Board of Trustees of Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va. He is also chairman of the Southern Conference on Race Relations.

Mr. Zemurray, who came to this country in his youth as a Polish immigrant and worked his way up to the presidency of the United Fruit Company, is a member of the Boards of Directors of the Atlas Corporation and of Tulane University.

Chairman Haas is now in Detroit investigating the status of cases in that city now pending before the FEPC. He will repore to the Committee on the Detroit and other pending cases on his return.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Malcolm Ross Succeeds Haas As FEPC Head

WASHINGTON —(S N S)— President Roosevelt Friday accepted the resignation of Monsignor Francis J Haas as chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and named Deputy Chairman Malcolm Ross to succeed him.

Monsignor Haas resigned upon his designation by Pope Pius to be bishop of the diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. In a letter to the FEPC, Mr. Roosevelt said Monsignor Haas "has offered to continue to give us his council. The President added:

"There are many difficulties before us. I feel satisfied, however that in you the country has a committee upon which it can depend for wise and determined dealing with this problem which is essential to the fulfilment of the promises of our democracy."

Collins Lauds FDR on FEPC

New York, N.Y.
Daily Worker

The Negro Labor Victory Committee today, through its executive secretary, Charles A. Collins, hailed President Roosevelt for his speedy appointment of a chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee to succeed Msgr. Haas, who resigned to become Bishop of the diocese of Grand Rapids, and pledged its full support to the new chairman, Malcolm Ross.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee was informed yesterday of the appointment of Mr. Ross by Jonathan Daniels, Administrative Assistant to the President, in a letter to Collins. Daniels stated: "The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of Oct. 9 . . . you can be confident that the Committee will carry on the same policies which characterized its actions under the former chairman."

In his statement on behalf of the Negro Labor Victory Committee Collins stated: "The decisive factor" in the work of the Committee "will be the continuous support given the Committee by the Administration, organized labor and other progressive groups throughout the country."

Life, Death And Re-Birth Of FEPC

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

When President Roosevelt scrapped the old and ineffective Fair Employment Practice Committee on May 28 and set up a new FEPC to combat job discrimination, because of race, religion and national origin, in the federal government and private industry, he only did what should have been done long ago, many Negro and white leaders contend.

JUN 5 1943

They base their contention on the fact that despite the critical demand for more workers in war industry, Negroes and Jews and citizens of Italian and German descent are still discriminated against in employment by the Government itself, as well as private employers. Of course, most of the discrimination is against Negroes, particularly in the South, where they are still riddeno-n-a-rail whenever they seek war jobs above the menial level.

There are fewer than 40,000 Negro trainees for war jobs in the entire South, despite the need for hundreds of thousands of skilled and semi-skilled workers and a vanishing labor supply. Although there is a critical need for 2,000 welders by the Ala. Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company in Mobile, white workers rioted there last week soleley because of a rumor that the company, itself determined not to hire Negroes above the unskilled level, planned to employ them as welders.

Death of Old FEPC

Meantime, in the North hundreds of plants in need of labor also continue to discriminate against Negroes and others. The owners of these plants are implying equally effectively as the Southerners, who say, "to hell with winning the war if we have to let the niggers hold god jobs," that they feel the same way.

Headed by Monsignor Françis J. Haas, dean of the School of Social Science of Catholic Univ., Washington, D. C., the new FEPC will be self-contained and not dependent on War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt. By refusing to permit the first FEPC to hold hearings last January against railroads charged with job discrimination buried the already dead FEPC. The commitee as originally established had independent status, but was placed under Mr. McNutt when his powers were broadened to include selective service and other phases of the manpower problem.

The new FEPC will consist of six members and a chairman. It is not yet known if President Roosevelt will re-appoint Earle B. Dickerson, Chicago alderman, and Milton B. Webster, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, as members. Both are Negroes and both were quite active on the first committee.

Executive Order 8802

The first Federal Government agency of its kind ever established, the FEPC came into being as a result of an executive order (8802) issued by President Roosevelt on June 25, 1941, and amended on July 18 of the same year.

The executive order establishing it was generally believed to have been issued by Mr. Roosevelt because of a threat of a march on Washington, by an estimated 50,000 Negroes in protest against job discrimination against their race by the Federal Government and private employers. A. Philip Randolph, head of the March on Washington Movement, refused to consent to call off the march, following a request that he do so by Mr. Roosevelt, and soon thereafter the executive order was issued.

As originally established, the FEPC was responsible directly to the President, who appointed its members. All contracts for war goods let by the Government had clauses inserted in them prohibiting employers from discriminating against persons because of race, religion, or national origin. Lawrence W. Cramer, former Governor of the Virgin Islands, was appointed as executive secretary of the committee, and after he had selected a small staff, the committee began to investigate complaints of job discrimination.

Crippled At Start

Although the FEPC was crippled from the beginning because of insufficient funds and an inadequate staff, it soon held hearings in various cities to determine charges against war firms that they were discriminating in their hiring practices.

The first hearings were held in Los Angeles, in October, 1941, the second in Chicago, in January, 1942, the third in New York City in February, 1942, and the last real ones in Birmingham, Ala., in July, 1942. Biased employers and their representatives openly lied on the witness stand, declaring that they did not discriminate against job applicants, although sufficient evidence to the contrary was produced by the FEPC and its witnesses.

JUN 5 1943

The large amount of publicity given to the hearings which awakened millions of people for the first time to the amount of job discrimination practiced against Negroes and others was the only real benefit derived from them or, in fact, the establishment of the committee itself.

An Abortive Career

The highlight of the first FEPC's abortive career was the hearings held in Birmingham. It marked the first time since the reconstruction period the Federal Government had ventured into the South to speak up for the rights of colored citizens.

A few Southern whites in the witness chair even made the mistake of saying, yes, sir, to their Negro interrogators.

However, because of the protests by the white Southerners against such hearings, no more was held in the South, although one had been scheduled to be held in Texas.

Following the Birmingham hearings, the old FEPC quietly folded its tent and stole back to the Social Security Building in Washington, where it maintains its headquarters, and, to all intents and purposes, died.

JUN 5 1943

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FEPC

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Horizon

JAN 23 1943

BY P. L. PRATTIS

KILLING OF FEPC PROBE IS CONSEQUENCE OF TWO CASES OF BAD JUDGMENT

WHY did Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt call off the probe planned by the Fair Employment Practices Committee into job discrimination by common carriers—the railroads and related groups of our transportation system? Do you know? Or are you guessing? Mr. McNutt, who took full responsibility for the decision, says that the hearing was called off to iron out differences with southern railroads. I think that we have got to KNOW, not guess nor assume, more about why the hearing was killed before we can be intelligent in expressing opinions about the action. I don't think it will do any good to jump to conclusions on pure presumption. I think that the action has hurt FEPC, is embarrassing to its members. I think that Negroes have a right to feel that they have been deserted and that the killing of the probe represents a setback in the fight on discrimination. I think a mistake, or rather, two mistakes have been made.

Mr. Prattis

JAN 23 1943

FEPC MADE MISTAKE

THE first mistake, as noted in a recent letter from Miss McKenzie, was made by the Committee. Anything that touches the railroads affects the entire transportation system of the country. This system is dominated, not by the American Federation of Labor or the Congress of Industrial Organizations, but by the Big Four Brotherhoods of railway engineers, conductors, trainmen and brakemen. They constitute one of the most powerful forces in this country. They can defy the government and have defied the government. Overnight, they can tie up the transportation system of the nation. To keep them from doing so, the government was forced to take over the operation of the railroads in the last war. The FEPC planned a frontal attack on this entrenched gorilla of prejudice with no holds barred. The enemy was too strong and the FEPC was too weak. Maybe the FEPC figured that this was a good time to find out how strong, or weak, it is. It has learned. It has been kayoed. Joe Louis recovered after a kayo by Schmeling. I hope the FEPC recovers. But I believe it made a mistake by tackling too strong a foe without building up its strength in try-outs with less hardy foes.

JAN 23 1943

PRESIDENT MADE MISTAKE

ALTHOUGH Mr. McNutt takes responsibility for the action. I don't believe that he is responsible and I don't believe the reason he gives is all the reason. I believe that Mr. Roosevelt is responsible and I believe he made a mistake. From time to time, I have solicited all-out support for the President, but I do not believe he is infallible, even when he is most honest. I think that he and his advisers were caught in the middle by this proposed hearing and that they did what they thought was best. I think their best is a HUGE MISTAKE.

FACTORS BEHIND ORDER

JAN 23 1943

IN PASSING judgment on the kind of mistake they have made, it is necessary to look at the FEPC situation in the light of some other things which are happening. The anti-trust suits of the attorney general's office are in point. Cases, involving monopolies harmful to the public interest, have been built up by the attorney general's anti-trust division against a large number of American firms engaged in war production. Prosecution of practically all these cases **has been killed or postponed. Why?** Because the heads of these firms said they couldn't produce war goods and, at the same time, defend themselves in court. They told the Army and the Navy. The Army and the Navy told the President. The result was that the Attorney General was stopped dead in his tracks. The head of the anti-trust division of the Attorney General's office, Thurman Arnold, is now being considered for another job. The same is true of firms which have violated the patent laws to the injury of the public interest. At the present time a large section of the public press is condemning present restrictions or prospective restrictions and regulations, against the railroads. This section of the press contends that government interference and regulation hampers the railroads in doing their wartime job. The railroads are doing a big wartime job for the Army and Navy. Is it too much to assume that the railroad managements insisted that Army and Navy pull the FEPC on them and that the Army and Navy carried the case to the President? In such a situation, you doubtless perceive the combined opposition of the unions and management. Side by side with this, must be considered the political and racial opposition, based purely on prejudice.

JAN 23 1943

But political opposition is tremendously important at this time. The President has a bare majority in the Congress, necessary to him in the conduct of the war. He feels that he must hold this majority. That is one of the reasons he let Leon Henderson out. I rather feel that the President and his advisers thought that FEPC had proceeded to the point where its drive **against the railroads might weaken the President's influence in Congress.**

PRESIDENT COULD HAVE HELPED SOLVE PROBLEM

JAN 23 1943

BUT, in spite of all the factors described above, I believe the President and his advisers made a huge mistake. They have practically killed the only official agency fighting discrimination in this country. I think the issue against the railroads was of such vital import that the President and his advisers should have joined with FEPC in calling together the union and management leadership to effect some solution. This conference need not have been public. But it could have achieved some results and the face of FEPC could have been saved. Furthermore, thirteen million Negroes, fighting and working to win this war, would have been saved the humiliation and the injury to their morale suffered from the spectacle of their government backing down in the face of prejudice. In the basic analysis, prejudice based on color and race, must be found as the only true position of the opposition. The issue could have been tackled without jeopardising the necessary war work of the railroads and without menacing the President's influence in the Congress if the President and his advisers had had an affirmative concept of the problem, rather than fear of the consequences of tackling it. Transportation, or lack of it, can cause us to lose the war. So can color prejudice. Both are problems to be faced. Neither can be ignored without injury to the national cause. Killing this FEPC probe will hurt us at home and abroad.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Speak Out!

STRONG pressure from Negro and labor organizations has still not moved Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to open hearings on anti-Negro discrimination in the railroad industry. Last week members of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee unanimously voted to inform McNutt of "its very strong feeling that the railroad hearings which were postponed last week should be rescheduled and held as soon as possible." A conference of Negro editors and publishers has petitioned President Roosevelt to the same effect. It is obvious, as the conference declared, that "Wiping out the color line in war industries is not only necessary for the full use of the nation's manpower, but is also equally important as a pledge to our non-white allies of the good faith of the American government in its proclamation of freedom and democracy as the objectives of the war."

FEB 2 1943

This is a crucial issue on which there can be no compromise or evasion. The congressional defeatists and some government officers are adding fuel to enemy propaganda that the four freedoms do not apply to the colored races. They are seeking to disrupt national unity. It is vitally important that every progressive individual and organization let the President and Paul McNutt know that the people insist on reopening the hearings on the railroad industry. Not to speak out is to be an accomplice in this Jim Crow blow to the war effort.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Marcantonio Bill Would Aid FEPC

FEB 9 - 1943

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—Congressman Vito Marcantonio, N. Y., Friday introduced into the House of Representatives a bill which would cloak the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice with broad powers to stamp out discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin or citizenship by any contractor or sub-contractor holding a federal government contract.

FEB 9 - 1943

The Marcantonio Fair Employment Practice Act establishes as the public policy of the United States the repudiation and prohibition of all forms of employment discrimination by any employer furnishing or manufacturing any goods for use by any agency of the federal government.

GIVES COMMITTEE POWER

It gives the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, created by President Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 8802, power to inquire fully into any alleged instance of discrimination and to issue orders to employers found guilty to cease and desist from continued violations.

The bill gives the Committee discretionary power to assess a guilty employment because of discrimi- dollars for each day's continued violation of a cease and desist order; to order the hiring or reinstatement of a person kept from employment because of discrimination; and, to bar any contractor, who after hearing has been found guilty of unfair employment practices, from receiving any government contracts for a maximum period of three years. All orders of the Committee are made subject to review and are enforceable by the federal courts. A penal provision for persons wilfully interfering with the execution of the Act, carries a penalty of five thousand dollars fine or one year's imprisonment, or both.

Commenting on his bill Congressman Marcantonio stated, "This bill is designed to put an end to all question as the status and powers of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. The critical need for more manpower to win the war, makes it imperative that Congress acts firmly and promptly to stop un-American discriminations against Negroes, Italians, Jews, Puerto Ricans, foreign born, aliens and other groups who are hindered from giving their full energies to war production. I shall press for speedy action on this vital war measure."

NAACP QUESTIONS FDR FEPC CONFERENCE PLAN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (Dou

as to the value of a meeting su as proposed this week by Preside Roosevelt in his request that W Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt call a conference of lea ers of groups opposing employme discrimination was expressed th week by the National Associatio for the Advancement of Colore People.

The NAACP indicated its appro val of President Roosevelt's wis that the Fair Employment Practic Committee have more power an larger personnel but in a telegra to the White House said:

"It is not clear, however, why conference of organizations, suc as you propose Mr. McNutt, shoul call, is necessary to accomplis these ends. The NAACP and othe organizations have already state their position to you. The war i not waiting for conferences. Workers are needed in industry now The NAACP therefore urges yo as president to give the Fair Employment Practice Committee without further delay such powers an personnel as are necessary for th accomplishment of its vital task The minimum program which woul make the committee effective : first, immediate re-scheduling (railroad hearings. second, establishment of committee in independe office of president and its remov from War Manpower Commissi or any other subsidiary governmental body, third, sanctions for committee in form of public hearing power to impose money and oth penalties and all additional authority necessary to accomplish the gargantuan task of eliminating discrimination in government and w industries; fourth, selection of committee strong enough to resi anti-Negro, anti-semitic, section or other political pressures; fift adequate staff and budget for committee."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MEMBERS ADVISED NOT TO TALK UNTIL AFTER CONFERENCE

JAN 23 1943

FEPC DEVELOPMENTS DURING WEEK

Walter P. Reuther, vice president of the UAW-CIO, and member of the Labor-Management Policy Committee of WMC, protested to President Roosevelt and Chairman McNutt against postponement of FEPC hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry.

Powerful National Maritime Union wired Mr. McNutt denouncing the postponement as a "blow to the war against fascism."

Evidencing his resentment at McNutt's action Harry Epstein, FEPC special counsel, tendered his resignation.

Walter White, NAACP secretary, held Roosevelt's secretary, Marvin McIntyre, partly responsible for suppression of FEPC hearing and called McIntyre self-appointed President of the Negroes."

A delegation from Detroit, headed by Rev. Charles Hill, conferred with McNutt but received no "encouragement" the hearing would be held.

JAN 23 1943

George Marshall, president of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, in a letter to President expressed "grave concern" over the indefinite postponement.

The National Lawyers Guild called on President Roosevelt to "re-create" FEPC as an independent agency with complete autonomy.

The CIO, through James B. Carey, secretary, leveled a sharp attack on McNutt and charged the postponement was a "serious blow to the war morale of Negro citizens and to all whites who know that racial discrimination is a Hitlerite weapon."

William Green, AFL president, has instructed Boris Shishkin, Federation representative on FEPC, to voice AFL's opposition to McNutt's action at the committee meeting this week.

The Socialist Party called upon McNutt to "rescind" his postponement order.

JAN 23 1943

NAACP branches throughout the country began organizing for mass protest on the ban on FEPC investigation.

The National Urban League, through President William H. Baldwin, wired President Roosevelt and Commissioner McNutt that it was "disturbed over apparent trends toward immobilization of the Committee's authority."

Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, demanded the restoration of FEPC's power as an independent agency.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Evans, Reeves Join FEPC Staff in D.C.

SEP 4 1943

WASHINGTON.

Joseph H. B. Evans and Frank Reeves, well-known local figures, became senior fair practice examiner and associate fair practice examiner respectively, of the FEPC last week.

A native of the capital, Mr. Evans, who will work in the Washington Regional Office, was formerly chief of the Negro Labor Relations Section, NYA; FSA and Resettlement Administration; and executive assistant in the Department of Interior.

Mr. Reeves was a former instructor in the Howard University Law School and for a time served with the NAACP as research assistant, legal and administrative assistant. He has been assigned to the central office in the capital.

A. Philip Randolph, head of the March on Washington Movement and militant leaders of the Porters' Brotherhood, led a delegation of labor and civic leaders to Washington for a conference with McNutt on Monday.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MARCANTONIO DOES IT!

FEB 20 1943

In the eyes of the growing number of reactionaries in Congress, Representative Vito Marcantonio, sole American Labor Party member, is a menace, and that is why they compelled the Committee on Committees to withdraw his name as a member of the potent House Judiciary Committee.

To show that the reactionaries' fears were justified, Representative Marcantonio the other day introduced in the House a bill which would give broader powers to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to prevent discrimination in employment because of "race," color, creed or national origin.

The Marcantonio measure would prohibit all forms of employment discrimination by any employer furnishing or manufacturing any goods used by any agency of the Federal Government.

The FEPC, under this measure, could issue orders to cease and desist and could assess fines of $500 for each day's continuation of a violation of a cease and desist order.

Employers found guilty of discrimination could also be barred from receiving government contracts for a maximum period of three years.

Now this is the kind of law THE PITTSBURGH COURIER has time and again insisted should be passed if the FEPC is going to be able to do its job effectively.

There is still not enough real patriotism among the war contractors of the United States to cause them to abolish color discrimination voluntarily regardless of where they may be located, and patting on the wrist by the FEPC will do little good, especially in certain sections.

What is needed is a punitive law with plenty of teeth, and that is what Marcantonio's bill possesses.

Significantly enough the daily newspapers have "buried" news of this bill's introduction on far inside pages and none has espoused it editorially. But the reception given this bill will indicate more than anything else at this time whether those in places of wealth and power are sincere about the ideals for which we are making such sacrifices.

In the meantime, every colored organization in the land should get behind this Marcantonio bill with every resource at its command.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WENDELL WILLKIE CONSULTED

JAN 23 1943

After consultation with Wendell Willkie in New York last week, a group of citizens issued a statement saying "The cancellation not only is an irreparable blow to the Negro people, but does the utmost damage to the whole prosecution of the war." The committee was composed of Ferdinand Smith, of the National Maritime union; Dr. Max Yergan, of the NNC; Dr. Warren Banner, National Urban league; Edward Lewis, New York Urban league; Joseph Ford, People's committee, and Rev. A. Clayton Powell Jr., city councilman.

A. Philip Randolph, militant leader, whose threat to lead a "March" on Washington forced President Roosevelt to issue the Executive Order, in a statement, said: "McNutt's action is a slap in the face of/and insult to, upwards of 20 millions of Negro Americans. It makes them feel that the President is surrendering to the race-prejudice-mongering political demagogues of the South. President Roosevelt stated in the famous White House conference that some agency was needed to which could be presented complaints of discriminations. He established such an agency and charged it with the responsibility of investigating discriminations in war industries Such is the function and responsibility of FEPC."

JAN 23 1943

Walter White, NAACP secretary, strongly urged President Roosevelt to "restore the Fair Employment Practice Committee to its full independent status prior to its transfer to the War Manpower Commission."

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan

FDR ORDERS MCNUTT TO REVISE FEPC; TO HOLD JIM CROW R. R. HEARINGS

FEB 12 1943

Washington, Feb. 12. (ANP)—President Roosevelt this week instructed Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the WMC, to call a con-

erence to revise and strengthen the power and scope of the FEPC.

The President stated that "when the machinery has been established to meet the problems," the com-

mittee would hold hearings of discrimination lodged against the railroad companies of the nation. He said other cases that have been delayed would also be continued.

Hearings on public carriers scheduled for Jan. 26 were ordered postponed by McNutt during the chief executive's absence from this country to attend the historic conferences on the war at Casablanca, French Morocco, West Africa.

FEB 12 1943

Negro leaders and other minority groups interpreted the postponement of the rail hearings, the first time the committee sought to challenge discrimination on an industry wide scale, as Mr. Roosevelt's capitulation to the dictates of the Bourbon south.

The hearings on the railroads were designde to focus public attention on alleged discriminations in the industry against Negro workers, and in unions composed of railroad employes. Particular attention was to be paid to unions and carriers operating in the southeastern states.

The President made the announcement of the request for reorganization of the FEPC after a luncheon engagement with McNutt and Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle. He praised the past performances of the committee, said members and leaders of groups opposing discrimination in war industries would be invited to the conference.

FEB 12 1943

One of the complaints against the organization of the President's committee by Negro leaders and representatives of other minority groups has been that it lacked sufficient power to make its dictates effective.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, stated last week that to wage an effective battle against discrimination in industry, the committee must be armed with "sanctions such as the right to impose money penalties and prison sentences and to hold public hearings when war contract holders, labor unions or government officials refuse to comply" with committee orders.

FEB 12 1943

Observers expressed the opinion that the presence at the White House of Biddle might tend to indicate that the President was seeking legal advice for grounds to impose sanctions.

47d-1943

FEPC

FEPC CHAIRMAN HOLDS FIRST PRESS PARLEY

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

JUL 24 1943

Father Francis J. Haas, new chairman of the Fair Employment Practic.. committee, held his first press conference recently and announced that the committee had completed its reorganization and would re-schedule the hearing on discrimination in employment in the railway industry, large war production plants in Detroit, and the Capitol Transit company in Washington, D. C. —OWI Photo by Roger Smith..

JUL 24 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Msgr. Hass Pleads with AFL to Grant Full Status to Negroes

BOSTON, Mass.—Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, pleaded Wednesday with delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention to accord full union status to Negroes and other minority groups.

Msgr Haas issues the follow-warning:

"Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between anti-labor employers and anti-labor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members. Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group. Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist, he wants his full stature as an American working man, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt.

"Would you have it otherwise? Would you have the spirit which founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one-tenth of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?"

RAILROAD DECISION EXPECTED THIS WEEK

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC told The Pittsburgh Courier this week that he fully expected his seven-man committee to hand down a decision in the cases of alleged discrimination by railroad employers and unions at its next regular meeting which will take place here Saturday (October 2).

"Members of the committee already have heard the evidence and have complete transcripts of the testimony," said Father Haas. They will soon be furnished with digests of the cases against each company and each union based on this testimony. I expect we will make our decision at our next meeting."

BOILERMAKERS' CASE SET FOR HEARING

The FEPC chairman also indicated that West Coast hearings in the case of the Boilermakers' union were scheduled to be heard before the full committee at Portland, Ore., and in San Francisco on November 18, 19 and 20.

Decision of the FEPC to push through to a speedy decision in the railroad cases promised an early showdown between the committee and the railroad carriers union, CIO, issued a pessimistic blast at the committee this week in which he declared that the hearings were meaningless and that FEPC was as good as dead and buried.

Most observers here, however, held a more hopeful view of the chances for effective action by the committee. They accepted as a foregone conclusion that the committee could not avoid a finding of gross discrimination on the part of the railroads and the unions. They were wary, however, of the methods which the committee might attempt to enforce a correction of these jim-crow practices.

MAY OUTLAW AGREEMENT

It was pointed out that a solution of the problem of several thousand Negro trainmen and firemen, who are threatened with loss of seniority rights and eventual loss of jobs, demanded an enforced cancellation by the FEPC of the Southeastern Carriers' Agreement and other agreements between railroads and unions of similar character, which prevent and limit employment and seniority of so-called "non-promotable" employees (which under its terms means Negro).

What is involved in outlawing these agreements is not only the attack upon the companies and the unions, but also upon the National Mediation Board, a government agency, which approved the jim crow agreements. It will be squarely up to the committee when it meets Saturday to decide if it will say to the railroads, the unions and to the government agencies, "You have entered into and approved an agreement which violates the President's Executive Order against discrimination. We declare it null and void and order you to renegotiate the contract in terms which will guarantee the protection of the seniority and employment rights of Negro trainmen and firemen."

ROOSEVELT MAY ENTER PICTURE

Another problem which the committee will have to face will be how to meet the problem of future employment of Negroes on railroads in all skills at a time when the manpower shortage is so acute that Joseph Eastman, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, has appealed to be permitted to use women and prisoners of war on the railroads. The Railroad Retirement Board is the agency which now handles recruitment of workers for the railroads. It will be up to the committee to insist that this government agency take positive steps to secure acceptance of Negro workers as engineers, stewards, machinists and roundhouse employees by the railroads and to prevent any interference with these actions by the railroad unions.

There was still this week no indication of any further break in the united front of the railways or the unions. Father Haas declined to affirm or deny that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen had submitted an answer to the charges raised against them. What will happen if the companies, the unions or the government agencies decline to obey the committee's orders, and whether in the final analysis the whole matter will be placed in President Roosevelt's lap for exercise of his emergency war powers, remains to be seen. and railway labor unions. Already various observers of the four-day hearings held two weeks ago have expressed doubt that the committee can enforce any orders it issues to the railroads or the unions to end the wholesale acts of jim-crowism proved against them.

OBSERVES DOUBT POWER TO ACT

Last week the "Kiplinger Letter" —widely circulated weekly newsletter sent to leading businessmen predicted that the hearings would be meaningless. Said the letter: "FEPC has only power to recommend . . . its recommendations may be ignored."

Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Workers' into the road with the mines and pull a short rope attached when the tanks came close. Luckily the Germans did not attack along that road.

SAVED PIANO

Sgt. James A. Jackson had a bit of fun during the landing when he became more concerned over the squadron's small upright piano than his own skin. He pulled the piano backward and forward over the beach, fearing the Germans would get aim on it if it stayed in one spot. Finally wearying, he began playing, "I Got a Gal in Kalamazoo" and other songs, which the boys chorused while shells exploded uncomfortably close.

Among the other boys who underwent grim experiences were: S/Sgts. Clarence Dishman, Washington, D.C.; Julius Caesar Lovett, Newark, N.J.; Charles W. Kennedy, Washington, Pa.; James O. McGutherie, Los Angeles; George D. Johnson, Atlantic City; William C. Hall, Philadelphia, and T/Sgt. Herman Jones, Atlanta.

THE RAILROAD HEARINGS

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

The formal sessions of the Fair Employment Practices committee investigation of the discriminatory practices of 22 of the nation's leading railroads and of the railroad brotherhoods are over. No findings have been submitted to the American public up to the time of this writing. These however will undoubtedly follow. They will be clear for the testimony was undoubtedly clear. Negroes are subjected to grossly discriminatory practices by America's railroads.

Yes, the anti-Negro policy of the American railroads and in the main of the railroad brotherhoods was clear, but the major factor that emerged from this hearing was not the jim-crowism, but the tremendous injury this jim-crowism has done our country at its moment of supreme crisis. War demands a change.

The railroads have been and are complaining of a shortage of manpower. The hearings confronted them with thousands of able men with years of experience behind them whose services were not used at all or used only in a limited capacity because of their color.

This is not a Negro question. This is not only an American question, but today when we are involved in coalition warfare, this is an international question. Jim-crowism and segregation in America must come to an end. The progressive forces of the country must be mobilized from the trade union movement itself to those elements within the National Association of Manufacturers who are willing to put the interest of their country over and above their prejudices.

Clyde R. Miller, founder of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis, questioned by Bartley C. Crum, special counsel for the Fair Employment Practices committee, brought out with the greatest of clarity the fact that Germany and Italy in Europe and particularly Japan in Far East have capitalized greatly on the discriminatory policy of leading industrialists in America, which

policy has not, with sufficient determi-support because the native peoplesacterize our national life. It is not only
nation, been combatted by our govern-feared that the armies of Englanda disgrace to allow this situation to
ment. would bring back its age-old imperial-continue, it has now become a menace
The hearings showed definitely that ist policy of segregation and that the to our national welfare.
Japanese militarism was able to mobi-armies of America would bring the pre- Jim-crowism and segregation must
lize wide sections of the Far East to its judices and discriminations which char-go if we are to win the war and the
peace.

Jimcro Railroad Unions Defy Democracy

Peoples Voice New York, N. Y.

THE railway unions of America are definitely fascist and should be immediately outlawed by the government. The consistent "white supremacy" attitude on the part of their leadership is treason at its very worst. It is American Hitlerism. The flagrant disregard of the FEPC's invitation to attend a hearing in the nation's capital last week has proved conclusively that the railway unions should be dissolved immediately by the government and new unions, or a new union, formed in keeping with the fundamental principles of this nation.

Nowhere in America is the Negro kept more rigidly in the mythical place that Nazi-minded whites would confine him than in the transportation industry. Negro men can never advance further than the job that they begin in—red cap, porter or waiter. As I travel the railroads of this nation constantly, it has been time and again proven to me that the average Negro worker has the ability and experience to hold any job in the transportation picture.

- There are red caps in many stations that are better trained than ticket-sellers and the men who work in the station masters' offices.
- There are porters just as capable of being Pullman conductors as any that are now serving.
- There are waiters who are not only able to be stewards but also to work in the highest brackets of the stewards' offices in the terminal headquarters.

MANY NEGROES TODAY ARE SERVING AS STEWARDS AND PULLMAN CONDUCTORS BUT ARE REFUSED THE TITLES, THE PAY AND THE HONOR.

There is no difference between the so-called railway brotherhood and the Klu Klux Klan nor, for that matter, Hitler's Black Shirt Bullies.

The time has arrived for the awakened conscience of white America to purge these unAmerican organizations. The CIO stands as a living refutation of the fact that Negroes and whites can work together and advance in their industries as their ability and experience warrant. There are some AFL unions, all too few, who likewise not only pay lip-service to democracy but also practice it. The entire American Federation of Labor, however, will never be respected by any Negro nor any honest-thinking white until it has cleaned up its own house. THE TIME IS NOW.

Richard K. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees, in his closing words before the FEPC, at their hearing, sized up the whole question: "We have no complaint if we do not measure up. If we do, then we want what we have a right to expect. And sometime, somehow, somewhere, we are going to get what is coming to us."

This is absolutely true. There is no individual, race, group nor institution that can withstand the mounting tide of world freedom. The time is rapidly drawing near when every black, brown, yellow and white worker will receive full and equal opportunity for employment and advancement. The day will come when Negro red caps will be ticket-sellers, Negro porters conductors and Negro waiters stewards. Furthermore, black men will drive the trains as well.

The Negro is working today where others said we would never be admitted. And tomorrow we will make for the break-throughs.

No one can stop us!

General Accounting Office Knifes President's FEPC

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

The Comptroller General of the United States, Lindsay C. Warren, in an opinion dated October 7, advised War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes, that contracts negotiated by the Federal Government will be considered by the General Accounting Office as valid, whether they contain an anti - discrimination clause or not.

The opinion weakens considerably Executive Order of the President, No. 9346, which, in addition to creating the Fair Employment Practices Committee, ordered that:

"All contracting agencies of the Government of the United States shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts."

In compliance with that Executive Order the Office for Emergency Management issued an order to all of its subdivisions, requiring the incorporation of anti-discriimnation clauses, in all future contracts.

Such a clause, pursuant to those instructions, was incorporated in a proposed contract between the Government and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company at Kansas City, Mo. The contract was the cover service to be rendered the National War Agencies at Kansas City.

The telephone company refused to sign the contract with the anti-discrimination clauses, in all and, being the only means by which telephone service can be obtained in Kansas City, the Government had been without telephone service.

Dallas Dort, director, Division of Central Administrative Services, of the Office for Emergency Management, in a letter to the Comptroller General dated September 11, 1943, pointed out that in addition to the refusal of the telephone company to sign the contract, the Government had experienced difficulty in negotiating lease contracts in which the anti-discrimination clause had been inserted, causing "considerable administrative difficulties." He sought the opinion of the Comptroller, whose office has to approve all Government contracts, as well as approve payment of vouchers under the contracts.

After a lengthy citation of his own opinions, the Comptroller arrives at the conclusion that the President's Executive Order was "directory and not mandatory," to the contracting agencies. Anyway, he concluded, the purpose of the Executive Order was to promote the war effort, and "failure to include such a provision will not render void an otherwise proper contract, or render objectionable otherwise proper payments thereunder.

The decision created quite a stir among officials of the FEPC, who had no knowledge of the decision until brought to their attention by the Washington Tribune.

Though the request for a decision was sent to the Comptroller by Mr. Dort, of the Office for Emergency Management, the director of which is Wayne Coy, of Indiana, the Comptroller's answer was sent to Mr. Byrnes, who is director of the Office of War Mobilization, whose office was created by Executive Order the same date that the President by like method created the newly constituted FEPC.

Some observers saw some political implications in the decision. The manner in which it was handled suggests that Byrnes and Warren conferred in advance of its issuance.

Byrnes is politically ambitious, and is reported to be seeking the Vice Presidential nomination. Warren, though a political appointee, is not subjected to politics. He is appointed for a fifteen-year term, is not subject to reappointment, and cannot be removed except by impeachment of the Senate.

Real Gains Scored In War Jobs Retiring FEPC Chairman Says

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Negroes have scored real gains in war employment since the beginning of the war emergency, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, retiring chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told newspapermen at his final press conference at the committee's headquarters last week.

"At present," Monsignor Haas declared, "Negroes constitute one out of every 14 war workers, and one out of every 11 government workers."

"Improvement in Negro employment in war industries has been substantial in the last year," the chairman stated.

"In July, 1942," he pointed out, "Negro workers constituted only 5.8 percent of total war production employees. By July, 1943, this percentage, had risen to 7.3 per cent. Since Negroes constitute roughly 10 per cent of our population, you can see that we still have a big job ahead. Negro employment is still limited to too few establishments, and there is still much under-utilization of the skills of Negro workers."

ROSS NEW CHAIRMAN

Malcolm Ross successor to Father Haas who was sworn into office Tuesday, October 19, stated briefly that there would be "complete continuity of the committee's work," and announced that George M. Johnson, assistant chairman, would be promoted to the deputy chairmanship.

Monsignor Haas stated that he would leave Washington, D. C., within ten days to assume his new duties as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. He was appointed to this post on October 7 by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

47d-1943

FEPC

FEPC Head Warns White Transit Employees Against Striking When Negroes are Hired

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices,, recently advised the Public Utilities Commission that if present crews of the Capital Transit Co. stop work in opposition to hiring of Negroes as platform men, they will be unable to get certificates to take other work.

Msgr. Haas said he had been so advised recently by the United States Employment Service. His statement was made while reporting that some progress is being made on the transit company situation. He reported the company had indicated its willingness to comply with fair employment practice orders.

The subject came before the PUC at a public hearing on the request of the company for permission to convert 52 2-man streetcars to one-man operation Company officials said the change was needed largely because of their inability to hire enough men or women to meet demands for service. They argued conversion of the cars to one-man operation would free 52 present employes to operate additional vehicles.

Text of Statement

Msgr. Haas made the following statement:

"The jurisdiction of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices extends to all of the employment policies of the Capital Transit Co., which concern discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

"The company is at the present time under a directive order of FEPC to recruit, hire and upgrade all qualified workers according to Executive Order 8802. This directive, which was issued November 28, 1942, specifically requested the company to hire Negroes as platform men. Since June of this year, in conference with FEPC, the company has indicated its willingness to comply with the requirements of Executive Order 9346, which amends Executive Order 8802. Since June, the committee has been in close touch with the company in an attempt to help it comply in a manner most conducive with good public order. Our latest information from the company indicates some progress is being made.

"The committee was advised by USES on October 4, 1943, that there is currently a pool of 328 qualified Negro applicants who are classified as bus drivers or in related classifications such as chauffeur, taxi driver, tractor-truck driver and so forth. The USES also reported at the same time that between May 10 and October 1, 1943, 300 Negro applicants having the basic qualifications for platform men were offered referral to the Capitol Transit Co.

"However, the USES advised further that only eight of this number accepted referral, stating that they believed that until the problem had been settled between the company and the committee that nothing was to be gained by making applications. Of the eight who were referred, one has been rejected and the applications of seven are pending. I might add that I was informed by the USES recently that if any of the present employes of the company were to stop work in opposition to the employment of Negroes, such workers would not be able to get certificates of availability for employment elsewhere.

Cites Results Elsewhere

"I would like to indicate something of the experience of other cities regarding the employment of Negroes as bus and streetcar operators, conductors and motormen.

"Reports received by the committee within the last month from Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Buffalo, Tulsa, Okla., and San Francisco, indicate that there is a total of 2,053 Negroes employed in these capacities."

After Msgr. Haas had finished reading his prepared statement, E. D. Merrill, president of the company, asked him if he knew whether the USES had given any tests to the 328 applicants such as the company gives. Msgr. Haas replied he did not know, that he had no breakdown statement as to the applicants. When Mr. Merrill added that the company gives qualification tests before placing applicants in service, Msgr. Haas said it was to be granted that if the company employed applicants it must submit them to qualification tests.

Hankin Asks Identity

[illegible] of th[illegible] iden- ti[illegible] who had gi[illegible] regarding the [illegible] applicants, saying he w[illegible] have that official called for testimony.

Earlier in the session Mr. Merrill declared the company had "explored every possible avenue and undertaken every reasonable effort" to secure additional help. He said:

"Our men now are working long hours, many of them giving up their regular day off and giving generously of their time which normally would be available for their own personal uses in order to keep the services running. This is clearly shown by the abnormal earnings, which are substantially above the earnings for a normal work week.

Haas Urges AFL End Anti-Negro Bans

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Louis F. Budenz
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

BOSTON, Oct. 6.—"Organized labor's duty to itself" makes it imperative that the American Federation of Labor and all discrimination against Negroes, Jews and other minority groups, both in its own ranks and in employment generally, Monsignor Francis J. Haas told the 63rd AFL convention here today.

Speaking as chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, Haas made such a telling plea for the abolition of all color bars and other undemocratic restrictions in unions as moved the delegates to alternate applause and thoughtful attention.

The fight of the minority groups for the right to employment without discrimination and for the right to join unions is akin to the fight of the American workers for "the right of association," Haas declared.

Speaking solemnly and slowly, the FEPC chairman emphasized to the delegates: "Just as once there existed unhealthy company union agreements between anti-labor employers and anti-labor workers also there exists a danger now that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members."

LASHES MINORITY BANS

"Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group," said Haas, looking at the delegates. "Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or Creedist, he wants his full status as an American workingman, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will rightfully revolt."

"Would you have it otherwise?" Haas asked, with rising inflection in his voice. "Would you have the spirit which founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one-tenth of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?"

"The interests of this nation at war coincide with the desire of the minority group members to be a part of the trade union movement," Haas went on to stress. The strength of our armed forces must still be increased by two million more men, he said, and our munition industries will need two million more workers. "There exists an untapped pool of willing and skilled hands among the minority groups," he declared, scoring those cities which import outside workers.

WANTS LIBERAL LEADERSHIP

General Haskell told his audience he believes in the type of state government that Governors Smith, Roosevelt and Lehman gave the people—a government "embodying liberal and progressive political philosophy with efficient administration."

He said he was a Democrat because he believes "our great social and labor gains have been brought about under Democratic leadership." He listed among these gains unemployment insurance, a liberal social security program, recognition of the rights of the working man, regulation of the public utilities in the public interest.

"The social advances we have made can and must be strengthened and expanded," the General declared.

HITS GOP RECORD

He charged that the record of the Republican Party is one of "reaction and opposition."

"It is now trying to walk in the cloak of liberalism," he said. "I do not believe the people of the state will be fooled."

General Haskell said he believed women should fill more offices of importance in city and state government. They have demonstrated their fitness for high administrative posts, he stated, in the Army, Navy and every branch of the war set-up.

He summarized his program in these words:

"The real question for you on Nov. 2 is: In the ensuing turmoil of war, support of the war effort, care of the returning soldiers, conversion of industry from war to peace, educational benefits to demobilized men, liquidation of surplus war stocks, agriculture's participation in rehabilitation, jobs for our men, care for their families."

The General is scheduled to leave Buffalo tonight for his home in Garrison. He will register to vote there and return to New York where he is scheduled to discuss issues of the elections with newspapermen at his first campaign press conference.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Discrimination

Addressing the American Federation of Labor convention in Boston, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, made a significant point when he urged full union status for workers from minority groups now being discriminated against. He said: "Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between anti-labor employers and anti-labor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members. Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group. Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist, he wants his full stature as an American workingman, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt."

It is not clear how any revolt could be of consequence, but there can be no doubt that Father Haas has put his finger on a very pregnant analogy. In the old days, many employers thought they could thwart the organization of their workers by setting up unions of their own. That practice spread to such an extent that Congress legislated against it. Through the national labor relations act, company unions were barred. The logic behind such a ban is plain. There can be no collective bargaining between a management and its own creature. That would amount to the employer bargaining with himself.

Now company unions, representing an effort to prevent independent self-organization, are no longer in the picture. But, as Father Haas points out, keen concern should be felt because of the willingness of some legitimate unions to join with management in the exclusion from employment of workers from minority groups. It is against such tactics that the FEPC is directing its fire. Too clear for dispute is the fact that unions often help employers discriminate in this way. If those who are thus unjustly dealt with were full-fledged members of unions, there would be less likelihood of their being subjected to the edge of prejudice.

The revolt of which Father Haas speaks may very well take the form of legislative action. Congress may be moved to make it an offense to discriminate against minorities. That would amount to crying a plague on both employers and unions who indulge in such an un-American practice. No labor organization should, in any event, take the illiberal line of racialism. If organized labor does not stand for equality and fair play, how can it pretend with a straight face to speak in the name of democratic rights?

Ban on Race Bias in War Jobs Is Dead Unless FDR Acts

PM
New York, N. Y.
OCT 28 1943

Comptroller General Sets Aside President's Discrimination Order

By Gordon H. Cole
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—President Roosevelt's order prohibiting racial discrimination in war plants has been nullified by a decision of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren.

Warren, former Congressman from North Carolina, has ruled flatly that FDR did not mean what he said when he issued Executive Order No. 9346, the legal basis for all action by the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The President's order directs all Government purchasing agents to require guarantees against racial discrimination from all firms doing business with the Government, and their sub-contractors.

Not an Order

When one corporation, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., refused to give such a guarantee, Warren ruled that the executive order was not an order and that the word "shall" did not mean "must" whenever a contractor threatened to refuse to accept war contracts if the guarantee against discrimination was insisted on.

Warren then placed compliance with the no-discrimination policy of the President on a wholly voluntary basis. He held:

"It seems that the most that can be accomplished by Government contracting agencies in carrying out the National policy of non-discrimination in the employment of workers as declared by the President is to secure the assent of contractors to such provisions wherever and whenever possible."

Issued Oct. 7

The order was issued Oct. 7, the same day that Bishop Francis J. Haas announced his resignation as FEPC chairman to become Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich.

FEPC officials would make no comment on the order today except to say that they had not been informed of Warren's action until two days ago. There was no doubt from their attitude, however, that they regarded the ruling as an almost fatal setback in the present battle against racial discrimination. A direct appeal from all Negro organizations to FDR is expected.

The executive order which Warren overruled is one of the simplest ever to come out of the White House. Here is what the President wrote:

"It is hereby ordered, as follows:

"All contracting agencies of the Government of the United States shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employe or applicant for employment because of Race, Creed, Color or National origin, and requiring him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts."

FEPC Plans Fight On Warren Ruling

Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 28.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee, weakened by the serious blow struck against it by the Comptroller General's ruling that guarantees against racial discrimination in government contracts are not mandatory, has no intention of giving up the fight.

FEPC officials today were not hanging out the black crepe and proclaiming that all was lost. Instead they were busy studying methods of combatting Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's reactionary interpretation and planning counteraction.

While not minimizing the destructiveness of the ruling which completely takes the teeth out of the President's executive order No. 9346 barring racial discrimination by government contractors and undermines FEPC's legal status, officials pointed out that the committee can still hold hearings and bring charges against companies on complaints of racial discrimination.

It was the refusal of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company to sign an agreement providing telephone service for the local branch of the Office of Emergency Management in Kansas City, Missouri, which was the occasion for Warren's ruling.

The President's executive order states that all government contracts must contain a provision "obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color or national origin."

The OEM complained to Warren that the refusal of Southwestern Bell and many other companies to abide by this provision has "caused considerable administrative difficulties."

Warren, who was formerly a Congressman from North Carolina, obligingly ruled that government contracting officers do not have to insist on a guarantee of no racial discrimination if the company refused to sign a contract containing this clause.

The President's executive order is merely a "directive" rather than an order and is not mandatory, Warren ruled. Actually the executive order states flatly: "It is hereby ordered as follows" and then goes into the discrimination ban.

Warren left the whole question of racial discrimination up to the companies on a purely voluntary basis and declared "no useful purpose could possibly be served" in insisting on the ban.

Disputes between two government agencies, like FEPC and the Comptroller General's office, usually go to South Carolina-born James Byrnes, head of the Office of War Mobilization, who is reported to be not too friendly to FEPC.

The effect of Warren's ruling, FEPC officials pointed out, will be to stop government purchasing agents from taking a strong stand and at the same time encourage small and large manufacturers to violate the order.

Brief Against Phone Unit Bias Filed With F.E.P.C.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

By BARBEE W. DURHAM

COLUMBUS—(A N P)—Charging the refusal of the Ohio Bell Telephone company to consider the application of a serviceman's wife for employment because of her race was a direct violation of the President's Executive Order 8802, the Vanguard league last week filed an affidavit with the FEPC against the public utility.

The telephone company constantly advertises for help, said a league spokesman, yet refused to even accept an application from Mrs. Rebecca White when she applied for a job. Mrs. White's husband was inducted into the army a few days before the incident.

E. L. Keenan, director of the Ohio state war manpower commission, has been urged to appoint a Negro to the agency and has promised to do so, it was reported. The duties of the appointee would be to investigate complaints of discrimination in war plants and file affidavits with the FEPC when warranted. Such an appointment, stated a league official, would greatly stem the rising tide of employment prejudice in Ohio war plants.

Now One Out Of 14 War Workers

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — Negroes have scored a real gain in war employment since the beginning of the war emergency, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, retiring Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told newspapermen at his final press conference at the Committee's head quarters here.

"At present", Monsignor Haas declared, "Negroes constitute one out of every 14 war workers, and one out of every 11 government wolkers."

"Improvement in Negro employment in war industries has been substantial in the last year," the Chairman stated.

"In July, 1942," he pointed out, 'Negro workers constituted only 5.8 percent of total war production employes. By July, 1943, this percentage, had risen to 7:3 per cent. Since Negoes constitute roughly 10 per cent of our population you can see that we still have a big job ahead. Negro employment is still limited to too few establishments, and there is still much under-utilization of the skills of Negro workers."

Monsignor Haas revealed that Malcolm Ross, his successor was sworn into office Tuesday, October 19. Mr. Ross, former Deputy Chairman of the Committee, stated briefly that there would be "complete continuity of the Committee's work," and announced that George M. Johnson, Assistant Chairman, would be promoted to the Deputy Chairmanship.

Monsignor Haas stated that he would leave Washington, D. C., within ten days to assume his new duties as Bishop of the Deocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. He was appointed to this post on October 7 by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

47d-1943

SILVER LINING

By HARRY McALPIN

DEFENDER

CHICAGO, ILL.

FEPC Resignations???

APR 24 1943

ONE OF the four remaining 'active' (?) members of the Fair Employment Practice Committee is reported to be advocating the mass resignation of the committee. Fortunately, the other three members do not share the opinion that resignation is the proper move at this time.

Nothing would be more welcome to the reactionary forces interested in scuttling the FEPC than the outward display of defeatism which resignation of the committee would show. It would be playing right into the hands of the Southern bloc and the administration appeasers.

On the contrary, the committee should be "swinging from the floor" on every problem of discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin that it could entice into the ring with it. Needless to say, there would be no dirth of adversaries.

The committee is in a position similar to that of Joe Louis after the first Schmeling fight. He would never have become champion had he "given up" after being knocked out. Instead, he took on the best the ring had to offer, and eventually took on Schmeling again. What happened is history.

Well, the committee has been "knocked out," too. It has suffered even a few blows below the belt. But it hasn't been disqualified!

There have been no "cease and desist" orders given it, except in the case of the railroad hearings. The commission (War Manpower in this case, instead of boxing) has not said it cannot fight. So why turn in the gloves?

The best thing that could happen — and a smart move on the committee's part — would be to act just as if nothing had happened.

Needed: Some Action

IT SHOULD immediately schedule a date for holding the Detroit hearings on discrimination in war industries. And it should go right ahead and hold those hearings — unless McNutt of his own volition or on orders from higher up, should cancel them. But how else will the public know for sure whether there is an intention to observe in good faith the spirit and letter of Executive Order 8802 unless the challenge is flung.

APR 24 1943

The committee, which has shared the public's support as no other agency, can do no less than this if it desires to maintain that bulwark of strength behind it.

More, it should proceed to appoint field personnel and put them out investigating discriminations and non-compliance with the executive order. Right NOW, it should bring the full weight of its inadequate power to bear on the pressing problems of full utilization of the country's manpower in both government and industry.

What great military strategist said "A good offense is the best defense"? His words need not be restricted to the battlefield.

But, as long as the committee dilly-dallies, calls off scheduled meetings in a "hands-up" attitude that there is nothing to do, talks or even thinks of resigning—then just so long will it be subjected to the "kill yourself" tactics to which it is now being subjected.

Witness the developments of the last few weeks. Two chairmen have been "selected" and both have turned down the "invitation." On the surface, this looks as if the blame for inactivity is not on those charged with the problem. But I have learned from a very reliable source that Frank Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and a member of the National War Labor Board, has said he would take the chairmanship if he were drafted for it by the President, even though he prefers to stay with the WLB.

Really how serious is this effort to find a chairman. Last week, it is reported, Fowler Harper, deputy chairman of the War Manpower Commission, was "out in the sticks" trying to recruit a chairman — a white chairman. This gave rise to a tragic-humorous remark by one observer that "the WAACs, WAVEs, SPARs and FEPC are all recruiting, but only the WAACs are looking in the direction of Negroes.

For Whites Only?

OUT OF ALL the various possibilities considered for chairman of the FEPC, none has been a Negro. Are we to presume there is no Negro qualified for the job, or is the job labelled "white only?" If FEPC is to fight the "white only" complex in war industry and government hiring, should not it be free of any taint from such a practice in its own organization.

APR 24 1943

This isn't a plea for a Negro as chairman — but it is a protest against the exclusion of Negroes from consideration for chairman. Since so many possibilities have been considered and approached, it just doesn't seem natural that some Negro would not have been reached in the elimination process — unless there is a deliberate labelling of the job as "white only." Maybe he too would turn it down, but he should be given the opportunity to do it.

Something's screwy somewhere. And the answer is not in the resignation of the committee.

Practical Suggestion

THE OTHER DAY I was discussing the idea of a Peoples Political Movement with some friends whose ideas I respect highly. Out of that discussion came a very practical suggestion of a method for putting into effect this idea for bringing the full weight of the Negro's political potentialities to bear for the betterment of his welfare and hence the quicker winning of the war and the establishment and maintenance of a just and durable peace.

The idea is this: to set up this Peoples Political Movement on a state organization basis. Each city and county would elect a state councilman. The state council would select from among its members a chairman who would be the spokesman. The state spokesmen would select a national chairman.

Voting for city and county councilmen would be conducted in the same manner as the American political system operates — minus machine politics and major part affiliation. Eligibility for voting would be limited to Negroes 18 years old and over — with no poll tax required for exercise of the privilege. A registration of voters would be necessary.

APR 24 1943

It would be a Herculean task. But nothing that would do America and the Negro so much good could possibly be accomplished with any minutia of effort.

FEPC

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

FEPC Reopens Capital Transit Job Bias Case

The Capital Transit Company case, which involves alleged discrimination against the employment of Negroes on street cars and buses in the District of Columbia is now in the mill again as a result of having been reopened by the new Fair Employment Practice Committee headed by Msgr. Francis J. Haas who is on leave from Catholic University. The case has been taken up and discussed at length with Capital Transit officials.

JUL 10 1943

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In answer to questions fired at him in a recent press conference Father Haas stated, "We may be able to settle it" and "Maybe not." "We are always hopeful," **he said when questioned as to whether the case could pos**sibly be settled by negotiating rather than bringing it up for a hearing.

JUL 10 1943

"The new committee has accepted the responsibility placed [illegible] it to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower regardless of race, creed, color or national origin," the father futher made it clear to the press conference attendants.

JUL 10 1943

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An announcement was made during the conference to the effect that hearings will be held September 15-17 on charges that some 26 railroads and six unions discriminate against colored workers in employment practices.

Attorney George M. Johnson, former assistant to the former executive seccretary of the committee, Lawrence W. Cramer, who has gone into the army, and Malcolm Ross, writer, publicist, fromer employee of the OWI and the National Labor Relations Board, have been appointed in the headquarters of the committee it was further announced.

JUL 10 1943

The FEPC approved with qualifications, Wednesday, settlement of a case involving alleged discrimination by the Alabama Dry Dock Co., at Mobile, where it was agreed colored persons work on four ways out of 12.

FEPC Fate Now Up To Public Pressure

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

By HARRY McALPIN

(Chief, Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The calm before the storm has settled over the Fair Employment Practices committees situation.

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This week has been one of inacivity, except for the bustling of the committee's paid staff working on a budget they may not get.

During this calm, I talked with a man who knows his FEPC. He had this to say:

Negroes need to step up their activity and pressure on behalf of FEPC now rather than let it subside.

Government authorities are still intent on setting up FEPC as a review body with no investigative functions.

Regional Setup

MAR 13 1943

The trend now is in that direction by having the regional offices handle problems of discrimination. In this way, they hope fewer and fewer complaints will seep through to the national committee.

The regional offices are sending in their plans for handling these problems of discrimination, with no reference to the participation of FEPC. They are completely ignoring the committee.

The plan is to delay the budget and an adequate staff for the FEPC so the regions can become entrenched in this procedure. This it is hoped, will give a strong argument for not using FEPC as an investigative agency. It will then be curtailed to a review body. Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt wants this.

If this is not so, then why doesn't he give FEPC an adequate budget as promised—a field staff as agreed? Why is not FEPC's operations bulletin No. 1 released?

FEPC Stymied

Even if a paid committee is adopted, it would need a staff to carry out the mandate and spirit of Executive Order 8802. Why not put the implements for doing a job in the hands of the present committee while reorganization is pending?

MAR 13 1943

When the reorganization of OPM was pending the establishment of the War Production Board, there was no stoppage of work and function of OPM. Nor was there a stoppage when OFF was being reorganized into the Office of War Information; nor when the War Manpower Commission was being carved out of Labor, Federal Security and the WPB.

Why set a precedent of stagnation and inactivity on so important a question involving not **only full** utilization of our labor resources, but the morale of millions of people as well?

All Men Wearing United States Uniform Are Entitled To Respect Uniform Deserves

NEGRO SOLDIERS

Pittsburgh, Pa.

(Reprinted from Washington Post, Tuesday, July 20)

Courier

It is axiomatic that all men who wear the uniform of the United States are entitled equally to the respect which that uniform deserves. Yet there are accumulating signs that the Army has allowed its Negro troops to be treated as though they were soldiers of inferior status. Too often they have been subjected to humiliation, and even violence, at the hands not only of civilians but also of their fellow soldiers. The recent tragic riot in which one Negro was killed and six wounded at the Shenango, Pa., replacement depot is a shocking case in point.

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The Army has promised to investigate this incident. If it confines itself to the Shenango depot, it will uncover only proximate and superficial causes. And it will effect no cure merely by disciplining those immediately responsible. For this riot was one more manifestation of a dangerous disregard for democratic values which has been carried over from civilian life into the armed services. It is recognized, of course, that the Army is primarily an instrument of warfare, not an agent of social reform. But there is much that the Army can, and should, do to promote among its enlisted personnel a decent regard for the rights and feelings of those Negroes whom it has brought into its service.

1943

It must start with an educational program directed at white soldiers. This is a task for the Army's Special Service Division, which has done well enough in providing amusement and escapist entertainment, but has done little to teach the men in service anything about the more basic meanings of the war in which they are engaged. The means of doing this are not at discussion groups, pamphlets, all abstruse. Films, lectures, must all be employed. White soldiers must be afforded greater knowledge of the Negro's contribution to the war effort, of his legitimate aspirations. They simply cannot effectively wage a United Nations war with color prejudices in their minds.

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Efforts must be made at the same time to make Negroes feel that their contribution is appreciated. They have shared in some of the toughest fighting of this war. They are entitled to hope that this world struggle for human liberation will open up to them richer opportunities for advancement and education than they have hitherto enjoyed. They can scarcely be expected to give full devotion to the democratic cause unless it affords some recognition to their legitimate aspirations.

Any such program of education obviously must be accompanied by a firm insistence on the part of the Army that Negro rights be respected by men in uniform and civilians alike. There are many ways in which any intelligent camp commander can act to erase the causes of friction between white and colored troops. He can see to it, if Negroes are segregated, that adequate recreational facilities are available to them, not only inside the camp but also in the community near which the camp is located. He can act to secure reasonable transportation service for his colored soldiers in places where Jim Crow traditions prevail. And, above all, he can insist that civilians show respect to the uniform his men wear, whatever the color of their skins. Officers should not be placed in command of Negro troops unless they have a sympathy for them and a willingness to safeguard their rights.

It is no part of the Army's business, to be sure, to remedy all the defects of American life. But it is a part of the Army's business to set an example of devotion to democratic principles. And it is high time now for the Army to do this in regard to its Negro soldiers.—"Editorial."

PM
New York, N. Y.

FEPC Schedules Kaiser Hearings

Special Correspondence

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 11.—The FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) will open hearings in Portland Nov. 15 on complaints that the Kaiser shipyards and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, AFL, have discriminated against Negro war workers.

Several weeks ago, following a preliminary hearing, the FEPC ordered the Kaiser yards and the union to reinstate all the Negroes discharged because of their alleged "Jim Crow" policies. This order has been ignored, according to the Rev. J. James Clow, president of the Portland chapter of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People.

Fr. Haas Urges AFL To End Color Bars

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

AUG 7 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—An urgent appeal to AFL unions to end racial discrimination in their locals will be made by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, in next month's issue of the "American Federationist." it was learned here this week.

An article by the FEPC chairman in the official AFL organ urges the union leaders to halt "endless explanations, excuses and justification" for color bars and tells them to act to break down racial barriers.

Haas' article follows action by the FEPC to reinstate 300 Negro shipyard workers fired by four West Coast yards for non-payment of dues under a closed shop contract with the AFL boilermakers union.

His article in the "Federationist" says:

"For the most part," the FEPC chairman reports, "union leaders have said 'they won't stand for it,' meaning that their white members are opposed to a non-discriminatory membership policy."

"In too many cases, 'they' is just symbolic of buck-passing," he adds. "However this may be, the clear duty of leaders is to lead, and in the present case the duty is crystal clear."

Despite the critical tone of his article, Father Haas cites considerable progress—of which the AFL's publication of this frank piece of self-criticism can be taken as an indication. He points out:

"It should not be passed over that, during all the rioting in Detroit, black and white workers continued working in most of the plants without friction; in several instances white workers escorted Negro workers home and protected them from the mob."

Other Unions Guilty

Father Haas also made it clear that "not all unions which bar Negroes or other minority group workers are in the AFL by any means, and neither do all locals follow whatever may be the policies of their international bodies."

Nonetheless, the FEPC chairman makes the statement of fact:

"Although elemental self-interest points but in one direction, there are still several major international labor unions which close their doors to Negroes as members by constitution, ritual or tradition and there are hundreds of locals which follow suit."

Father Haas praised both the AFL and CIO for establishing interracial action committees to develop goodwill.

In the West Coast action Negro workers refused to pay dues to Jim Crow auxiliary locals and were fired as a result. The FEPC estimated that some 3.000 workers are involved in the dispute.

Test Case

FEPC must determine whether or not membership in an auxiliary union constitutes discrimination. It will represent the first test ever made on the issue.

"We have no jurisdiction unless we can establish that this type of membership is a reduced membership," Fr. Francis J. Haas. chairman, declared. "We do not know that it is."

Judge James H. Wolfe, chief justice of the Utah Supreme court, and Daniel Donovan, FEPC field examiner, are in Los Angeles ascertaining the facts.

The committee considered the status of the Capital Transit company case and agreed that if steps to be taken by the company case "are not adequate in the judgment of the committee" toward hiring Negroes, the committee will "proceed" at its next meeting on August 9. The company has offered three reasons for failing thus far to use Negroes according to Fr. Haas: public resistance, employe resistance, and lack of training.

It is understood that although the contents of the draft agreement between FEPC and War Manpower commission were acceptable all around, WMC took exception to the manner in which the document was written. The change in language is now being finally effected.

May Go to Congress

Fr. Haas indicated that the committee may yet have to face congress for funds when he said that "for the time being, we are being financed out of the President's fund."

Complaints involving alleged discrimination in "a large war plant" in Detroit have been examined, and are being readied for presentation to the company for adjustment, the committee announced. In addition, it was said that four out of seven employes have squared themselves on the discrimination question there.

The FEPC now has in its files approximately 300 reports from offices of the United States Employment service located all over the country, describing placement orders submitted by employers which contain discriminatory specifications. These cases are in various stages of handling. About 250 such cases have been terminated by satisfactory adjustment since October 1, 1942, the committee said.

Ask FEP To Probe City Transit Lines Job Ban

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FEB 6 1943

Threatened with a Federal probe into what colored citizens cite as rank injustices of their employment program, officials of the city's traction lines—the "L," street car and bus companies—sent representatives to answer these charges before the City Council's local transportation committee at a public hearing in the Council Chambers Tuesday afternoon.

In addition to being quizzed on their discriminatory methods, Ald. Earl B. Dickerson (2nd) called the surface lines' attorney's attention to the fact that the traction lines were violating war codes by drawing the color line against Negro employees. He said such conduct brought them within the scope of investigation by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Ald. Benjamin A. Grant (3rd) father of the idea that set the traction probe into action, submitted the motion to the transportation committee to invite the FEPC here for that purpose and it will be considered at a committee meeting Friday, according to Ald. James R. Quinn, (50th) chairman of the committee, who added that it will probably be passed and recommended to the council.

Thomas C. Strachon, attorney for the street car company, and Harry Roberts, assistant to the general manager of the elevated lines, appeared, but under questioning by Aldermen Grant and Dickerson, discovered they were not qualified to give definite information on the hiring policies of their respective companies.

Jess Krueger, public relations adviser to the Chicago Motor Coach company, stated that his concern hired in all 79 colored persons—8 per cent of the company's personnel—in job classifications as mechanics painters, firemen, watchmen and cleaners, except bus drivers, at salaries up to $49 a week. Eight are women, he said, drawing salaries up to $29 a week. He declared, under questioning, that no colored person had ever filed an application seeking the position as bus driver.

Strachon and Roberts stated they were the "wrong men" to question on the point of their company's policy on hiring colored people as conductors, motormen, ticket-sellers and the like, but gave the committee the names of the men who control such policies. Chairman Quinn stated that they would be notified by letter to appear at the next public hearing. Ald. Grant added that representatives from the labor union, hired by the traction lines would also be summoned to the hearing.

Own Companies Unfair

TWO FEPC MEMBERS FACE BIAS CHARGES

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 5—This week the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice is faced with the necessity of acting upon charges of discrimination against Negro workers on the part of two companies, whose major officials are themselves industry members of the new seven-man FEPC.

Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit company, will have to answer charges of refusal to employ Negro sailors on his United Fruit company vessels, engaged in war industry. Samuel Zemurray, member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, will have to hear charges against the United Fruit company and decide their truth and the action to be taken if they are true. Both Zemurrays are the same man.

COMPLAINTS ARE GUARDED SECRETS

Sara Southall, key personnel official of the International Harvester company, will have to answer charges of the issuance of anti-Negro hiring orders by the International Motor Trucks division of her company in Philadelphia. And the same Miss Southall will sit in judgment on these charges as a member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

The carefully guarded secret of the existence of these complaints against companies whose officials occupy strategic positions on the FEPC came to light this week. None of the lesser officials of FEPC would even admit the existence of such complaints. They declared that it was not committee policy to name cases still in process of negotiation.

MAY DISQUALIFY TWO MEMBERS

Questioned about the two cases by The Pittsburgh Courier, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the FEPC, stated: "The two cases are here and will be looked into. If they cannot be negotiated they will be presented to the committee."

Asked whether in the event the cases were presented to the committee, Mr. Zemurray or Miss Southall would be disqualified from sitting in cases involving their companies, Father Haas stated that such a question has not arisen and that no regulation existed on the matter, but that it would be his judgment that they would be disqualified from passing on the case.

Pittsburgh Courier

HAAS COMPROMISE BITTERLY SCORED

Opponents See Government Approval Of Segregation — Dr. Graham Issues WLB Ruling Outlawing Race Classifications

By JOHN P. DAVIS
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, June 10—A sharp struggle over the future of FEPC, which involves the question of the whole future status of Negro workers in industry, is developin at rapid pace this week. Before many weeks have passe it is likely that this battle will loom as one of the most bitter and significant actions on the home front.

Here in brief is the FEPC news this week: Monsignor Francis Joseph Haas, newly selected chairman of the FEPC, sworn in at the White House on May [illegible], last week, postponed again—this time indefinitely—the FEPC hearings on discrimination against Negro workers by the Capitol Transit company, which had already once before been postponed.

APPROVES MOBILE SOLUTION

Reasons given for this action were that the full six-man committee, created under the new executive order (Executive Order 9346 replacing Executive Order 8802) of President Roosevelt, had not been named and that hearings would not be held until the committee had been re-organized.

Next Monsignor Haas announced that a solution of the difficulties at the shipyard of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company had been approved by him, by the War Manpower Commission Chairman, Paul V. McNutt, by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Ralph Bard), by the chairman of the U.S. Maritime Commission (Rear Admiral Emory S. Land).

The announcement stated: "Under the arrangement confirmed by the heads of the interested agencies, Negroes will be upgraded in all skills necessary for bare hull construction on ways one through four of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company, and these ways will be set aside for bare hull construction by Negro workers."

PLACES OKAY ON SEGREGATION

Back of these actions lies a hidden meaning that is of utmost importance to all Negro America. The decision in the Alabama case simply means that the federal government—acting through the War Manpower Commission, the Maritime Commission, the Navy and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, itself, has agreed to segregate Negro workers to one section of the shipyard and has approved their exclusion from all other sections of the shipyard.

The arguments of those who support the solution in the Alabama case are important to examine. Here is a summary of their point of view from an important actor in the whole developing drama:

"The attempt to upgrade Negro workers in the Mobile shipyards led to racial violence with several Negro workers severely beaten and mobbed. The white Southern anti-Roosevelt leaders, who bitterly attacked the Birmingham hearings of the FEPC, will make political capital out of the upgrading of Negro workers if these workers have to work [illegible] by [illegible] with whites in superior positions. If there is any attempt to insist on upgrading without segregation then there will be nothing but violence, a halt to vital war productiton and no real benefit to Negro workers. On the other hand, the real meaning of the solution in the Mobile case is that 5,000 Negro workers will be employed in addition to 7,000 now working there; that Negro workers will be rapidly trained and employed at practically all skills on the four segregated all Negro shipways."

ESTABLISHES JIM CROW JOB PATTERN

As Lawrence Cramer, executive secretary of FEPC, stated it to The Courier "The FEPC has in the past refused to decide hypothetically that segregation of Negro from white workers was discrimination referred to in the President's Executive Order. We always take the position that if in a segregated situation any individual can show that by being segregated he is discriminated against, we will take action."

Now that is one side. Here is the other. Opponents of the recent FEPC decision point out that if Negroes are segregated from whites on the job, it will be impossible to prevent [illegible]imination against them; that in [illegible] segregation is di[illegible]crimination. They point out that the Alabama decision threatens to establish a jim-crow job pattern throughout the country of frightening proportions, that every industry all over the country will seize on the formula of a segregated section or plant for Negro workers, and that after the war the Negro will be driven out of industry completely. They claim that the action of Chairman Haas, acting alone and not even waiting for the selection of the other members of the committee, has destroyed his usefulness to the FEPC. This side declares that it is precisely because there must be all-out war production that the "Haas Compromise"—like the "Missouri Compromise" will settle nothing.

GRAHAM RAPS CLASSIFICATION

If the side opposed to the new FEPC chairman had purposely sought a champion for its cause, it could have done no better than it did last week when quite by accident a spokesman for its side fell into its lap. That spokesman was Dr. Frank P. Graham, white Southerner, president of the University of North Carolina, member of the War Labor Board, and the first man sought by President Roosevelt to head the FEPC. In a decision by the National War Labor Board written by him and adopted unanimously, Dr. Graham lashed out bitterly against the classification "colored laborer." The case which arose in Texas concerned the practice of an oil company in paying Negro workers a lower wage than white workers for the same work.

Said Dr. Graham: "In this small but significant case the National War Labor Board abolishes the classifications "colored labor" and white labor" and reclassifies both simply as "laborers' with the same rates of pay for all in that classification without discrimination on account of color.

Dr. Graham pointed out that this decision was in line with the President's Executive Order 8802, "with prophetic Americanism; and with the cause of the United Nations."

Said Dr. Graham:

PRAISES LOYALTY OF NEGROES

"Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program. America, in the days of its infant weakness the haven of heretics and the oppressed of all races, must not in the days of its powe become the stronghold of bigot The world has given America th vigor and variety of its difference America should protect and enric its differences for the sake c America and the world. Unde standing religious and racial diffe ences make for a better unde standing of other differences an for an appreciation of the sacre ness of human personality, as basic to human freedom. Th American answer to differences i color and creed is not a concentration camp but co-operation. Th answer to human error is not terror but light and liberty under the moral law. By this light and liberty, the Negro has [illegible] a contribution in work and [illegible], song and story, laughter and struggle which are an enduring part of the spiritual heritage of America.

"There is no more loyal group of our fellow-citizens than the American Negroes, north and south. In defense of America from attack from without, they spring to arms in the spirit of Dorie Miller of Texas, the Negro mess boy, who, when the machine gunner on the Arizona was killed, jumped to his unappointed place and fired the last rounds as the ship was sinking in Pearl Harbor.

"It is the acknowledged fact that in spite of all the handicaps of slavery and discrimination, the Negro in America has compressed more progress in the shortest time than any race in human history. Slavery gave the Negro his Christianity. Christianity gave the Negro his freedom. This freedom must give the Negro equal rights to home and health, educatiton and citizenship, and an equal opportunity to work and fight for our common country.

DEAN MORSE NOTES AGREEMENT

"Whether as vigorous fighting men or for producttion of food and munitions, America needs the Negro; the Negro needs the equal opportunity to work and fight. The Negro is necessary for winning the war, and, at the same time, is a test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting. More hundreds of millions of colored people are involved in the outcome of this war than the combined populations of the Axis Powers. Under Hitler and his Master Race, their movement is backward to slavery and despair. In America, the colored people have the freedom to struggle for freedom. With the victory of the democracies, the human destiny is toward freedom, hope, equality of opportunity and the gradual fulfillment for all peoples of the noblest aspirations of the brothers of men and the sons of God, without regard to color or creed, region or race, in the world neighborhood of human brotherhood."

The opinion of Dr. Graham so strongly represented the opinion of the War Labor Board that Dean Wayne L. Morse, although he had not taken part in the decision, asked consent to have the record show that he agreed completely with the opinion of Dr. Graham.

Thus the battle between these two opposing points of view is clearly developing and on its outcome will depend the whole future of FEPC.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Hats Off!

Malcolm Ross

PM takes its hat off to Malcolm Ross, new Chairman of the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee), for the job he already has done in the cause of decency and fair play and for the promise he holds in his new spot. Ross is not yet a great name, nor does he come to FEPC with the backing of his distinguished predecessor, Bishop Francis J. Haas. One-time reporter for the World, *Ross is a democrat—small d. He enjoys fighting for equality of opportunity. He even wrote a good book about it:* Death of a Yale Man. *When the big issue was discrimination on the job against men who belonged to labor unions, Ross was sweating away at the unhappy task of trying to get newspapers to print the story of the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board). Now that the big issue is discrimination on the job because of race, creed or color, Ross is out at 10th and U Sts.—heart of Washington's Harlem. As assistant to the Chairman, he helped Haas put together an organization ready to enforce the President's order against discrimination. He taught it the techniqu worked out so effectively by th NLRB. Now, he's the general i this fight and holds the No. 1 pc litical hot seat in the Capita More power to him.*

Washington Tribune

Malcolm Ross New Chairman Of FEPC

Washington, D. C.

The President last week announced the appointment of Malcolm Ross, who has been serving as deputy chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, to succeed Bishop Francis J. Haas as FEPC chairman.

The appointment of Mr. Ross, former head of the press section of the National Labor Relations Board, was well received n labor and minority group circles, and his appointment had been endorsed by those groups as well as the former chairman who resigned after appointment s Bishop of the Diocese of Grand apids, by His Holiness, Pope ius XII.

In accepting the resignation of ishop Haas, the President said hat there had been increasing sefulness of the FEPC under he Bishop, and expressed the ope that the committee would nove forward, uninterrupted, in its program. He commended Bishop Haas for "helping to remove the barriers which hold back not only people as individuals but our full power as a people."

The biggest issue still pending before the FEPC is the hearings which were held on the various railroads and railroad unions. The prompt appointment of Mr. Ross, who participated in the hearings, will prevent any undue delay which would have resulted had the President taken his time about appointing a successor.

Under Bishop Haas, the FEPC went through a reorganization. The personnel of the committee was changed, as was the organization itself.

On the New FEPC

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

The new Fair Employment Practice Committee set up by President Roosevelt on May 28, is, we hope, an indication of an honest effort by the Federal Government to make the committee really fair and effective. The fact that the President saw fit to issue another executive order to establish a second Fair Employment Practice Committee in less than two years proves two things:

(1) Job discrimination against American citizens because of race, religion and national origin is still so seri-

ous that it is impeding the nation's war effort.

(2) The scrapped FEPC failed miserably to cope successfully with the problem of job discrimination in the Federal Gov't. and in private industry.

Meantime, if the new FEPC is not to be a flop also, and do nothing to increase the effective use of critically needed man and woman power it must crack down impartially on any private business or Federal agency that violates the President's new executive order. For total war requires total use of total manpower to the best of its ability.

The new FEPC must also recognize that it is the responsibility of the Federal Gov't. to see that all citizens, regardless of race, religion or national origin, are afforded equal opportunities for employment in private industry, now supported practically entirely by the people, and, of course, in the Gov't.

JUN 12 1943

Ever since the War of the Rebellion the Federal Gov't. has generally failed to protect the economic or any other kind of rights of many American citizens, especially Negroes. Now with the nation's back literally to the wall and democracy still little more than a mere dream at home and abroad, it is mandatory that our Gov't. itself prove to its own citizens and to hundreds of millions of people in other lands that it actually means to do its level best to establish freedom from want and fear, and freedom of religion and the press for all of the people. If this is not done it is doubtful if we and our allies can win the war or the peace.

But the war can be won and a real peace preserved if the so-called democracies begin now to establish true economic, civic and political democracy in their own lands. FEPC 2 will be, we hope, an honest and determined attempt by the U. S. Government to set up equal employment opportunities for all Americans. At least it is a step in the right direction.

JUN 1943

But the record of FEPC1 and the do-nothing policy of the Government for 68 years or more in this regard are, unfortunately, too vivid at this time to cause us to be optimistic about WEPC 2. We do, however, wish it Godspeed, but with our fingers crossed tightly.

The Reawakening of the FEPC

The announcement of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the new Committee on Fair Employment Practices, that it will soon become active again in dealing with discrimination against workers in war industries because of color or creed, is the best news we have heard in a long time.

JUL 17 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

According to Monsignor Haas, the committee has decided to establish 12 regional offices, to proceed with cases involving three war contractors—the Capital Transit company of Washington, D.C., a group of railroads, and the railroad unions, mostly in the South.

The railroad cases, it is said, are set down for hearings on September 15, 16 and 17.

At the same time, Monsignor Haas also announced the appointment of George M. Johnson, a colored man, as his assistant.

This sounds like business, and we hope it means business.

The fact that the new FEPC will have $500,000 to spend yearly and about 100 employees also indicates that it is ready to come to grips with the national scandal of discrimination against Negroes in war industries.

We do not believe $500,000 is a large enough sum to adequately deal with this nation-wide program, but we are willing to wait and see what the committee can do.

We appreciate the difficult problem with which the FEPC has to deal—especially in the South—and for this reason we are disposed to be charitable.

It is simply not possible to solve all of the industrial problems arising out of American color prejudice, segregation and discrimination in a short time, but colored people will expect the FEPC to attack the problem in a forthright manner and not be swerved by the clamor of Ku Klux employers, labor officials and politicians.

JUL 1943

We would like to see this committee be one Government agency that we could depend upon to carry out the letter and the spirit of the President's Executive order.

No matter what the FEPC may say, its acceptance of segregation of workers on "racial" lines at the Mobile shipyard DOES set a precedent which will be cited again and again by other employers.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

We do not hesitate to assert that the Federal Government agencies must bear a considerable share of the blame for increasing racial tension in this country by the ten-year policy of vacillation, hedging, about-facing and dodging on the question of a fair deal for Negro workers, from the days of the NRA to the present.

JUL 1943

There might conceivably have been some excuse occasionally before the war when the Government's powers were considerably limited, but there is no excuse today, and we hope the new FEPC will boldly come to grips with a problem which will certainly prolong the war unless it is solved.

FEPC Gets Busy

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Recent activity on the part of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice indicates that this important group intends to get seriously to work to end discrimination against Negro workers in war industries.

Last week it asked that 300 Negro workers in West Coast shipyards be reinstated pending an adjustment of complaints that they had been discriminated against by the AFL Boilermakers' union for refusal to pay dues to a jim-crow union and discharged under a closed-shop agreement.

The FEPC also voted to inform the Capital Transit company of Washington, D.C., to begin hiring Negroes or have the whole question aired in a public hearing.

AUG 1943

The committee has also been active in the Detroit area where four of seven cases before it appear to have been adjusted through willingness of employers to comply with the President's order.

This is heartening news, and we hope there will be better news in the near future.

Colored people do not expect miracles from the FEPC, knowing how little real power it has; but they do expect it to do its job in a forthright and courageous manner, and not run to cover whenever opposition envelops.

The new committee got off to a bad start with its Mobile compromise with jim crowism.

We hope there will be no more of that.

Haas Quits F. E. P. C.

Weekly Review

Named Bishop

Statement of Chairman Francis Haas:

Birmingham, Ala.

"To asume my duties as Bishop of Grand Rapids it wil be necessary that I resign as Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. In the degree that I know the importance of the work of that Committee to the war effort and to our democracy, I leave it with profound regret.

"The terrible nedes of war exact that we use to the utmost the hands and the high skills which Negro citizens, Spanish-Americans, Jews, and loyal men and women of foreign extractions, are offering willingly to their country's service.

"That is the practical side, against which no man who loves his country would knowingly erect the barriers of intolerance or outmoded industrial habits.

"The essential rightness of the President's Executive Order against discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin appeared clear to me when I took office as Chairman of the Committee four months ago. In that brief period the close experience with the problems of the men and women who have suffered discrimination at the hands of fellow-Americans have deepened my conviction that this practice must be purged from our national life if we are both to win this war and consolidate our life as a democratic Nation thereafter.

"I have full trust in the members of the Committee. It was not known to me until very recently that it would be necessary for me to end what [illegible] remain as one of the most satisfactory associations of my life. The work of the Committee is in good hands."

Ross is Named to Succeed Haas As FEPC Head

Washington Trine
Washington, D.

OCT 23 1943

The White House announced Friday, October 15, that Malcolm Ross, Deputy Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, has been named chairman of the committee, following the resignation of Monsignor Francis J. Haas.

Monsignor Haas resigned the post on October 7 upon his appointment by His Holiness Pope Pius XII as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. The appointment of Mr. Ross, former Director of Information for the National Labor Relations Board and staff member of the Office of War Information, was revealed in White House correspondence made public Friday.

47d-1943

FEPC

75 Per cent of Complaints to FEPC Deals With Discrimination

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice revealed this week that more than 75 per cent of the complaints filed with the committee during the month of September involved alleged discrimination against Negroes in war employment.

A marked increase in the total number of complaints received during the month may be accounted for by the fact that seven regional FEPC offices have recently been opened.

All complaints are being processed by the committee as rapidly as possible. Those which appear to merit investigation and over which the committee has jurisdiction are docketed. the others are either rejected or held pending receipt of sufficient further proof to warrant inquiry.

Only valid complaints charging discriminatory employment practices based on race, creed, color, national origin or alienage against employers over which FEPC has jurisdiction are accepted for investigation by the committee.

Adjustment of a number of cases during the month was also announced by FEPC. In one case a large plant in New York State producing essential war material was found to have no Negroes in its employ, although qualified workers were available and a labor need existed. Upon filing a charge alleging discrimination, FEPC took up the matter with the plant management and as a result a number of Negroes have been put to work in the plant with a consequent easing of the labor shortage.

FEPC Head Resigns To Accept New Post

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas tendered his resignation as chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices following a conference with the President last week.

The resignation was submitted by Father Haas because of his appointment as Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich., by Pope Pius XII.

A native of Racine, Wis., Msgr. Haas, 54, succeeds the late Bishop Joseph C. Plagens, who died March 31. No date has been set for his consecration.

Named last May as chairman of the FEPC at a time when it was being subjected to much criticism, and in turn handing out criticisms of outside interference, Msgr. Haas was just perfecting a new organization and was moving forward on a backlog of hearings.

He had just concluded hearings on charges of discrimination brought against several railroads and railroad unions, and it is expected that decisions in these cases will be rendered before his resignation becomes effective.

This week the FEPC head appeared before the Public Utilities Commission to protest the conversion of two-man streetcars to one-man cars, contending that there was no legitimate claim of a labor shortage as long as the United States Employment Service had applications of more than 300 Negroes with the necessary qualifications for street car operators and platform men.

Msgr. Haas' resignation now causes the President to face the problem of naming a new chairman. Father Haas accepted the position after a personal plea from the President when several other persons to whom the job had been offered refused it, and following the resignations of other chairmen and committee members.

FEP Cracks Job Barriers In Eastern War Plants

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON. — The hiring of Negro women by a New York City firm engaged in war work which had never before given such employment to Negro workers was announced by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice this week. The company, General Desserts Corporation, produces packaged foods for the armed forces.

Announcement of the settlement, together with the citing of a number of other such adjustments, was seen as an indication of increasing success in the handling of cases by the committee.

The General Desserts case came to the attention of the committee when the company revealed a need for women workers for production jobs. Although white women were employed by the firm it was found that no Negroes had ever been tried out. An FEPC representative conferred with the head of the company and pointed out the possibility of meeting its labor needs through elimination of any race basis in its employment policy.

The firm received applications from Negro women and hired them along with whites to meet its needs.

Other Settlements

The FEPC announcement also cited the following adjustments as typical of recent developments in its work.

A New England company advertising for an office worker, included certain stipulations regarding religion. When the FEPC intervened the company gave assurance that such a stipulation is not included in its employment policy, that its inclusion in the ad was a mistake and that it would not happen again.

When the representative of a New York City firm doing war work informed the United States Employment Service that it hired only Christian white workers, the FEPC was notified and took up the matter with the company. As a result, the firm, when it next had occasion to hire, included both non-whites and non-Christians among those employed.

An East Coast firm producing war material, although declaring it would employ no women on the night shift, hired white women for night production work but no Negroes. According to a request from FEPC the company placed several Negro women on the night shift.

Similarly, another plant, in Region II, although using white women, had hired no Negro women although a number was available. In this plant also Negro men appeared to be used exclusively in the lowest categories of work. Through the intervention of the committee, Negro women were hired and qualified Negro men already employed there were upgraded to production work also.

AWAIT FEPC ACTION AS RAIL JIM CROW PROVED

SEP 26 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 23.—Four days of drama-packed testimony, presenting conclusive and irrefutable evidence of discriminatory job policies of 22 railroads and 14 labor unions highlighted the Fair Employment Practice committee widely-publicized (in Negro newspapers) twice-deferred investigation of rail industries' violations of the President's executive orders 8802 and 9346.

Follwoing the conclusion of the hearings Saturday, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman, announced that FEPC would study the complete records before issuing its findings, and directions.

Eighteen of the 22 railroads cited were represented by counsel as the hearings opened Wednesday morning. Although replies were received by the committee from seven of the unions involved, none was officially represented during the first three days of the hearings.

Company Promises Investigation.

Significant progress was felt when the Union Pacific Railroad company on Friday indicated its willingness to negotiate when F. E. Baukhages, representing the company, issued a statement that Union Pacific was taking immediate steps to investigate the specific charges made against it. Baukhages, personnel assistant of the Union Pacific, rose near the close of the hearings and stated that his company had believed itself "not guilty."

He stated that the company had decided after hearing the specific charges against it to "investigate with a view toward the speedy correction of any situation inconsistent with the company's policy."

Solution Lies in Education.

The other companies represented at the hearing, joined in a statement read by Sidney S. Alderman, representing the Southern Railway company, in which, he said, all the companies present except the Union Pacific and the Norfolk and Western Railway company had subscribed this statement declared in part:

". . . the railroads involved wish to make it clear to the committee that they recognized and view with sympathy the difficulties of the problem before it and that they have no wish to place obstacles in its way. In their replies to the summaries of complaints being considered by the committee, these railroads have given you the essential facts . . .

". . . As to the general problem before you—a problem which all the wisdom and statesmanship of America have not yet been able fully to solve—it is the view of the railroads that the solution lies in a gradual and moderate process of education, based on mutual good-will, and respect. The solution will not be advanced but, rather, will be retarded and made more difficult, by too abrupt an attempt to change, by governmental decree, long-standing practices, rooted in the customs of the people."

Specific Charges Cited.

Approximately 60 persons testified for FEPC before an audience of more than 500 persons. The hearings were held in the Inter-departmental auditorium. The testimony cited specifically:

The failure of the railroads to hire or upgrade Negroes; the unfair policies which deprived them of full time employment; the failure to recognize seniority rights; the maintainance of wage differentials; the failure to permit Negroes to work on Diesel-engined locomotives.

The refusal of employment or promotion to jobs as locomotive engineers, flagmen, carmen, machinists and helpers, boiler-makers and helpers, hostlers, baggagemen, conductors, trainmen, pipefitters and helpers, crane operators, dining car stewards, clerks, road brakemen, coach painters, oilers, dining car supervisors and car retarder operators.

Monsignor Haas Urges A.F.L. To Give Negroes Full Rights

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

OCT 7 1943

Boston, Oct. 6 (AP)—Monsignor Francis J. Haas, who is resigning as chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, pleaded today with delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention to accord full union status to Negroes and other minority groups and issued this warning:

"Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between anti-labor employers and anti-labor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members.

Minority Might Revolt.

"Put yourself in the place of such a member of a minority group. Be he Negro or Mexican, Jew or creedist, he wants his full statute as an American working man, and if he finds organized management and organized labor leagued against him he will in some form revolt.

"Would you have it otherwise? Would you have the spirit which founded the American Federation of Labor stamped out among great masses of your fellow-Americans? Must one-tenth of the people of our country be set aside as a special class, with special loyalties that are not the loyalties of the rest of us?"

Monsignor Haas, who is bishop-elect of Grand Rapids, Mich., said the executive order creating his committee held out to minority groups "something akin to what the Wagner Act held out to dominated workers in 1935.

"In trade union terms they wish to own the right to settle grievances and to negotiate contracts through representatives of their own choosing, to work for their seniority rights, to share in the opportunity for security for their families, and to participate as free men in that modern equivalent of the New England town meeting, the trade union."

FEP GETS SET FOR RAILROAD PROBE SEPT. 15

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Capital Transit Case Reported Settled; Plan Coast Quiz

SEP 4 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee moved this week to clean its backlog of job prejudice cases prior to the opening of the twice-delayed railroad hearings, on Wednesday, Sepember 15.

Action in two important cases was reported while several other annoucements were made by Chairman Francis J. Haas on several pending cases. Steps taken by the FEP included:

1. In the long-pending Capital Transit bus case, Msg. Haas said: "Steps are being taken by the company which will satisfy the FEP. Both company and union state they are not opposed to hiring and upgrading Negroes." Exactly what is being done is not clear but Negroes are not yet working as drivers or conductors on Capital Transit.

2. The hearings involving Southern railroads were extended to four days instead of three.

Shipyard Hearing

3. Public hearings on charges of discrimination against Negroes by both shipyards and unions on the West Coast will be held, Haas announced.

4. The United Fruit company was cleared of charges of refusing to employ Negroes as its president, Samuel Zemurray, who is an FEP member representing industry, was rumored about to quit to take a new post with the Office of Economic Warfare.

5. Charges of discrimination were brought against the Ford Motor company by the CIO United Auto Workers.

In the shipyard case, immediate return to work of the Negroes who had been dismissed for refusal to pay their dues into a jim crow local of the AFL Boilermakers union is being sought by the FEP as a preliminary move to adjustment of the entire situation.

As a result of investigation and a conference held in San Francisco on August 20-21, the positions of all parties involved in the dispute have been clarified, the committee reported.

Seek Full Membership

Queried on its position in the case, the union is quoted as insisting that the auxiliary local which has been set up for Negroes meets all requirements and therefore dismissal of any Negro workers who ail to pay their dues in the manner provided is justified.

The FEPC has received assurance from the complainants that they are willing to pay their union dues but in return they desire full union membership. They insist, however, that the auxiliary local setup does not provide them with that full membership and that if they are required to pay their dues into the auxiliary in order to keep their jobs, it is a violation of Executive Order 9346.

On the United Fruit case, Haas said:

"The [illegible] received from its New York office a report that the United Fruit company had failed to hire qualified Negro maritime officers who had presented themselves for employment. The allegations have been investigated and have been dismissed for lack of merit.

Will Employ Negroes

"The report [illegible] that the company had requested a full crew and that, when qualified Negro officers applied the company had refused to accept them. This was found to be without any foundation in fact. No request for a crew was made by the company. Investigation revealed that a suggestion was made that Negro officers, not specified as to persons or qualifications, be hired by the United Fruit company. Upon report of the full facts to responsible officers of the company, a readiness by the company to employ qualified Negro officers was expressed."

Charges that Ford is violating the President's order prescribing discrimination in the employment of Negroes were made last week by Ford Local 600.

"The present policy of refusal to place Negro applicants is in fact a contributing factor to the 'racial tenseness' of which the Ford management is apprehensive," stated the document. It charged further that the company is "pursuing a policy deliberately aimed at denying jobs to hundreds upon hundreds of Negro workers, a large number of them trained at skills sorely needed in war production in the Rouge plant."

Deny Job Bias

Meanwhile, the AFL International Union of Operating Engineers has officially reaffirmed its opposition to discrimination in its membership, it was announced by FEP. A letter from William E. Maloney, president of the union, to the Committee declares:

"I can assure you that our local unions are open to membership for those who qualify as operators of equipment coming within the jurisdiction of our international union, and our local unions have been instructed that discrimination against applicants because of race, creed or color will not be tolerated."

Receipt of the letter followed adjustment of a situation involving alleged refusal of employment to two Negro members of the union by the foreman of a government project to which they had been referred by the business agent of their local. The business agent immediately reported the case to the committee, and, on the next requisition from the project, [illegible] four Negroes.

On the advice of the committee also, the business agent took up the matter with the project foreman and was told that a number of the white workers had threatened to walk off when Negroes were put on the job. The union official promptly informed the foreman that he would "replace any operating engineer who quit" for such a reason.

Two more Negroes have since been added to the project. There has been no work stoppage.

VICIOUS CIRCLE BANS NEGROES FROM R. R. JOBS

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 22— Employment practices of 22 raliroads and 14 unions were examined in public hearings by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice September 15 to 18 in the Interdepartmental Auditorium, 14th and Constitution Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C.

SEP 24 1943

The full seven-man Committee heard testimony by more than three dozen witnesses, including experts on Axis propaganda who testified on the use made by the Axis nations of reported instances of discrimination against minority groups in the United States.

Following the conclusion of the hearings Saturday, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Chairman, unnounced that the Committee would study the complete record before issuing its findings and directions.

Unions Ignore Hearing

Eighteen of the 22 railroads cited were represented by counsel as the hearings opened Wednesday morning, Sept. 15. Although replies were received by the Committee from seven of the unions involved none was officially represented by counsel during the first three days of the hearings.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company on Friday indicated its willingness to comform to the principles of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 when F. E. Baukhages representing the company, issued a statement that the company was taking immediate steps to investigate the specific charges made against it.

Dr. Northrup, in discussing the Railway Labor Act and its administration, alleged that under this law peace had been maintained on the railroads but only at the expense of tolerating, if not encouraging, discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups. He likewise asserted that the National Railway Adjustment Board has [illegible] aggrieved Negroes a hearing," and stated that certain rulings of the Board were material factors in eliminating Negro brakemen from the industry.

Detailed testimany of more than 40 witnesses, including a number of the complainants, was introduced during the four-day proceedings, dealing with instances of unfair treatment of workers because of race.

Sitting throughout the hearings were all the members of the FEPC: Msgr. Haas chairman; Miss Sara Southall, Milton P. Webster, Samuel Zemurray, Boris Shishkin, P. B. Young, Sr., and John Brophy.

Charge of Discrimination Lodged Against 14 Labor Unions and 23 Railroads

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

SEP 9 1943

Washington, D. C.—Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color, lodged against 23 railroads and 14 labor unions, will be examintd by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) at hearings to be held September 15-18, 1943, at Washington, D. C. The hearings will be held at the Departmental Auditorium, Department of Labor, 12th and Constitution avenue, Northwest.

Complaints received by the FEPC allege that the practices and policies under question fail to conform to the provisions of Executive Order 8802 as amended by Executive Order 9346, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale and national unity. Most of the charges involve the question of discrimination against Negro workers. In some cases workers of Mexican origin are involved. One or more of the several charges involves each railroad and union cited.

Exhaustive investigation by the FEPC has resulted in the compilation of a lengthy list of allegations involving agreements between railroads and unions whereby the effective utilization of available qualified manpower has been hampered because of discriminatory employment practices based on race.

Chief among the practices coming under the scrutiny of th Committee is that of considering Negro railroad workers "non-promotables." This is alleged to have been done through the negotiation of agreements between union and railroad which set a certain restriction on the percentage of Negroes which may be employed in a stipulated category.

These agreements, together with enactment of union restrictions limiting or barring non-white membership serves, it is charged, tend to reduce sharply the number of qualified Negroes employed by the railroads despite an increasing need for such labor.

47d-1943

FEPC

Biased RR Employment Unshaken by FEPC Meet

People's Voice

New York, N. Y.

By MICHAEL TURNER

When the much-publicized, oft-postponed, eagerly-awaited hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry—involving 22 roads and 15 unions on complaints lodged by the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee—ended last Saturday in Washington, three things were unmistakably clear to everybody:

- first, that the roads and unions mean to continue their anti-Negro employment practices;
- second, that the federal government must stop passing the buck in allowing the various states and sections to dictate the regulation of interstate transportation employment;
- third, that Negro workers regardless of the laxity of the government and the prejudices of certain states, have not the slightest intention of abandoning their fight for equality of employment.

The second point driven home to all observers—that nothing will, or even can, be done until the federal government stops its buck-passing to private business and takes over complete regulation of employment in interstate transportation—was the statement by Sidney S. Ulderman, railroad attorney, who declared:

- Railroads do not operate in a vacuum or in a theoretical Utopia. They have to operate in and serve the civilization in which they find themselves, and must adopt their operations and employment practices to the social solutions and racial questions as worked out by the prevailing mores and legal systems of the states they serve."

Testifying before the committee, Frederick N. Myers, white, vice-president of the National Maritime Union, asserted:

- "Discrimination does not exist on the American flag merchant vessels for which the NMU is the collective bargaining agent. Negro and white seamen work side by side, eat together in the same messrooms, are quartered in the same fo'csle, and die together on the high seas in defense of America. A common saying in our industry is that a Japanese or German torpedo is not marked 'For whites only!'"

Reflecting complete defiiance of the biased policy of the roads and unions, however, was the statement by Richard K. Smith, Northwestern University graduate and secretary-treasurer of the joint council of Dining Car Employees:

- We have no complaint if we do not measure up.. If we do, then we want what we have a right to expect. And some time, somehow, somewhere, we are going to get what is coming to us."

Thus, the whole affair, despite the FEPC's vigorous rejuvenation under Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman, and the questioning by special attorney Bartley C. Crum, winds up right where it was at first—nowhere. The alternative now is that President Roosevelt may make a personal appeal direct to the roads and unions asking them kindly to stop hiring a limited number of Negroes; considering them as "non-promotables"; refusing to upgrade them on the basis of seniority; refusing to promote them as machinists, trainmen, conductors and engineers; maintaining unfair wage differentials between them and white workers.

FEPC Lauded For Action In Plant Dispute

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Credit for considerable aid in bringing about the settlement of a labor-management dispute which had threatened to cause a total shutdown of the 14-Inch Mill of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation plant at Aliquippa, Pa., was given to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by representatives of the U. S. Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor in correspondence revealed by the FEPC last week.

FEPC action in the case was begun after formal complaints were filed with the committee's regional office in Philadelphia about the middle of September. The case was closed September 28.

A letter from Charles R. Ward, commissioner, in the Pittsburgh office of the Conciliation Service, to the FEPC Region III office, expressed thanks for the committee's cooperation and praised the FEPC representative in the case for his "fairness and keenness in being able to judge the right and wrong side of the case." The FEPC representative was Milo A. Manly.

TELEGRAM FROM STEELMAN

In a telegram to Dr. John R. Steelman, chief of the Conciliation Service, Mr. Ward referred again to the FEPC examiner who "cooperated to the fullest extent and deserves a lot of credit for hard work."

Th basis of the original dispute was a disagreement between management and union over upgrading policies in the 14-Inch Mill. A charge that the management had refused to upgrade two Negro workers because of their race brought the situation to a head.

The matter was adjusted when management and union finally agreed to a progression schedule which would protect the upgrading rights of each worker. In the individual complaints, the management recognized the claim of one man and promised him a chance at the first available promotion, while the second worker agreed to submit his case to arbitration.

Believe Haas Resignation 'Cut And Dried'

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Leadership Change Damages Body, Writer Opines

BY RICHARD ROBINSON

WASHINGTON,— (A N P) — Lifted eyebrows, cynical smiles and an "I told you so" expression greets all inquiries in "official Negro" Washington, when any mention of the recent resignation of Fr. Haas was announced last week.

Refusing to speak out, many "off the record" talks are being expounded, and they all seem to indicate a more or less chaotic condition up at FEPC with someone left holding the bag.

It is generally felt that the resignation was a "cut-and dried" affair and the bishopric extended to keep Catholics out of the limelight in one of the hottest spots in these United States.

LASTS FIVE MONTTHS

It took about 10 months to find a man to hold the job-which pays a neat sum per annum—and he lasted only half that time—or did he?

The changed complexion of the FEPC has always brought comment The original committee with the Sidney Hillmans, Mark Etheridges, Earl Dickersons, Dave Sarnoffs, has evaporated, with only John Brophy and Milton Webster remaining.

Committee chairmen have also run the gauntlet, with mysteries surrounding the silent exodus from the chief spot. This is one chairmanship no one wants—and when they get it they turn it loose as quickly as possible.

SITUATION MUDDLED, CONFUSED

Few chairmen have accomplished anything in the field they set out to adjust. Brave men quail when take this seat and leave the whole situation that much more muddled and confused.

This constant change has done the work of the committee little good. The unsettled situation makes for poor morale among the workers who are not sure whether the office will carry on or what will be the ultimate outcome of the situation Few know what to expect the next moment, but there are those who are breathing easier since the resignation of Fr. Haas—whose appointment was not exactly hailed with glee when announced. More on the peasement side, he did not fit into the pattern expected of the FEPC.

Some are of the opinion that Mark Ross will be named to fill the post, but others say no, there is too much inside opposition to his appointment. Meanwhile, the old question returns, who will head the FEPC?

Propose Name Of Dr. Graham Of N. Carolina

Daily World

President To Conduct Search For FEPC Head

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Msgr. Francis J. Haas is still at the chairman's desk at the offices of the Fair Employment Practice committee and will probably remain there until a new chairman has been selected before taking over his newly assigned duties as bishop for the Grand Rapids, Mich., diocese of the Catholic church.

It took five months to find Fr. Haas. The search then was conducted by Chairman Paul V. McNutt of War Manpower commission, under whose wing the committee had been placed. Since the reorganization, FEPC has been given independent status, which would indicate that the search for a new chairman will be named now by the White House itself. For this reason, it is not expected that the matter will drag on too long.

Certain names have been floating around, however, none with any substantial support. Dr. Frank G. Graham, member of the War Labor board, would be welcome to the job but his chairman, William Davis protested effectively the end of last winter when McNutt tried to snatch the University of North Carolina president.

The name, of Oscar Chapman, assistant secretary of Interior, is being mentioned. Harold Ickes put a crimp in that once before, and would probably do it gain, it is believed.

Somebody has proposed Monroe E. Deutsch, vice president of the University of California, but the suggestion again is unsupported.

The report is current that following the committee's meeting on Saturday, October 2, the members called in Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman. said to be an active candidate and indicated quite clearly that he would not be acceptable as a chairman The report is unconfirmed, but being circulated.

People's Voice

New York, N. Y.

Job Bias Hits Negro Hardest

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice revealed last week that more than 75 per cent of the complaints filed with the Committee during the month of September involved alleged discrimination against Negroes in war employment. A marked increase in the total number of complaints received during the month may be accounted for by the fact the seven regional FEPC offices have been opened.

All complaints are being processed by the Committee as rapidly as possible. Those which appear to merit investigation and over which the Committee has jurisdiction are docketed. The others are either rejected or held pending receipt of sufficient further proof to warrant inquiry. Only valid complaints charging discriminatory employment practices based on race, creed, color, national origin or alienage against employers over which FEPC has jurisdiction are accepted for investigation by the Committee.

Adjustment of a number of cases during the month was also announced by FEPC. In one case a large plant in New York State producing essential war material was found to have no Negroes in its employ although qualified workers were available and a labor need existed. Upon filing a charge alleging discrimination, FEPC took up the matter with the plant management and as a result a number of Negroes have been put to work in the plant with a consequent easing of the labor shortage.

In another plant in Region II, it was charged by a complainant that Negroes applying for jobs were turned away with excuses while whites applying at the same time were granted interviews which usually led to their employment. FEPC representatives presented the facts to the plan management with the result that the practice was discontinued.. Subsequently, Negroes have been hired by the company on production work.

When the personnel officer of an Eastern refrigeration company with war contracts asked the United States Employment Service (USES) for a clerical worker and stipulated that a Christian be sent, the FEPC was notified. The company management, upon Committee intervention, agreed not to discriminate against non-Christians in the future.

Shipping Saved By Jimcro Ban

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON—(FP)—"If the discrimination in industry had not been solved in the merchant marine the result would have been the delay of vessels bringing troops and the material of war to the fronts where they are needed, by the army, navy, coast guard and marines all over the world."

This was the issue placed bluntly before hearings of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice Sept. 16 by Vice-Pres. Frederick N. Myers of the Natl. Maritime Union. The FEPC was hearing complaints of discriminination lodged against 22 railroads and 14 unions.

Before Myers could continue his remarks, the railroads' attorney leaped up, obviously discomfited, objecting to "that character's" testimony as irrelevant. Main contention of the railroads has been that discrimination in the south must be broken down inch by inch through the slow working of education and evolution—anything but government action.

No effort has been made to deny FEPC counsel's charge that the Southeastern Carriers Conference Agreement, signed by the unions and carriers Feb. 18, 1941, has barred Negro firemen from Diesel type engines, despite their seniority, and otherwise kept Negroes in inferior ratings on the roads.

PM
New York, N. Y.

FEPC Carries Fight For Its Life to Biddle

Ross Seeks Interpretation Following Warren's Ruling on Executive Order

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) today carried to Attorney General Francis Biddle the fight to prevent Southern Democrats from extracting the teeth from the President's order forbidding racial discrimination by firms doing business with the Government.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced the step, the first official move by the Committee since it discovered the three-week-old decision by Comptroller General Lindsay Warren which virtually nullified the President's order.

Ross said:

"The Comptroller General has recently held that the obligation implied by Executive Order 9346 upon contracting agencies to incorporate a non-discrimination clause in each contract awarded by them was not a mandatory requirement but merely a directive.

"In view of the doubt which this ruling has cast upon the powers and duties of the FEPC, the Committee is seeking consideration by the Attorney General of the scope and meaning of the Executive Order."

Actually, Biddle is being asked two simple questions:

¶ Is the Executive Order an "order" or a "directive."

¶ Does the word *shall* used in the order mean *must* or is compliance with the order purely voluntary, as Warren has ruled.

The Committee hopes for a ruling by the Attorney General within a week.

New Protests Over FEPC

Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's ruling that the President's order creating the Federal Employment Practices Committee is not mandatory continued to draw protests over the weekend.

Urging FDR to act at once to correct the "cynical" decision, George Marshall, chairman of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, warned that it would set aside the national policy.

"Under the decision," Mr. Marshall pointed out in his wire to the President, "any employer who is guilty of discrimination may ignore Executive Order by pleading that compliance would impair war work. Warren's cynical interpretation places the policies of employers even though they follow the racist practices of the Nazi foe, above the imperative requirements of the war effort that all Americans regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, be utilized in the war production."

Endanger Unity

Marshall asserted that the Warren decision "will endanger the unity of our Nation and the morale of millions who hailed your Executive Order as evidence that our national policy assures every American an equal opportunity to work for his country's defense. It's effect upon the American people, our allies and all oppressed people who look to us for the fulfillment of the four freedoms will be to deepen the suspicion created by the filibuster of the Poll Tax Repeal Bill."

Solomon Harper, science editor of Calvin News Service, supplying 130 Negro weekly newspapers, issued this statement:

"The action of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren in violating the Executive Order No. 9346 of President Roosevelt for the end of discrimination because of race, creed, color or place of national origin is fine propaganda for the Axis legions and Hitler's war machine.

"Every citizen and manufacturer desiring to help win the war should immediately join with the trade unions and call upon President Roosevelt to re-establish the full power of the FEPC."

City Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs said:

"President Roosevelt made an important step forward in dealing with the race problem in setting up the FEPC. I firmly supported this measure which declared that the Government should not deal with any agency or employer who discriminated against American citizens because of their race or creed or color.

"To declare that that program is to be optional and not compulsory is a step backwards and I am one of those who resent it as wholly unsound. Every citizen worth his salt wants to make his contribution to the war effort. And it should not lie in the power of anyone to exclude the Negro, the Jew or the Catholic who wishes to do his share."

'Index of Reaction'

Alice Stark, executive secretary of National Council for a Permanent FEPC, declared:

"Mr. Warren's statement is an index of the type of postwar reaction which labor and all liberal elements fear. In anticipation of just this kind of threat, a group of concerned individuals established the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. Sens. Wagner and Capper are serving as honorary chairman and William J. Schieffllin is treasurer.

"A week ago representatives of several hundred thousand workers in New York, including such outstanding leaders as David Dubinsky, Samuel Wolchok and A. Phillip Randolph met to face the problem and voted unanimously to raise a national fund for this work.

"The objective of the council, which includes the introduction of legislation establishing a permanent FEPC, is a definitive answer to such attempts as this one by Mr. Warren to abort the developing democratic forces which till now have been a New Deal bulwark on the basis of phraseology."

The Rev. John LaFarge, executive editor, *America*, National Catholic weekly, said:

"It looks to me, on the face of it, a weakening on the part of the government. Any tampering with the Executive Order is something which should be looked into."

FEPC Invites Cooperation Of NNBL

SEP 4 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Chairman Writes President J. E. Walker

BALTIMORE, Md. — The wish to develop "cooperative relationships with other Federal agencies, governing bodies and officials, and civic organizations and leaders." was expressed in a communication from Monsignor Francis J. Hass, chairman of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to President J. E. Walker, of the National Negro Business League:

TEXT OF LETTER

Chairman Haas' letter follows:

"I have been informed by Mr. Theodore A. Jones, administrative officer with this Committee, that he had a very encouraging conference with you and your associates. recently, while in Chicago attending the convention of the National Negro Insurance Association.

"As you know, the Committee on Fair Employment Practice has been reorganized. We are now making every effort to perfect our organization and develop cooperative relationships with other federal agencies, local governing bodies and officials, and civic organizations and leaders that will provide the basis for an understanding and efficient leadership in eliminating discrimination in employment because of race creed, color, natonal origin, or alienage.

UNDERSTANDING OF LOCAL PROBLEMS

"The Committee recognizes that such [illegible] understanding of national problems springs from an understanding of local problems. In order to deal with discrimination in employment in local communities a thorough understanding of and sympathetic attitude toward the peculiarities of the community is required. In addition, any program designed to meet such problems will be equipped for success if civic leaders participate, offering advice and constructive criticism to the Committee, informing the Committee of local problems within its jurisdiction, assisting the Committee in interpreting its policies and problems to local communties.

"The National Negro Business League includes in its membership many persons of national renown and many who are leaders in their respective communities. The League enjoys a reputation and place in our national life, commanding the respect of both Negroes and whites.

"Accordingly, I invite your cooperation in obtaining the support of the National Negro Business League, its officers and members, in furthering the aims of this Committee."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

FEPC Seeks Return Of West Coast Ship Yard Workers

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Immediate return to work of the Negroes in West Coast shipyards who had been dismissed for refusal to pay their dues into an auxiliary union local of the Boilermakers union is being sought by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) as a preliminary move to adjustment of the entire situation, it was announced by the Committee.

As a result of investigation and a conference held in San Francisco on August 20-21, the positions of all parties involved in the dispute have been clarified, the Committee reported.

At present attempts are being made to have worked out between management and the union a procedure through which the dismissed workers may be put back on their jobs at once pending ultimate settlement of the entire dispute.

According to the announcement, the discharge of the workers is explained by the management as being in accord with its contract to discharge any and all workers, regardless of race, creed or color, who do not remain in good standing with the union. The fact that the workers in question are Negroes, the management insists, has [illegible] bearing in the matter.

The FEPC has received assurance from the complainants that they are willing to pay their union dues but in return they desire full union membership. They insist, moreover, that the auxiliary local setup does not provide them with that full membership and that if they are required to pay their dues into the auxiliary in order to keep their jobs it is a violation of Executive Order 9346.

47d-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

POST MORTEM ON FEPC

JAN 23 1943

In resigning as chief counsel to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices after War Manpower Commissioner McNutt had torpedoed the scheduled hearings into anti-Negro railroad discrimination Henry Epstein, former New York State Solicitor General, wrote:

> The sudden cancellation of the hearings without warning or opportunity for discussion by the President's Committee is, in my judgment, an irreparable blow to your committee's prestige and must result in loss of public confidence in its effectiveness.

Mr. Epstein is just about 100 per cent right and no amount of weasel words like "indefinite postponement" can obscure the ugly truth that when the FEPC sought to get down to rock bottom on this question of discrimination against Negro labor in a major industry vital to the winning of the war, it was ruthlessly sidetracked.

This action marks the final triumph of a long and consistent campaign to make the FEPC completely ineffective, so far as ending discrimination in war industry is concerned.

The FEPC was handicapped from the first in having no punitive measures to work with, as in the case of other government agencies aiding the prosecution of the war.

In consequence, the FEPC, when it found rank color discrimination in existence, could only tap the war contractor on the wrist, figuratively speaking, and urge him to "Go and sin no more."

It got some co-operation from war contractors outside the Solid South and Negro workers entered many plants from which they had been previously barred, but they were largely employed at unskilled tasks, and promotion in accordance with experience, tenure, aptitude and skill has been disappointingly slow where it has happened at all.

The campaign to scuttle the FEPC got into full swing when it announced the hearings in Birmingham.

Some Alabama newspapers, aided and abetted by local demagogues, waved the bloody shirt and mobilized the dervishes of racial proscription to battle against any threat to white supremacy.

At the hearings Mark Ethridge, "true to his native land," administered the kiss of death.

After the hearings, the conspiracy to scuttle the committee gained impetus with some never-publicized skullduggery in high places, egged on by Congressional Negrophobes, which resulted in burying the FEPC in the War Manpower Commission where Mr. McNutt owns its body if not its soul.

It is significant that prior to the transfer, Mr. McNutt had already established a Negro setup whose purpose, though suspected, was never clearly defined.

The transfer brought forth such a clamor from liberal circles that everybody in authority yelled "'taint so" and professions of love for the committee were profuse. The rival jim-crow setup was banished from the WMC payroll.

The FEPC got more money and allegedly more freedom but remained in the shadow of the McNutt veto.

Then came the announcement of the hearings into charges of discrimination against Negroes by the country's railroads and the autocratic, lily-white railroad unions—charges that would have been as easy to prove as the existence of cold weather in Siberia.

This sort of thing was "embarrassing" and "unthinkable" to powerful business and labor czars who have slowly been eliminating Negroes from the few skilled jobs they still hold, and who do not intend to change their anti-Negro policies, war or no war.

So the hearings have been "indefinitely postponed."

When the hearings will be held is anybody's guess, but skeptics profess to believe that it will not be in our time.

The FEPC may continue to function but after this severe blow its future existence will probably be like that of a zombie UNLESS THERE IS A TREMENDOUS AND NATION-WIDE COMPLAINT FROM NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, UNIONS AND BUSINESSES, and those white groups eager to see democracy work in the United States.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

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Another meeting is called for February 1, when the committee will have Mr. McNutt's answer.

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Current reports are that the railroad hearings were called off by the White House and will have to be rescheduled the same way.

The facts are that President Roosevelt was abroad for two weeks and left the decision to subordinates, probably Marvin McIntyre, his secretary, and Attorney General Francis M. Biddle.

It is said that McIntyre acted to placate the reactionary part of the South, which has always objected to these hearings, the A.F. of L. Railroad Brotherhood, which declines to admit colored workers as engineers, brakemen and in other positions above the rank of fireman.

The Southern view on this is often expressed. If colored workers get into skilled jobs, whom will we have to do the dirty work at low salaries?

Biddle Mentioned

Attorney General Francis M. Biddle, a liberal, is also reported as having his hand in the matter as speculation runs rife as to the cause of the sudden soft pedal. Mr. Biddle, in Baltimore Tuesday, said flatly that he had nothing to do with postponing the FEPC hearings.

Dr. MacLean's Speed

The speed with which Dr. Malcolm MacLean, president of Hampton Institute, got out of the chairmanship of the FEPC and into a navy lieutenant commander's uniform is receiving widespread comment.

The capital has felt for sometime that Dr. MacLean had conferences with administration officials and knew more than he communicated to fellow committee members.

Suspicion which may be entirely unjustified, was current that he knew about the postponement when the committee didn't and that he had been angling for the navy post for some time.

MacLean Absent, Ethridge Present

Dr. MacLean did not attend Friday's meeting Neither did David Sarnoff (RCA). Mark Ethridge, Louisville Courier Journal publisher, and Sarnoff have both resigned but agreed to hold on until F.D.R. reorganizes the committee. Ethridge presided.

Rumors are current here that Dr. Frank Graham, dean of the University of North Carolina, is sought to replace MacLean and Sidney Hollander of Baltimore to take Sarnoff's place.

$10,000 Baits

Jonathan Daniels, N.C. News and Observer editor, is said to be angling for a place on the committee, provided reorganization makes the post paying jobs, say at $10,000 a year for a small committee of three or five.

Public opposition to paying committee members was heard immediately for the reason that as government officers, Federal departments could not be criticized and the committee's opportunity to operate independently and without political influence would be immediately impaired. Paying FEPC members would be equivalent to putting an effective muzzle on them, it is said.

In addition, a smaller committee would mean the loss of at least one of the two colored members of the present committee. A counter suggestion is that the committee consist of eight members and continue to have representation of capital, labor and the colored, Jewish, and Catholic minority groups.

Other members of FEPC at Friday's conference were John Brophy, CIO; Boris Shiskin, AFL; Earl Dickerson and Milton Webster.

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Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.

RESUMPTION OF FEPC PUBLIC HEARING URGED

FEB 4 - 1943

NAACP Appraises Administration Attitudes On Discrimination

FEB 4 - 1943

Washington, D. C.—Unless the President is ready to undertake a drastic revision of executive order 8802 providing positive sanctions covering every field to which the Fair Employment Practice Committee has been assigned, no tampering with the Committee's hearings or with any other of its procedures should even be considered, the N.A.A.C.P. declared this week in a memorandum to the President of the United States and to the FEPC. The memorandum which stated that the recent arbitrary action of War Manpower Commissioner McNutt called for more than condemnation supplemented the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's protests against the postponement of railroad discrimination hearings scheduled for January 25.

FEB 4 - 1943

The N.A.A.C.P. recommended that the only other effective alternate to public hearings would be the increasing of the committee's authority by permitting it to require all holders of government contracts to execute an oath that the employer has not been guilty of any discriminatory employment practices. A false statement would subject the affiant to prosecution. It would also be important that the President require that war contracts provide money penalties for proven acts of discrimination.

FEB 4 - 1943

In regard to labor organization the NAACP suggested that the President might order the War Labor Board or the National Labor Relations Board or any other appropriate agency before which labor organizations have occasion to appear to allow the FEPC to intervene in their proceedings involving labor organizations guilty of proven acts of discrimination.

FEB 4 - 1943

The NAACP stated that McNutt's action necessitated an appraisal of the fundamental attitude of the administration to the problem involved, an analysis of eexcutive order 8802 and re-examination of the techniques employed by the FEPC. The memorandum pointed out that although it was anticipated that the Committee would have independent status the President placed it in the office of Production Management and subsequently shifted it from one agency to another.

The NAACP said that although the committee members are presidential appointees, there has never been a direct relationship btween the Committee as a whole and the Executive Office of the President. The practice has been to decide important matters relating to the Committee in "off the record" conferences involving the President's Executive Assistant, other high-ranking government officials not connected with the Committee and, on occasion, some one or more of the white members of the Committee. When Mr. MdNutt ordered the postponement of the railroad hearings without prior conference or consultation with the Committee, he simply followed and reflected the mode of the Administration in dealing with the committee.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee was set up to deal with a fundamental, long-neglected problem, the NAACP reminded the President. If the Administration's purpose was a serious one, it then became necessary that it follow through. Yet, at no time has the Committee had an operating staff, budget, or status commensurate with the immensity and complexity of the problem assigned to it. The militant support which the Administration has given such agencies as the National Labor Relations Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission when they were under violent attack by reactionary forces has been conspicuously absent in its dealings with the Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

If the Administration intends that the committee be effective, let it give the Committee status in the Executive Office of the President, wholehearted support within government, and a budget adequate for the accomplishment of its functions.

The Association's memorandum pointed out that the committee has never had the authority it needs for the enforcement of Executive Order 8802. No provision is made for penalties or civil damages. Although many Federal agencies influence and in varying measure, control the execution of war contracts, there is no provision in the Executive Order obligating any such agency to exercise its authority for the correction of discriminatory practices which the committee has discovered. It also should be pointed out that, while the order imposes a duty on labor organizations to comply with its provisions, it provides no sanctions in this field.

Notwithstanding these obvious limitations inherent in Executive order 8802, and despite the handicap of an inadequate budget and admittedly undermanned staff, the Committee has been able to investigate complaints and effect a significant measure of compliance in every section of the country.

At the time the order was issued, discrimination against minority racial, religious and national groups, in almost twenty per cent of our population, had reached such a stage that it threatened to become a national scandal. The committee was literally swamped with thousands of complaints. Where there was prima facie evidence of discrimination, the committee has attempted to effect an adjustment with the party charged. In numerous instances, without publicity, satisfactory adjustments have been made at this level. Although public hearings have proved to be the committee's most effective sanction, it is only in a very small number of cases that this sanction has been involved. The committee, through its 18-month period of operation and the investigation of more than seven thousand complaints, has held only five public hearings involving less than fifty employers and labor organizations.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

CALVIN'S DIGEST

By L. BAYNARD WHITNEY

Not So Good FEB 12 1943

When President Roosevelt placed the Fair Employment Practice Committee under the direction of Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt some time ago, this column gave the President the benefit of the doubt and asked the public to believe in the President's sincerity when he announced that he made the change in order that the committee might become more effective. Negro leaders declared at that time that the committee's independence was destroyed, and that time would see its effectiveness nullified. Following this some tangible assurances were given to show that the FEPC would function as intended under Executive Order 8802 wherein the President outlawed race discrimination in defense industry.

Now comes the crushing news that the FEPC, which has become a symbol of the government's efforts to make democracy work at home, is going out of existence under the impact of discouragement due to McNutt's refusal to hold scheduled hearings concerning prejudice in employment of Negroes by the railroads, and discrimination in the railroad industry. This is not so good. Chairman MacLean and Editor Ethridge have already resigned, and three of the four remaining members will probably resign unless McNutt comes thru cleanly.

What Now, FDR? FEB 12 1943

Vital as they are to the winning of the war, are the railroads too big to be brought into the court of democracy to answer for their attitude toward one-tenth of the nation? Has Manpower Commissioner McNutt been reached or pressured by men in high places? And why hasn't he come out with a forthright statement giving his reasons for calling off the hearings? What is President Roosevelt, who is considered a friend of the Negro, going to do at the showdown?

FEB 12 1943

The turn of events will answer these questions within a few weeks.

FEB 12 1943

It does seem that somebody not on our side holds an ace, for obviously the railroads flatfootedly refuse to be "embarrassed" by the race question. Maybe this also embarrasses McNutt, who on several occasions has been loud in his demands for fair play for the colored worker, but who seems to tremble at the very thought of meeting one of our committees. It must be remembered that McNutt's ideas on the manpower question were certainly not popular among industrialists prior to his appointment as commissioner.

McNutt Relents!

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

JAN 28 1943

In That He Shows sense!

JAN 28 1943

OWI—By unanimous vote the Committee on Fair Employment Practice today decided to make representations to Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, that it was the Committee's very strong feeling that the railroad hearings which were postponed last week should be-scheduled and held as soon as possible. The Committee had a satisfactory conference with Chairman McNutt and received assurance that every consideration would be given to its reommendation.

He emphasized that the war Manpower Commision through hearings negotiations and all other appropriate means would work toward bringing discrimination to a permanent end.

JAN 28 1943

"Discrimination," Mr. McNutt pointed out, "constitutes a waste of manpower. It is, therefore important to the war effort that it be ended."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WMC Foe of FEP Resigns D. C. Post

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Ramy B. Deschner, area director of the War Manpower commission in Washington, [illegible] who challenged the jurisdiction of the Fair Employment Practice committee (FEPC) to hold hearings on the Capital Transit case, has resigned.

JUL 10 1943

He was called to task by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the WMC, for raising the jurisdictional question, and told that the FEPC had exclusive jurisdiction of the case.

The N.A.A.C.P., at the time Deschner raised the question regarding FEPC, wrote McNutt demanding Deschner be dismissed for attempting to confuse and cloud the situation.

JUL 10 1943

Soon thereafter, Deschner left Washington on leave, and returned to his home in St. Louis. He submitted his resignation from St. Louis, and wrote twice urging that it be accepted. The WMC accepted the resignation last week.

No Racial Issue Among U.S. Soldiers In Italy

DEC 24 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

By JAMES A. SANDERS

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY. —(ANP)—A racial issue is something that does not exist between American white and Negro troops in Italy regardless of from what part of the nation they come; all that one finds between American and English troops is the single accord to get the war over with as soon as possible They are well on the Via Roma (Road to Rome) and from there all roads lead to Berlin—then home.

But the four freedoms are starkly and dramatically conspicuous by their absence in this country which 2,000 years ago represented the highest in culture. Whether it is in the narrow twisting streets of devastated villages, the bomb-raped boulevards of once proud cities, or the wide expense of rolling country the highest antithesis of these inalienable rights of free peoples is manifest.

The want for food, the want for clothes, and the want for shelter tell as one words can what the ravages of war have done to a land that short years ago held a commanding place in the ranks of forward looking people. Fear has become almost second nature. The unholy terror that white-starred air armadas of the allied nations struck in the hearts of all Italy gave way for a spell to the fantastic fear of the now wing-cropped luftwaffe. For a score of years that fear of fascist reprisals has stymied all individual expression except that glorifying Il Duce.

Fascism is anything but washed out in Italy; but most of the people want it out. When you talk to them, the hardness and grimness drains from their faces, and is replaced by an expression of prayerful thanks. Many of them, men, women and children, have not found it easy to forget rendering the fascist salute when they greet you. The rendering of this salute is not to extol fascism, but rather to acknowledge the position of the one greeted. When American and British soldiers ignore the salutation, one can sense a feeling of monentary confusion [illegible] over them. They want freedom; the freedom from fear.

U. S. soldiers report that Italian soldiers whom they have encountered have the same feeling as the general populace. They have a song that they sing, a weird sort of chant, "Morta' Mussolini" (Death to Mussolini). This new experience of being able to say what they want to say has called out all the pent up emotion of a score of years.

These are an intensely religious people. War is really not a part of their ideology. They have a full realization of what their coalition with Germany might have meant to their freedom of worship. They know what happened to the Jews inside Germany; and they now have some sort of concept of what could happen to them if Hitlerism were to get the upper hand.

Two of their expressions, "Americano buono," (American good) and "Suno vostro amico" (I am your friend) best express the attitude of the man in the street. One can not very well doubt the sincerity of these expressions when they tell you of the German atrocities that occurred between the Italian surrender and the time that Anglo-American armies established themselves on Italy's western shore.

The most laughable thing that happens here is the Herman propaganda radiocasts, programs that they would not dare beam to the United States because the lies are too plain. Most of them insult the intelligence of a ten year old.

At this time capital is being made of labor unrest in the U. S. the racial issue in India, South Africa, and the U. S. German radio stations beam these programs to Europe and Africa, but fail to explain how U. S. production has out-pointed that of all Europe in the last six months. Wind bags spend long hours on the radio and tell all who care for such tripe that England and the U. S., are only exploiting the darker races of their nationals; then quote a long list of figures and incidents to prove it. It is then that U. S. and British listeners go DXing—looking for another program. They know the lie. Too many of them—American and British, white and Negro, have shared the same fox-hole, the same chow, and have expressed to each other the same ideology. Too many of them have been decorated for daring death to save one of the other. Too many of them have come to the realization the four freedoms will not work if it does not work for all.

Nergo troops in this theater have received nothing but praise for the splendid manner in which they have conducted themselves in forward as well as rear echelons. Yes, "American good;" that is why there will never be a black-out of democracy; that is why this war will win what the last war only hoped to win.

British Balk Jim Crow Setup At Pacific Meet

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK — Expressing their disapproval of the American brand of discrimination, British delegates to the conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations this week refused to meet in Pinehurst, N. C., when they discovered plans for "jim crowing" one of its members.

It was originally planned that the institute would be held in North Carolina on Jan. 8 but the site was later changed to Atlantic City, N.J., one of the Britons disclosed.

A member of the delegation said the principal Pinehurst hotel refused to admit a Negro, who is a permanent member of the staff of the institute's New York office. The conference was thereupon transferred to New Jersey.

This rebuke to American jim crow practices is in line with the friendly treatment generally accorded Negro troops stationed in Great Britain

DEC 18 1943

47d-1943

MP Brutality

Men Protest Brutality; Write To Philly NAACP

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa

March 27, 1943

A warning that they might be lynched for trying to take matters "into their own hands," was allegedly issued last week by a General of the United States Army to a group of inductees at Fort Clark, Texas, who objected to the beatings colored members of the camp squadron received from their white officers.

The growing reluctance of Negro soldiers to fight for a democracy which they feel does not exist, was expressed in letters written by two privates, whose experiences with discrimination while in the service have left them grasping.

In a communication to his wife, one of the soldiers at Ft Clark related an incident comparable only to the tactics of the infamous Gestapo. He reports that the men were so severely beaten that one of them suffered a serious head injury.

March 27, 1943

According to the informant, the boys became exhausted while performing some manual task. When they dropped their burden, they were allegedly beaten cruelly by the officers in charge of the work.

They and other indignant boys then organized into a protest group but were subdued with threats of fatal injury from the guns of the Military Police. It was then that the General issued the alleged lynching threat.

At Fort Benning, Ga., a Northern soldier finds it difficult to adapt himself to the discriminatory laws of the South. He objects to being confined to jim-crow sections of public buses and trains, to being barred from restaurants and other public places, and to being constantly reminded that he is a Negro and therefore different from other Americans.

Copies of the letters were turned over to the TRIBUNE from the local branch of the NAACP.

World-Telegram

New York, N. Y.

6 Hurt as M. P.'s Fight Negro Troops

By the United Press.

JUN 26 1943

LONDON, June 26.—One American army officer and five enlisted men have been wounded in a fight between military police and Negro troops at a town in northwest England, American Army headquarters revealed yesterday.

Announcement of the fight was made indirectly in a statement which said that investigation of the circumstances was under way.

Davies Family Upset to Read of Attack Upon Son

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

SEP 2 1943

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Davies and family, 205 Fifteenth place, was upset Sunday when they read a news item appearing in the August 28 issue of the Pittsburgh Courier which revealed that their son, Corporal David Davies who is in the services of the U. S. Marines, stationed at New River, N. C, had been the victim of an attack. The news item:

MP's Attacked Marine on Bus

Fayetteville, N. C. (ANP)—Another bus loading "incident" in the South came to light last week when formal complaint was made to his post commander by a marine stationed at the training base in this state that three white military policemen had accosted and brutally beaten him.

SEP 2 1943

The Marine, David Davies of Chicago, who enlisted in the service several months ago, said that the attack occurred August 8 when he and 13 other marines on furlough sought to board a carrier at the local station. They had formed a line, Davies said, but broke ranks when a white MP told them that it was not necessary.

Later when white civilians objected to Negro service men boarding the bus ahead of them Davies said he and the other uniformed men were ordered back by another MP. The young marine said he remarked to a friend, "There'll come a day."

SEP 2 1943

Ordered Off Bus

After being upbraided by the MP for saying this, Davies charged he was ordered off the bus, but before he could alight three other MP's roughly pulled him to the ground.

The young marine complained he was lined up against the wall and set upon by the three MP's who beat him across the head, face and body, until several Negro MP's arrived. Davies said he pleaded with the colored MP's to save him from further mistreatment but all they did was push back a crowd which had gathered.

SEP 2 1943

"Knowing what has happened to many a Negro soldier in the South," Mrs. Davies was not satisfied until her son had been contacted.

She did not talk with him but contacted her nephew, Sgt. Charles S. Johnson who is stationed at the same camp, who informed the Davies family that "it was not as bad as it sounded."

SEP 2 1943

Mrs. Davies said that she could tell from the way he talked that he could not give any information.

The newspaper item informed that the attack occurred on August 8 and since then Mrs. Davies received a letter written on August 16 from Corporal Davies.

"Knowing that he would not want me to be upset, he never mentioned one word of the incident," Mrs. Davies said.

He wrote then: "You have reason enough to be angry with me. I know I have waited a long time to write, but I have been full of good intentions," then the marine told of many pleasant experiences on a boxing trip to Ft. Bragg, canoeing, sailboating and ocean swimming.

SEP 2 1943

Corporal Davies went into the marines from Chicago where he had been working and making his home with a sistes, Mrs. Mollie Dell Davies Bozeman.

MP's ATTACKED MARINE ON BUS

AUG 28 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 28 1943

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 26 (ANP)—Another bus loading "incident" in the South came to light last week when formal complaint was made to his post commander by a Marine stationed at the training base in this state that three white military policemen had accosted and brutally beaten him.

The Marine, David Davies of Chicago, who enlisted in the service several months ago, said that the attack occurred August 8 when he and 13 other Marines on furlough sought to board a carrier at the local station. They had formed a line, Davies said, but broke ranks when a white MP told them that it was not necessary.

AUG 28 1943

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ORDERED OFF BUS

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AUG 28 1943

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otest MP Treatment Of Women

efenc

AUG 21 1943

Chicago, Ill.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Daniel E Byrd, president of the local branch N.A.A.C.P., has sent a letter to the provost marshal, New Orleans area, to advise whether or not it is the policy of the U.S. army to detail military police to private business places, to arrest innocent women, accuse them of soliciting soldiers and to detain them in violation of their civil rights and without due process of law.

Copies of the Byrd letter were sent to J. Bernard Cocke, district attorney of the Orleans Parish and to the Provost Marshal General, Washington. Cocke was asked to intercede in the release of 34 women caught in the raid on Little Beck's restaurant August 7.

The Provost Marshal General was told that Negroes are unwilling to participate in programs for the welfare of soldiers as a morale booster, if they are to be subjected to arrest in public places while entertaining the servicemen. Byrd charged a wholesale violation of the civil rights of Negroes.

The raid on Beck's "Joy Ship," one of the most dramatic in years, climaxed reports to the Provost Marshal that the place was a meeting place for soldiers and women of ill-repute. The master of the ship, Beck, denied the accusations. He insisted that he kept "an orderly place."

Military police headed by First Lieut. Edward T. Schanck, assisted the local police from the fifth precinct station led by Lieut. L. Hill and Patrolmen William Peterson Jr., Joseph O'Hara, William Dudenhoffer, Louis Bauer and John Milano.

Military Cops Mum After 2nd St. Melee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
AUG 7-1943

Angry Crowd Threatens White MP Arresting Soldier, Sailor

RICHMOND. — Military police and shore patrol officers declined to give any details this week on a disturbance which began in a Second Street restaurant and threatened to develop to serious proportions.

City police had no details of the disturbance in their files because arrests were made by military police and shore patrolmen.

Reefer Blamed

The situation began after a civilian in the B.B. Restaurant in the 500 block of N. Second Street began passing a reefer for soldiers and sailors to puff.

One soldier and a sailor became disorderly and refused to leave and a call was put in for military police.

Resists Arrest

AUG 7-1943

When they [illegible] soldier resisted arrest and struck one M.P.

Two colored soldiers from Camp Lee assisted the policemen and were forced to use their fists in order to subdue him.

A group of young people jeered the police and declared that white military policemen would not be tolerated in Jackson Ward.

The sailor was arrested without difficulty.

Crowd Threatens

After the prisoners were taken away, a crowd began threatening the M.P., and one man menaced him with a knife.

This officer and all others, including city police, kept cool and restrained themselves as the temper and size of the crowd grew.

One false report to the effect that M.P.'s were beating soldiers went out, and the crowd swelled to more than 1000.

Officers Keep Cool

The man threatened with a knife walked north to Leigh the street from Second to Third.

More city and military police and shore patrolmen arrived shortly and quieted the crowd, which then included hundreds of curious citizens, without any show of force.

Sentiment for colored city and military police has been growing steadily this year, and many ob-Street, and the crowd thronged servers believe that their addition would help in law enforcement.

FLAG DRAPED BODY OF MATE ARRIVES ON WEDDING DATE

NOV 26 1943

Had Promised To See Wife On Anniversary

When Private First Class Louis Brock left for camp, he vowed to his wife that he would return to her, every wedding anniversary if possible. Ironically this vow has come to pass even in death, for last Monday, Nov. 22, the date of his marriage, his flag draped body was met at the Missouri Pacific Station in Kirkwood by his grief stricken wife, Mrs. Marie Brass[illegible] Brock.

NOV 26 1943

Shot By M. P.

Pfc. Brock was shot by an M. P. Sergeant Friday at Gadsden, Ala. under mysterious circumstance. He died almost instantly of his wounds. It was reported that the sergeant, also a Negro had picked him up for questioning. Pfc. Brock was stationed at Camp Sibert, Ala.

In the little gathering at the station where the widow had lived in anticipation of a gay second anniversary reunion were also the father and mother of the dead solider, Mr. and Mrs. Brock.

Flew To See Wife

On Nov. 22, last year, Pfc. Brock flew by airplane to surprise his bride and so hapy were they that he romised to always return home on this date if possible.

The remains were accompanied by Sgt. Richard S. Hughes of 4529 Evans avenue, also stationed at Camp Sibert. The body will lie in state at the Church of God in Christ, Kirkwood, this Friday evening and night. The funeral service will be held Saturday at 11 a. m. with Elder Herman Douglass officiating.

NOV 26 1943

Other survivors are four brothers, P[illegible], George, Edward and Johnson Brock and three sisters, Mrs. Nercy Drew and Mrs. Mona Brock and Miss Juanita and Myrtle Brock and a host of distant relatives.

Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

NOV 26

PVT. AND MRS. LOUIS BROCK

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

White MP's Beat Marine in N.C.

AUG 28 1943

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.—(ANP)—Another bus loading "incident" in the South came to light last week when formal complaint was made to his post commander by a marine stationed at a training base in this State that three white military policemen had brutally beaten him.

AUG 28 1943

The marine, David Davies of Chicago, who enlisted several months ago, said that on August 8 he was beaten after white persons objected to his entering a bus before they did.

One of the MP's struck his hand against a brick wall when he missed a blow aimed at him, stated the marine, and told the crowd that his bleeding hand was the result of a knife wound inflicted by Davies. Requests for permission to call his commissioned officer were greeted with "shut your damned mouth," Davies charges.

AUG 28 1943

Three White M. P.'s Attack Lone Marine

AUG 28 1943

Informer Hou

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.—(ANP)—Another bus loading "incident" in the South came to light last week when formal complaint was made to his post commander by a marine stationed at the training base in this state that three white military police had accosted and brutally beaten him.

Occurred August 8

The marine, David Davies of Chicago, who enlisted in the service several months ago, said that the attack occurred August 8, when he and 13 other marines on furlough sought to board a carrier at the local station. They had formed a line, Davies said, but broke rank when a white MP told them that it was not necessary.

AUG 28 1943

Later when white civilians objected to Negro servicemen boarding the bus ahead of them Davies said he and the other uniformed men were ordered back by another MP The young marine said he remarked to a friend, "There'll come a day."

After being upbraided by the MP for saying this, Davies charged he was ordered off the bus, but before he could alight three other MP's roughly pulled him to the ground. A regulation pocket knife was taken from his pocket and he was told he'd be taught not to threaten "to cut up people in this city." Davies denied he said that.

The young marine complained he was lined up against a wall and set upon by the three MP's who beat him across the head, face and body, until several Negro MP's arrived. Davies said he pleaded with the colored MP's to save him from further mistreatment but all they did was push back a crowd which had gathered.

Davies said he was then placed in a truck and the other soldiers ordered off the bus amid profane language of the white MP's. Another bus was summoned for their transportation and he was told to get on it also and "be damned careful how you act if you ever come to this town again."

47d-1943

WCCDE

IN THE FIGHT FOR JOB RIGHT

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

MAY 29 1943

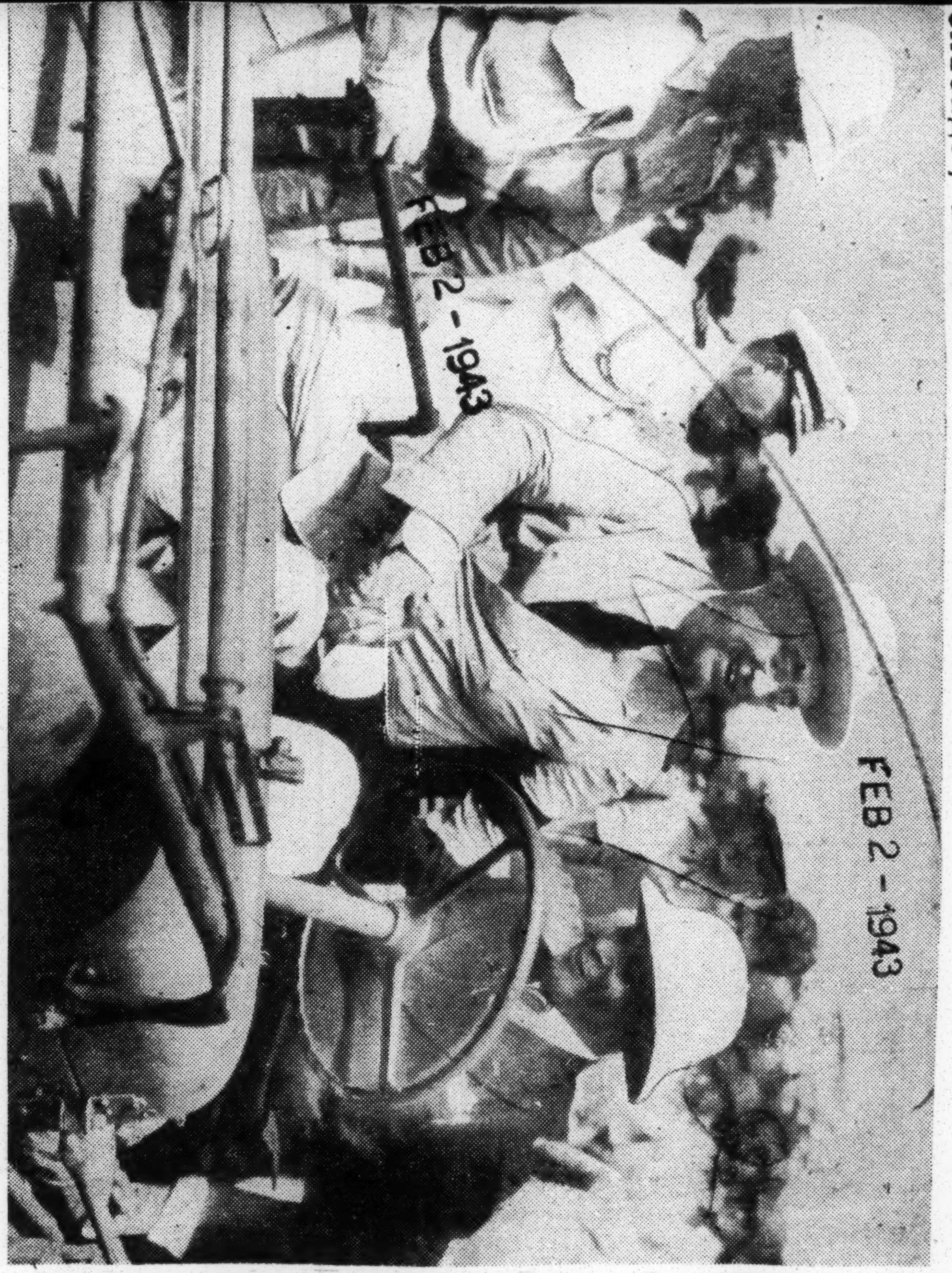
The new War Council's Committee on Discrimination in Employment knows what it is fighting for, and is set up in a manner to prove that the law can be followed and all men, regardless of race, creed or color, can work together.

Starting out practicing what it preaches, the committee is headed by a Negro, Charles C. Berkeley as executive director. Backed by his own personal determination, Bernard Gittleson, statistical analyst, shown with him here, and the laws of the state, Berkeley is doing a commendable job for democracy for all minority groups.—(Photo by Billy Rowe).

WCCDE

MAY 29 1943

47e-1943
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois


FEB 2 - 1943

FEB 2 - 1943

[Associated Press Wirephoto: From United States Army Air Forces; released by OWI.]

President Roosevelt clasping the hand of President Edwin Barclay of Liberia as the two met in an army jeep during Mr. Roosevelt's visit to the African republic.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
January 30, 1943

Roosevelt Host

RETURNING from the historic Casablanca conference, President Roosevelt paused in Liberia to pay his respects to President Edwin Barclay (above), and to review American Negro troops stationed in that country, which was founded in 1822 by Negro slaves set free in the United States. Thursday (Jan. 28) President Roosevelt conferred with President Getulio Vargas of Brazil, at Natal. Never before in wartime, had an American president greeted a chief executive of a foreign country in the latter's homeland.

Dothan, Ala., Eagle
January 29, 1943

ANOTHER POP CALL

President Roosevelt wasn't satisfied with startling the entire world by flying to Casablanca, North Africa, for a war-time conference with Prime Minister Churchill and other United Nations leaders. On the return trip he decided to have a look at the Negro Republic of Liberia, where American Negro troops are based, and then flit across the South Atlantic to Brazil for a talkfest with that nation's president.

Thus, before returning to Washington to put into action the decisions arrived at Casablanca, the American President will have had his finger on the pulse of many peoples, not all of whom have the same degree of interest in this war and its outcome as those of the United States and Britain. While war-time travel by military plane is not the safest form of transportation for a U. S. President to use, the risks which he has taken will likely be well worth while.

Certainly he will be in better position to see the African, the French and the Brazilian points of view upon his return to the White House than he would have been had he stayed at home and let Mrs. Roosevelt do the family traveling.

Knowledge of what our Allies are doing and thinking is essential to the successful prosecution of the war and to a reasonable settlement of international differences after hostilities have ended. No other American President has had Mr. Roosevelt's opportunities to develop a global outlook from personal observation and to understand fully the important part this nation must play in the post war world. His industriousness and scorn of personal danger will undoubtedly pay handsome dividends in the days ahead.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

ANOTHER FIRST FOR F.D.R.!

President Roosevelt has shattered every precedent surrounding a ruler of a powerful state and he scored again on historic meeting with Liberian President Barclay. On that occasion President Roosevelt reviewed the famous 41st "Singing" Engineers. This marks the second time he has reviewed this crack outfit. First time was in March, 1941, when the unit was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and on that occasion he called Warrant Officer John Brice, bandmaster, out of line to congratulate him on his fine musicians. This is the first time an American President has reviewed the same regiment twice during war time.

FEB 6 - 1943

NEGROES FINISH FROM WASHINGTON AND LEE

MAR 13 1943

Pittsburgh Pa. Pittsburgh Courier

LEXINGTON, Va., Mar. 11—History will be made Saturday when, for the first time, four Negroes—the first to ever attend a major white college in the South—will walk up to the podium in the historic Robert E. Lee chapel of Washington and Lee university to receive their diplomas.

They are members of the ninth graduating class of the Army's School for Special Service Officers.

The officers—Lts. William Neal Brown of Aliquippa, Pa.; Clarence E. Jacobs of Atlantic City, N. J.; Edward Strawther of Mercersburg, Pa., and Harold Jennifer of Washington, D. C.—represent two branches of the service, Air Force and Infantry, and have been attending the old Virginia college and living on the campus along with their fellow white officers.

MEMBER OF AIR FORCE

Lt. Brown, Air Force officer, was sent to the school from Jefferson Barracks, Mo. He is also a graduate of Hampton and the Air Force Officer Candidate school at Miami Beach, Fla.

MAR 13 1943

Lt. Jacobs is an Infantry officer and was sent to the school from the 93rd Division at Fort Huachuca. At W. & L. he played in the Battalion band.

MAR 13 1943

ATHLETES

Lt. Strawther hailed from the famous 25th Infantry, 93rd Division, and, being an all-around athlete, was active in the athletic program of the Army Special Service school.

Lt. Jennifer also comes from Fort Huachuca, where he was director of the special training unit for the educationally underprivileged. He attended Springfield college, where he starred on the basketball team.

Col. Leon T. Davis, commandant of the school, revealed that all the men made commendable records at W. & L. and their instructors were well pleased with their work.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Guest In White House

Protocol officers of the State Department are already worried over how they will make up a dinner list for entertainment of the President of the Negro republic of Liberia. President Barclay, descendant of a Kentucky slave, is now scheduled to arrive in Washington the last of May.

APR 17 1943

He has been personally invited by President Roosevelt, and as a chief of state he will be entitled to the same 21-gun salute and the same White House entertainment as the King of England, the President of Chile, or any other president.

He will spend a night at the White House, where the President and Mrs. Roosevelt will entertain for him at dinner. Thereafter he will reside at the famous Blair Mansion, now reserved for foreign dignitaries.

This is by far the greatest distinction ever accorded to a negro in this capital. Teddy Roosevelt created a sensation when he entertained Booker T. Washington at lunch. President Hoover caused a terrific furor when he planned to invite Oscar De Priest, the lone negro congressman, from Chicago, to a White House reception. Last year, President Roosevelt informally entertained President Lescot of Haiti at a White House lunch with no serious repercussions.

What worries the State Department is that a number of the officials who normally would be invited to dine with the President of Liberia are from parts of the country where there is a strict color line. Senator Tom Connally of Texas, chairman of Foreign Relations; Sam Rayburn of Texas, Speaker of the House, and Senate Leader Barkley of Kentucky are on the list to be invited.

Warship Named for Negro

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Associated Press WIREPHOTO

SPONSORED BY MOTHER—Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Tex., holds bottle prior to launching of the destroyer escort Harmon at the Fore River, Mass., yard of Bethlehem Steel Co. Sunday. The vessel was named in honor of her son, Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant first class, U. S. N., who was killed in action during the battle of Guadalcanal. It is the first United States warship named in honor of a Negro

JUL 27 1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

LIEUT. CHARLES B. HALL, (above) of Brazil, Ind., a former student at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, is credited as the first American Negro pilot to destroy an enemy plane in combat. Flying a P-40 Warhawk in a squadron escorting Mitchell bombers attacking Castelvetrano Field in Sicily, Hall shot down a German fighter in a group of 20 that tore into the Allied formation.

Time
Chicago, Illinois

Gabriel Benzu

LIEUT. COLONEL DAVIS
Squadron specialty: marksmanship.

First Time

The first Negro fighter squadron in the Army Air Forces has seen action. This week Allied Headquarters in North Africa announced that among those present for the bombardment of Pantelleria was the outfit which began training at Tuskegee Institute (Ala.) in July 1941.

Between then and Pantelleria, the squadron had been the subject of many a row over its segregation from white outfits. Its officers, headed by the C.O., slim, tea-colored Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., joined in none of the debate, plugged hard and long at their training. By the time West Pointer Davis led his P-40s into battle, white airmen were ready to admit that the outfit was good, that in aerial marksmanship (at which it had had an unusual amount of tra[illegible] it was one of the best.

JUN 2 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Chicago Greets First Colored Member of RAF

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — An enthusiastic and appreciative group of citizens last week gathered around Gordon Stanley Dove, 22-year-old member of the world famous Royal Air force of Great Britain, and first colored member to visit Chicago as he proudly related the fact that the RAF recognized no color distinctions.

Dove, an RAF student-pilot, assigned to the air corps, known as the "LAC", is in the city on furlough and will next week return to his duties at the British-Canadian Training Scheme, located in northern Canada. He will be prepared for combat duties after another three months training.

Dove is a real Englander; born in London where, prior to the war, he lived with his family. His father, an official of the British Aluminum Mines campany, was born in Sierra Leone, British West Africa. His mother is a native Englishwoman.

Student-pilot Dove said there are Negro combat pilots and crew members of the British flying planes. Many of the ground crews who service and maintain the combat units are also Negroes, he states, and all have a high rating for efficiency and discipline

He was given a warm welcome at the loop USO center, and officials of Service Men's Center No. 3 and the women's committee, headed by Mrs. Marjorie Stewart Joyner, have arranged several affairs in his honor.

MAY 28 1943

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with the armed forces.

War Stamp sales at Lincoln High along with bond sales, have totaled $628.70 so far this week, while at Parker High, sales of the securities during the campaign have already aggregated $6200.

PLANE TO BEAR NEGRO'S NAME

Birmingham, Ala.

The 'Julius Ellsberry' To Be Dedicated At Ceremony Here Oct. 6

Birmingham Post

Oct. 6 is the date set for christening of a great Liberator bomber honoring Julius Ellsberry, Negro who was the first Jefferson County man to be sacrificed in the Jap attack on Pearl Harbor, it was announced today. The bomber will be christened at Bechtel-McCone-Parsons modification plant.

The plane will be dedicated by Florence Ellsberry, the mother of Julius, according to plans announced by A. G. Gaston, bomber chairman for the Negro division of the drive, has already swept past the $300,000 goal of Jefferson's Negro citizens.

Bond sales continue to mount in the Negro drive, as pleas continue for "bombs for our bomber." Lula Howe, widow, 70-year-old Bessemer resident, yesterday bought a bond with a prayer for a short war. She has two sons somewhere in Africa

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69-YEAR-OLD SOLDIER SERVED IN TWO WARS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CAMP CARSON, Col., Aug. 12—Emil (Kid Happy) Senter isn't in the Army any more.

But Senter has done his part, having seen service in three wars, and he received his discharge only after serving in World War II as probably the oldest man drafted for the armed forces under the selective service act.

Senter registered in Memphis, Tenn., and gave his age as 40 because he had been working a river boat where 40 years was maximum for employment. Actually, Senter is 69, according to the Helena, Ark., World, his home town paper.

STILL TAGGED AS 40

Still tagged as 40 years of age, Senter was called up by his draft board, passed his physical examination with flying colors and was inducted at Camp Robinson. Forthwith he was sent to Camp Carson, where he served with troops until not so long ago.

Senter was in Louisiana when he joined the service for the Spanish-American war. He was living at Helena when he went off to fight in World War I.

An old-time fighter, Senter is now working in a Helena restaurant. His age on the Army records is still 40, and Senter says he'll never ask to have it changed, because he wouldn't mind a bit serving his country in three wars.

47e-1943

Noble Sissle *Tells*

"Why We Should Give All In This Titantic Fight For '4 Freedoms'"

Bee (Magazine Section)
Chicago. Ill.

AUG 29 1943

For the Associated Negro Press.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Noble Sissle, famous orchestra leader, writes a second article for the Associated Negro Press recounting his experiences in World War I., when he was a second lieutenant in the renowned 369th Infantry regiment of New York.)

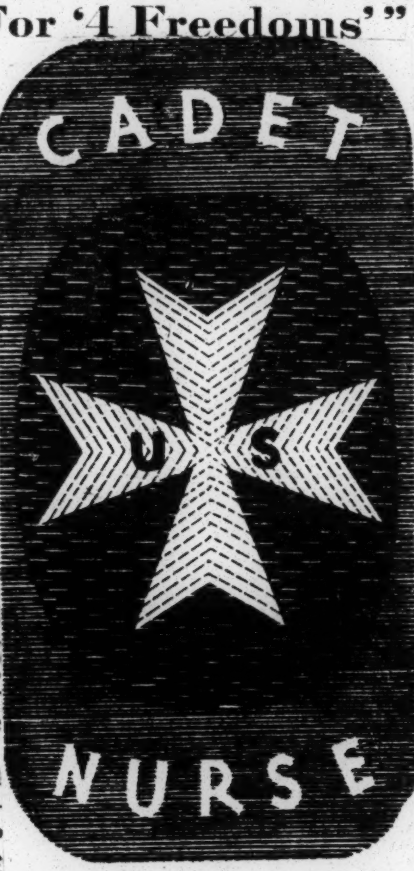
(Continued From Last Week)

INSTALLMENT II.

My faith in the masses of white people is based on my experience before, during, and after World War I. Facts and changes that we prayed, worked, struggled, and fought for, but that I, personally, never thought I'd live to see have come to pass.

I was in college in 1914 and left to join the vanguard of Negro musicians and singers who came to New York City at the solicitation of James Reese (Jim), Europe. Many of the lucrative positions followed the successful introduction of his creative rhythms that have proven to be the very foundation upon which the American expression of dance was built. I came in when the American "400" commanded Negro musicians and put aside their gavottes, schottisches, lancers, and popular court dances of European pattern to create and popularize our [illegible] Step," "Castle Walk" and the "Fox Trot." These immediately supplanted all other dances and now form the base of American dance expression.

I saw American Negro musicians supplant European musicians in every seaboard society rendezvous from the exclusive Royal Poincianna hotel in Palm Beach, Fla., to the Copley Plaza hotel in Boston. Broadway found its true self. It was a gay, dancing, mad, festive crowd that danced to Negro jazz orchestras at "Churchills," "Recotrs," "Murrays," "Castle in the Air," "Ziegfield Midnight Follies," all the way up Broadway to Healy's at 66th street. Negro musicians played in the drawing-rooms of Park avenue, on the lawns at Long Island, on the decks of swanky yachts at Newport, breakfast dances, luncheon dances, tea dances, dinner dances and supper dances, until dawn just to start all over again. I was in the middle of that renaissance, I saw it with my two eyes. There were no radios to blast it, it happened mostly behind exclusive society walls.



The insignia of the new U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps, U. S. Public Health Service. It will be worn on the upper left sleeve of the Cadet Corps Uniform.

That same Jim Europe, the first undisputed king of jazz, at the outbreak of World War I, became Lt. Jim Europe and with his band in France, led our regiment (369th Inf.) literally fox-trotting down into the front line trenches. That was in February, 1918. We were the first American Negroes in the line of combat there, and among the first 25,000 Yanks in action. Lt. Europe was the first Negro officer to command troops in action on the western front, and was the first lieutenant in charge of the machine gun company. (I was in the middle of that, too.)

History was in the making in February, 1918, when our brown boys danced up to those lines to become part of the French 165th division of Gen. Gouroud's IV French army, a green national guard outfit. No one had the remotest idea that as a regiment of that historical epic-making, victorious army, that we, after having won every citation of the French army, finally were to be given the coveted honor of all the allied army—that of being the first of the entire allied armies to place foot on the banks of the Rhine.

That was no accident. Gen. Henri Gouroud did it deliberately. His army, of which we were a part, crushed, nearly depleted by 191 days of continuous fighting, at the end found his weary troops at the eastern pivot of the allies. This position put his army nearest the Rhine. As the general neared the coveted goal where, after four years of bitter bloodshed, the allies finally pushed the Germans, [illegible] Gouroud, out of appreciation to our regiment, who had fought it through with his French army isolated from our American army, made our regiment the advance guard of his army which automatically made us the first to the Rhine. From Harlem to the Rhine!

Oh, but brothers, the most pleasant tour of our entire two years' service in the army, strange to say, was that 191 days spent with our French comrades in the shadow of death. But we, and the 370th, 371st, and 372nd, all colored outfits who had also joined the IV French army after our experimental success, proved to be so valiant, it won for the American Negro soldier an undisputed claim to glory, and for the race a right for the fruits of victory, the fruits our colored leaders claimed for us when the peace was declared.

If you think the training periods of these four regiments preparing for the front line action which finally followed was a flowery bed of ease, I can only tell you that it was all you are going through and worse. Everything in the world was done to discourage and [illegible] us noncombatant, but we made it.

Ever since the Civil war, the chief personnel of our armed forces has been top-heavy with southerners. The south has never forgiven the north for freeing the Negro slaves. Even in times of national emergency, such as now, northern whites and southern whites cannot come together without again fighting the Civil war. It takes no far stretch of imagination to realize the predicament of the Negro soldier. But never before, as today, has the white public become aroused to the injustices done to you as soldiers and to us as a race in general. We have, today, more mass expression than ever before about racial discrimination by both white and colored races. This expression is a steady development growing out of the Negroes' participation in the last war.

It was given its greatest impetus, I might say birth, by an incident in which I was personally involved and which made me forget forever the kick in my army pants the "gentleman" from the south gave me in Spartanburg, S. C., in November, 1917. The kick in the pants, that the boys of the 369th used to say, "kicked our regiment to France." We landed in France a single regiment and it looked as though we would have to guard American supplies instead of fighting.

When Col. Hayward, our commanding officer, was offered the chance to join the French fighting forces, every man in the regiment welcomed the chance. And the French army in that war was a terrific fighting machine. Especially Gen. Henri Gouroud's IV French army. So we gladly threw those picks and spades down in St. Nazairre where our whole regiment was working on [illegible] dam the American engineers were building, but reluctantly laid aside our Springfield rifles for what our boys used to call the French "pea shooters" rifle. That was made necessary because moving as part of the French army and using their supplies, we could not be supplied with American ammunition for our rifles, because in battle you may have to grab a clip of bullets off a fallen comrade to keep going.

Anyhow, so equipped, we were holding down a battalion front which meant one battalion in front line, the second in support, and the third in rest. I was with [illegible] regimental headquarters which was about two miles from the front line.

The band was there and my duties as top sergeant also gave me automatically position of drum major of the band, and with the little voice that was still left in me still after an attack, I would raise it every now and then as soloist with the band. Our band that Jim Europe had formed was always called out to entertain any prominent guest. Well, an order came from the colonel to have the band in front of his headquarters at eight o'clock that night to give a concert for the American correspondent, Irving Cobb.

We all loved our colonel and had seen how, in first one situation after the other, he had used the band and our entertainers to soften up racial situations, and we were always willing to answer gladly any extra call outside the line of duty. It could be hardly called a line of duty and certainly giving a concert at night out in the open beneath the bright moon shining in a star-lit, cloudless sky with enemy airplanes droning overhead and screaming shells from our heavy artillery over behind a near-by hill, and the whistle of the big ones the Germans were lobbying over our heads trying to hit an ammunition dump.

And this call was all the more unpleasant when our guest was, from a Negro standpoint, just about as well liked as a poisonous snake. Irving Cobb, throughout his newspaper career until that night in France, would go out of his way in his articles just to say about the most despicable, insulting things he could say about the Negro and every one of us knew it.

Well, my father was a minister and I had been brought up around the altar of his church. As a boy I used to sing at his evangelistic services and have helped to sing many a soul out of darkness into the light of salvation. All through my entertainment career, I have seen miracles performed with music. To me, Irving Cobb, was another cold-hearted sinner. I was willing to try out the colonel's strategy. I knew what his purpose was and when Jim Europe was up front with his machine gun company, I was always in charge of the band on such occasions.

First, the band played a few selections, including a French march and then the quartet sang a few numbers. We knew Mr. Cobb had been up front all day watching our boys in line and seeing how happy they were going about their assignments to duty. Black Americans fighting the white man's battle to keep the white man on top and push the Negro farther down. That thought and the injustice of it all seemed to have hit his heart. I'd been watching his facial expressions in the bright [illegible] the moon. He was a different Cobb.

The light in the eyes of that man who had been so ruthless with his "poison pen" a few months before, had changed. I whispered to Bandmaster Mikell, to play a selection of "Plantation Echoes," which was a medley of southern songs. I felt our subject was in a weakened position and that his heart was softening, that his soul had been touched with the whole day's panorama that was rushing through his mind. He was ready for the kill.

The strains of "Kentucky Home," played by the black boys from his country, lit a spark and then the tempo of the piece slowed down, and with a silent prayer for divine power, I picked up my cue and with the clarinet and brass choir accompaniment, I closed my eyes and with all the soul that God gave me, with one supreme thought of melting the hard heart of this man before me that had done our race so much wrong, I swept into the melody of "Swanee River." Came the lines, "My soul grows weary, far from the old folks at home." The last note I took [illegible] a falsetto ending and as I was holding [illegible] and letting the volume fade in the quietness, and it really was quiet at that moment, it seemed every gun had ceased firing. And the only sound was that of a sob as though someone choked with emotions.

NEWS AT A GLANCE

ANOTHER BENEFIT OF THIS WAR WILL BE A DECLINE OF THE COLOR LINE

Christian Recorder

[illegible] ROGERS

Philadelphia, Pa.

DEC 23 1943

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Last week I wrote on the benefits of the war to the American Negro and said that while racial troubles had increased in certain quarters I felt that racial harmony, or steps toward it, had gained generally. This week I shall speak of the benefits of the war, interracially. Of course, as I said, it cuts across the grain of common sense to speak of the benefits of war—the most stupid, debased and insane of all man's undertakings. War, in its final analysis, brings not one single benefit that peace could not.

If war could settle anything, the Europeans ought to be living like lambs in the fold. Since the first Punic War of 260 B.C., Europe has had 2.200 years of war. As for Germany and France, Julius Caesar found that in 72 B.C., the Germans had crossed the Rhine and were attacking Alsace. Since then this territory has been swinging back and forth between the two. Some now living has seen it changed three times: in 1871, 1918, 1940, with most likely a fourth in 1944.

Some Left-Hand Benefits of War

However, there are certain left-hand benefits of war. For instance, when two rival gangs of hoodlums start cancelling one another, as did Murder. Inc., of New York, the citizens, their common victims, do benefit. The same is true when rival economic systems start destroying one another as in this war. In such a case, the victims, the darker races, and the smaller white nations do benefit.

Now I am not saying that the darker races would be any better off it they were in power. They weren't when they were. After all it is not color.

but human psychology, and the greed in it, that is at fault. The Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Moslems, Portuguese, and Spaniards had no color-line because they started much too racially mixed for that. But they had other means of exploiting the weak. The Romans had very strong class lines. A slave, no matter what his color, was a slave. A Roman, who [illegible] black, was superior [illegible] Roman, who was white. In Spain and Portugal, the barrier was religion. The man, white or black, who was not Christian and Catholic was "inferior."

Rise of Color

However, Northern Europe, which as late as 1200 A. D., was not as far advanced as say the Basutos of South Africa are now, began slowly to take the lead. Note that this was destiny. Civilization had been working its way westward for 3,000 years and Northern Europe's time had come to plague the world as Rome and the rest had done. Note, too, that by this time, the dark-skinned elements in Northern Europe had been almost bred out, leaving it so-salled white.

It was th[illegible]lor [illegible] humanity that rose to power soon after the discovery of the New World, at which time the present world development really began. Since most of the rest of humanity was dark, the white skin could be used as a symbol to exploit the rest. was actually a gift from God because in lands, as say Russia and Poland, where a people like the Jews were also white, some mark had to be worn on the clothes to distinguished them. On the other hand, the black man's color was fixed. In the natural process it would take a hundred thousand years to change. Yes, it was a gift.

Nothing to Gain From Race War

And so a color caste; which had all the fanaticism of any religion you could name, arose to plague dark humanity. But just as there was a time when the white man was nothing at all and darker skinned man was everything, so now the [illegible]m is swinging back again.

And [illegible] is this being brought about? White superiority, breaker of the moral law, is cancelling itself just as common gangsters do. The last war was the result of rivalry between England and Germany for world markets, chiefly the untapped resources of Africa. The issues of this war are too many to be thus summarized, but here again we find the big white powers engaged in cancelling their own power. And already there is even talk of a third war to settle the race problem. But, for my part, I do hope that the wiser heads of England and the United States the chief promoters of a color line—because Hitler will be soon out of the way—will see that they have nothing to gain and everything to lose by continuing thus.

Slaves Rose to be Emperors

In any case, we are slowly but surely getting back to the days of ancient Rome, Greece and Islam, when a man was a man, and worth, not color, counted most. In Rome, while a slave was hardly better than a dog, slaves sometimes rose to be emperors. In Catholic Spain and Portugal, a Moslem or a Jew could change his religion and get an opportunity. But white civilization insists you much change your color, which is impossible.

Surely, the color-line, the world's greatest idiocy, cannot survive, but must fall sooner or later.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

Journal and Guide

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Norfolk, Virginia

Virginia Negro Soldiers and Seamen In The American Revolution

AUG 21 1943

47e

NEWS FROM the war front concerning the deeds of heroism of our boys in Sicily and in the Mediterranean reminds us that [illegible] deeds have been performed in all the [illegible] of our history. One of the states of the young republic which had many Negro soldiers and seamen to enlist in the American Revolution and to render a good account of themselves was Virginia.

DR. JACKSON

As soldiers they were members of the continental line and fought all over the country; as seamen they were enrolled in the state navy and fought in Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. As spies in either service and as pilots in the Navy, certain individuals so distinguished themselves that Washington and other commanders praised them highly for their contribution to the cause of independence.

ATTAINED DISTINCTION

Some of the Virginia Negro soldiers participated in many battles and incurred all the hardships of warfare. Shadrack Battle of Albemarle County served three years and fought in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and Savannah; Sylvester Beverly of Franklin County served throughout the war and fought in such engagements as Monmouth, Stony Point, Paulus Hook, Guilford Court House, and Yorktown.

Anthony Chavis of Mecklenburg not only served under Washington at Brandywine and Yorktown, but also under LaFayette and General Greene in the Southern theatre. William Flora of Portsmouth likewise fought throughout the war in many battles, and attained particular distinction in the battle of Great Bridge near his home in Norfolk County.

In the state navy Negro seamen fought in fairly large numbers on such vessels as the "Patriot," the "Liberty," the "Tempest," the "Gloucester," the "Hero," the "Dragon," the "Diligence," and the "Northampton." Serving as pilots on one or more of these armed vessels were Minny, Cuffee, "Captain" Starlins, and Caesar Tarrant. Serving as a boatswain's mate on the "Northampton" was James Thomas of Norfolk; and on the "Hero" as a gunner's mate was James Sorrell of Northumberland. On the "Diligence" was a Negro drummer, Nimrod Perkins, of Accomac County.

SERVED IN VIRGINIA NAVY

Scattered on several vessels of the Virginia navy were eight members of the present day Nickens family of Lancaster and Northumberland counties in the Northern Neck. Probably because of their previous experience as sailors on the Rappahannock and Potomac rivers, a considerable number of Negroes of this section of Virginia fought on the vessels of the fleets of these rivers.

Some of the Negro seamen were killed or wounded in action. Cuffee, the slave pilot died from injuries received in service; Aaron Weaver of Northumberland received two dangerous wounds in an engagement at the mouth of the York River, and Joseph Ranger of Elizabeth City was with the "Jefferson" when it was blown up by the British on the James River. Ranger was taken prisoner with the rest of his crew shortly before Cornwallis' surrender.

Some of these soldiers and seamen made distinguished records and were rewarded for their acts of bravery. "Captain" Starlins, a slave and a full blooded African, who was trained as a pilot from his youth, led the crew of the "Patriot" in an attack on a British sloop in the James River; and Caesar Tarrant, the pilot, and slave of the town of Hampton, "behaved gallantly" in steering his vessels during an engagement with the British south of the Virginia capes.

AIDED LAFAYETTE EXPLOITS

The exploits of LaFayette in Virginia were [illegible] easier [illegible] military secrets furnished [illegible] by James, a slave of New Kent County; and in like manner Saul Mathews of Norfolk County again and again entered the British lines to get secrets for General Greene, Muhlenburg, and other commanders. The distinguished record of Joseph Ranger of Elizabeth City was one of length of service. He enlisted in 1776 from Northumberland County and continued in service all through the war and afterwards until the State disposed of its last vessel in 1787.

The American Revolution was a struggle to perpetuate democracy, a form of life and government which the British were then seeking to crush. In the American struggle to preserve this principle the Virginia Negro soldiers and seamen, like the same warriors in other states, thus made a valuable contribution.

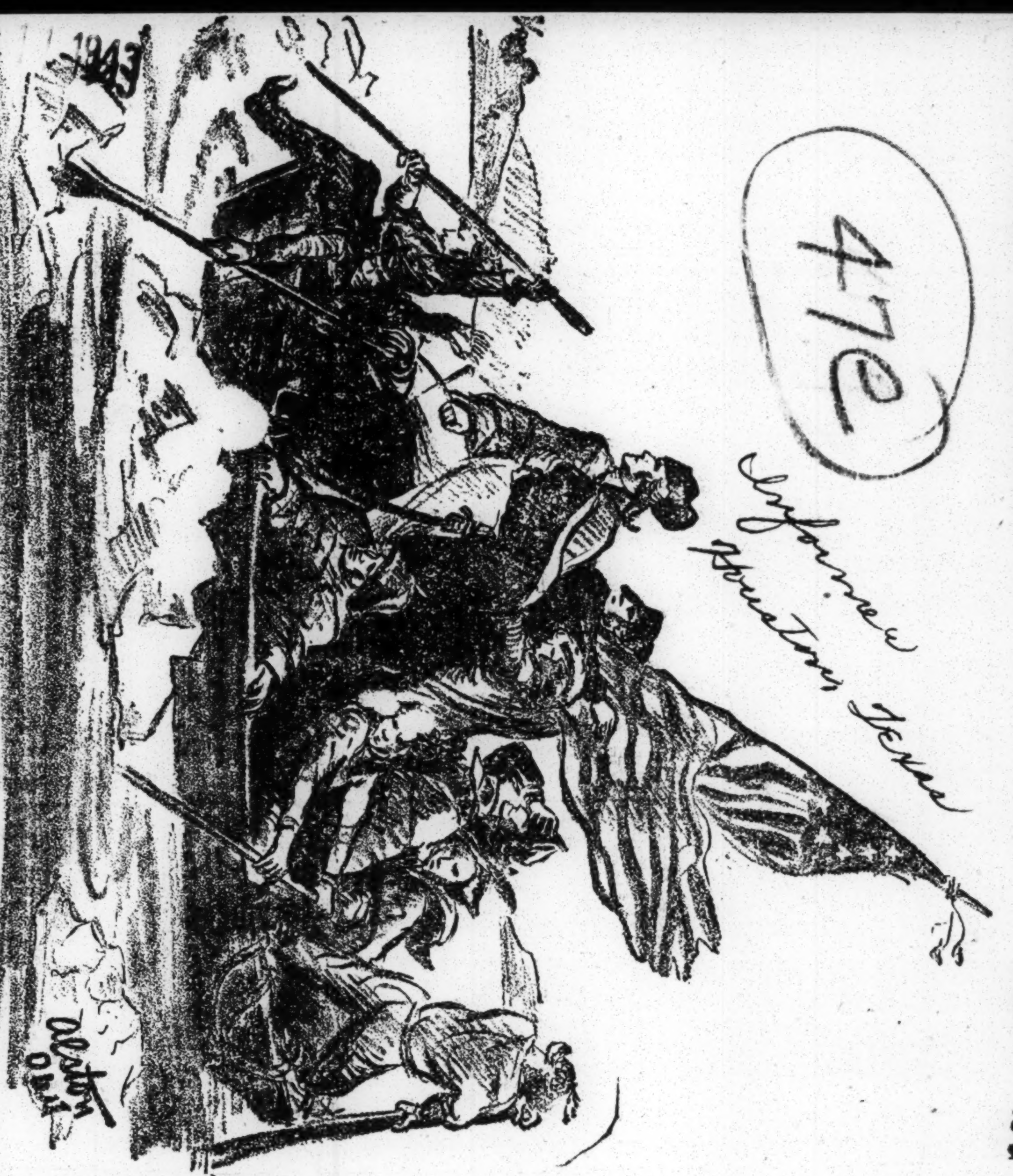
Just as they are helping to preserve it [illegible] in Sicily and many other fronts, so have they always been fighters for liberty and democracy.

47e-1943
"A NEGRO CROSSED THE DELAWARE
WITH GEORGE WASHINGTON"

SEP 11 194

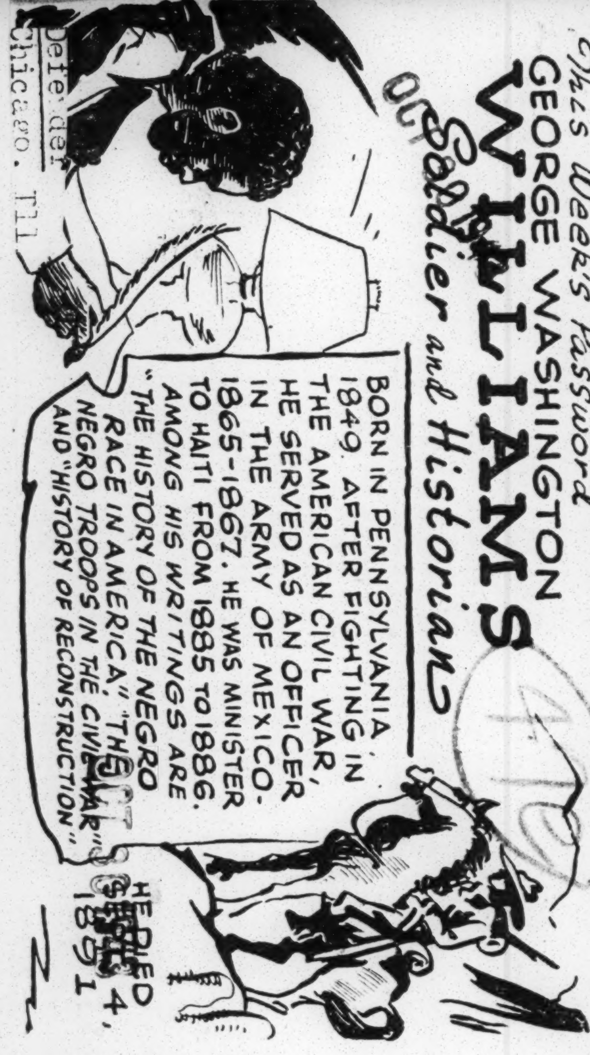
47e

Informer
Houston, Texas



"—AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR LIBERTY!"

1943



This Week's Password
GEORGE WASHINGTON
WILLIAMS
Soldier and Historian

BORN IN PENNSYLVANIA, 1849. AFTER FIGHTING IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR, HE SERVED AS AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY OF MEXICO. 1865-1867. HE WAS MINISTER TO HAITI FROM 1885 TO 1886. AMONG HIS WRITINGS ARE "THE HISTORY OF THE NEGRO RACE IN AMERICA", "THE NEGRO TROOPS IN THE CIVIL WAR" AND "HISTORY OF RECONSTRUCTION"

HE DIED AUG. 4, 1891

OCT 1943

Defender
Chicago. Ill

47e

AWARDS OF THE

Congressional Medal Of Honor - 1862 - 1926

Informer
Houston, Texas

(Awarded for conspicuous gallantry and interpdity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy)

DEC 11 1943

NAME	ORGANIZATION	YEAR	PLACE OF ACHIEVEMENT
Sgt. Edward L. Baker, Jr.	10th U. S. Calvary	1898	Santiago, Cuba
Pvt. William H. Barnes	38th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
1st Sgt. Powhatan Beaty	5th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Pvt. Dennis Bell	10th U. S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Sgt. Thomas Boyne	9th U. S. Cavalry	1879	Mimbres, Mountains, N. Mex.
1st Sgt. James H. Bronson	5th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Sgt. William H. Carney	54th Mass. Colored Inf.	1863	Fort Wagner, S. C.
Sgt. John Denny	9th U. S. Cavalry	1879	Las Animas Canyon, N. Mex.
Sgt. Decatur Dorsey	39th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Petersburg, Va.
Sgt. Christian A. Fleetwood	4th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Pvt. James Gardiner	36th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Sgt. James H. Harris	38th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	New Market Heights, Va.
Sgt. Thomas Hawkins	6th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Deep Bottom, Va.
Sgt. Alfred B. Hilton	4th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Sgt. Milton M. Holland	5th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Cpl. Miles James	36th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Sgt. Henry Johnson	9th U. S. Cavalry	1879	Milk River, Colo.
Sgt. George Jordan	9th U. S. Cavalry	1880-1881	Fort Tulerso, N. Mex., and Carizo Canyon, N. Mex.
1st Sgt. Alexander Kelly	6th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Pvt. Fitz Lee	10th U. S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Sgt. William McBryar	10th U. S. Cavalry	1890	Arizona
1st Sgt. Robert Pinn	5th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Sgt. Thomas Shaw	9th U. S. Cavalry	1881	Carizo Canyon, N. Mex.
Sgt. Emanuel Stance	9th U. S. Cavalry	1870	Kickapoo Springs, Tex.
Pvt. William H. Thompkins	10th U. S. Cavalry	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
Pvt. Charles Veal	4th U. S. Colored Troops	1864	Near Richmond, Va.
Pvt Augustus Walley	9th U. S. Colored Troops	1881	Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. Mex.
Pvt. George H. Wanton	10th U. S. Colored Troops	1898	Tayabacoa, Cuba
1st Sgt. Moses Williams	9th U. S. Cavalry	1881	Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N. Mex.
Cpl. William O. Wilson	9th U. S. Cavalry	1890	Sioux Campaign
Sgt. Brent Woods	9th U. S. Cavalry	1881	New Mexico

Informer Houston, Texas

47e

DEC

47e-1943

History Reveals Negro Is Good Military Man

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
December 5, 1943

Race Has Proven Ability From Colonial Wars To World War II

By CHRISTOPHER CRITTENDEN AND ELLEN M. ROLLINS

RALEIGH, Dec. 4.—Nobody can deny that negroes will fight. Their military tradition is older than the American nation.

Records of fighting negroes date far back into the colonial period. As early as 1652 negroes trained in the Virginia militia and later they fought in the French and Indian war. Crispus Attucks, mulatto, was one of the first to fall at the notorious Boston massacre (1770).

In the Revolution, free negroes enlisted and served in the forces of nearly all the 13 colonies. Black Peter Salem, a slave, was the subject of a memorial to the General Court of Massachusetts for his soldierly bearing and bravery at the Battle of Bunker Hill (1775), where he killed British Maj. Pitcairn. At the Battle of Rhode Island (1778) a battalion of 400 negroes withstood three separate charges from 1,500 Hessian soldiers, and distinguished themselves with "deeds of desperate valor."

Negroes helped man our victorious ships in the War of 1812, constituting no less than one-sixth of our entire naval force. At the Battle of New Orleans negroes won commendation from Gen. Andrew Jackson for their bravery.

But it was in the Civil war that negroes first played a major part. More than 82,000 northern negroes and 125,000 negroes from the slave states served in the Union army. They fought in 450 battles and 37,000 of them were killed in action. Even the Southern Confederacy was forced to approve the drafting of slaves for its army. After a great deal of discussion, the Confederate congress early in 1865 passed a bill authorizing the president to call for as many as 300,000 slaves to serve as soldiers. A few companies were organized, but the war came to a close before a single negro soldier had fired a shot for the Confederacy. But some 20,000 slaves were conscripted for labor by the Confederacy, and they rendered valuable service in factories, and on farms and fortifications.

Spanish-American War

At the opening of the Spanish-American war (1898), there were four regiments of negro soldiers in the regular army, and all of these saw service in Cuba. In addition, a number of volunteer units, the seventh, eighth, ninth and 10th U. S. volunteers, also took part in the fighting (but none of these was from south of the Mason-Dixon line). Though there were negro line officers, no high commissions were held by negroes.

Raleigh N. C. News & Observer
December 5,

Record of Negroes Good In Nation's Army, Navy

Negroes Have Fought in All the Nation's Wars Since Early Colonial Days

By CHRISTOPHER CRITTENDEN and ELLEN M. ROLLINS.

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Fought In Navy.

Negroes helped man our victorious ships in the War of 1812, constituting no less than one-sixth of our entire naval force. At the Battle of New Orleans Negroes won commendation from General Andrew Jackson for their bravery.

But it was in the War for Southern Independence that Negroes first played a major part. More than 82,000 Northern Negroes and 125,000 Negroes from the slave states served in the Union army. They fought in 450 battles and 37,000 of them were killed in action. Even the Southern Confederacy was forced to approve the drafting of slaves for its army. After a great deal of discussion, the Confederate Congress early in 1865 authorizing the President to call for as many as 300,000 slaves to serve as soldiers. A few companies were organized. but the war came to a close before a single Negro soldier had fired a shot for the Confederacy.

But some 20,000 slaves were conscripted for labor by the Confederacy, and they rendered valuable service in factories, and on farms and fortifications.

At the opening of the Spanish-American War (1898), there were four regiments of Negro soldiers in the regular army, and all of these saw service in Cuba. In addition, a number of volunteer units, the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th U. S. Volunteers, also took part in the fighting (but none of these was from south of the Mason-Dixon Line). Though there were Negro line officers, no high commissions were held by Negroes.

Fine Record.

But in the First World War it was different. A special camp for training Negro officers was established at Des Moines, Iowa, and during the conflict some 1,400 Negroes were commissioned. Under the draft, a total of 2,290,527 Negroes registered for military service, and the per cent of those rejected was only 25.40, as compared to 29.59 for whites. The total number of Negroes mobilized for military service was about 380,000, including the four Negro regiments of the regular Army and a number of National Guard units.

The record made by Negroes in World War I was admirable. General Crowder, in his report for 1918 commented: "One of the brightest chapters in the whole history of the war is the Negro's eager acceptance of the draft and his splendid willingness to fight." Two Negroes Henry Johnson and Needham Roberts, both of New York, were the first soldiers in the AEF to be decorated for bravery, and later many other individual feats of bravery were cited. The French even awarded the Croix de Guerre to four Negro regiments for heroism in action.

Then came demobilization, after which the peacetime Army again included only four Negro regiments, and with one exception all the officers were white. But with the setting up of a new national Army in 1940, the induction of Negroes was increased and at the end of 1941 almost 100,000 Negroes, comprising 20 regiments, were in uniform. The 1942 quota was set at 175,000, with the 1943 goal proportionately increased.

More Negro Officers.

The first regiment of Negro troops in the new army was the 41st Engineers under Lt. Col. John Elliott Wood, which trained at Fort Bragg. An increasing percentage of Negroes is being put into combat units and they are now admitted to all branches of the army. Their officers train at the regular OCS schools and there are now three times as many Negro officers as there were in World War I.

The Army Air Force opened a new door to Negroes in July, 1941 by establishing at Tuskeegee, Alabama, a school for Negro combat pilots. The 99th Fighter Squadron AAF, was the first all-Negro fighter outfit. Led by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., West Pointer, whose father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, is the only Negro general officer in the Army, this unit saw service in both Tunisia and Sicily, and was commended by the Secretary of War. Lt. Col. Davis has now returned to this country where he is preparing to head a Negro bomber squadron to be activated July 1, 1944.

Negroes have taken part in all the nation's wars. More than ever before they are helping to win this one.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Caesar Tarrant of Hampton, Virginia

ABANDONING for a time the subject of voting I return to the theme of the Negro soldier in the American Revolution. In this war for American independence a man of importance was the slave Caesar Tarrant of the town of Hampton, Virginia. Tarrant served his country as a pilot in the state navy, won his freedom from slavery for his skill in piloting, and later reared a family in Hampton, and bought property there. He died in 1798, fifteen years after ending his naval career in Chesapeake Bay and the surrounding waters of Virginia.

DR. JACKSON

Thirty years after his death Tarrant's daughter, Nancy, began her correspondence with the land office at Richmond in which she made a claim for a grant of land for her father's notable service, a claim which the authorities duly honored. This is the story, then, of a man and his family who rose to prominence on the strength of a war whose leaders proclaimed for all men the good fortune which befell Caesar Tarrant.

Our knowledge of Tarrant is not one based on tradition but on actual written records. In the state archives at Richmond today are the original papers dealing with the subject of his liberation from slavery; at the land office in Richmond is his original will drawn in 1797; and at the same office is the original correspondence of his daughter dealing with her efforts to get bounty land in Ohio then offered by Virginia to the heirs of the Revolutionary soldiers and seamen.

TRAINING IN GREAT DEMAND

This man derived his name from his master's Carter Tarrant of Hampton. Previous to his liberation he was known only as Caesar. Trained perhaps to a life at sea, as numerous other slaves were trained, Caesar found his training in great demand when the full force of the war came upon Virginia in 1776. Continental Congress at the time had regulations a plenty forbidding the enlistment of Negro slaves; but in the face of the increasing strength of the enemy, these orders then, as now, were gradually cancelled.

Caesar Tarrant piloted the armed vessels of Virginia throughout the period of the war. He engaged in many sea fights with British vessels in the vicinity of Hampton and Elizabeth City County. One of these engagements took place south of the Virginia capes. In this particular engagement an eye witness later testified that Tarrant steered well his vessel, the "Patriot," and "behaved gallantly" throughout the fight.

Following the practice of

liberating slaves who fought in time of war, and greatly appreciating the service of Caesar, the General Assembly of Virginia in 1789 passed an act to first purchase him from his mistress and then to set him free. From this time until his death, nine years later, Caesar Tarrant thus lived as a free Negro and a respected citizen of his community. Laboring probably as a skilled artisan he bought during this short period two or more pieces of property in Hampton.

PROVIDED FOR DAUGHTERS IN WILL

In his will this Revolutionary veteran made provision for his "loving wife." To her he gave his houses and lot, his household furniture, and all money then due to him. At this time he had two daughters, one a slave and the other a free person. Remembering each he provided that after the death of his wife the property should be sold with his free daughter Nancy receiving half the income, and his slave daughter Lidy receiving her freedom with the remaining half.

As the years passed Nancy never forgot the service of her father to the Revolution. Taking advantage of the liberality of Virginia and the United States in providing land for war veterans and their heirs, this woman succeeded in having a warrant issued to her on March 4, 1833 for a tract of land in Ohio embracing 2,666 2-3 acres. She thereby acquired the maximum amount of land granted to Virginia Negro veterans of the Revolution. Nancy Tarrant either moved to Ohio to occupy this big estate, or she sold it to another party and remained in Virginia.

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OPPORTUNITIES IN WAR TIME

Caesar Tarrant's career illustrates the possibilities opened to a suppressed people in time of war and the opportunity for even slaves to improve their condition. Starting life as a lowly bondman he ended life a well-to-do citizen. He was the first property-owning Negro citizen in the town of Hampton and a forerunner of the real estate enterprise manifest there today.

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

The story of the Negro's participation in the Second World War will have to be told by the Negroes themselves—if it is to be told at all. This has been obvious for a long time: ever since the Government began to prepare to enter the war shortly after the Hitler-Stalin pact loosed Nazi aggression upon the world.

The story so far has been largely shameful, a disgrace to the United States and a mockery of the principles thundered by "democratic" statesmen in Washington. Negroes who have volunteered or been called to the service of their country have been insulted, discriminated aga[illegible]nd segregated like social pariahs. Not only has this crime bee[illegible]tted [illegible]he responsible heads of the armed forces, but civilian agencies are equally guilty. In addition to being mistreated on buses, street cars, trains, and in public places, they have been given jim crow accommodations—often inadequate—by the USO, and their great contribution to the war effort has been passed over in silence by most of the white newspapers. The iniquities of the Army-Navy chiefs in this connection are well known to everyone who has regularly read Negro newspapers.

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Pittsburgh, Pa

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On the other hand, numerous instances have been brought to my attention where jim crowism has been given a setback—such as the officer training schools and the various service schools where Americans of all colors have been trained, fed and housed together. All this should be told in the story of the Negro in World War II, along with the more numerous instances of shameful treatment based on the color bar. The picture is not all bad by any means, and if there is to be a true story written, ALL sides will have to be told.

The story of the Negro in World War I was told largely by a half dozen men like Kelly Miller, Emmett J. Scott, Victor Daly and others. The majority of the ex-service men told their stories only verbally. The information given [illegible]ooks was statistically correct and the incidents related were true; but these [illegible]icles were, after all, the mere skeleton of the story. What is needed this time is the story told by the men themselves in their own words, with all the flesh and blood of feeling included, so that we shall have a great human document.

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* * *

Since 1940 I have received hundreds of letters from soldiers and sailors relating their experiences—good, bad and indifferent. I have answered them all at great expenditure of time, effort and postage, and I have frequently quoted from them. But unfortunately I did not preserve them.

It now occurs to me that a compilation of these letters from men and women in the armed services, of all ranks and degrees of service, would be most interesting, and perhaps come nearer to giving us the truth than any post-war effort of individual writers, no matter how well trained.

So I am asking all colored men and women in the armed services, here and abroad, to send me accounts of their experiences in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps, as well as the Merchant Marine, in the form of letters. I will keep them on file and select the best for publication. Letters do not have to be grammatically correct, but they should be written very clearly in ink, on one side of each sheet of paper. No anonymous letters will be considered; but NO NAMES WILL BE USED in order to protect the writers.

* * *

Letters from abroad, if containing criticism, are censored as a matter of course, so [illegible] must be kept in mind by each writer. It is better to mail letters in th[illegible]s co[illegible] upon return. However, certain kinds of letters can be mailed from abroad and I will receive them intact. Writers are expected to use judgment and send no military information. I am not interested in that anyway. Letters should be addressed to George S. Schuyler, The Pittsburgh Courier, 2628 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh (19), Pa.

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Very interesting and revealing letters are sometimes received by wives, families and sweethearts of men and women in the armed services and merchant marine. If they regard them as HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT, I urge them to send them on to me when they have finished with them, or to send me copies of them. Let us get going on this important project.

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Rights And Duties In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

James Lafayette, Spy In The American Revolution

THIS is the story of James, a Virginia slave in the American Revolution who rose to fame because of his intimate association with the great French patriot and American commander the Marquis de Lafayette. This slave at first had only the one name, James, but after serving this noted commander he was elevated to the full name, James Lafayette.

DR. JACKSON

This man made history first by acting as a spy for Lafayette in 1781, second by gaining his freedom through an act of legislature in 1786, next b winning a state pension from the legislature in 1819, and finally, late in life, by receiving the personal greeting of Lafayette in Richmond on the occasion of his triumphal tour of America in 1824. Thus in the archives of Virginia and in various collections of historical papers these events are found recorded in the life of this daring and energetic man.

ENDED CAREER AS FARM OWNER

But there is more to the life of James Lafayette than his military exploits and his association with the noted French patriot. He lived as a farmer and laborer in New Kent County, Virginia for nearly fifty years after receiving his freedom and he reared a large family there. Beginning his free career as a farm laborer, he ended his career as a farm owner.

In 1816 he bought forty acres of land lying nine miles south of the New Kent County court house and held it until his death sixteen years later. Among his property holding neighbors were two white families and a free Negro by the name of Edward Nickens, the owner of 71 acres.

James went into action as a spy for Lafayette in July, 1781 only three or four months before the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 19, 1781 and the end of the war. During July and August Lafayette's American army was in camp at Malvern Hill in Charles City County (a short distance from Richmond) at New Kent Court House, and at Williamsburg, while Cornwallis with his British army was in camp at Portsmouth, at the mouth of the James River seventy-five miles away.

PLACED SERVICES AT LAFAYETTE'S DISPOSAL

The one great need of Lafayette at this critical juncture was to determine the future movements of the enemy. Was Cornwallis to break camp and go North to join Clinton at New York, was he to go South to join the British forces at Charleston, or was he to make a stand at Portsmouth or some other point in Virginia? In an effort to get information on these points Lafayette dispatched spies to Portsmouth.

Among this number was James of New Kent County in whose very neighborhood Lafayette's troops were camping and marching. After first obtaining the consent of his master, William Armistead, this patriotic slave then entered the ranks and placed himself at the disposal of the great leader.

One task of James was to deliver documents of Lafayette to certain American agents already serving as spies in the British camp at Portsmouth. He was also to pick up all the verbal information he could obtain concerning the enemy's movements. That James performed these duties well there is no room for doubt. Lafayette said that important bits of information about the enemy were "industriously collected" by James and were "faithfully delivered" to him.

SECRET AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

The documents which James delivered, says another observer, were "of the most secret and important kind the possession of which if discovered on him would have most certainly endangered (his) life." All told, he kept open a channel of useful information to the American forces and thereby made a contribution with others toward the ultimate defeat of Cornwallis when he broke camp at Portsmouth and made his last stand at Yorktown. Faithful to the last, James was found present in Lafayette's headquarters at Yorktown two days after the surrender.

The association of the Marquis de Lafayette with James Lafayette is typical of his belief in the liberty of all men and his concern about the welfare of humanity. In the midst of his hand shaking with thousands of whites in Richmond during his return visit in 1824 he did not fail to greet and shake hands with James, his old Negro ally of the Revolution forty-three years before.

To see the old Negro and to recall his association in New Kent with him, and his writing of a recommendation in Richmond for him in the old days. Truly was the marquis one of the best exponents of genuine democracy our country has known

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Rights And Duties In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Joseph Ranger, Seaman In The American Revolution

BY THE observance of Navy Day on Wednesday, October 27, the American people paid due respect to our present day fleet. They likewise paid homage to all the brave men of the past who have gone down to sea in ships to defend our country from invasion by foreign foes. This article pays homage to one of these brave men who went down to sea in ships to fight the British foe at the time of the American Revolution.

DR. JACKSON

His name was Joseph Ranger and he lived in Elizabeth City County, Virginia. Bred to a life at sea, like so many slaves and free men of color in the early history of our country, Ranger found himself ready for service in the navy of Virginia when the War for independence came in 1776.

Today as a united country we have only the Navy of the United States; in 1776 as a divided country we had the Navy of the United States (the continental navy) and the navies of nine separate states. Enlisted in the Navy of Virginia were at least seventy-five Negroes who served on fifteen or more vessels.

HALF DOZEN NEGRO SEAMEN

They fought side by side with he white seamen on such vessels as the "Patriot," the "Norfolk Revenge," the "Accomac," the "Dragon," and the "Jefferson." The "Dragon" was a ship which carried officers and men to the number of 104; the "Jefferson" was a brig which carried a smaller crew but mounted eighteen guns. On the "Dragon" and on the "Jefferson" were a half dozen Negro seamen; one of them, an able seaman, was Joseph Ranger.

This warrior has the honor of giving a longer term of service to his state and country than any other Virginia Negro; he also has the honor of fighting on a greater number of vessels. He fought and cruised on four vessels for almost the entire war period and he remained in service for six years after the war ended. He began his career on the "Hero" and was transferred first to the "Dragon," then to the "Jefferson," and finally to the "Patriot."

After the war he served on the "Patriot" and the "Liberty;" two vessels allowed to Virginia by Congress to defend its shores. Ranger has the further honor of entering the service from the region of Northumberland County from which came that hardy group of Revolutionary sailors—the Nickens, the Sorrels, the Weavers, the Woods, the Causeys, the Haws, and others.

EXPERIENCED REAL FIGHTING

Ranger must have experienced some real fighting on the "Jefferson" and the "Patriot," for these vessels were ordered to sea by the State in 1780 for the express purpose of suppressing the enemy cruisers then infesting Chesapeake Bay and the rivers flowing into this body of water. He apparently experienced real warfare on the "Jefferson" inasmuch as he was on this vessel when it was blown up by the British at Osborne's on the James River, and he was on the "Patriot" when the entire crew were taken prisoners and held as captives until after the battle of Yorktown when they were discharged.

In common with all the soldiers and seamen in the American Revolution, Ranger enjoyed all the rewards given for service in this struggle. He was paid in money, he received a grant of land; and, very late in life, he received a pension from the United States government. Able seamen on the "Patriot" were paid two shillings a day. As one of this class, on one occasion, in 1786, he was paid two pounds and ten shillings for a whole or a part of a month's service; on another occasion in 1787 he was paid five pounds and seven shillings for two months and seven days service.

Seeking at this time to get all that the State owed him, Ranger sent the following note to one of the state officials: "Please deliver to Francis Graves whatever may be due to me for my services as a seaman in the navy of this state—also the land I am entitled to."

ALLOTED 100 ACRES OF LAND

Ranger's share of land, alloted him shortly after the Revolution, was one hundred acres; his pension coming fifty years after the struggle, when he was seventy-three, amounted to the annual sum of ninety-six dollars. In order to qualify for this pension under the act of Congress passed in 1832, Ranger and all other Revolutionary veterans had to make a declaration under oath before a court of record.

Appearing before the Elizabeth City County court at Hampton on October 25, 1832, he told the story of his engagement on four vessels; and who the captains, lieutenants, pilots, boatswains, and so forth were on each vessel. He also said that he was acquainted with Commodore James Barrow and others, Revolutionary leaders then living, who could testify to the accuracy of his statements.

STILL GO DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS

Brave men of the Negro race still go down to the sea in ships to defend their country, but they go there now not as full-fledged fighters like Ranger and others in the Revolution and the War of 1812, but as menial servants. Thus it is that our democracy has assumed a changing character. At one period the black man has been allowed full opportunity to display his talent; **at another he has been crushed.**

ROGERS SAYS:

Another Benefit of This War Will Be a Decline of the Color Line

BY J. A. ROGERS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

LAST WEEK I wrote on the benefits of the war to the American Negro and said that while racial troubles had increased in certain quarters I felt that racial harmony, or steps toward it, had gained generally. This week I shall speak of the benefits of the war, interracially. Of course, as I said, it cuts across the grain of common sense to speak of the benefits of war—the most stupid, debased and insane of all man's undertakings—war, in its final analysis, brings not one single benefit that peace could not.

Mr. Rogers

If war could settle anthing, the Europeans ought to be living like lambs in the fold. Since the first Punic War of 260 B.C., Europe has had 2,200 years of war. As for Germany and France, Julius Caesar found that in 72 B.C., the Germans had crossed the Rhine and were attacking Alsace. Since then this territory has been swinging back and forth between the two. Some now living has seen it changed three times: in 1871, 1918, 1940, with most likely a fourth in 1944.

SOME LEFT-HAND BENEFITS OF WAR

However, there are certain left-hand benefits of war. For instance, when two rival gangs of hoodlums start cancelling one another, as did Murder, Inc., of New York, the citizens, their common victims, do benefit. The same is true when rival economic systems start destroying one another as in this war. In such a case, the victims, the darker races and the smaller white nations do benefit.

RISE OF COLOR

However, Northern Europe which as late as 1200 A. D., was not as far advanced as say the Basutos of South Africa are now, began slowly to take the lead. Note that this was destiny. Civilization had been working its way westward for 3,000 years and Northern Europe's time had come to plague the world as Rome and the rest had done. Note, too, that by this time, the dark-skinned elements in Northern Europe had been almost bred out, leaving it so-called white.

IT WAS THIS color of humanity that rose to power soon after the discovery of the New World, at which time the present world development really began. Since most of the rest of humanity was dark, the white skin could be used as a symbol to exploit the rest. It was actually a gift from God because in lands, as say Russia and Poland, where a people like the Jews were also white, some mark had to be worn on the clothes to distinguish them. On the other hand, the black man's color was fixed. In the natural process it would take a hundred thousand years to change. Yes, it was a gift.

NOTHING TO GAIN FROM RACE WAR

And so a color caste, which had all the fanaticism of any religion you could name, arose to plague dark humanity. But just as there was a time when the white man was nothing at all and darker-skinned man was everything, so now the pendulum is swinging back again.

AND HOW IS this being brought about? White superiority, breaker of the moral law, is cancelling itself just as common gangsters do. The last war was the result of rivalry between England and Germany for world markets, chiefly the untapped resources of Africa. The issues of this war are too many to be thus summarized, but here again we find the big white powers engaged in cancelling their own power. And already there is even talk of a third war to settle the race problem. But, for my part, I do hope that the wiser heads of England and the United States, the chief promoters of a color line—because Hitler will be soon out of the way—will see that they have nothing to gain and everything to lose by continuing thus.

SLAVES ROSE TO TO BE EMPERORS

In any case, we are slowly but surely getting back to the days of ancient Rome, Greece and Islam, when a man was a man, and worth, not color, counted most. In Rome, while a slave was hardly better than a dog, slaves sometimes rose to be emperors. In Catholic Spain and Portugal, a Moslem or a Jew could change his religion and get an opportunity. But white civilization insists you must change your color, which is impossible.

SURELY, THE color-line, the world's greatest idiocy, cannot survive, but must fall sooner or later.

AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

Awarded for extraordinary heroism in action under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9. 1918)

ALL OF THE FOREGOING AWARDS WERE GIVEN IN 1918

NAME	ORGANIZATION	PLACE OF ACHIEVEMENT
Pfc. Robert M. Breckenridge	Co. H. 365th Inf.	Ferme de Bel-Air, France
Cpl. Russell Pollard	Co. H. 365th Inf.	Bois-Frehault, France
Pvt. George Bell	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Sgt. Roy A. Brown	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pfc. Will Clincy	Co. F. 366th Inf.	Frapelle, France
Pvt. Alex Hammond	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Cpl. Van Horton	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt Edward L. Merrifield	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt. Tom Rivers	Co. G. 366th Inf.	Bois-de-la-Voivrotte, France
Pvt. Joe Williams	Co. E. 366th Inf.	Lesseau, France
Pvt. John Baker	Co. I. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. Thomas H. Davis	San. Det. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. Edward H. Handy	Co. B. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pvt. Joseph James	Hq. Co. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pvt. Bernard Lewis	Co. A. 368th Inf.	Binarville, France
Pfc. Lewis Watkins	Co. A. 350th M. G. Bat.	Eply, France
Sgt. William Butler	Co. L. 369th Inf.	Maison-de-Champagne, France
Cpl. Elmer Earl	Co. K. 369th Inf.	Ripont Swamp, France
Pvt. Elmer McCowin	Co. K. 369th Inf.	Ripont Swamp, France
Pvt. William Sandford	Med. Det. 369th Inf.	Ripont River, France
Sgt. Robert Barnes	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont de Singes, France
Pvt. William Cuff	2nd M. G. Co., 370th Inf.	Mont-de-Sanges, France
Pvt. Leroy Davis	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont-de-Sanges, France
Sgt. Lester Fossie	Co. M. 370th Inf.	Ferme-de-la Riviere, France
Pvt. James Fuquay	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Guillimet Farm, France
Sgt. Ralph Gibson	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Pvt. Willie G. Hurdle	3rd M. G. Co. 370th Inf.	Ferme La Folie, France
Pvt. Spirley E. Irby	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Sgt. Matthew Jenkins	Co. F. 370th Inf.	Vauxaillon, France
Pvt. Arthur Johnson	Hq. Co. 370th Inf.	Mont des Singes, France
Pvt. Andy McCall	M. G. Co. 370th Inf.	Ferme de la Riviere, France
Pvt. Charles T. Monroe	Hq. Co. 370th Inf.	Mont-de-Sanges, France
Pvt. Harry L. Pearson	M. G. Co. 370th Inf.	Ferme La Folie, France
Pvt. Tom Powell	Co. H. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Cpl. Emmett Thompson	Co. L. 370th Inf.	Mont-de-Sanges, France
Cpl. Isaac Valley	Co. M. 370th Inf.	Vraincourt, France
Pvt. Alonzo Wal[illegible]	3rd M. G. Co. 370th Inf.	Rue Larcher and Pont-d'Any, France
Pfc. Nathaniel C. White	Co. F. 370th Inf.	Vauxaillon, France
Pfc. Alfred Williamson	Med. Det. 370th Inf.	Beaume, France
Pvt. Willie Boston	M. G. Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Reuben Burrell	M. G. Co. 371st Inf.	Champagne sector, France
Pvt. Charles Butler	M. G. Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Sgt. Thomas Cooper	Co. K. 371st Inf.	Trieres Farm, France
Pvt. Junius Diggs	Co. G. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Burton Holmes	Co. C 371st Inf.	Near Hill 188, France
Cpl. Sandy E. Jones	Co. C. 371st Inf.	Near Champagne, France
Sgt. Lee R. McClelland	Med. Det. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Ellison Moses	Co. G. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Malley Stewart	Hq. Co. 371st Inf.	Near Bussy Farm, France
Pvt. Bruce Stoney	Med. Det. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Tillman Webster	M. G Co. 371st Inf.	Ardeuil, France
Pvt. Clifford Crawford	Hq. Co. 372nd Inf.	Near Bussy Farm, France
Pvt. George Gross	Co. D. 372nd Inf.	Near Sechault, France
Pvt. Samuel H. Johns	Co. L. 372nd Inf.	Near Bussy Farm, France
Pvt. Clifton Merrimon	Col. L. 372nd Inf.	Near Bussy Farm, France
Sgt. Ira M. Payne	Co. A. 372nd Inf.	Near Sechault, France
Pvt. Clarence R. Van Allen	Col. L. 372nd Inf.	Near Bussy Farm, France

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Kansas City, Mo.
MAY 21 1943

Camp Housing Project Named for Dr. Carver

MAY 21 1943

ARRABELLE, Fla.—(ANP) —Named in honor of Tuskegee institute's late eminent scientist Dr. George Washington Carver, Camp Gordon Johnston's new brick housing project for colored military and civilian personnel is located on the Gulf of Mexico in a spot of scenic beauty five miles from this town and is scheduled for occupancy May 15.

The project consists of 20 buildings comprising 134 dwelling units; 30 war efficiency units of a kitchenette and combined living-bedroom, 42 one-bedroom units, 42 two-bedroom units, and 20 three-bedroom units. In addition, there will be a commercial center composed of a dry cleaning establishment, tailor shop, shoe repair shop, barber and beauty shop, and a drug store together with ample parking facilities. There will also be a community building with a portable stage and cooking facilities for recreational purposes.

Post Commanding Officer Col Walter E. Smith, in officially naming it the Carver apartments, stated "I know of no man who has been greater credit to his race than Dr. George Washington Carver. The world of agriculture and chemistiry has received inestimable benefit from this man's scientific achievements."

Representing the FPHA is project manager William C. Owens; contractor is Paul Smith Construction Co., of Tampa, Fla.; and Young and Hart, Pensacola, Fla., are the architects.

Conversion Of Negro Units Is Requested

Courier-Journal

Dalton Says Need For Housing Is Acute

Louisville, Ky.

AUG 5 1943

A special appeal to owners of property for Negro housing to consult federal agencies with the idea of converting the housing into multiple units, was made yesterday by Roscoe R. Dalton, state director of the Federal Housing Administration, in a talk over radio station WAVE.

He pointed out that need for war-worker housing still is acute in the Louisville area and explained the plan by which the Federal Government leases property, converts it to multiple units and pays the cost returning to the owner an agreed rental. The property reverts to the owner after the war.

The War Housing Center, 506 W. Jefferson, is a clearing agency for war housing in this area and will route to the proper authorities or deal with any inquiry about the present plans for producing more housing units.

Thus far, 217 applications have been submitted to this agency; fifty-five involving about 475 units have gone to the architects and plans have been completed for nineteen applications involving about seventy-five units.

AUG 5 1943

Lanham Act Aids Many Communities

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
MAY 12 1943

MAY 12 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Forty-four war nurseries and child care centers to care for more than 1,800 children of Negro war workers' mothers were among those approved last week by the President, according to an announcement by Major General Phillip B. Fleming, Federal Works Administrator. These nurseries and child care centers are made available under the Lanham Act to communities where mothers must work in order to meet the manpower needs in direct and indirect war industries.

MAY 12 1943

Approximately half of the operating cost of these facilities is defrayed by the sponsors and parents and the Federal government provides the balance.

In order to be certain that the needs of all war working mothers are being considered Mrs. Florence Kerr, FWA Director of War Public Services issued instructions to all regional directors calling their attention to the non-discrimination clause in the Lanham Act and also to the general policy of the Federal Works Agency. It is required that specific information on the needs of the Negro population be presented in all applications from those sections of the country where separate facilities are required by law.

MORE IN SOUTHEAST

The latest allotments went to communities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Details follow:

Birmingham, Alabama, two war nurseries for 60 children; Florence, Alabama, one war nursery for 30 children; Jasper, Alabama, one war nursery for 30 children. Montgomery, Alabama, four war nurseries for 120 children; Tallahassee, Florida, three war nurseries and two child care centers for approximately 200 children.

MAY 12 1943

Columbus, Georgia, two combination war nurseries and child care centers for 150 children; Savannah, Georgia, four war nurseries and two child care centers for 200 children; Elizabethtown, Kentucky, one war nursery for 30 children; Baltimore County, Maryland, Two war nurseries for 60 children; Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, one war nursery and one child care center for 120 children; Charlotte, North Carolina, two war nurseries for 60 children.

MAY 12 1943

Elizabeth City, North Carolina, two war nurseries for 60 children. Raleigh, North Carolina, three war nurseries for 120 children; Clarksville, Tennessee, two war nurseries for 60 children; Cleveland, Tennessee, one war nursery and one child care center for 200 children; Kingsport, Tennessee, two war industries for 60 children; Newport News, Virginia, two war nurseries for 60 children; Huntington, West Virginia, two combination war nurseries and child care centers for 200 children.

REALTOR OF NEW YORK PLANS TO BUILD FOR NEGRO

Monroe, N. C. Journal
1943

Will Soon Break Ground in Baltimore For Two and Half Million Project

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

On the theory that proper housing is basic to the education and general uplift of the Negro race and provides a plausible answer to post-war Negro problems, Joseph P. Day, realty operator of New York City, has launched private capital into large-scale Negro housing for the first time on the outskirts of Baltimore, Md.

Through the organization of a private construction corporation, the Day interests will break ground soon on a $2,500,000 housing venture to be known as "Day Village", a community that will provide for four and a half room units for 500 families of Negroes now working at the Sparrows Point plant of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

National Implications

The plan, itself, is local in character, but it has broad national implications in the fact that for the first time private investors will take Negro housing out of the cold, institutional atmosphere which Mr. Day says necessarily goes with Federally operated projects.

Rather than being a "fly-by-night" venture dropped into the housing picture by a wartime emergency only, "Day Village" will prove the culmination of exhaustive studies designed to disprove the ancient financial bugaboo that Negro housing cannot be conducted by private enterprise on a reasonable profit basis.

At the same time, Mr. Day expressed the humanitarian motive in turning to Negro housing in these words: "My feeling is that the Negro should first be properly housed, and then be educated how to live and conduct himself in accordance with his improved surroundings. In the light of critical housing shortages, and because of the increasing unrest of Negroes, there is need for the development of a community or communities for this race which offers all the facilities and accommodations found in the average white community."

"Day Village" will depart from the general procedure of building houses for Negroes simply to provide shelter. That procedure has resulted, according to the Day interests, in the substandard housing in which thousands of Negroes are living today. Many of them, because of their lack of economic opportunities, have had to live in antiquated buildings passed down to them by the whites. Mr. Day reasons that these conditions simply indicate lack of planning for the Negroes.

These conditions will be reversed under the housing program contemplated by Mr. Day. The Negroes will be housed in new communities with a new sense of freedom and elimination from regimentation, he said. They will be housed, presumably, on a higher plane in most instances than their economic opportunities justify. But home to them will become a new inspiration, encouraging the Negro to strive to attain higher esonomic levels. In this way, housing becomes part of the Negroes' education for better things, Mr. Day affirmed.

No Crowding

At "Day Village" there will be no crowding, Buildings will be landscaped and maintained. There will be ample parking space for automobiles, numerous playgrounds, a bathing beach restricted to tenants of the community, boating, handball courts, tennis courts, motion picture theater, and community house, thus operating as a self-contained garden community. Buildings will be of masonry construction, as good or better than prewar housing for the middle class.

Something more than the profit-motive was demanded by this venture. There had to be the will to do a job thoroughly for the welfare of the prospective tenants. There had to be farsighted vision and faith in the potential talents of the Negro to fit himself into the general pattern of American living standards. This faith is possessed by Mr. Day, who volunteered the opinion: "This is only the beginning of better things to come for these people."

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Appeal for More Negro Housing Bearing Fruit

Immediate response to a city-wide appeal by Marvin Wire, War Housing Center director, for the opening of more rooms and homes to Negro warworkers here came Friday when H. G. Anderson of 1301 [illegible] Street Northeast walked into the Center at Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourteenth Street to give proof of his desire to help remedy what is fast becoming a dangerous situation.

JUN 13 1943

Anderson told attendants that he had read the story in yesterday's Post describing the plight of hundreds of Negroes for whom virtually no living space was available in Washington, and decided to act at once to "do my share."

As a result, additional accommodations for eight Negro persons are now listed with the center.

Meanwhile, The Post learned that Wire has met with principals and superintendents of all Negro schools in the Washington area, in an effort to enlist their aid in alleviating the severe shortage of homes for Negro workers and their families.

JUN 19 1943

ARMY TO CURB DISCRIMINATION

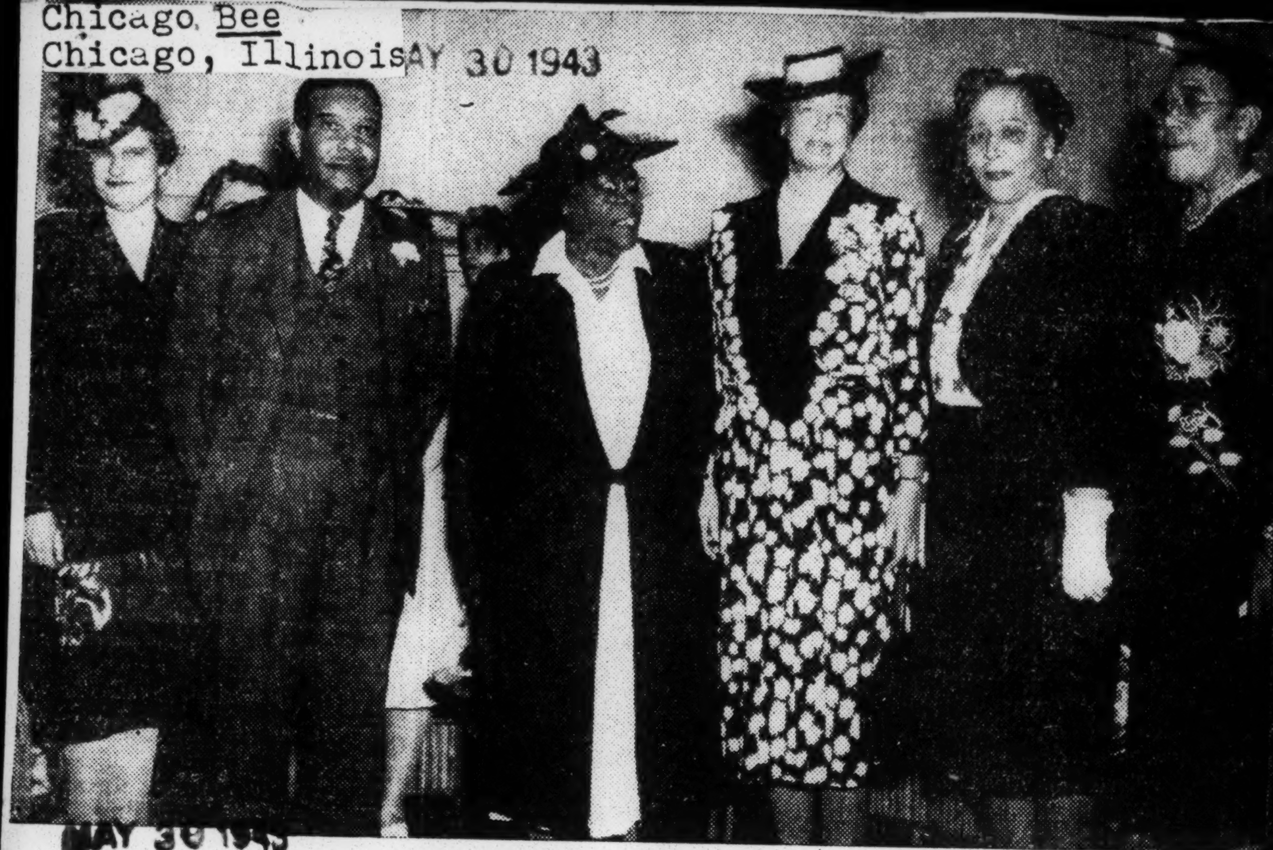
Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 1—As a result of the complaints concerning discrimination against Negro soldiers on trains, Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Acting Civilian Aide to Secretary of War, announced this week that the whole problem of transportation is now being studied by the Assistant Secretary of War.

The NAACP had protested to the War Department that many places of public resorts near army camps discriminate against Negro soldiers by refusing to serve them.

Gibson has advised the NAACP that he has requested Commanders to change the conditions and that while places of public accommodations in civilian communities are not within the jurisdiction of the Army, the Department of War will make an effort to change the conditions "by persuasion."

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois MAY 30 1943



MAY 30 1943

AT DEDICATION OF WAKE AND MIDWAY HALLS, federal dormitories for war workers in Washington, D. C., Mrs. Roosevelt addressed a large audience and met the builder of the project, Samuel Plato. Shown (left to right) are Mrs. Elnora Plato and her husband, Samuel Plato; Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, head of NYA War Training Work for Negroes; Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Robert G. McGuire, former member of the Board of Education of the District of Columbia, and Miss Gertrude Brown, resident manager of Wake Hall.—(Official OWI Photo).

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MAY 30 1943

CONGRATULATED ON THE NEATNESS of her home by America's first lady, Miss Thelma Ball, formerly of Philadelphia, but now employed by the Selective Service National headquarters, smiles broadly as Mrs. Roosevelt claps her hand. Miss Ball is a resident of the Lucy D. Slowe Hall.

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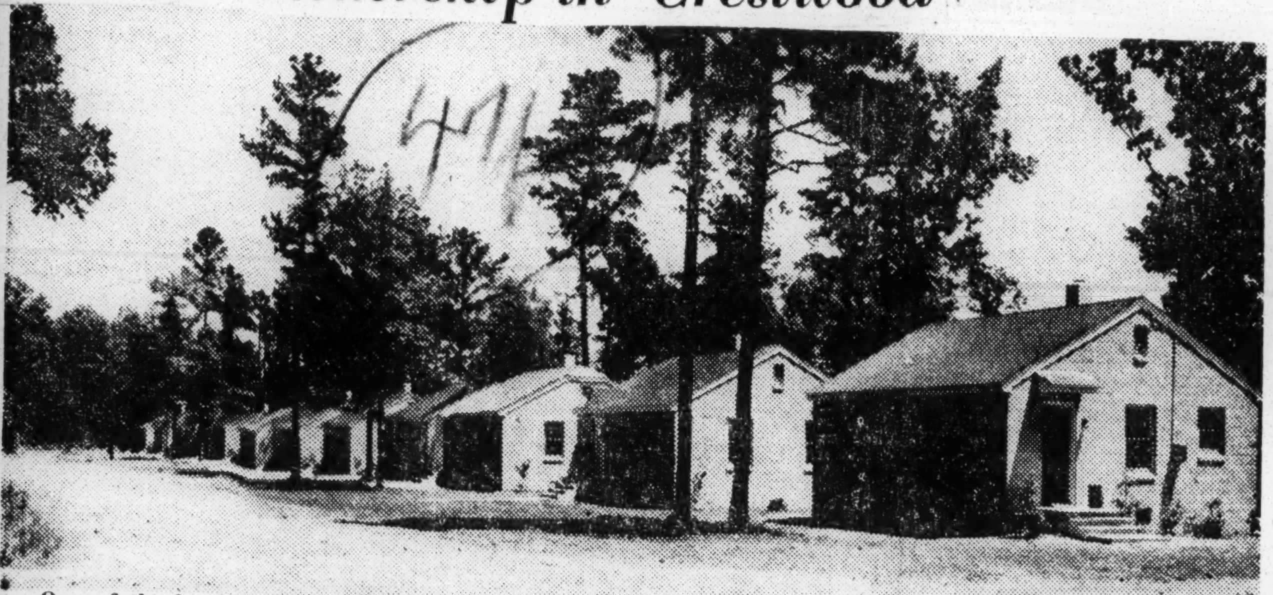
Pride of Ownership in 'Crestwood'



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One of the largest housing developments in the United States provided by private capital for Negro occupancy is Crestwood, situated in the fork of Southern Branch and Great Bridge roads, Norfolk County. Crestwood was started in 1937 with 53 small homes, more than half of which are owned now by the occupants. Beginning today, The Crestwood Company, Inc., is showing 225 new cinder block homes, each equipped with built-in kitchen, hot water, bath and coal heater. These houses may be rented or purchased by Negro war workers. Shown above are some of the new houses, and one of the old ones, whose owner has exemplified the community's civic pride with lawn plantings and a productive vegetable garden. (Photos by Borjes, Virginian-Pilot staff photographer.)

Houses Shown In 'Crestwood' For Negroes

Development Is Result of Six Years of Successful Experiment

After six years of successful experiment, "Crestwood," Norfolk's only large housing development in which Negroes are offered the opportunity of home ownership, has just been quadrupled in size, and the showing of new houses for rent or for purchase is being started today.

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"Crestwood," which is situated on 118 acres of land in the forks of the Southern Branch and Great Bridge Roads, Norfolk County, has been developed since 1937 as a personal enterprise of Oscar F. Smith, partner of Smith-Douglas Company, Inc., fertilizer manufacturers, whose principal plant is on the Southern Branch not far from the village.

Spirit of Civic Pride

In the beginning, "Crestwood" was provided with 53 well-built small houses, each put on a lot of 50 by 100 feet, but so placed that additional lots were available for any tenants or purchasers who might want more land for gardens or beautification. These were constructed in 1937, and at the present time more than half of them have been purchased by their occupants, most of whom are old employes of the Smith-Douglass Company. A spirit of civic pride was grown among the neighborhood people, and some of the lawns and gardens now compare favorably with any to be found in the best new housing developments around Norfolk.

Following the beginning of the war boom, Mr. Smith opened his settlement for all Negro war workers, whether they worked for his company or not, and provided rental accommodations for 84 more families in 42 two-family duplex houses. Since then, many of the occupants of these houses have learned to like the community and have applied for detached houses which they might buy on terms as easy as any offered through FHA financing.

225 New Small Homes

Several months ago, the Crestwood Company, Inc., started the construction of 225 new small homes, built of cinder block, fully insulated, with built-in kitchens, baths, hot water and coal heaters. The contract was left to the Fairlawn Realty Company, of Roanoke, for building the houses, providing sewerage outfalls, building streets, etc.

These are the houses which will be on view at the opening of the new project today. Some of the houses have been completely furnished as models. Already the company has received many applications for rental and from persons interested in purchase, but assignments will not begin until tomorrow morning.

L. W. Simmons, secretary-manager of the project, said yesterday he has been assured by the Norfolk County school authorities that an elementary school has been approved for the "Crestwood" neighborhood, and construction of a building will be started shortly as an FWA project. He added that plans are being made to provide the community with a church and recreation hall. The company already has provided the building in which a privately owned store is being operated.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

FEDERAL WORKERS GET RECREATION CENTER

WASHINGTON (ANP) — The building adjoining and belonging to Lincoln Temple Congregational Church at the corner of 11th and R streets, N.W., has been leased by the government as a recreation center for government employes and soon will be thrown open to the public for use.

JUN 12 1943

47f-1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

FIRST LADY VIEWS HOUSING

MAY 19 1943

Takes Part in the Dedication of Residence for Negro Women

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 18 — Mrs. Roosevelt, after spending the afternoon in visits Federal housing facilities for government workers, spoke tonight at dedicatory exercises opening Midway, new residence hall at Twenty-fourth Street and Oklahoma Avenue, N. E., which, with Wake Hall, already open, comprises the Langston project for Negro women employed in the government.

Baird Snyder, Assistant Federal Works Administrator, was on the program, as were W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of Public Buildings Administration, FWA; Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority, and Dr. Mary Bethune, director of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration, founder and president-emeritus of the Bethune Cookman College at Daytona Beach, Fla., and founder and president of the National Council of Negro Women. Roland Hayes sang.

MAY 19 1943

Mrs. Roosevelt was honored at a tea in Idaho, one of the Arlington Farms residence halls for women workers located near the Pentagon Building.

450-Unit Housing Job Awarded to Gadsden

A war housing program of 450 family dwelling units for construction by private enterprise in Gadsden, Ala., was approved yesterday by John B. Blandford Jr., National Housing Administrator.

Robert K. Creighton, regional representative, said the program provided units for 300 families of white workers and 150 families of Negro war workers to be brought into the Gadsden area.

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
July 7, 1943

Building Permit Not Required By TVA

PHILADELPHIA, July 6 (AP)—U. S. District Judge J. Cullen Ganey ruled today that the Federal Housing Administration does not have to comply with local building regulations in the construction of either "permanent" or "temporary" houses.

The decision was handed down in a suit filed by Chester (Pa.) municipal authorities who arrested Renato D'Avito, New York, superintendent for the contractor, Domenico Lecascio, Pleasantville, N. Y., because the contractor had not obtained a building permit for the construction of 150 "temporary" homes for Negro workers.

Brunswick Gets 2,060 Family Housing Units

Approval of a private and public housing program for Brunswick by John B. Blandford Jr., administrator of the National Housing Agency, was announced here Thursday by Robert K. Creighton, regional NHA representative.

The program includes 2,060 family dwelling units to be occupied by in-migrant civilian workers at the J. A. Jones Construction Company shipyard, the Navy flying school, the lighter-than-air base and other war industries Creighton said.

A total of 300 family dwelling units are included in the private program, 200 of them for white occupancy in the $30-$40-a-month rent scale, and 100 for Negro occupancy at less than $30 per month.

The remaining 1,760 units will be developed by the U. S. Maritime Commission, Creighton said. One hundred and sixty of these will be for Negro occupancy.

Name Housing Project After Educator

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

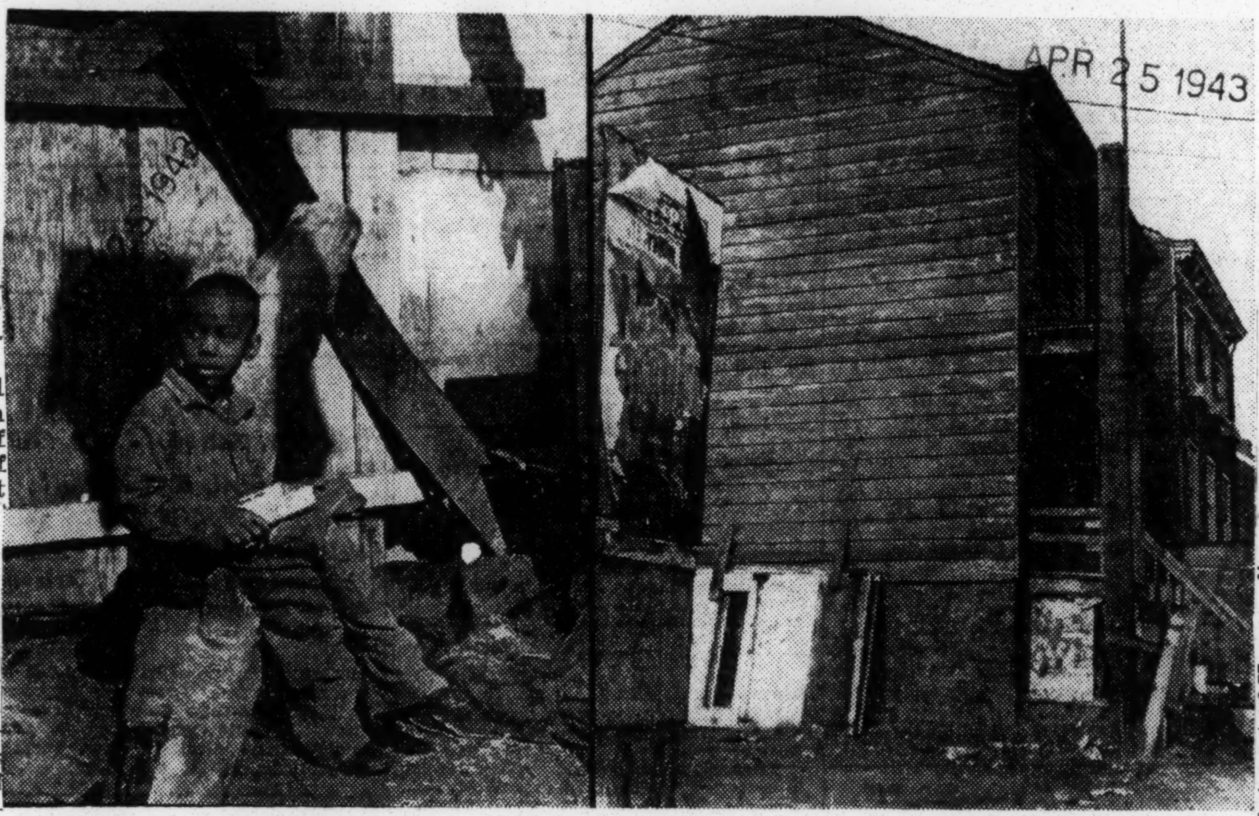
APR 3 1943

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—(ANP)—Housing Authorities last week announced that the new housing subdivision for Negro employees of the Huntsville and Redstone arsenals, has been named Binford Court in honor of the memory of the late Prof. Henry C. Binford, who was superintendent of the Huntsville Negro public schools for 20 years.

APR 3 1943

The project houses are located on the western edge of Huntsville, and will consist of 38 houses with 220 dwelling units. They are scheduled to be completed in May at a cost of $352. 810.

Hundreds of Play-Yards Like This—and Hundreds of Homes Like This



APR 25 1943

"This is my place, mister, where I play," Junior Wiggins (left above) told The Worker photographer outside 133-36 41st Ave., Flushing, Queens. Junior sat on a log in the little "yard" on one side of the house. Another typical Negro war worker's home on the same street is shown (right). Here workers who make guns for democracy are Jim-Crowed into slums and hovels.

Queens War Workers Jim Crowed Into Slums

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Oakley Johnson

Flushing is one of the war industry centers of Queens, and Queens is the war center of Greater New York.

Flushing's Main Street is a crowded and bustling thoroughfare any day of the week. But the Negro war workers of Queens, whose slum dwellings are a stone's throw from Main Street, are jim-crowed into quarters ill-befitting those who produce weapons for the fighting fronts.

APR 25 1943

Walk along 40th Road or along 41st Ave., and you'll see a factory at the end of the block or the one nearby on Lawrence Ave., with a sign ordering workers to "Show your yellow pass," or a sign saying "Prohibited Military Zone." And in the very same block or the block adjoining you'll find dwelling houses that were condemned long ago by the housing authorities but are still rented for money.

Some of the houses have no gas, some no light. Many have no furnace heat but must be warmed by stoves. Most of them need painting and repairing.

To make it worse, there are desirable but empty apartments—even empty houses—a little distance away. But they're "restricted." Negro war workers can't live there. It's an old Queens custom.

Center of the Negro neighborhood here is "The Church of God in Christ" at 133-37 41st Ave. The sign is crudely lettered in white on a black-painted board. The church is an ordinary two-story frame building, the paint long since worn off, small windows, no porch. The front gable is rounded in a fashion suggesting an earnest effort to make the structure look distinguished. The building, clearly enough, is a firetrap.

Across from the church lives Mrs. Elizabeth Wiggins, a grandmother, who is thinking of moving back to North Carolina, things are so bad here.

APR 25 1943

Grandmother Wiggins is the mother of war worker James Wiggins, who pays $25 a month for the downstairs part of the house at 133-36 41st Ave., typical of many houses in this community. His wife and two small children—Junior and James, aged four and five—share the downstairs.

James Wiggins and his wife both work during the day, and were not at home when **The Worker** representative called, but Grandmother Wiggins was home, cooking and doing a washing and looking after James and Junior.

To understand just how things are, you have to get a close look at the house from the outside. It's a wooden frame affair, sitting flat on the ground, and rotting into the ground as the years go by. The basement often has standing water in it.

"The walls stayed wet all winter," Grandmother Wiggins said. "The whole house is damp. I'm sick myself, and I'm thinking of moving back to North Carolina. Junior here has bad tonsils and no appetite."

Grandmother Wiggins' washtub was mounted on a couple of wooden boxes. An arms length away was the old-fashioned cookstove, only source of heat during the winter except for the oil heater used when necessary in the bedroom.

The owner of this house, neighbors say, "lives in Florida." About a year ago progressive forces saw to it that the family occupying the house at that time was moved into the Jamaica government housing project, on the ground that this old rotting shack was condemned. But no sooner was the old tenant moved out than a new tenant was moved in—at $25 per.

It looks as if we need some wartime "conversion" in the Queens housing situation — in more senses than one.

APR 25 1943

FRAHN NAMED ARCHITECT ON U. S. HOUSING PROJECT

Federal Public Housing Authority announces the appointment of Harry J. Frahn, Sheffield, as architect for Project Ala-1213 War Housing consisting of 200 family units, community and commercial buildings, at Muscle Shoals for negro occupancy.

The project will be built across the Sparkman boulevard from the Reynolds Metals company's plants, and is for negro employees of both the Reynolds Metals company and the Reynolds Alloys company.

The plans call for a most modern and attractive village, which will fill a dire necessity for housing needed for the war production plants and will be a credit to the Muscle Shoals district. Plans will be ready for bids the latter part of the month.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

CITY'S NEWEST HOMES HONOR NEGRO HERO

MAR 28 1943

Chicago's largest war housing project, the 834-unit Robert H. Brooks homes, opened its doors to the first war worker families Saturday. More than 3,500 persons, mostly Negro war worker families, will eventually be housed in the new homes located at 1233-45 So. Throop street.

The new development is named in honor of a Negro private of the U.S. armed forces who was killed on the first day of war in the Philippine Islands.

The first 18 war workers include employes of Chicago aircraft, iron and steel ordnance, and food processing industries, as well as a few civilian employes of the U.S. Army quartermaster and Signal Corps depots.

MAR 28 1943

Applications Still Received

Although the first dwellings opened Saturday morning, Elizabeth Wood, executive secretary of the Chicago Housing authority, revealed that applications are still being received for the remaining apartments at the authority's application and rental office. Only war workers families in need of housing whose incomes are $2,100 a year or less are eligible to move into these publicly operated war homes.

MAR 28 1943

In addition to the Robert H. Brooks Homes, which is the Chicago Housing Authority's third war housing and seventh public housing project to be opened in Chicago, war workers are still moving into the Frances Cabrini homes on the near north side.

MAR 28 1943

The dwellings at the Robert H. Brooks homes are a combination of one and two-story apartments built in 90 modern two-story row house type buildings. All buildings are of permanent construction and completely fire-proof. The apartments range in size from 2½ to 5½ rooms, with four bedrooms in the largest dwellings. Each unit is equipped with steam heat, hot and cold running water, a kitchen with an electric refrigerator and gas range, a modern bath; and each apartment has double exposure with windows in each room.

Rents Based on Income.

The rents for these new war homes have been graded from $20 to $38 a month so that the rate for each apartment depends upon the family's income. All rentals include heat, gas, and electricity.

MAR 28 1943

For example: war worker families whose incomes are between $1,800 and $2,100 a year will pay from $35 to $38 a month for the various size homes; those who earn between $1,500 and $1,600 a year will pay from $31 to $34 per month; those earning between $1,200 and $1,600 a year pay from $25 to $28 per month; and those who earn less than $1,200 a year will pay from $20.50 to $25 per month.

MAR 28 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Miss Mae C. Hawes of Washington, D. C., and Miss W. Gertrude Brown of Daytona Beach, Fla., have been appointed directors of Wake and Midway Halls, two residence halls for Negro women war workers in Washington, D. C., William J. Bissell, manager of Residence Halls of the Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency, has announced. Both women have had wide experience in community organization and also have been directors of residence halls before.

MAR 27 1943
Mae C. Hawes

MISS W. GERTRUDE BROWN

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

TUSKEGEE HOUSING CONTRACT IS LET

ATLANTA, Aug. 3—(AP)—Awarding of a contract for construction of 40 housing units and community facilities at Tuskegee, Ala., to Contractor Algernon Blair, Montgomery, Ala., was announced Tuesday by J. P. Broome, regional director of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

AUG 4 1943

Broome said the cost of the war housing project, which must be completed within 60 days after Aug. 5, would be $86,000.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
September 3, 1943

Regional Director John P. Broome, of the Federal Public Housing Authority, yesterday announced award of a contract for the construction of 550 dwelling units and community facilities for Negro war workers in Charleston, S. C., at a cost of $1,012,700, to Henry C. Beck Company, of Atlanta.

First Lady Dedicates D.C. Hotels For War Workers

MAY 29 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON. — Climaxing a tour of war housing projects in the nation's capital, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt officially dedicated Wake and Midway halls, new residence hotels for Negro women war workers here last week.

Earlier the First Lady inspected Lucy D. Slowe hall residence hotel for Negro women and George Washington Carver hall, residence hotel for Negro men. Both halls are located in the northwest section of the city.

Addressing several hundred war workers already living in Wake and Midway halls, and a representative audience of visitors, Mrs. Roosevelt declared:

"The difference between a democracy and a totalitarian state is that a democracy serves the people while the people serve the state in countries where a dictator rules. The erection of these war-time housing projects is evidence of democracy serving the people. We need more such projects but we are making a step in the right direction."

The dedication program included a group of songs by Roland Hayes, noted tenor, and several musical selections by the Women's Glee club of Howard university.

W. E. Reynolds, public works administrator for the District of Columbia, served as master of ceremonies.

MAY 29 1943

Speakers at the dedication included Congressman J. Harry McGregor, Republican, of Ohio; Baird Snyder, assistant Federal Works administrator; Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Public Housing authority, and Samuel Plato, builder of Wake and Midway halls. Plato called attention to increasing opportunities for Negroes in industry and government and declared that Negroes were succeeding in many new fields.

Following the dedication, Miss Mae G. Hawes and Miss W. Gertrude Brown, resident managers of Wake and Midway halls respectively, serverd as hostesses at an informal reception.

More than 700 women war workers will be housed in Wake and Midway halls when all accommodations are filled. The Lucy D. Slowe hall houses 322 Negro women war workers, and the George Washington Carver hall has accommodations for 205 Negro male war workers.

MAY 29 1943

One of the interesting factors about the buildings is that they contain no critical war materials. They are two-story buildings of eight wings, of temporary dormitory appearance from the outside, but very beautifully finished and furnished inside.

The majority of the rooms, renting for $24.50 a month, are single rooms. There are sitting rooms for entertaining company, recreation rooms, snack kitchens, service shop, beauty shop, cafeteria, and an infirmary operated in conjunction with the U.S. Public Health Service. Workers who have come to Washington since July 1941, are eligible for residence in the halls, provided their salaries are less than a basic $1800 a year.

MAY 29 1943

Miss Hawes, who left a position as director of the Southeast Settlement House here to assume her present duties, was formerly head of the department of mathematics at Tenn. A. and I. State college, a member of the national board of the Y.W.C.A., and has conducted community experiments in Atlanta for the Rosenwald and Carnegie foundations.

MAY 29 1943

Miss Brown was formerly administrative assistant to the president of Cookman college in Daytona Beach, Fla.; a member of the Housing Authority in Minneapolis; head resident of Phyllis Wheatley in Minneapolis for 13 years; and executive secretary of the Federation of Social Service for Negroes in Dayton, Ohio, for five years.

Alexandria, Va. Gazette
July 15, 1943

Sewer Ordered For Negro Trailer Camp

A fourth and final step to crush the city's opposition to the establishment of two trailer camps for the families of white and Negro Fort Belvoir workers within Alexandria's boundaries was taken by the Federal Public Housing Authority when condemnation proceedings to secure sewer connections for the Negro camp on North Patrick Street were filed in Norfolk yesterday.

The papers, including the petition for condemnation, notice of condemnation and order of immediate possession, were received at the United States District Court for the eastern district of Virginia in Alexandria today.

As the government has the right of way under the Second War Powers Act, permitting the executive branch to do whatever it believes necessary for the war effort, city objections are over-ruled.

City Manager Carl Budwesky had been instructed by the City Council not to voluntarily give the FPHA sewer connections for the two camps. Condemnation proceedings in both cases have now opened the way for the agency to make use of the Alexandria disposal system.

47f-1943

First 50 War Workers Move Into Carver Hall

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

APR 23 1943

Hilyard Robinson, Negro Architect, Designed Building for Government

APR 23 1943

WASHINGTON. — While the first 50 war workers are moving into George W. Carver hall here in Washington, final touches are being put on this unique residential hotel, first of its kind to be built by the government for Negro men. It is expected that the building will be fully occupied by May 1.

Built by the Defense Homes corporation of the Federal Housing Authority, the hall is named for the late scientist, George Washington Carver of Tuskegee institute. It will provide accommodations for 205 tenants in 159 single and 23 double rooms.

The rooms have individual color schemes and the vari-colored pastel walls create an effect of spaciousness and provide maximum illumination. All rooms have running water. Shower and bath units are provided for every four persons.

APR 23 1943

Large, fully-equipped recreation rooms and attractive lounges will add to the comfort of the guests at this new residential hotel.

Rentals are $7 per week for single rooms and $6.50 per week per person for double rooms. Tenants must have arrived in Washington within the past 12 months and must be war workers.

Hilyard Robinson, Negro architect, designed the hall along modern, functional lines. Robinson has designed buildings at Howard university, two dormitory projects at Ypsilanti, Mich., near Detroit, and the $4,500 flying school and cantonment for the 99th Pursuit squadron in Alabama.

Persons who have visited the George W. Carver hall have been particularly impressed by the glass brick treatment of the facade.

APR 23 1943

The war workers who have already moved in and those whose applications for admittance are being considered represent a cross-section of federal employment. Among the many federal agencies, in which they work, are the War and Navy departments, the Adjustment General's office, Treasury department, Social Security board, Department of Agriculture, Office of Price Administration, Bureau of Printing and Engraving, War Production board, and the Veteran's Administration.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NEGROES TO OCCUPY 12% OF U. S. HOUSING

APR 28 1943

Their Tenancy Ratio Is Based on 744,000 Dwellings in Current Program

APR 28 1943

WASHINGTON, April 27— Negro tenants will occupy about 88,000 public housing units, representing 12 per cent of a total of 744,000 dwellings, and developed at a cost of more than $360,000,000 when the current public housing program is completed, Herbert Emmerich, Commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority, announced.

According to recent estimates, about 42,000 of these dwellings will be provided by the War Housing Program which reached a total of 612,000 units on March 15. Provision for Negro tenants is 7 per cent of this program.

Under the low-rent, non-war program, which made available 132,000 homes, about 46,000 are finished and occupied by Negro tenants. Many of these low-rent dwellings, in war-production centers, now house Negro war workers. The scarcity of critical materials and labor has necessitated the suspension of building under the low-rent program for the duration of the war. Consequently, almost 3,500 of the low-rent dwellings authorized and planned for tenancy by Negroes are now temporarily suspended.

APR 28 194

$33,000,000 Earned by Negroes

In the development of the total housing program, Negro construction workers had earned more than $33,000,000 by the end of 1942. This represented 12 per cent of total payroll expenditures. Negro craftsmen had received $7,000,000 or 4 per cent of the total paid to skilled workers.

About 16,000 of the war dwellings for Negro workers brought into war-production areas have been finished, and 18,000 are under way. All are scheduled for occupation by June.

APR 28 1943

Although detailed estimates are not available, a large number of war workers are included among the 150,000 Negro occupants of the 46,000 low-rent homes developed by the PWA housing division and the United States Housing Authority under FPHA auspices. These developments were constructed at a cost of $220,000,000.

In addition to Negro construction workers, Negro manpower has been utilized in the management and maintenance of public housing projects. More than 1,000 Negroes are currently employed in various capacities such as managers, engineers, clerical assistants and custodial workers. One hundred and thirty Negroes are now in charge of projects.

140 on Headquarters Staff

Approximately 140 Negroes are employed on the departmental staff of the EPHA in Washington, and forty are working in FPHA regional offices. Among these are three lawyers, three architects, an area management supervisor, a project planner and a junior management assistant recruited from the ranks of housing apprentices trained in the agency. Negroes comprise approximately one-tenth of the total employes of the agency.

APR 28 1943

Discussing the relation between Negro war housing and Negro war production employment, Mr. Emmerich, speaking for himself and John B. Blandford Jr., administrator of the National Housing Agency of which the EPHA is a constituent unit, declared:

"We realize fully that public housing is essential to the efforts of American industry to comply with the President's Executive Order 8802, reaffirming the non-discrimination policy of the United States Government. For us, accepting the responsibility of meeting the housing needs of Negro war workers, in so far as is possible under the limitations of the war housing program, means only continuing racial policies which have been in effect throughout the history of public housing.

"Since it is the policy of the National Housing Agency and the Federal Public Housing Authority to provide war housing to meet the proportionate needs of essential Negro in-migrant war workers, the percentage of Negro participation in the war housing program tends to reflect the percentage of their employment in essential war work."

APR 28 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

War Workers Moving Into Carver Hall

APR 17 1943

While the first fifty war workers are moving into George W. Carver Hall in Washington, D.C., final touches are being put on this unique residential hotel, first of its kind to be built by the Government for Negro men. It is expected that the building will be fully occupied by May 1.

Built by the Defense Homes Corporation of the Federal Public Housing Authority, the Hall is named for the late Negro scientist, George Washington Carver of Tuskegee Institute. It will provide accommodations for 205 tenants in 159 single and 23 double rooms.

APR 17 1943

The rooms have individual color schemes and the vari-colored pastel walls create an effect of spaciousness and provide maximum illumination. All rooms have running water. Shower and bath units are provided for every four persons.

Large, fully-equipped recreation rooms and attractive lounges will add to the comfort of the guests at this new residential hotel.

APR 17 1943

Rentals are $7 per week for single rooms and $6.50 per week per person for double rooms. Tenants must have arrived in Washington within the past twelve months and must be war workers.

APR 17 1943

Hilyard Robinson, architect, designed the Hall along modern, functional lines. Robinson has designed buildings at Howard University, two dormitory projects at Ypsilanti, Mich., near Detroit, and the $4,500,000 Flying School and Cantonment for the 99th Pursuit, Squadron in Alabama.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Carver Hall Opens Here For Men War Workers

APR 3 1943

George W. Carver Hall, a resident hotel in Washington, D. C., for Negro men employed in government war work, and the first of its type to be constructed in this country, will open Thursday, April 1, the National Housing Agency announced today.

The project was built by the Defense Homes Corporation of the Federal Public Housing Authority and was named for the eminent Negro scientist, the late George Washington Carver, of Tuskegee Institute.

APR 3 1943

Located at Second and Elm Streets, Northwest, the project will accommodate 205 men in 159 single and 23 double rooms. Occupancy is restricted to government workers who have come to Washington within the last 12 months, and who are certified as war workers by their employing agencies. Rentals are $7 per week for single rooms and $6.50 per week per person for double rooms. Meals will be served at Lucy Slowe Hall, one block away, a similar type project for women workers.

APR 3 1943

Facilities in the new project include running water in each room with shower and bath units provided for every four persons. Reading and writing rooms and reception and recreation areas are also available.

LaGuardia Present at Opening Of Harlem's New Health Center

People's Voice New York N.Y.

JAN 30 1943

Designed to serve mothers who are working in defense industry and worried about the care of their young ones, Harlem's first information and counselling center was opened at 2238 Fifth ave Monday, by Mayor LaGuardia who headed a list of outstanding speakers.

Dedicating the Harlem Health Center, the Mayor said "The worst nursery is better than the best nursery. We are opening this council center for the mothers of Harlem. You show us the need and anything that will be helpful to the child, and your city will not be found wanting."

Evidently smarting under the tremendous pressure which has been brought against him and other city officials on the issue of child care, the Mayor added acrimoniously that "if there is agitation, designed just to put people on the pay roll without the necessity for it, your Mayor will speak out, I await the findings of this center."

Executive Director Helen H. Harris of the Mayor's Committee on War-Time Care of Children, said that the center's directors will interview mothers who seek information on child-care agencies and keep a record of the numbers who apply and their particular problems. JAN 30 1943

Other speakers were Louis L. Bennett, Regional Director of the War Manpower Commission; the Rev. John H. Johnson, rector, St. Martin's Church; Lester Granger, Assistant Executive Secretary, National Urban League; Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP and Leon Arnstein, Acting Commissioner of Welfare. JAN 30 1943

Charleston S. C. News & Courier
February 25, 1943

APPROVAL GIVEN NEGRO PROJECTS

Housing Development for 750 War Workers' Families Planned

Authorization of construction of 600 dwelling units and 150 efficiency apartments for negro defense workers in Charleston was announced yesterday by Robert K. Creighton, regional representative of the national housing agency. Mr. Creighton said the location has not been chosen yet and that details will be announced later.

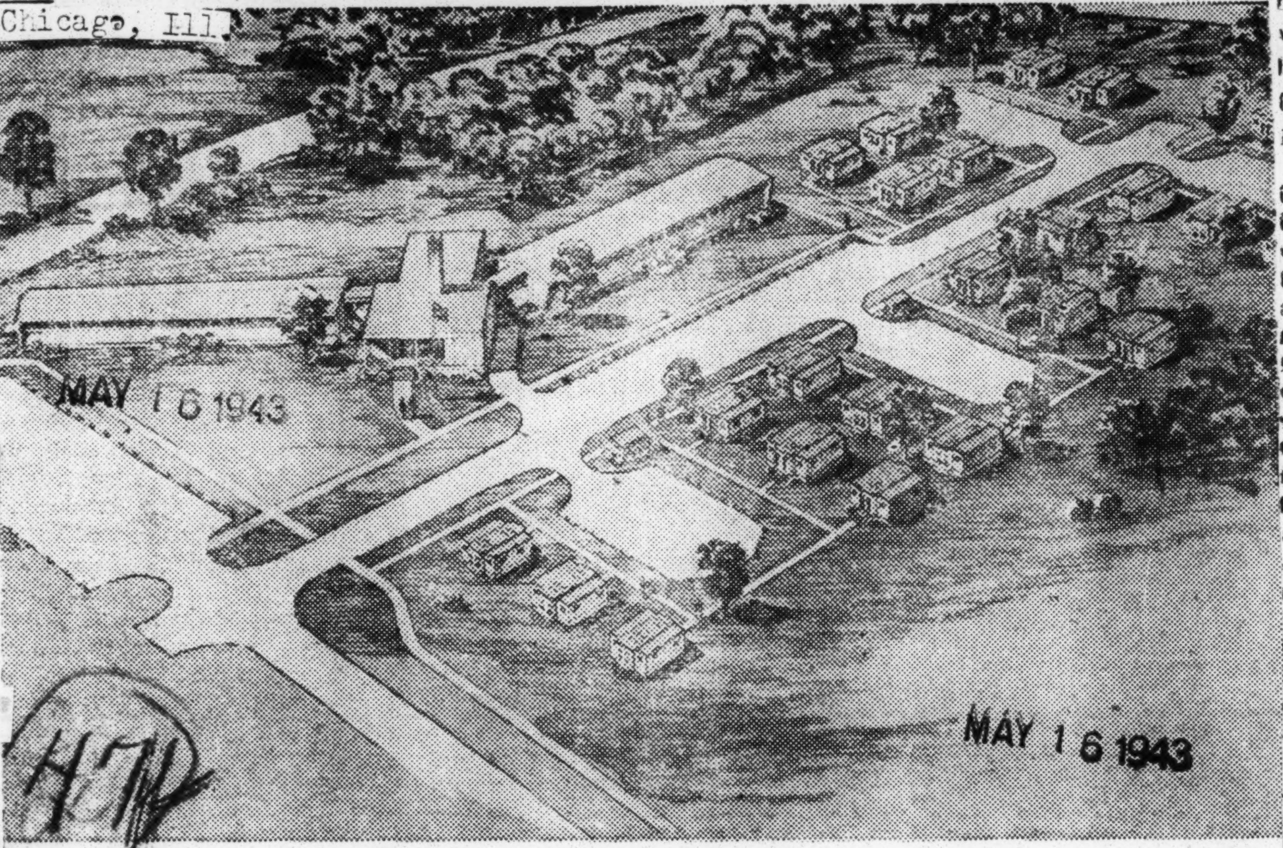
He said that to qualify for occupancy of one of the new units a civilian negro war worker must now or most recently have lived beyond practicable commuting distance from his work, must be the head of a family now housed away from Charleston and find it necessary to bring his family here to live in Charleston, or must have moved to Charleston as a war worker and now be living under temporary or makeshift conditions which are so intolerable as to impair his efficiency. It must also have been absolutely necessary that such worker be brought to Charleston to further the war effort.

Edward D. Clement, executive director for the Housing Authority of the City of Charleston, said yesterday that 2,000 units of the Liberty Homes, demountable housing project at Liberty Hill, near North Charleston, will be ready for occupancy the latter part of this week.

He added that the 410 units at Maryville, in St. Andrew's parish will be available to workers at the Charleston Shipbuilding and Drydock company the early part of next week.

HOUSING PROJECT FOR WILLOW RUN WORKERS

Bee
Chicago, Ill.



MAY 16 1943

Architect Hilyard R. Robinson's drawing for one of two Federal war housing projects at Ypsilanti, Mich. This project, located 5 miles from the Henry Ford Willow Run bomber plant, is expected to relieve an acute housing shortage and furnish homes for several thousand war workers. Mr. Robinson has designed public-housing projects costing more than $10,000,000.

MAY 16 1943

City Housing Authority Surveys Its Activities On Five Projects In '42

Schedule Of Tenant Income Eligibility Has Been Revised Upward

Surveying the record of low-cost housing in the first war year, the 1942 report of the Housing Authority of the Birmingham district was presented to the City Commission Tuesday morning, by J. C. deHoll, executive director of the city's five big housing communities.

Detailed items of the report were highlighted by deHoll, with stress placed upon the lease agreement entered into with the federal government for local operation of Eastwood, defense housing project; revised schedule of rents in all projects based upon income to prevent wholesale evictions of tenants due to increased wages, and purchase by the authority of $168,500 in War Bonds from reserves set aside for repairs, maintenance and replacements.

Principal improvement of 1942 consisted of renovation of the community center building in Central City to accommodate a nursery school for working mothers and installation of the Northside Health Center. Activity rooms for tenants occupy the top floor of the structure.

Due to the housing shortage in the Birmingham area, the equivalent elimination agreement with the city was set forward to June 6, 1943, with further extension probable. There remain 439 sub-standard dwelling units to be demolished under this agreement, as of Dec. 31, 1942.

The authority abandoned plans for its projected Negro housing community to be built with funds saved from construction of Elyton, Central City and Southtown, but asked the federal government to earmark these funds for future use in postwar planning.

The annual report revealed that total white applications for dwelling unit were 7,728, with Negro applications numbering 2,024. There are 3,068 families now living in the five projects.

The financial statement of the authority shows that $214,000 was paid on bonded indebtedness, with $9,640,000 outstanding on bonds, as of Dec. 31, 1942, due over a period of 58 years. Total assets of the authority were listed at $10,359,664.17. Payment of $30,159.93 was made to the city for municipal services or in lieu of taxes at Elyton Village, Central City, Smithfield Court and Southtown.

Bee
Chicago, Ill

NAMED CHIEF OF ORTHOPEDIC AT TAAF

MAY 23 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., May 20. (ANP)—The most recent addition to the ever-increasing medical staff at the Tuskegee Army Air field is Capt. Theodore R. Pinckney. A former clinical instructor in general surgery at Howard university, Capt. Pinckney also has been a practicing physician in the nation's capital for the last 10 years.

Volunteering his service to the army, the former Washington physician and social leader, was commissioned a captain in the medical corps and called to active duty June 15, 1942. His first experience was at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where he served as a member of the department of orthopedics. Recently Capt. Pinckney was transferred to his present post here at Tuskegee. He has been assigned as assistant chief of surgical service and chief of orthopedic service.

MAY 23 1943

A native of Albany, N. Y., Capt. Pinckney received his high school education at the Dunbar High school, and his bachelor of science degree in 1929. During the interval between graduation from Bates college and his entrance to Indiana university, Capt. Pinckney was an instructor of biology at Morehouse college, Atlanta.

MAY 23 1943

At the Kansas City General Hospital No. 2, he took his internship and residency during 1929-'32. It was after leaving Kansas City in 1932, that Capt. Pinckney married the former Miss Hermena M. Clay. Mrs. Pinckney and son, Theodore, age seven, reside in Washington.

In the same year, he became an assistant in pharmacology at the Howard school of medicine until 1934 when he became clinical assistant and clinic instructor in general surgery. This position he held until called to active service, during which time he was also a member of the Freedmen's hospital staff.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
July 25, 1943

Plans Prepared For 550 Negro Housing Units

The Housing Authority of the City of Charleston will issue plans Tuesday for the construction of some 550 housing units for negro war workers on Virginia-Carolina Chemical company property located north of the city, Edward D. Clement, executive director of the authority, said yesterday.

A petition objecting to the use of the site for this purpose, sent to Washington by about 300 residents of the area, was returned recently, he said. Among those who protested the move were residents of Windsor, a subdivision directly across the highway, and the Charleston suburban Junior chamber of Commerce.

A committee of negroes issued a statement that the protests were "seriously interfering with the war effort" June 26. Some 200 units for negroes on the Read Phosphate company property already are well under construction, Mr. Clement said.

Several months have been spent by housing officials here in search of a site, but in each case protests have been filed with the Federal Housing authority.

Bars Job Bias

WASHINGTON — The Federal Public Housing authority announced this week that its non-discrimination construction labor policy had been clarified to make all contractors understand that the agency is adhering strictly to the President's latest executive order on fair employment practice.

FPHA Commissioner Herbert Emmerich declared that the agency's regulations were amended on July 6 to include subcontracts as well as direct contracts for construction of publicly-financed war housing projects.

AUG

Housing Head

47f-1943

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

1st Government Constructed Hotel For Negro Women War Workers Is Opened In D. C.; Cost $760,000

JAN 2 - 1943

WASHINGON, D. C.—The $760,000 Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall, first government constructed hotel for Negro women, is helping to relieve the crowded housing conditions occasioned by the influx of war workers to the Nations' capital. Opened less than 10 months after ground-breaking ceremonies, it is in one of Washington's quietest residential sections at Third and U streets, N.W.

Built by the Defense Homes Corporation and named for the first Negro dean of women at Howard University, the Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall offers modern and comfortable accommodations to 322 Negro women. Within ten days of its opening on December 5 more than two score war workers had already taken up residence there and more were moving in daily.

JAN 2 1943

Occupancy of the 299 outside rooms, 22 of which are double, is confined to Negro women war workers who have come to Washington since July 1, 1941. Each room is completely furnished and maid service is provided once a week.

Included in the rates of $7.00 per week for a single room and $6.00 and $6.50 per person for a double room, are many facilities for war workers and their guests. These include a fully-equipped recreation room, a spacious lounge, a comfortable lobby, a fountain room for leisure-hour snacks, and a cafeteria which will soon furnish a well-balanced nourishing meals at nominal costs.

In addition, the three-story brick building has basement laundry facilities with ironing rooms on each floor and a valet shop and beauty salon for the residents.

Managing director of the Lucy D. Slow, Residence Hall is W. Spurgeon Burke, former business manager of the U. S. Veterans Hospital at Tuskegee, Ala. Mr. Burke will also serve as managing director of LeDroit Halli, a residence building for male war workers now under construction in the same neighborhood. When completed, early in 1943, this new construction, similar in design and appointments, will accommodate 199 men. Construction costs and equipment will exceed $500,000.

As managing director for the two projects, Mr. Burke will supervise a staff of approximately sixty employees. Present administrative staff members of the Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall includes Miss Nettie M. Brooker, resident manager; Mrs. E. V. Johns, assistant resident manager; Miss Mary H. Dowling, finance officer; Welexton Langon, office manager; Miss Ernestine M. Dupuy, secrestary; Henry A. Sparks, cashier; Miss Beulah Burke, housekeeper; Mrs. Marie Willson, assistant housekeeper; Mrs. Mamie V. Stokes, cafeteria manager; Daniel W. Miles, Karl Benjamin, Isaac Johnson and William Thomas, engineers, and Eugene Roberson, storekeeper.

JAN 2 1943

The Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall is one of a number of homes for war workers built recently by the Defense Homes Corporaion in Washington, D. C.; Portmouth, N. H.; Niagara, N. Y.; Charleston, S. C.; Newport News, Portsmouth; and Radford, Va.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Sheffield and Mobile, Ala.; Boulder, Nev.; Joliet, Ill.; Massillon and Columbus, O. Bremerton, Wash.; Morgantown, W. Va.; Nashville, Tenn.; and Orange and Corpus Christi, Texas.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Huntsville Will Get Negro Housing Project

MAR 2 - 1943

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—A contract for construction of a 220-unit housing project on the western edge of Huntsville, for accommodation of Negro families having members at work in the Huntsville Arsenal or the Redstone Ordnance Plant, has been awarded to the Ray M. Lee Construction Company. This is a federal housing project and bids for construction were opened in Atlanta. The cost is estimated at $352,810 and the work is to be completed in 60 days. The location is between West Clinton Street and Fifth Avenue.

MAR 2 - 1943

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal

February 2, 1943

NEGRO WAR WORKERS TO GET NEW HOMES

Part Of LeMoyne Gardens Project Nearly Ready

The Memphis Housing Authority announced yesterday that a part of the 342-unit development of the LeMoyne Gardens Extension Housing Project would be ready for occupancy April 1. About 100 apartments will be available on that date, with another 100 available the first of May and the remaining 142 units being completed in June. The development was built for war workers, and occupancy will be confined to negroes engaged in war industries of Memphis.

Joseph A. Fowler, executive director of the housing authority, said that all recent surveys made of vacancies for negroes within the city showed that practically no vacancies existed.

Applications will be taken at the office of LeMoyne Gardens, 830 Williams. Rents have not been set, but will be established on the basis of the rents in the other M. H. A. projects where rent is determined by income of tenants.

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, PA.

FEW GIRLS WANT FEDERAL LODGING

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 21—(ANP)—With much fanfare and trumpeting, the Lucy D. Slowe Hall was recently opened for colored war workers, female. With a normal capacity of 322 persons, the spacious building is only half filled. And the powers that be are beginning to worry over why this is true.

JAN 23 1943

Charging prices few can pay for rooms alone and with restrictions similar to boarding schools, the girls are not flocking to the institution because they feel it is just that, an institution.

Seven dollars per week for a single room without a private bath and $6.50 each for two in a room, also with no private bath is considered a little steep for the girls who are coming in town. Then, they must conform to certain residence regulations, not having lived in Washington for a certain length of time, and so on.

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Race Stirred Over Rumor About People From Other States

FEB 17 1943

DETROIT, Mich.—(SNS)—A demand that John B. Blanford federal housing administrator investigate charges that "the Hamtramck Housing Commission is importing people from Pittsburgh and other sections of the country to occupy the Colonel Hamtramck Homes" was made Sunday in a resolution drawn up at a mass meeting, sponsored by the Citizens Committee For Jobs in War Industries at the Corinthian Baptist Church. Charges were made in an open meeting of the City Council by Councilman Joseph F. Sawicki when Sawicki demanded to know why Negroes were being excluded from the Hamtramck project while people from other sections of the country were occupying the project.

Councilman Sawicki then offered a resolution that the Council investigate the occupancy of the project. The resolution was supported by Councilman Walter J. Serement. However, due to opposition from Councilmen John Anger Frank Sosnowski and John E. Wojtyle, the resolution was defeated.

The text of the resolution sent to the Federal Housing Administration is as follows:

Whereas: It has been called to the *attention of the Citizens* Committee that Councilman Joseph F. Sawicki has charged that the Hamtramck Housing Commission is importing families from Pittsburgh and other sections of the country to fill up the Colonel Hamtramck Homes Project.

"Whereas: The Hamtramck Housing Commission has denied Negro residents of Hamtramck the right to live in this project;

"Whereas: We are under the impression that this project was built for the use of local defense workers;

FEB 17 1943

"And whereas it is a known fact that there are Negroes in large numbers who reside in Hamtramck and who are war workers and who are thus eligible to occupy the project;

"Be it therefore resolved: that we the Citizens of Hamtramck assembled in mass meeting at the Corinthian Baptist Church, Caniff at Dyar, do hereby call upon Mr. John B. Blanford, administrator of the Federal Housing Authority to investigate Councilmen Sawicki's charges.

FEB 17 1943

"Be it further resolved that the attorneys who are in charge of the case of LeRoy G. White vs the City of Hamtramck Housing Commission be requested to advise the Circuit Court of Wayne County of the charges.

"Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. John B. Blandford, Federal Housing Administrator, to the Hamtramck City Council, to the Mayor of the City of Hamtramck, and to Mr. Sharpe, Regional Director of the Federal Housing Administration."

Birmingham Post

Birmingham, Alabama

HOUSING UNIT NAMED FOR NEGRO EDUCATOR

HUNTSVILLE, March 18.—(Special)—Officials who are in charge of the new housing subdivision for Negro employes of the Huntsville and Redstone Arsenals, have announced that the project has been named Binford Court in honor of the late Prof. Henry C. Binford, who was for 20 years superintendent of the Huntsville Negro public schools.

MAR 18 1943

Binford Court, located on the western edge of Huntsville, will consist of 38 houses containing 220 dwelling units and will be completed early in May. It will cost $352,810.

The Union

Cincinnati, Ohic

CARVER HALL

APR 8 1943

OWI—George W. Carver Hall, a resident hotel in Washington, D. C., for Negro men employed in government war work, and the first of its type to be constructed in this country, will open Thursday, April 1, the National Housing Agency announced today.

APR 8 1943

The project was built by the Defense Homes Corporation of the Federal Public Housing Authority and was named for the eminent Negro scientist, the late George Washington Carver of Tuskegee Institute.

Located at Second and Elm Streets N.W., the project will accommodate 205 Negro men in 159 single and 23 double rooms. Occupancy is restricted to government workers who have come to Washington within the last 18 months and who are certified as war workers by their employing agencies.

APR 8 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

TO BUILD SEPARATE TOWN FOR RACE

June 5, 1943

PASCO, Wash., June 3—According to reports being circulated in eastern Washington, two towns—one for Negroes and the other for white residents—will be built on the Army's 400,000-acre Hanford engineering project in Benton County. It is said that the two towns will house an estimated 15,000 workers. The section assertedly to be built for the race will be located a few miles north of Ashland, Wash., now being evacuated under Army orders.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

First Women's Hotel Helping Housing Problem In Capital

JAN 2 - 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The $760,000 Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall, first-government constructed hotel for colored women, this week was helping to relieve the crowded housing conditions occasioned by the influx of war workers to the nation's capital.

Opened less than 10 months after ground-breaking ceremonies, it is in one of Washington's quietest residential sections at Third and U streets, N. W.

NAMED FOR HOWARD DEAN

Built by the Defense Homes Corporation and named for the first Negro dean of women at Howard University, the Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall offers modern and comfortable accommodations to 233 Negro women.

Within ten days of its opening on December 5, more than two score war workers had already taken up residence there and more were moving in daily.

Occupancy of the 209 outside rooms, 22 of which are double, is confined to Negro women war workers who have come to Washington since July 1, 1941. Each room is competely furnished and maid service is provided once a week.

JAN 2 - 1943

WEEKLY RATES

Included in the rates of $7 per week for a single room and $6 and $6.50 per person for a double room are many facilities for war workers and their guests.

These include a fully-equipped recreation room, a spacious lounge, a comfortable lobby, a fountain room for leisure-hour snacks, and a cafeteria which will soon furnish a well-balanced nourishing meal at nominal costs.

In addition, the three-story brick building has basement laundry facilities with ironing rooms on each floor and a valet shop and beauty salon for the residents.

JAN 2 - 1943

BURKE MANAGER

Managing director of the Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall is W. Spurgeon Burke, former business manager of the U. S. Veterans Hospital at Tuskegee, Ala. Mr Burke will also serve as managing director of LeDroit Hall, a residence building for male war workers now under construction in the same neighborhood.

When complete early in 1943, this new construction, similar in design and appointments, will accommodate 199 men. Construction costs and equipment will exceed $500,000.

As managing director for the two projects, Mr. Burke will supervise a staff of approximately sixty employees.

JAN 2 - 1943

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OTHER HOMES

JAN 2 - 1943

The Lucy D. Slowe Residence Hall is one of a number of homes for war workers built recently by the Defense Homes Corporation in Washington, D. C.; Portsmouth, N. H.; Niagara, N. Y.; Charleston, S. C.; Newport News Portsmouth and Radford, Va.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Sheffield and Moblie, Ala.; Boulder, Nev.; Joliet, Ill.; Massillon and Columbus, O.; Bremerton, Wash.; Morgantown, W. Va.; Nashville, Tenn.; and Orange and Corpus Christi, Texas.

Opens Carver Hall As Residence Hotel

Peoples Voice
New York N.Y.

WASHINGTON—Carver Hall, first residence hotel in the US for Negro men in war work, was officially opened here April 1, by officials of the Defense Homes Corp (DHC) of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

APR 10 1943

The first tenant, James Murphy of New York City, moved in the night before it "opened" and for a short time had to himself the three-story structure which includes recreation, reception and writing rooms, as well as a sun roof and garden terrace.

APR 10 1943

The hotel, located at Second and Elm sts, NW, will accommodate 205 men in 159 single and 23 double rooms. Fifteen rooms are reserved by District ruling for transients. It is constructed so as to catch all possible sunlight. Hilliard Robinson, Negro architect, was the designer of this "strictly functional and livable" project. A dining hall and kitchen are provided altho residents will take their meals in nearby Lucy Slowe Hall, a corresponding home for women workers.

Carver Hall, takes its name from the late scientist, Dr. George Washington Carver of Tuskegee Institute.

APR 10 1943

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Citizens Appeal to FDR To Rescind Band Against Negroes at Willow Lodge

MAR 17 1943

Detroit, Mich.—Refusal of Herbert Emmerich, FPHA, to rescind the ban against Negroes at Willow Lodge Housing project brought from 20 leading citizens here this week a telegram to President Roosevelt asking that he review and correct Emmerich's decision.

MAR 17 1943

The telegram was sent after a conference with Emmerich at which Gloster Current, Detroit branch executive secretary, Leslie Pery, NAACP Washington Bureau and Lous Martin of the Michigan Chronicle were chief spokesmen.

The conference lasted two hours and Emmerich who had stated that housing in defense areas would follow established community patterns refused to lift the ban against Negro applicants. This in spite of the fact that these same Negro applicants worked side by side daily with white workers in the nearby war production centers. Mixed occupancy has been unanimously approved by whites in this area. The next move in the housing fight is now up to John Blandford, chief of the National Housing Administration.

A highlight of the housing conferenece was the statement of one of the delegates, an elderly Negro who stood before Emmerich's desk and said simply: "I am sixty days older than the President, and I believe I am doing as much for the war. I have one boy in North Africa with the Army, another in Australia, and one here who will be sent I don't know where. I don't want those boys to come back to have someone tell them where they cannot live."

The Story Behind the Fight

The fight for the Negro's right to occupy homes in the Willow Lodge project looms as the most important item on the agenda of militant Negroes, for upon its outcome depends the future pattern of government housing throughout the country. If a pattern of segregation is enforced at Willow Lodge, Negroes will find it almost impossible to secure homes near defense plants, not only in Michigan but in all defense areas. For the same southern congressmen who were instrumental in designating the war project for white only are also working diligently to establish a policy of segregated war housing in other states where Negroes and whites occupy the same projects without incident.

MAR 11 1943

Here is a brief background of the fight:

Since the Ford bomber plant began turning out planes, approximately 10,000 men and women have been employed, but one-half that number has left because of the housing shortage. First attempt to alleviate this shortage was plans for a railer homes project in the city of Ypsilanti. However, the Ypsilanti city council objected to the establishment of a trailer camp, in the city and the constuction of 3,000 homes project got under way. When the question of housing Negroes came up, feelers were put out among the workers to ascertain their position on integration. However, Allan Straughm, assistant administrator for bomber plant local 50, reporter recently that workers have never indicated that they were interested in who occupied the projec and that efforts to call them together to discuss the matter have been unsuccessful. However, interest in designating the project for whites was inspired by other than union sources and when Negroes continued to make application for homes, they were told applications should be filed for Ypsilanti Negro project or a project in Inkster.

MAR 11 1943

In the meantime plans were made for the construction of a permanent homes project in the Negro community of Ypsilanti, and additional plans called for the establishment of a trailer camp project in the same community. However, the city council voted no objections to trailer homes in the Negro community. But ctiizens of Ypsilanti, aroused by Detroiters, joined in the fight, formed a citizens' committee in Ypsilanti; encouraged white people to support their cause, raised funds to support the fight and sent the Rev. H. G. Simmonds to Washington with the delegation.

Midway Hall, First Negro Government Dormitory, Opens

Washington Post

Midway Hall, first residence dormitory for Negro Government girls, was officially opened yesterday, and by nightfall more than 75 girls had moved in. Midway, and its companion dormitory, Wake Hall, will house 848 girls. Wake will be opened within a month.

The halls, constructed by the public works division of the FWA, are located at Oklahoma Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street Northeast.

May 3, 43

Alcott Hall, for white Government girls, will be opened with a reception for Congressmen and officials of the National Housing Agency, FWA, from 3 to 5 p. m.

Washington D. C.

NHA WILL AID NEGRO HOUSING

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

CHICAGO, July 1—(ANP)—"The National Housing agency is determined that the need for housing of Negro workers and their families can and must be met promptly," Joseph P. Tufts, new Midwest regional representative of the National Housing agency, declared Thursday at a luncheon of the Metropolitan Housing council in the Palmer house.

"Particular attention," he said, "is being given to the needs of Negro workers and families. It is recognized by the National Housing agency that the critical Negro housing shortage is potentially one of the greatest handicaps of the war production effort in the Chicago district."

JUL 3 1943

47f-1943

N. African Wounded Treated at Valley Forge, Pa., Hospital

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

100 of 1400 Patients Colored; Wounded Tell Afro All War Is Not at the Front

By LEON M. SNEAD

PHOENIXVILLE, Pa.—If you are an old campaigner like 45-year-old Master Sgt. Levy McNeill, rounding out [illegible] twenty-seven-year hitch in khaki that dates back to the Pancho Villa expedition in 1916—

Or if like Pvt. Claudius Wright, 26, you have a 5-month-old daughter back in Waco, Texas, that you have yet to fondle—

Then you don't want any trucking out of hospitals, not even if it's a place like Uncle Sam's Valley Forge General where you get the best of everything without worrying about the bills; where every effort is made to see that you get well quick and have a good time doing so.

In the case of Sgt. McNeill, you feel sort of chagrined that a recurrent attack of arthritis, complicated by "40-below" weather near the Russian border, has you hobbling about a hospital when the Mexican conflict or fourteen months abroad in World War I (including the hell that was the Meuse-Argonne and the Marne) couldn't put you under. Heck, you're a professional fighting man. You want action.

Injured by Tool Chest

As for Pvt. Wright, well, this business of war isn't a career for you but you want action, too—for another reason. You want the Axis squelched just as soon as possible so that you can get home to the wife and kids—three of them now, counting that youngster you've never seen.

Of all the places to drop, why would that 600-pound tool chest you were unloading in Casablanca have to pick on your back? A guy can't help win the war in a wheel cheer with a fractured spine, can he?

Wright's attitude was more or less typical of the colored soldiers with whom the writer talked during a recent visit to Valley Forge General Hospital which the army opened four months ago.

Spread over some 180 acres in a country area about two miles outside of the small town of Phoenixville, the hospital is a group of red brick, two-story buildings with a generous expanse of evenly-cut lawn on which the soldiers sun themselves, play croquet and other not-too-strenuous outdoor games.

No Prejudice at Hospital

Commanded by Col. Henry Beeuwkes of the medical corps, who was personal physician to General Pershing during the last war, Valley Forge General Hospital is an excellent refutation of the army's pet theory that mixing colored and white troops is bad business.

Here, colored and white soldiers sleep in cots side by side (or if their injuries are more serious, have private rooms next to each other), attend movies together, use the same post exchange, play together in the large Red Cross clubroom-auditorium.

There have been no "incidents" to speak of, I was told. There have been times, colored patients said, when some Southern-born white soldiers, unused to decent human relations, have tried to bring their Dixie prejudices into the hospital with them.

With the help of white soldiers and officers who know what the word "democracy" means, the Southerners who want to be different sooner or later fall into line whether they like it or not.

Of course, some of them never like it, but they lump it.

Some Haters Around

We got a taste of this when AFRO Photographer Marshall Wilson asked two white soldiers to pose by a bed with two colored soldiers. One [illegible] white soldiers with a Georgia accent said "No" as though he had been requested to slap his mother.

The other soldier, who was from Brooklyn, was glad to oblige.

But that Southerner's attitude was apparently not typical, we later found out. In the Red Cross club room were scenes that would have made Hitler very ill.

Races Play Together

At one of the ping-pong tables, a colored and white soldier were matching shots in a spirited game that held the interest of a mixed audience. Black and blonde heads were bent over checker boards, card games with partners of different races were in progress.

Over in one corner of the room was a wheel chair huddle with experiences and stories of the war being shared by colored and white patrons, some of the latter being from the South.

Other than not getting enough mail (and what soldier does), the men that I talked to had no complaints, except that they just wanted to get out. There are about 100 colored soldiers here out of a total of 1400 patients.

Staff All White

The hospital handles all types of cases, and patients receive the benefit of all the new scientific and medical discoveries that will speed their recovery. All of the staff, from physicians to cooks, is white.

The men who are able can rove about the grounds for three hours a day while convalescing, can get furloughs up to thirty-one days. Free, up-to-date movies are shown once a week by the Red Cross. In addition, there are card parties and other types of entertainment given regularly.

The men whom I met can tell you that all of this war is not in the front-line trenches. Members of quartermaster, ordnance, or engineer outfits, most of them were injured behind the lines, some very seriously.

They weren't doing the actual fighting, but as one put it, "We were making it possible for our guys to carry on."

Chi Man Injured

There was, for instance, Corp. Daltin Martin, 34, of Chicago. Employed by an Illinois refining company before he was inducted a year ago, Martin had several bones in his back broken when he was struck by a falling boom on a ship he was helping to unload at Casablanca three months ago.

Then there was Pvt. James Williams, 25, of Champagne, Ill., who hauled gasoline to the front in Africa for several weeks without mishap, only to have his hip shattered by a bullet in comparatively quiet Oran.

Philadelphian in Group

Williams said Oran was supposed to be out of the battle zone, but he knows he didn't shoot himself.

Suffering a similar wound under equally mysterious circumstances was Pvt. George W. Curtis, 27, who was shot near Bizerte in February when that town was twenty-six miles behind the lines according to military leaders.

A mechanic by trade, Curtis lived at 1610 Catharine Street, Philadelphia, before joining the army two years ago, [illegible] employed by an auto repair shop near the AFRO office at Broad and Bainbridge Streets.

Attached to an ordnance unit, Curtis was with the invasion party that landed in North Africa. He said he enjoyed the show although the deafening roar of the booming guns made him think "the end of the world was near."

He'd liked to go along on the "big" invasion said Curtis, who has a brother, Cater, at Camp Stewart, and a sister, Mrs. Almeter Cook, with the WAAC outfit at Fort Devens.

Private Loses Eye

Not a front line casualty either was Pvt. Jack H. Bankhead, 25, of El Dorado, Ark., but he has already given his right eye in this war and would like to rejoin his old engineer outfit soon "because my left eye is O.K."

The eye was injured by a glove while he was training to participate in his first boxing bout at Camp Edwards in November. Three months later, in Oran, a passing truck displaced some granite on the road. A piece flew up, struck the injured eye. It had to be removed in Africa.

Sgt. McNeill has seen service in Iran, Egypt, Palestine, Bagdad, and Iraq. Sniper trouble bothered them a bit in Iran, he said, adding that the natives "hadn't surrendered from the last war."

To be near him, the sergeant's wife, Mrs. Teole McNeill, is now living in Philadelphia at 2024 N. Woodstock Street. They have one son, John L. McNeill, 23, at Fort Benning, Ga., who is a master sergeant like his dad.

JUL 3 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Site for 550 Homes Okeyed

BALTIMORE

Oliver K. Winston, FPHA regional representative, announced from Washington today (Friday) that his office has approved construction of 550 war housing units in the Belle Grove Road area, adjacent to Patapsco Park.

With 250 additional units now under construction in Fairfield, Md., this new project takes care of 800 of the 2,000 such homes for which eight million dollars was appropriated by the National Housing Agency on February 26.

Meet with Mayor Set

The site proposed in Southeast Baltimore for the remaining 1200 units is the one now causing so much controversy.

The new interracial commission appointed to study the situation and Mr. Winston will meet with Mayor McKeldin on Saturday to consider locations for this project.

Primarily suggested for this project are the Cherry Hill Road area, the Northpoint Road site, and the Philadelphia Road area, all of which have been vigorously protested by white residents in each neighborhood.

Protest Called "Narrow"

The newly selected Belle Grove Road area is being protested by white Anne Arundel County property owners who maintain that the site is not close to war plants and that transportation facilities are already too heavily taxed.

This attitude, as publicly expressed by Senator Wilbur R. Dulin (Dem., Anne Arundel), was criticized as being "narrow and sectionalistic" by Leon A. Rubenstein, member of the House of Delegates from the Fourth District.

Mr. Rubenstein stated that the housing proposal for colored war workers is being made a "political football," and that "there is no reason in logic nor in justice to deny to a particular racial group their right to decent living conditions."

JUN 25 1943

Highlights

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

By STANLEY ROBERTS

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio, July 22—Lt. Col. John P. Fletcher, after whom the Fletcher General Hospital, here, was named, died two years ago. He devoted an Army life time to the healing of the wounded and sick. He was a distinguished member of the Army Medical Corps. He developed much field equipment still in use.

* * *

Yes, there is a guard house here too . . . just in case some of the lads get out of line. The "brig" confirms to the same architectural plans as the other buildings and is unnoticeable.

* * *

The WAC will play an important part at Fletcher. Three WAC officers and 150 auxiliaries will be stationed here to release men for other duties. Duties will include cooking, typing, baking, cabinet making, etc.

* * *

It took only four months to build the immense hospital, a remarkable achievement. Constructed during the winter months, much of the work was done under tents to prevent the materials from freezing, and many of the men in the U. S. Engineers Corps, who did the work were Negroes. It is a job well done!

* * *

Three buildings have been set aside for recreation. An adequate program of recreation is important for the recuperation of the men. Morale building is the term used by the recreation directors.

* * *

The hospital is entirely steam-heated. There are two plants, each capable of heating the entire plant, in case something goes wrong with the other. Installation of the heating plant was a gigantic task, involving miles of pipe laying.

* * *

Construction of the "life line," the hospital's water main, required 45 working days. It is pumped all the way from the town out to the plant. It will require a half million gallons a day.

* * *

Major O. E. Nadeau, Medical Corps, chief of the Surgical Service, realizes that surgery will play an important part in reconstructing the shattered bones of men. He is a 30 year veteran in the field. Approximately two-thirds of the staff at Fletcher will be surgeons. Each will be a specialist in his own field. All types of surgery, including general, orthopedic, chest, urological, plastic, ear, eye, nose and throat, and many others will be under the Major's supervision.

The nursing staff will eventually be composed of 168 members of the United States Army Nurse Corps. The nurses will all be commissioned and will enjoy the privileges of their rank.

* * *

There is an airport near the hospital and it is not beyond possibility that it may be used for transporting patients. At the present time the railroad companies have erected and built a special track and loading platform for the incoming patients.

* * *

Several Ohio cities were competing for the hospital. Senator

JUL 24 1943

Harold Burton, Cleveland, played a major role in locating it here.

* * *

Casualties in World War II will be far greater than those of the last war and no doubt, Fletcher Hospital will be a permanent institution.

JUL 24 1943

Various buildings in the hospital have large red crosses painted on their roofs so that they are plainly visible to airplanes for miles around. In case of a U. S. bombing, Fletcher should be undisturbed, according to International law.

* * *

There is a small chapel on the grounds. And provisions have been for all men to worship according to their own particular faith.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Federal Housing Project For Ala.

John P. Broome, regional Federal Public Housing Authority director, announced Wednesday the award of a War Housing Project for construction of 40 family housing units and community facilities, estimated to cost $86,000, at Tuskegee, Ala. The contract was awarded to Algernon Blair, Montgomery.

AUG 5 1943

Renting Shortage In Long Island Reaches Its Peak; Negroes Find It Difficult To Find Apartments

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

JAMAICA, N. Y. — For the past year or two Harlemites and others seeking rentals on Long Island experienced no difficulty in securing houses, usually on lease, and a number of apartments, but today it is an entirely different story. The peak has been reached and finding houses and apartments is like finding the proverbial needle in a haystack.

The result is that quite a number of colored families have seen the feasibility of investing in small homes, especially in Jamaica, which, unlike Corona, has shown a steady growth in home-ownerhsip because of the improvements which have come to the five distinct sections making up this part of Queens

Merrick Park, St. Albans, Cedar Manor and Jamaica have drawn a full quota, and today the Dunton section, with the same facilities in bus and other transportation, is making its bid to prospective home-owners.

JUL 3 1943

Unlike South Jamaica proper, with its main throughfare on New York boulevard, which has drawn all the good and evil of business, the Dunton section for colored people remains a most desirable residential part of Queens with everyhing that is fine in a restricted locality of solid homes, all boasting modern improvements, to say nothing of its large schools churches, etc.

While many of those wise in the ways of realty values are looking forward to a post-war boom, it is very apparent that Dunton will enjoy its own little boom this year, for defense work has made it possible for many families to cherish the idea of securing a home while the time is ripe and Dunton is virtually untapped thus far. Only one real estate firm has been able thus far to break in in certain sections where Negroes have been unable to secure homes previously, and despite the rumblings of dissatisfaction on the part of a few white families because of the entrance of one or two pioneer Negro families, a better type of Negro residents from the other burroughs will be able to secure many more homes in the section.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Group Seeks War Housing Projects For Workers

A delegation led by the Baltimore branches of the NAACP and the Urban League held conferences this week with Jonathan Daniels, administrative assistant to the President and Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority to protest the failure of the Federal government to erect a housing project for Negro workers who have migrated to the city to work in vital war industries.

The group told Daniels that Negro war workers have moved into Baltimore at the rate of 2,000 a month for the past year. It was pointed out that while Negroes constitute 20 per cent of the city's population, they are crowded into less than 7 per cent of its living space.

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4 Homes in D.C. Available for War Workers, Families

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Only four homes are available in the capital area for colored war workers with families, it was revealed by the War Housing Center figures on Thursday.

JUN 24 1943

The paucity of homes for one of the largest groups in the capital's population was exposed when Marvin Wire, director of the housing center, appealed to "every colored family in this territory to go over his household and see if he can 'double up a bit' and take in a paying war guest or his family."

Shortage at Dangerous Point

"A dangerous point" was the phrase with which Wire described the housing shortage, and explained that the war housing centers in Alexandria and Arlington, Va., and in the capital have almost exhausted their rosters of homes, although many colored families have been evicted from unsanitary or condemned quarters in recent weeks.

"Just where these people can be sent is more than we can answer," he said.

Register Exhausted

A total of 87 rooms are listed with the War Housing Center and 941 family quarters, 937 of which are under construction to be ready by about August 1. But in one day, 15 people apply for dwellings or rooms, and if four of them were placed in family units, the register would be completely exhausted.

JUN 26 1943

A total of 3,853 dwellings, or 11.4 per cent of the new residences planned by the National Housing Association for the District will be alloted to colored, while 837 rooms will be available in government dormitories when they are completed.

Award Contract for War Workers' Apts.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

Conversion of St. Joseph Seminary at 607 Pennsylvania Avenue into forty-two apartments for war workers is expected to get under way "almost immediately", L. H. Denton, white, director of the War Housing Center, said on Tuesday.

The contract was awarded this week to Charles R. Scriver, white, of 606 Chaving Cross Road. The amount was not announced, Mr. Denton said, because there are still a few adjustments to be made in the contract.

Homes for New Residents

The apartments will be available only to war workers who have come to the city since July 1, 1941. They may apply to Mr. Denton at the War Housing Center, 3 St. Paul Place.

JUL 3 1943

The building unused for eight years since the Josephite Fathers transferred their school to Catholic University in Washington, will be converted into two and three-room apartments.

Rents $37.50 to $57.50

The baths will contain built-in tubs and in some cases, showers. A complete new heating plant will be installed to provide radiator heat. The four-story building will have no elevator.

JUL 3 1943

Tentative rents as submitted for approval of the OPA range from $37.50 a month for fourth-story apartments to $57.50 for first-floor apartments.

These rents include heat, light, hot water, gas and full-time janitor service.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Sites Selected for War Homes

WASHINGTON

Sites for erection of 300 of the 740 temporary war housing units to be constructed for colored occupants have been selected near Alabama Avenue, and Stanton Road, Southeast, it was announced Saturday by John Ihder, NCHA executive officer.

While two sites have been selected for construction of the remaining 440 units, location of these sites cannot be disclosed prior to acquisition of the land by the Housing Authority, Mr. Ihlder stated.

Only in-migrant war workers and persons moved from their homes as a result of government action will be eligible as tenants of the new houses, it was stated.

First Lady Dedicates War Workers Hotels In D. C.

Argus St. Louis, Missouri

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 25 —Climaxing a tour of war housing projects in the nation's capital, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt officially dedicated Wake and Midway Halls, new residence hotels for Negro women war workers in the northeast section of Washington, D. C., Tuesday evening, May 18, 1943.

JUN 1943

Earlier in the evening, the First Lady inspected Lucy D. Slowe Hall residence hotel for Negro women and George Washington Carver Hall, residence hotel for Negro men. Both halls are located in the northwest section of the city.

Addressing several hundred war workers already living in Wake and Midway Halls, and a representative audience of visitors, Mrs. Roosevelt declared:

"The difference between a democracy and a totalitarian state is that a democracy serves the people while the people serve the state in countries where a dictator rules. The erection of these war-time housing projects is evidence of democracy serving the people. We need more such projects but we are making a step in the right direction."

JUN 4 1943

The dedication program included a group of songs by Roland Hayes, noted tenor, and several musical selections by the Women's Glee Club of Howard University. W. E. Reynolds, Public Works Administrator for the District of Columbia, served as master of ceremonies.

47f-1943

Housing is Delayed Again; City Council to Pass on Sites

JUL 31 1943

Afro-American
-Baltimore, Md.

Mayor Allows 15 Days for Final Decision on Herring Run Substitute; Special Council Session Today

JUL 31 1943

BALTIMORE

Construction of a 1200-unit war housing project was delayed again this week when Mayor McKeldin announced that he will call a special session of the City Council at 5 p.m. today (Friday), giving the body fifteen days in which to decide on a location for the project.

The matter was referred to the council after whites protesting against the Herring Run Park site challenged the authority of the City Plan Commission and the mayor's interracial commission, which recommended this site, to make such a selection.

City Solicitor Agrees

This opinion was substantiated by F. Murray Benson, city solicitor. The mayor further said that if the council fails to select a site which meets Federal requirements within the fifteen-day period, the recommendations of the other agencies will be submitted to the Federal housing officials.

4 Councilmen on Record

Four city councilmen, John F. Arthur, John Mullin, George Fallon, all 3rd District, and Medio Waldt, 2nd District, indicated their disapproval of the Herring Run site during a public demonstration last week at the War Memorial Building.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The City Council is a legislative body with no administrative functions such as selecting housing sites.]

Two weeks ago, a delegation visiting Washington to complain about the five-month delay in choosing a project site was told by Oliver C. Winston, Federal Public Housing Authority regional director, that the FPHA approved the Herring Run site as recommended by the plan commission and interracial committee.

47f

Both Sides Heard

The later groups granted hearings to both opponents and proponents of the Herring Run site on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, in the City Hall board room.

After hearing both groups, the plan commission passed a resolution reaffirming its recommendation of the Herring Run location.

While both groups were asked to limit their delegation, the white protestants headed by the Northeastern Civic Groups, Harry Thursby, president, numbered 400.

White Foes Disorderly

Because of shouts of disapproval or bursts of applause as the various speeches were being made, this delegation was rapped to order several times.

The interracial delegation which expressed favor of the site Wednesday included 100 persons representing various organizations.

This group was led by the Citizens' Planning and Housing Committee, headed by Judge T. J. S. Waxter; and the Urban League, J. Harvey Kerns, secretary.

At this time the map which appeared in last Friday's AFRO, was presented to the plan commission by Mrs. B. M. Phillips, city editor, who pointed out that the speakers who protested the site at the War Memorial Building last week, live for the most part, a mile away from the site.

Steele Explains Stand

Joseph D. Steele, who presided at both meetings as chairman of the plan commission, read a statement to the protest delegation explaining that the commission recommended the Herring Run location as "the most logical spot within the city limits and a site ideal for its purpose."

At the same time, Francis A. Davis, white, chairman of the nine-man interracial commission, explained why this committee recommended Herring Run, "which in our opinion was the best place in the Eastern section of the city for the location of these houses."

Congressman Among Foes

Speakers for the protest delegation were John B. Gontrum, State insurance commission; Robert E. Lee Marshall, attorney and former city solicitor, and Congressman H. Street Baldwin, (D., 2nd.).

During their talks, the proposed project was referred to as a "camp for colored recruits" intended for a "foreign invasion from the South."

The twenty speakers favoring the site implored the plan commission to stick by its recommendation, pointing out the urgent need for the project to house vital war workers and to relive the already existing housing congestion.

Funds Available Since Feb.

The location for this largest war housing project has been debated since February 26, when the National Housing Agency allotted eight million dollars for the construction of 2,000 war housing units for colored tenants.

Since that time two projects which will accommodate only 800 of these units have been approved. The Benjamin Banneker Project wih 250 units is under construction at Fairfield, Md.; and preliminary work has begun on a site at Bellegrove Road, adjacent to Patapsco Park, for 550 units.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

TENNESSEEAN HOUSING MANAGER AT TUSKEGEE

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—The Federal Public Housing Authority announced this week that [illegible]nce L. Benton, a native of Tennessee and formerly cashier-bookkeeper of College Hill Courts, Chattanooga, Tenn., has been appointed housing manager of the J. H. Washington Homes at Tuskegee, Alabama.

Housing Problem Fast Being Licked

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

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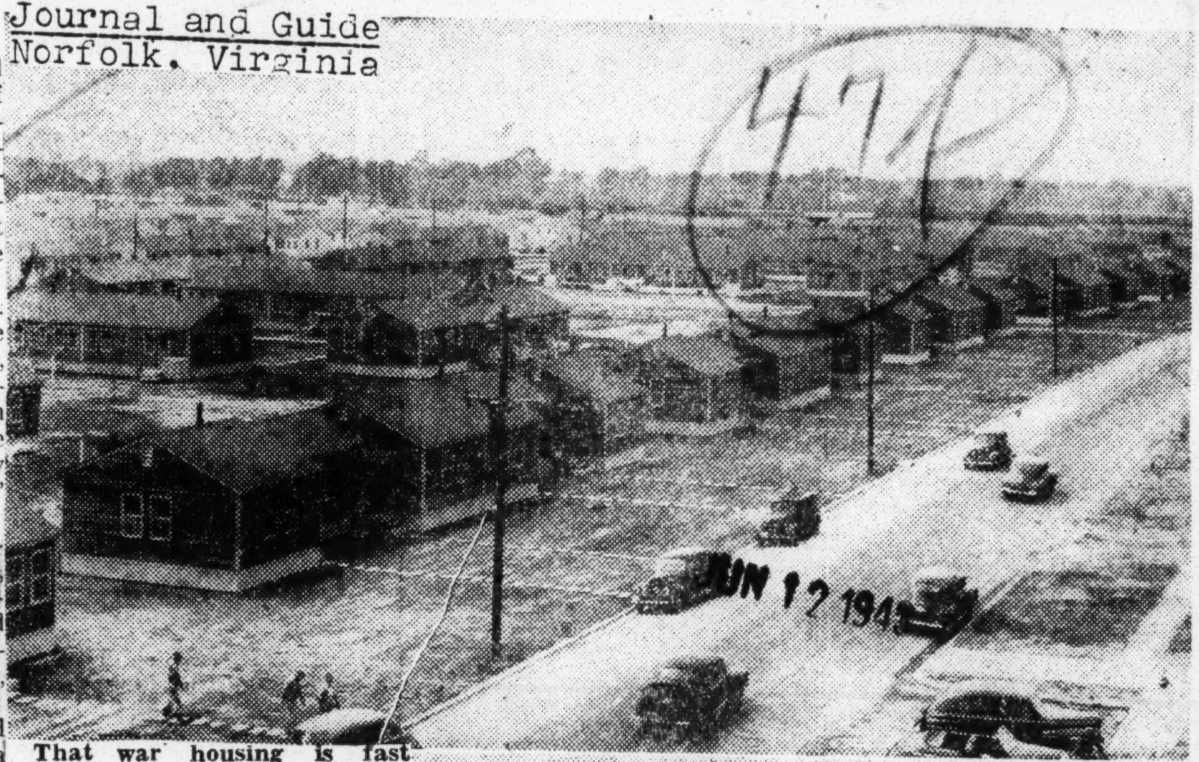
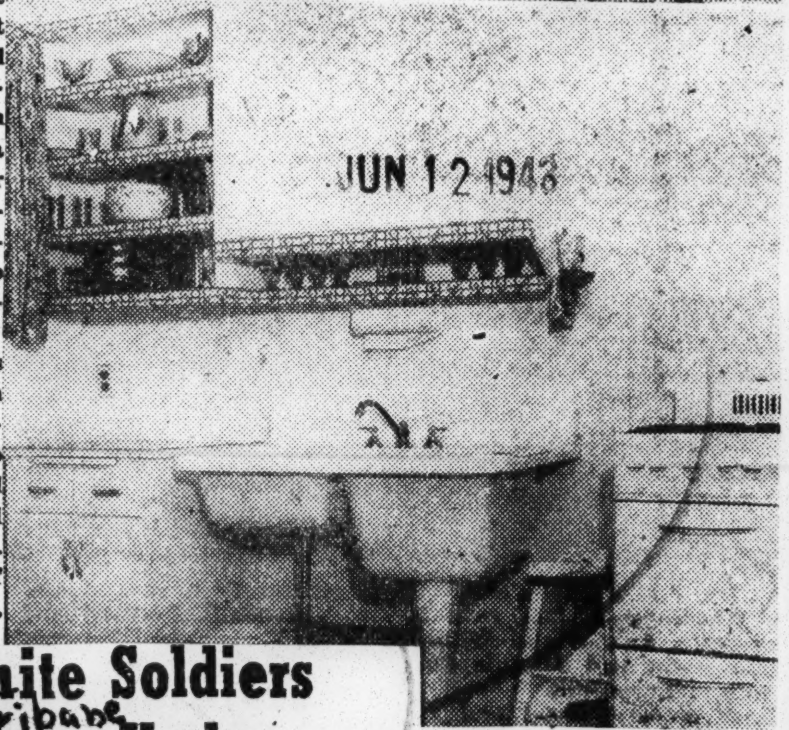


JUN 12 1943



JUN 12 1943

That war housing is fast catching up with war plant expansion in the war-vital Hampton Roads area in Virginia is aptly demonstrated in the layout above representing a typical housing project for war workers in this area. The Government is putting on an intensive recruiting campaign to bring 8,000 badly needed workers into Norfolk's shipyards.

Some 9,000 new housing units are immediately available, with thousands more nearing completion. War Workers who come into the state will find houses such as those pictured above, available for occupancy. The highly modern kitchen of one of the homes is pictured, at right.

Colored and White Soldiers Recuperating Here Under Ideal Conditions at Forest Glen

Washington, D.C. Tribune

By GARLAND MACKEY

It was my privilege to see real democracy at work last Wednesday when along with several other representatives of the press I spent [illegible]day at the Forest Glen Annex, Walter Reed Hospital in Forest Glen, Md., as the guest of the commanding officer, Lieut. Col. Carl W. Tempel.

JUN 12 1943

[illegible] some 427 soldier patients are recuperating from various illnesses and are being reconditioned so as to return to active service. When asked the number of colored patients at the Annex Col. Tempel remarked that he not only did not know but no attempt is made to designate the patients as to race and my guess would be about as good as his. My guess would be about 100 Negroes are here for the reconditioning period which takes about three weeks.

Here one may see colored and white soldiers, drilling, eating, sleeping and playing together. There is no attempt at segrega-

47f

ion. At drill time those who are able and feel like it "fall in" at the command without regard to color. At meal time the men merely get in line, receive their meals and sit at any one of the many tables in the dining room.

The Forest Glen Annex was formerly the National Park College, an exclusive school for rich girls. It was acquired by the Army on September 3, 1942, at a cost of $855,000. The War Department has made certain improvements costing about a million dollars.

It was acquired as an essential annex to Walter Reed Hospital, where the return of casualties from overseas, plus special cases, from our growing Army in this country, had begun to tax facilities at Walter Reed. The Annex is used only for ambulatory patients. Nurses and WAAC's are sent there as well as soldiers.

JUN 12 1943

Recreational facilities, both indoors and outdoors, are unlimited. Athletic fields used by the girl students are utilized for drilling, and sport events. There is a gymnasium, bowling alleys, shuffle board courts, basketball courts, swimming pool, recreational hall and theatre. The former grand ballroom of the school is the main recreational hall. The Annex is a city within itself with its own power and lighting system and is a natural spot of beauty of some 182 acres.

The entire command volunteered 100 percent to donate blood to the Red Cross. Even the civilian personnel volunteered for this purpose.

There were several soldiers recuperating here who had recently returned from overseas. All were suffering from minor ailments and are expected to return to active duty in the near future.

One of the most interesting men I talked with was Cpl. James Saunders, 22, of Chicago, Ill Before entering the Army Saunders was a student at Xavia University. He was in North Africa and saw President Roosevel when he visited that country Saunders' big moment in th Army was when the Presiden spoke to him and asked him wher he lived in the States. Saunders was with a Security Battalion. He liked Africa, but did not care for the climate. He expects to complete his college education when the war is over.

Christopher Harrison, of Etowah, Tenn., was in India and was attached to a Quartermaster outfit. He was overseas 9 months and hopes to get back into action.

Elabee Casteel, of Vero, Florida, spent his time abroad in London. He is fond of the English people and liked the country. Casteel was in the Christmas Day bombing of London by the Germans and said he would like nothing better than getting a chance to ('get even" with the enemy.

Sergeant Booker T. Braxton, of Chicago, was also in London on that Christmas Day when the Germans came over in planes to drop bombs on the city. Sergeant Braxton was attached to a Motor Pool. He is now assigned to limited duty.

Ura Bowers, of Cleveland, Ohio, was in England and North Africa. He was with a unit of Combat Engineers. He saw service in Tunis and is hoping to get back with his buddies.

All of the boys had nothing but the highest praise for the Red Cross and all said that it was this organization which gave them many "a lift" when paydays were few and far between. Some said at one time they went seven months without pay. The Red Cross came to their aid and furnished them with funds until their pay came through.

JUN 12 1943

The extremes in climate in North Africa seemed to affect the men more than the enemy. The blazing hot days and bitter cold nights were foes many of the men could not overcome.

At Forest Glen the men are richly being paid and deserve the excellent treatment they are getting there. The best of food, every recreational facility, comfortable rooms and surroundings are doing much to speed them to recovery. There is nothing at Forest Glen to resemble a hospital. The beds are four-poster mahogany, and all of the luxurious furnishings of the former school remains intact. The entire building reminds one more of an expensive summer club than a convalescent home for soldiers.

Chicago Defender

Baltimore Finally To Get War Housing Project After Five Months Of Stalling

Chicago, Illinois—

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Federal Public Housing Authority announced last week that a site has been selected for erection of a housing project for Negro war workers of Baltimore, Md. Selection of a site has been a matter of controversy for the past five months.

Lack of adequate housing has been one of the contributing factors to the rising racial tensions in this teeming center of war production. Last February $8,000,000 was earmarked for the construction of a project for Negroes. Objections were raised to each of three recommended sites.

The most suitable site appeared to be one known as Herring Run Park. But the real estate interests of Baltimore objected t this site being utilized for the housing of Negroes. The influence was brought to bear on the Baltimore Housing Authority and upon the Baltimore city Council. Organized protests were made to the FPHA.

AUG 7 1943

Delay Decision

Following an unfortunate tradition of vacillation, the FPHA hedged on making a decision, even though delay in constructing the project was a definite set-back to the war production program in the Baltimore area. Despite the authority of the FPHA to choose sites on its own decisions, after consultation with local housing authorities and communities, the agency failed to act in the urgent emergency.

This procrastination gave courage to the organized opposition. Negroes and liberal whites of Baltimore began exerting pressure on the FPHA to exercise its authority and meet its obligations.

To counteract this effort of the community, the Baltimore city council has just recently passed a city ordinance forbidding the federal government establishing any housing project for in-migrant workers unless the site upon which it is to be located shall have been finally approved and authorized by ordinance of the mayor and city council of Baltimore.

Under this ordinance, the city council threatens to take the matter to court. John B. Gontrum, state insurance commissioner and one of three attorneys representing the opposition to the site said the decision of the FPHA to select the Herring Run Park site was in violation and defiance of local laws and an overriding of local government. Acting Mayor Thomas E. Conlon, during absence of Mayor McKeldin who is on vacation in Maine, said last week he had requested the city solicitor to make a study of the legal aspects of the housing problem looking toward possible court action "to protect the city's interest."

AUG 7 1943

Federal Responsibility

The FPHA has taken the position that there is no provision in the federal law requiring the federal government to obtain city approval of a site of a housing development.

"As a matter of fact," the government maintains, "there is an express provision in the Lanham Act that these projects may be constructed without any regard to any municipal laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations, and this provision is merely declaratory of the law that is applicable to all war housing projects of the federal government.

"The duty and responsibility for the selection of the site for these war housing projects rests with the federal government."

The FPHA maintains, however that it is its policy and that it has always sought and given full consideration to local views and recommendations, as is evidenced on this particular project by the long and extended discussions with various public officials.

Permanent Homes

Despite the opposition of the city council and the real estate board the location of the project has been approved by an interracial commission appointed by the mayor. In this connection, the FPHA declared in a communication to the mayor:

"In the development of the Negro housing project on the Herring Run site, we are accepting virtually all of the suggestions made by the commission on city plan and the interracial commission which are summarized in your letter of July 23....

"Moreover, we are acceding to the overwhelming sentiment in the city of Baltimore that these houses be made permanent so that after the war they can help to alleviate the unsafe, insanitary and overcrowded housing conditions under which so many Negroes are living."

Negro and liberal white citizens of Baltimore made a strong appeal for this type of action through a delegation which waited on the FPHA and National Housing Agency officials last month.

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C.

To Build 3,200 Units for War Workers Here

SEP 4 1943

According to an announcement made public this week by the National Housing Agency war workers can now have their fears of additional housing allayed. A total of 3,200 units for Negroes was approved by the Washington Housing Association early this week.

Some 1,000 of these units will be constructed by the government and the remaining 2,200 are to be built by private funds.

A statement by NHA Administrator John B. Biandford, Jr., revealed that with these units, scheduled to be started in the very near future, there are all indications that war housing now available for occupancy, plus the large number of projects under discussion or scheduled for early starting, will meet the backlog needs of Washington war workers and accommodate further immigration of war labor anticipated up to 1944.

More Houses For Los Angeles

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 18 1943

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 16—Additional housing facilities for the Los Angeles area were definitely promised by Howard [illegible] Holtzendorff, executive director [illegible] city Housing Authority, following his return from Washington. Holtzendorff held several conferences there with John B. Blandford, Jr., administrator of the National Housing Agency whom he stated was deeply impressed with the need for war worker housing here.

One thousand units have thus far been programed for this area. Five hundred of these will be constructed and managed by the city authority and the like number by the [illegible], will be made available f[illegible] employees of the navy. The units to [illegible]andled by the city authority [illegible] be built as soon as possible, will be located probably in the Southwestern part of the city and are to be open to all races, on the basis of need.

A survey by the NHA shows that the demands in this area are for two and three-bedroom units. Private housing groups have previously adhered to the one-bed-room type but due to the growing demand for the former the local FHA office has requested that plans be changed to meet the existing circumstances.

According to Milton Fischer, National Housing Agency regional representative, "Negro war workers already employed here are living under clearly intolerable conditions. Additional Negro workers will be needed for war jobs in the coming months."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has revealed that there is desperate need for colored housing here.

47f-1943

Hart Fights Housing for War Workers and Negroes

PM
New York, N. Y.

U. S. Officials Say He's Issued Thousands of Pamphlets

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

JUL 21 1943

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Merwin K. Hart, pro-Franco propagandist and veteran critic of the Administration, is now circulating a booklet calling upon taxpayers to revolt against a Federal housing program for war workers—especially Negroes.

Officials of the National Housing Agency—chief target of Hart's attack—say that "thousands" have received the pamphlet entitled *The Bureaucrats Come to Town.*

Merwin K. Hart

The booklet is intended to counsel home-owners that the Federal Government will condemn their property as a preliminary to providing quarters for Negro war workers.

Hart's essay describes how a purely "residential" Illinois town is invaded by a national housing official who warns the people to convert their homes into "tenements," 10 per cent of which are to be occupied by Negroes.

JUL 21 1943

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The booklet depicts a mass meeting at which a heroic taxpayer comes to the aid of the beleaguered townspeople. Hart puts these words into the hero's mouth: "The proposition is just one more attempt of the Federal Bureaucracy to control state and local Governments."

Then the hero asks: "Does the list (of tenants) include white and colored?"

Taxpayers 'Rebel'

The NHA official is described as growling this reply: "Certainly. We have the power, if we choose to exercise it."

At this point, Hart reports, the "taxpayers" rebel. The "bureaucrat" flees.

JUL 21 1943

Presumably everyone (except Negro war workers) lives happily ever after.

Apart from the propaganda contained in the pamphlet, the document distorts these recorded facts about the NHA's home-conversion program:

¶ The NHA plan provides that a home owner cannot lease his home to the Government unless "it is within a specific critical area"—not a residential section as described by Hart.

¶ The home must also be "accessible to war plants."

JUL 21 1943

¶ The arrangement cannot violate zoning ordinances; the home owners can choose tenants from a long list of war-workers; and the house must be returned to the owner at the end of the war.

Before Pearl Harbor Hart was Franco's chief U. S. promoter. In the foreword to his latest pamphlet he says:

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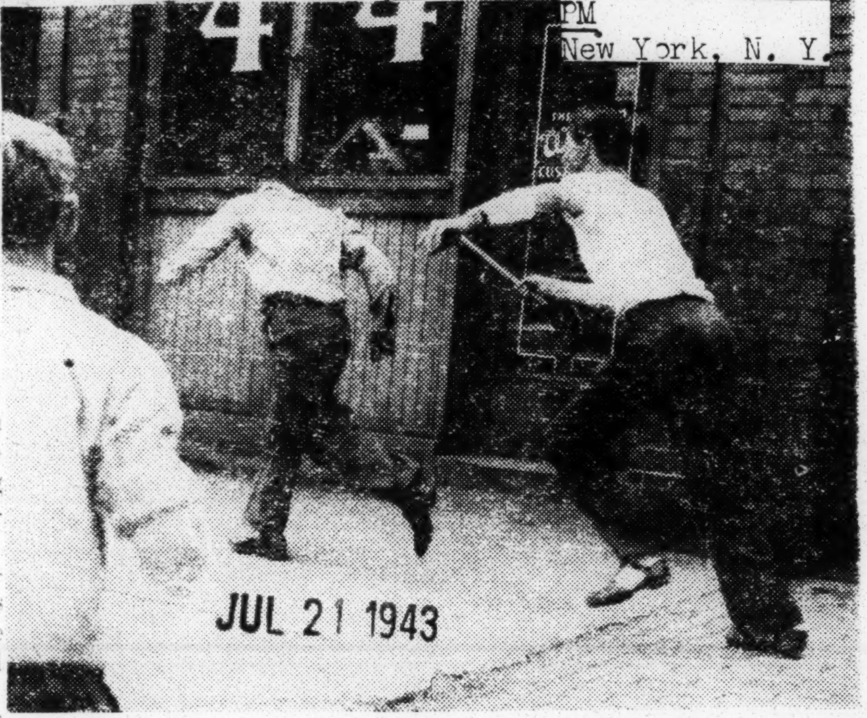
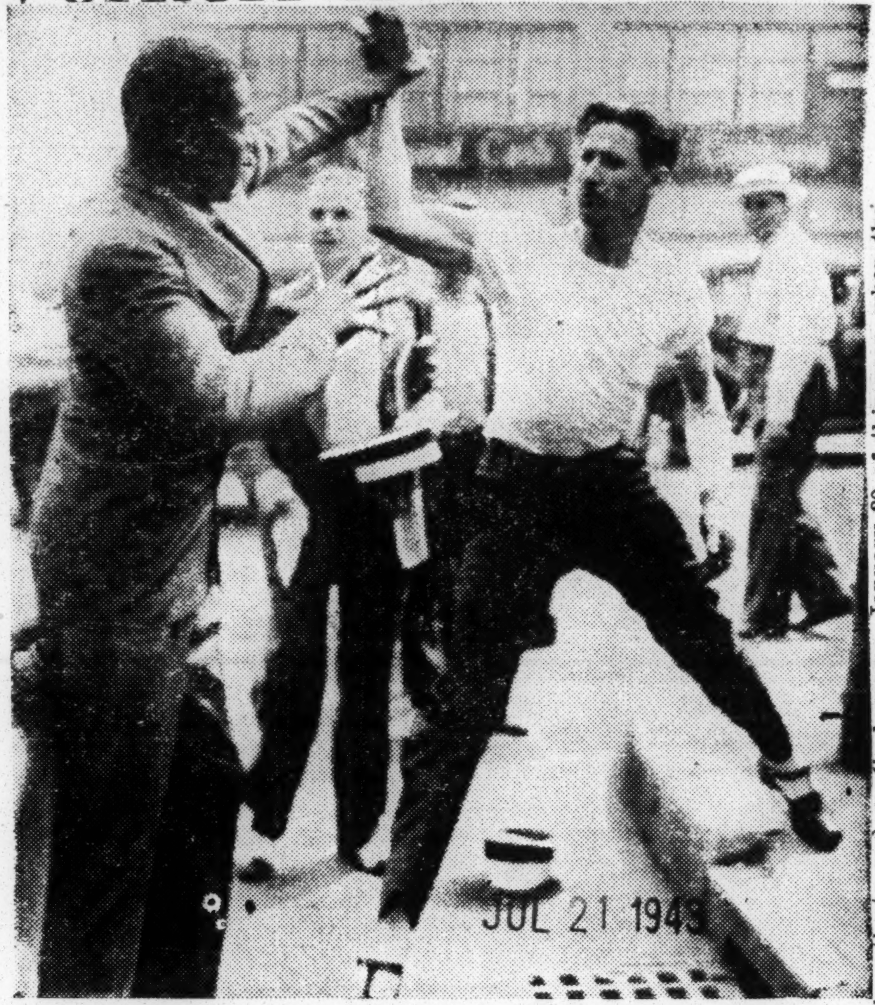
"This story is a true account of what happened in a town not more than a thousand miles from the city of Chicago. It might happen anywhere—only in many instances, we fear no citizen spoke up."

Commenting on Hart's narrative, housing officials here assert that any resemblance to real characters—either living or dead—is purely accidental. They have no record of the incident.


JUL 21 1943


JUL 21 1943

Although nearly a month late, Detroit police are combing the city for Robert Morgan as one of the rioters in the recent riots. Morgan is the white man in the two pictures above, reprinted from PM's editions for June 23. Detroit police officials told PM by telephone that Morgan has served time in Federal and state prisons and that he was taken into custody two weeks ago, but was released since there was no complainant. The police were goaded into action after the Detroit *Free Press*, whose photographers took the pictures, republished the pictures Sunday, asking why the police hadn't done anything about arresting Morgan. Monday, Isaac Green, a Packard Motor Car Co. worker, signed a complaint, charging that one blow given him by Morgan with a steel pipe will mean permanent facial disfigurement. Green says also that police held him for five days for "investigation" merely because he had gone to police headquarters to help a friend, after his own injuries were treated.

JUL 21 1943

All Men 'Yanks,' Regardless Of Race, Davis Finds

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By JOHN P. DAVIS
(Staff Correspondent)

JUN 19 1943

WASHINGTON, June 17—They are all just "Yanks" at the Forest Glenn annex of Walter Reed hospital—a new Army convalescent home for wounded soldiers back from overseas and from Army camps in this area—all Yanks, regardless of race, creed or color. Negro and white wounded soldiers eat together, march together—and they get well together and return to their units ready to fight Hitler and fascism with a new high morale.

"The boys are all patients, all handled as one army. We just have a job to do and we are all doing it together." That's the way Lt. Col. Carl W. Tempel, medical officer in charge of the Annex, stated the case.

GRAND FACILITIES

Roughly, 450 soldiers are now convalescent at this 1,100-bed hospital annex, under the general command of Brig. Gen. Shelley U. Marietta, who is in charge of the entire hospital facilities of Walter Reed hospital.

The Forest Glenn annex is unique in many respects. It was formerly a famous girls' school, acquired by the Army for hospital purposes, at a cost of 850,000.

EVERYTHING IS ULTRA-MODERN

The treatment given patients is different, too. Here, the soldier is given the most modern medical treatments, but he is, at the same time, made to feel that his job at the Annex is to get into condition as quickly as possible to return to his Army unit. Thus, morning drill, led by officer patients' hikes, setting-up exercises and an abundance of good Army chow, aid in quick recovery (usually three weeks) of the sick and wounded soldiers.

SMALL "CITY"

The Forest Glen annex is a city in itself—a city with its own power and heating plant, a chapel and gymnasium, 182 acres of rolling land, with drill field, victory gardens and spacious quarters for both patients and medical personnel. Maintenance of the facility is under the direct supervision of Capt. H. H. Yanz, who has a Negro medical detachment of 146 soldiers, whose record for co-operation was highly praised both by Captain Yanz and Lieutenant Colonel Tempel.

JUN 19 1943

The Negro medical detachment volunteered 100 per cent as blood donors to the Red Cross. It has a perfect record of discipline since January 20 of this year, when the facility was first opened. Relations between patients and soldiers are excellent. M/Sgt. James Baker, former administrator of a New York City home relief bureau, is the ranking Negro non-commissioned officer.

CONSTANT NEW FACES STIMULATE

But, perhaps, the most interesting feature of the Annex is the steady stream of wounded soldiers, returned from overseas, who pass through the convalescent treatments afforded at Forest Glen. Last week, Negro boys who had been in India, West Africa, North Africa, England and other war theatres, were hospital patients. Five of them talked with newspapermen who visited the Annex. They were: Cpl. James Saunders, a former student at Xavier university, New Orleans, La., whose home is in Chicago. Saunders is back from Casablanca, where he was attached to an air base security unit. Sgt. Booker T. Braxton, also of Chicago, is back from his station in Liverpool England. Pvt. Ura Bowers, a Cleveland boy, is back from North Africa; and coming the longest distance was Pvt. Christopher Harrison, of Etawah, Tenn., whom the Army flew back from India, by way of West Africa, after nine months in India.

All of the men were in fine spirits, despite their illnesses. One of them, Corporal Saunders, was at Casablanca at the time of the arrival of President Roosevelt for the historic "unconditional surrender conference" with Churchill. "What did F.D.R. do on arrival?" Saunders was asked. "He came through our ranks, shook hands with us and asked us where our hometown was; if we were getting enough to eat. He shook hands with me and wanted to know how I liked the food. He was swell," Saunders replied.

TELLS OF CASABLANCA

Saunders—as well as a number of other Negro and white soldiers—was returned because he developed asthma. Asked about the reason for this, the 22-year-old corporal put it this way: "You get up in the morning and you want your overcoat; it's so cold. Then the sun comes up, and from 12 to 5 o'clock you want to pull off everything you've got on. Then after five, you want a field jacket. And after nine, it's blankets, overcoats and everything you can find for cover."

He had many amusing reactions to things he saw at Casablanca. He laughingly told of his experience with little Arab shoeshine boys who would speak up to the soldiers and say, "Sing a song, Yank?" When the soldiers pitched them a coin, said Saunders, the shrill little boy voices would break out in the chorus of "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

PRAISE FOR RED CROSS

"What about the Red Cross?" Answer: "Fine. They have a fine Negro servicemen's club at Casablanca. We got our smokes, our papers, books everything from the Red Cross.

Other men told the same story of treatment by the Red Cross and the French and British people in North Africa and England.

The boys from North Africa had warm praise for their commanding officer, General Patton. They called him "Old Blood and Guts."

Scores of ther Negro soldiers—not from overseas, but sent for special treatment—seemed to be having the finest care. The large ballroom of the Annex has been converted into a recreation room. There the men play cards, ping-pong, lounge in comfortable chairs and read letters from home or their favorite papers.

Namesake Of Slave--Artisan Has Built U. S. Projects Valued At $2,800,000

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

JUN 5 1943

Down in Montgomery, Ala., there is a fine old colonial mansion which has been preserved as an outstanding example of early American architecture. Visitors to the historic site are told that the mansion was constructed by Samuel Carter, one of the most famous of the many Negro slave-artisans of the old South. Today, a namesake of Samuel Carter—the son of one of his most apt appretences—is carrying on the tradition of the early Negro artisan, and on a scale which the slave-builder scarcely have imagined.

Within the last 18 months this namesage, Samuel Plato, has completed Federal projects costing more than $2,800,000. In his 35 years as a building contractor he has constructed 28 U. S. Post Offices. He has erected armory buildings for the State of Ohio at Zanesville and Senia.

The contractor has just completed Wake and Midway Halls, residence buildings in Washington, D. C., for the Federal Works Agency. These temporary buildings will house 1,123 women war workers, with facilities for an infirmary, cafeteria, recreation hall, laundry, beauty parlor, and other community accommodations.

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It is a long step from Samuel Carter to Samuel Plato, but it is a direct step. When the old slave-builder obtained his freedom, he set out to perpetuate his tradition by apprenticing several promising young Negroes in his native Alabama. One of his favorite apprentices was James Plato, an ambitious young resident of Waugh, Ala., near Tuskegee.

So pleased was Carter at young Plato's aptitude that he bequeathed him his tools at his death. And so grateful was Plato, to his benefactor that, when his first son was born, he christened him Samuel in honor of his esteemed instructor.

Young Samuel lived up to his name—early. At eight, he had learned to use the tools of his trade. At 17, he received his first big job as a builder—on the construction of a country store. At 18, his skill as a carpenter had attracted so much attention that a white neighbor, Mr. Grant, urged him to set up business as a building contractor and assisted him in his early efforts.

His first contract was for the erection of a residence for the director of the Indiana Business College. The director, who had seen few skilled Negroes in Marion, was so pleased with the job that he became friendly with the contractor and discussed his problems. As a result, Mr. Plato was able to induce the educator to admit Negroes to his school for the first time, after outlining the need for more trained Negro business men and technicians.

Since then, Plato has aided and employed many trained Negro technicians, in his own business. His project manager and purchasing agent, Charles L. Christian, who has been with him for 25 years, is a graduate of Indiana University His cost accountant, Milton Wilson, comes from the same school. His chief engineer, James Braxton, is a Stevens Institute of Technology graduate and a former instructor in engineering at Atianta University. His staff also includes his wife, Mrs. Elnora Plato, his chief accountant, and his brother(William Plato, a civil engineer.

The Samuel Plato organization is not an all-Negro outfit, however... The superintendent of production, Charles T. Milder, is white, as are three of the general foremen, William Schultz, William Netherton, and Albert Pederson. A majority of the mechanics who built Wake and Midway Halls are white also, although a large number of Negro carpenters were brought into the local union through Mr. Plato's efforts. The project employed an average of 600 persons, but peak employment reached more than 1,500.

The Washington job was not his first or largest venture in war housing construction. Last year he built a $1,400,000 defense homes project for war workers in Baltimore. Earlier the Plato organization erected a $350,000 Federal housing project in Louisville. Ky. A Post Office which he built at Phillipsburg, N. J., attracted national attention because of the variety of brick and native stone used in its construction.

2,300 More Worker Homes Set As Goal

Courier-Journal

Welfare Director Says Influx Continues Here

Louisville, Ky.

There is no noticeable decrease in the number of people being brought here for war work, and within the next six months some 2,300 housing units will be needed to accommodate vital war workers, Miss Louise Diecks, acting director of welfare for the City, said in a radio address yesterday over station WAVE.

The talk was a part of the promotional program being carried forward by the War Housing Committee here to see to it that all war workers who must be brought into this area find a place to live.

Shortage Still Acute.

Miss Diecks said that the Federal Public Housing Authority's releasing to Louisville war workers 435 of the housing units in the new Pleasant Ridge Homes project near Charlestown, Ind., was "very encouraging," but she said these units "will not begin to meet the great and continuing demand for housing."

The speaker declared the War Housing Committee still considers the situation here acute in regard both to homes for white and Negro war workers. She pointed out that Louisville is one of the most important of the 170 war production centers in the United States and has not reached its full degree of expansion.

The War Housing Center, 506 W. Jefferson, can furnish information on any of the three programs now going on here looking toward supplying increased housing, Miss Diecks pointed out. She stressed particularly the programs of public financing of conversion of housing units, private financing, and sharing idle home space.

Group Is Formed to Assist Negro War Workers' Housing

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

SEP 2 1943

A Negro subcommittee yesterday went into action to help the War Housing Center obtain housing accommodations for Negro war workers.

Appointment of the committee was announced by Housing Chairman Nicholas H. Dosker, who pointed out the group would help promote for Negro war workers the housing center's various programs. These include the share-the-home program, the Government conversion of housing to multiple units and the clearing of available housing through the activities of the housing center.

The subcommittee is composed of Earle E. Pruitt, Beecher Terrace manager, chairman; J. R. Ray, insurance firm president; J. H. Humes, realty man; Robert E. Black, executive secretary of the Louisville Urban League; I. Willis Cole, publisher; F. L. Stanley, newspaper executive; McKay Bonner, realty man, and J. L. Leake, insurance company manager.

Dosker explained that Negro war worker housing programs have lagged and the committee felt that a Negro subcommittee could help increase their effectiveness.

47f-1943

Washington Post
Washington, D. C

Loan Sought For D.C. Slum Redemption

JUN 29 1943

Following recent disclosures on the health and morale menace to the Nation's Capital from extensive slum areas here, the advisory committee of the ~~War Housing~~ Center yesterday adopted a resolution, pointed at Congress, asking that $5,000,000 be made available at once as a loan to the National Capital Housing Authority, "to acquire and demolish unfit and insanitary dwellings" and to erect "proper dwellings" in their place.

The newly built homes, the resolution specified, should be for occupancy by "low-income families, equal in number to those who are displaced by the demolition, irrespective of whether these families are warworkers; provided that critical materials can be made available without impeding the war effort."

For Low-Income Families

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The recommendation that slum areas be rebuilt for low-income families "irrespective of whether these families are warworkers," highlights the stand Washington social agencies have taken in opposition to National Housing Administrator John B. Blandford's order that all war housing be restricted solely to the use of "indispensable" warworkers. Civic groups like the Washington Housing Association have long pointed to the fact that thousands of families here are living under unbearable conditions or have been dispossessed to make way for Federal buildings without provision for their housing from Government funds.

Further prompting the advisory committee's action has been recent information that listings at the War Housing Center reveal seriously inadequate housing for Negro families.

Dangerously Overcrowded

The resolution points out that "the low-income population of the District of Columbia, especially the low-income Negro population, is dangerously overcrowded and that their present dwellings constitute a "hazard to our war effort." All new housing is now restricted "not only to warworkers but even more narrowly to inmigrant warworkers," the statement asserts.

JUN 29 1943

The five-million-dollar appropriation requested for the National Capital Housing Authority was authorized by Congress some five years ago when it was known as the Alley Dwelling Authority, but actual funds were never appropriated.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

BALTIMORE SEEKS NEW NEGRO HOMES

Influx of War Workers Has Sharpened Racial Ferment in That City

JUL 23 1943

CROWDING IS ASSAILED

Authorities Concede That 'Jim Crow' Conditions Are a Principal Problem

JUL 23 1943

By TURNER CATLEDGE

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BALTIMORE, July 22—Public officials and civic leaders here are trying desperately to relieve a critical housing condition among the local Negro population as the first and longest step toward relieving a racial problem that has advanced to a new degree of acuteness with each month since 1940.

An estimated 200,000 Negroes, or about 20 per cent of the city's total population, live today in "three-ringed" districts whose total area comprises less than four square miles of the city's total 78.6. They are huddled there under sanitary conditions which are conceded to be virtual mockery of this great capital of medical science. Crime and dissension are said to be mounting among the colored people in direct ratio to their deprivation, and agitation is finding a fertile field in unrest and irritation.

JUL 23 1943

2,000 a Month Arriving

Additional Negroes are still coming to Baltimore at an estimated rate of 2,000 a month to work in defense factories. Where are they going to live? That is the question facing this community—facing it under the realization of its highest officials that unless something is done to relieve the congestion, overt trouble may not be avoided.

The race situation in Baltimore is not as dynamic on its face as it is in Detroit, Chicago and other metropolitan centers. This is due, in the opinion of local observers, largely to the Southlike pattern by which the races have lived for almost eighty years in this predominantly Southern community.

But the city of Baltimore itself has undergone, and is undergoing today, one of the most striking conversions from peacetime to wartime conditions to be found anywhere among the country's larger cities. With this conversion have developed fundamentals in the race problem that have caused sociologists who deal with it on a national scale to classify Baltimore as one of the greatest areas of potential race tension in the United States.

Exploratory Commission Set Up

Fortunately, the underlying conditions are well known to local leaders. Long before the outbreak in Detroit Gov. Herbert R. O'Conor set up a commission to study the Negro problem in Maryland. His action followed a near-explosion of racial wrath when a Baltimore policeman shot and killed a Negro soldier in February, 1942.

It was largely from the statistics assembled by the Governor's commission and from facts developed by Thomas O'Neill, a painstaking reporter, in a series in The Baltimore Evening Sun, that the national sociologists reached their conclusions relative to Baltimore.

Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin, in office only since May, is now actively engaged with Federal housing officials in trying to locate a defense housing project which would furnish 1,200 new home units for Baltimore's Negroes. A site already has been selected on Philadelphia Road but the Mayor and housing officials are running into strong opposition, led by Representative H. Street Baldwin of the Second Congressional District, and egged on by other politicians and certain members of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy.

JUL 23 1943

Problem Not Pressing Before 1940

The acuteness of Baltimore's racial problem is traceable largely to the war. Long before the preparedness drive started in 1940 Baltimore had an extraordinarily large Negro population. But Baltimoreans saw no particular problem growing out of it. The Negroes lived in a section in the northwest, another in the northeast and another in the southern part of the city. Those sections then, as now, were little "rings" of Negro dwellers, living mostly in houses abandoned by whites and confined to these areas by air-tight landlord covenants which prevented them from buying or renting property elsewhere. Out of more than 15,000 houses in which Negroes live today, it is estimated that less than 200 were built originally for Negroes.

The Negro population is distributed about 58,000 a square mile, compared with the density among whites of slightly more than 9,000 the square mile. There are hardly more than 100 dwellings, of all descriptions, for each 1,000 Negroes, compared with more than 200 for each 1,000 whites. Negroes who in war work make as high as $10 and $15 a day and are willing to pay $20 to $30 a week for housing are compelled, in hundreds of cases, to live in veritable pens, with outside toilets, renting, under the "ceilings," for less than $5 a week.

Specific Crowding Cited

The case which he discovered today of thirty-six Negroes living in a six-room house was described by Thomas J. S. Waxter, former judge of the Children's Court, and now head of the Bureau of Public Welfare. He told us of another case in which two Negro married couples shared a single room with a single woman. J. Harvey Kernes, executive secretary of the Urban League, told of finding a house, suitable for not more than five families in which more than fifty Negroes were huddled.

JUL 23 1943

Figures on death and crime are offered by officials as telling their own story of such conditions. More than half of all deaths from tuberculosis and pneumonia in Baltimore, according to the Governor's commission, occur among the Negroes, comprising only one-fifth of the population. A meningitis epidemic in 1942 was traced directly to crowded conditions in the Negro section, from which 33 per cent of all cases were reported. The general death rate among Negroes in Baltimore in 1942 was 17.2 per thousand of population; among whites, 12.

Every hour for twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year—on the average, of course—a Negro is taken into a police station charged with some infraction of the law, according to Mr. O'Neill's findings. The Governor's commission found that 54 per cent of all arrests for common assault were among Negroes, as were 65 per cent of arrests for burglary; 83 per cent of arrests for assault with intent to kill; 82 per cent of all arrests for unlawful homicide; 60 per cent of all arrests for assaults on police—a crime for which Negroes were hardly ever accused in Baltimore until a few years ago.

JUL 23 1943

School Accommodation Inadequate

Negro school facilities in Baltimore are even smaller today than in 1940, according to city authorities. There are forty-five Negro schools of all categories to serve a total of more than 30,000 school children.

Under the Southern "Jim Crow" pattern, as followed here, Negroes and whites attend separate schools. They also use separate recreational facilities, public and private. Negro leaders contend that there are only five tennis courts, four baseball diamonds and one first-rate swimming pool that the Negroes may use in Baltimore.

The chief source and place of recreation for Negroes in Baltimore is the "Avenoo"—a stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue hardly more than six blocks long where, on Saturday nights, as many as 25,000 to 30,000 are on the sidewalks and in the streets.

JUL 23 1943

Realizing their plight, officials and civic leaders of Baltimore are devoting themselves earnestly to the task of reducing the tensions. A new citizens' group, known as the "Unity for Victory Committee," has been formed under the chairmanship of Harold Buchman, young white lawyer, to work in conjunction with the Urban League. The league is headed by the Rev. Bruce McDonald, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, a white congregation. The committee and the Urban League have undertaken the job of planning the general strategy for bringing about better race relations on all fronts. All heads agree, however, that the first and foremost factor in th erace problem in Baltimore is the matter of housing and that, in the final analysis, is up to the public authorities.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

8 CHICAGOANS IN N. AFRICA HOSPITAL UNIT

Staff Headed By Dr. West, Formerly Provident Medical Chief

MAR 13 1943

ALGIERS.— Eight Chicago doctors and nurses were among the first party of colored hospital personnel to take up posts here since American occupation.

Marching through the streets on their arrival the party stopped traffic as American soldiers halted to extend their greetings to the group of 30 nurses and nine doctors.

Heading the doctors is Major John B. West, formerly medical director of Provident hospital in Chicago.

The nurses were headed by First Lieut. Susan E. Freeman of Washington, who also has seen service in Chicago's Provident hospital.

MAR 13 1943

Greets Cousin

The other Chicago doctor was Lieut. Samuel Matthews a graduate of the University of Illinois.

The nurses from Provident were Lieuts. Alma Favors, Alberta Holt, Jewell Patterson, Esther Stewart and Rosemary Vinson.

Lieutenant Favors on her arrival met her cousin, Staff Sergeant Paul Favors of Detroit, former sparring partner for Joe Louis.

Others in the hospital party were Capt. Harry P. Williams, Martinsville, W. Va., Howard U.; Capt. John B. Falconer, Lincoln university; Chaplain Lieut. E. H. Nickens, Washington Howard U.; Lieut. Watson Fowler of Cincinnati, Meharry; Lieutenant Claytor of Roanoke, Va. Meharry; Lieut. William A. Cleveland of Durham, N. C., Howard U.; Lieut. Harry S. Davis of Washington, Howard U.

The nurses include: Lieuts. Mattie Aikens, Macon City hospital; Maria August, Spelman U.; Eva Boggers, Homer Phillips hospital, S. Louis, Durham; Thelma Calloway, Lincoln hospital, New York;

Lieuts. Daryle Forster, Mercy hospital, Philadelphia; Philoy Frierson, North Carolina State Sanitorium; Roby Gill, Kansas City General; Lela Green, Kansas City General; Norma Greene, St. Philip, Richmond;

MAR 13 1943

Lieuts. Susan Harris, Provident hospital, Baltimore; Clara A. Henry, Los Angeles County hospital; Winona Hibbler, Kansas City General hospital; Gertrude Ivory, of Brewster hospital, Jacksonville, Fla.; Louise Jacobs, Lincoln, New York.

MAR 13 1943

Lieuts. Parfeania Jones, John Andrew Memorial hospital, Tuskegee; Margaret Kendrick; Zola Lang, Freedmen's hospital, Washington; Chrystalee Maxwell, Kansas City General hospital; Sammie Rice, St. Agnes hospital, Raleigh;

Lieuts. Ellen Robinson, Homer Phillips hospital, St. Louis; Dolores Smith, Hot Springs; Sarah Thomas, Dixie hospital, Hampton; and Idell Webb, Kansas City General hospital.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 21, 1943

GRENADA PROJECT OKEHED

ATLANTA, Oct. 20—(AP)—The regional office of Federal Public Housing Authority announced Wednesday approval of a contract for construction of war housing in Grenada, Miss., including factory fabrication and erection of 60 dwelling units on a site being prepared by another contractor. Algernon Blair, Montgomery, Ala., is the contractor, the amount $86,000 with 75 days to complete, beginning Oct. 20.

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Atlanta Rental Vacancy Is Lowest in History

Atlanta, Ga. Journal

Shortage Can Only Be Met by Maximum Use of Accommodations, Creighton Says

Atlanta today probably has the lowest habitable rental vacancy rate in its history, it was indicated Saturday as Robert K. Creighton, regional representative of the National Housing Agency, made public the results of a dwelling unit vacancy survey conducted here by the Bureau of the Census.

The total number of units for white occupancy for rent in a habitable condition amounts to only 1 per cent, and of the total number of units for Negroes, only .4 per cent were found to be for rent and in a habitable condition, the survey disclosed.

Almost nine-tenths of the total vacancies have an average monthly rental of only $20.

With the disclosure of the alarming housing shortage, Mr. Creighton declared that the war housing program here can meet the need "only by maximum use of existing household accommodations."

"A stringent policy of complete utilization of available dwelling units is designed to save utilities, transportation and labor, as well as materials," he said.

Atlanta's gross vacancy rate during the latter part of August was only 1.1 per cent, figures from the sample survey released to Mr Creighton by Director J. J. Capt of the Bureau of the Census shows.

The vacancy rate here now is tighter than it was last February when a similar survey was made. At that time the gross vacancy rate was 1.6 per cent. The gross vacancy rate in August was 1.2 per cent for dwellings for whites and .7 per cent for dwellings for Negroes.

The recent survey represented an enumeration of more than 8,200 dwelling units in a sample carefully selected to represent all types of structures in all sections of the city, exclusive of public housing developments.

The estimated total number of dwelling units in Atlanta is 90,000—60,000 for white residents and 30,000 for Negroes. Of the total units for whites, 98.9 per cent are occupied, and of the total for Negroes, 99.3 per cent are occupied. Of the total unoccupied dwellings, .2 per cent are classed as unfit for use.

The average size of the habitable vacancies was two rooms and more than three-fifths were equipped with all the standard facilities, including installed heating, gas or electric lights, running water, flush toilet and bathing unit.

Of the habitable non-rental vacancies, which amounted to .1 per cent, more than one-fourth were for sale and the remainder were held off the rental market at the choice of the owners.

In addition to the vacant dwellings, it was estimated from interviews with household members that about 1,600 rooms in occupied dwellings were available for rent. These rooms were expected to be adequate for accommodating about 2,700 roomers. Of these rooms, seven-eighths were in dwellings occupied by white families.

These figures, Mr. Creighton said, emphasize the importance of the "Share-Your Home" campaign which is being sponsored for the War Housing Center here by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Post
Washington, D. C.

99 Families To Be Placed In New Homes

New homes for 99 of the 112 Negro families to be evicted by construction of the military highway from Bolling Field to Camp Springs, Md., have been assured by the National Capital Housing Authority, and the other 13 families have located new quarters "on their own hook," John Ihlder, executive officer of NCHA, said yesterday.

Because they are being evicted by the War Department, the families will be allowed to occupy housing projects constructed for in-migrant war workers, Ihlder said.

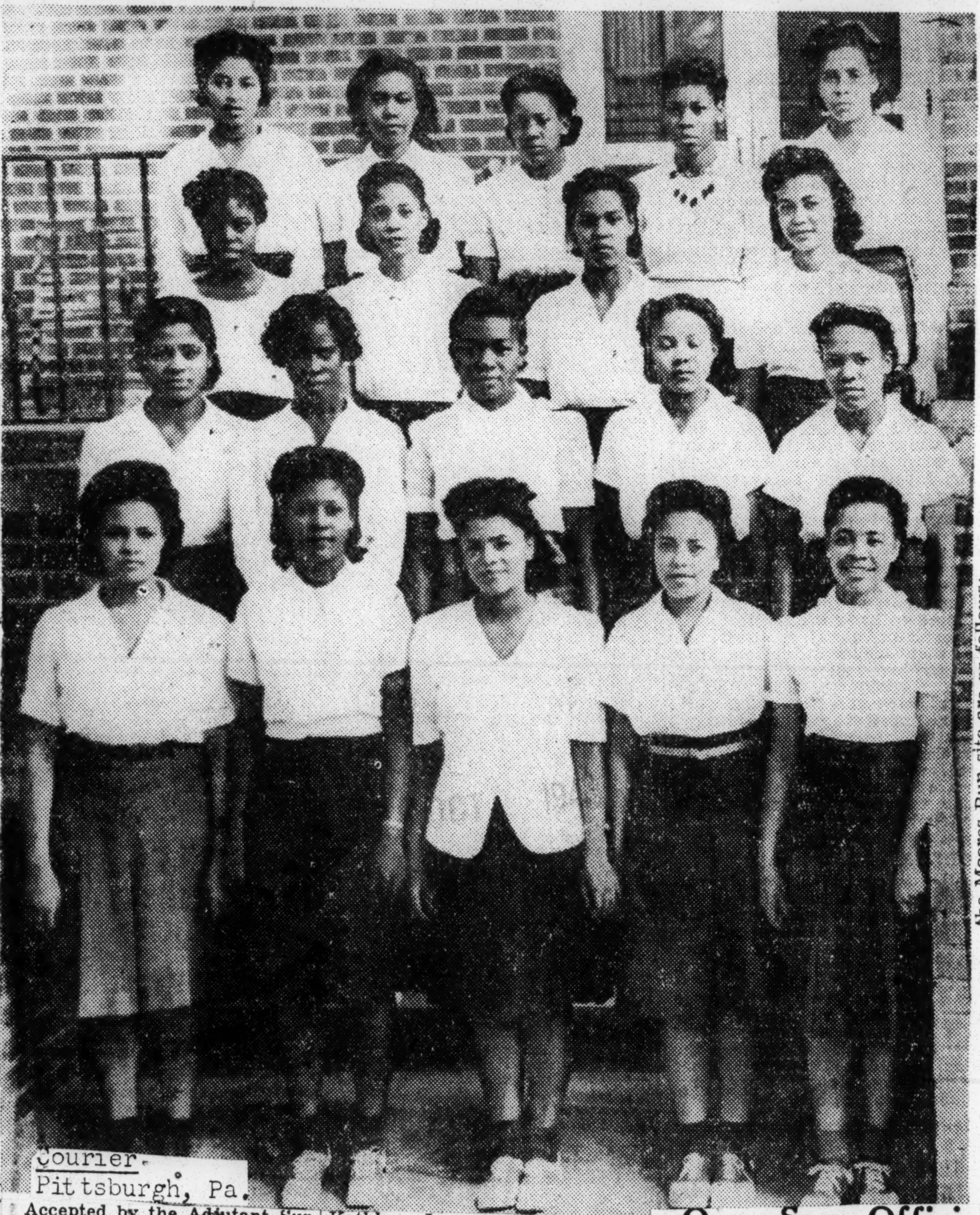
Twenty-two of the families will be put in the Nichols Avenue Project, and the other 77 will be divided among the Barry Farm Dwellings Project, Anthony Bowen Houses and Parkside Dwellings.

All of the units have not been completed, Ihlder said.

"The families have been ordered to move out the last of the month, and in case we don't have the new places completed by then we'll ask the War Department to hold off a week or two," he said.

Some of the warworker families for which the project houses had been constructed must now wait until the first of next year when 740 more NCHA Negro units will be completed, Ihlder said.

NORTH CAROLINA HOSPITAL TAKES OVER ARMY DUTIES



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Accepted by the Adjutant Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service to participate in the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps program of the United States, St. Agnes hospital of Raleigh, N. C., was allocated a fund for the period ending June, 1944. Above is a picture of the Pre-Cadet Nurses who will start training immediately.

The Pre-Cadet Nurses are, reading from left to right, Misses Clara Smith, Crystal, W. Va.; Sandra Shaw, Faison, N. C.; Florence Hodges, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Scottie O'Neal, Birmingham, Ala.; Virginia Liles, Hazard, Ky.; Manice Armstrong, Candor, N. C.; Minnie Halsey, Creswell, N. C.; Bernice Boddie, Scotland Neck, N. C.; Marie Todd, Elm City, N. C.; Erma Morgan, Comfort, N. C.; Geneva Kidd, Albuquerque, N. Mex.; Kathleen Lawrence, New York City, N. Y.; Daisy Campbell, Wilmington, N. C.; Marie Smith, Washington, D. C.; Pecola Wilson, Gastonburg, Ala.; Lucy Pugh, Ayden, N. C.; Maxine Williams, Vicco, Ky., missing from the picture.

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

Project To Be One Of 1,400 Unit Residences

Construction To Get Underway At Once Says Official

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS) — Selection of a 200-acre tract north of Philadelphia Road and west of Moores Run in Baltimore, Md., as the site of 1,200 to 1,400 temporary family units programmed for Negro war workers in the Baltimore area was announced Saturday by Oliver C. Winston, regional director of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

SEP 5 1943

"This site was selected," Mr. Winston said "after full consideration of all factors involved in providing a satisfactory residential community for Negro war workers employed in industries in the eastern Baltimore area.

"In making the selection the FPHA also has given full consideration to the advisory opinions received during the many and lengthy consultations which it has had with various citizens groups. The FPHA has weighed carefully the comparative advantages and disadvantages of the alternate site possibilities after having studied the entire problem for months."

Plans are now being drawn for the project Mr. Winston stated and it is hoped that construction of these badly needed houses can be started within a very short time. Plans for the project will include the necessary schools shopping centers, playgrounds, and other community facilities.

The approximate boundaries of the Moores Run site are as follows: North by Susquehanna Power Transmission lines; east, city line and 62nd street; south by Philadelphit Road; and west by Scheeler Street, Mikro Kodesh Cemetery, Bowlyes Lane and Franklin Ave.

47f-1943

Democracy Real to Wounded Soldiers at U.S. Hospital

Men of Both Races Eat, Sleep and Play Together at Army Rehabilitation Center at Forest Glen, Md.

By DOUGLASS HALL

FOREST GLEN, Md. — Activities at the convalescent home for wounded soldiers from overseas and in this country, present to the nation a striking illustration of harmonious interracial cooperation in the U.S. army.

"There is no segregation or discrimination because of race, creed or color in this home," stated Lt. Col. Carl W. Temple, executive officer, who personally conducted newsmen on a recent tour of the grounds and buildings.

While the mortality rate among battle casualties averaged 15 to 18 per cent in World War I, the rate among battle casualties at evacuation hospitals in the present war averages 2½ to 3½ per cent.

Located in the midst of trees and housed by, what was once an exclusive girls' finishing school, white and colored soldiers, eat, sleep and lounge around together in perfect naturalness.

"Let's play a game of ping-pong," Pvt. Thomas C. Brace, white, of Panama Beach, Fla., suggested to Harry Greer of Pittsburgh. In a few minutes the game was under way.

Not Forced to Mingle

Soldiers here are not forced to mingle together. They can draw to one side of the big campus and associate with their own group. But they do not.

They get in the chow-line when their time comes and usually sit at the first convenient table after the food is served.

The food is served cafeteria style but patients who are recuperating from injuries which make it difficult to walk or hold a tray, are served prior to each meal.

Here's Typical Dinner

A typical midday dinner has a menu of roast veal, kale, dried lima beans, bread and butter, milk and coffee and orange sherbet. All kitchen help, most yard men, and some clerks in canteens are colored civilians.

All modern medical methods and equipment essential to the convalescence of soldiers, WAACs, and nurses are in use at the Forest Glen Annex of Walter Reed Hospital, as it is officially named. There are facilities for physical therapy in exercise rooms, hydro-therapy rooms, ultra-violet treatments, heat treatments and masages.

Use Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is provided in facilities for woodworking, weaving, leather work, drawing and clay modeling.

There's the rustic old chapel which is used for religious services. Outdoor and indoor sports are provided for.

The main recreation hall, formerly the ballroom of the school, still equipped with fine furniture and other decorations, is fully prepared for games.

A beauty spot of 182 acres, with hills and valleys, picturesque bridges, and tall shady trees, Forest Glen is an ideal spot for convalescents.

The Home is serviced by a medical detachment of 200 soldiers, housed in barracks.

JUN 12 1943

AIDS RECOVERY OF WOUNDED

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
June 5, 1943

JUN 5 1943

William R. Carter, government pharmacist for 40 years, has an important war job on the home front. As laboratory aide in the food and drug administration of Federal Security board, he is entrusted with the job of preparing media for testing the sterility of bandage material. This work is vital to wounded soldiers because they are not only dependent for their recovery upon the skill of physicians, nurses and hospital attendants, but also upon the reliability of drugs and bandages.

START BUILDING NOV. 1; TENANTS IN BY SPRING

Chicago Bee

Chicago, Illinois

The controversial South Side war homes in the Calumet area will be built and ready for occupancy sometime in the Spring, it was disclosed Wednesday following announcement by the Chicago Housing Authority that condemnation was made early this week of the 157 acres where the city's largest federally-financed and operated war housing development will be located.

The homes will be built at an approximate cost of 9 million dollars, CHA announced Tuesday. One thousand five hundred families will be accommodated, with rentals under $40 per month. Construction will start the early part of November, it was stated.

The first tenants are expected to move in sometime in the Spring, with completion of the entire project scheduled for August 1, 1944.

Community - wide enthusiasm greeted CHA's announcement that construction will begin almost immediately. Last week The BEE exposed "big-monied" real estate interests which had employed vicious pressure and propaganda methods to halt the construction of the homes if Negroes were to be admitted as tenants.

Citizens Protest Move.

A storm of protests followed this disclosure with the community's civic and social welfare organizations and individuals, joining with labor and other liberal groups to combat the subversive methods of the South End Chamber of Commerce and the South Side Real Estate board. These organizations had appealed to Washington to stop the war homes "for Negro families."

The tract is bounded by 130th street on the north, by Champlain and Langley avenues on the west, by 133rd street on the south and the Beaubien forest preserve and the New York Central right-of-way on the east.

FPHA Provides Funds.

The Federal Public Housing Authority is acquiring the land and providing funds for the construction. FPHA will retain the title. The Chicago Housing Authority negotiates the contract with the architect, builders and others and supervises the construction of the project. The contracts are signed by the FPHA, with the Chicago Housing Authority acting as agent.

The programming of the homes was made by the National Housing Agency for the Calumet area after the War Manpower commission estimated the need for approximately 5400 war workers and their families in the Calumet sector. The NHA program was announced July 17 for 3,234 housing units of which 1500 were designated to be built as public housing.

The proposed plans for the 1500 homes call for two-story row house structures. Except where boiler rooms occur there will be no basement. They will be heated with forced circulation hot water systems supplied by 13 group plants, or approximately one for calh 115 homes. The site and site plan shows an attractive, modern, almost self-suffidient community.

Curved streets, and a shopping district in the center of the homes, will give an urban informality to the over-all plan for the community. Stores, and recreational and administrative buildings will be located there.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

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SEP 4 1943

FREEDMEN'S NURSE ENROLLS IN U. S. CADET NURSE CORPS — Miss Minnie Tettis of Aliquippa, Pa., has the distinction of being the first student nurse at Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D. C., to enroll in the new U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps. Miss Tettis, a graduate of Aliquippa High School, and a student of nursing at Freedmen's since June, was immediately followed by nine fellow students who signed up with Miss Rheva Speaks, director of nurses at the hospital. They are, left to right: Laura Cook, Elouise Pleasant, Jesstine Anderson, Naomi Hicks, Murie Cuffe, Lillian Carr and Joyce Gilliam. Miss Speaks is shown seated. Each star of the service flag (background) indicates a Freedmen's nurse now serving in the U. S. Army Nurse Corps. (Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith)

SEP 4 1943

Nine Million Dollar Housing Project Wins Over Dirty Baltimore Politics

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

SEP 1943

BALTIMORE—In spite of powerful pressure against the plan, the Federal Public Housing Authority has announced it will go ahead with a Negro housing project here that will cost an estimated $9,000,000.

The green light was given the project when the *New York Post*, in its *Washington Memo* column, August 27, exposed the opposition to the project stemming from Maryland politicians and real estate operators. Almost immediately, there was a behind-the-scenes huddle in Washington, and on Wednesday, September 1, it was announced the project would go thru.

Housing Needed

The increasingly serious Negro housing shortage in Baltimore, brought about by the influx of defense workers, caused the National Housing Authority a few months ago to extend an offer of "temporary housing for workers.

Baltimore authorities wouldn't hear of any temporary arrangements, so the Federal Public Housing Authority stepped in with its offer of a project.

The FPHA asked that a site be recommended, but the Baltimore City Council a few days ago adopted a measure prohibiting any local authority from recommending a site without the Council approval, then adjourned until its fall session.

New Site Named

As a result of the conferences, the announcement came out that the FPHA, in absence of recommendation from a Baltimore local authority, announced it had selected for the project a 200-acre site north of the Baltimore-Philadelphia road for from 1,200 to 1,400 temporary family units for Negro defense workers.

Plans will include schools, playgrounds, community centers, shopping centers.

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Unsigned Court Order Holds Up Condemnation

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

SEP 11 1943

Vacationing Federal Judges Expected Back in Court Today

CITY THREATENS COUNTER ACTION

Well-Rounded Community Planned upon Herring Run Site

BALTIMORE—Even though the Federal Public Housing Authority has selected the 275-acre Herring Run site to build 1200 homes for colored war workers and instituted condemnations proceedings in Federal Court to obtain the vacant land, at least a two-month delay is anticipated before actual construction of the project begins.

This was indicated Saturday by Wilmer H. Driver, attorney for the Department of Justice, one of the three government attorneys who filed the proceedings, in pointing out that a court order for taking over the property had not yet been signed. It would be "improper" for Federal agencies to proceed with construction without it, he added.

Judges Return Today

Both Federal judges, W. Calvin Chesnut and William C. Coleman, have been vacationing and were expected to return to their chambers today (Tuesday).

Mr. Driver expressed the opinion, however, that it would be the end of the week, or possibly even next week, before any action would be taken on the condemnation order.

City Threatens Action

Another obstruction is the fact that city officials, including City Solicitor F. Murray (Social Pleasantry) Benson and James F. Arthur, vice president of the City Council, have already indicated that they will contest the right through court action of the FPHA to take over the property.

It is likely that they will try to block the move by invoking a city ordinance passed by a special session of the council in July prohibiting the Federal Government from constructing temporary housing for war workers without prior approval by the council, mayor and board of estimates.

Even if all legal obstacles are surmounted successfully by FPHA, it is pointed out that the building of the homes will get under way in the winter months and it may require several months before they are ready for occupancy.

Site Announced Last Week

After months of heated controversy, the FPHA last week announced the selection of the Herring Run site, located north of Philadelphia Road, for the dwelling units.

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The same agency had earlier abandoned this site as a location for permanent housing when Mayor McKeldin withheld his approval. Both the City Plan Commission and an Interracial Commission, appointed by the mayor to aid in the selection of a site, had forwarded their recommendations that the Herring Run site be chosen for permanent housing.

Plan Well-Rounded Community

Under the plans of the FPHA, necessary schools, playgrounds, and shopping centers for a well-rounded community will be erected in the development.

In February, the National Housing Agency appropriated $8,000,000 for 2,000 homes for colored war workers. Already under construction in Fairfield, Md., are 400 units, and 200 more are planned for Bellegrove Road in Anne Arundel County.

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Defender
Chicago, Ill.

8 Million Housing Site Is Selected

WASHINGTON

Condemnation proceedings were begun in Federal Court in Baltimore Tuesday by the Federal Public Housing Authority for use of the disputed Herring Run site a 200-acre tract of vacant land north of Philadelphia Road for location of a 1200-unit temporary housing area for colored war workers.

SEP 4 1943

Announcement of the government's action was made by Oliver C. Winston, regional director of the FPHA.

This is the same site which was selected two months ago by the FPHA for a permanent development against which white citizens led by City Councilmen, Congressmen and other city and State officials, protested vigorously.

Mayor Withholds Okey

The FPHA was inclined to go ahead despite these protests if Mayor McKeldin would give his approval. This the Mayor refused to do and the plan for a permanent development was abandoned.

The fight for location of war homes has been raging in Baltimore for the past six months ever since the U.S. made available eight million dollars for 2,000 war homes. Four hundred of them are under construction in Fairfield, Md., and 250 others are planned for Bellegrove Road in Anne Arundel County.

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Plans for the project will include the necessary schools, shopping centers, playground

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Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Negroes Get War Housing

Dec 15 1943

Low-[illegible] modern housing for migr[illegible] Negr[illegible] workers has been provided [illegible] with the construction of 100 two-bedroom units at Fairview Terrace, Inc., federally approved project at West Fair and Lawton streets, S. W.

Approximately 50 of the units have already been completed and rented and others are made ready for occupancy each week, W. H. Aikens, contractor, reported.

Constructed of concrete blocks with hardwood floors, full tile baths and plastered walls, all the units have 25-year Federal Housing Agency mortgages, the money being provided by private lending institutions of Atlanta. The project is adjacent to a Negro residential area.

The development was begun by W. H. Aiken, Negro contractor, after a survey made by the National Housing Administration, the War Manpower Commission, and the Federal Housing Agency disclosed the need for housing for Negro civilians engaged in war work in this area.

"NEGRO HOUSING SHORTAGE HERE IS CRITICAL"

Chicago, Ill.- Defender

"The Negro housing shortage here is now critical," Bleecker Marquette executive secretary, Better Housing League, stated Wednesday.

"For the first time in 25 years," Marquette said, "there is also a shortage of accommodations for white families in the low income brackets in the basin."

The figures are based on a survey of vacancies in the basin recently completed by the Housing Bureau of the Building Department under the direction of Charles Sagmeister.

"A normal vacancy is considered to be 5 per cent," Marquette said. "Vacancies in the basin are now one third of 1 per cent for Negroes and 2 per cent for white families. There is a waiting list of 4,000 Negro families or the Lincoln Court project located on Lincoln Park drive. Room overcrowding is at a peak and the Housing Bureau is finding it difficult to vacate unfit structures, particularly those occupied by Negro families. Attics and cellars are being pressed into use."

George Garties, director of the authority, and Marquette will go to Washington on Friday of next week to discuss the matter witih officials of the National Housing Agency.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Ho Hum! No Site Yet for War Homes

BALTIMORE — Mayor McKeldin on Monday advised the FPHA that the city government as a whole, including the mayor and city council is opposed to use of the Herring Run site for a 1200-unit war housing project.

In answer to a letter from R. L. Cochrane, acting commissioner of the FPHA, asking what stand the municipal government took on the housing proposal, the mayor replied:

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"So far as the legal entity, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore is concerned, Herring Run is as dead as the dodo."

He then pointed out that as mayor, he was duty bound to respect the expressed opposition of the city council against the site.

After forwarding the recommendations of the city plan commission and the interracial committee favoring the Herring Run site, the mayor last week refused to state his personal preference, stating that the responsibility for the choice of a site rested on the FPHA.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Housing Project Planned Near Panama City, Fla.

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The office of Rep. Sikes (D., Fla.) announced Tuesday that approximately $2,000,000 would be spent to house defense workers in the vicinity of Panama City, Fla.

Five hundred family dwelling units will be built for workers at the Wainwright Shipyard, near Panama City, together with 144 dormitory units, of which 108 will be for single women and 36 for single men.

At the Southern Kraft plant, of the International Paper Corporation, 80 family dwelling units, equally divided between white and colored, will be provided.

Sixty family dwelling units will be provided at Panama City for miscellaneous war activities.

Aug 11 1943

The average cost of the family dwelling units, Sikes' office said, is about $3,000 to $3,500 per unit, with an estimated cost of $1,000 per dormitory unit.

Thirty-one Nurses On Staff At Fort Clark Hospital

FORT CLARK, Tex., Aug. 26—The Second Cavalry Division, stationed at Fort Clark has a well equipped hospital of 457 beds, staffed by 19 officers and 31 nurses.

Among the Negro officers on duty at the hospital are: Major King D. Brown, Chicago Ill; Capt. Homer L. Wales, of Indianapolis, Ind., and First Lieut. Edward L. Mais, River Head, N. Y.

The nurses' staff is headed by First Lieut. Josie M. Glenn, Winnsboro, S. C., and includes women from 16 states. Another nurse from South Carolina is Second Lieut. Lee M. Aikens, Allendale. From North Carolina: Oasie Byers, K[illegible] Mountain; Rubye E. Collins, Gastonia, and Cecelia Scott, Pleasant Hill. From Pennsylvania: Mary J. Culver, Catherine L. Harris and Laura E. Smith, Philadelphia, and Caroline Schenck, Uniontown. From Texas: Anne L. Jackson and Aurelia Woodruff, Houston; Roberta Johnson, Appleby and Prinzola McFarland, Silsbee. From Virginia come Annie B. Johnson, Whitethorne; Ruth B. McCoy and Goldie M. Qinerly, Norfolk, and Jane E. Pate, Christianburg. From New Jersey come Florie E. Gantt, Pennsanken, and Alice M. McKoy, Millington. From Missouri: Mary G. Tyler, St. Louis, and Lillian B. Miller, Richmond Heights. From New York: Syble A. Lewis, Brooklyn and Lydia Pinkett, New York City.

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Nurses from other states are: Ruth E. Anderson, Omaha, Neb.; Louise Brown, Gary, Ind.; Lillie L. Emery, Knoxville, Tenn.; Inez F. Howard, Chicago, Ill.; Margaret Lipscombe, Salem, Ala.; Ora P. Maddox, LaGrange, Ga.; Mary A. Smith, Baton Rouge, La.; and Ruth Smith, Steubenville, Ohio. All these nurses are commissioned second lieutenants.

They received their training at University hospital, Augusta; Grady hospital, Atlanta, and City hospital, Columbus, Ga.; General hospital, Kansas City, Mo.; Meharry Medical college, Nashville, Tenn.; St. Agnes hospital, Raleigh, N. C.; Freedman's hospital, Washington; Mercy hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.; Prairie View college, Texas; St. Philip hospital, Richmond, Va.; Harlem School of Nursing and Lincoln hospital, N. Y.

Chief dietician is Second Lieut. Velma P. Owens, Indianapolis, Ind., who was recently transferred to Fort Clark from Camp Benning, Ga.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Stops Near Riot In Lackawanna

By ZENOBIA A. ALEXANDER

BUFFALO, (ANP) — The real meaning of democracy was brought home to citizens of Lackawanna, N. Y., this week when Mayor Michael J. Hughes, first citizen of the steel city, reaffirmed his [illegible]-repeated stand that democracy and not lawlessnes would reign in Lackawanna.

SEP 25 1943

Standing pat that the rights of Negro people would be respected, the mayor Tuesday warned a dissatisfied element of white residents that any attempt to take the law into their own hands would be contrary to the tenets of democracy and the principles of justice, law, and order upon which his reign as mayor of the city is founded.

The Federal Housing authority has recently completed a 200-unit housing project for colored war workers. White residents in the adjacent area of the Albright courts upon learning that Negroes would occupy the project began a series of mass meetings protesting the infiltration of Negro residents in the community.

The homes are distinctly a war housing project. In the last month 43.4 per cent of all applicants filed came from Negroes. Occupancy is expected to begin immediately.

Provident Will Train Nurses For War Work

Daily World Atlanta. Ga

Students to Be Enrolled in U. S. Cadet Corps

CHICAGO—(ANP) — Provident Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago has been included among the nursing schools invited by the U. S. Public Health Service at Washington, D. C., to enroll students in the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps now being recruited under the provisions of the Bolton Nurse Training Act passed by Congress in June.

AUG 26 1943

Through a Congressional appropriaion of $45,000,000 federal funds are available to pay all expenses and provide monthly allowances to nursing school students who enroll as members of the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps and agree to make their serivces available in essential nursing for the duration of the war. It is emphasized, however that military service following graduation will be optional, barring adoption of a National Women's Service Act or other legislation by Congress, affecting nurses in common with other women. Applicants must be high school graduates and must meet other entrance requirements of the school in which they wish to enroll.

All members of the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps will be provided with a distinctive outdoor uniform which will indicate that they are engaged in essential war service. This uniform is now being designed in a competition by leading fashion designers.

PAY ALL FEES

AUG 26 1943

In addition to maintenance as provided by Provident Hospital in the past the government will pay all school fees for the Cadet Nurse, provide uniforms and pay a monthly allowance. During the first nine months of Pre-Cadet training the allowance will be $20 monthly and durig the last six to 12 months Senior Cadet nurses will be assigned to the home hospital, other civilian or government hospital, or public health agency and will receive from the hospital or agency, maintenance and $30 monthly. Senior Cadet Nurses will have unusual opportunities to gain experience in special nursing fields for which they may express a preference.

Schools of nursing that participate in the Cadet Nurse training program must offer an accelerated course under which class work will be completed in 24 to 30 months, leaving the last six to 12 months for nursing service in civilian or government hospitals, or public health service in this country to meet existing shortages of graduate nurses. This service will be considered a part of the Cadet's training course and at its conclusion, she will receive her diploma from the school in which she had her basis training. She will then be eligible to take the State Board examination and on passing it becomes a registered nurse.

The fall term will begin at the

Provident Hospital School of Nursing on September 10, 1943. Hence those who are interested in joining the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps are urged to write for full information to: The Director of Nurses, Provident Hospital, 426 E. 51st Street Chicago, Illinois.

Approve Tuskegee Housing Unit

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Aug. 19 —(ANP)— The approval of funds to erect 40 family housing units and community facilities near the Tuskegee Army Air base was announced Wednesday by John P. Broome, regional Federal Public Housing Authority director here. The project will cost approximately $86,000. The contract has been awarded to Algernon Blair, of Montgomery, Ala.

D.C. Freedmen's Hospital One Of First In Nation To Get Nurses Cadet Corps

Chicago, Ill. Defender

AUG 14 1943

By HARRY McALPIN

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Freedmen's hospital, the only hospital in the country under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Public Health Service that has a nursing school, is one of the first three hospitals to complete arrangements for taking part in the new United States Cadet Nurse Corps.

The plans were approved by Surgeon General Thomas Parran of the U. S. Public Health last week.

The Cadet Nurse Corps was created under the Bolton act passed by Congress in June, for the purpose of encouraging the enrollment of a needed 65,000 new students needed this year to increase the reserve of student nurses to replace graduate nurses called into military and civilian service.

Through the efforts of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, an amendment was made to the nurses bill, introduced by Sen. Warren Barbour of New Jersey, providing for no discrimination in the administration of the act because of race, creed or color.

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27 Sign Up

Twenty-seven Freedmen nurses have already signed up for the corps, and have thus become the first in the country to become members. The corps members will wear a distinctive uniform now being designed by a competitive group of designers in New York.

Under the plan, federal funds will be available to schools of nursing participating in the program, and the schools, in turn, will furnish scholarships, fees, books, maintenance, uniforms and monthly allowances to the students.

Cadet nurses will be known as precadets for nine months, as juniors for the next 15 to 21 months, and as senior cadets for six months of interneship. As senior cadets, they will relieve the current shortage of trained nurses in hospitals.

Plan To Enter Army

Freedmen's nursing school normally accommodates from 125 to 130 nurses, though officials indicated it is possible to double up on living accommodations and accommodate a considerably larger number if necessary. Enrollment periods at Freedmen's are in January and June. The qualifications for entrance are: women between the ages of 18 and 30, unmarried and in good physical condition, graduates of a four-year accredited high school with 15 prescribed units, ranking in the upper half of the graduating class, and citizens of the United States.

Practically all of the student nurses who have signed up for the cadet corps at Freedmen's are looking forward to entering the Army nurse corps upon completion of their training, despite the Army's quota system limiting the number of Negro nurses in the service. They are all looking forward to wearing the cadet corps uniform as a badge of their desire to render service to their country.

Among those who expressed these ideas in exclusive interviews with the Defender were Mary Haile, of New Alexandria, Pa.; Muriel Coffee, of Pennington, N.J., Alma Jackson, of Middletown, Conn.; Sylvia Anderson, of Algoma, W.Va.; Vera Reynolds of Baltimore, Md., and Minnie Pettis, of Aliquippa, Pa.

See Real Opportunity

According to Miss Lucile Petry, director of the division of nurse education of the U. S. Public Health Service, Negro women will have the same status in the corps as other racial groups. "It is an opportunity to enter upon a professional career that is as useful in peacetime as in war, without any cost whatever to the ambitious and patriotic students," she said.

AUG 14 1943

An official release from the Office of War Information lists the following "hospitals where nurse training is provided for Negroes which are expected to enroll under the Balton Nurse Training Act":

John A. Andrew Memorial hospital, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; University Hospital School of Nursing (Lamar School of Nursing), Augusta, Ga.; Provident Hospital School of Nursing, Chicago; Dillard University School of Nursing, New Orleans; Homer G. Phillips School of Nursing, St. Louis; Lincoln School of Nursing and Harlem Hospital School of Nursing, New York City; Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Philadelphia; Meharry Medical College School of Nursing, Nashville; Columbia Hospital School of Nursing, Columbia, S.C.; and St. Philip Hospital School of Nursing, Richmond, Va.

The A.K.A. Non-Partisan Council is watching the administration of the act, however, to determine whether Negroes will be restricted to these nursing schools only, and whether other nursing schools will be permitted to participate and still deny admission to Negroes despite the non-discrimination provisions of the act.

The other hospitals already approved along with Freedmen's are Providence Hospital, also of Washington, and Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md.

Increase Set In Negro Dwelling Units

Washington, D. C
Post

AUG 29 1943

The National Housing Agency yesterday announced plans to build 3200 additional family dwelling units for Negro warworkers, because of the urgent needs disclosed in a resurvey of war housing here.

With the addition of this housing for eligible Negro families, the NHA studies indicate that war housing now available for occupancy, plus the large number of projects under discussion or scheduled for early starting, will meet backlog needs of Washington war-workers and [illegible] further immigration of war labor anticipated up to 1944, NHA Administrator John B. Blandford, jr., said.

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46,000 Family Units

With the completion of additional housing for Negro warworkers 'authorized yesterday, the total war housing program for the Washington metropolitan area will involve more than 46,000 family dwelling units, and over 10,000 dormitory accommodations for single workers. On June 30, 1943, construction [illegible]800 family dwelling units and 7400 dormitory units had been completed while 15,900 family units and about 2700 units were under construction.

AUG 29 1943

These totals include both privately and publicly financed construction under the NHA's war housing quota for the Washington area. They include some 32,000 additional family units produced since the spring of 1940 by private builders operating without priorities assistance in the earlier month fo the national emergency.

The resurvey of Washington war housing carried out by NHA's regional office and supplemented by a special study of housing needs of Government workers by the Bureau of Labor Statistics pointed out the desperate need for Negro housing here.

Negro war workers already employed here are living "under clearly intolerable conditions," Milton Fischer, NHA regional representative said. Additional Negro workers will be needed for war obs in the coming months, he declared.

AUG 29 1943

The program approved yesterday authorizes the construction of 2000 privately financed family units and 1000 publicly financed family units. An additional 50 family units will be provided through privately financed conversions and an additional 150 through publlicly financed conversions under Government lease.

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As a result of its survey NHA also disclosed that the majority of privately financed units coming on the market are of the one-bedroom type. The present demand is for two and three-bedroom units. So the local FHA office is requesting local builders to revamp their housing units accordingly.

Freedmen's Hospital To Take Girls For Cadet Nurse Training

AUG 21 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—Freedmen's hospital in Washington is one of the three institutions in the nation to enroll in Federal Security agency's plan to add 65,000 women to the country's nursing personnel through the new United States Cadet Nurse Corps recently provided for by the Bolton Nurse Training Act. Provident hospital and Johns Hopkins hospitals in Baltimore are the other two institutions enrolled.

By their active interest, these hospitals have made the organization of the Nurse Corps, which was announced last month by Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle, consuultant in Negro nursing for the National Nursing Council for War Service, an actuality.

The first three institutions to complete arrangements to take part in this new plan to augment the nursing facilities, occurred at a meeting with U. S. Surgeon General Thomas Parran of the Public Health service. Under the present program for adding to the supply of emergency nurses, nurse training hospitals throughout the country may apply to the Public Health service for Federal aid in providing a nurse reserve to relieve trained nurses for emergency duties.

AUG 21 1943

Under the plan, Federal funds are made available to schools taking part in the program. The schools in turn will furnish scholarships, fees, books, maintenance, uniforms and monthly allowances for cadet nurses. Student nurses already in training may join the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

Women 17 or 18, to 35 may apply for admission if they are graduates of accredited high schools with satisfactory scholastic standing.

According to Miss Lucile Petry, director of the division of nurse education of the Public Health service, Negro young women will have the same status in the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps as other racial groups.

In addition to Freedmen's hospital, which is affiliated with the Howard university School of Medicne, the following hospitals are expected to enroll under the Bolton Nurse Training Act:

John A. Andrew Memorial hospital, Tuskegee institute, Ala.; University Hospital School of Nursing (Lamar School of Nursing), Augusta, Ga.; Provident hospital, Chicago; Dillard university, New Orleans; Homer G. Phillips school, St. Louis; Lincoln School and Harlem hospital, New York City; Mercy hospital, Philadelphia; Meharry, Nashville; Columbia school, Columbia, S. C., and St. Phillip hospital, Richmond, Va.

AUG 21 1943

The Cadet Nurse Corps is expected to complete preliminary organization by August 31. Classes are being organized now to start in September and October.

FHPA and City At Odds on Site For Negro Homes

Post
Washington, D. C

Baltimore, Aug. 31 (AP).—The U. S. Government filed condemnation proceedings in Federal court today to obtain immediate possession of a 275-acre site at Herring Run following a Federal Public Housing Authority annbuncement that temporary housing for 1200 to 1400 Negro war workers would constructed at that location.

Immediately afterward, City Solicitor F. Murray Benson announced that the municipal government will file a countermeasure to compel FPHA compliance with a new ordinance giving authority over war housing sites to the mayor, city council and board of estimates.

SEP 1943

The FPHA formerly planned to construct permanent housing on the same site but the project was abandoned when the city government failed to approve the location, the agency reported.

SEP 1943

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Baltimore Housing Gets Okeh After Long Battle

Chicago, Ill. SEP 11 1943

Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Orders to begin clearance of a 200-acre tract as the first step in the erection of a $9,000,000 housing project for colored Baltimoreans, were issued late last week by Oliver C. Winston, regional director of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

The action, taken in the face of powerful opposition by Maryland politicians and real estate interests, came after a series of articles appearing in recent issues of the Chicago Defender. One of these, a report by Harry S. McAlpin, chief of the Defender's Washington Bureau, exposed Monumental City housing as a disgrace to any modern community, and predicted that Baltimore, "a veritable powder-keg" promised at any moment to "explode with repercussions that would make Detroit, Beaumont, Mobile and Harlem seem like puny firecrackers."

Still another, a Defender editorial blasted officials of the National Housing agency and of the FPHA for their indifference toward Negro war workers and their need for decent housing. It demanded the immediate removal of certain of the key men in the two departments, on the ground their attitude toward Negro needs proved them to be unquestionably biased.

Blocked By Politicians

It is assumed here, therefore, that the series of conferences recently held between NHA and FPHA authorities may have been precipitated by the Defender criticism. For out of these conferences came the decision to proceed with the project which has long been approved but was blocked by the pressure housing officials were feeling from the opposition.

SEP 11 1943

Its attention called [illegible] deplorable state of Baltimore housing, which, already bad, had been made doubly so with the influx of colored war workers, the NHA offered to provide temporary housing for at least some of the overflow.

Immediately it was learned that a plan to erect a project for housing Negroes was under way, the Baltimore City Council raised objection. As a means of blocking it, the city council adopted a measure prohibiting any local authority from recommending a site for the project without its approval. The council then recessed.

Resort To Strategy

Race relations officials of the FPHA, however, apparently were still feeling the sting of criticism, **the result being that they set into motion a plan for picking a site "without the recommendation of any local (Baltimore) authority."**

During the course of the week-end conferences, they named the 200-acre plot north of Philadelphia Road and west of Moore's Run, and recommended the immediate breaking of ground for the erection of 1,200 to 1,400 temporary family units for colored war workers in the Baltimore area.

Simultaneous with his order to begin clearance, Winston made the following statement:

"This site was selected after full consideration of all factors involved in providing a satisfactory residential community for Negro war workers employed in industries in the eastern Baltimore area.

"In making the selection, the FPHA also has given full consideration to the advisory opinions received during the many and lengthy consultations which it has had with local public officials and with various citizens groups. The FPHA has weighed carefully the comprehensive advantages and disadvantages of the alternate site possibilities after having studied the entire problem for months."

Gives Overcrowding Figures

Plans are now being drawn for the project, Winston stated, and it is hoped that construction of these badly needed houses can be started within a very short time. Plans for the project will include the necessary schools, shopping centers, playgrounds, and other community facilities.

SEP 11 1943

Meanwhile, a delegation led by the Baltimore branches of the NAACP and the Urban League held conferences with Jonathan Daniels, administrative assistant to the President, and Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority, to protest the failure of the Federal government to erect the housing propect.

The group told Daniels that Negro war workers have moved into Baltimore at the rate of 2,000 a month for the past year. It was pointed out that while Negroes constitute 20 per cent of the city's population, they are crowded into less than 7 per cent of its living space.

"The Federal government," the delegation declared, "has the manifest duty, and power, to erect the necessary war housing to relieve a situation which seriously threatens the health, welfare and morale of the community, notwithstanding opposition to the project by certain local financial and political interests that are anti-Negro."

We All Walk Together

New York, N. Y.

Miss Anne K. Reilly, of 36 Bay 32d St., Brooklyn, sent in this letter from a soldier in a California Army hospital. She will receive the $5 PM pays daily for the be[illegible] [illegible]an or woman [illegible] armed services.

AUG 29 1943

PM

Have I told you of the setup here in this hospital? Relation to color line, I mean.

As you know, the Army is set up in Jim Crow fashion. Black units and white units. In the hospitals this does not always hold true—except, I think in the "Deep South." Here we have the perfect example of unity and the most conclusive refutation of the fascist claim that Negro and white cannot get along together.

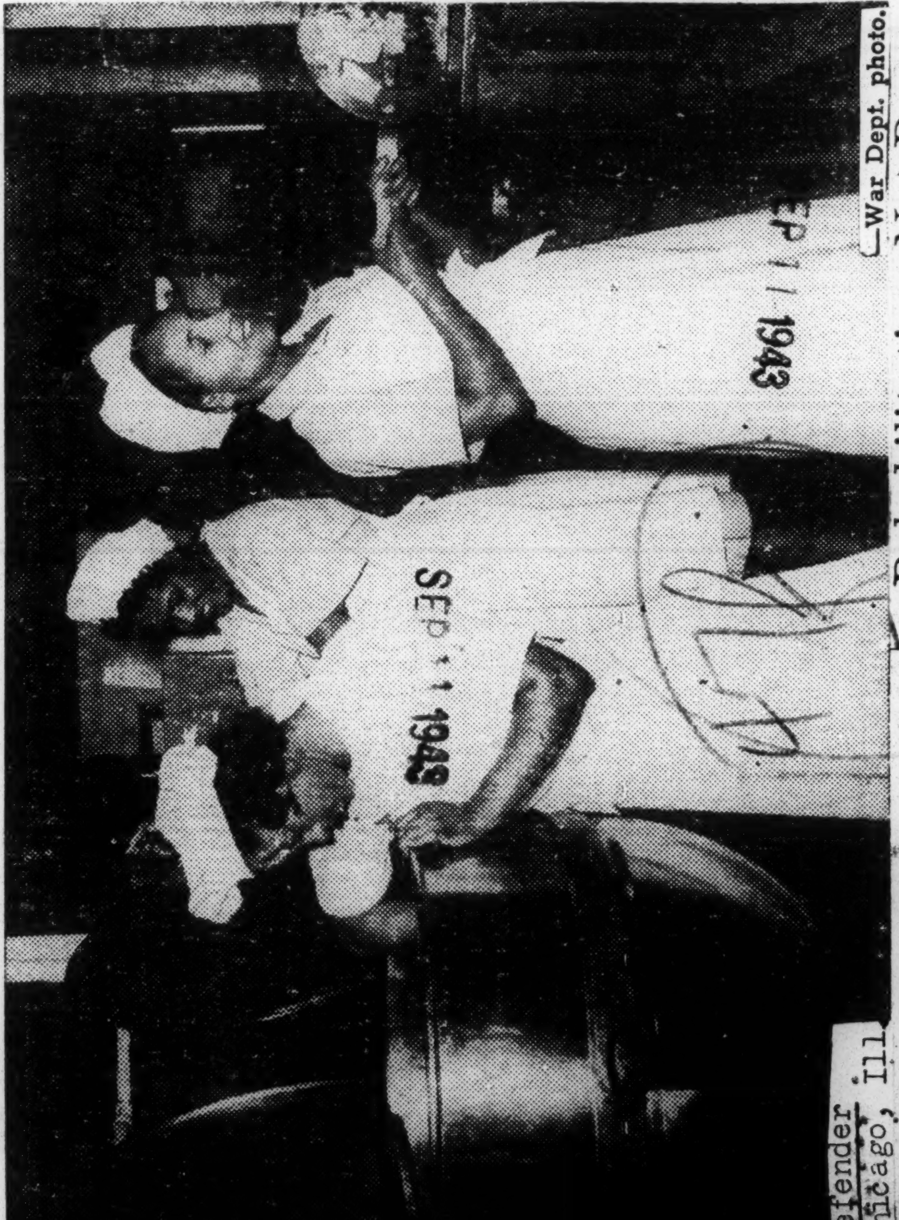
AUG 29 1943

This hospital is composed of a large number [illegible] barrack-like buildings, ea[illegible]. In all wards Negro and [illegible] sleep, and live together harmoniously. There have been no "incidents." There is no shunning of any man because of the color of his skin. Men make friends with each other on the basis of accessibility and mutual interests. It is common fo[illegible] white and black [illegible] wait on each other—those who eat in the wards. Black and white go off together in groups of two and three for mess, waiting for the particular individual each man has been accustomed to walking with.

AUG 29 1943

These men, and the picture is no doubt duplicated in many Army hospitals, are going back into the life of the Nation with an experience which will prepare them to make short with any talk of segregation. The men who have already seen action, for example, see [illegible] when, on returning to the States, the color line is drawn. We will come out of this with some good prospects for the future. R.

PREPARING FOOD FOR SICK SOLDIERS



SEP 11 1943

—War Dept. photo.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Auxiliaries [illegible] food [illegible] soldier patients in the Fort Knox, Ky., station hospital. Left to right are Aux. Ruby Jones, Baltimore, Md.; Aux. Ida Mae Lewis, Tacoma, Wash., and Aux. Ora L. Meador, San Antonio, Texas. All three are members of the 3564th WAC detachment.

Rehabilitation, Not Race, Paramount Consideration at Walter Reed

Afro-American

By DOUGLASS HALL

WASHINGTON

The unimportant matter of race or color is forgotten at the army's Walter Reed Hospital as its personnel goes about the task of renewing battle-broken minds and bodies of soldiers who have gone out to do what their country asked of them. The hospital is also curing men of prejudice and creating a better understanding between races.

SEP

Faces that were partially left behind on the battlefields of New Guinea, legs and other limbs that were lost in North Africa, eyes that were blasted out in Sicily are being replaced at the hospital.

The bitter discouragement that soldiers have felt about returning to civilian life has been banished in large measure by the medical miracles of this war.

Jim Crow Too Much Trouble

In addition to having their physical ailments cured, these soldiers are getting new views on the race question.

There is no JIM CROW or SEGREGATION in the hospital. It is too much trouble, officials stated.

In fact, the color or race of the patient is not entered in the hospital records.

When the AFRO-AMERICAN sought to learn about colored troops at the hospital, a public relations officer said:

"We know that there are colored soldiers here. We see them each day but we have no way of checking the records to find out the race of a patient. All we are interested in is the medical record. The color of a person does not matter."

No Friction Seen

Once you see how harmoniously the white and colored soldiers get along, you can readily see the great advantage in not keeping the records according to "color."

Not only is the Reed set-up contributing much to better racial understanding, but the soldiers themselves are doing no small share.

James Milledge, white, of Houmer, La., who lost a leg in the fighting of North Africa, summed up the race situation this way:

War Kills Prejudice

"The best way to create racial understanding between white and colored persons is to throw them on the battlefield together. Let them depend on each other for water, food, medical attention; let them depend on each other for life, and soon segregation will end.

"I read the colored papers," he stated, "and they are continually asking some high army official about the relations between white and colored troops. Did it ever occur to them to ask us little fellows? We are the ones who work, eat, live and fight with them.

"When you lie on the ground with your leg a half block away from your body, you don't care what color the person is who gives you a lift; if you have lost too much blood, what difference does it make whether the blood came out of a 'white' or 'colored' blood bank?

Pain Makes Brothers

"And another thing," Cpl. Milledge concluded, "once you get race prejudice blown out of you on the battle front, you have no desire to get it back again.

"You learn that a man is a man, regardless of his color. All blood runs red, all hearts beat the same, and all human beings become BROTHERS when pain strikes."

My assignment is to tell AFRO readers how Walter Reed Hospital is bringing men back to life. Men with injuries which would have ben fatal in any other war are saved, almost as a matter of course, by blood plasma in this war.

Plastic Surgery

Bullet-ripped and paralyzed muscles are rebuilt, veins, nerves, and flesh replaced, and artificial but mechanical and uncanny limbs are adjusted to leg and arm stumps.

Let us talk about plastic surgery. Here is a young fellow who lost half of his face in New Guinea. There was only a hole where half of his face was when he was admitted to the hospital. Borrowing a bit of bone here, a slice of flesh there, plastic surgeons, under the direction of Lieut. Col. Willard S. Schuessler, chief plastic surgeon, are rebuilding that face. His teeth will be replaced by a dentist and technicians.

Faces Deblemished

Torn and twisted limbs are repaired and straightened; flash fire burned and scarred faces and bodies are deblemished by skin grafting techniques in which healthy sections of skin on one part of the body, nearest the injury, are cut in "suitcase strap" folds and laid over the ripped, burned, torn or lacerated areas to take root and grow over the damaged areas.

The stress and strain of desperate and bloody combat wreak havoc with the minds of some soldiers.

Many Mental Cases

Thirty-three per cent of the casualties now returning from battle zones are mental or nervous breakdowns. For them, psychiatrists and neurologists, men who see each patient as an individual, probe deep into their troubled minds.

Certain to be a boom in postwar society is the little publicized Walter Reed penicillin research into gonorrhea. Tests so far made there indicate that it is effective in 20 per cent of infections that sulfa drugs do not cure.

Named after Major Walter Reed, distinguished American Army medical officer who, in 1899, verified the theory that mosquitoes carried yellow fever, Walter Reed Hospital is a working monument to the great American scientific genius. Its functions are military medicine and surgery, but achievements there are turned to the advantage of all.

Walter Reed is located on the site of the Civil War battlefield of Fort Stevens.

Disease Rates Compared

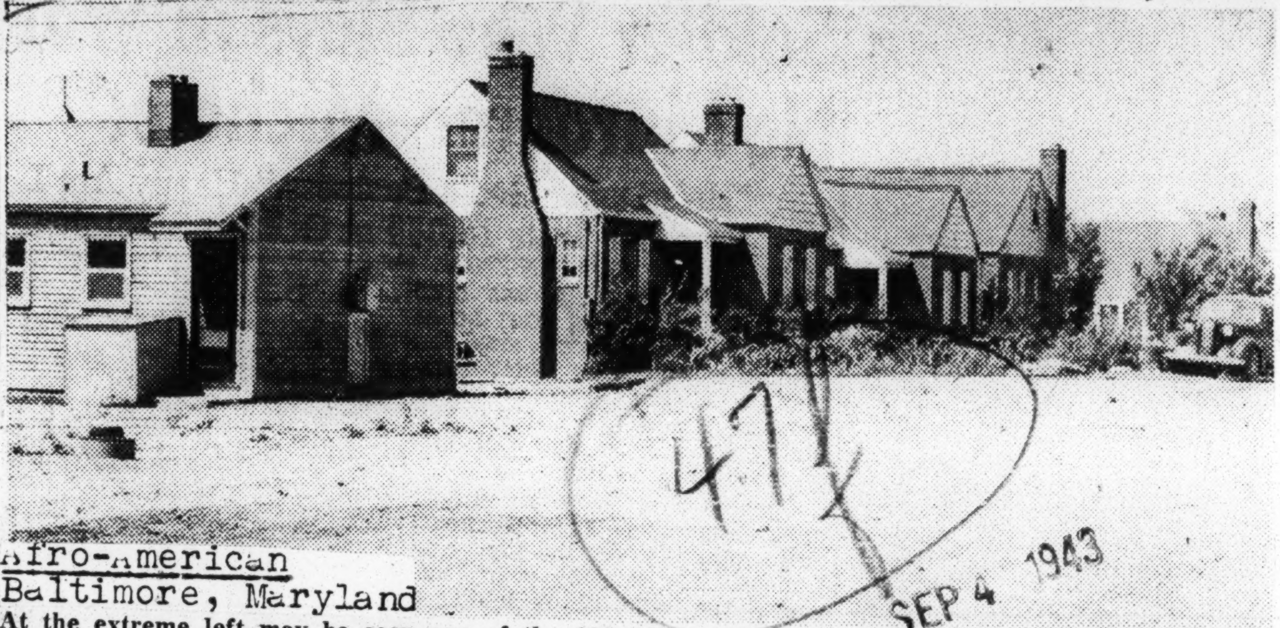
Look at the results of its attack on typhoid: In the last war there were 1115 cases. Up to 1942, with a much greater army and navy, there were only 76.

Measles was a major cause of death in the last war. In November, 1917, the death rate was 240 per 1000. In the new army the rate is 1 per 1000.

In the old army, 171 of each 100,000 soldiers died of respiratory diseases. Today, 8 per 100,000 die.

Tuberculosis hospitalized 1300 soldiers per 100,000 in 1917. In 1942, only 160 cases were reported per 100,000.

Arlington, Va., Finds that It Has a Housing Headache



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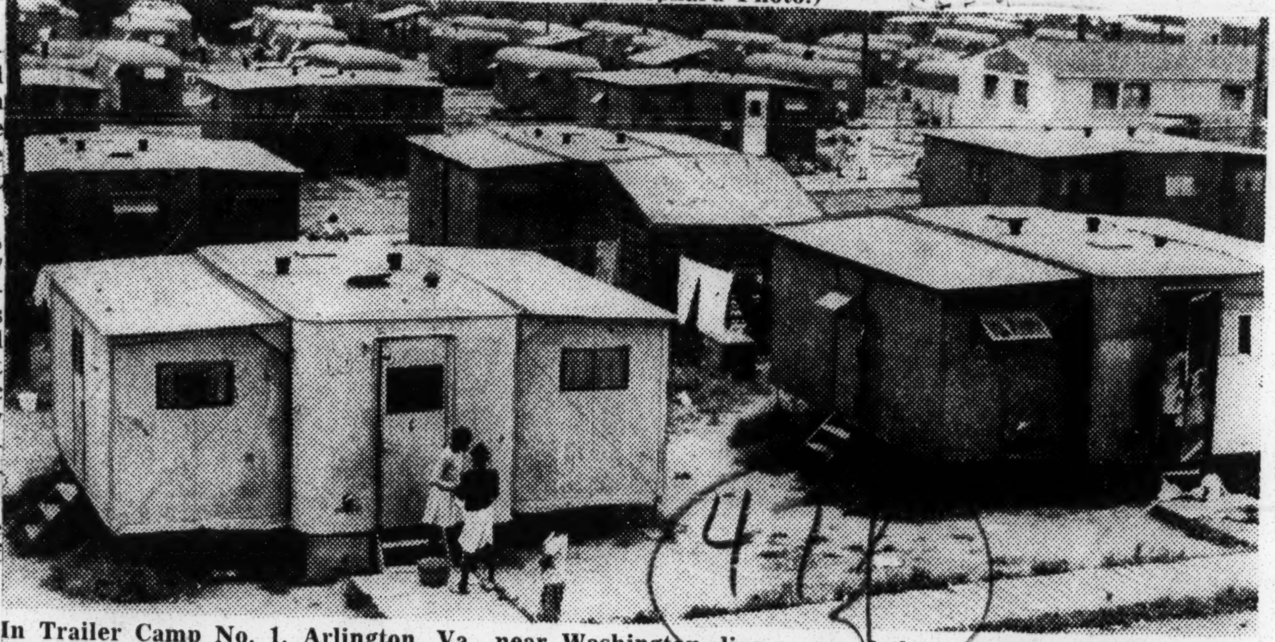
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

SEP 4 1943

At the extreme left may be seen one of the 100 "dispersable" war housing units making up what is known as the Carver Victory Homes project. Not a true housing project in the accepted sense of the word, these dispersables were set up on vacant lots in the South Gate Vale subdivision, one of the few promising sites open to colored homebuilders. Property owners living in the subdivision, charging that the dispersables lower the value of their property, say that the project is a disgrace to the name of Carver.—(Shephard Photo.)



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In Trailer Camp No. 1, Arlington, Va., near Washington, live many of the persons evicted from their homes to make way for Federal Highway construction. Some of the persons who live in these trailers and who have been doing so for the past 18 months, own the lots upon which the George W. Carver "dispersables" were set up. They, however, cannot move into the Carver Homes because they are not in-migrant war workers. In the background may be seen the roofs of the Pickett Homes, a temporary project designed for white in-migrants. Citizens who recommended that the Pickett Homes be turned over to colored tenants were given a cool brushoff.—(Shephard Photo.)

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THEY TELL A SAD STORY

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SEP 25 1943

A group of young women eagerly telling Tribune reporter Woody L. Taylor how the terrible explosion occurred at the place where they reside last Sunday, in which one young woman, Mrs. Doris Callender was killed, and her sister, Miss Rosetta Gillespie, both of Columbus, Ohio, was injured. Mrs. Callender was a bride of little better than a year. Shortly after their marriage, her husband was drafted into the U.S. Army and is now overseas. Shown from left to right, standing, Misses Naomi Humphries, Monessen, Pa.; Lois McCrae, Monessen, Pa.; Martha Smith, Burkeville, Va., Olivia Baker, Charlottesville, Va.; Bessie Howell, Monessen, Pa.; Ollye McDaniels, Langston, Okla.; Francis McKissick, Asheville, N. C., and Miss Ruby Johnson of Memphis, Tenn. Seated on the arm of the chair is Miss Emma Copeland. In the chair is Miss Roxie Lee Blanks of Little Rock, Ark., talking to Mr. Taylor.

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1 Dead and 20 Homeless When Blast Wrecks House

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

One woman was killed, another injured and 20 made homeless last Sunday when a furnace blast wrecked a rooming house at 1125 Tenth Street, Northwest. The house, one of many in the District for women war workers, was crowded when the explosion occurred.

The dead woman was Mrs. Doris Callendar, 22, of Columbus, Ohio, who died [illegible] at Freedmen's Hospital. She shared a basement apartment in the house with her sister, Rosetta Gillespie, 25. Mrs. Gillespie was treated at Freedmen's Hospital for shoulder burns and a lacerated scalp, but was discharged after treatment.

Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald said his office would investigate the case before issuing a death certificate.

Miss Roxie Lee Blanks, a roomer in the house, said she and several of the other roomers had only a half hour before the blast complained to the woman in charge of the house about the furnace as several of the pipes were loose and a loud knocking caused uneasiness among the tenants.

Miss Blanks said she and others had tried to reach the owner of the house, Nick Basiliko, who is also the [illegible]gan Hotel which was raided several months ago and many citizens and soldiers arrested.

She said as a result of the blast all of the girls were made homeless. They went to the hotel and demanded accommodation until they could find quarters, but were refused. She stated that they told the manager that they would remain until accommodated. The manager grudgingly gave them rooms with a number of girls in each room and two in a bed. Some had to sleep two to a cot, she said.

Some of the girls were able to find rooms in [illegible] various parts of [illegible]ity. Conditions of many rooming houses in crowded Washington is being investigated by several organizations. Many unscrupulous landlords are taking advantage of the situation by leasing delapidated houses and renting rooms to war workers at high rates with several in a room.

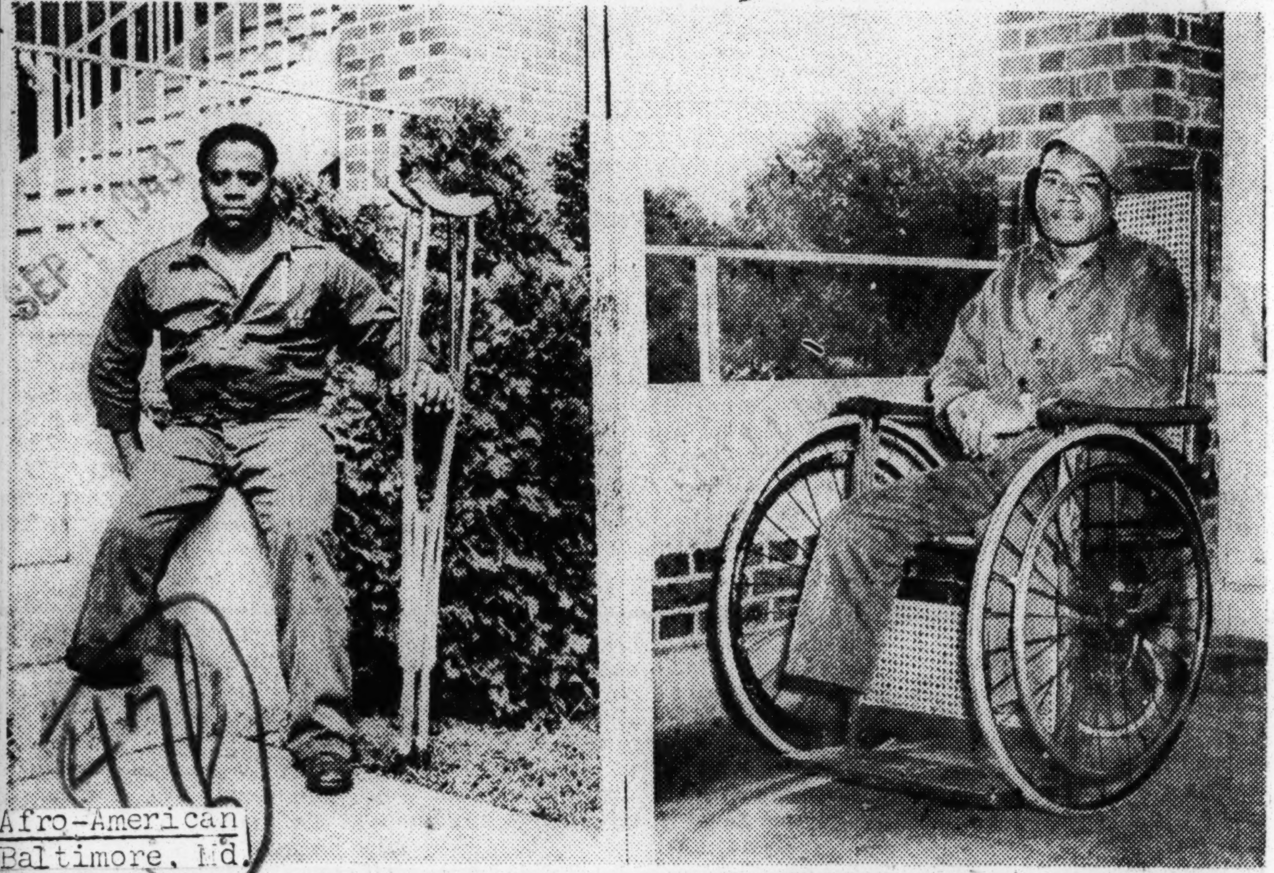
A total of thirty two girls, all government workers, were housed in the house at the time of the explosion. According to several of the young women interviewed there are usually about 40 inhabitants. These young women were charged $20 per bed with one person to a bed and usually four beds to a room. In other words, Mr. Basiliko was collecting $80 per month, in advance the girls said, for each room.

The basement in which the explosion [illegible] was a total wreck. The makeshit kitchen where the young women had to prepare food for themselves was a very small partitioned affair in the same room with the furnace. So close was the refrigerator to the furnace until it was blown about sixty-five feet, through the window, into the back yard. The one window in the kitchen thru which the refrigerator was blown, also served for the adjoining room in which three girls slept.

The bed room, hardly large enough [illegible] one bed [illegible] one occupant to live in with any degree of comfort, was crowded with three beds and three roomers.

Just opposite the kitchen was a make shift dining room with three rough tables. So terriffic was the explosion that the entire floor of this room was strewn with cement covered brick blown from th[illegible]uld almost have to see the basement of the house in order to appreciate the condition under which these young women, who are working "for "a better world in which to live," had to reside.

Color Line Vanishes as Vets Recuperate at Hospital in D.C.



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Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Pvt. Isaiah Walker of N.Y.C., who lost a leg at a port of embarkation, and Pvt. Travis Henry of Philadelphia, who lost both legs in N. Africa, shown at the Walter Reed Hospital in D.C., where they are waiting for artificial limbs.

47f-1943

Buck Is Passed In Making Provision For In-Migrants

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

SEP 11 1943

SEP 11 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—There is a nation-wide crisis in housing facilities for Negro war workers which gravely threatens to retard war production and to limit use of Negro workers to mee the increasingly acute manpower shortage.

Information on key war centers available here indicated that the Negro population in Los Angeles had increased 138 per cent in the space of months, with Negro migrants coming into the area at the rate of 3,500 a month. In Baltimore, Negroes, constituting 20 per cent of the total population, are crowded into 2 per cent of the residential area. To Detroit, each week, are streaming 12 to 14 hundred persons, the majority of them Negro women.

600 FAMILIES MUST VACATE

Here in the Nation's capital, this week, 600 Negro families are being evicted from an area needed to complete a Naval station, while 300 other families have been living in overcrowded trailers for more than a year with no housing available. In Buffalo, N. Y., following a two and a half-year-old wrangle as to whether Negroes should be permitted to occupy sites in areas where they had not lived before, the National Housing agency has finally capitulated to local pressures and programmed a project which calls for tearing down 200 Negro dwellings and erecting 316, thus wasting vast quantities of critical war materials.

John B. Blandford, Jr., National Housing agency administrator, announced last week programming of 3,200 units of housing in Washington, 2,00 in Detroit, 12 to 14 hundred in Baltimore, and 3,200 in Los Angeles. He indicated that 7 per cent of all programmed war housing had been for Negro occupancy and that 8.4 per cent of monies spent from public funds had been put to this use.

But, despite these hopeful signs, thep roblem remains and promises to grow worse unless decisive changes of policy occur both in the NHA here and in the field.

POWER DIRECTED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

"In the matter of site selection and occupancy," said Blandford, "the NHA has pursued the policy of delegating to local housing authorities the power to select sites and determine who shall occupy the houses. Where no local authorities have existed we have sought to ascertain the local patterns of the community and have based our policy of site selection and occupancy on these local patterns."

It is the application of this policy which has contributed to the present crisis. In Baltimore, for example, four or five months were wasted in the attempt to over-ride local white opposition to the Negro project.

CONSTRUCTION OFTEN STYMIED

In fact, in a number of cases, where urgent immediate need for Negro housing existed, consultation with local housing authorities or attempted determination of "local patterns" by NHA has resulted in delaying construction of the needed project.

"No Negro workers will be permitted occupancy in Willow Lodge," stated Bandford, referring to the new 3,000-unit dormitory erected in connection with the Ford Willow Run Bombing plant, near Detroit. "We have programmed this project for white occupancy," he said, "and we had better stick to this program rather than vacillate. That was the trouble at Sojourner Truth."

CITES OTHER PROJECTS

Blandford justified this position on the ground that adequate housing had been programmed for the Negro in-migrant workers in projects at Inkster and Ypsilanti, Investigation of NHA figures of Negro housing made available in connection with this project indicated, however, that only about seven or eight hundred units were for Negroes, out of total of more than ten thousand.

Out of the interview with Blandford and with other housing officials, it developed that no certain method is used to determine the number of Negro migrants who need housing. The statement was made that the basis of determining need was the estimate of the War Manpower commission of the number of in-migrant workers a given community expects.

PLENTY OF ROOM FOR ERROR

Thus the War Manpower commission may and frequently does, take employers' statements to the effect that they intend to bring in no Negro workers as the basis for assuming that there is no need for Negro housing, while the fact is that thousands of Negroes will pour into the area looking for work.

The fact remains, that despite clearly evidenced good will on the part of responsible housing officials toward the problems of Negro workers, they have thus far failed to deal adequately with thep roblem. And as trains from the South carry Negroes by the thousands to war industry centers in other sections of the country, it becomes certain that the present framework of policies and practices of the National Housing agency will fail to meet the war housing needs of Negro workers.

CIO Convention To Ask 350 Billions For Correction Of War Housing Ills

Defender
Chicago. Ill

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Government appropriation of 350 million dollars for non-discriminatory war housing and public works, will be asked by the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination at its meeting here, November 1.

The request will be part of a program the committee hopes to put into operation for "purposes of easing racial tension, promoting national unity, increasing war production and winning the war." Wires have already been forwarded to Sen. Carter Glass (D., Va.) and Rep. Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.), chairmen of the Senate and House Appropriations committees respectively, advising them of the plan to ask for the funds.

George L-P Weaver, director of the committee, recommended adoption of the program following a study of "the underlying causes of interracial antagonism."

"Intolerable housing and living conditions of war workers of both races," Weaver points out, "constitutes one of the basic perils to the war effort."

Cites Baltimore As Typical

In the report to be submitted to the November 1, conference Weaver declares:

"In a consultation with John B. Blanford, National Housing Agency administrator, the programming of housing throughout the nation was discussed, and the matter of neighborhood anti-racialism was gone into.

"Among the areas where a project was being held up, due to community opposition to Negroes moving in, was Baltimore. The committee has been working with various community groups in Baltimore on this problem. At a meeting in Mr. Blandford's office in July 16, it was announced by Mr. Blanford that the Federal Agency had picked a site in Baltimore and would go ahead and construct a 1,200 unit permanent housing project.

"As was to be expected, instant opposition developed to the idea, led by three ministers, two Catholic priests and a Jewish Rabbi. Philip Reno of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, is the leader of the CIO forces in Baltimore pushing for the project and I have been working with the Federal Housing people from the Washington end.

Raps Covenant Restrictions

"The situation in Baltimore is a good illustration of most of our wartime industrial areas. An estimated 200,000 Negroes or about 20 per cent of the city's total population live today in 'three-ringed' districts whose total area comprises less than four square miles of the city's total 78.6 per cent. They are huddled there under sanitary conditions which are conceded to be virtual mockery of this capital of medical science.

"These sections are little rings of Negro dwellers, living mostly in houses abandoned by whites and confined to these areas by air-tight landlord covenants which prevent them from buying or renting property elsewhere. Out of more than 15,000 houses in which Negroes live today, it is estimated that less than 200 were built originally for Negroes.

"The Negro population is distributed about 58,000 per square mile, compared with the density among whites of slightly more than 9,000 square miles.

Willing To Pay

"Negroes in war work, and the largest percentage of them are CIO members of the United Steelworkers of America, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, and UAW locals, make as high as $10 and $15 per day and are willing to pay for decent housing but are compelled in hundreds of cases to live in inevitable pens, with outside toilets, etc.

"Additional Negroes are still coming to Baltimore at an estimated rate of 2,000 per month to work in defense factories. Where are they going to live?

"Figures on health and crime are offered by officials as telling their own story of such conditions. More than half of all deaths from tuberculosis and pneumonia in Baltimore, according to governor's commission, occur among Negroes, comprising only one-fifth of the population.

Deplores Schools

"Negro school facilities, recreational and other community facilities are in the same deplorable condition. There is a definite need to awaken the community to the benefits it is possible for a community to secure under the 'Lanaham Act.' We have made an analysis of this act and hope to activize the CIO groups in this community to secure the maximum benefits that accrue from it.

"The saddest commentary on the situation in Baltimore is the opposition to the contemplated housing project by church leaders. The following is a direct quote from the latest report received from Baltimore, written by a CIO official: 'Various ministers and a Catholic priest have also been very active in stirring up and organizing opposition to Negro housing. The Catholic priest's name is Rev. S. Vincent Fitzgerald of St. Anthony's church here. Anything that could be done nationally to quiet this priest down would be very helpful. His contribution to racial hatred in Baltimore has certainly been a large one.'"

Federal Housing On Spot, Off Again In Senate Bill

Defender
Chicago. Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The X marked the spot where the Federal Housing Administration's jim crow policy was to die. Senator McNary (R) of Oregon had drawn the X with a non-discrimination amendment to a bill authorizing an additional $400,000,000 to the FHA's mortagage insurance program.

Then, before formally introducing the amendment, Sen. McNary erased the X by agreeing to temporarily withhold the amendment at the request of Sen. Radcliffe (D) of Maryland.

The proposed amendment reads: "Sec. 5. In the administration of the National Housing Act, as amended, and in making benefits available under the provisions of such act, as amended, there shall be on discrimination on account of race, creed or color."

It created quite a stir in the Senate cloakroom. The Jaycees (for jim crowers, Jew cursers, justice cheaters, joy crimpers, etc.) were laying their battle plans to "junk" the amendment.

Abner H. Ferguson, commissioner of the FHA, joined the "crusade" to kill the amendment by spending full days on Capitol Hill, and by writing a letter to Sen. Radcliffe denying that the FHA discriminates against Negroes. "I can assure you that the act does not permit such discrimination and that our rules, regulations, policies, and procedures are drawn anrd administered impartially and without the slightest discrimination against any group or individuals on account of race, color or creed," he said.

But three paragraphs farther in the same letter, Ferguson says, "It is true that in neighborhoods which are well established and where the character and type of occupancy is clear, the FHA under sound underwriting procedure and general mortgage practice does not, under the insured mortgage system, take any action which will result in a change in the character of such established neighborhoods when such change would tend to introduce inharmonious elements which would cause or accelerate deterioration in property desirability or values. Our responsibilities to other property owners in the neighborhoods are clear in this regard and this is equally true whether the established character of the neighborhood is white or colored."

Ferguson and Sen. Radcliffe worked the ruse that the FHA program was at its rope's end for additional authorization, that it would have to stop operation in two or three days unless the bill were passed immediately—without controversy.

Nevertheless, the vote on the bill was put off for Sen. McKellar (D) of Tennessee, who wanted to have a tete-a-tete with Ferguson before voting. The bill had already passed the House, and because of amendments must go to conference between the House and Senate anyway.

Assurance was given Sen. McNary that his amendment would be considered when the next general housing bill comes up. Thus Congress and the administration escaped a showdown on whether FHA may continue inciting community tensions by its site approval powers and its support given to restrictive covenants.

OCT 6 1943

FHA, despite its contribution to Negro home ownership, has done more than any other agency to contribute to the ghetto trend of Negro housing. Without an amendment such as McNary intended to introduce, the postwar housing picture for Negroes—which will necessarily be primarily a private finance problem—is a black smudge.

The NAACP, the Urban League, the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, and other organizations have indicated intention to fight for passage of the amendment. "Now," they say, "is the time. Why wait?"

In withdrawing the amendment, Sen. McNary told the Senate: "At the suggestion of Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, a few days ago, I submitted an amendment to the bill, and intended to press for its adoption. However, I find the time is so short and the necessity for immediate action so great that I shall not do so at this time."

Disabled Servicemen Accepting War Jobs

DEC 18 1943

DEC 18 1943

Courier
—Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Of- ce of War Information this week ssued a report on the training nd employment opportunities open o discharged service men of this ar and what advantage is being aken of these opportunities. The eport, based on information obained from seven government agncies, indicates that a majority of he returning service men are acepting employment in war plants here, despite their disabilities, hey are doing a good job and are ecoming a real factor in relieving the present manpower shortge. Relatively few are taking advantage of the opportunity to obain vocational education at the ost of the Government, but the Veterans Administration expresses he belief that many of those who re now accepting employment in ndustry will request vocational raining if and when their present mployment ends.

DEC 18 1943

00,000 DISCHA

To date at least 800,000 veterans of this war have been given discharges from the Army, Navy and Marine Corps. The Army released 585,000 from Pearl Harbor through September 30, 1943. The Navy discharged 133,155 from Pearl Harbor through October 31, 1943, and the Marine Corps discharged 34,759 during the same period. Of those discharged, 370,000 were released from the Army for medical reasons and 6,961 from the Navy and Marines for medical reasons. The remainder have been discharged for a number of reasons, the most important of which is over-age.

Of the total number discharged, 26,000 have applied to the Veterans' Administration for continued hospitalization and 2,800 have applied to the same agency for vocational rehabilitation. The bulk of the remainder have either returned to their old jobs or have taken new jobs.

A discharged veteran is entitled to the following:

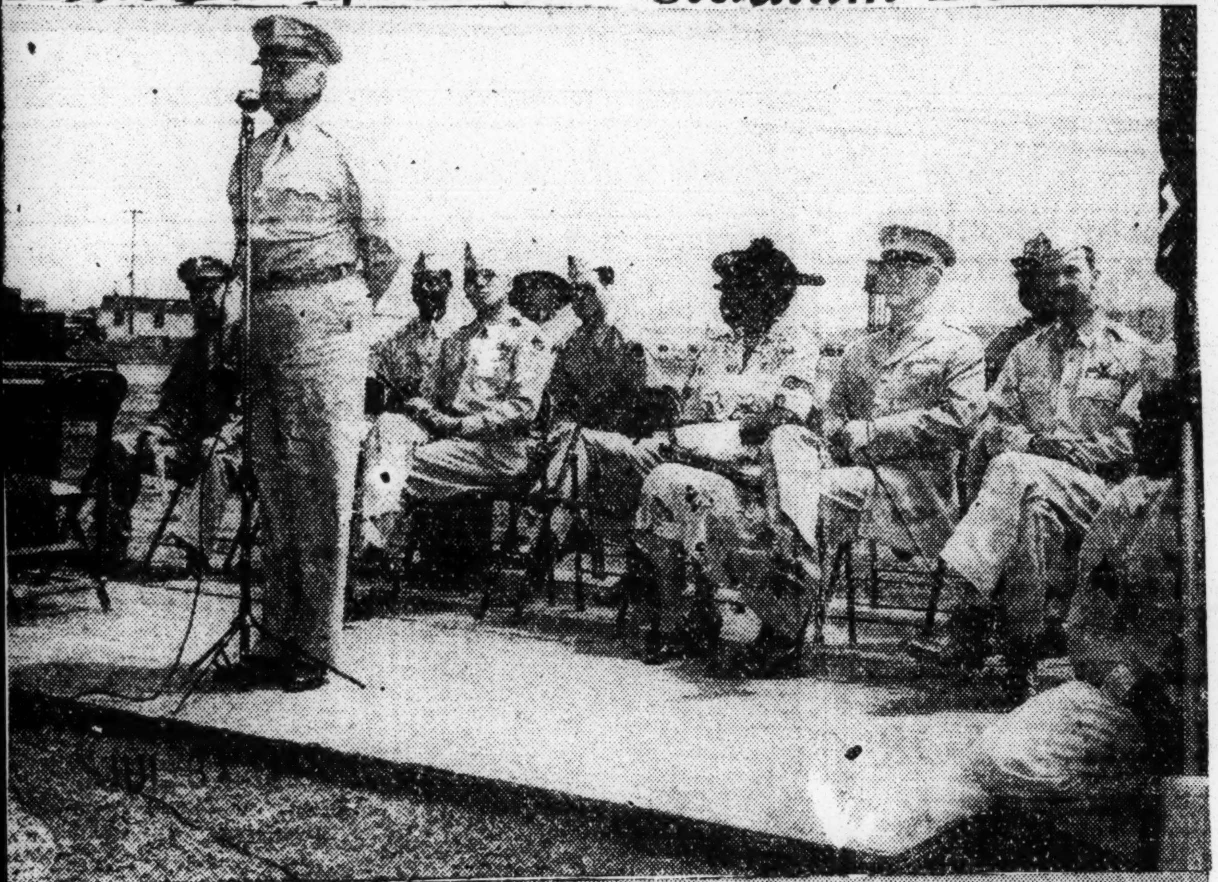
1. **His old job if he wants it (under certain conditions).**
2. **Preferential consideration should he wish to work for the Federal Government.**
3. **Assistance in obtaining a new job.**
4. **Vocational rehabilitation or training.**
5. **Free hospitalization and medical treatment in a Veterans' Administration hospital as long and as often as he needs it for service-connected disabilities, and for non-service connected disabilities if facilities are available.**
6. **A pension for life or as long as the disability continues for a service-connected disability if the disability is rated at 10 per cent or more.**

DEC 18 1943

47g-1943

Mrs. Sarah Foster, Famed Pitcher's Wife, Honored Guest At Stadium Dedication

Informer



Houston, Texas

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — The $18,000 Rube Foster Memorial Baseball stadium was dedicated and presented to the 92nd Division in an impressive ceremony Sunday July 18, with Mrs. Sarah Foster widow of the great Negro pitcher and organizer of the Negro Baseball League, present as a special guest of honor.

Trying bravely to keep back the tears that welled up in her throat, an attractively gray-haired brown-skinned woman summed up the tribute that she had come 2,000 miles to hear paid to her late husband, with "After all, it pays, it pays to be good, to live clean years. After all these years if my husband had thought his trying to help train the young to be clean athletes would have ended this way . . ."

She was unable to finish the words, ". . . how happy he would have been." Yet every one in the crowd of 15,000 persons who had come to witness the dedication of the Rube Foster Baseball field, knew that Mrs. Sarah Foster, widow of the great pitcher and organizer of the National Negro Baseball League, was happy in spite of her tears.

Slender, brownskinned, her upswept hair attractively silvered, Mrs. Foster proved as much a surprise to authorities at Fort Huachuca. Her charm, her graciousness, her eager (almost girlish) enthusiasm and appreciation were so unfeigned and stimulating that Col. Edwin N. Hardy, Lt. Col. M. O. Bousfield, commanding officer, Station Hospital No. 1, and others who were responsible for her being out here were all quite in a dither about her.

She proved to be quite unaffcted about the homage that some wanted to pay to her. "It's my husband who is being honored," she quietly reminded them all. "I've always kept in the background; I think I was more in the foreground during the dedication program than at any other time that I can remember."

Among those present at the game were Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., assistant in the Inspector General's office; Truman E. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War; Major Gen. Edward M. Almond, commander of the 92nd Infantry Division; Brig. Gen. John E. Woods, assistant division commander; and Brig. Gen. W. H. Colbern, 92nd artillery commander.

JUL 31 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Athletic Field Named For Soldier

NOV 20 1943

FORT HAUCHUCA, Ariz.— The athletic field formerly known as the Old Post baseball diamond was officially named Brock Field, recently, in honor of Technical Sergeant Fred Brock, Jr., deceased, formerly of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 598th Field Artillery.

A native of San Antonio, Tex., Sgt. Brock was struck and killed by lightning on August 19, while performing his duties as communications chief on the Fort Hauchuca reservation.

NOV 20 1943

Trilune
Philadelphia, Pa.

PLAIN TALK

By ELMER CARTER

LAUNCHING OF THE S.S. ROBERT L. VANN

Another ship has slid down the ways bearing on its prow the name of a distinguished colored American. And now the Robert L. Vann takes its place as a harbinger of liberty and as a symbol of the American democracy. In its hold and on its decks soon there will be packed the the murderous weapons of war, tanks, and planes and shells and deadly explosives, food and clothing [illegible] soldiers on the firing line or the needy civilian populations of the countries freed from Axis oppression.

OCT 30 1943

The launching of ships bearing the name of eminent figures in the life of this nation has for us tremendous significance. For when the name of a great citizen of color is emblazoned on a ship, it is in truth more than perfunctory recognition of the man. It is recognition of his race and its place in American life. It is an attempt and a praiseworthy attempt to demonstrate the ideal of this democracy even though that ideal has not been completely achieved.

Appreciation of this circumstance is paramount in any intelligent approach to the effective betterment of the status of the Negro. In our struggle for complete integration in the life of this nation we must not forget that we are Americans: that many of our problems are essentially American problems and that alien techniques ,and methods tried and found more or less effective in foreign lands by religious, racial and national minorities whose history is far different from ours, do not guarantee success and [illegible] invite catastrophe.

We must contend for our rights as Americans, willing and able to bear the responsibilities of citizens, anxious to render the utmost service to our country, eager to give our unquestioned loyalty for its preservation and its welfare.

Ours has been slow but steady progress. And nowhere on the face of the earth has the Negro achieved so much as he has in America, not in [illegible], nor in British [illegible]ica, nor French, nor Portuguese, nor Belgian, nor in the West Indies—only in the United States of America with all its limitations and all of its pernicious prejudice, and all of its clinging to the slave tradition has there emerged among colored people a Paul Robeson, a Mary Church Terrell, an Alain Locke, a Marian Anderson, a Richard Wright, a Mary McCleod Bethune, a Roland Hayes, a William E. Duboise, a Louis Wright, a Langston Hughes, a Richard Barthe, a Jesse Owens, to name but a few in the contemporary world, nor a Booker T. Washington, a Carver, an Ernest Just, a James W[illegible]n Johnson in the more recent past.

Withal its prejudice, its racial antipathy, its Jim Crowism and God knows America should be profoundly ashamed of these perversions of Democracy and Christianity, this nation has been quick to accord honor, recognition, fame and in many cases wealth, to American Negroes of exceptional gifts and talents.

It is the progress of the American Negro that has stirred the spirit of the Negro in Africa, and awakened in him the longing for freedom. It is the example of the American Negro that has set in motion and given strength to the movement for autonomy within the Empire among the people of the West Indies.

Wherever there are men and women of Negro blood, they look to America for inspiration and for the measure of their own possibilities. Thus it can be seen that we in America have a high destiny for we act not only for ourselves but for millions all over the world.

The method which has enabled us to come thus [illegible] not be spectacular but it has been effective. It has been protest plus performance, not just protest. It has been the continuing demonstration of our faith in our country and in the ultimate sense of fairness of the American people and judged by the record, this has been the better way.

SS Paul Laurence Dunbar, Sixth Liberty Ship Named After Negro, Launched Tues.

Age
New York, N. Y.

The sixth Liberty Ship to be named for a Negro, the SS PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, was launched by the California Shipbuilding Corporation at Wilmington, Calif., on Tuesday. Sponsor of the vessel was Mrs. [illegible] Wil[illegible] oldest employed Negro woman in the yard. Miss Eva Stringer was maid-of-honor, and J. H. Wadsworth, manager, Public Relations Department, was master of ceremonies at the launching.

The ss. Booker T. Washington, first Liberty Ship named for a Negro, was also built in this yard. The Dunbar has been assigned as a tanker—the 18th Liberty tanker and the 274th ship built by the California Shipbuilding Corporation since Pearl Harbor.

Four of the first five Liberty Ships nmed for Negroes are now in service, two of them with Negro captains and mixed crews. The five ships named for outstanding Negro Americans included the ss. Booker T. Washington, the ss. George Washington Carver, the ss. Frederick Douglass, the ss. John Merrick, and the [illegible]bert L. Vann. A naval vessel, the destroyer escort Leonard Roy Harmon, was named in honor of a Negro naval hero.

Paul Laurence Dunbar, a native of Dayton, Ohio, was born June 27, 172. When he was graduated from high school he was president of the literary society and editor of the student publication. He also composed the song of his graduation class of 1891. While working as an elevator operator at $4 per week, he started writing the poetry that was to make him famous. In 1893, he published a booklet of his poems at a cost of $125 and defrayed expenses by personal sale of the booklet at $1.00 a copy.

Through the encouragement of influential friends, he published his second book of poems, "Majors and Minors," and this attracted the attention of William Dean Howells, then editor of Harpers Magazine, who gave the book a full-page review. After this review, demands for his poems increased. In 1896, Dodd, Mead and Company published Dunbar's best-known collection, "Lyrics of Lowly Life." From that time on, Dunbar was a success. He wrote four novels and in 1897, lectured in England. Returning to this country [illegible] following year, he [illegible]ed in the Library of Congress, continuing at the same time his literary work. The confining work in the library, in addition to the demands on his time for writing, ruined his health, and he went to Colorado in 1899 in a vain effort to regain it. During this period, he wrote the school song of Tuskegee Institute, in which he was very much interested.

Dunbar died February 9, 1906 at Dayton, Ohio.

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The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Unity for Production

Eunice Tunnard and Eula Mae Simpson, white and Negro Youth Administration students, study assembly-line work at Brooklyn's NYA Youth Training Center. Similar scenes may be duplicated in such NYA centers throughout Greater New York.

NYA Shows Way to Train Negro Youth for War Work

MAY 17 1943

By Eugene Gordon

The kid machinists in Harlem's NYA training center get a kick out of knowing they are actually producing for victory. They tell you so.

Not that the center pretends to be a full time, regularly producing machine shop. It doesn't, as Harold May, supervising foreman and superintendent of the shop, makes clear:

"We don't emphasize production as such. It is chiefly a matter of work experience. We put emphasis on learning production methods — machine shop fundamentals—that can be applied when these boys and girls get regular jobs."

In the act of learning how to operate lathes, grinders, drill presses, shapers, planers, band and power hack saws, and buffing machines these 70-odd youngsters turn out actual products. They have the satisfaction of knowing that these bolts, flanges and other articles go to the Navy Department for use.

While the Daily Worker reporter was interviewing Mr. May and his financial clerk, a youngster named Hubert Dilworth, a pretty Negro girl sat at the desk where applicants fill out forms. I asked her:

WANT TO HELP WIN

"Why do you want to learn how to operate a machine? Why do you think you'd like to do this sort of work?"

Her name, she said, was Sarah Hall, 20, of 1858 Seventh Ave. Machine shop work wasn't new to her, she having had a job in a New Jersey arsenal. She now wants to learn welding.

"Frankly, I want the job so I can help win the war. I want to hurry the war up and get it over with as soon as possible. Of course I'd like to earn a little more money, too, but my main reason is to help win the war."

Mr. Dilworth sent her to the NYA's welding shop, 98 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn.

Mr. May said the girls show as much proficiency as boys in the handling of machines. Most of the girls have special aptitude. There was, for instance, Miss Madge Taylor, "the best mechanic in this shop."

Miss Taylor, was working on a lathe. She was enveloped from head to foot in overalls. A transparent shield covered her small brown face. She was 18, she said, and had been in the shop six weeks. She hadn't had any previous training. But she rattled off the names of the articles the machines turned out and knew precisely how the Navy would use them.

WELL EQUIPPED

Many youngsters come into the shop for application blanks from having been enticed by what they saw through the huge plate glass window. The place, at 317 W. 125th St., used to be sewing machine store. The large room is now filled with rows of another kind of machine. The inside of the shop and the workers are as visible from the sidewalk as the interior of a glass beehive. And as interesting.

The exact number of students enrolled there last week was 79. Negro learners outnumbered white about six to one. Boys seemed to outnumber girls in approximately the same ratio. But everybody worked with everybody else, in beautiful harmony. Mr. May, in charge is a Negro. He is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and of the Newark College of Engineering. He has had years of industrial experience.

Young Dilworth, a musician by profession, personable, affable and efficient, is also a Negro.

The shop was opened Dec. 1st, 1942. It is officially known as the War Manpower Commission - National Youth Administration Victory Training Center. There are similar centers elsewhere in the city.

Work is carried on in two shifts, beginning at 7:45 A. M. and ending at midnight. Workers are assigned five days', with an option of six if time was lost during the week. The shop has a quota of 60 workers, though 79 was on the job last week. The training course runs from eight to 10 weeks. It is longer for those who need more time.

"Some applicants have had a little training when they come here," Dilworth said. "they having had small machine jobs in some industry. They come here because they feel they can get better jobs when they've had a little more training."

16 TO 24

Ages range from 16 to 24 year.

A group of white youths, presumably bunched together about the same machine because they are neighborhood buddies in the Bronx, averaged 16½ years. They were trying to adjust the machine. A Negro youth came over and helped them. They dispersed to their places and carried on.

"What happens when these kids finish here? Where do they go?"

They get a certificate when the course is completed, Mr. Dilworth said. Then they report to Miss Irma Nickerson, United States Employment Service agent, NYA Brooklyn shop. She sends them out immediately—that is, if calls for jobs are on tap. Workers may also leave the shop to look for jobs, first signing in, as usual.

They are not paid for the time they are out looking for work. Their regular pay, as learners, however, at the rate of 160 hours a month, is 25 cents an hour or $40 a month. Boys and girls get the same wage.

"We have an understanding with the Sperry Gyroscope Co. who have asked us to send them boys and girls for tests," Dilworth said.

He named about a dozen other plants, of varying sizes, which employ these youths regularly.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Negro War Jobs Grow Slowly

JUN 22 1943

The War Manpower Commission reported yesterday a "slow but steady increase in the use of Negro workers in war plants throughout the country" but added that there still is "not an adequate utilization of Negroes in some areas and some plants."

The WMC said Negroes comprised 5.8 per cent of 12 million workers employed in some 16,000 plants reporting to its employment service in July, 1942, but their number, after a month-to-month increase, had risen to 6.7 per cent of 14,673,000 workers in the same plants by the end of last April.

Nevertheless, although Negroes make up about 10 per cent of the Nation's population, they comprise "only about 7 per cent of the employment in war industries," the WMC said, explaining as the reasons:

1. "The Negro labor force is concentrated in that part of the country where a relatively small proportion of war contracts are being executed. Those areas and a large proportion of the Negro working force in them are engaged in essential agriculture." (The report observed that "two-thirds of the country's Negro labor supply is confirmed to 14 southern States, whereas only 13.5 per cent of total war contracts have been awarded in those States.")

2. "Limited occupational and training opportunities heretofore afforded Negro workers" and "employer, union and worker prejudice" even in some areas of concentrated Negro population where war contracts have created a stringent labor market."

Gadsden, Ala., Times
August 16, 1943

Negroes To Help Fight Idleness

Ministers Talk With Mayor On Absenteeism

Promises of aid in carrying on the war against the absenteeism that is crippling Gadsden industries were made by a number of Negro pastors of the city at a conference held in the office of Mayor J. H. Meighan today, and the latter expressed the belief that this aid would be very effective.

In explaining to the ministers that the purpose of the conference was to urge putting forth of the greatest effort toward winning the war, the mayor said: "You men are leaders among your people and have much influence with them, but that influence depends entirely upon your efforts. I want you to plead with your congregations to do their part in this war, and there is a job for every man and woman to fill and work at regularly."

Home Front Failure

The mayor pointed out that July was the month of greatest Allied war successes, but had also brought the greatest concern over the failure of the home front to keep step.

He said further that the recent placing of Gadsden in a "labor shortage area" classification would mean that the city could not get any more war contracts unless this situation is changed, and he declared that it was absenteeism that had caused the War Manpower Commission to put Gadsden in that classification.

"Every man on a job must keep at his work full time," Mr. Meighan went on, "for it is easy to see that a plant employing 4,000 persons who work only half or three-fourths of the time is greatly handicapped."

He pointed out also that sickness is the cause of some absenteeism, with venereal diseases almost heading the list causing absence from work. He asked for and was promised help along in combatting this menace, and suggested that the plants make some provision for treatment of employes having the disease.

Other causes of absenteeism he cited were that some persons were making so much money that they took time off to spend it, and at one plant here, he declared, 46 colored men were off from work one day after a payday to indulge in a "crap game". The absence of these men caused loss of a day's work for 300 others, he said.

Mayor Meighan assured the ministers that he was not singling out the Negro workers alone, for white workers were also guilty of absenteeism, and added that highly organized groups had promised to take care of the situation insofar as these latter employes were concerned.

"You men can do much to help on the home front," he concluded, "and you can render your country a great service by working among your people through preaching to them how important it is that they put in every hour of work they can in order to win this war."

Colored Women Make History In Steel Industry

Daily World

Take Over Big Jobs In Buffalo Area

Atlanta, Georgia

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Standing staunchly behind the men behind the guns, Negro women are making history in the steel industry in the Buffalo area. Aided by the Niagara frontier's acute manpower shortage and with the help of the New York regional office of the Fair Employment Practice committee, Negro women have broken into fields of employment hitherto traditionally barred to them.

The situation, promising in terms of the integration of Negro women into war industry, is still confronted with a number of internal problems but FEPC representatives are assisting the companies in solving these problems as they arise.

According to Edward Lawson, acting examiner in charge of the New York regional FEPC office, one of the outstanding examples of the introduction of Negro women to new types of jobs is at the Bethlehem Steel company's Lackawanna plant, just outside Buffalo. In this plant, Negro women may be found in a number of departments, performing duties which have always before been delegated to men — and doing them well.

JUL 16 1943

COKE OVEN WORKERS

They are working in the coke oven department, at the blast furnaces, at the open hearth furnaces, as bricklayer helpers, in the storage yard-machine shop, and in the general yard department.

Negro women comprise about one third of the total number of women employed at the plant. The company started hiring women earlier this year and from the outset, at the insistence of FEPC representatives, a program of integration was launched.

According to the plant officials, the use of Negro and white women workers on heavy steel mill work has not been all sweetness and light. There have been a few minor clashes, they revealed, but none that was serious.

The task of securing acceptance of Negro women in some of the departments where they have not yet been put to work still remains, according to Lawson. As yet there are no Negro women working in the machine shop, electrical shop or highway specialty shop. The reason for this, say plant officials, is that no Negro women who are qualified for this work have as yet been found. The qualifications for these jobs are somewhat above those for some of the other types of work.

WHITES ON JOBS

Although white women are working in the forge shop, the general billet yard, the power mills, the laboratory, the storehouse, the accounting department, the garage and as janitresses, there are no non-whites in any of these departments.

Attempts have recently been made by the company to use women as gang leaders, both Negro and white. This venture has not yet met with any too great success, however, because the women, Negro and white, semed to resent working under the leadership of other women. In most cases those promoted have been returned to their original positions within the gangs.

All of the women are provided with the regulation safety clothing and equipment required by plant rules. In addition, the plant's safety department personnel maintains a schedule of frequent inspections. These precautions, together with the natural aptitude displayed by the workers themselves, have resulted in a very low accident record.

Most of the women are housewives, with husbands, sons or other relatives in the armed force. They were secured through the United States Employment service of the War Manpower commission and through the plant's own employment office. Many of them, in addition to working their regular shifts at the plant, manage to continue to take care of their homes and families without outside help.

Their enthusiasm for this new kind of work is pretty general. Some of them have gone to work because of the need of more money by the family, others because they wanted to get into the war effort themselves, but almost without exception, regardless of the individual reasons for seeking the job, they have proved themselves quick and willing to learn and dependable.

"These women," said Lawson, "have made an excellent beginning. Their success in filling war jobs in heavy industry offers first-hand indication of what can be accomplished when the undemocratic hiring restrictions based on race, creed, color or natural origin are discarded.

"It is hoped that this company will continue along the lines it is now moving and work toward the full integration of Negro and white female workers in every department. By doing this, it can sidestep the Niagara frontier's manpower shortage and continue to turn out the badly needed war material with which we will whip the axis."

JUL 16 1943

Blame Booklet On Negroes For OWI Opposition

Daily World

Davis Threatens To Quit Should Senate Act

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(SNS) —Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information, said Saturday that he would quit his job if its domestic branch is abolished, as the house voted to do Friday.

"If the senate concurs with the opinion of the house, there will be no OWI, and that is that." He added that it would also be the end of me as director. This was a combination overseas and domestic job that I was called down to do. If the senate concurs in the house view, that job is ended. It will be the job of somebody else to take care of whatever they choose to do in foreign information."

Davis has been the target of many members of the house, especially southern representatives, since the issue of a pamphlet showing the part Negroes are playing to win the war. Circulation of the pamphlet in the South was called an attempt by the OWI to "shove the Negroes down our throats."

JUN 20 1943

Replying to accusations made by Alabama Representative Starnes who told the house that this country needed no Joseph Goebbels or Virginia Gayda, Davis said:

"There is quite a difference between me and Goebbels as Mr. Starnes would discover if he read the order by which President Roosevelt created OWI, or followed our activities. For one thing, Dr Goebbels doesn't have to go to the Reichstag for his appropriation."

Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones ordered Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) to underwrite immediately any financing which meat packers may need pending federal subsidy payments, in a move to stop a threatened shutdown by scores of small slaughterers.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Soldier Wants Chance To Use His Training

To the Editor:

Sir: On October 24, 1942, I enlisted in the Army of the United States of America. At that time the Army was encouraging the enlistments of eighteen and nineteen years olds, so they could pick their branch of service they desired.

I chose the ordnance department with high hopes of getting into their "Welding Ship," which at the time I was training for in civil life.

I was sent to the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. I was told that welding was given to these, who had acquired the skill for so many years.

However, I was sent to a Light Artillery Mechanics School to learn how to repair all types of Light Artillery pieces. I passed the course of eight weeks with **over the average in marks.**

But I was sent to this Ammunition Company which, in reality, is nothing more than a **Service** or **Labor** company.

I attended the DeWitt Clinton High School. I have two hundred and forty hours in welding to my credit. In the Army General Classification test I received a grade of **one hundred** and **five.**

If I were placed in the position that I was trained for at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, it would be an asset to the government as I would have the opportunity to display the training that the United States government spent time and money in training me.

Pvt. Henry L. Moore,
1902nd Ordnance Ann.,
Duncan Field,
San Antonio, Texas.

JUN 12 1943

Hampton Ceramic Models Used For Naval Training

Informer
Houston, Texas

HAMPTON, Va.—Models that serve as training aids throughout the schools ofe the Navy are being produced in the ceramics laboratory at the Naval Training School, Hampton, Va.

A group of the 555 Negro youths in training at the school assists a man of their own race who is in charge of the laboratory, Joseph W. Gillard, former ceramics professor now in Navy uniform.

There is no Navy rating for the art of pottery, so Gillard is carried on the rolls as a metalsmith. He was a professor at Hampton Institute before the Navy set up a tarining school on the historic campus.

The models of injection chambers of diesel engines are examples of the work. The bit of machinery may be scarcely larger than a thimble, its complicated interior hidden by the metal casing. Gilliard makes a pottery reproduction that is many times enlarged, true to scale in the Nth degree and cut away so that the interior workings are comparatively easy to study.

Hampton's pottery models, navigational as well as engineering, have been routed to other Navy Schools through the Training Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel. The Training Aids Development Unit recently "examined with interest" some small model buoys made at Hampton and inquired whether the laboratory could "undertake production of the 500 of the same size, color and character."

Gilliard was born on November 23, 1941, in Taylor, S. C., where he still makes his home. He studied at the New York State College of Ceramics. Alfred University, Alfred, N. Y.

JUL 31 1943

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em Flying at Tuskegee Army Air School

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

FEB 6 1943

Miss Bertha Stallworth inspects the end of a 40 m.m. artillery cartridge case at Frankford Arsenal.

FEB 6 1943

FEB 6

Miss Helen E. Allie (top), laboratory technician at Tuskegee Army Flying School, contributes her bit. Miss Marcelle Phyllis of Atlanta, Ga., (bottom) draws maps and charts, at the Tuskegee school.

FEB 6 1943

Miss Eleanore Bennett, who has a brother in the army, is shown feeding stamp press with 37 m.m. cartridge cases at Frankford Arsenal.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WOMAN RECEIVES "E" FOR 2,000 N.J. WORKERS

BAYONNE, N.J. — Miss Katherine Gay represented the 2,000 Solar Manufacturing Corporation employees when they received the Army-Navy "E" last week.

AMUSEMENTS

King of Swing Shift

AUG 23 1943

One of California's busiest businessmen is 25 years old and makes $55 a week as a toolmaker. As a sideline, he grosses an estimated $250,000 a year as a dance-hall impresario. Last week short, dapper Harrison Augustus (Harry) Schooler acquired a new ballroom (his fourth).

In August 1941, Harry Schooler was working on Vega Aircraft's "swing shift" (4 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.). He worked while most people played, and found amusement places closed when he came out to play. One night he rented the Burbank Elks' hall, gave an after-midnight dance (25¢ for men, women free). He played records for his fellow swing shifters and netted $40.

Last spring Harry Schooler took a ten-year lease on Ocean Park's vast Aragon Ballroom (1,500 electric bulbs dimly light its 14,000 square feet of dance floor). The Schooler enterprises now: 1) dances seven nights a week at the Aragon; 2) swing shift dances on Friday and Saturday at Casino Gardens (12:30 to 5 a.m.); 3) Shrine Auditorium dances for Negroes about once a month, whenever a big-name Negro band is available; 4) barn-dancing in the Plantation Ballroom, Culver City.

Toolmaker Schooler (now on the graveyard shift, 12:30 to 7:30 a.m., at Douglas Aircraft) inspects his interests until about 11:30 each evening, then drives to his $55-a-week job in a green Buick convertible, cream-trimmed. Most of his factory pay goes into war bonds. Most of his dance-hall profit, says he, goes back into the business (decorating and furnishing Aragon took about $50,000). After splitting his holdings with his wife on a community property arrangement, Factory Worker Schooler had a 1942 income tax of $8,500. Said he, musing: "Ever since I was a little kid, I've always tried to do something extra."

AUG 23 1943

Time
Chicago, Illinois

TOOLMAKER SCHOOLER
$250,000.

Over 17,000 Get War Jobs

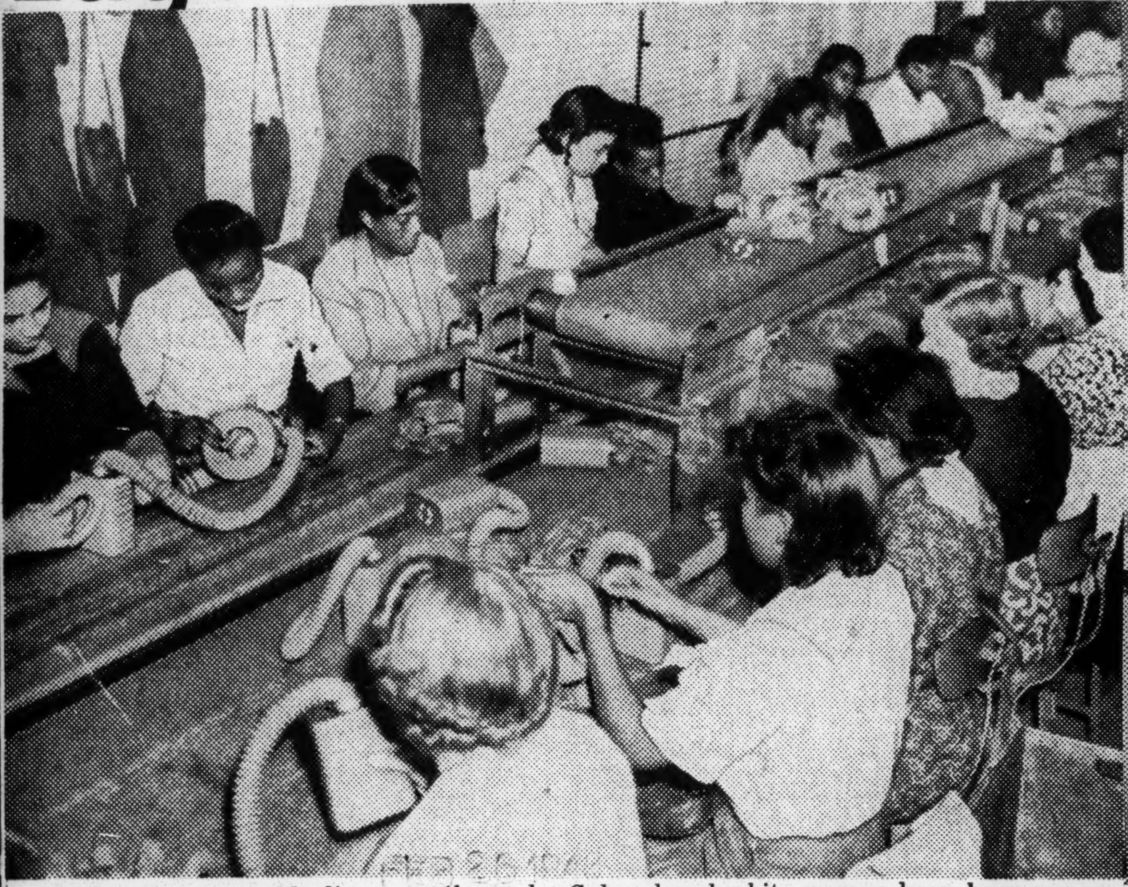
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

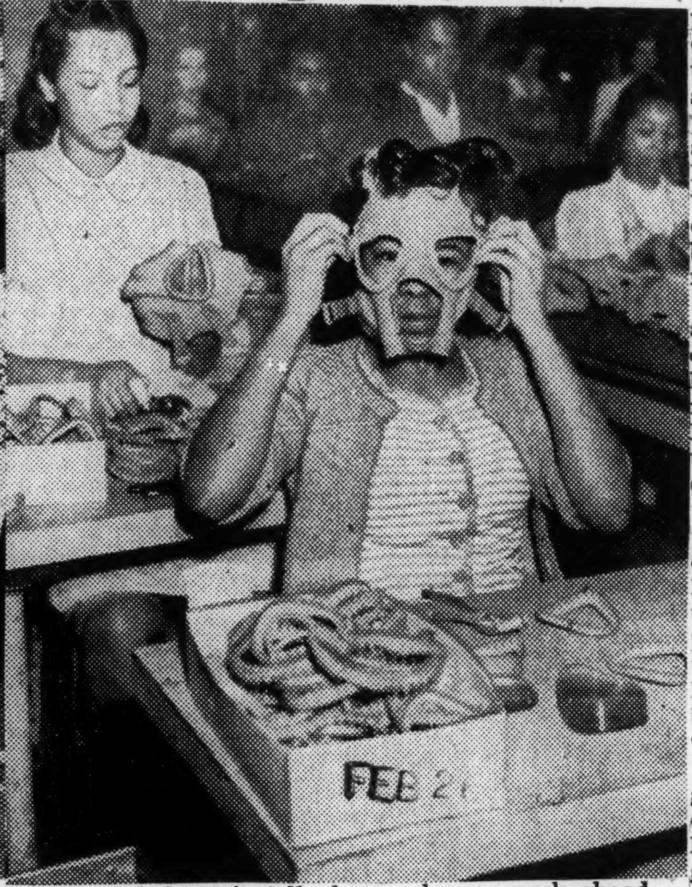
ST. LOUIS, June 24 (ANP)— Seventh service command headquarters at Omaha announced that Missouri war plants and war department installations are now employing 17,949 Negroes, and commented that the number compares favorably with the proportion of Negroes to the entire population within the area.

Although Negroes constitute 2.4 per cent of the aggregate population of the nine states of the seventh command, 3.4 per cent of the plant and installation personnel are Negroes, the announcement stated. It added that about 8.3 per cent of the 364,124 Negroes who reside in the nine states are employed at war plants and installations.

1000 Women Work Three Shifts on Edgewood Arsenal Assembly Line

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland


View of the assembly line near the end. Colored and white women keep busy moving masks toward completion. One thousand women are employed on the gas mask assembly line at Edgewood, and approximately one-half of that number is colored. They work on three shifts.


Her job is to install glass and pass mask ahead. Miss Constance Adams, another Baltimorean, demonstrates how a gas mask looks minus nozzles and glass.

Wiring the front part of a gas mask is the duty performed by Mrs. Cora B. May, of Baltimore, who works near the middle of the assembly line.

Miss Thelma Whiteside, Baltimore, riveting machine on the assembly line in the gas mask plant at Edgewood Arsenal, Md. She is riveting the top of a gas mask.

FEB 26 1943

HIRING OF NEGROES GAINS, WMC FINDS

New York Times

Proportion to Total in War Plants Rises in 8 Months From 5.8 to 6.7 Per Cent

New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, June 20 (U.P.)——A slow but steady increase in the use of Negro workers in war plants has developed throughout the country during the last year, the War Manpower Commission said tonight in releasing the findings of a survey it made.

Of the 12,000,000 workers employed in establishments reporting to the United States Employment Service in July, 1942, 5.8 per cent were Negroes. In March, 1943, there were 14,673,000 workers in these establisments, with 6.7 per cent Negroes.

The increase in Negro employment has varied according to industries. The number employed in tank factories more than doubled during the period reported, while in the aircraft industry the increase was 96.1 per cent, and in shipbuilding, 62.8 per cent.

In many industries, however, the use of Negroes is still very limited. In the fireworks and pyrotechnics industry, Negroes are only a fraction of 1 per cent of the total employes, and in the manufacture of electrical equipment for industrial use, metal-working machinery and scientific instruments, less than 2 per cent. In secondary smelting and refining of non-ferrous metals, Negroes comprised 30.1 per cent of total employment; in bituminous coal mening, 23.1 per cent, and in blast furnaces, steel works and rolling mills, 12.2 per cent.

In Mobile, Ala., which a year ago was an outstanding example of under-utilizabtion of Negro labor, Negroes now comprise one-fifth of industrial employment. However, Negroes comprise nearly two-fifths of the labor force in that city.

In Los Angeles, non-white employment in 118 major war concerns rose almost fourfold from May to December, 1942, while total employment increased about 50 per cent. In the aircraft industry the increase was from 1,012 in May to more than 5,000 in December, of which a large number were women in production jobs.

Inadequate utilization of Negroes is ascribed partly to the geographic distribution of the Negro labor force in relation to the geographical distribution of war contracts, the WMC said.

Two-thirds of the country's Negro labor supply is confined to fourteen Southern States, whereas only 13.5 per cent of all war contracts have been awarded in those States. Besides, a large proportion of Negro workers in the South are engaged in essential agriculture.

Even where there is a labor market, however, prejudices of unions and workers have impeded full use of Negro labor, the report said. Limited training opportunities and lack of industrial experience are other factors keeping the Negro in the lower classification of skills, with relatively little opportunity of upgrading.

JUN 21 1943

Increasing employment of Negro workers necessitates an extensive training program, according to the WMC. On March 31, 1943, non-white enrollments in pre-employment training courses of the Vocational Training for War Workers program were twice as great as a year before. Enrollment of Negroes attending Office of Education supplementary courses, open to employed war workers, tripled during the year.

4/1e

Mixed Shipbuilders Have High Rating

GuardianBoston,Mass.

WILMINGTON, N. C.—Col-
dred workers constitute 29.3
per cent of all employes in the
N. C. Shipbuilding Coo's Wil-
mington yard, it was learned
as the S. S. John Merrick,
fourth Liberty ship to be nam-
ed for an outstanding colored
American was launched at the
yard Sunday afternoon, July
11.
The North Carolina Ship-
building Company was one of
the yards cited recently by
the Special Committee investi-
gating the national defense
program, headed by Senator
Harry S. Trueman, as the most
efficient producers of Liberty
ships and Naval vessels. At this
Ship-yard, 5,300 colored workers are
employed machine opera-
tors, blacksmiths, painters, rig-
gers, bolters, drillers, slab
benders, erectors, riveters and
in other skilled and semi-
skilled capacities.

JUL 24 1943

47h-1943

ANOTHER VICTORY SHIP IS LAUNCHED IN CALIFORNIA

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

New Shipyard Worker Chosen To Christen Another Victory Ship

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

APR 17 1943

RICHMOND, Cal., April 15—Excitement ran high in Shipyard No. 2 when the numbers of 35,000 workers were pooled to choose a sponsor for a Victory ship to be launched. Lady Luck smiled on Miss Beulah Whittington, a new employee of the yard as a student welder having started work on Monday and had the privilege of christening the ship on the following Wednesday, March 31. Mrs. Katie Lewis acted as matron of honor, and the Rev. D. G. Hill gave the invocation.

The officials of Yard No. 2 gave every courtesy to Cameraman E. F. Joseph so that he might secure these accurate and historic pictures of the launching which was the second in California where race members participated. James Baines, Negro counselor of the yard, had charge of the arrangements and delivered his message to his fellow workers and spectators in a stirring manner.

He said: "It is indeed an honor and a pleasure to be here this morning for the launching of the S. S. S. Paul Young, and to introduce the sponsor, Miss Beulah Whitington and Mrs. Katie Lewis, matron of honor. We are proud that we are all privileged to be here working for one cause—Victory—with Victory Ships. May we in the future labor hand in hand that this and all shipyards of the nation may build more ships in record time without malice toward one's fellow workers."

As co-ordinator, Mr. Baines has made a record in having less "quits and disputes" in the yard. Soloist Marcus Hall, a worker in the No. 2 Yard, sang "Invictus." He is a protege of Roland Hayes. Mr. Frank Sterans of the public relations office of Yard 2, presented flowers to the sponsor and the matron of honor.

Launching of the Victory ship, S.S. Hall Young, took place recently in California. Standing on a bunting covered scaffold Miss Beulah Whittington proudly christens another ship that will be used in defeating the Axis. Miss Whittington is a student welder at Richmond Shipyard No. 2. The exciting moment of the splash is accurately recorded by the cameraman.

Center: The S.S. Hall Young is seen slipping down the way to join other ships of our Navy.

Right: Frank Stearns of the Public Relations Office of Richmond Shipyard presents roses to Miss Whittington, the sponsor and the matron of honor, Mrs. Katie Lewis.—Joseph photo.

APR 17 1943

Negro War Jobs Show Big Rise

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29—Negroes represent a growing proportion of the total employment in nearly every war industry, Paul V. McNutt, Chairman, War Manpower Commission, told the executive committee of the National Negro Newspapers' association, Saturday, July 17, and the WMC will continue to promote full utilization of Negro workers.

"The fact that the Fair Employment Practice Committee has been removed from this agency does not mean that Executive Order 8802 will not continue to apply in the War Manpower Commission down to the areas and local USES offices," the chairman stated.

Colored 6.7% of Workers in 16,000 Plants

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JUL 3 1943

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Colored people 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers in 16,000 establishments reporting to the U.S. Employment Service in March, 1943, according to figures released Monday by the War Manpower Commission. In July, 1942, the figure was 5.8 per cent.

One of the biggest jumps was in the aircraft industry where colored employment increased 96.1 per cent compared to the total employment increase of 35.4. In the shipbuilding industry colored employment increased 62.8 per cent. The number working in tank factories doubled.

Coal Industry

Colored people made up 23.1 per cent of those engaged in bituminous coal mining, while blast furnaces, steel works and rolling mills utilized 12.2 per cent.

The report pointed out that industry was not utilizing colored manpower as much as it should. The proportion of colored in war industries, it was stated, is not commensurate with their proportion of the labor force, and only about 7 per cent of the employment in war industries.

Reasons given were geographic distribution of the colored labor force in relation to geographical distribution of war contracts; limited occupational and trainig opportunities heretofore afforded colored workers, and race prejudice. Enrollment in supplementary courses tripled, and they also took fuller advantage of NYA courses.

JUL 3 1943

Hits Ban On New Jersey Negro Labor

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FEB 6 1943

NEWARK, N. J.—Opposing the barring of Negro and other minority groups from work in the war industries of New Jersey, Lawrence A. Oxley, representative of the U. S. Employment Service, declared Sunday that the bars must be lowered if an estimated shortage of 79,000 workers is to be overcome.

He said that employers of labor in essential war plants in northern New Jersey have indicated that net labor requirements by May 30 will call for 188,620 new workers. The available supply they estimated at 109,147. Oxley also stated that although New Jersey's 225,000 Negroes constitute 5.5 per cent of the state's population, only .8 per cent of their number were included among the 600,000 war industry workers now employed.

Oxley presented his factual data in the course of an address delivered before the second constitutional convention of the Greater Newark CIO industrial council in Continental auditorium. He summarized:

"A recent survey of hiring of selected war employes by the U.S. Employment Service showed that 51 per cent of 282,245 expected job openings were barred to Negro workers." A gain was being made, however, he said, in the hiring of Negroes, through efforts of the Employment Service and FEPC.

FEB 6 1943

More Women Fill War Jobs

Informer
Houston, Texas

WASHINGTON, D. C.—

In ever-increasing numbers women are providing commercial aviation and the aircraft production industry with an answer to the problem of dwindling supplies of available men. Women have infiltrated aircraft plants to such an extent that the War Manpower Commission has predicted that the industry may eventually become a "women's industry." They also are replacing airline employees whose air skills were needed by the armed services.

JUL 31 1943

No discrimination between men and women employees is made by the airlines except that women are not used as pilots or co-pilots. "The public will not yet accept women as pilots and co-pilots," according to a representative of the Air Lines Pilots Association. However, women are filling almost every other job in commercial flight operations. They are working as aviation mechanics, as ticket-sellers, in the hangars and in the offices.

One of these aviation enthusiasts was appointed traffic manager for a large airline in St. Louis last fall. She had been employed by the company for fourteen years.

A different type of airline job is that which has been held by a young Missouri matron. Last March, a representative of the Air Line Mechanics' Association announced that only five women had been licensed as aviation mechanics.

Women make up more than one-third of total personnel in aircraft production companies, according to the War Manpower Commission. In some plants the figure runs as high as 50 percent and it is growing every day since 70 to 80 percent of the workers now being hired by the industry are women.

One woman aircraft worker capped an eventful career with an unusual job at a large Maryland plant as an "Interior decorator" of airplanes. Her job includes designing equipment for bombers—from panels and heaters down to ashtrays—and she reported that it was the most interesting work she had ever done.

Women are not only manning airports and building planes; some are teaching our soldiers and sailors to fly. Instrument flying, aerial navigation and other essential and highly technical subjects are now being taught by women.

JUL 31 1943

WOULD RECRUIT

Pittsburgh, Pa.

RACE WELDERS

Courier

JUL 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8—(ANP)—The Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company, center of the racial outbreak in Mobile not long ago, is trying to recruit Negro welders in Atlanta, to man the four ways set aside for Negro workers in accordance with the famous "Mobile compromise" endorsed by the Fair Employment Practice committee.

At the same time, it is learned from FEPC offices here that the state education department in Georgia is about to institute a course for the training of 1,500 welders, but that Negroes will not be admitted, unless a conference scheduled for last Wednesday, won concessions.

The FEPC has already registered objection to this bias with the office of education immediately following receipt of a telegram from the Citizens' Defense Training committee of Atlanta, and the Atlanta Urban league.

3000 At Big Bond Rally In Alabama

Defender Chicago Ill.

JUN 5 1943

GREENVILLE, Ala.—An estimated crowd of 300 colored residents of Greenville and farmers of Butler county attended the closing program of the war bond and stamp rally which was held at the Greenville baseball park last week.

Featuring the day's activities was a street parade led by the Tuskegee Army Air Corps band, an all-Negro unit, under the direction of Lieut. Frank L. Drye.

War bond sales reached $2,063.95, thus bringing the total for the period of the rally up to $11,304.40.

The meeting was opened by Judge A. E[illegible], representing the white citizens of Greenville.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and state chairman of the Negro War Savings Staff made the principal address.

T. M. Campbell, field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and consultant on the war savings staff, made a vigorous plea for all-out support of the war program on the part of every man, woman and child.

The largest investor was Wiley Crenshaw, a prosperous colored farmer of Bragg Hill Community, who brought a $1000 bond. Closely following were Mrs. Lizzie Bedgood with a purchase of $600 in bonds Mrs. Mattie Bedgood with $500 in bonds and Joe Crittendon and wife, $475. The largest sum reported for the communities was made by C. J. Newton Chapman, W. T. Smith Lumber company in the amount of $3,756.07 worth of bonds sold to the colored employees.

JUN 5 1943

Negro Help Keeps TVA Making War Chemicals

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

MAY 1 1943

WASHINGTON. — Already employed in 75 different categories increasing their skills through on-the-job training and upgrading, Negro employes of the Tennessee Valley Authority are helping to relieve critical manpower shortages in dam construction, power operation, and the production of war chemicals, TVA officials announced this week.

At the same time, these officials revealed, Negro TVA workers are pushing war bond sales and Red Cross drives and are cooperating in constructive labor-management efforts to improve living standards, working conditions, and employe morale.

At the Wilson Dam chemical plants, where 18.1 per cent of employes are Negroes, supervisors and personnel training officers revealed that the trainees are learning new skills quickly and efficiently.

"Being able to train Negroes for responsible jobs has helped us meet the manpower shortage," said John P. Clark, nitrate plant supervisor. "Our Negro employes have shown aptitude and willingness to cooperate in the training programs."

By March of this year, 54 Negroes were in the operator training program at Wilson Dam, 130 had completed training programs, and 120 had received promotion.

One Wilson Dam employe, Paul Johnson of Tuscumbia, Ala., has progressed since 1935 from laborer through six classifications to carbide-handling foreman, first Negro to have this job. Supervising men in nine different classifications, he is responsible for crushing, bagging, loading, and checking phosphorus fertilizers for lend-lease aid to Britain and carbide for synthetic rubber.

Lincoln C. Johnson, Paul's brother, is sub-labor foreman, responsible for unloading empty carbide drums and having them on hand for reloading. Since 1933, he has been concrete laborer, concrete finisher helper, tapper helper, minor laboratory helper, and pilot plant operator. So competent has been his work and that of his Negro crew that railroad cars are unloaded and released for reloading so quickly it is not necessary to pay demurrage on waiting cars.

MAY 1943

Union Leaders

Both brothers buy a war bond each pay day, amounting to more than 25 per cent in Lincoln's case, and neither can remember when he has had an unauthorized absence from work. Paul Johnson is chairman of the Negro auxiliary of the AFL Operating Engineers' Union; Lincoln Johnson is vice president of the AFL Hod Carriers' Union, and in the last few months has been business agent.

Four Negro youths, each with a university degree, and graduate study in chemistry, are employed as laboratory technicians in the research and development division. They are doing high-grade sub-professional work and training on the job for professional level responsibilities.

In Tennessee Valley Authority power operations work, the story is the same. Negroes have been given more responsible jobs and have filled them efficiently. At the Watts Bar Dam steam plant, Earl Tulloss of Dayton, Ohio, is senior coal drag operator, responsible for the operation from his cab high above, of a drag line capable of moving one-fifth of a carload of coal at each trip. President of the local Hod Carriers' Union, Tulloss is taking an active part in labor-management drives against absenteeism and in selling war bonds.

MAY

No Absenteeism

Earl M. Qualls, car dumper operator, as a job steward of the local Hod Carriers' Union, calls on Negro workers at lunch, off the job, and at union meetings explaining to them the problem absenteeism creates, and enlisting them in the war bond and Red Cross drives, both of which have gone over 100 per cent in the department of power operations at Watts Bar.

About two-thirds of the Negro construction workers at Douglas Dam are employed in occupations at skilled and semi-skilled levels. Employment of Negro cement finishers and powdermen was on a 50-50 basis.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

First Negro Is Given Job Award For His Device

Idea Speeds Up Production In Ship Welding

JUN 2 1943

BLOMINGTON, Ill. — (ANP) — John Fletcher, a former janitor here, is now a welder in the Moto Dry Dock company shipyard at Oakland, Calif., and is the first Negro worker in the United States to win a certificate of individual production merit, according to an announcement from the war production drive headquarters in Washington.

Fletcher worked out a device to use in welding insulation pins to deckhands. The device was so effective it will increase production 400 per cent, said WPB.

He used a welding pin extension made of copper piping in his invention. The method was recommended by the board of individual awards to merit widest possible use through the building industry.

Fletcher received his training as a war worker in the NYA training center at Illinois State Normal University. He entered work in California last October. His parents live in Danville.

ANOTHER FIRST

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Analyzing the vital materials used in the production of Diesel engines is the job John C. Vaughn of La Grange, Ill., holds in the metallurgical laboratory of Electro-motive division of General Motors Corp. Education at Southern university, the University of Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Technology. Mr. Vaughn is the first race man to hold such a position with the Electro-Motive division.

Manpower Report Shows Failure To Use Race Workers

Pittsburgh, Pa - Courier

WASHINGTON, June 17—As Uncle Sam begins during the next six months to scrape the bottom of the barrel for workers to man its war production industries, slated to produce this year the staggering amount of 72 billion dollars' worth of munitions alone, or more than 125 per cent over the output last year, the ugly picture of Jim Crowism in war industry effectively hog-tying America's war effort becomes increasingly clear.

The story of how Jim Crow practices in war industry have bogged down America's war machine is revealed in a report on Negro manpower made public this week by War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt and a report on America's war production issued by Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board.

33 KEPT OUT

Taken in its plainest terms the story is simply this: Out of every one thousand workers in war industry in March of this year 67 were Negroes, according to estimates of the War Manpower Commission based on reports of 16,000 war industry firms covering about fourteen and a half million war workers. But on this same basis 33 Negro workers, who should have been in the war labor force, were kept out of jobs because of race prejudice, because they had not adequate training or because they lived in the South where there are few war contracts.

NO EFFECTIVE MACHINERY

In the face of this grave condition the War Manpower Commission had up to this week failed to establish any effective machinery for planned utilization of Negro workers, while the re-organized FEPC remained a question mark as to whether it would capitulate to anti-Negro sentiment of Southern politicians or move boldly forward to a solution of one of the most vital problems confronting the nation's war effort.

The McNutt report reflected the fact that Negro women are still harshly discriminated against in war industry employment when it stated that Negroes constituted last March only one per cent of the labor force in the explosives industry and only two per cent in the electrical equipment industry, both of which make large use of female labor.

JUN

The report states: "In practically every section of the country, even where Negroes are freely employed, they are frequently engaged only in lower classifications and have relatively little opportunity for upgrading. This is especially true in the South."

Improvement in job opportunities for Negroes between July 1942 and March of this year did occur, however. Especially large gains were noticed in tank industry employment, aircraft, motor vehicles and shipbuilding industries.

In Los Angeles, Calif., in the aircraft industry the War Manpower study shows that roughly 5,000 Negro workers were employed in December, 1942, as against only 1,012 in May of 1942.

"A large proportion of colored aircraft workers were women on production jobs," states the report.

In Mobile, Ala., however, the report shows, that despite improvements in the use of Negro workers, war industries in the area used less than half the number of Negroes who should be used, while at the same time they imported large numbers of white workers into the overcrowded area from long distances.

47h-1943

Miss Negro War Worker Chosen For Freedom Rally at Garden

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Jun 26 1943

MAY 26 1943

By Eugene Gordon

Miss Negro War Worker has been chosen.

She was selected by a committee representing the Negro Freedom Rally and is going to appear at the Freedom Rally spectacle in Madison Square Garden on the evening of June 7.

Miss Negro War Worker is Miss Belle Calhoun, of Jamaica, L. I., a chief wire machine operator for the Lincoln Wire Co., New York City.

Miss Negro War Worker is a:

Member of the labor-management committee at the plant.

Shop steward, Local 36, Wire and Metal Workers Union, CIO.

Member of the Jamaica Unit American Women's Volunteer Services.

MAY 26 1943

Member Queens Temple Lodge 678, Negro Elks.

Member of Allens A.M.E. Church

Member of USO social club "Who's Who."

She has purchased her 10th war bond in eight months.

Miss Calhoun was promoted to chief operator both because of her contribution to increased production and her contribution to the morale of her fellow workers. She has been with the Lincoln Wire Co. eight months. Before that she went from one domestic job to another. The door was always slammed in her face when she applied for a job in industry.

"If it hadn't been for the union," she said in a press interview yesterday, "I'd never have got this job."

MAY 26 1943

She knew nothing about unions before she went to work in war industry.

She will continue in industry after this war, for she feels that Negro women have now definitely begun to come into their own.

She feels that this war is different from the first world war in a number of ways, but chiefly because, this time, it is contributing to the advancement of her people. It is a "progressive war," she said, "because it is promoting large numbers of the Negro people to all kinds of industrial job opportunities.

The committee which selected Miss Calhoun for the honor of standing before a Madison Square Garden crowd on the evening of June 7 thinks she is "more typical of the Negro woman worker than many thousands of young girls who are doing equally as much, but who do not have precisely the same qualifications."

William Gould, head of the Lincoln Wire Co., was present at yesterday's interview in the Hotel Theresa, 125th St. and Seventh Ave. He said Miss Calhoun has considerably aided in maintaining the harmonious relations between management and labor in his shop. Out of that situation, he declared, production for the anti-fascist war poured naturally.

She has a brother in the army engineers. Two nephews are also in the service.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Negro Woman Best Welder Indian Second

Apr. 3, 1943

The best woman welder at Todd Shipyard Brooklyn, N. Y., is a Negro, and the next best a Cherokee woman. Miss Mary Anderson, director of the Woman's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, is responsible for the statement.

Miss Anderson writing an article, "Negro Women On the Production Front," in the current issue of Opportunity Magazine, also states that when the Brooklyn Navy Yard last year opened its doors to women mechanics for the first time," a Negro girl received a grade of 99, the highest made by the 6,000 women who took the civil service examination to qualify for Navy Yard jobs.

Gadsden (Ala.) Times
July 5, 1943

NYA Closes All Dixie Projects

Acts Swiftly After Hit Deathblow By Congress

ATLANTA, July 5.—(AP)—Acting swiftly after Congress voted Saturday to kill the National Youth Administration, the regional office here ordered all NYA projects in six Southeastern states shut down by today.

Orie E. Myers Jr., regional personnel director, said he had given instructions for work to cease in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee Florida and South Carolina. Only enough employes were retained to complete the liquidation in accordance with the bill passed by Congress which have the depression-born agency until the end of the year to close its records.

About 300 employes will be kept on in the six states to dispose of the business, with all but about 100 finishing up within a few days, Myers added.

Affected by the closing order in the six states will be approximately 7,200 youths being trained for war jobs, 20,000 others working part-time to attend school, and 1,400 supervisors, the personnel director estimated.

The NYA spent $6,100,000 in the Southeastern region in the last fiscal year and trained some 38,000 youths between the ages of 16 and 24 for war work. Most of these went into shipyards or aircraft plants.

The regional payroll was $210,000 for supervisors and $175,000 for students, Myers reported.

Of the nearly 2,000 students and 500 supervisors in Georgia, almost one-third were employed on three big projects in Atlanta The $200,000 plant built at Marietta to train workers for the Bell Bomber plant, the Chapman Springs project and a Negro project employing a total of 800 youths and 150 supervisors.

Other Georgia projects and the number of trainees included: Carrollton, 175; Augusta, 160; Savannah, 140; Brunswick, 100; and Jesup, 350 Negro youths. They averaged 50 superviors.

AMONG THE 10,000 WORKERS—mostly women—at the Ravenna Ohio ordnance plant, which now operates 168 hours a week turning out ammunition, the star crew—made up of Negro men and women—last week broke the plant record and won the acclaim of Col. R. A. Brown, depot commander.

The Negro crew, wearing heavy coats, gloves, earmuffs, and scarves, and singing swingy tunes as they work in an unheated section of the plant, is jealous of its output and watches closely the number of crates being filled by rival crews.

Last week the foreman, Louis Moore, of Youngstown, Ohio, who served in World War No. 1 as an orderly to Gen. Pershing, told his fellow crew members that another crew had broken their record of 3,000 cases crated in a single day.

The Negro workers immediately set to work to retrieve their lost laurels. Commenting on their signal success, Depot Commander Brown declared: "The next day those Negroes started singing 'Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition' and turned out 4,200 crates. That's a record."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

W. Coast Welder Boosts Output 400% In Shipyard

MAY 8 1943

WASHINGTON — A West Coast shipyard worker whose suggestion increased production 400 per cent has become the first Negro war worker to win a certificate of individual production merit, the war production drive headquarters announced this week.

The award winner is Charles H. Fletcher, a welder in the Moore Dry Dock company shipyards at Oakland, Cal. He worked out a device to use in welding insulation pins to deckheads, which increases production 400 per cent.

In a simple operation, Fletcher used a welding pin extension made of copper tubing in his innovation. The device was recommended by the board for individual awards to merit widest possible use throughout the shipbuilding industry.

Fletcher's suggestion was certified to the war production drive headquarters by the labor-management committee representing the Moore Dry Dock company of Oakland, the International Association of Machinists, the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, all members of the American Federation of Labor.

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aily World
tlanta, Georgia

Auto Mechanic Discovers Way To Aid Riveters

MAY 12 1943

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—(SNS)—James Harold Herman, who was an automobile mechanic for 12 years before he was employed by the St. Louis (Mo.) plant of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation, was the first Curtiss Negro production worker to win a Letter of Commendation from the Labor-Management Committee of the plant for an idea to speed up production, the War Production Headquarters announced this week.

MAY 12 1943

Herman, 31, who was born in St. Louis, operates a general riveter, used in "gang" riveting the front and rear spars, which are the long lateral braces in an airplane wing, and which support the wing ribsover which the wing skin is formed. This machine sets approximately nine rivets in a single stroke.

MAY 12 1943

The general riveter has several adjustments built into it, as well as a series of varied gauge shims, to regulate the action of the machine according to the size of the rivet and the number of thicknesses of metal to be riveted.

Herman figured out an arrangement of slots in the special shims, which eliminated the need of disturbing the operating mechanism of the general riveter. The adjustment now can be made by any worker, who merely loosens two screws and slips in the proper shim or shims. The latter method requires but a few seconds per adjustment as compared to a substantially greater loss of machine, operator and maintenance man-time.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Launch Ship All Built By Negro Labor

MAY 15 1943

CHESTER, Pa.—The first ship built entirely by Negroes was launched here Monday, from Yard No. 4, of the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock corporation, the Maritime Commission announced this week.

The ship, newest contribution to the nation's merchant marine, is to be known as the Marine Eagle. It was christened by Mrs. Rachel Stevenson, employed by the firm for 22 years. A $1,000 war bond was given her by the company as a tribute to her long and faithful service.

Sun claims to be first to establish a shipyard manned only by Negroes. Employees receive the same wage rates as those in other yards operated by the company and John G. Pew, president, declared "we are greatly pleased with the work."

New System Devised For Negroes Working At State Shipyards

Men Are To Be Allowed To Do Certain Skilled Work On Separate Ways

WASHINGTON— (AP) —To settle "difficulties" between white and Negro workers at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, Ala., Msgr. Francis E. Haas, chairman of the president's fair employment practice committee, announced Saturday a system whereby Negroes will be allowed to do certain skilled work on a limited number of ways set aside specially for them.

The arrangement, which was drawn up at a conference of union, company, War Manpower Commission and committee officials, upgrades Negro workers to all skills necessary for bare hull construction on ways one through four at the yards.

Bare hull construction, the committee explained, is the building of the actual outer hull of the ship, and Negroes will not work on interiors or superstructures.

Chairman Haas added that all steps necessary will be taken by the War Department to maintain order and the production of ships at the yard.

At the conference, he said representatives of the various groups were:

David R. Dunlap, J. M. Griser and W. T. Daly for the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company; Charles Hanson, J. J. Bouche and Elijah Jackson for the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO; E. J. Trimble and Clarence Mitchell for the committee, and Burton P. Morley for the War Manpower Commission.

The arrangement has been approved by the chairman of the Maritime Commission, the assistant secretary of the Navy, the chairman of the WMC and himself Msgr. Haas said.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
June 22, 1943

JOBS FOR NEGROES GROWING STEADILY

6.7 Per Cent of Workers in Plants Reporting to USES Are Negroes

Washington, June 21.—(U.P.)—A slow but steady increase in the use of Negro workers in war plants has developed throughout the country during the past year, the War Manpower Commission said in a survey released here.

Of the 12,000,000 workers employed in establishments reporting to the United States Employment Service in July, 1942, 5.8 per cent were Negroes. In March, 1943, there were 14,673,000 workers in these establishments, with 6.7 per cent Negroes.

The increase in Negro employment has been uneven in different industries. The number employed in tank factories more than doubled during the period reported; in the aircraft industry the increase was 96.1 per cent, and in shipbuilding, 62.8 per cent.

In many industries, however, the use of Negroes is still very limited. In the fireworks and pyrotechnics industry, only a fraction of 1 per cent of the total employes are Negroes, and less than 2 per cent in the manufacture of electrical equipment for industrial use, metal-working machinery, and scientific instruments. In secondary smelting and refining of non-ferrous metals, Negroes comprised 30.1 per cent of total employment; in bituminous coal mining, 23.1 per cent, and in blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills, 12.2 per cent.

Two-thirds of the country's Negro labor supply is confined to 14 Southern States, whereas only 13.5 per cent of all war contracts have been awarded in those states. Also, a large proportion of Negro workers in this section are engaged in essential agriculture.

Even where there is a labor market, however, employer, union and worker prejudices have impeded full use of Negro labor, the report said. Limited training opportunities and lack of industrial experience are other factors keeping the Negro in the lower classification of skills, with relatively little opportunity of upgrading.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Warner and Swasey has long been under fire for its refusal to hire colored help in other than unskilled capacities. Last December, two Negro women filed suit in an attempt to force the company to employ them. Decision was in favor of the corporation.

Still another promise was made the white employees in the assur- for the filling of higher-bracket ance promotions would be in order jobs that were being vacated for military service.

MAR 27 1943

News
Birmingham, Ala.

WMC Reports Slow Rise In Negro Employment

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The War Manpower Commission reported Monday a "slow but steady increase in the use of Negro workers in war plants throughout the country," but added that there still is "not an adequate utilization of Negroes in some areas and some plants."

The WMC said Negroes comprised 5.8 per cent of 12,000,000 workers employed in some 16,000 plants reporting to its employment service in July, 1942, but their number, after a month-to-month increase, had only risen to 6.7 per cent of 14,673,000 workers in the same plants by the end of last April.

The WMC gave these reasons:

1. "The Negro labor force is concentrated in that part of the country where a small proportion of war contracts are being executed. Those areas and a large proportion of the Negro working force in them are engaged in essential agriculture." (The report observed that "two-thirds of the country's Negro labor supply is confined to 14 Southern states where only 13.5 per cent of the total war contracts have been awarded.

2. "Limited occupational and training opportunities heretofore afforded Negro workers" and "prejudice even in some areas of concentrated Negro population where war contracts created a stringent labor market."

JUN 22 1943

JUN 22 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Race Award Presented To Industries Hiring Negroes

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—(ANP) — The association of American Railroads and the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company of Chester, Pa., were presented the first Booker T. Washington awards of the National Association of Negroes in American Industry for outstanding achievements in industrial employment of Negroes.

Bishop David H. Sims of the AME Church made the presentations at ceremonies here April 7. They were accepted by John G. Pew Sr., president of the Sun Company, and by Col. Robert S. Henry, assistant to the president of the Association of American Railroads.

24 1943

Bishop Sims pointed out that 350,000 Negroes were employed by American railroads and stated:

"I believe that this shipyard now employs some 12,000 Negroes among the total 33,000 workers, and that "all are getting equal pay for equal work and we are greatly pleased with the work being rendered."

APR

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

CHESTER — Dr. Emmet J. Scott, director of employment and personnel relations, Shipyard No. 4, was principal speaker at a banquet, Monday, when the 250 employees of Sun Ship celebrated the graduation of 18 men who recently completed courses in shipfitting and lofting.

Dr. Scott announced that two Sun Ship barges were to be named for Brigadier General B. O. Davis and his son, Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Jr. The barges will be used by painters and other craftsmen in preparing No. 340-type boats for trial trips and final delivery.

General Davis holds the highest rank among Negro soldiers in the country and has recently returned from Europe where he completed a special assignment.

Apr. 3, '43

Lieutenant Colonel Davis graduated from the Academy at West Point in 1936 and has made an outstanding Army record in the past two years. He is stationed at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, where he is attached to the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

WAR PLANT IS SHUT DOWN IN RACE MIX-UP

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS

EAST CHICAGO, Ind., July 22—(ANP)—Continued discrimination against Negro workers, culminating in the arrest Friday of an employee who engaged in a fist fight with his white foreman, shut the doors of the huge cast steel plant of the American Steel foundries and threw into idleness 3,000 persons making armor plate for the army and navy. The dispute is expected to be adjusted this week.

JUL 25 1943

The spark that resulted in the work stoppage, second within recent weeks, was the jailing of Clemmons Allen, 24, whose job was to chip flaws out of steel, following an altercation with Robert Van Camp, white foreman. When Allen complained that a white welder was endangering him and might fire his clothing by working too close with his blow torch, a dispute developed in which Van Camp was struck. Charges of assault and battery were preferred against Allen.

This fight occurred around 3:30 Friday morning but the stoppage did not result until 7 a.m. when Negro workers in the same department, 80 percent colored, found their protests were unheeded and three union stewards who sought to adjust matters were taken into temporary custody by plant police in what was described as a clear violation of the union contract.

JUL 25 1943

Conditions leading up to the strike were described in detail by Clarence Goins, newly elected president of Local 2860 of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, and former union committeeman, who told the Associated Negro Press that although 53 percent of the plant's employees are Negroes, the management had followed a rigid jim crow pattern resulting in increasing dissatisfaction among those discriminated against.

According to Goins, the strike and subsequent loss of production would not have occurred had not the management been intent on following its previous practices. Work was stopped because plant officials refused to grant Allen a hearing according to the union contract.

This contract, said the union president, provides for a hearing at the plant before any worker can be discharged following a dispute. After Allen had been taken into custody by plant guards, three stewards went to the guard department of the personnel division to see if the matter could be adjusted as provided for by the contract. These stewards, Charles Dorsey, C. E. Jennings and a man named Byrd, were also taken into custody.

JUL 25 1943

Three hours later they were returned to the plant with no charges lodged against them. Guards refused them admittance to the plant. Other workers, curious as to their fate, went to the office where they found the trio were under arrest of auxiliary police. The work stoppage resulted.

This was the second arrest of a worker within a week. Four days previously another had been jailed following an altercation with a white foreman. Stoppages in the plant from one cause or another during its short existence have amounted to two full weeks of production, according to Goins.

17,949 Hold Mo. War Plant Jobs

Chicago, Ill.
Defender

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — Seventh service command headquarters at Omaha announced that Missouri war plants and war department installations are now employing 17,949 Negroes, and commented that the number compares favorably with the proportion of Negroes to the entire population within the area.

JUN 26 1943

Although Negroes constitute but 2.4 per cent of the aggregate population of the nine states of the seventh command, 3.4 per cent of the plant and installation personnel are Negroes, the announcement stated. It added that about 8.3 per cent of the 364,124 Negroes who reside in the nine states are employed at war plants and installations.

Missouri had the largest number of Negroes thus employed, while Kansas is second with 3,890. The other states are Wyoming, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Colorado.

47h-1943

FIVE NATIONALITIES WAR ON THE AXIS

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

These girls are but five of several hundred working on delicate aircraft instruments in General Electric's factory at Lynn, Mass. They represent five nationalities. From left to right: Evelyn Savory, American; Anne Sotiris, Greek; Marie St. Pierre, French; Frances Goonyep, Chinese, and Gertrude Hilenski, Polish. Some of the coils on which these girls work are wound with wire but one-third the diameter of the human hair. Dust and lint from clothing often causes trouble with such delicate work so all employes must wear starched white frocks at work.

MAR 26 1943

Women to Skilled Jobs In St. Louis Airplane Plant

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

ST. LOUIS.—Negro women, as well as men, now are being used at skilled jobs in the production of military airplanes for the Army and Navy at the St. Louis plant, airplane division, Curtiss-Wright corporation, it was announced Friday by C. W. France, vice president and general manager.

FEB 12 1943

The first two groups of Negro women started training for the jobs in mid-December, one class of ten at the plant and another class of 14 at Washington Technical high school, 19th and Franklin Sts., St. Louis.

There is no tuition charge for the training course. Trainees are paid by the company during the last two weeks of the five-week course. when they study riveting, drilling and other production methods in the St. Louis plant.

Trainees first spend three weeks in classes at Washington Tech, then are sent to the plant for additional instruction. The first class was sent directly to the plant for training, because it was desired to get the women on the production line as soon as possible.

Of the first group, four women are college graduates, one was a social service worker, one a swimming instructor, one a postmistress, one a seamstress, and two were recently graduated from high school.

Applications for training are taken at the office of the U. S. Employment Service, 3139 Olive St., St. Louis.

The training and hiring programs for Negro women augment those begun for Negro men last June. One of the factors which led to the extension of the program to include women was Curtiss-Wright's successful experience with graduates of the men's classes. As in the case of the men, the women made excellent school records and are doing well in the plant, Mr. France said.

Workers who successfully complete the five-week training course receive the same rate of pay as other workers in like jobs.

The City Kansas Mo.

FEB 12 1943

WORKS AT CURTISS-WRIGHT— Young women who have completed a course in riveting are shown here in the St. Louis plant of the airplane division, Curtiss-Wright corporation. The woman outside the nacelle is a riveter, the woman inside is a rivet bucker. Women are not being trained and employed by the Curtiss St. Louis plant.

RIVETING TEAM IN ACTION— Here a riveting team is shown in action in the St. Louis Curtiss-Wright plant. Both of these women completed a school course in riveting before they went to work on the production line of the Curtiss plant.

"The Call"

FEB 12 1943

Savannah, Ga. Post
April 30, 1943

NEGRO GIRLS WILL LEARN DEFENSE TRADES

One Hundred Will Attend Project in Jesup.

Arrangements have been made with the National Youth Administration through the Regional Office in Atlanta for a hundred negro girls to be trained in the defense training project at Jesup. This project offers opportunities for girls to be instructed for employment in defense industries. They may be trained in machine shop operation, sheet metal, welding, radio, industrial sewing and other crafts. They will be given their room and board without cost; hospitalization in case of illness and $10.80 per month while in training. Any colored girl from the age of 17 to 24 may enter, even those who are physically handicapped may receive this training as special privileges will be made for them, it was pointed out. Those desiring to enroll may do so at the office of Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert, president of the local branch of the NAACP, in the basement of the First African Baptist Church, 23 Montgomery street, any day except Sunday, between the hours of 9:30 a. m. and 5 p. m.

Negro Woman Is Best Welder in Brooklyn Shipyard

"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

MAR 26 1943

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.— The startling revelation that "the best woman welder at Todd Shipyard, Brooklyn, is a Negro, and the next best a Cherokee Indian," comes to light in an article by Miss Mary Anderson, Director of the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, appearing in the current "Brown American Womanpower" issue of Opportunity, Journal of Negro Life.

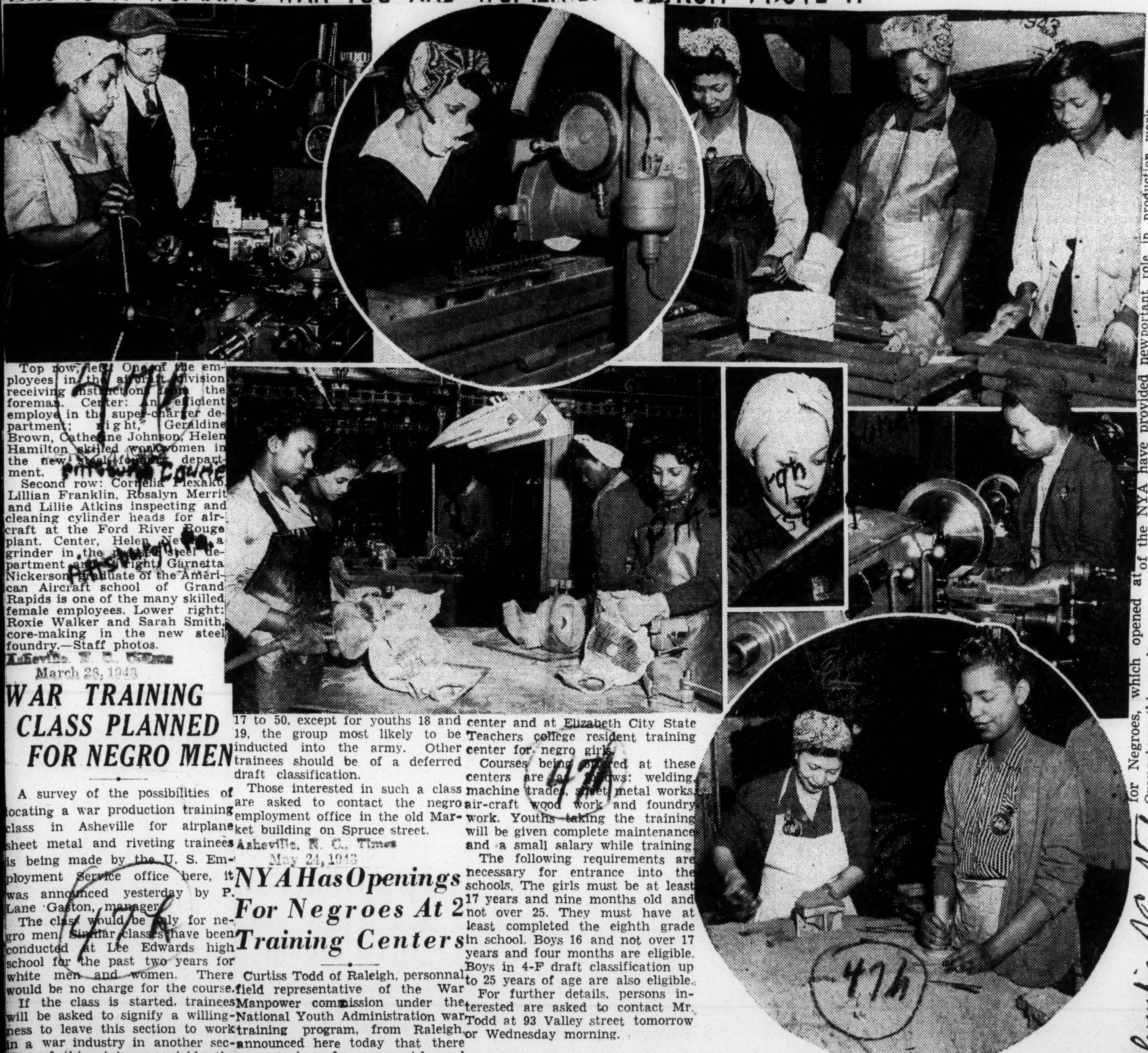
Miss Anderson's authentic and interesting article, "Negro Women on the Production Front," blasts theories set forth by manufacturers that Negro women are not efficient workers. Several other instances are cited by Miss Anderson which prove that Negro women are doing more than just "making the grade," in all types of skilled war production jobs.

"When the Brooklyn Navy Yard last year opened its doors to women mechanics for the first time in 141 years," the article states, "a Negro girl received a grade of 9, the highest made by the 6,000 women who took the Civil Service examinations to qualify for Navy Yard jobs."

Miss Anderson asknowledges the Negro woman's part in the war further: "The accomplishments of Negro women are a part of the whole remarkable production record of America's fifteen million women workers. It is impossible to mention every instance of outstanding work by Negro women on the production front."

MAR 26 1943 Kansas City Mo.

THIS IS A WOMAN'S WAR TOO AND WOMEN OF DETROIT PROVE IT



Top row, left: One of the employees in the aircraft division receiving instructions from the foreman. Center: An efficient employe in the super-charger department; right, Geraldine Brown, Catherine Johnson, Helen Hamilton skilled workwomen in the new steel foundry department.

Second row: Cornelia Plexako, Lillian Franklin, Rosalyn Merrit and Lillie Atkins inspecting and cleaning cylinder heads for aircraft at the Ford River Rouge plant. Center, Helen Nevins, a grinder in the pressed steel department and, right, Garnetta Nickerson, graduate of the American Aircraft school of Grand Rapids is one of the many skilled female employees. Lower right: Roxie Walker and Sarah Smith, core-making in the new steel foundry.—Staff photos.

47k

Pittsburgh Courier

Asheville, N.C.

Asheville, N. C. Citizen

March 28, 1943

WAR TRAINING CLASS PLANNED FOR NEGRO MEN

A survey of the possibilities of locating a war production training class in Asheville for airplane sheet metal and riveting trainees is being made by the U. S. Employment Service office here, it was announced yesterday by P. Lane Gaston, manager.

47k

The class would be only for negro men. Similar classes have been conducted at Lee Edwards high school for the past two years for white men and women. There would be no charge for the course.

If the class is started, trainees will be asked to signify a willingness to leave this section to work in a war industry in another section of this state or outside the state. The age range would be 17 to 50, except for youths 18 and 19, the group most likely to be inducted into the army. Other trainees should be of a deferred draft classification.

Those interested in such a class are asked to contact the negro employment office in the old Market building on Spruce street.

Asheville, N. C. Times

May 24, 1943

NYA Has Openings For Negroes At 2 Training Centers

Curtiss Todd of Raleigh, personnal field representative of the War Manpower commission under the National Youth Administration war training program, from Raleigh, announced here today that there are openings for negro girls and boys at the Rocky Mount training center and at Elizabeth City State Teachers college resident training center for negro girls.

47k

Courses being offered at these centers are as follows: welding, machine trades, sheet metal works, air-craft wood work and foundry work. Youths taking the training will be given complete maintenance and a small salary while training.

The following requirements are necessary for entrance into the schools. The girls must be at least 17 years and nine months old and not over 25. They must have at least completed the eighth grade in school. Boys 16 and not over 17 years and four months are eligible. Boys in 4-F draft classification up to 25 years of age are also eligible.

For further details, persons interested are asked to contact Mr. Todd at 93 Valley street tomorrow or Wednesday morning.

Columbia S.C. State

[illegible]

May 16, 1943

Orangeburg Negro NYA Center Opens

47k

Orangeburg — (Special) — A milestone in economic progress for this growing community was praised when 75 NYA war trainees moved itno a resident-center for Negroes, which opened at Orangeburg this week.

For more than a year since NYA trainees have been pursuing war training courses for job opportunities at South Carolina State college, adequate housing facilities have been an urgent need.

To meet this need, a statewide financial drive was launched and more than $600 has been raised to renovate and repair two large buildings which would adequately housed 200 trainees.

The government through the regional and state administration of the NYA have provided new equipment and furnishings for the two buildings which represent an estimated outlay of more than $5,000. Traineers and workers at the resident center and training project will receive more than $100,000 annually in training fees and salaries.

NEGRO PLAY VITAL PRODUCTION RULE

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUN 1943

BREMERTON, Wash., June 10—According to the Public Relations Office of the Puget Sound Navy Yard, Negroes are playing an important role in production work. Several hundred are employed here in the various skilled and unskilled capacities. They are represented in all departments and are admirably adjusting themselves to the local setup. Their presence is doing much to alleviate the critical manpower situation.

Nearly every state in the union is represented by these workmen who are playing a vital part in the war effort.

47h-1943

College Graduates Work At Ala. Arsenal

JUL 11 1943

Atlanta Daily World

Ala.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—(S N S)—Nearly two score graduates of Southern colleges are loaning their chemical Warfare Service Arsenal here. Many were given special war training by Prof. B. T. Harvey of the Atlanta University ESWMDT courses. Pictured l to r, top row Margaret P. Smith, A. B., Atlanta University; Willie Mae Nelson, A. B., Clark; Estelle Robinson, A. B., Clark; Lois Holland, A. B., Clark; Roberta Wainwright, B. S., Clark; Francis Davis, A. B., Clark; Irma G. Thomas, A. B., Clark; Marie Lawrence, A. B., Clark; Isoline Sherard, A. B. Clark. Center, Thomas J. Cleveland, A. B., Fisk; Albert M. Miller, Jr., B. S. Tennessee State. Front row, Barrietta LeBon, A. B, Clark; Emma Logan, A. B. Clark; Dorothy Samuels, B. S. Virginia Union; M. A. Atlanta U.; Marjorie Sherard, A. B. Clark; Valadonia Barnes, A. B. Clark; Pauline Whitner, A. B. South Carolina State College; Hariett Lewis, A. B., Clark; Mary Alice King, B S., Morris Brown College; and Willie Mae Williams, B. S., Alabama State College.

'Executive Orders Are Not Getting Results -- Voters

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By STANLEY ROBERTS
(Courier Poll Analyst)

Integration of Negro workers into essential war industries has been one of the major problems faced by the government during the emergency and colored Americans desire drastic steps taken to insure unto themselves a more equitable distribution of employment opportunities. With the exception of what was termed by a sizeable number of Negroes as "a futile request from Washington," there is no federal statute to protect minority citizens from narrow-minded employers who do not choose to hire them in plants holding war contracts.

CALLED TREASON

"Non-utilization of available manpower at a time when authorities concede there is a critical labor shortage can reasonably be interpreted as sabotage of the war effort," said numerous voters who participated in this week's question submitted by The Pittsburgh Courier's Bureau of Public Sentiment.

The poll sought reaction on the following proposition: **"Do You Believe That the New Executive Order 9346 Is Strong Enough to Combat Discrimination In Employment Pracitces?"**

81.2% said "NO."
12.6% said "YES."
6.2% were uncertain.

ORDER IGNORED

It was definitely learned from a representative of the War Manpower Commission that many American employers are frankly telling that agency's field men where to get off when Executive Orders are mentioned.

"We obey all United States laws . . . but edicts from the 'Great White Father' . . . telling us whom we should hire, and whom we should not hire . . . are not worth the paper they are written on." This seems to be a prevalent feeling among many industrialists.

And it was with this biased attitude in mind that hundreds of voters informed The Courier that nothing less than a courageously enforced, Federal law would be satisfactory to them.

"Truman Committee reports have exposed several business magnates who are 'cashing in' on the war," observed a Mid-western political figure. "It is now high time to jail a few of them who continue to insist on prejudice as usual."

Although it was evident that the wrath of disillusioned Negroes primarily descended on industrialists, organized labor also came in for a share of criticism.

"Many labor leaders daily come into close contact with management, and they are in a position to do much in facilitating the colored worker's employment." This statement was made by a prominent Negro CIO official.

Conclusion: The public appreciates what has been accomplished by Executive Orders but is now demanding a comprehensive Federal law to make them more effective.

Next week: "Do You Believe Negro Workers Are Doing Their Best to Hold Their Newly-won Jobs?"

JUL 31 1943

Only 6.7 Workers In U. S. War Plants

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, July 1—(ANP)—Negroes represented a bare 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers in 16,000 establishments reporting to the U. S. Employment service in March, 1943; according to figures released Monday by the War Manpower commission. In July, 1942, the figure was 5.8 per cent. About 937,000 non-whites are covered by the March figure.

One of the biggest jumps was that recorded in the aircraft industry where Negro employment increased 96.1 per cent compared to the over-all employment increase for the industry of 35.4. In the shipbuilding industry Negro employment increased 62.8 per cent between May, 1942, and November of the same year. The number working in tank factories doubled in the period of the report.

Of considerable moment is the figure for the coal industry. Negroes made up 23.1 per cent of those engaged in bituminous coal mining, while blast furnaces, steel works and rolling mills utilized 12.2 per cent.

The report pointed out that in spite of the meagre increased here and there, industry was not utilizing Negro manpower as much as it should in some areas and in some plants. The proportion of Negroes in war industries, it was stated, is not as yet commensurate with their proportion of the labor force, and only about 7 per cent of the employment in war industries.

JUL 3 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Bomber Christened "Julius Ellisberry"

BIRMINGHAM, (ANP)—On October 6 a large Liberator bomber was to be christened the "Julius Ellsberry," at the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons modification plant. The ceremonies will honor the first Jefferson county man to give his life in the Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor.

Mrs. Florence Ellsberry, mother of the hero, dedicated the plane, it was announced by A. G. Gaston, bomber chairman for the colored division of the war bond drive, that has already swept past the set $300,000 goal.

Encouraging Report

Pittsburgh Courier

The War Manpower Commission has issued a most encouraging report on the increasing employment of Negroes in the country's war plants.

Whereas in July, 1942, 5.8 per cent of the 12,000,000 workers in reporting plants were Negroes, by March, 1943, the proportion had grown to 6.7 per cent.

In tank plants the number has been doubled in that period, while in aircraft production the increase has been 96.1, and in shipbuilding it has risen by 62.8 per cent.

While two-thirds of the nation's Negro labor supply is confined to the agricultural South and there are many industries elsewhere which are not yet utilizing available Negro labor, the over all picture is most encouraging.

Gradually the nation is burying the myth that Negroes do not make good industrial workers.

They have demonstrated their capacity for exacting work and the industrial training so many are now receiving will prove invaluable in the post-war world.

JUL 3 1943

Transfer NYA Trainees To Pacific Coast Jobs

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 17—During the month of May, approximately 83 National Youth Administration trainees have completed the valuable basic training given at the Fair Park NYA project here in Little Rock, Helena and Arkadelphia, and have been transferred to other sections of the country for work in defense plants. The youth transferred during May are as follows:

Welders, Richmond, Calif., Arthur Ellison, Johnnie Jackson, Foster Hopes, Isaac McNeil, Mason Butler Jr., Wilburn Lee Ivey and Charles Wilkins, of Little Rock; Arrie D. Ross, Winfred Davis and Felix Brown, of Helena; Herman Davis, of Helena; Louis Clifton Daniel and William C. Robert, of Forrest City; Ray Eula Stafford, of Junction City; Paul L. Porter of Brinkley.

Transferred to Seattle, Wash., Katie Shields, Laura Jones, Elnora Thompson, Josephine Jamison, Louisa Shepherd, Varline Wade, Phisford Covington, Rosa Moten and Madeline Green, of Helena.

Woodworkers transferred to Seattle, Washington, are Eunice Lee Banks, Beatrice W. Pryor, George Barnes, Otis Scott, Myrtle F. Payte, and Geraldine Childs, of Little Rock; Elberta Williams, Fannie W. Winters, both from Arkadelphia; Marzelle Bryant, of Conway; Robert L. Stevens, of Rison; Vernton Lee Stroud, of Thornton; Geneva Haynes and Esther Bouquet of Malvern.

Foundry workers transferred to Eugene, Oregon are H. Prim, Jesse Stephens, Robert Holmes, Robert Starks, Vernon Stuart, Rufus Robinson, Julius Stuart, Frank Noble Jr., Richard C. Stuart, John D. Thomas and Chester Hunley, of Arkadelphia; Alvin Phillips, Jerome Jones and Alonzo Marshall, of Arkadelphia.

Sheet metal workers transferred to Seattle, Washington are Alice L. Williams, Lemuel L. Smith, Pearlie G. Smith, Ruth Goforth, Mildred M. Mims, Marion Clayborne, Minnie and Theola Redmond, Daisy Thompson, Elsie McFadden and Florence Thomas of Little Rock; Almeta Bates, Ellent T. Harris and Geraldine Rowe, of Hope; Odessa Pascal and Lee Ann Crenshaw, of Marianna; Exie Jenkins, of Springfield; Sarah V. Poole, of Paris, and Ruby Jackson, of Lexington, Ky.; Tommie Daniels, sheet metal worker, was transferred to Eugene, Oregon.

Machine operators who were transferred from the Little Rock project to Hartford, Conn., are: Vergie Betton, Jeromie Jones, Lillie VanPelt and Alice Williams, of Cotton Plant; Lula Mae Ray, of Marianna; Edith Beamon, of Little Rock and Mitt William Cooper of Forrest City, Arkansas.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Given Chance to Qualify As Aircraft Mechanics

BLACKLAND ARMY AIR FIELD, Waco, Texas—Through a plan still in its trial stage, enlisted men at Blackland Army Air Field now have the opportunity of qualifying as aircraft mechanics on the "line."

Fifty men from Negro squadrons on the field were picked for their initiative, willingness to work, and interested in the servicing and maintenance of aircraft. The men were designated as Aircraft Hands and were assigned to washracks on the "line" where they come in contact with the twin-engined training planes used at Blackland Field.

Mavor Makes Appeal Against Absenteeism

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

APR 20 1943

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)— Hon. Walter Chandler, Mayor, issued a special appeal Saturday against "absenteeism" among Negro construction workers on defense jobs.

Mayor Chandler urged Negro leaders of Memphis to join him in his plea to the workers to remain on jobs. He stated in a brief interview on the situation that he has received complaints from construction company officials and other employer groups concerning the wide-spread practice of "laying off" the job prevalent among local colored employees, especially construction workers.

In a short, pointed statement the popular Memphis mayor said, "We are particularly anxious to get this absenteeism stopped......for it is a serious matter both from the standpoint of the workers themselves."

It has been observed that many construction workers are away from heir jobs on defense plants as nuch as three days per week on n average.

Mayer Chandler said. "They hould be informed that the honeynoon will be over in 90 days...... omewhere around the 1st of July."

He explained that he meant by he statement that in the area the construction of defense plants will apparently come to a close around the middle of the summer. Memphis has obtained more than a score of new war plants since the outbreak of the war. But now their construction is practically completed. And hundreds of skilled and semi-skilled construction workers will be cut of work or forced to seek other employment.

He urged the colored leaders to advise the construction workers to remain on their jobs and seek to earn as much as possible in wages.. save a portion of the latter..and prepare themselves for the pinch which may strike them with the decline of work in this area

Numbers of outstanding ministers, civic leaders, and business men among the Negro populace repsonded to the Mayor's plea by announcing the situation in their churches, clubs, and other public groups, and urging workers to refrain from the practice of absenteeism.

APR 20 1943

Copy of Wire Sent to Congressman John Taber

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

JUN 24 1943

THIS IS MY CHALLENGE TO YOU TO APPEAR PERSONALLY ON THE FLOOR OF THE CONGRESS AND MAKE YOUR TALK AGAINST NEGRO WOMANHOOD IN THE NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION AT AUBURN, NEW YORK. IF YOU HAD THE AUDACITY TO APPEAR SECRETLY BEFORE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE YOU OUGHT TO HAVE THE NERVE TO STAND LIKE A MAN AND FIGHT FAIRLY RATHER THAN COWARDLY.

Signed:
WILLARD S. TOWNSEND,
International President,
United Transport Service Employees of America

Chicago, June 18, 1943.

Chicago, Ill.,
June 19, 1943.

Dear Friend:

It seeems as though at Auburn, New York, the National Youth Administration operates a resident center in which both Negro and white girls participate. This project is located adjacent to some property owned by one of the employes of the Honorable John Taber of New York State. Mr. Taber is a Republican who has maintained a derogatory vicious attitude toward any program which includes Negroes as Americans too.

JUN 24 1943

You will note by the attached excerpt from the Congressional Record that Congressman Taber is too cowardly to appear on the floor and publicly make his vicious attack on Negro womanhood. This is a classic example of how some of our northern Republican Congressmen are double-crossing Negroes at every legislative turn.

JUN 24 1943

The National Youth Administration must live. It is on the conscience of the Republican Party.

Sincerely yours,
WILLARD S. TOWNSEND,
International President.

Enclosure

P.S. Will you wire today your Senators and Representative Taber protesting this insult to Negro womanhood and the effort to make a racial issue out of NYA?

OWI Funds Challenged On 'Negroes And The War'

Chicago Ill. Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

FEB 27 1943

WASHINGTON— "Negroes and the War," the propaganda publication of the Office of War Information, edited by Chandler Owen, threatened to become a boomerang to the OWI last week.

Reps. Hamilton Fish and John Taber, both Republicans from New York, attacked the publication on the floor of the House. They expressed an intention, while talking with the Defender, of devoting their intention to keeping the OWI from getting any more money for such purposes.

Rep. Fish called the 36-page publication "both tripe and baloney." He added: "Certainly it is, not in the interest of the Negroes and the war, because in the first paragraph it contains a gratuitious insult to all Negroes, which reads in this way:

"'Some Negro Americans say that it makes no difference who wins the war; they say things could not be worse under Hitler.'

"That is a dastardly reflection and a slander and a libel upon 13,000,000 Negroes. It is malicious to start his political propaganda off with a sentence of that kind, questioning the patriotism, the loyalty, and the Americanism of the Negro."

In his office, Rep. Fish told the Defender that he intended to do everything in his power to stop any further slandering of this sort against Negroes.

Rep. Taber said to the Defender that "the first sentence of that thing is enough to make anybody boil."

He declared that if Negroes are not insulted by it, then they have "far less intelligence than I have given them credit for having."

"Only the last few pages show anything about the Negro and the war," he stated. "The rest is only the poorest kind of propaganda tripe."

"Negroes and the War" is on official publication of the Office of War Information. Two million copies have been printed for distribution primarily to Negroes. It has been praised and condemned by various Negro groups.

It has been stated that the agency has been giving consideration to having a similar publication prepared on the Negro and the Japanese, to be edited by the same Chandler Owen.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

JUL 24 1943

IT APPEARS that the migration of Negroes to war-production centers is not an economic phenomenon. The *Union News* of Towson, Maryland, an anti-union, anti-New Deal paper, explains it thus: "Certain Washington politicians back of the fourth-term drive hope to pack Maryland with a large number of Negro workers, place them in good-paying jobs and comfortable government-built homes, have them declare their intentions to become Maryland citizens before November, and swing Maryland, which is doubtful, to the New Deal column."

Big Contracts Awarded To Colored Parachute Firm

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

JUL 24 1943

SAN DIEGO, Calif., July 22—(ANP)—Through the efforts of Howard (Skippy) Smith, president of Pacific Parachute company, the international concern became the recipient of more essential war contracts last week.

The former parachute jumper, who skyrocketed to fame last year when be became instrumental in launching the first Negro-owned firm in the United States to hire workers of seven different nationalities, has been making frequent trips to Los Angeles in the interest of the contracts.

MAKES AIRPLANE PARTS, TOO

In addition to the pilot parachutes now being manufactured by the company, important airplane parts will be supplied the Douglas Aircraft company by the local concern.

The Pacific Parachute company, which recently completed its first anniversary, has grown from a first-floor war industry to a three-story concern. On its payroll are employes who are Negroes, Mexicans, American whites, Brazilians, and those of German and Italian descent.

47h-1943

Bureau Admits Negroes Making Some Big Gains

MAY 1 1943

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, PA.

WASHINGTON, April 29—Although women and Negroes now hold many transportation jobs in which they have not previously been employed, discrimination against Negroes persists in many places, the Office of War Information reported this week on completion of a comprehensive survey of the transportation situation.

Reporting that the battle of transportation in the continental United States is being won, and that the war and necessary civilian transportation load is being carried, the OWI cautions that our victories are not necessarily permanent.

"Our transportation equipment, with few exceptions," the survey revealed, "is being used close to its limits. Railroad passenger equipment, buses, private automobiles, tires, parts and tank cars are wearing out. Few replacements are being made.

WARNS OF PERSISTENT

"Women and Negroes now hold many transportation jobs in which they have not previously been employed, but discrimination against Negroes persists in many places. Selective Service boards which defer war plant workers often draft transportation workers."

Discussing the manpower problems of the transportation industry, the OWI declares:

"Negroes are filling increasing numbers of skilled and semi-skilled railroad jobs, but, war or no war, unwillingness to employ Negroes in [illegible] types [illegible] railroad jobs persists.

"The expanded local transportation field has also been hard hit by the manpower shortage. Large numbers of both drivers and mechanics have entered the vehicle maintenance operations of the Army, or taken training as airplane mechanics, or entered other war industries at higher wages. At the beginning of the year the local transportation industry was short 1,919 vehicle operators, 21 mechanics and [illegible] street car inspectors and repairmen.

"In some cities vehicles are lying idle due to lack of people to run them. Still, out of 227 local transportation companies, representing 86 per cent of total employment in the industry, only eight employ Negro operators. Women 'motorettes,' 'conductorettes,' and bus drivers are no longer a novelty in San Francisco, San Diego, Detroit, Columbus, Ga., and other cities. In December, the national average work week for local transportation employees was 50 hours, with many reports of 60 or 70 hours among vehicle operators."

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NEGROES PRESENT AWARDS

APR 10 1943

Sun Shipbuilding and Railroad Association Are Honored

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 9—To the Association of American Railroads and the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company of Chester, Pa., have been presented the first Booker T. Washington awards of the National Association of Negroes in American Industry for outstanding achievements in industrial employment of Negroes.

The presentations were made by Bishop David H. Sims of the First District, African Methodist Episcopal Church, at ceremonies here last night and were accepted by John G. Pew Sr., president of the Sun company, and by Colonel Robert S. Henry, assitant to the president of the Association of American Railroads.

Bishop Sims pointed out that 350,000 Negroes were employed by American railroads and said:

"I believe that the presentation of these awards marks the beginning of an evolution in bringing together Negroes and American industry to the extent that they cooperate to their mutual benefit and to the benefit of the country as a whole."

Mr. Pew said his shipyards now employed some 12,000 Negroes among a total of 33,000 workers.

"All are getting equal pay for equal work and we are greatly pleased with the work being rendered," he added.

Negro Women Employed as Skilled Navy Yard Workers

Washington Tribun
Washington, D. C.

FEB 20 1943

For the first time in history Negro women are now being employed in skilled jobs in the Washington Navy Yard. Within recent months more than 300 specially-trained machine workers and mechanics helpers have been given jobs there at wages averaging $45 per week, and more are being employed at the rate of 50 a month.

This development resulted from the efforts of the National Youth Administration and the project manager and staff of the NYA War Production training School at 1127 S Street, Northwest. This school, now working on a 24-hour basis, offers free training in arc and gas welding, sheet metal work, aircraft riveting, drafting, clerical work, radio construction, small parts assembly, code receiving and sending, and in other jobs now in demand in the war production battle on the home front.

Typical of the results achieved at the NYA War Production Training School is the case of Miss Juanita E. Cray, 20, of 226 Fifty-ninth Street, Northeast, who began her training in the machine shop in April 1942. She completed her training in September of the same year and was placed in the Washington Navy Yard, where she is now earning $45 per week. She is a graduate of the Dunbar High School and prior to taking the NYA training she worked in domestic service.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Aviation Learned Hard Way

APR 11 1943

Tuskegee Negroes Learn Mechanics Of Craft Through Use Of Old Broken-Engined Plane

BY HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE
Associated Press Science Editor

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Starting with nothing but one old, broken-engined airplane, Negro students of Tuskegee Institute have learned aviation mechanics the hard way.

They took the old engine down and set it up again 25 times. They dismantled and rebuilt the old plane 12 times.

Their enthusiasm has opened a new sector of manpower, a pool of Southern Negroes suited to skilled war craftsmanship. With the aid of the state of Alabama, Tuskegee begins this Spring to turn out 30 aircraft maintenance artisans a month, to go directly into warplane servicing.

This course, which started with the old plane and two instructors in an unfloored shed, has grown to 15 instructors and occupancy of several well-equipped shops. The boys still have only one plane and still tear it down and build it up. Some still are figuring on how to patch a hole the size of a book in the old engine to see her turn over.

* * *

BUT THEY NOW HAVE A LOT OF PARTS from a lot of old planes. As they were the last of the aviation mechanics schools to win recognition, even old parts are hard to pick up. Heading the school is W. S. Allen, teacher-trainer of the Alabama State Department of Vocational Training. He is a Negro, a graduate of Wooster College and of Ohio State University.

The old plane, a Douglass observation ship, was allotted to Tuskegee two years ago. It was supposed to remain intact.

Allen noticed small parts missing. Each time he would find that piece in the possession of a student who was taking it apart to see how it worked. He described the situation to the state N. Y. A. supervisor. The supervisors agreed that the regulations would be satisfied if Tuskegee always could account for one complete Douglass, regardless of whether it was in one piece.

* * *

THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION made federal funds available and 82 men and eight women demonstrated that in spite of obstacles, they had the ability. But they didn't get many jobs. There wasn't much market for a Negro's services.

Now, however, all graduates of the school will be taken by the Tuskegee Army Flying School, about 10 miles from here, where the Army Air Forces are training Negro military aviators. They are a large group of pursuit pilots.

The state vocational board's allotments were used by Tuskegee further to set up training courses in welding, cutting and other shipbuilding jobs. A market for the services of these Negroes has not been fully solved.

The Kaiser Yards and the Chester, Pa., Sun Shipbuilding Works, take them at standard starting pay. A Southern shipbuilding center offered to take some at common, unskilled labor wages. Of 110 so far trained, 45 per cent got jobs. Half of the other 55 per cent went into the Army.

* * *

THE STATE OF ALABAMA IS GIVING its high school graduate Negroes a chance at night classes, to give them enough engineering training so that industry can take them on. That has started a rush.

At Tuskgee, T. W. Jones, Iowa State Negro graduate electrical engineer, tells some stories of the eagerness of Alabama's dark sons and daughters. He supervises the establishment of night classes in various parts of Alabama under the E. S. M. W. T. program.

"One notice posted in a church," he said, "is sure fire to bring out 200 or more applicants. They ask for a lot of lines of training. But they say, 'If we can't get what we want, we'll take what you offer.' They are eager for war work."

A group of 30 girls and women wanted courses in physics and mathematics. In the case of a radio night school, parts were lacking for class work. Thereupon two dozen students brought in 105 radios.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
March 9, 1943

Alabama's War Training

An announcement from the vocational education division of the State Department of Education reports that since July 1, 1941, 60,000 persons in this state have been trained for war work and placed in industries.

This number seems large. In a sense it is. But we are not of the opinion that this represents anything like the maximum number we could have trained during that period.

At present, according to the report, there are between 5,000 and 6,000 persons "in training" for war work. O this number more than 1,500 are women. Emphasis on women workers and training for women is now increasing.

Our vocational education directors—and all directly concerned with the program in Alabama—have been doing good work. There should be no question of that. But they have had limitations, and on the whole we have hardly done more than tap our potential manpower supply which can be trained.

The nationwide emphasis in war work training is now on women. Here in the South, it is important to continue to emphasize that we have a vast supply of manpower among our Negroes. They want this training. Some few have gotten it; some few now are being trained. But facilities for training them are still greatly inadequate.

There are industries in this state that are still reluctant to provide jobs for skilled or semi-skilled Negro workers. In those industries and plants where Negroes have been given a better-than-average opportunity, the results have been highly satisfactory. The proof is a matter of record, that our Negro people can do the work. They continue to wait for extension of opportunity.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

More Negroes Find Jobs In War Plants

JUN 22 1943

Washington, June 21 (AP)—The War Manpower Commission reported today a "slow but steady increase in use of Negro workers in war plants throughout the country," but suggested there still is "not an adequate utilization in some areas and some plants."

The W.M.C. said Negroes comprised 5.8 per cent of 12,000,000 workers employed in some 16,000 plants reporting to its employment service in [illegible] 1942, but their number, after a month-to-month increase, rose to 6.7 per cent of 14,673,000 workers in the same plants by the end of last April.

TVA Has Integrated Negro Workers Into All Categories

APR 24 1943

Pittsburg Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 22—Already employed in 34 different categories and increasing their skills through on-the-job training and upgrading, Negro employees of the Tennessee Valley Authority are helping to relieve critical manpower shortages in dam construction, power operation, and the production of war chemicals, TVA officials announced this week.

At the same time, these officials revealed, Negro TVA workers are pushing War Bond sales and Red Cross drives and are co-operating in constructive labor-management efforts to improve living standards, working conditions and employee morale.

At the Wilson Dam Chemical plants, where 18.1 per cent of employees are Negroes, supervisors and personnel training officers revealed that the trainees are learning new skills quickly and efficiently.

PARTICIPATES IN TRAINING PROGRAM

"Being able to train Negroes for responsible jobs has helped us meet the manpower shortage," said John P. Clark, nitrate plant supervisor. "Our Negro employees have shown aptitude and willingness to co-operate in the training programs."

Negro workers have made themselves eligible for skilled and semi-skilled occupations by participating in the regular TVA training program under which an employee is given on-the-job training by foremen and supervisors for higher level positions. By March of this year, 54 Negroes were in the operator training program at Wilson Dam, 130 had completed training programs, and 120 had received promotion. The training program is carried on, likewise with equal opportunity, for Negroes, in the building and construction trades and in power operations.

One Wilson Dam employee, Paul Johnson of Tuscumbia, Alabama, has progressed since 1935 from laborer through six classifications to carbide-handling foreman, first Negro to have this job. Supervising men in nine different classifications, he is responsible for crushing, bagging, loading, and checking phosphorus fertilizers for lend-lease aid to Britain and carbide for synthetic rubber.

Lincoln C. Johnson, Paul's brother, is sub-labor foreman.

BUY WAR BONDS

Both brothers buy a War Bond each pay day, amounting to more than 25 per cent in Lincoln's case, and neither can remember when he has had an unauthorized absence from work. Paul Johnson is chairman of the Negro Auxiliary of Operating Engineers' union (AFL): Lincoln Johnson is vice president of the Hod Carriers' union (AFL) and in the last few months has been business agent. Both have participated as labor representatives in the annual Tennessee Valley Authority Wage conference.

Four youths, each with a university degree and graduate study in chemistry, are employed as laboratory technicians in the Research and Development division.

Negro equipment operators were practically unknown until eight months ago. Today, one is a junior storekeeper in charge of issuing chemicals and chamical equipment for research, keeping the store room in order and making requests to keep inventories up. Four are unloading shift foremen, three as solution distributors, 12 are sub-labor foremen, 12 are graining room operators, three are cencentrator operators, one is a mechinist helper, another is a batter locomotive operator. Others are unloading operators and foremen, mixer operators, truck-tractor operators, oilers, and conveyor operators. Three recently have been employed as building guards, another new occupation.

HOLD RESPONSIBLE UNION POSITIONS

In Tennessee Valley Authority power operations work, the story is the same. Negroes have been given more responsible jobs and have filled them efficiently. At the Watts Bar Dam steam plant, Earl Tulloss, Dayton, Ohio, is senior coal drag operator. President of the local Hod Carriers' union, Tulloss is taking an active part in labor-management drives against absenteeism and in selling War Bonds.

Earl M. Qualls, car dumper operator, is a job steward of the local Hod Carriers' union.

Herbert W. Smith, drill operator, has never had an unauthorized absence in his nine years with TVA. A member of the local labor-management co-operative committee and a job steward, he has fought against absenteeism.

PERSONNEL OFFICERS ON EACH PROJECT

About two-thirds of the Negro construction workers at Douglas Dam are employed in occupations at skilled and semi-skilled levels. Employment of Negro cement finishers and powdermen was on a 50-50 basis. Skilled classifications in construction work at Douglas Dam and other TVA projects in which Negroes are employed include cement finisher and cement finisher tender, powderman and powderman helper, wagon drill operator and wagon drill helper, oiler, flagman, jackhammer operator, vibrator operator, shaft and tunnel miner, cement scoopmen, senior cook, cook, senior waiter, hospital orderly, and janitor.

At Fontana Dam, three Negroes have been made junior cafeteria supervisors, and there is one crew of Negro line men working in the Norris area.

A Negro personnel officer at Wilson Dam and each TVA project under construction give special assistance in recruiting employees, placing them, exploring promotional opportunities, co-ordinating the employee training program for Negroes, counseling with employees, and handling programs of personnel relations. A Negro training officer, stationed at each of these projects, plans and administers an adult education and recreation program for Negro employees in TVA villages and in the area. These officers are under the functional supervision of J. H. Daves, specialist in Negro Education and Relations, at the Knoxville office of TVA.

NEGRO WORKER CITED FOR 'BEST PRODUCTION'

MAY 16 1943

Bee

Chicago, Ill. 1943

Several shipyards where thousands of Negro workers are employed in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities were cited this week by a Senate investigation committee among "the best and most efficient producers" of Liberty ships and naval vessels.

Given special commendation on performance records by the Special Committee Investigating the National Defense program, of which Senator Harry S. Truman is chairman, were the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company of Virginia nad its subsidiary, the North Carolina Shipbuilding corporation of Wilmington, N.C.

War Manpower commission employment reports indicate that in November, 1942, more than 8,200 Negroes were employed as machine operators, blacksmiths, painters, dismantlers, stage builders, riggers, bolters, drillers, slab benders, erectors, riveters and in a number of other skilled and semi-skilled capacities at the Newport News yards, and that more than 5,800 Negroes were employed in similar capacities by the North Carolina Shipbuilding Corp. Negroes constituted 27.4 per cent of all employees in the Virginia yards and 29.8 in the North Carolina yard.

Other yards discussed in the Shipbuilding and Shipping report of the Truman committee included the Richmond, Cal., yards of the Kaiser company where more than 6,100 Negroes are employed as boilermakers, shipfitters, shipwrights, stage riggers, joiners, sheet metal workers and in other capacities; the Bethlehem Fairfield yards in Baltimore, Md., where more than 6,200 Negroes are working in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities, and the California Shipbuilding corporation where hundreds of Negro workers assisted in the construction of the SS Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship named for a Negro. The SS George Washington Carver was recently launched at the Kaiser Richmond Yard No. 1, and the SS Frederick Douglass is now being built in the Bethlehem-Fairfield yard.

Discussing the construction of Liberty ships, the committee's report, ordered printed on April 22, 1943, declared:

"It appears that the Oregon Shipbuilding corporation operated under the management of Mr. Henry J. Kaiser, and the North Carolina Shipbuilding corporation, a subsidiary of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock corporation, under the management of Mr. Homer Ferguson, are the two best and most efficient producers of Liberty ships. The Oregon shipyard is first in point of man-hours and second in dollar cost. The North Carolina shipyard is first in dollar-cost and second in man-hours.

"The Oregon shipyard delivered 12 Liberty ships in January, 1943, at an average of 393,858 man-hours each. The average cost per ship for January is not available, but for the ships produced in November and December, it was $712,768 per ship, and for March the average was $667,000 per ship. The North Carolina shipyard delivered 9 Liberty ships in January, 1943, at an average of 450,807 man-hours and an average cost of $607,827.23 per ship."

In the construction of naval vessels, the committee report compared the man-hours and dollar-cost in the construction of battleships of the same class by the New York Shipbuilding corporation, the Bethlehem Steel company and the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company. Discussing variations in the three yards, the report said:

"As appears from these figures, the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company was able to construct a battleship for $9,342,597 and with 3,194,222 man-hours of direct labor less than the New York Shipbuilding corporation required to build a ship of the same class."

The report praised the performance record of the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore and stated that the records of the California Shipbuilding corporation and the Kaiser Richmond yards No. 1 and 2 were both very satisfactory, "but not as good as the excellent records of the Oregon, North Carolina and Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyards."

NEGRO WORKERS INCREASE

DETROIT, April 30—(AP)—Montague A. Clark, area director of the War Manpower Commission, said Friday that the number of Negroes employed in Detroit's major war plants had more than doubled within the last year and the rate of gain is increasing. He said there were 22,200 Negroes among 394,400 workers in the area's 165 larger plants in May of last year, and by March of this year the number had increased to 47,400 out of a total employment of 566,600 in the same plants.

[illegible]

April 6, 1943

28 NYA Trainees Leave for Jobs In War Plants

Twenty-eight young men and women who have received training for war jobs at NYA War Production Training Centers in Middle Tennessee left today to take jobs in various war production centers in the United States.

The program for training young men and women, both white and Negro, has been in operation for more than a year, with from 15 to 30 workers from this area leaving each week to take jobs in war plants, F. R. Fitzpatrick, youth personnel officer of the NYA unit, said.

Training in electric welding, sheet metal, and machine shop work is conducted in Middle Tennessee at NYA resident centers at

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Washington—Men discharged from the armed services because of disabilities, combat-incurred or otherwise are being given every opportunity to stay in the war, not in the battle lines but on the production front, Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission said today.

Mr. McNutt announced that the hospital service of the Veterans Employment division of the United States Employment Service is now operating in 309 army and navy hospitals. The service provides the veterans with a direct contact with the Veterans Employment representative in their home towns, their first step on the way back to a civilian job.

JUL 29 1943

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when the literary department an
the Red Cross committee of th
club were hostesses.

The guests were received by Dr
Stapleton, Mrs. A. L. Moore, chair
man of the Red Cross committee
Mrs. Frank Fessey, a member o
the national camp and hospita
service board of the American Re
Cross; Mrs. E. B. Stevenson, Jr.
a member of the national board o
volunteer special services, guest
from the 14 services of the Re
Cross, and chairmen of various Re
Cross organizations in the city.

Presiding at the tea table wa
Mrs. Dempsey Weaver, president o
the club. The central ornamen
of the table was a silver epergn
filled with jonquils, tulips and oth

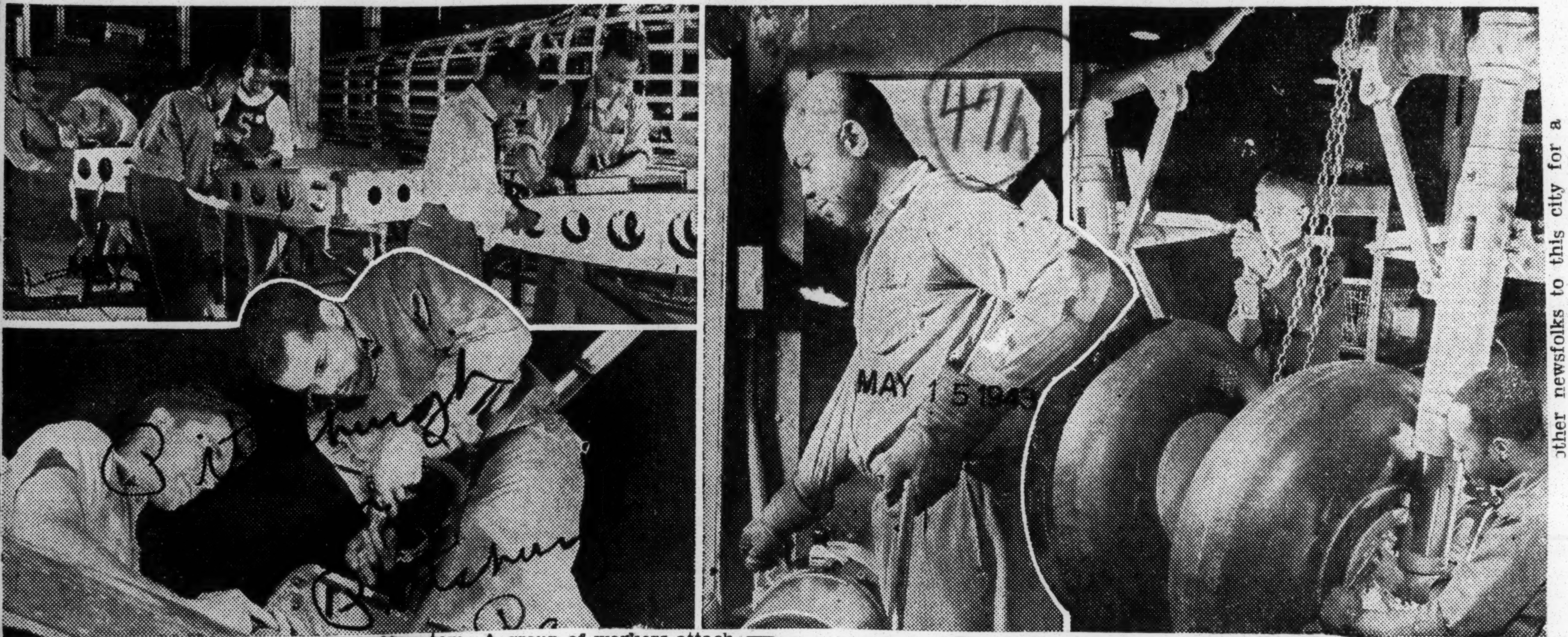
Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

DISCHARGED MEN GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES

47h-1943

MANNING THE MACHINES ON THE HOME FRONT TO HELP WHIP THE AXIS



After graduating from many various training courses offered by the United States Government, race employees integrated into different branches of the production line of the nation are rapidly gaining recognition as first rate specialists. Above are pictures of several workers, products of the vast training program, busily engaged in production.

At the left from top to bottom—A group of workers attaching skins to the fins of medium bombers at Glenn L. Martin Aircraft plant.

Lower photo — Working together for victory, Walter Shippee and Artie Jackson assemble a pilot's head rest on a P-47 Pursuit ship.

At the right of these photos, from left to right is, a 50-ton crane, operated by a race worker Next is a huge landing gear, which is the type assembled at the factory.

Last photo shows a skilled workman operating a wire drawing machine at a Bethlehem Steel plant. Official OWI photos by Liberman.

MAY 15 1943

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
May 27, 1943

NEGRO YOUTHS TRAINED AT ROCKY MOUNT CENTER

Rocky Mount, May 26.—A total of 1,582 Negro boys and girls have been trained and placed in war industries through the local NYA training center, it was revealed here today in a report made by Westry Horne, resident manager of the Negro Civic Forum.

Since the opening of the center here in December, 1941, over 2,000 students have been enrolled for the various courses, the report showed. The project offers training in sheet metal, machinery, foundry, aircraft woodwork and welding.

The report also stated that approximately $10,000 was spent here each month for subsistence, supplies and salaries.

Race Integrated On Large Scale To Relieve Shortages

"Pittsburgh Courier"
Pittsburgh Pa.

~~MAY 15 1943~~

WASHINGTON, May 13—The War Manpower Commission's greatest success in Baltimore has been in the elimination of many of the employment barriers raised against the Negro, the Office of War Information announced this week in a report on wartime problems and conditions in the City of Baltimore.

The report, a study of Baltimore's experience in setting up the first voluntary job-control program which enabled the War Manpower Commission to establish similar or more comprehensive programs in other labor shortage areas, shows how the city tackled its transportation, housing, health and manpower problems.

MAY 15 1943

STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Pointing out that Baltimore is still far from a solution of its own manpower problems, the study reveals its progress in reducing discrimination against Negroes.

"In 1942", the report states, "Negro war workers increased from 9,000, of whom two-thirds were employed in one shipyard, to 22,600 well distributed throughout Baltimore industry. In eight months, from May, 1942, to January, 1943, while the employment of Negroes in Baltimore's 92 main war plants increased 88 per cent, while the total employment in that period climbed from 164,000 to 204,000—an increase of about 25 per cent. In addition, scores of stores and businesses not covered by the agreement hired Negroes for the first time.

MAY 15 1943

GEOGRAPHY FACTOR, TOO

"This record is particularly remarkable because of Baltimore's geographical location. It is neither South nor North, but a little of both with a rather traditional Southern attitude toward the Negro.

MAY 15 1943

"The Bartlett-Hayward plant, a community leader in many ways, has hired 500 Negroes in less than two years, half of them for skilled jobs.

"The Western Electric plant employs Negroes and white workers side by side without segregation as to toilets, cafeteria and other facilities.

SOME SIDETRACKING

"Hiring discrimination in Baltimore war plants has not been eliminated altogether. The Martin plant, which has employed large numbers of immigrants from the rural Southern areas, uses its Negro labor at one plant and keeps Negroes from its larger Middle River factory. Many other factories employ Negroes only at unskilled jobs.

"On Labor Day, 1942, the Maryland Drydock Co. put five Negroes to work in yards where previously only white workers were employed. A strike followed."

MAY 15 1943

NEGROES FOR NYA MAJORITY

Although the number of persons receiving industrial training in Baltimore's vocational education and NYA classes has decreased to the point that only 5,499 persons are expected to graduate in the next six months, Negroes form the majority of those now in training.

The necessity for maximum utilization of Negro labor was brought to the attention of industrialists and trade union officials when the first labor-management committee was appointed in July, 1941, the report states. After several meetings, the labor-management committee made public signed statements in which both employers and trade unions agreed "wholeheartedly to the plan of maximum utilization of local labor supply," and pledged themselves to make every possible effort to employ and grant union membership to "women, Negroes and other groups not ordinarily employed" before making any efforts to secure workers from outside the area. These agreements facilitated the employment of Negroes.

MAY 15 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Workers Of All Races Toil At Parachute Co.

Many Tokens Of Awards Displayed

By Skippy Smith

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — (SNS) — This writer at the invitation of Howard "Skippy" Smith, Friday journeyed in company with several other newsfolks to this city for a tour of the Pacific Parachute Company of which Smith is president. The visit proved an eye opener something akin to a miracle.

Here was the full effect of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, known as the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Here too, was democracy in all her ethical and sociological meaning put to practice. Here was mankind living and working in the trueness of Christian civilization without any sign of racial, color or religious friction. A marvel!

LIVE THEIR JOBS.

MAY 9 1943

Non-Negro employers and hostile labor unions have long preached in hidden and double meaning language, that the race white and black, could not amicably work together. Openly, they had prayed that never should down the day when Negro employers should work non-Negroes for hire. Yet, here it was, a living lie to their boasts. Not only were non-Negroes working under the management of Negro business executives, but, actually liking them as fair minded employers.

The Pacific Parachute Company came into existence through the inspiration of 29-year-old, Alabama born "Skippy" Smith, on March 19, 1942. Seven days later at its dedication it numbered 18 employes.

Of course, there was the struggle and some difficulties experienced by intrepid business man. He scoured the havens of the more wealthy and farsighted men of business of his own racial group seeking financial assistance needed for his venture, but without avail.

Finally aid did come. Eddie Anderson, famed stage, screen and radio actor, came forth with financial aid. So did W. W. Gay. Moral aid was lent by the Los Angeles Urban League through its executive director, Floyd C. Covington. Col. C. E. Fountelroy, president of the Standard Parachute Company, lent valuable contractual business assistance. And, so the fledgling organization was begun.

MARKS ANNIVERSARY

On March 18th of this year, the plant celebrated its first anniversary. It was learned that an over all volume of business had been contracted for amounting in excess of a quarter of a million dollars. The personnel on March 7, numbered 72 employes, comprised among its numbers persons of American white, American black, Mexican, Italian, Swiss, Jewish, and French. Not a mollyglot but just ordinary American working people of right ideals and considerate purpose.

The plant occupying three stories of a sizeable building with an ample amount of power sewing machines, silk loom tables and other essential manufacturing equipment to now go into the production field of a prime contractor. As a sub contractor outlet, the Pacific Parachute Company has met every test and been appropriately cited for the manufacture of pilot parachutes. The small safety chutes are attached to the larger ones to greater insure their opening without the jumper becoming fouled in its cords.

AWARDS ARE VISIBLE

In plain view of every visitor to the plant are tokens of awards received by the company, its management and its employes. They have won the AA1 quality rating from the Army Air Corps, Material division; a letter of recommendation from its prime contractor, Cole of California; an Efficiency Award, from the same prime contractor, for its quality and quantity of production.

Cole company has just been notified that the coveted Army "E" award has been achieved as the result of its production. It is well to note that the pilot chute made by the Pacific Parachute Company was included in their efficiency record. The Minute Man "T" flag is also the property of the PPC, the company employes having 100 percent of its employes subscription, 10 per cent of their salary in war bonds.

In numerous ways the writer learned, this amazing business owned and operated by a Negro, but operated as any other American business firm has merited the commendation of numerous outstanding citizens of this city. The firm is only one so operated in California, that is a member of the Southern California Merchants and Manufacturers Association. During the anniversary celebration a Citizens Committee of San Diego Manufacturers, presented Mr Smith with a handsome 30-inch trophy, symbolic of Victory, as Victory Leader No. 1 of America, for success achieved in manfacturing parachutes and bettering racial relations.

Herman E. Warren, Negro, is in charge of production at the plant, supervisor and instruction, Viola Sample (Negro): supervisor and director of the U. S. financed pre-factory school, operated under the direction of the Pacific Parachute Company, is Mrs. Lena Kock (white); Gabriel Verden, is chief inspector of chutes (Mexican); supervisor of Assembly is Minnie Sopetti (Italian), another supervisor in Cora Damm (white), Kentucky born niece of Col. Ed. Bradly, the race horse king, by way of explaning how plant is run. Also, the plant guard is a white woman, the plant PBX system is operated by a Mexican woman, the personnel director is a Negro woman, and the head mechanic and his assistant are both white men.

Smith, president of the firm, is a very modest man. He didn't need to emphasize a determination to win the Army "E" for his plant, it was easy for the visiting newsmen to see that he would do it and achieve it. He wants that above all in order to convince a doubting world. that not only can white and black work harmoniously together, but with efficiency.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

APR 24 1943

HERO AWARDS KATHARINE

APR 24 1943

Katharine Gay, employee of the Solar Manufacturing Corporation of Bayonne, NJ is awarded the coveted "E" by Sgt. William J. Caldwell, wounded Guadalcanal hero. Katharine represented the entire staff of Solar workers. Wheee!—Photo thru courtesy Continental Features . . .

ALTEMEYER NOT WITH OWI, DAVIS REVEALS

Chicago Bee

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 18—Elmer Davis, Office of War Information chief, told the NAACP this week that Social Security Board Chairman A. J. Altemeyer recently charged with threatening to apply jim-crow policies to federal employees is not also an official in the OWI.

March, 21

In a story sent out last week by the NAACP condemning Altemeyer for his promise to carry out the request of Congressman N. C. Tarver, of Georgia, to segregate Negro clericals at the Social Security board, Altemeyer was also identified as an OWI executive. (Altemeyer is listed as an executive director of the OWI on page 314 of the Official 1943 Congressional Directory.)

Davis, in a letter to the N.A.A.C.P., said:

March 21

"My attention has been called to a March 5 news story captioned 'OWI and Security Board Head Promises to Bow to Jim-Crow in D.C. Employment.'

"This story," said Davis, allegedly reports the testimony of A. J. Altemeyer, social security board chairman, at a recent Congressional hearing. The release, however, identifies Mr. Altmeyer as "an OWI executive director..' Mar. 21.

"Until December 7, 1942, Mr. A. J. Altemeyer was executive director of the War Manpower commission. Since that date he has served as Federal Security Agency representative of the WMC. He still remains chairman of the Social Security board. At no time, however, has Mr. Altemeyer had any connection with the Office of War Information, and, naturally, he has never served as an executive director of this agency.

"It is possible that your erroneous identification resulted from a typographical mistake in the Office of the NAACP Press Service. But I am sure you will be anxious to correct this mistake with the various newspapers which receive your service. It will be unfortunate, of course, if these newspapers confuse OWI's stated policy with that described in the news release."

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
July 6, 1943

END OF NYA HITS 450 IN WEST TENNESSEE

Closing Order Is Given Here For War Training Shops

GRADUATES IN DEMAND

Reprinted From Yesterday's Late Editions

Closing of National Youth Administration Projects in five West Tennessee cities will affect about 450 youths now being trained for war production jobs, Henry P. Roth, regional NYA project manager, said yesterday.

Orders to close the projects in Memphis, Bells, Paris, Dresden and Union City were received by Mr. Roth from Orie E. Myers Jr. of Atlanta, regional NYA personnel director, after Congress voted Saturday to kill the agency.

Training Halted

Although the NYA has until Dec. 31 to close out its records under terms of a pending bill to close it, on which Congress now is putting the final touches, instruction of trainees was halted Saturday and will not be resumed unless the order is rescinded, Mr. Roth said.

The NYA has been operating two training projects here, one for white students at 563 Washington and one for negro trainees at 1193 North Manassas.

About 115 students are taking courses in the welding, sheet metal and machine shops at the school for white youths, while some 60 negroes are taking training in woodworking, Mr. Roth explained. Courses run from six to eight weeks, after which the trainee is ready for a war production job. Demand for graduates far exceeds the supply, he added, most of them being placed in shipyards and aircraft factories.

Must Go Elsewhere

Students whose courses of training have not been completed will have to seek instruction elsewhere, Mr. Roth said.

The City Board of Education also operates a vocational school for war production workers at 563 Washington. Ed B. Hudgens, director, said the school has ample facilities for training Memphians dropped by the NYA. Students in the four other West Tennessee projects will have to leave home to complete their training.

Students attending the NYA schools are paid $40 a month while learning a trade, but those attending the school operated by the City Board of Education receive no pay.

47h-1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Machinists Deny Barring Negroes In Ohio Plant

JAN 2 1943

CLEVELAND — Amidst a barrage of charges and counter charges and an atmosphere electrified by the "extra judicial" remarks of Common Pleas Judge Frank J. Merrick, who last week dismissed the case of two Negro women denied war jobs. Mathew DeMore, president of the Cleveland machinists' union, flatly denied that his group had sought to bar Negroes.

DeMore's denial came in answer to the assertion of Charles L. Stilwell, president of Warner and Swasey company, world's largest manufacturer of turret lathes, that attempts to use Negro women were blocked by union strike threats. Stilwell made his assertion while on the witness stand and under cross examination in Merrick's courtroom.

While DeMore claimed that his union would tolerate no discrimination against any minority group when he was cross-examined he admitted that membership was left entirely to the shop locals.

Complete Demand

Stilwell claimed that DeMore and another labor leader had advised him to resist the hiring of Negroes. DeMore on the other hand, stated that the union had "never been consulted at any time" by company officials as to who they should employ. To further support his testimony that there is no discrimination in the machinist union, DeMore pointed out that a number of Negroes already have membership. He also offered to appear as a witness for the two girls.

The case has stirred the city until it is a seething inferno of indignation as a result of Judge Mericks' remarks. Upon dismissing the suit of the plaintiffs, the jurist delivered an hour-long harangue in which he reviewed the merits of President Roosevelt's executive order 8802. He said, "You can pass ten million laws and still not change the minds of a lot of people on this subject."

Judge Merrick's decision in effect upholds the right of industries to bar workers on the basis of race despite considerations of national interest or previous commitments of the companies.

JAN 2 1943

It was brought out in court that Warner and Swasey had agreed not to discriminate in its contract with the government, and by so doing had violated its terms.

Cite Contract

"In entering into a free contract with the government in which it was granted the use of taxpayers' money for the purchase of machines, the building of plants, and the acquisition of land, these defendant companies agreed not to discriminate against workers because of color or race," declared Clayborne George, one of the attorneys for the girls.

The case is an outgrowth of an attempt of two colored women, Claretta Johnson and Effie Mae Turner to seek a mandatory injunction forcing the Warner and Swasey company and its affiliate Thompson Products company, to give them jobs. Previously, they had been refused because of their race. They showed that they had fitted themselves for skilled positions by 240 hours of training.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

LITTLE ROCK— (ANP)— More than 100 colored women are now working on the assembly line at the Arkansas Ordnance plant in Jacksonville, Ark. This plant is one of the few in the nation hiring Negro women to do skilled work at production, including supervisors, inspectors, and line leaders.

JAN 7 - 1943

Most of these women were referred to the employing firm by the Urban League of Greater Little Rock. A small number already employed in unskilled capacity were upgraded to production jobs, because of favorable performance.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Aircraft Plants Hiring More Negroes on Coast

JAN 2 - 1943

Special

LOS ANGLES.—In response to a query as to the effect of Executive Order 8802 barring discrimination in defense plants under government contract, Eugene Johnson, supervisory interviewer at the aircraft hiring division of the US Employment Service, in charge of alien and minority group problems, told *PV*:

"We just can't get enough Negroes qualified for the positions open," Johnson explained that by "qualified" he referred to men not in the immediate draft classification. Altho one or two firms are still "reluctant" to hire Negroes in other than labor classifications and are being investigated by the War Manpower Commission, most of the 20 to 30 aircraft firms in the southern California area have begun to fall in line with No. 8802.

DIE-HARD FIRM CHANGES POLICY

JAN 2 - 194

One firm, North American, changing from a traditional policy of discrimination, has just hired five Negro production control clerks as trainees at $182 monthly. Two of the men are Vernon Ford, formerly a sergeant with the California State Guard, and Nate Moreland, well-known former manager of an East Side bowling alley.

On the whole USES finds that unskilled men are accepted readily, that women are required usually to have some skills, Johnson said, agreeing that this works particular hardship on Negro women applicants who have consistently been barred from experience.

JAN 2 - 1943

Two types of training are open to the war worker, Johnson stated, indicating that aircraft offers paid training, usually to the younger groups of men and women; and the national defense training setup offers free adult education training to all age groups.

Big Columbus Plant Agrees To Hire Negro Women

"Savannah Tribune"

AFTER REFUSING FOR 18 MONTHS TO USE THEIR SERVICES

Several Other Firms Asked To Follow Suit

JAN 14 1943

Columbus, O., Jan. 8 (ANP)— The hiring of colored women on Jan. 4 by the Timkin Roller Bearing company, one of the largest manufacturing establishments in this city, brought victory to an 18 month fight which has been waged by the militant Vanguard league.

Although hindered by many discouraging developments during the long period, the league never gave up. During the time a number of affidavits, charging the company with racial discrimination and violation of the President's executive order 8802, were sent to the FEPC. This action was suplimented with several conferences with the personned supervisor of the company, and by a series of letters to the officials of the firm.

JAN 14 1943

Last August, when FEPC inquired of the company in regard to its hiring policy, it replied that all the women being hired at that time were former employes and that it intended to start hiring colored women in October. The failure to hire colored women in October, as promised, caused the league to redouble its efforts. The company again stated, in late fall, that it intended to hire colored women as soon as their expan- probably by Jan. 1.

JAN 14 1943

League officials are quite jubilant over this victory and rank it along with the opening of Curtis-Wright, where more than 10 colored girls are now working. In addition to this number on production, there are two in the personnel department and two in the drafting department. The first colored girls went to work at that plant last April, after an investigation by the FEPC following a request from the league.

At present the labor committee is giving attention to several other plants which are still refusing to hire colored women, and is in the midst of a fight to get the gas company to hire Negro meter readers. As a result of a survey taken by the delegates to the recent Fellowship of Reconcilliation convention, where it was found that only six out of 100 persons objected to having Negro meter readers, the league is quite confident that the company will soon be hiring Negro meter readers.

Mobile, Ala., Register
January 24, 1943

Classes Are To Train Colored War Workers

Every effort is being put forth to train colored people that they may better serve the war effort, according to Prof. Benjamin F. Baker, principal of the Mobile Training School. He announces that the fourth of a series of classes will open Monday evening at 6:30 in the vocational building of the Mobile Training School.

474

These classes for the first time will admit women as well as men from 17 years up. Transportation is free to all who come from within 30 miles of the school. These first two classes will be elementary electricity and woodwork. Ten other classes in production will follow. He urges that young and old will take advantage of these free courses which are furnished by federal government through the State Department of Vocational Education. Prof. L. E. Scott will supervise these courses.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Bias Rampant at Air School

JAN 9 - 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Uncle Sam's aviation school here is gradually losing its usefulness, so far as colored Americans are concerned, as a result of the Army's Jim Crow policy, which is "breaking the hearts of our boys who are studying aviation." That's the consensus of local observers, who are wondering why something has not been done about it.

It wasn't always this way, of course, but since the arrival of Col. Frederick Kimble... the cadets have become convinced that the road to success (as an Army aviator) is a long, hard trail which will finally end in nothing more than some extra Jim Crow.

Matters like these are never discussed in public, but in private the cadets point to the things that are happening to Capt. Lloyd Sparks, a regular for 25 years in the U. S. Army.

JAN 9 - 1943

Captain Sparks was sent to Tuskegee as the "finance officer," but upon his arrival he received orders to remain in his barracks for five months. In the meantime, white officers continued to take care of all financial matters.

Before Colonel Kimble arrived Major Ellison was operating under a far different and much more democratic policy. It's generally understood, however, that local white objected to the manner in which Major Ellison conducted the Army's affairs and many people believe that he was ordered away because he insisted on following the democratic line...instead of Jim Crow.

Under Colonel Kimble, "colored" and "white" signs are posted over wash rooms. At first, the signs were torn down as fast as they were put up. Recently, however, Kimble told some of his men: "I am following War Department policy. I am putting the signs up and I dare anybody to remove them."

Even in the mess hall enlisted men are separated on a "white and colored" basis. Colonel Kimble is also quoted as saying that no colored officer will be promoted above the rank of captain as long as he is in command.

Will Necessitate Changes In Manner Of Handling Situation

Houston, Texas

By AL WHITE

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The terrific drain on the manpower of the nation necessary to supply the needs of the three great movements now afoot will soon bring about changes in the manner of handling the situation. Every one knows it is absolutely mandatory that the military and armed forces are supplied with manpower; they know it is equally obligatory to staff factories to keep the armed forces rolling; they know it is a positive fact that the great agricultural needs for manpower must also be met. Therefore, the serious problem. With the manpower resources dwindling, it is well to consider the situation as far as the Negro is concerned.

Looking back, Lt. Col. Campbell C. Johnson, aide to Brig. Gen. Lewis Hersey in the selective service system, recently stated that the percentage of Negroes in the armed forces had reached the objective of 10.6 per cent. Taking figures from a press conference held by Secretary of War Stimson, in which it was said there were now 5,000,000 men in the armed forces, this gives the Negro approximately 530,000 men in service.

JAN 2 3 1943

Under the new plans for manpower which eliminated voluntary enlistments from the navy and marine corps, placing their needs under the manpower commission, it is highly probable that the same rule will be applied to these two branches of the service; that is, the percentage quota. Through such an arrangement, the two branches would profit greatly. The type of recruit they would get would be far above those they have accepted from the Negro race in the past.

No definite plan has been worked out on this score as yet but it is giving the naval and marine authorities plenty to think about.

Women Replaces Men

In the industrial field, most of the men are being replaced in certain types of factory work by women. In some plants, women do all but the most laborious work. As far as the Negro is concerned, the males have almost reached the saturation point as far as being absorbed in industry is concerned. It is with the female Negro workers that difficulties are now arising.

JAN 2 3 1943

Negroes have made great gains in employment in certain industries, an outstanding example of which is the aviation field. In 1940, there were only 4,940 persons engaged in this work in the entire United States with no Negroes employed at all, except in menial posts. By 1941, the figure had grown to 360,000 with a mere 250 Negroes working at skilled and semi-skilled tasks. In September, 1942, an estimated 40,000 Negroes were employed in the field, a terrific increase over 1940. They are said to now represent 3-tenth per cent of the total employment in the aircraft industry.

It is pointed out that the greatest employment of Negroes in aircraft industries is on the west coast with Lockheed, Consolidated, Douglas, North American and Vultee showing the way.

Over in the east, where one of the great industrial centers lies, some 1,000 Negroes are employed in aircraft factories, with one employer alone using this number and crying for 600 additional. His chances for getting them apparently are very slender, it is reported.

JAN 2 3 1943

More Negroes in Shipyards

Negroes have made consistent gains in the shipbuilding industry, with the west coast and the busy yards of the east giving employment to thousands of colored workers. In the south, despite claims that there would be 10,000 jobs opened for Negroes following the Birmingham hearings, little has been accomplished except in the non-defense plants, the heavy industries and in one or two shipyards. In this section there is little importance attached to the training of Negroes for work in defense plants. In some instances, Negroes have been upgraded and given additional pay in shipyards which are under union domination.

In the Midwest, especially in the Detroit area, there may be some 2,00 or 3,000 Negro males unemployed. This is due to their own failure to try to get work. Most of the trouble in Detroit is due to the failure of manufacturers to hire Negro women. Thousands of white women are being hired, but Negroes are being given the go-by. This has led to the ordering of a public hearing by FEPC in this section, with certain companies being cited to the FEPC for failing to adhere to President Roosevelt's non-discriminatory order.

In New England, the work shortage has been partially solved by the sudden influx of Negroes from Harlem, who week-end at home after a full week in the defense plants. It is only in the smaller towns, it is reported, that difficulty occurs and this is chiefly in the employment of women.

JAN 2 3 1943

Pay has reached the point in practically all instances of equal pay for equal work whether white or black. The vexatious problem now remaining is the one of classification of workers and the upgrading.

JAN 2 3 1943

The old year was especially kind to Negroes on the whole although there are spots where much improvement could be shown. What 1943 offers remains to be seen and depends largely on the action of the War Manpower commission and its jurisdiction over and distribution of workers according to the needs of the triple giants America has to feed: the military forces, the industrial plants to keep production it is wanting, and the agricultural needs, the latter being the X or unknown quantity as far as solution is concerned.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Soldiers and Negro Labor

THE proportion of Negro soldiers in our Army is better than 10 per cent, while the Negro people make up less than 10 per cent of the nation's population. No one, therefore, can deny that the Negroes are making their contribution, and more, to winning the war for America's national existence.

Despite their readiness to fight and die for the nation, however, there still exists the vicious, un-American practice of discrimination against Negro workers in industry. It is estimated that 20 per cent of the unemployed in the nation are Negro, while in the matter of skilled jobs the bars are still up for Negro workers in most industries.

Some progress in breaking down this reprehensible discrimination has been made, but it is as yet only a beginning. What is involved is not only the democratic principle of equality of all Americans, but the vital question of winning the war. Just as Negro manpower is needed in the armed forces, it is needed in the war factories.

Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt announced, early in the week, that several million more people will have to be added to the labor force in 1943. Well, here they are, ready to go to work!

It is necessary that the fight for jobs for Negro workers, and equality on the job, be pressed without a letup. The labor movement especially must keep the fight up in every factory and shop until the practice of discrimination is broken down. It must be fought in every union where it still exists.

Let's see to it that the Charter of the United Nations, for which the peoples of all colors are fighting and giving up millions of lives, is applied here now.

Roanoke Rapids, N. C. Herald

City Negress To Take NYA Defense Training Course

Another group of young men and women left this week for the National Youth Administration War Production Training Center in Durham. They will undergo training for work in defense jobs in the country. They are: Sara Cowan, Katherine Cobb, Margaret Pierce, James Jones, Horace M Boyd, Carroll C. Johnson, and William Frank Taylor. Another boy, Herman Whitley, left this week for Wilmington to begin a course in welding.

The first colored girl to leave this city with the N. Y. A. was Evelyn Knight who went to Elizabeth City to take a course in machine shop work.

After graduation these young people will be placed in vital positions in the many war industries which are now in operation.

Law Called Inadequate On Job Discrimination

New York N.Y.

APR 1 5 1943

The Committee on Discrimination in Employment of the State War Council says that conferences with employers have been found necessary to combat discrimination. In a review of its first year of activity, the Committee points out that laws alone do not get action.

APR 1 5 1943

Progress in Negro employment was reported. A survey of several New York firms showed an 80 per cent increase in Negro hiring compared to a 50 per cent general personnel increase during the past year.

47h-1943

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Negro's Part In War Effort To Be Depicted In Radio Series

FEB 13 1943

How the American Negro is contributing to the war effort on both the battle and home fronts will be depicted in a new weekly radio series, "My People," to be heard over the Mutual network in cooperation with the Office of War Information, starting tonight 6 to 6:30 p.m. CWT (Atlanta's WATL will air the program here.)

Under the supervision of Dr. G. Lake Imes, distinguished Negro educator, editor, chaplain, and close associate of Booker T. Washington "My People" will feature guests from all walks of life.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Roland Hayes, noted Negro concert singer, The Lincoln University (Pa.) Chorus, Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, and two prominent Negro educators, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, and Dr. Fred D. Patterson of Tuskegee Institute will be on the February 13 broadcast.

The first program will also feature a dramatic tribute to Abraham Lincoln.

FEB 13 1943

George Zachary, chief of the OWI program service division will direct the programs.

Birmingham Post

Birmingham, Alabama

DETROIT FACES CAR, BUS CRISIS, 600 MEN NEEDED

FEB 15 1943

Transportation System Problems Almost Defy Solution

FEB 15 1943

By Brandt Ridgway

United Press Staff Correspondent

DETROIT, Feb. 15.—The Detroit transportation system, a major factor in keeping this most overburdened of all war production centers in operation, is in serious danger of breaking down unless 600 more employes are obtained soon to relieve regular workers, Fred A. Nolan, director of the street railway company said today.

Already, Negroes, bewildered ex-farm hands and willing but nervous women are lending a hand in the tremendous job of getting nearly one million people to and from their jobs daily, but more help will have to be forthcoming, Nolan warned.

Problem Defies Solution

Even in normal times transporting such a load would be a difficult job in a city where there are no subways, elevated lines or fast suburban trains, Nolan said. Now, with manpower acutely short, with gas rationing causing an increase in the passenger load daily the problem almost defies solution.

Nolan said he was afraid the situation would get worse before it gets better. He emphasized that the Government wants farm hands to go back to their agricultural jobs and, that new employes will be more difficult to obtain because of the recent Manpower Commission ruling which in effect freezes workers in their present work.

"Our passenger load has increased 50 per cent over a year ago but we cancel an average of 100 bus and street car runs every weekday morning because of the manpower shortage," he said. "That is why some people are left standing on a corner for half an hour at a time."

FEB 15 1943

20 Per Cent Negro

The company has taken unprecedented measures to solve the manpower problem. About 20 per cent of the operating personnel is Negro.

Nolan said Negroes handle the buses with as much pride as if they were liveried chauffers. The pay is good, too—$1.00 an hour with all the overtime they want at time and a half. Street car operators and conductors receive 90 cents an hour. There are 290 women conductors.

No women bus drivers have been hired yet, although two are in training. Nolan said he hoped the public would react favorably to women drivers.

The ex-farm hands have the most trouble. Many openly confess to passengers that they would rather be back plowing furrows than trying to get around on the city's spider-web street layout. Two street cars have gotten lost since the first of the year and nearly every day some bus driver makes a wrong turn and takes his passengers off the beaten path. It is common for a driver to admit to a passenger that he can't find a certain street.

"I've just been in town three days and I'm going by the map," is a stock answer to inquiries.

Nolan said he hated to think what would happen if the Office of Defense Transportation effect plans for cutting off 10 to 20 per cent of rolling stock.

"We eliminated 25 million bus miles and added it to street car mileage last year, but we can't do much more," he said.

The city has 906 street cars—127 of them salvaged from storage after the war began. There are 2200 buses, all fast moving machines that weave swiftly through traffic. Although they seat only 21 passengers, they often carry as many as 50.

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Workers Needed At Pearl Harbor Bomber Plant

FEB 13 1943

Employment Is Termed Vital To National Defense

FEB 13 1943

Over sixteen hundred skilled and unskilled jobs are open to Negro workers at Pearl Harbor, and all applicants, between the ages of 18 and 62 regardless of his draft status are urged to accept this employment which is so vital to the defense program. The acceptance of qualified workers for positions at the Pearl Harbor Naval Base is given priority over all other Federal recruitment programs.

The base pay for skilled workers is $1.08 per hour and eighty-two cents per hour for unskilled workers. Time and one-half time will be paid for all over time over forty hours per week. Workers with higher degrees of skill will be paid more, and all appointees will be credited with eight hours per day

on leaving the west coast for Honolulu.

FEB 13 1943

Information concerning these job may be obtained from the U. S. Civil Service Commission in the New Post Office and the Atlanta Urban League, Room 400, 239 Auburn Avenue, N.E.

The Atlanta Urban League will continue to remain open every night this month until eight o'clock so that all interested persons may register for work with the Bell Aircraft Company. All women, whether employed or unemployed, are especially urged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Intelligent Use Of All Workers Is Liberal Plea

FEB 9 - 1943

Best Workers Of All Races Will Be Kept After War

By ALVIN E. WHITE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—In a special research report by the American Management association, the question of the Negro worker has been thoroughly analyzed by personnel director and management experts, with a view toward the employment and integration of the Negro in industry. Privately printed and circulated, the report is a frank and open discussion involving questions which have baffled many government agencies.

FEB 9 - 1943

Arriving at a 10-point summary the AMA finds that there should be mutual cooperation between employe and employer. The report points out that Negroes can and have been trained for occupations requiring all levels of skill, as the lists of jobs on which colored men and women are now working indicates; the program of Negro integration requires, first, a firm declaration of company policy; personnel managers now know there is as much danger in not dealing with the problem of the Negro worker as there is in dealing with it ineptly; both the CIO and the AFL are officially committed to the policy of non-discrimination; successful integration of colored workers is predicated on a planned program of selection, induction, training and upgrading. intelligent use of the service of federal, state and local agencies as a source of selected Negro applicants and strategic placement of colored manpower in the plant will yield a substantial dollars and cents return to industry.

RAP TRAINING BARRIERS

Pointing out the limitations in training for Negroes in some southern states the report indicates there is now a considerable reservoir of skilled Negro labor, only a small fraction of which is being utilized in appropriate categories. It is estimated that 5,389,000 colored persons were gainfully employed in 1940. However, many of the men and women were on jobs far below what their actual or potential abilities would warrant.

In April, 1940, these employed Negroes made up 10.7 per cent of the work force of the country. Of the total of unemployed at that time, Negroes constituted 12.5 per cent. In June, 1942, the bureau of employment security indicated that "over 500,000 Negroes who should be utilized for war production are now idle because of the discriminatory hiring practices of war industries."

Making a strong plea for Negro women, the survey states: "Since the draft draws no color line and since large numbers of colored men have enlisted in the armed forces, the Negro woman as an industrial worker must come in for an increasing share of attention."

Discussing the future employment of Negroes, the report praises colored workers, who themselves by virtue of their performance and attitudes have won encouraging victories over tradition and prejudice.

"We must bear in mind that, for every step forward, the road back is twice as long and as hard. The Negro is surely plagued by such thoughts as these; 'Shall I be the first to go when the war is won?' 'Must I return to the jobs to which traditions has so long held me bound?'

The statement above 'After the war management is going to keep the best workers—Negro or white. Workers will not be kept for sentimental reason,' is thus significant for its implications. It gives assurance that a man's record of service shall be the determining factor in his retention on the payroll—not the color of his skin. It is, in fact, a pledge of management's good faith—a pledge that the efforts to consolidate the Negro's position and make him a more productive member of industry will not be relaxed."

Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal

February 7, 1943

WAR JOB APPLICATIONS ARE TRICKLING IN HERE

Thousands Of Men Needed For Farm, Industrial Work

DRAFT DEFERMENT CITED

Men are wanted—thousands of men, for the farms and for vital war industry, E. M. Norment, district supervisor of the United States Employment Service, said yesterday.

"We can use all the white production labor we can obtain for Memphis plants," Mr. Norment said. "These men must be between 18 and 45 and draft deferred. The jobs will pay from 65 to 78 cents an hour."

Chance To Get In War Work

Mr. Norment went on to say that men in nonessential industries especially were wanted and they should register at 122 Union. "Those persons of draft age, with children, have the chance to shift to war work now and should do so immediately if they wish to be deferred for military services. Few yet have applied," he added.

"I can place literally thousands of men in draft-exempt farm

OVER

work," he said. "We need farm day laborers and hundreds of families to go to farms in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas. I have been sending out 50 to 75 negro farm workers every week to Florida sugar plantations at 30 cents an hour. I can place 1000 to 1500 more. MidSouth farmers also are calling for help every day."

Farm labor should apply to 815 Arkansas, near the Harahan Bridge.

Shipyards Need Men

In addition, R. G. Williams, of the Kaiser Shipyards at Richmond, Calif., is sending out about 100 men a day to work in the shipyards and said yesterday he could use thousands of men. On these jobs, helpers and students are paid 95 cents an hour and craftsmen are paid $1.20 an hour. Mr. Williams is interviewing applicants at 195 South Second.

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Two thousand common laborers also are wanted on a large war project at Kingsport, Tenn., and an interviewer for these jobs also is on duty at 195 South Second. Fifty cents an hour will be paid either for white or negro laborers, with time and a half for overtime. Free transportation will be furnished to Kingsport. Low-cost heated barracks and restaurants are located on the site. Trains will leave Monday and Tuesday nights for Kingsport.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

TRAINING CLASSES FOR WOMEN TO START SOON

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PORTSMOUTH--The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has informed the Young Men's Civic Organization of this city that the conditions which barred the employment of colored women at the Naval Ammunition Depot are "in the process of correction" and that "qualified colored applicants will be given consideration for employment at an early date."

Compaints were recently registered with the FEPC concerning the refusal of personnel officers to employ colored women at the Naval Ammunition Depot because there were no separate toilet facilities there for race women.

Jan 2, 1943

These women were not allowed to work, despite the fact they were fully qualified and were sent to the depot from the labor board of the Norfolk Navy Yard.

The Young Men's Civic Organization in its complaint to the FEPC cited several cases of discrimination practiced at the Naval Ammunition Depot. The FEPC informed the organization by letter that its investigation revealed that this discriminatory practice would be discontinued.

JAN 2 1943

PLAN CLASSES

Meanwhile, it was learned that training classes for colored women will be started at Norcom High School "after the first of the year." This training will qualify women to be employed at the local government plants as trainee helpers.

Women wishing to enroll in the proposed classes may register or obtain further information at the Federal Employment Agency, Green and King streets, Portsmouth.

With practices of discrimination gradually being wiped out of federal war plants, it is expected that hundreds of colored women will be employed on the local production lines.

CORRECTED

JAN 2 - 1943

Following is the contents of a letter received by the Young Men's Civic Organization from George M. Johnson, assistant executive secretary of the FEPC:

"This is in further reference to your letter of October 22, 1942, in which you presented the complaints of Mrs. Arcola Shaffer, 1037 South street, Mrs. Lessie M. S. Harris, 1113 County street, Miss Mattie B. Scott, 832 Glasgow street, and Clarine Scott, 400 Green street, Portsmouth, Virginia, that they were unable to secure employment at the Naval Ammunition Depot because of their race.

"We are pleased to inform you that the Navy Department has reported to us that the conditions about which you complained are in process of correction and that the above named persons and other qualified colored applicants will be given consideration for employment at an early date."

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Peoples Voice
New York. N. Y.

OWI Adds New Employees

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The addition of two Negroes to the staff of the Special Services Division, Bureau of Intelligence, Office of War Information, was announced last week. They are Hylan Lewis, professor of social science at Talladega College, Ala., and Lewis W. Jones, research associate and instructor at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

FEB 1 3 1943

The Worker
New York. N. Y.

End Jim Crow Label On Sun Yard Ships

FEB 1 4 1943

FEB 1 4 1943

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(Special to The Worker)

CHESTER, Pa.—The ships that are sliding down the ways of Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock do not carry the Jim Crow label that the Pew family intended.

Out of the 32,000 workers in Sun Shipyards some 9,000 are now Negroes, but instead of being segregated in a separate yard, as Mr. Pew announced last May they would be, you can find Negro workers building ships side by side with white workers throughout the huge Sun Plant.

How did the change come about? The answer lies in something stronger and bigger than Mr. Pew—the war.

Let us go back a bit to last spring. There was a lot of pressure on Mr. Pew to hire Negroes in his Sun Ship domain on the Delaware River. The pressure came from the Negro people and from many other quarters, from the labor movement, from the FEPC and from the fact that labor was getting short.

PLANNED SEGREGATION

Mr. Pew responded. He announced on May 27, with considerable fanfare, that Sun Ship would hire 9,000 Negro workers. But these were to be segregated in a new, separate yard, to be known as No. 4.

FEB 1 4 1943

Wide criticism greeted this Pew plan, for its Jim Crow feature. Among other things, the charge was made that Mr. Pew, boss of the Republican reactionaries, was camouflaging himself as a benefactor of the Negro people for the purpose of keeping the Negro vote in line for the Pennsylvania Republican, anti-New Deal column, notorious for its defeatist approach to the war.

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What has happened during eights months of the war to the Pew plan?

Last spring, Sun Shipyards had about 20,000 workers, of whom about 2,000 were Negroes, employed as laborers, helpers, maintenance and other unskilled jobs in the three yards.

Today, out of the 9,000 Negroes in the entire plant, **more than half are working in the original three yards.**

These 4,600 men are working there for the first time as welders, shipfitters, and in other skills, along with white workers.

Less than half of all Negroes are working in the new yard, No. 4, which was supposed to be the Jim Crow yard; there are white workers there, too, although the bulk of the men are Negroes.

Under pressure of enlarging the Sun Yards to 32,000 employes Mr. Pew was forced to compromise his Jim Crow plan.

FEB 1 4 1943

What better way could there be of celebrating than to intensify the struggle to make Mr. Pew abandon his Jim Crow plan in principle, as he has already been forced to do, in part, in practice?

Then Negro and white workers would be spread evenly throughout the plant, in regard to needs and skills, not in regard to color and prejudice and Pew's political plans to sabotage the war effort.

Already the experience of white and Negro workers in the same jobs is breaking down old conceptions. White foremen welcome Negro workers for their ability to make ships. Spokesmen for the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, which Mr. Pew is still fighting in the courts, told **The Worker** they will continue their successful struggle against Jim Crow in Sun Ship.

FEB 1 4 1943

"Despite the fact that Sun Ship has not announced a formal change in its official policy of a Jim Crow yard, the actual results today," said Sarah Tullen, Communist Party organizer for Chester, "'are a mixed yard' that is a great achievement for the whole war effort."

Another achievement to be noted is that approximately 200 Negro women are working now in Sun Ship, not only in the offices, but also as welders, machinists, draftsmen and other production jobs.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Langston Univ. President To Manpower Body

JAN 3 1943

LANGSTON, Okla., Jan. 28—Dr. G. L. Harrison, president of Langston university, has been appointed as consultant in the professional and technical training division, bureau of training, War Manpower commission, effective as of January 5, for an indefinite period.

47A

In a letter to Dr. Harrison explaining his appointment, Paul V. McNutt, manpower commissioner, said, "During this period, your services will be without compensation from the United States.

"However, you will be reimbursed for actual and necessary traveling expenses in accordance with standard government regulations and you will be allowed $10 per diem, in lieu of subsistence, when you are away from your official headquarters, Langston, on official business connected with the War Manpower commission."

Asheville N. C. [illegible]
February 17, 1943

NEGROES TO BE GIVEN TRAINING IN WAR WORK

47A

The first Western North Carolina class to train negroes for war production will open today at Lee Edwards high school. It is sponsored by the state department of public instruction.

Included in the course are ship nomenclature, mould loft work, burning and shearing, making templates, constructing midship section of ship, and other related subjects. Trainees completing the course are taken on as shipfitter helpers at accepted rate of pay.

Anyone desiring information regarding the program should apply to Frank Y. Blanton at Lee Edwards high school or the U. S. Employment service office in city hall.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Training Workers

There was a dearth of trained workers when this country got into the war. How great was the shortage is indicated in the report of the Alabama Department of Education that since July 1, 1941, its division of vocational education has recruited, trained and placed in war industries more than 60,000 persons.

MAR 6 - 1943

In normal times, Alabama has only around 125,000 workers in manufacturing industries. The training program, therefore, was equal to training half of the normal number of workers in the state's industry. The size of the job is emphasized by that fact.

There is still a reservoir of labor in the state, however, from which additional trained workers could be drawn. It contains unskilled Negro workers, women and older men beyond the age of military service. The training program still has work to do.

47h-1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Raps Jim Crow Policy In Nassau Plane Plants

ROCKVILLE CENTER, N. Y., March 21.—Prosecution in Federal and State courts faces war production plants in Nassau and Suffolk counties refusing to employ Negro workers. That was what Edward L. Carter, Jr., labor discrimination representative of the State War Council declared at a mass meeting of the Negro people held here at the Second Baptist Church.

War Council officials have been negotiating with company heads for more than a year to eliminate all discrimination in the employment of workers, Carter asserted. But the negotiations have met with failure in most cases, he stated, and a firmer approach to the problem is now contemplated.

The mass meeting, which was one of the steps now being taken by the Negro people of Nassau County to mobilize all the win-the-war forces to end racial discrimination, was presided over by Mr. Ernest Van Purnell, prominent Negro leader of this community, who declared at the meeting that:

"Our people are fighting and dying on battlefronts all over the world, yet here on the home front they are denied the right to earn a living in a war plant."

After the meeting, Carter conferred with a number of Negro workers who charged they had been denied employment at Nassau war production plants, despite their qualifications. Carter declared that, upon substantiation of the charges through examination of company files, he would institute a "show-cause" order on the companies as to the reason for the denial of the jobs.

MAR 22 1943

WAIT FOR JOBS

In a survey of the Rockville Center Negro community, conducted by a committee headed by Mr. Purnell, it was found that out of 1,000 people, more than 100 were anxious to take jobs in war production plants.

But the Nassau war plants, Sperry, Republic, Grumman, Ranger, employing close to 50,000 workers, have hired only a tiny fraction of the Negro workers, it is pointed out by leaders of the CIO here, who have been attempting to put an end to the practice of racial discrimination. Token hirings have taken place, but obviously only for the purpose of showing an adherence to the letter of the law and that is all.

MAR 22 1943

Three methods are used to keep Negro workers out of the war plants. The first of these is the application for employment, whereby many are disqualified by a lack of educational requirements, which are not essential for the work required. The second is a mechanical aptitude test, which has no relationship to the type of work in the war plants, and which the personnel departments of the plants utilize to eliminate applicants they do not want. Many Negro applicants are automatically eliminated at this point, due to their unfamiliarity with some of the questions, since out here the Negro people have had perforce up till now only the most menial of laboring and household jobs. Others who have felt that they passed the tests have been told they failed. When they have asked for their corrected tests they have been denied access to them.

MAR 22 1943

The third method used is that of outright refusal to hire Negro workers who have completed a six-to-twelve-week course in the training schools set up by the companies for training workers who have successfully passed the mechanical aptitude tests.

NEED WORKERS

This racial discrimination exists despite the urgent need by Sperry, Republic Aviation and Grumman Aircraft for workers to man their machines. Sperry, which has, for many years had an anti - Negro, anti-Jewish bias, recently changed from a three-shift eight-hour production day to two nine-and-one-half-hour shifts, because it did not have enough workers to man its machines. In addition, machines have been removed by the government because there are not enough workers to man them. This has taken place, despite the fact that there are more than 150 Negro clearers and building maintenance men within the plant itself who are anxious to go on the production lines, and hundreds more in the various communities who want to work.

MAR 22 1943

At both Republic and Grumman the workers are on 10 and 11 hour shifts, with many working Sundays, as a result of which plant efficiency is naturally lower than could be achieved if a three-shift, eight-hour day were in force.

To eliminate racial discrimination, the organizations of the Negro people and the CIO in Nassau and Suffolk counties propose the following program:

1—Preliminary classes to familiarize applicants with mechanical terms.

2—Giving of reasons by the personnel departments of the various companies as to why they refuse to hire, with an appeal from their decisions available.

3—Hiring of all who complete training school courses without discrimination, immediately upon completion of courses.

4—Utilization of all Negro cleaners and building maintenance men in the plants who wish to shift to the production line. Their places to be taken by older men and women, who are capable only of such work.

5—A campaign of recruitment of Negro workers in the Negro communities of Nassau and Suffolk counties.

MAR 22 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGROES ASSAIL KNOX AND MORGENTHAU FOR RACIAL STAND ON JOBS

MAR 22 1943

The resignations of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau were demanded yesterday by the National Negro council if they fail to end closed shop discrimination against Negro civil service workers in the navy yards and the bureau of engraving.

MAR 22 194

The council, backed by the Chicago Committee of 1,000, at a mass meeting in the Metropolitan Community church, 4100 South Park way, adopted a resolution declaring the secretaries continue to approve the closed shop policies of the AFL metal trades unions and printers' union which have denied membership or promotions to skilled positions.

Sen. Wayland Brooks was praised by the Negroes for his support of nondiscriminatory legislation covering labor practices.

MAR 22 194

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

One of Every Four War Workers Will Be a Woman, Says P. V. McNutt, Who Is Head of War Manpower Commission

"Soon one out of every four workers in American war production industries will be a woman," War Manpower Chairman Paul V. McNutt announced today.

Four million women are now working in war plants, out of a total war labor force of 17,500,000 he said.

To meet 1943 war production goals, the number of women workers must increase, Mr. McNutt stated, until, by the end of the year, they will be filling almost 30 percent of all war production jobs. By that time it is expected that 6,000,000 women will be in war work.

"Women will play an even greater role, numerically and proportionately in the essential civilian trades and services which are necessary to maintain the war time economy. Here they are replacing men called to the armed services and those needed in the heaviest industrial jobs which women do not have the strength to fill."

JAN 29 1943

Aircraft Shows Rise

"Women are already being used in such traditionally male jobs as gas station attendants, taxicab and delivery truck drivers, butchers, mail carriers, and even construuction laborers. This trend will increase until by the end of the year as many as 45 per cent of the workers in these home front jobs will be women."

"In the direct war industries the proportion of women workers is rising rapidly," Mr. McNutt said.

In aircraft, the percentage of women workers rose from less than 5 per cent of total employment in 1940 to 17 per cent in September, 1942. By the end of next year, it is expected that there will be more women than men working in the industry.

The war industries employing the largest proportion of women workers in September are: electrical machinery with 36 percent women employees; communications equipment with 48 percent women; scientific and technical instruments, 34 percent, electrical equipment, 27 percent, small-arms ammunition, 35 percent, other ammunition 28 percent chemicals and allied industries 23 percent, rubber products 33 percent, and fire arms 22 percent.

Even in a heavy industry, such as ordnance, 19 percent of the workers are women. In the manufacture of guns of over 60 calibre, and tanks, both of which involve heavy metal work, the proportion of women workers is nine percent and 7 percent respectively. In the iron and steel industry itself, 9 percent of the labor force is made up of women.

Shipbuilding has held to the all-male tradition longer than any other war industry. Even here, however, there has been an influx of women workers in recent months, particularly in the government Navy Yards. At present only 3 percent of the owrkers in the industry are women, but this is expected to rise rapidly in the next few months. For example, one Alabama shipbuilding firm plans to employ as many as 1,000 women welders.

Mr. McNutt pointed out that the proportion of women in any industry varies widely from place to place. The degree to which women are used, he explained, depends on the degree of labor shortage in the area. Where the male labor supply is nearing exhaustion, industry will be willing to try women in more and more jobs for which only men would formerly have been considered. As the need has increased he said, women have demonstrated their ability to fill atmost any kind of job even including the so-called heavy manual jobs.

Examples of unusual work being done by women, as reported by the U. S. Employment Service offices during recent weeks follow:

At an Army proving ground an 18-year-old girl operates a 15-ton crane and an all-women crew fires and cleans a 90-millimeter and anti-aircraft gun. More than a thousand women are replacing men here in all types of war material — tanks, machine guns, trucks, and aircraft cannon.

Women guards are watching for fires and accidents at one aircraft plant and have been trained in jui jitsu in order to be able to deal with saboteurs.

JAN 29 1943

Unusual Work

In Arizona and Colorado mines, women are employed as ore-sorters, machine greasers and cleaners, aerial-team operators and sledgers. In one mine women wield an 8-pound sledge, above ground, of course.

The making of plaster molds for dies, an operation so precise that the slightest variation means a ruined job, is handled expertly by women with previous experience as artists, sculptors and pottery makers.

At least one woman—a former pianist—is operating a milling machine to shape impulse blades for steam turbines on our rapidly growing fleet of merchant ships.

Gyro-horizons and direction-indicators, instruments necessary for safe, accurate navigation of our army aircraft are so delicate that all work must be done in washed-air, ressure-controlled rooms. Women have proved themselves especially adaptable for this kind of work.

Two young women who were members of the clerical force of a large railroad are now working as crossing tenders for the same company.

Four women are operating giant overhead travelling cranes in a steel mill. JAN 29 1943

A Western railroad is employing women as engine oilers and wipers, turn table operators and hostlers' helpers.

A new saw-mill in New England is "manned" entirely by women. Automatic saws and special machinery to lift and haul heavy timber have been installed as a safety measure.

Two 20-year-old girls are gunners in an ordnance factory. It's their job to test 45 caliber ammunition as it rolls off the production line.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

IN AN EFFORT TO BOOST NEGRO MORALE the OWI is distributing 2,000,000 copies of a booklet entitled "Negroes and the War." Lavishly illustrated, it describes what American Negroes are doing in agriculture, industry, and the armed services, outlines progress made by Negroes in all fields during recent years, and refers to the achievements of outstanding Negro citizens. In addition, it discusses what an American victory will mean to Negroes and what they have to lose if the Axis triumphs. The OWI has done an intelligent and sincere job, and it is not its fault that other government departments persist in tearing down the edifice it is trying to build. The latest example of sabotage to come to light is the army's undermining of its much-advertised program for training Negro pilots and other air-force personnel. Unable to make any headway against prejudice, Judge William H. Hastie has resigned as civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, charging that the air force has not wanted Negro personnel from the beginning and that it is influenced by "wholly unscientific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacities and aptitudes." More than two years ago, Judge Hastie recalls, a plan for a segregated training center at Tuskegee was submitted to him. His detailed objections were ignored, and since then no projects affecting Negroes have been referred to him by the air command. Meanwhile, he says, Negro volunteers for the ground forces have been organized in "aviation squadrons (separate)" "without any specific military duties but with odd jobs of common labor the characteristic assignment." While attitudes like this persist, the best efforts of the OWI can hardly be expected to bear much fruit. FEB 6 - 1943

No Discrimination Used In Selection Of Factory Workers

Pittsburgh Courier
—Pittsburgh, PA.

FEB 20 1943

Plant Spirit Serves As Model For Entire Country to Follow

NEW BRIGHTON, Minn., Feb. 18—No American war plant producing ammunition has Negroes in as many diversified occupations as the Twin Cities Ordnance Plant operated by the Federal Cartridge Corporation at New Brighton, a suburb of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.

Early in the development of the huge Twin Cities Ardnance Plant, Charles L. Horn, president of Federal Cartridge Corporation, made the statement that there would be absolutely no racial discrimination in the selection of employees for the plant. It has been carried out both in letter and spirit. This vast enterprise is a model for the entire country in this respect. FEB 20 1943

OCCUPATIONS VARIED

Negroes are now working side by side with their fellow-citizens of many other nationalities in virtually all departments within the plant. They are occupied as administrative assistants, department heads, engineers, foremen, supervisors, maintenance men, accountants, stenographers, machine operators, machinists helpers, nurses, millwrights, inspectors, move-men, greasers and oilers, custodians, sweepers, matrons and car-washers.

Opportunities for special training in technical schols are open to Negro employees showing special skills and aptitudes. Advancements are as available to deserving Negroes as to all other workers. Thus they find added incentive to perform their assignments to the limit of their abilities.

Negro employees are to be found holding positions with prominent groups within the operational structure of the Twin Cities Ordnance Plant. Among these are the Labor - Management Committee; the Safety Committee; and the Taxpayers' Committee which has attracted national recognition because of its unique nature and functions.

NEWMAN HEADS PERSONNEL FEB 20 1943

The Negro personnel section of the Industrial Relations division of this plant is virtually a pioneer in American industry. Headed by Cecil Newman, publisher of Negro newspapers in Minneapolis and St. Paul, this section has been active since the first Negro employee was hired. Mr. Newman, a recognized leader among the people of his race, has worked in close cooperation with the plant management to develop the Negro personnel program, and to formulate its policies. FEB 20 1943

One of the basic rules stringently observed by the Negro personnel section is to hire only those applicants who have been established residents of the Twin Cities area for a period of six months or longer.

Doors Opened Wide To Women Workers After 'Pearl Harbor'

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEB 6 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 4—As the world's foremost maker of communications equipment, the Western Electric company began employing women in its plants before the invention of the telephone, the manufacture of which formed 95 per cent of the company's peacetime activity. Pearl Harbor literally made of the company an "Arsenal of Communications," and its doors have opened wide to thousands of additional women workers who came to fill the breech created on the production front by men entering the Armed Forces.

Western Electric was one of the first large manufacturers to hire and train women for the production of vital wartime communications equipment and its list of jobs now performed by women is one of the most varied to be found in industry. FEB 6 1943

CITY WITHIN A CITY

In the company's several plants women serve the war effort as welders and riveters, engineers and doctors, guards, crane operators, truck drivers, foundry helpers, electric platers, electric testers and inspectors, millwrights and drill press operators—a lady locksmith.

At the company's largest plant where many thousands of employes inhabit a veritable city within a city of northern New Jersey—the number of women on the payroll has increased 150 per cent since January 1, 1942. In this plant well over half of the production army are women. Many who never worked in a factory before have become highly efficient producers. They are doing their bit to knock out the Axis powers—and doing it amazingly well.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MECHANIC PROMOTED AT TUSKEGEE 2-6-43

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Feb. 4-Mrs. Edith Reesee Wilson, first woman mechanic to be employed at the Tuskegee Army Flying school, has been promoted to mechanical helper according to Major William G. Williams, Sub-Depot Commander.

Mrs. Wilson is a former teacher in the Antenga County

Training school and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Alabama State Teachers' college, Montgomery. Her husband, Private Wesley C. Wilson, is stationed at the flying school, as an outstanding member of the band. He is also a graduate of Alabama State Teachers' college and formerly was bandmaster at Alabama Reform school, Mt. Meigs. Mrs. Wilson is the daughter of R. G. Reesee of South Ripley street, Montgomery.

Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.

TWO SKILLED WORKERS REFUSED BY USES

MAR 18 1943

Fort Worth, Texas—Refusal of the U.S. Employment Office here to permit the registration of two Negro applicants for skilled employment was protested this week to the War Manpower Commission Placement Bureau in Washington, D. C. by the NAACP. MAR 18 1943

Both applicants Mrs. Demaris V. Alston and J. Henry Alston are Ft. Worth school teachers. Mr. Alston is a World War veteran and holds a master of arts degree. He charges that he was required to use a jim-crow side entrance at the employment office and was told that the only jobs open for Negroes were common labor on railroads or construction projects. MAR 18 1943

Mrs. Alston is a mathematics teacher and states she was told at the USES that Negroes are not considered for skilled or technical jobs.

Need for such workers has been widely advertised at the Consolidated the Globe and the North American Aircraft companies which have large plants in and near Ft. Worth.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

King County Airport Calls Race Men and Women

●● We don't care what they are — Jewish, Negro or whatnot — just so long as they can do the job. Of course there are some restrictions. We prefer deferred men and men with dependents.

The Northwest Enterprise wishes to assure its readers that all advertiseemnts for employment are epersonally investiagted. We recommend the King County Air—Port. See their ad page

47h-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

THE WOMEN

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES BEING GIVEN COLORED PEOPLE BY INTRODUCTION OF WOMEN INTO INDUSTRY

JAN 9 1943

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

AMONG the numerous startling and amazing changes that have been wrought by the effects of the war, there are none that stand out more prominently than the new status of the colored women. They have been literally catapulted into war industry, they have supplanted white women in menial tasks, and they have been enabled to almost write their own tickets for domestic work. These changes should bring about a transformation in the economic lives of the colored people in America and at the same time enrich the women in information and understanding of the problems facing their people.

Mr. Bibb

Only a few years ago the Susan B. Anthony Amendment gave women the right of suffrage and the colored women have taken an active, if not an inspirational part, in politics. They have made surprising progress and have made themselves felt in no small sense. They have evidenced a surprising facility for machine politics but have not surged to the front in shaping policies and correcting iniquitous systems that have for so long a time contaminated and corrupted our poltical endeavors.

WON SPURS IN BEAUTY BUSINESS

In business the women have done remarkably well with their monopoly on "beauty culture." They have made themselves independent in many instances and have undoubtedly proven that they could do business. But never before have they been so intermingled into basic industry as now. They have a splendid opportunity to acquaint themselves as to means and methods of the great American industrial systems. They also are being given the chance of virtually doubling the family income and to build up a more substantial stabilization for their race.

SHORTAGE of manpower has placed our women in clerical positions as well as in the plants and shops. They can now witness how the offices of big business operate as well as how the wheels of industry turn.

JOBS OFFER CHANCE TO HELP RACE

JAN 9 - 1943

The women are being given a golden opportunity to amass practical knowledge whereby the means and methods of destroying our traditional poverty can be achieved. If these opportunities are seized upon and utilized, untold benefits will accrue to the benighted race of colored Americans. Not only are financial opportunities being opened up but women are now being fortunately placed in position to more intelligently marshal the welfare of their families. The plight of minorities is being revealed to them and with understanding they can influence the entire social structure of their people as never before.

WHILE criticism of the public conduct of our women is becoming much too frequent, still there is hope that they will adjust themselves gracefully under the withering fire of condemnation that is being heaped upon them. It is to be expected that our women will have to learn by trial and error just how to adjust themselves into their new importance on the American scene. This writer believes that when they are sufficiently impressed that the destiny of their people is now within their keeping, that they will measure up and deport themselves without reproach. Our women must be made fully cognizant that the ultimate destiny of their people depends upon their handling of their new jobs with sensible grace and decorum.

WAR WILL NOT ALTER ROLES

Despite the fact that women have taken unto themselves the arduous tasks, that heretofore were assumed by men, notwithstanding the fact that the earning power of the weaker sex will now make them more independent, nevertheless they will remain as the tender inspirational sources for rugged mankind. They will continue to be the mothers of men and the homemakers for the American people. They will continue to rock the cradle and rule the world. The tender guiding, inspirational influence of women will be developed into a more vital force than ever before, because women now will be motivated not only by maternal instinct but by their intimate knowledge of the facts of life. Despite the multitude of woes that beset us, yet there are so many benefits that are enuring to us that sometimes we are led to believe that this is truly "God's War."

IF WE are to be benefitted economically, poltically, and spiritually by the unfortunate events that have caused such an upheaval, it surely seems that there is a "Divinity That Shapes Our Ends." Not only the valour of our soldiers, nor the stupendous efforts of our male war workers but the new role of our women seem inspired by heaven. Mothers and wives are now being given a new perspective, a new pattern for living is revealed and with the acquisition of money, it must follow that untold benefits must redound to us.

The women of our race have a superlative opportunity to win a place in the sun for us and we will be derelict in duties and remiss in our tasks if we do not guide and inspire them to aid us, the men, in uplifting ourselves out of the economic, social and political grooves that now imprison us. The women hold the cards that can help to win the game.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

WMC Takes Over Hiring Of Workers

FEB 5 - 1943

Assumes Control In 32 'Shortage' Sections; Labor Freezing Near

Mobile Affected

FEB 5 1943

Stringent Rules Framed To Prevent Migration From Plant To Plant

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4—(AP)—Chairman Paul V. McNutt announced tonight that the War Manpower Commission would take control of the hiring of labor in shortage areas, a step expected to freeze millions of persons to war industries or other tasks deemed essential.

Under the system, McNutt said, the Manpower Commission agencies approved by it will furnish workers to employers on a priority system based on the importance of the employer in the war effort. New barriers will be raised to prevent workers shifting from vital occupations to less essential ones, and limits will be placed on the authority of employers to fire workers assigned to them through the Manpower Commission.

The controls, it was announced, will go into effect "as soon as practicable" in "critical labor shortage areas" scattered throughout the country. The latest list of such critical areas, issued today, names 32 localities, but officials emphasized that the list may be changed before the hiring control takes effect.

Officials said that many other areas, where shortages threaten, can be brought under similar controls in the discretion of the WMC's 12 regional directors.

While provision was made for adjustment to local conditions, the McNutt order directed that no hiring be done in the shortage area without WMC supervision and approval, except:

Exceptions Listed

1. That done by small establishments, which "in general" are defined as non-manufacturing establishments employing less than 25 persons and manufacturing firms employing less than eight persons.

2. The hiring of domestic servants or "casual" (temporary) employes.

3. Hiring by State, county or local governments, unless they "voluntarily request" that they be put under WMC regulations.

The principal hiring operations will be handled through the U. S. Employment Service, but the order directed "maximum utilization" of "all existing hiring channels" which would operate under WMC policy regulations.

Specifically mentioned as such "channels" were private employer, labor organizations, professional organizations, schools, technical institutions and government agencies.

FEB 5 - 1943

The hiring agencies are directed to:

1. Refer workers to jobs which "will utilize their skills most effectively in the war effort."

2. "Accord priority to employers engaged in essential activities, in the order of the urgency of their activities. . . ."

3. Place workers in jobs "on the basis of their qualifications" and without discrimination as to race, color, creed, sex, national origin or, except as required by law, citizenship."

Must Get Release

The order stipulated that persons "engaged or most recently engaged in essential activities can be employed only by an employer for work in another essential activity." Even then they can only be employes when released by the previous employer or a WMC representative.

On the other hand, it guaranteed that "insofar as it will not interfere with the effective prosecution of the war."

1. "No worker shall be obliged to accept or continue in employment which is not suitable."

2. "No employer shall be obliged to retain in his employ a worker who is incompetent. . . or who fails to conform to reasonable shop rules or standards of conduct."

FEB 5 - 1943

This paragraph implied, officials said, that employers would be prevented from "arbitrarily" firing workers referred to them by the WMC agencies. Such controls, the officials explained, were necessary to make the hiring program effective.

McNutt today published a new list designating 32 cities as areas of critical labor shortage.

Bath, Maine; Beaumont, Texas; Portsmouth, N. H.; Somerville, N. J.; and Sterling, Ill., appeared as new additions while Elizabeth City, N. C.; Newport, R. I., and Sturgeon Bay, Wis., which had been on the last list, were dropped.

FEB 5 1943

Mobile Included

Other cities listed were Akron and Dayton, Ohio; Baltimore and Elkton, Md.; Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain and Waterbury, Conn.; Brunswick and Macon, Ga.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Charleston, S. C.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Detroit, Mich.; Hampton Roads, Va.; Las Vegas, Nev.; Manitowoc, Wis.; Mobile, Ala.; Ogden, Utah; Panama City, Fla.; Pascagoula, Miss.; Portland, Ore.; San Diego, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; Springfield, Mass.; Washington, D. C., and Wichita, Kansas.

It was indicated that names of other cities probably would be added to the list later, and that some might be dropped as their labor problems become less acute.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Labor World
January 8, 1943

AWARDED SCROLL OF ACHIEVEMENT

William Y. Bell Jr. Praised for Work in Negro Defense Work

W. Y. Bell Jr., executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, recently was chosen by Eta Omega, graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, as having made the outstanding record of achievement among Negroes in Atlanta for 1942.

An achievement scroll was awarded with appropriate ceremonies at a public meeting, which also saw J. H. Calhoun Jr., local business man, recognized as the outstanding Omega man in the fraternity's honor roll contest. Bell does not belong to the fraternity.

Made in connection with the fraternity's observance of "National Negro Achievement Week," Bell's award was based upon his leadership of the successful effort to secure defense training for Negroes.

"He has also been active in other phases of Negro life in connection with his duties as an official of the Urban League, as well as other civic and social movements," the citation read.

This year's winner of the citizen's award is the son of Bishop W. Y. Bell, Georgia C. M. E. Church prelate who holds a Ph. D. from Yale.

After finishing Clark High School here, Bell did his college work at Northwestern University, received his Master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh on a National Urban League fellowship, and did two years of graduate study in the Howard University school of religion.

He has done casework in Chicago and was general secretary of the Washington Community Center in Hamilton, Ohio. He returned to Atlanta two years ago after a lapse of nine years to take the Urban League position.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

The Fight for More Jobs

JAN 9 - 194

"THE NARROWING of job opportunities for Negroes is not due altogether to race, but in a large measure to economic conditions," declared John J. Corson, director of the Bureau of Employment Security, in an address at the 52d annual conference of Tuskegee Institute recently. He was urging Negroes to take advantage of expanding employment opportunities to prove their skills and capacities so that they can hold a larger margin of jobs after the war.

"Now that the war is on and manpower is in great demand," he continued, "competition for jobs among various groups is relaxed."

Dr. William Haber of the War Manpower Commission said that by the end of 1943 there will be 20,000,000 men and women in war industries. Emphasizing the importance of training and full utilization of available manpower, Dr. Haber said that more than 13,000,000 men and women will be trained for war jobs in 1943 and that 3,000,000 workers may have to be taken out of less essential industries and put into essential war work so our 80-billion-dollar war production program can be achieved. Another speaker, Kendall Weisiger, War Manpower Commission consultant, advised: "The important job is to build good-will and attack your pertinent problems one by one through well-organized committees of distinguished Negro leadership. Among concessions you should first seek to obtain from the white South are economic or job opportunities, equal educational opportunities and equal hospital facilities."

JAN 9 - 194

In a measure, these pertinent statements contain basically sound advice for a minority race seeking its rightful place in America's economic pattern. There is a growing concern among sober thinking leaders that much of our enlightened efforts to win better conditions for the Negro will go for naught unless we do as Mr. Corson advises. There is no denial of the fact that there are many jobs being opened both in private industry and in war plants that have in former times been consistently denied the Negro. With doors partly open and others thrown completely open, there is no excuse for Negroes not taking advantage of the new opportunities. Yet, that is what is happening. Right here in New York City certain kinds of jobs are going begging to be filled. The competition for these jobs in private business has been partly dissipated because of the war. It is to our advantage that we grab every opportunity to fill jobs of all kinds with competent Negro workers and see that the workers who get the jobs make good, so that we can hold some of our gains after the war is over. As Mr. Corson pointed out, "This is the time for Negroes to take advantage of employment opportunities to prove their skills and capabilities so as to be in demand for a larger margin of jobs after the war."

JAN 9 - 1943

The building of good-will, as noted by Mr. Weisiger, is more difficult, since the Negro faces in many places a deep hostility based on color which even the war has not erased. Naturally, we would like to see everything adjusted in a spirit of good-fellowship and mutual interests, but it takes two sides to settle differences, and both must be willing or the work is not worthy of the effort. There could be, however, a better organization of our leadership. There seems to be too much duplication of purpose as well as effort by our established agencies and a lack of harmony among them that does neither the agencies nor the people they are working for much good. He seems not to be familiar with the fact that Negro leadership in the South has for years carried on a vigorous fight to wring economic and job opportunities, equal educational opportunities and equal hospital facilities from the white South with little success. That is where Bilbo, Talmadge, Dixon, Wilkerson and the others come in.

We fervently hope that of the 13,000,000 men and women who will be trained for war jobs in 1943, as pointed out by Dr. Haber, at least a representative percentage will be Negroes, and that of the 20,000,000 men and women in war industries he speaks about for 1943, at least 15 per cent will be colored. That would enable the Negro to take further advantage of expanding employment opportunities and give them the chance to prove their skills and capabilities that they might hold a larger margin of jobs after the war.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
January 10, 194

Fullest Use of Negro Manpower In War Service Demanded

Washington, D. C.—Asserting that "the Negro views the imminence of compulsory service with real alarm because it threatens to freeze him at his present employment level, which is substantially below his ability," Leslie Perry, administrative assistant of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, submitted a statement to the Pepper Sub-committee on Senate Resolution 291 providing for a full investigation of the manpower resources of the nation and their most advantageous use in the war effort.

The NAACP expressed "deep and vital" concern with the implications involved in proposed compulsory service legislation before there has been a maximum utilization of existing manpower and suggested certain patterns and areas of discrimination based upon race and color which it urged the committee to explore to their logical conclusion with the view to providing remedial measures.

"The whole history of job training for defense work in the south," said the NAACP, "shows the willingness to capitulate to local and sectional prejudices."

The statement directed attention to the relegating to and restricting of Negroes to subordinate services from which qualified and educable Negroes are not upgraded.

The statement further charged that industry has so far failed to give even token employment to Negro women at a time when white women have been widely integrated into the training and employment picture.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

LABOR

By FERDINAND SMITH

National Secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO; Co-Chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee of Greater N. Y.

FEB 13 1943

In this war for national liberation, the Negro people must win their right NOW to produce material with which to achieve victory. They must have the right to sail the ships, fly the planes, run the trains—they must be allowed to take their rightful place in American life.

FEB 13 1943

President Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 8802 issued at the time when our nation is waging a war of survival against the foes of freedom, is comparable to the great Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln in the year 1863. Now as then, the purpose of this proclamation is to achieve the maximum unity of the American people, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, to effectively defeat the enemy.

President Roosevelt has ordered discrimination to cease in war industries because of color, race, creed or national origin. The railroad industry is the key war industry of our country; yet the Negro railroad workers find the discrimination-as-usual policy, the order of the day.

Joseph B. Eastman, Director of the Office of Defense Transportation estimates that by Spring of 1943 a shortage of 500,000 railroad workers will exist. There is a tremendous reservoir of Negro manpower that must be tapped.

Mr. Paul V. McNutt, Director of the War Manpower Commission has appealed for an end to anti-Negro discrimination in employment on the railroads in an address before a meeting of the railroad division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He said, "Prejudice and discrimination which limit the use of Negroes must go down. Were the employment practices of many railroads to be applied to American industry as a whole, millions of American Negroes, instead of turning out the ships, shells and planes and guns America needs for victory, would be immobilized for the duration of the war."

What will it mean to the Negro workers if thousands upon thousands of them are immobilized for the duration of the war because of narrow prejudices practiced by the railroad companies? This attitude means that the railroads are not yet convinced that in a people's war all the people must take part.

FEB 13 1943

This is a people's war and must be fought and won by ALL the people. The fight on the production front is an integral part of our whole fight for victory—the railroad industry is an extremely important part of the production front and if the railroad companies continue their business-as-usual policy, our transportation system will be seriously impaired. What would follow that? Much valuable time will be lost in getting the war materials to our allies and to our own fighting men and women.

FEB 13 1943

Negro men and women are increasingly working side by side with white men and women to produce the much needed war materials—Negro men and women must be allowed to deliver these materials. And they must be allowed to do it NOW!!!

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice ordered a hearing on discrimination in the railroad industry which was to have taken place on January 25-26 and 27, 1943. On January 11, 1943, Mr. Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission issued an order 'indefinitely postponing' these hearings. This followed upon the heels of the defeat of the Anti-poll-tax bill, which was brought to a vote in the 77th Congress after gathering dust in the cubby-holes of Congress for many years.

The labor movement is the natural ally of the Negro people and all minorities in their struggle for recognition as Americans. Today, the role of the labor movement must be an offensive against the defeatist, anti-administration, lose-the-war spokesmen who have intensified their organization for 'white supremacy', lynch terror, denial of franchise to 4,000,000 Negro men and women and 6,000,000 white men and women, and who, through their vicious pro-fascist propaganda are attempting to introduce Hitler ideology into the American scene.

Today, the labor movement must intensify its offensive for a strengthened and effective Fair Employment Practice Committee. Just as the Congress of Industrial Organizations has set into motion a committee on discrimination under its national banner, so must the American Federation of Labor set into motion a similar committee. Such a powerful combination of unified labor, with the aid of Negro and white church, fraternal, civic and community organizations can guarantee democracy.

Milton Starr Leaves OWI

Pittsburgh Courier

MAY 15 194

WASHINGTON, May 13—(ANP)—Milton Starr, adviser on minority affairs in the Office of War Information, and target for considerable complaint from Negro groups resigned last week to take a job with the War Production Board as a dollar-a-year man.

Gardner Cowles, director of OWI's domestic branch, after some hesitance, confirmed the report that Starr had gone but said that he would still co-operate with the propaganda agency in his spare time.

MAY 15 1943

47h-1943

The Worker
New York, N. Y

1300 Alabama Negro Women Fight Job Bias in Plane Plant

APR 8 1943

By Rob F. Hall

(Special to The Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Thirteen hundred Negro citizens—ninety per cent of them women—joined in a demand to the Bechtel-McCone-Parson Airplane modification plant that the company immediately discontinue its policy of refusing to hire Negro women in the local plant and urged an increase in the number of Negro men employed.

The action came at a mass meeting at the great Sixteenth Street Baptist Church here, called by the Citizens' Committee for Jobs and Job Training.

APR 11 1943

Bechtel-McCone-Parsons, a subsidiary of a company by the same name operating in California, has almost completed construction of a plant which will employ 22,000 workers, of which about 13,000 will be women. Although one-third of the population of Jefferson County is Negro, the company has so far instituted training for less than a hundred Negroes, all of them men.

Resolutions passed unanimously by the enthusiastic women included:

1—To President Roosevelt, asking for his intervention to remove discriminatory policies, and urging specifically action in the BMP plant.

2—To the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons management, for the immediate inclusion of Negro women in the training program.

3—To War Manpower Commissioner McNutt, urging action to guarantee the employment of Negro women, the expansion of facilities for training Negro men; and calling for the elimination of discrimination in the local USES.

4—To the local U. S. Employment Service and Vocational Training authorities, demanding equitable facilities for Negro men and women.

ALL MANPOWER

In a keynote speech, Dr. James E. Jackson, secretary of the Citizens Committee, declared: "If we are to achieve a speedy victory in this war and reduce to a minimum the cost in lives, then we must now, immediately, without further delay, make full use of all available resources and manpower, in this favorable moment for taking the offensive in a second front against the Axis."

APR 11 1943

Support of the white population of Jefferson County was voiced by W. O. Hare, state secretary of the American Federation of Labor, Mike Ross, international representative of the Mine Mill and Smelter Workers Union, representing the CIO, and Mrs. Pauline Dobbs, president of the Victory Youth Council.

Included among the speakers and sponsors of the meeting were representatives of every important organization of the Negro people in this area, the SNYC, the NAACP, the Elks, Masons, Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, the YWCA, and leading Church figures of every denomination.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Katherine Gay, employed at the Solar Manufacturing Corp., represented the 2000 Solar employes when they received the Army-Navy E from Sgt. William J. Caldwell, wounded Guadalcanal hero, at the Bayonne, N. J. plant.

APR 15 1943

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

NEGRO MOTORMEN, CONDUCTORS, CONDUCTORETTES LOS ANGELES ST. RY

FEB 10 1943

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Twenty-five Negro workers of the Los Angeles Railway Company have already been upgraded from menial jobs to mechanical and other departments. All applicants for motorman, conductor, conductorette and mechanical jobs with LARY must register at the U. S. Employment Service, 11th and Flower streets. NOWHERE ELSE!

FEB 10 1943

Negro motormen, conductors and conductorettes will be hired and upgraded by the Los Angeles Railway Company, it was announced here Monday by the Negro Victory Committee.

FEB 10 1943

An achievement equalling the Victory body's mass march of 2,000 Negro women on the United States Employment Service last year, LARY'S capitulation followed conferences between Victory Committee chairman, Rev. Clayton D. Russell, the railway president, T. B. Haris, and spokesman for the railyway AFL union in the offices of Guy T. Nunn, in the minorities division of the War Manpawer Commission last Friday.

FEB 10 1943

This meeting grew out of the giant mass meetings of the Negro people called by the Negro Victory Committee with the cooperation of the railway unions.

Preliminary to Friday's climatic conflab, Victory Committee and union representatives met hard-hitting Government man Guy Nunn in undisclosed sessions Monday, aJn. 18. Here detailed plans were laid for the final conference with the company.

Guardian
Boston, Mass

Investigator's Records Find Them Among Best And Efficient Producers

MAY 6 1943

Several shipyards where thousands of Negro workers are employed in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities were cited this week by a Senate investigating committee among "the best and most efficient producers" of Liberty Ships and naval vessels.

Given special commendation on performance records by the Special Committee Investigating the National Defense Program, of which Senator Harry S. Truman, is chairman were the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company of Virginia and its subsidiary, the North Carolina Shipbuilding Corporation of Wilmington, N. C.

MAY 6 1943

War Manpower Commission employment reports indicate that in November 1942, more than 8,200 Negroes were employed as machine operators, blacksmiths, painters, dismantlers, stage builders, riggers, bolters, drillers, slab benders, erectors, riveters and in a number of other skilled and semi-skilled capacities at the Newport News yards, and that more than 5,300 Negroes were employed in similar capacities by the North Carolina Shipbuilding Corporation. Negroes constituted 27.4 per cent of all employees in the Virginia yards and 29.8 in the North Carolina yard.

MAY 6 1943

Other yards discussed in the Shipbuilding and Shipping Report of the Truman Committee included the Richmond, Cal., yards of the Kaiser Company where more than 6,100 Negroes are employed as boilermakers, shipfitters, shipwrights, stage riggers, joiners, sheet metal workers and in other capacities; the Bethlehem Fairfield yards in Baltimore, Mr., where more than 6,200 Negroes are working in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities, and the Calofirnia Shipbuilding Corporation where hundreds of Negro workers assisted in the construction of the SS Booker T. Washington, first Liberty Ship named for a Negro. The SS George Washington Carver was recently launched at the Kaiser Richmond Yard No. 1, and the SS Frederick Douglass is now being built in the Bethlehem-Fairfield Yard.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Lt. Oxley Speaks To NAACP Youth

MAY 8 1943

Lt. Lawrence Oxley of the War Manpower Board addressed a meeting of the NAACP youth council in 12th Bapt. Church last Sunday afternoon.

Oxley is touring the New England States in the interest of colored workers, to see that they get a fair share of employment in the war industries Noting that gains have been made in several New England factories, he seemed pleased by the prospect of still greater opportunities for employment as young people become trained for skilled occupations.

MAY 8 1943

Oxley, a farmer resident of Boston, was an officer in World War No. 1.

Girls Placed As Inspectors In Buffalo Plant

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa

NEW YORK, July 29—(ANP)—Announcement this week by Acting Examiner in charge Edward Lawson of the New York regional office of the Fair Employment Practice committee (FEPC) that three girls had gone to work as government inspectors at the Curtiss-Wright plant in Buffalo, marked an important victory for FEPC. The girls, the first Negroes placed as Government inspectors in the plant, secured the posts only after intercession in their behalf by an FEPC representative.

As a result of the FEPC's work, four additional Negro girls have also been placed as Government inspectors at the Flexible corporation, a subsidiary of Curtiss-Wright.

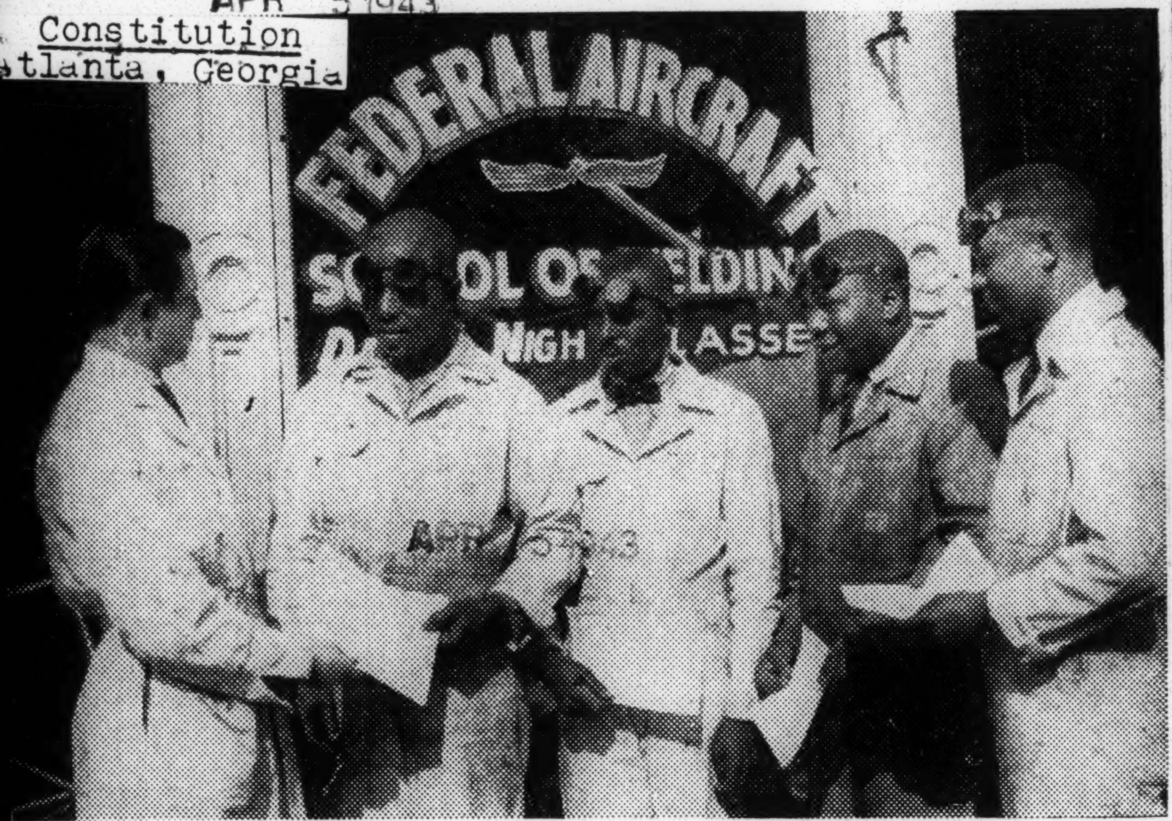
JUL 31 1943

The three Curtis-Wright inspectors, Bernice Plummer, Lucille Crawford and Rosalie Evege, were among the persons completing a 10-week training course at Burgard and technical high school in Buffalo early last spring.

First Graduate Welders Leave For High-Paying Defense Jobs!

APR 5 1943

Constitution
tlanta, Georgia



The above photograph shows the first group of graduates receiving their diplomas. With Oliver Bolding, instructor, they are (left to right) W. E. Johnson, J. L. Owens, Fred Jackson and James Hayes. These four men are leaving at once for New York to take high paying jobs in an aircraft plant. Jobs were secured for these men by the school two weeks before they graduated!

APR 5 1943

474

You Can Be the Next to Step Into a War Production Job in Aircraft Welding

Trained welders are in demand for hundreds of war production jobs all over the country. A short course in our school will qualify you for one of these jobs. Tuition rates are reasonable. It is to your advantage to ACT NOW.

5 1943

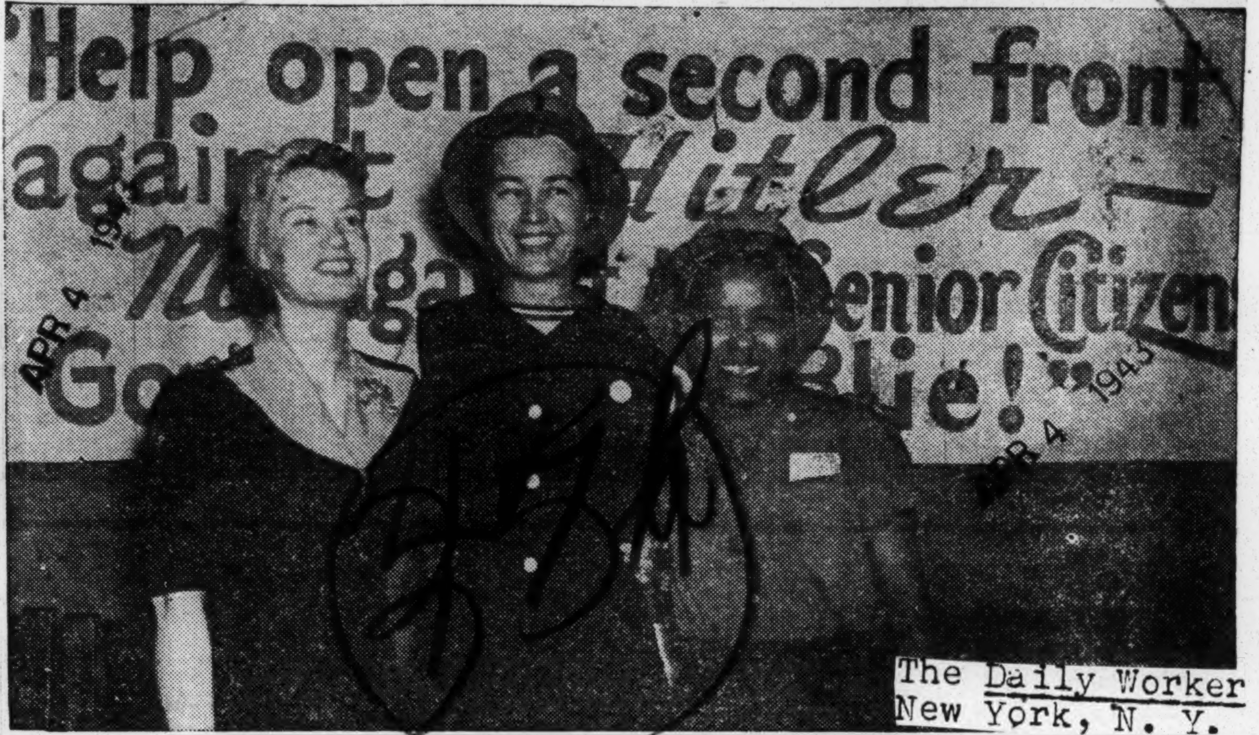
MEN and WOMEN are Needed!

Day and Night Classes

FEDERAL AIRCRAFT SCHOOL OF WELDING

166 Decatur St., S. E. APR 5 1943 Atlanta, Ga.

WOMEN SOLVE A SEATTLE SHIPYARD MANPOWER PROBLEM


'Help open a second front against Hitler
Senior Citizens
APR 4 1943
APR 4 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Three of the first women dispatched to shipyards in Seattle when the AFL Ship & Dry Dock Workers led the way in meeting a critical labor power problem in this war production area by dispatching women through their hiring halls. APR 4 1943

The women brushed off discrimination. White and Negro women work happily side by side. From left to right: Erdine Stallcop, who has been transferred from scaling to a sheet metal training course; Karen Falkenberg, leadwoman at Associated Shipyards, and Celeste Brooks, who also works at Associated. APR 4 1943

Said Hollis Matheny, union business agent: "The number one job of women scalers is the number one objective of the nation—winning the war against the Axis in the quickest possible time." APR 4 1943

The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Search for 'Miss Negro War Worker' Gets Going

APR 24 1943

Who is Miss Negro War Worker?

She will be chosen from among the thousands of Negro girls now employed in the war industries and will be presented in Madison Square Garden at the Negro Freedom Rally June 7, the committee sponsoring the meeting announced yesterday. The committee is at present contacting the personnel departments of several large plants, as well as trade unions and other organizations, in its search for the young lady, who will be given a $25 War Victory Bond at the rally.

474

The selection will be made on the basis of the girl's production record, her sale and purchase of war bonds and stamps, and general personal character.

Miss Dorothy Funn, secretary to the committee, stated that it would be pleased to receive the names of candidates from various industrial plants, churches, unions, clubs or any other organizations.

A group of judges from the members of the Peoples Committee, the Brooklyn Committee and the Negro Labor Victory Committee will decide. APR 24 1943

May 25 has been set as the deadline for entries to be received at the office of the Negro Freedom Rally Committee: Room 43, 67 W. 125th St.

Large blocks of tickets have already been distributed among church, union and fraternal organizations, the committee stated.

A call for volunteer actors to take part in a dramatic spectacle, "For This We Fight," by Langston Hughes, has been issued by Frank Griffin. Volunteers to appear in the cast, which will star Paul Robeson and Canada Lee, are urged to see Mr. Griffin at Room 43, 67 W. 125th St., evenings between 6 and 8 P. M.

Mobile, Ala. Register
September 9, 1943

Addsco Negro Workers To Be Guests At Show

474

All negro employes of Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company have been invited to bring their families to a show to be presented by the company at Hartwell Field Sunday night at 8 o'clock.

The show will be a repetition of the performance given last Sunday night for workers who participated in a month-long attendance contest between welders, burners, chippers and heaters. The presentation is composed of 15 acts, including singing, dancing, circus and vaudeville talent, all of which was recruited among the shipyard's employes.

Those attending the show will not be required to have tickets. Each worker who displays his badge at the gate may bring his entire family.

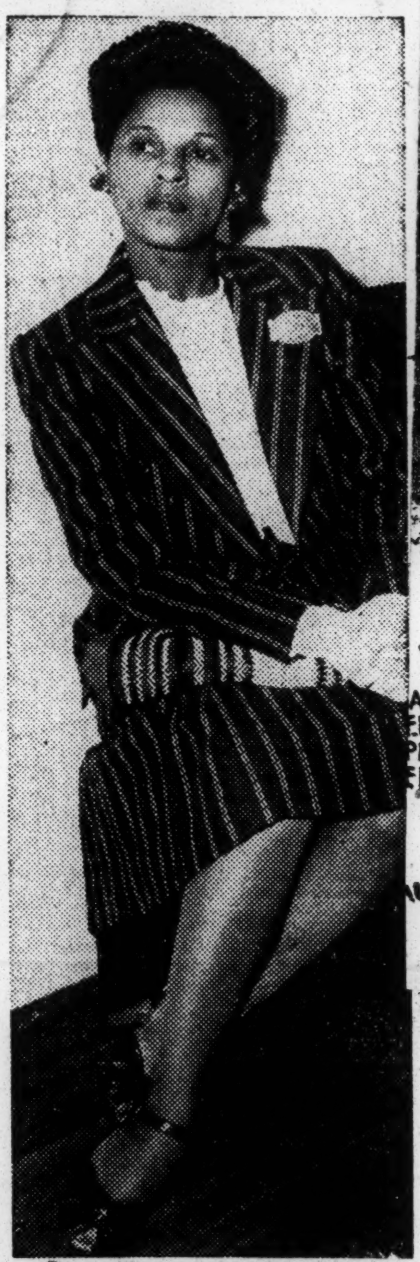
47h-1943

'MISS NEGRO WAR WORKER' ACCLAIMED

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

(Picture Story by Billy Rowe)

NEW YORK, June 10—Belle Calhoun, chief wire operator of the Lincoln Manufacturing company, was chosen "Miss Negro War Worker" after careful examination of the work and war activities record of candidates from many plants, factories and other defense establishments. She is considered typical of the Negro woman worker.



She was not specifically trained for the work she is now doing but faced all the bitterness of job discrimination "just working hard" for many years. When the time came for women workers to take over the jobs left vacant by men who were called into the service of the country, Miss Calhoun responded immediately, and since then has established a unique and enviable record.

JUN 12 1943

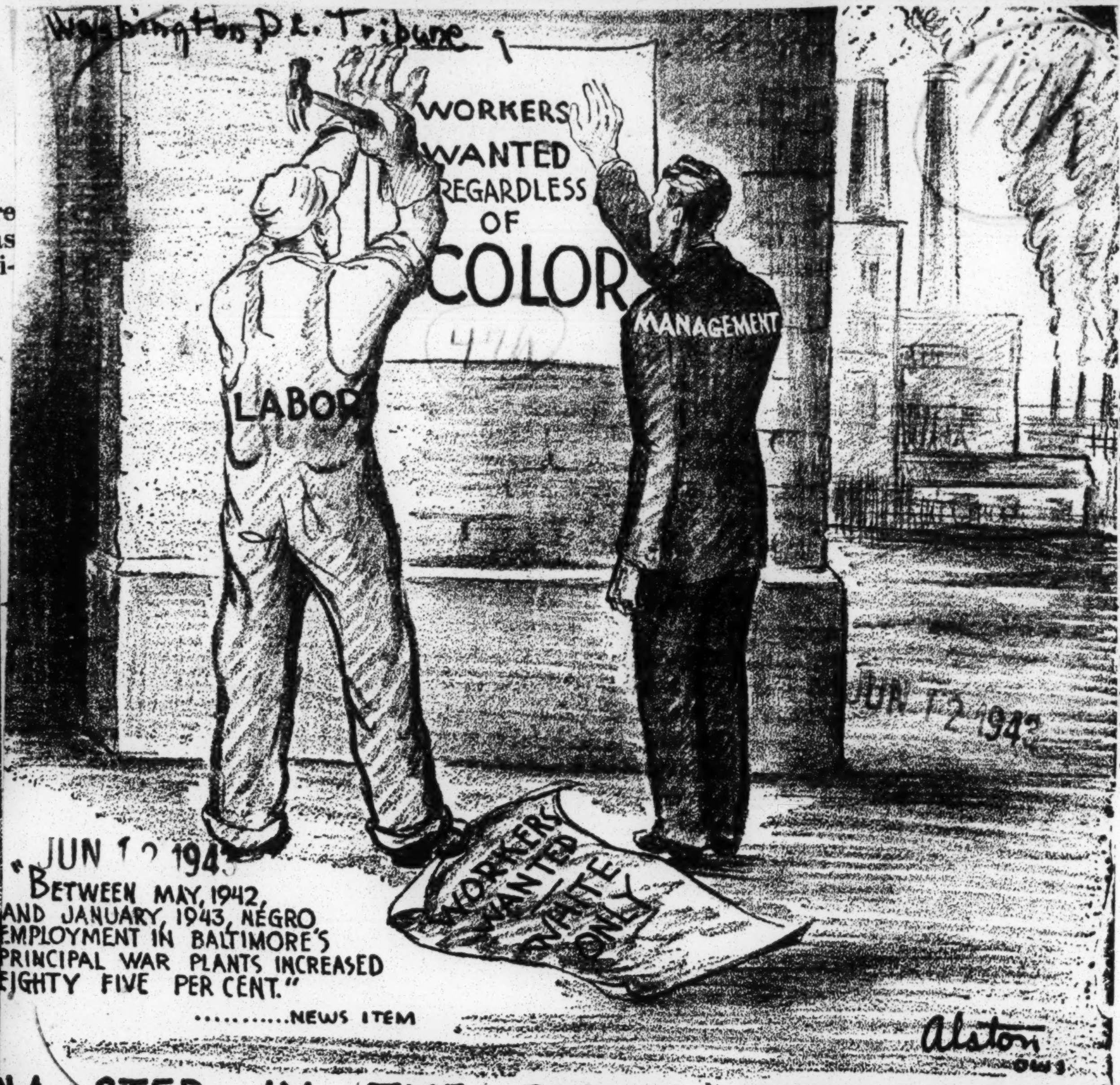
She is an example to all defense workers — men and women, Negro and white—in the matter of absenteeism. In fact, she has been neither absent nor late since she went to work for her present employer. Her record of bond purchases is astounding. She has already purchased her tenth bond.

For the excellence of her work and her contributions toward increasing production, she has been promoted to her present post of chief operator. Her wages have been steadily advanced by the company in recognition of this fact. She is a member of the labor management of her plant and in this capacity, according to her employer, H. Gould, has considerably according to her employer, H. Gould, has considerably aided in maintaining harmonious relations between management and labor, thereby guaranteeing uninterrupted production for the war.

JUN 12 1943

She is a shop steward of Local 36, Wire and Metal Workers' Union, CIO, and a leading force in her shop in promoting trade union organization in its finest sense.

Washington, D.C. Tribune


WORKERS WANTED REGARDLESS OF COLOR
LABOR
MANAGEMENT
WORKERS WANTED WHITE ONLY
"BETWEEN MAY, 1942, AND JANUARY, 1943, NEGRO EMPLOYMENT IN BALTIMORE'S PRINCIPAL WAR PLANTS INCREASED EIGHTY FIVE PER CENT."
..........NEWS ITEM
Alston
OWI

47h

JUN 12 1943

JUN 12 1943

"A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!!"

"A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIREC

Good Example

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

An interesting example of Negro-white coöperation in industry that has recently come to our attention is the one afforded by the Breslee Manufacturing Company in New York City. The company, which produces bomb-parachutes, life-raft sails, gun covers and other supplies for the armed forces, employs in its three plants some 1,000 workers, equally divided as to Negroes and whites. No segregation is practised in the shop: the two races work side by side in harmony, and are equally represented on the labor division of the company's labor-management committee.

JUL 26 1943

The reactionary Southerners—and Northerners—who blame the occurrence of race riots on the breakdown of segregation and the increased mingling of Negroes and whites under war conditions, should have a few things to learn from the successful experiments in coöperation of the Breslee workers. While the problem which Negroes and whites must solve in learning to live together in society is a complicated one, industrial relations offer an immediate basis for working out such a solution. The representation of Negroes on labor-management committees, in connection with intensive educational campaigns within the trade unions, by helping to establish harmony in industry, should go a long way toward improving conditions in society at large.

JUL 26 1943

47h

Miss Negro War Worker Represents New Woman

People's Voice New York, N.Y.

The new American Negro woman will be officially represented at the Negro Freedom Rally in Madison Square Garden next Monday night by Belle Calhoun, chosen last week as Miss Negro War Worker.

Mrs. Calhoun, chief wire operator of the Lincoln Manufacturing Company, was chosen only after careful study of the war and labor activities of candidates from a wide assortment of other war plants. She is considered as typical of Negro women in industry because she was not specially trained for her work; because she had never held an industrial job before the war, and because she has several male relatives serving in her country's armed forces.

Before employment at Lincoln, Mrs. Calhoun was a domestic worker, a beauty parlor operator, and a housewife. She faced, as do the majority of Negro women who want to participate in the war effort, persistent and discouraging discrimination. She was shut out of job possibilities on the basis of her color and denied job training opportunities.

At a press conference in the Hotel Theresa last Thursday, Mrs. Calhoun stated that she wanted to continue in her work after the war—if it is at all possible. Member of her plant's labor-management committee and shop steward of Local 36, Wire and Metal Workers' Union, CIO, Miss Negro War Worker feels that the future of the Negro must be allied with the Trade Union movement if it is to be a strong one.

Mrs. Calhoun will be presented with a $25 war bond at the Negro Freedom Rally, Monday, June 7, in recognition of her enthusiastic support of the war effort. She her self has purchased her tenth war bond. She is also a member of the AWVS and a strong supporter of the Harlem Servicemen's Center.

She is typical of most Negroes, who, though opposed to the Red Cross jim-crow bank, have nevertheless donated their money and their blood.

H. Gould, head of Lincoln, tol dthe press that Mrs. Calhoun is a strong force for high morale in the plant where Negroes and whites are employed on almost 50-50 basis. The committee responsible for her choice as Miss Negro War Worker felt that she is symbolic of the sincere effort of thousands of Negro women who want to help production for war and at the same time preserve their homes for the return of their men from the armed services. She is a member of a social club and Allen AME church in Jamaica.

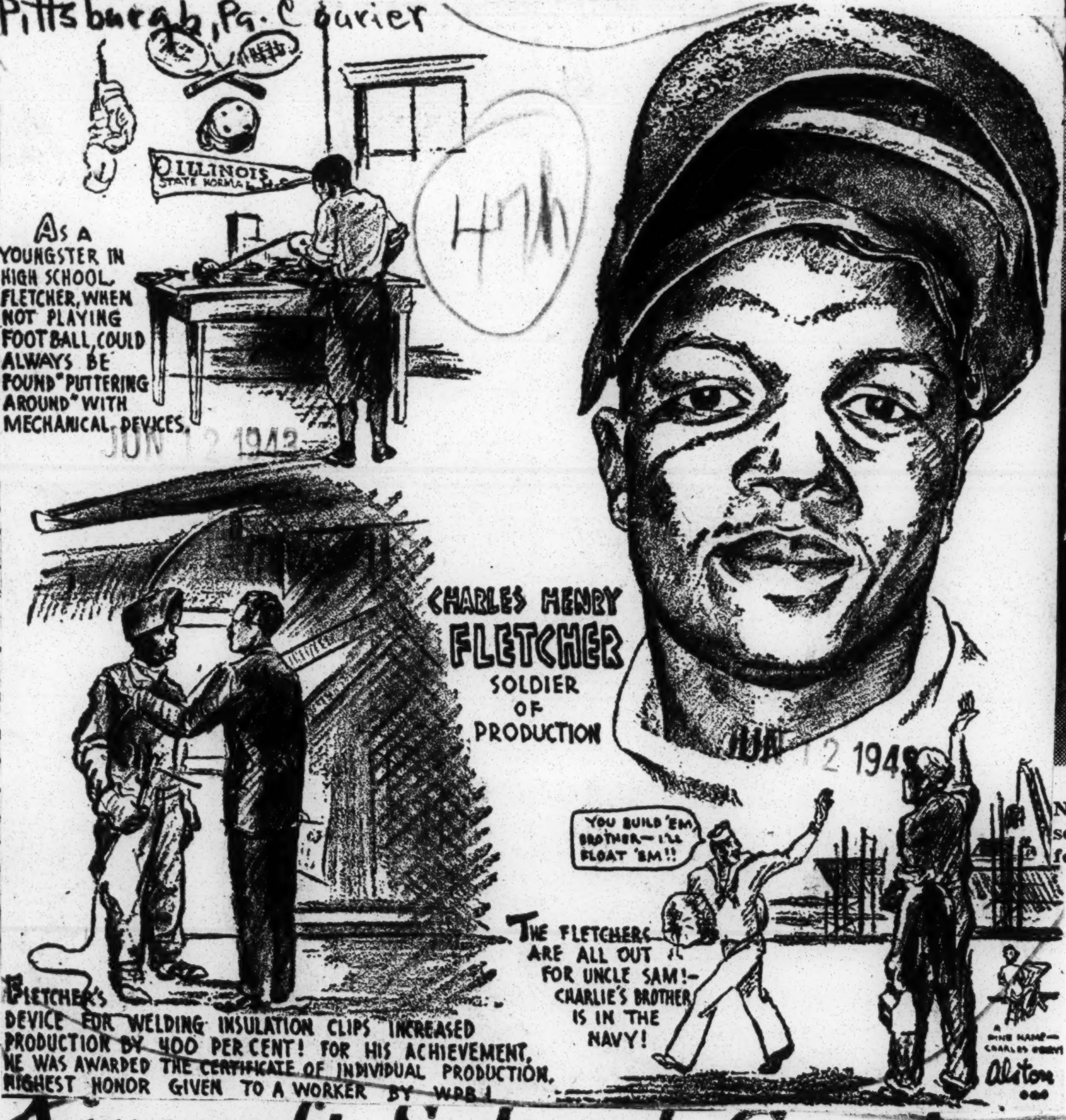
BELLE CALHOUN

The Color Guard

* * *

Charles Henry Fletcher

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier


ILLINOIS STATE NORMAL
AS A YOUNGSTER IN HIGH SCHOOL, FLETCHER, WHEN NOT PLAYING FOOTBALL, COULD ALWAYS BE FOUND "PUTTERING AROUND" WITH MECHANICAL DEVICES.
JUN 12 1943
4th
CHARLES HENRY FLETCHER SOLDIER OF PRODUCTION
JUN 12 1943
YOU BUILD 'EM BROTHER—I'LL FLOAT 'EM!!
FLETCHER'S DEVICE FOR WELDING INSULATION CLIPS INCREASED PRODUCTION BY 400 PER CENT! FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENT, HE WAS AWARDED THE CERTIFICATE OF INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTION, HIGHEST HONOR GIVEN TO A WORKER BY WPB!
THE FLETCHERS ARE ALL OUT FOR UNCLE SAM!—CHARLIE'S BROTHER IS IN THE NAVY!
Aliston

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW OPENINGS SEEN FOR RACE

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 2—Colored war workers in essential industries who can qualify will be admitted to occupancy to the over 200 vacancies at Morro Villa, located in Belvadere Gardens, a nearlby suburb, according to an official statement issued from the Los Angeles County Housing Authority.

Along with other eligibility qualifications, war workers must be employed within a given radius of the project. Already listed for applicants is a public list of industries thus located.

SEP 4 1943

America's answer
PRODUCTION

JUL 11 1943

47th

JUL 11 1943

The Worker, New York

It's our victory, whatever the color of our skins, that this young Negro girl is working for, as she sews parachutes on a power machine, somewhere in the State of Washington. (Photo by Office of War Information).

Aircraft School Graduates Getting Jobs At Bell Plant

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

According to information received today, a large proportion of the approximately two hundred and sixty graduates of Washington Aircraft School have already been placed with the Bell Aircraft Company and with other large aircraft companies in California, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Alabama and Maryland.

Individuals who have been prepared to enter semi-skilled work upon completion of the training course are demonstrating their ability to move into higher skills in industries where opportunity for employment has been given.

With an increasing need for prepared workers of the aircraft industry in this immediate area, officials of the Atlanta Urban League point out the increased importance of taking full advantage of the opportunities for training at the Washington Aircraft School.

Men and women already employed in other jobs can take advantage of the free training offered at the Washington Aircraft School during the followling shifts:—from 9:00 a. m., to 5:00 p. m.—day shift from 5:00 p. m., to 8:00 p. m., and 8:00 p. m. to 11:00 p m.—evening shifts. Applicants should register at the United States Employment Service, 191 Marietta Street; they are also urged to register with the Atlanta Urban League for free information.

47th

Hapeville, Ga. Statesman
November 18, 1943

INDUSTRIES INCREASE USE OF NEGRO WORKERS

Use of Negro Workers in the 485 large industries in North Carolina engaged in war and essential civilian production increased 102 per cent from July of 1942, to July of 1943, according to figures released yesterday by Dr. J. S. Dorton, State manpower director.

In July of 1942, 17,662 Negroes—or 6.8 per cent of the force of 259,014 workers—were employed in these 485 industries. In July of 1943, there were 35,754 Negroes—or 11.43 per cent of the force of 312,900 workers—employed in these same plants.

The increase in white workers was 14.9 per cent.

4th

47h-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Eases Manpower Shortage

ODT-3435
2830
THE DRIVER OF THIS VEHICLE IS REQUIRED TO OBSERVE ALL TRAFFIC LAWS

JAN 28 1943

DETROIT, Michigan—Mrs. Lois Wright, who is shown here is one of the first of Detroit's women bus drivers. She is smartly dressed in a uniform of powder blue consisting of trousers, jacket and jaunty cap—(IND.)

Inman, S. C., Times
February 4, 1943

DETROIT REPORT

(Orangeburg Times and Democrat)

The famous Willow Run bomber plant is far from peak production, says the War Production Board, which adds that bombers are being turned out and production is increasing although admitting that there "have been many disappointments" in connection with the huge plant.

The same agency reports that General Motors with 104 plants in 46 cities and 13 states, is "the largest producer of war materials in the country."

One of the difficulties in Detroit, says the OWI, has been the growth of the Negro population. "One cannot travel in Detroit without discovering tension between whites and Negroes," says the statement, which adds that "the Negroes' improved status is sometimes resented."

The influx of labor into Detroit has created problems that continue around the clock, presenting a "fantastic picture of wartime prosperity and social tensions." Despite the fact that the city is "very prosperous, it does not take easily to the strains on work or leisure."

United Program for Victory

"The Worker" N.Y. N.Y.

This inspiring program, a model for women's labor groups throughout America, was adopted at the Joint CIO-AFL Conference on "Women in War," held in Essex House, New York City, Feb. 2, under auspices of New York's Joint CIO-AFL Women's Civilian Defense Committee.

FEB 14 1943

Assembled here tonight are women from many factories and shops throughout the metropolitan area. We represent American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations ammunition workers, needle trade workers,, office workers, instrument makers, machine operators, technical workers, professional workers and member of trade union auxiliaries made up of wives, sisters and relatives of trade union men, Negro and white, working to help win this war. . . .

We realize that all that we hold dear, the very meaning and purpose of our lives, is at stake. **As women, we have the most to lose if the fascist axis should win.**

On this occasion, we would like to salute the women of our brave fighting allies—Britain, the Soviet Union and China, who for the past years have been giving dauntlessly of their energies and lives. . . .

FEB 14 1943

The Labor Movement of our great country, organized in millions, numbering large groups of women—has pledged itself to a Win-the-War program. . . . Its sons are donning uniforms, its daughters—overalls. Unions, in the first year of the war, led in solving the difficulties of conversion to war work; they trained their workers for new jobs, participated in setting up civilian defense activities and programs, lack of child care facilities. . . . It is not that we complain because we are not willing to sacrifice; we complain because there should be equality and sharing. . . . We are for sending food and necessities to our Allies and our armed forces—but we say let us democratically ration what is left. . . .

FEB 14 1943

There is need of immediate passage of a democratic tax bill which would place the greatest burden on those who can most afford to pay. Let us give more voice to labor in determining these questions. . . .

Waited Too Long

Another acute problem that makes more difficult the full participation of women in war work and civilian defense is the lack of real child care facilities for the children of working mothers. We say we have waited too long and done to little. These centers should be established, where needed, NOW.

FEB 14 1943

We welcome the formation of the Women's Defense Advisory Committee to the Industrial Commissioner in our State, and their position for the registration of women. . . . Our women are part of our nation's manpower. We must know where they are and what they can do. This will insure full use of everyone and will not necessitate the giving up of hard-won labor standards.

. . . There must be full opportunity given to Negro women of our country to participate completely in every phase of the war effort with entrance to all industries and occupations. . . .

We hail the Casablanca meeting. We pledge all support to a program of an offensive war and unconditional surrender. . . . In our fight for a free world we must guarantee that our free institutions and the progress made by our nation shall not be set back.

FEB 14 1943

We oppose very strongly any attempt to pass the so-called "Equal Rights Amendment" which would really nullify those very conditions that have been attained and that make it possible for women to fully participate in war production and the war effort. . . . Therefore, we must be ever vigilant and as working women pledge an increasing interest and participation in the legislative and political questions of the day.

. . . We call on all working women and wives of workers to join us. Organized labor will continue to lead to Victory.

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

WOMEN IN WAR

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON—For the first time in history, colored women are now being employed in skilled jobs in the Washington Navy Yard. Within recent months more than 300 specially trained machine workers and mechanics helpers have been given jobs there at wages averaging $45 per week, and more are being employed at the rate if 50 a month.

This development resulted from the efforts of the First National Youth Administration and the Project manager and staff of the NYA War Production training school at 1327 S Street, N W, Washington, D C. This school, now working on a 24-hour basis, offers free training in arc and gas welding, sheet metal work, aircraft riveting, drafting, clerical work, radio construction, small parts assembly, code receiving and sending, and in other jobs now in demand in the war production battle on the home front.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
November 22, 1943

More Negroes in Plants

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 22.—(AP)—Use of Negro workers in 485 large industries in North Carolina increased 102 per cent from July, 1942, to July, 1943, Dr. J. S. Dorton, state man power director, announced Monday.

One Leader to Another

"The Worker" N.Y. N.Y.

High point in AFL-CIO "Women in War" Conference in New York City, Feb. 2, came when Daisy George, Negro executive board member of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employes, AFL, presented Eleanor Roosevelt, guest of honor, with a copy of "Negro Caravan," autographed by all the Negro girls in the local.

—The Worker Photo

…gustine, Fla., Record
February 9, 1943

TRAINING IN ELECTRICAL SHOP

Colored women as well as men are preparing themselves for industry as skilled workers at Florida Normal's War Production Training School. Courses are geared to the war emergency, and diligent students can complete their work in 13 weeks, absolutely free. The courses which are designed to train persons now unemployed, or not in essential industries are now working on a 24-hour shift in order to accommodate the many applicants for training. The above picture shows the electrical shop in which valuable training is being given.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Women Do Skilled Work At Navy Yard

FEB 20 1943

NYA Training Found Valuable—Former Domestic Workers Now Earn $45 a Week

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18—For the first time in history, Negro women are now being employed in skilled jobs in the Washington Navy Yard. Within recent months more than 300 specially trained machine workers and mechanics helpers have been given jobs there at wages averaging $45 per week, and more are being employed at the rate of 50 a month.

This development resulted from the efforts of the National Youth Administration and the Project manager and staff of the NYA War Production training school at 1327 S street, N.W., Washington, D. C. This school, now working on a 24-hour basis, offers free training in arc and gas welding, sheet metal work, aircraft riveting, drafting, clerical work, radio construction, small parts assembly, code receiving and sending, and in other jobs now in demand in the war production battle on the home front.

FEB 20 1943

The school is open to youths of all races between the ages of 16 and 25, but because of Selective Service requirements and demands of the armed forces, most of its pupils are women. The average enrollment ranges from 500 to 550 and in addition to placing workers regularly in the Washington Navy Yard, the center has placed its graduates in war plants in such distant points as Miami, Ohio, Hartford, Conn., the Norfolk Navy Yard, in Virginia and the Philadelphia Navy Yard, as well as in ordnance plants throughout the country.

FEB 20 1943

The school is under the direction of J. P. Bond Jr., project manager, who was formerly in charge of the NYA program for Negroes in North Carolina. Mr. Bond is a trained educator, having taught for several years at A. and T. college, Greensboro, N. C., following his graduation from Howard university. He now has a staff of sixty persons with Edward R. Rodriguez as a personnel officer; Rudolph Jones, finance officer, and David Jefferson, operations officer.

Typical of the results achieved at the NYA War Production Training school is the case of Miss Juanita E. Cray, 20, of 226 59th street, N.E., Washington, who began her training in the machine shop in April, 1942. She completed her training in September of the same year and was placed in the Washington Navy Yard, where she is now earning $45 per week. She is a graduate of the Dunbar high school and prior to taking the NYA training she worked in domestic service.

FEB 20 1943

Hundreds of Negro women are taking advantage of technical training opportunities offered by the National Youth Administration. New employment oportunities are opening every day for women in industry. Their skills and a chance to work are helping to defeat the Axis.

Nashville, Tenn. [illegible]
February 9, 1943

150 Workers To Leave For Kingsport Project

Approximately 150 workmen are expected to leave tonight to report for work at the Kingsport Ordnance plant, according to the local office of the United States Employment Service.

Forty-five Negroes had been accepted this morning and the central office of the USES, which began interviewing white applicants early this afternoon, estimated that approximately 100 would be taken from that group to entrain for the project tonight. Forty-four men left last night to accept jobs as laborers on the construction project, the employment office stated.

Twenty-five hundred workmen are needed on the East Tennessee project for jobs that do not require skill.

Asheville, N. C., Citizen
February 10, 1943

NEGROES WILL GET TRAINING FOR WAR WORK

The first class for negro war workers will begin at Lee Edwards high school Wednesday, February 17, it was announced yesterday. It will be for 15 negro men who wish to learn ship's carpentry.

Negro men in fair physical condition and not subject to the draft are asked to report to offices of the U. S. employment service in city hall if they are interested in the course.

Earl Windley, who is now completing a vocational class in Sylva, will teach the course. All who successfully complete it will be given jobs in shipyards at good wages, it was announced.

2,500 Negroes Get WMC Job Courses

The Daily Worker
MAR 3 - 1943 New York, N. Y. -

Pre-employment training for war work is being given to nearly 2,500 colored persons in New York State each month in courses conducted by the United States Office of Education and the National Youth Administration, according to Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, Regional Director of the War Manpower Commission.

Mrs. Rosenberg said yesterday that in November, 1942, the enrollment of Negro trainees stood at 2,337, of which 338 were in National Youth Administration shops. In December it dropped slightly, to 2,289, of which 382 were NYA trainees. Figures for January, not yet compiled, are expected to show a marked increase.

In addition to the pre-employment trainees, a total of 517 Negro workers attended supplementary or "brush-up" courses in November and 568 were enrolled in such courses in December. Many of these have since been placed in war jobs through the United States Employment Service (now a unit of the War Manpower Commission) and cooperating agencies.

HOPES FOR MORE

In urging that a large number of qualified Negro workers seek war training, Mrs. Rosenberg expressed the hope that the percentage in training would continue to rise. The denial to Negro workers of opportunities in industrial plants in the past makes such training particularly necessary and valuable now, she said.

MAR 3 - 1943

In analyzing the December pre-employment training figures Mrs Rosenberg disclosed that of the 1,907 Negroes enrolled in pre-employment Office of Education classes, 351 studied aircraft sheet metal work, 896 took machine shop training and 91 learned electric welding. The remainder were given instruction in such work as ship… sheet metal, marine electrical wir… ng, ship welding, foundry, auto mechanics, gas welding, aircraft ma… chine shop, aircraft welding, air… craft engines, shipfitting, instrument making, power sewing, light assembly and pattern-making.

The largest number of Negro NYA trainees specialized in sheet metal work, with arc welding and machine shop training running second and third, respectively.

MAR 3 - 1943

For admission to the War Manpower Commission's training classes persons must be 18 years of age or over and must meet the physical requirements generally required by industry. To enter "brush-up" classes, applicants must be already employed in an occupation essential to war industries or to a closely-related occupation. Admission in all cases, is arranged through registration at a United States Employment Service office.

AN OPPORTUNITY; MAKE GOOD

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

During war time, minority groups often get consideration one way or another almost undreamed of in peace time. This is particularly true of Negroes in the present war. Des Moines is no exception to the rule for since we entered the war, many firms which heretofore never hired any Negroes, are doing so; some have hired additonal Negroes and in some instances in jobs they never had before.

Some of this change of heart is due to a desire to give the Negro better and more recognition; some to the shortage of labor.

47h-1943

She Changes From Domestic To A Well Paid War Worker

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FEB 21 1943

Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith

Twenty-year-old Miss Juanita E. Gray of 226 Fifty-ninth Street, Washington, D. C., was working as a domestic when she heard about the local NYA War Production and Training Center. With uncertain earnings which sometimes dropped as low as $4.50 a week, she decided to register for NYA training. Mrs. Lela M. Richmond and Mrs. Sadie M. Franklin enrolled her at the center.

Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith

Under the direction of Cecil M. Coles, NYA foreman, Miss Juanita E. Gray learns to operate a lathe machine at the Washington, D. C. NYA War Production and Training Center. This former domestic worker is one of hundreds of Negro women trained at this center.

FEB 21 1943

Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith

A full-fledged graduate from the NYA War Production and Training Center in Washington, D. C., Miss Juanita E. Gray, a former domestic worker, receives her certificate from J. P. Bond, Jr., project manager, while E. R. Rodriguez, youth personnel officer, looks on. Miss Gray was referred immediately to the Washington Navy Yard.

FEB 21 1943

Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith

Beginning as a helper at $4.56 a day in the Washington Navy Yard, Miss Juanita E. Gray, graduate-trainee of the NYA War Production and Training Center, now earns $45 a week. More than 300 NYA-trained Negro women are now working in the Washington Navy Yard and scores are being added monthly.

Increasing Numbers Of Female Workers Are Employed Daily

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS

DETROIT, April 22—Henry Ford, the great industrialist, who is known throughout the nation and the world because of his genius with motors and production plants, is perhaps better known to Detroiters as a humanitarian.

APR 24 1943

Of course, Detroiters are definitely conscious and appreciative of what Ford has done in the development of the automobile and what he is now doing in the matter of producing tanks and planes for the Allied Nations, but all that fails to obscure the part that he has played in providing employment and better working conditions for thousands who have obtained attractive employment and ideal working conditions under his city-sized River Rouge and Highland Park plants.

Every American citizen today realizes that the cost of living has greatly increased since Pearl Harbor. We know, too, that all are affected, and that higher wages and wider employment opportunities are the only salvation.

NO WOMEN BEFORE OUTBREAK OF WAR

Prior to the outbreak of World War No. 2 women were not employed at all by the Ford Motor company, but when Ford employees began to enter the armed services in large numbers, leaving more or less dependent women behind to bear the economic burdens, the policy at Ford's changed, almost overnight.

Today women are employed in practically every department of the Ford Motor company and no distinction is made between white and colored. Preference is given wives of former employees who are now in the armed services. Next in consideration are women who have received vocational war training.

WOMEN FIT INTO PROGRAM READILY

Last week the writer was privileged to spend several days at the Ford River Rouge plant. He was amazed to observe how splendidly women have fitted into the Ford program. Irrespective of race, women are now playing a great part in building airplane motors and tanks for the Allied Nations of the world under Henry Ford and as William H. Woodstock, superintendent of the new aluminum plant, puts it, "Women are as capable of making cylinder heads for planes as men, and that is true of our women generally, whether they be white or colored." B. R. Anderson, superintendent of the super-charger division, declares, "We are getting splendid results from women. Absenteeism is less and after they have been given a particular machine they take personal pride in it and regard it as a part of themselves."

FIFTY A DAY

Colored women are being employed in ever increasing numbers by the Ford Motor Company and are being integrated into practically all departments. They seem to be employed at the approximate rate of 50 per day.

APR 24 1943

Jesse Owens, who established three individual records in the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin, is now directing the personnel of colored employees at the Ford River Rouge plant. Assisting him are five other intelligent, courteous men and women: two interviewers, Walter A. Lewis and Lawrence Washington; one sociological administrator, Mrs. W. F. Ward; one labor negotiator, Russell Brown; and one clerk, Elbert Cooper. It will be remembered that Donald Marshall, veteran personnel director and Willis Ward who served with him are no longer on the scene. Mr. Marshall has been ill for quite some time and Mr. Ward is now in military service.

EARN GOOD WAGES

The departments where women are employed in considerable numbers are: New Steel foundry, New Alumnium foundry, Press Steel plant, Airplane plant, Spring and Upset Department and Motor Building.

Of the 90,000 employees at the Ford Motor company, more than 20,000 are Negroes. Ford holds more than four billion dollars worth of war contracts and is making almost, every type of mobile equipment used by the Allied Nations.

All Ford employees in the mechanical brackets are started at 85 cents per hour but after the third pay-day they begin receiving an increase. Sometimes within a year new employees earn as much as $1.75 per hour. Few workers who survive the probationary period receive less than $10 per day.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

And so today we have many new employment opportunities for colored women here in the Motor City, so often called the Arsenal of Democracy for the Allied Nations, but none to equal the opportunities provided by Henry Ford the humanitarian and industrialist. Surely we Detroiters are recognizing that minority groups too have an important role to play in this global struggle that should mark a new era—an era in which all mankind will live and work together as never before—an era in which color will not be the barrier that it was in these United States before Pearl Harbor.

Army-Navy "E" Flags For Excellence Fly Over Acipco Plants

Birmingham, Ala. News
March 25, 1943

Cast Iron Pipe Company Given Coveted Award At Special Ceremony

The Army and Navy symbol for excellence in production flies Thursday over the plants of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company in Birmingham.

The presentation was made Wednesday afternoon in the company's auditorium before a capacity gathering of workers and company representatives by Col. E. C. Bomar, chief of the Birmingham Ordnance District, who told the men and women of Acipco that while they cannot hope to equal in blood and suffering the sacrifices of the men at the front, they can equal their devotion to duty on the production line where the weapons of victory are being produced.

"The cost of keeping our freedom," Col. Bomar said, "will not be measured in money nor in time, but in American lives, and the boys who are fighting our battles in the jungles and swamps of the South Pacific and on the desert sands of Africa must have combat weapons, bigger, better, faster and more numerous than the Germans or Japs can muster."

W. D. Moore, president of the company, accepted the Army-Navy "E" on behalf of the company and pledged a continuation of the performance record that made the award possible.

Don C. Williams, a member of Acipco's board of operatives, accepted the lapel pin on behalf of the white employes; Norman Randall for the Negroes. Both expressed appreciation of their colleagues and promised there would be an intensification of production effort.

Presentation of the pins was by Lt. Comdr. Edwin Phillips, commander, Naval Training School, Auburn.

"By your unending contribution," Comdr. Phillips said, "not only to the preservation of America, but to immortality itself, the juggernaut of American might is rolling, rolling, and it will keep on rolling across the China seas, roll until the folds of the Star Spangled Banner cast the shadow of its blazing beauty on the slopes of Fujiyama and the yap of the Jap is silenced forever."

George M. Morrow, Jr., president, Goslin-Birmingham Manufacturing Company, was master of ceremonies. The Rev. George C. Turner pronounced the invocation.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Slow Gain Reported In Negro Employment

By the United Press.

JUN 21 1943

WASHINGTON, June 21.—The War Manpower Commission said today that although there is a steady increase in the use of Negro workers in war plants, the number in war industries is not yet commensurate with their proportion of the labor force.

Racial prejudice, limits placed on occupational and training opportunities, along with geographical distribution of war contracts, were blamed.

"Negroes comprised 5.8 per cent of the 12,000,000 workers employed in establishments reporting to the United States Employment Service in July, 1942," WMC said. "In March, 1943, 937,000 non-whites were employed in 16,000 establishments, representing 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers in those establishments."

Training Women As War Workers

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 11 1943

RALEIGH, N. C.—(SNS)—The NYA Defense Training Center formerly located in Fayetteville, and whose quota of girls for training has been increased from ninety-five persons to more than one hundred fifty students, has been transferred to Raleigh, and is now situated on the Shaw University campus according to announcement of officials of the North Carolina NYA Defense Training Project Officials.

This NYA Training Project for Negro Girls was started in July 1942 under the direction of H. I. F. Nanton in the attempt to provide training in radio code, radio assembly and radio theory for girls who upon completion of the course would be prepared to fill positions in war production industries. Since its organization Mr. Nanton has been transferred to another area of defense service and the girls project has been directed by Miss Christine Harrington.

Despite the fact that the Defense Center is the youngest in North Carolina thirty-one girls have been placed in war industries, twelve in the General Electric Company and nineteen in the Fort Mammoth Signal Corps School in New Jersey.

According to Miss Harrington arrangements are now being completed to place twenty one additional girls in another war industry.

Trainees in the project on the Shaw campus at Raleigh occupy an entire building, convention Hall, which includes living quarters for girls, offices, a laundry, a recreation room, and rooms for members of the directing staff.

Nope, This Isn't Romance

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

APR 16 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (SNS) — This may look like romance, but the young air cadet is only making sure the girl apprentice mechanic does a good job on the plane he is about to fly. Marjorie Dorsey, of Birmingham, Alabama, is one of the many women who are learning to service planes at Army Flying Schools. The cadet is Cornelius G. Rogers, of Chicago, Illinois.

FDR Commends Ship Builder For Race Harmony in Yard

P. M. Daily

A happy ending to a story that began on a theme of racial discrimination was written yesterday when William Edgar John, ship builder of Rye, N. Y., received a letter of commendation from the President.

Just two years ago, FDR reprimanded John for refusing to hire a Negro worker. Today, 88 of his total personnel of 504 are Negroes.

Recently PM told about John's ship yard, using it as a model war-production plant where Negroes and whites work together effectively and harmoniously.

John sent that story to Washington.

On a White House letterhead, dated July 1, 1943, he received this answer:

At a time when I have been hearing so many tragic things about racial tensions and racial violence on the home front, your letter came as an evidence of what I know is the basic goodwill and decency of the American people with regard to their fellow citizens of other races.

I hope many Americans will read the story of your achievement in industrial democracy. It should be especially heartening to them at this time when in too many cases hoodlum violence has interrupted our production for victory at home and given comfort to our enemies abroad.

Thank you for sending me the story, but thank you even more for your fine example for all of us today. I am happy if, as you say, I had a part in turning your mind to the task in human relationships which you have accomplished so well

Very sincerely yours,
FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Negro War Workers Jam Frisco Japtown

JUL 29 1943

San Francisco, Calif., July 28 (U.P.)—Japtown, the San Francisco Japanese center vacated when the Japanese were interned, has been occupied by Negro war workers. As an example of its present congestion, a two-story house, formerly occupied by a family of Japanese, is now housing thirty-seven Negroes and even the bathtub is rented for a bed at $12 a month.

47h-1943

Negroes in War Industry Are Here to Stay---

New York N.Y.

"Daily Worker" Jan 16, 1943

By Eugene Gordon

(Last of three articles)

One tenth of our population is Negro, according to the American Management Association's booklet "The Negro Worker." More than 5,000,000 of these Negroes are gainfully employed, "but too often they are working on jobs below what is warranted by their aptitudes, abilities and skills."

Negroes made up 10.7 per cent of the nation's work force in April, 1940, and 12.5 per cent of its unemployed. As late as June, last year, according to the Bureau of Employment Security (as quoted by AMA), an estimated 500,000 Negro workers were still idle and available to industry. The United States had then been at war six months.

10% IN SERVICE

The Negro people of this country have contributed more than 10 per cent of their number to the armed forces; they make up no more than 10 per cent of the population. They would like to be as well represented in the industries which manufacture arms to destroy fascism as they are in the services which receive the arms. That is a justifiable wish. To what extent is it being realized?

The logic of this people's war against fascism forces increasing numbers of employers to hire Negroes. This fact is acknowledged by such a critical judge of the situation as the Pittsburgh Courier, one of the country's most influential Negro weeklies. The "biggest gains" of 1942, the Courier declares, were made "on the job front, where the President's Executive Order and the work of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, War Manpower Commission, Employment Service and the War Production Board have been effective in breaking the bars against Negro men and women." The Courier also credits **"the entire CIO, which in turn forced the AFL international leaders to condemn the practice of discrimination against Negro workers," with the Negro people's gains last year on the "job front."**

The Courier, however, as is true of most of the Negro press, sees jobs for Negroes as ends in themselves rather than as weapons against fascism. In that respect many employers are in advance of a powerful section of the Negro people's leadership. "Consideration for the Negro" as a war reservoir of motive power "rests not merely on humanity and charity," says Edwin R. Embree in "American Negroes—A Handbook"; "it rests on the solid base of enlightened selfishness. It is a question," he adds, **"not only of the rights of the Negroes themselves; it is a question of the total health and strength of the nation."**

Everybody—and that includes the Negro press—will realize in time that jobs "as usual" for the Negro people are out, during this anti-fascist war; that it now is **jobs as a war measure.** When the problem is approached this way its solution is clearer. That is the way it is being approached by that section of management which has been induced to lay aside its prejudices for the war's duration.

POST-WAR TASK

But what after the war? Are we to be swept back into the waste of the unwanted unemployed? The Negro people are justified in asking this question. "The Negro Worker" quotes an unnamed executive:

"After the war management is going to keep the best workers—Negro or white. Workers will not be kept for sentimental reasons."

The fact that hundreds of thousands of additional Negro workers will be integrated in industry and in labor unions will help that executive to keep his word.

Negroes, in the meantime, **through their own efforts and through the efforts of varied organizations, including especially the trade unions, are infiltrating into industry all over the United States. They are working in plants which previously did not employ them.** Many are in plants which, until now, hired Negroes mainly as janitors, handy-men, porters, locker-room attendants, maids, and in other menial capacities.

The American Management Association asked a number of these plants what the percentage of their Negro employes was. The figures reported, says the AMA, "ranged from 2 to 7 per cent." Some plants believed their percentage of Negro personnel equalled the percentage of the total Negro population—that is, the average for the nation. Others thought it represented the local average. "A few were guided only by their manpower needs and made no attempt to conform to any average, national or local." One executive reported that attempting to maintain an average was itself "a form of discrimination." Jan. 14, 1943

Though we expect you to take it for granted that all references to Negro workers include the Negro woman, yet we feel it is essential to say something specifically about her and her place. Her place today is wherever the white woman worker's place is. Since the draft calls white men and black men without regard to color, and since the armed services have taken large numbers of Negro men, the Negro woman as an industrial worker must be given a fair share of consideration.

(She has not been given fair consideration in the armed services, her number being disproportionately small in the WAACs and she is being completely excluded from the WAVEs.)

The logic of this anti-fascist war has promoted thousands of Negro men to skilled and semi-skilled jobs. That same logic has removed thousands of Negro women from domestic service, the farm, the laundry and the beauty parlor to aircraft factories, shipyards, ordnance plants and other war industries.

Has the war, then, solved the Negro's employment problem? Is the Negro being integrated in industry, at last, with little or no opposition? **Let nobody harbor that belief!**

The FEPC only the other day issued orders to Vultee Aircraft, Inc., at Nashville, to eliminate discrimination against war workers because of race or color. The committee at the same time issued directions to the Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock Corp., the Birmingham A. J. Honeycutt Co., and the Alabama Gulf Shipbuilding Corp., after the FEPC had found that each of the companies was violating Executive Order 8802 in its hiring and upgrading practices with respect to Negro workers.

The whole railroad industry, in both management and certain craft unions (chiefly AFL), reek with discrimination against the Negro worker. This fact makes postponement of hearings on job discrimination in the railroad industry all the more unfortunate. All such citadels of reaction, however, are being stormed by workers' progressive organizations. The very fact of today's urgent need for manpower as a war necessity makes the old attitudes toward the Negro worker illogical and, thereby, outmoded.

The American Management Association comments:

"... management can no longer safely ignore the Negro, quite apart from the shortage of manpower with which it may already be faced or is likely to encounter in the not too distant future."

The very nature of this anti-fascist war, in other words, is so integrating the Negro worker in industry as to make him hereafter an integral and logical part of industry. It is to guarantee that this happens, for the sake of the nation as a whole, that all win-the-war groups should wage unceasing struggle against Jim Crow discrimination.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
JAN 6 1943

Directives Are Sent Plants With War Contracts

Action Follows Hearings Held In Birmingham

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— The President's Committee on Fair Employment practices as a result of the hearings held in Birmingham last June, announced that four large war plants in the south had been directed to cease discrimination in the employment and upgrading of Negro workers and that one of them, Vultee Aircraft, Inc., had already complied with the committee's order. Prospects appeared bright that all would do so, thus setting a pattern which may have some effect in that section despite Talmadges and Dixons of Georgia and Alabama. JAN 6 1943

The Vultee plant in Nashville, had some thousands of workers, Gy Record, WPB assistant, testified during the hearings but only about 20 were Negro. The personnel director said he did not believe Negroes and whites would work together and this in spite of the fact that J. M. Shelton, representative of the International Association of Machinist, had agreed that if the company put Negroes to work, taking the initiative in the matter, that some effort would be made by the union in the way of cooperation.

NEGROES TO BE EMPLOYED

JAN 6 1943

FEPC through Lawrence Cramer, executive secretary, announced that Vultee was taking steps to employ Negroes in its Nashville plant as it had done in its three plants in California. Negroes are to be employed and hiring agencies are to accept qualified people without reference to race while training facilities are to be opened regardless of color or creed.

FEPC said that directives had been issued to three other large companies to cease and desist from violation of the President's executive order against discrimination. These companies--Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. Mobile, Ala., A. J. Honeycutt Co., Birmingham, and Gulf Shipbuilding Corp., Chickasaw, Ala.--all had been violators more or less flagrant.

ALABAMA SHIPBUILDING CITED

JAN 6 1943

Alabama Shipbuilding had some Negroes who had been with it ever since it opened its doors a quarter of a century ago, but, although they were skilled and even taught whites who came in, they were still drawing helper's pay. The Honeycutt Co. which manufactures prefabricated houses is charged with refusing to hire Negro carpenters even though they belong to the AFL union with which the company had a contract. The Gulf Shipbuilding Co. has been one of the really flagrant violators. Holding tremendous government contracts, it had unlike Alabama Shipbuilding drawn the line tight against Negroes in any sort of skilled job. Alabama hired helpers but Gulf would accept Negroes only as janitors and cleaners.

The complete reports on the hearings in Birmingham have been delayed, it is believed; first by the uproar which went up over the south as soon as it was learned that FEPC actually threatening to hold a hammer over the heads [illegible] southern industrialists; and second by the transfer of the agency from the immediate authority of the President to the War Manpower Commission under Administration McNutt. For a long time the committee was uncertain of its future and had no budget. The reports just issued would indicate that the committee is prepared to forge ahead on the hundreds of complaints which are said to be before it.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

30,000 Race Workers Being Used In War Industries Here

JAN 9 - 1943

(Other stories, pages 13-18)

NORFOLK. — Federal establishments in the Norfolk labor market area provide the major employment outlet for both white and Negro workers, and approximately 30,000 of the latter are currently employed here in these two categories, according to the findings of a survey made recently by Washington representatives of the United States Employment Service, an agency of the War Manpower Commission.

Colored workers, according to the survey, are employed in a wide variety of skills and occupations in the following major government agencies: Norfolk Navy Yard, U. S. Naval Air Station and Naval Operating Base United Nations Depot and Port of Embarkation, and the Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Company.

The total Negro employment in this group approximates 17,000 workers, classified as follows: skilled 2,000; semi-skilled 7,000; and unskilled 8,000, the survey reveals.

Data submitted by sixteen "essential war industries" employers indicates very favorable trends in the employment of colored workers, the survey points out.

35.3 PER CENT OF TOTAL

Employment in these industries totals 15,178; Negro employment comprising 5,361, or 35.3 per cent of the total. During the reporting period there were 5,164 hires by these concerns; and 78.3 per cent of the total hires, or 15.1 per cent, were made on referrals of the local office of the United States Employment Service.

Colored workers make up ninety per cent of the farm laborers placed in Princess Anne and Norfolk counties by the local USES office, according to the report.

"The relative importance to the war effort of Negro manpower should stimulate more efficient service and continuing study by ES personnel with relations to total manpower needs in this area," the report states.

In the period from January through October 1942, the applicant traffic through the local office of the USES totalled 52,548, the report sets forth. A breakdown of this total reveals an average weekly office traffic of 408 white applicants, and, an average weekly office traffic of 758 Negro applicants.

WAR-TRAINING CLASSES

JAN 9 - 1943

An analysis of war-training classes for Negroes in Norfolk conducted at the Booker T. Washington High School reveals that training is being given in electric welding, acetylene welding, machine shop practice, ship-fitting, sheet metal work, armature winding, electrical practice, and sheet metal and welding.

The classes are open to both men and women.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

How Unions Fight Discrimination

JAN 15 1943

By Eugene Gordon

(Second of three articles.)

Some trade unionists have been hesitant or slow about fighting for the right of Negroes to work in certain shops. This backwardness has been noticed even in plants whose owners, spurred to action by organized pressure of the Negro people and by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, have made the first move toward introducing Negro skilled workers.

Such timidity in trade unionists arises from a combination of fears, the princiual ones being fear of red-baiting and fear of causing disunity among the shop's workers. The fear of red-baiting is based on experience—it has happened. Just the same, it is a foolish fear, for it assumes that nobody but Communists fight for the right of Negroes to work in war industries. That assumption today is false.

Even if it were true the fight would still have to be made. The question which the trade unionist has to settle is how to make it. Certainly he must decide that it is as necessary to be positive and firm with prejudiced workers as with a prejudiced management.

UNION RESPONSIBILITY

The rebellious workers being union members, the union itself must state its policy of non-discrimination against Negroes and other minorities, and state it so clearly and so positively that nobody can misunderstand it. The local union leader will feel then that there is authority behind his anti-discrimination stand in the shop. More important, however, than stating union policy against discrimination, the union must plan and carry out a system of education.

But suppose, in spite of all this, some white workers threaten to walk out? That, too, has happened In that case the union must side with the Negro workers.

We may learn from the National Maritime Union's experience in dealing with problems like these. Wherever the NMU encounters a situation in which white seamen stand out against sailing with Negro seamen, the question is put to a vote of the whole crew. Resultant votes always prove that the majority of the white seamen stand for fair play and democracy. And that, according to Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the NMU, is **the result both of "an intensive, persistent campaign of education at union meetings and aboard ships against racial discrimination of any kind," and "of practicing racial equality and finding that it is not only possible but is a positive good."**

What the NMU has accomplished afloat, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, in several cities, and the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, in New York City, have made some progress in accomplishing ashore. The United Automobile Workers, CIO, has progressed splendidly against a particularly fascist-minded group in the Michigan union. The FEPC succeeded in getting the International Association of Machinists, AFL, so to adjust its closed shop agreement with the Consolidated Aircraft plant in San Diego, Calif., as to have qualified Negro machinists employed there.

Both the CIO and the AFL have given locals the "Go" signal, officially, to fight Negro discrimination in the membership. Since Phillip Murray, head of the CIO, and William Green, head of the AFL, are both members of the FEPC, each has thereby committed the organization to the spirit and letter of the President's Executive Order 8802, outlawing discrimination in industry.

JAN 15 1943

The CIO at its recent convention in Boston reiterated its acceptance of Executive Order 8802. The CIO adopted a resolution which declared that "Discrimination against workers because of race, religion or country of origin is an evil characteristic of our fascist enemies"; that "any discriminatory practices within our ranks, against Negroes or other groups, directly aids the enemy by creating division, dissension and confusion."

WINNING NEGROES JOBS

A West Coast delegate told of 1,000 Negroes on production lines in one Los Angeles aircraft plant. He said 15,000 Negroes had been brought into the CIO during a recent union drive in California. **All this, the delegate insisted, resulted from the CIO's fight to place qualified Negro workers side by side with white workers on the same jobs.**

JAN 15 1943

The AFL at its recent convention also endorsed the policy of the FEPC, though it did not, as the CIO had done, cite many instances of its struggling against discrimination in its ranks or outside.

The National Maritime Union, having sent 115 white and 25 Negro seamen to man a vessel of the United States Lines taken over by the government, called upon the President of the United States for action when officials of the line refused to sign on the Negroes. The President acted, and promptly.

The unions will remember, of course, that in the final analysis it is the employer **and not the worker** who says whether or not Negroes shall be hired. Unions must lead in the fight, for integration of Negro workers in industry by (1) insisting that manpower requirements make it imperative that qualified Negroes be given jobs in war industries; by (2) **seeing to it that Negroes get a chance to go to school and thus to qualify themselves;** by (3) tackling the problem of Negro discrimination boldly and carrying through its solution to a logical conclusion; by (4) creating joint action committees between CIO and AFL locals, wherever necessary, in order to facilitate integration of Negro workers in war industry.

Axis Exploits Race Bias Here, Says NY Report

"Daily worker"

ALBANY, Dec. 31 (UP).—Job discrimination against the foreign born has been "heightened by war-borne suspicions and Axis propaganda which bends every straw to its purpose," the State Committee on Discrimination in employment said today in a report to governor Poletti.

New York N.Y.
JAN 1 - 1943

"To the age-long discrimination against Negroes and Jews," the report said, "has been added a recent feeling against persons from Axis-dominated countries, at whom wartime emotion has often pointed an unjust finger of suspicion."

"Those who suffer are not loyal aliens alone—many of these cannot meet the technical requirements of citizenship — but also naturalized citizens and their children."

The committee said that war plants employing nearly 400,000 workers have been visited to urge all-out production by eliminating discrimination.

Commenting on the report, Poletti said:

"It is not possible to persuade any citizen to die for democracy if his father, mother and older brothers and sisters are not given jobs in war industries."

"Not only does discrimination prevent full utilization of manpower for the war effort," the committee said, "but it is a contradiction of United Nations' war aims of equal opportunity and freedom for all.

JAN 1 1943

"This contradiction the Axis has been quick to exploit, both in Europe and Asia. It is literally true that the lynching of a Negro in America is quickly broadcast from Tokio throughout the Far East as an example of 'white' hypocrisy and cruelty in their war for domination over the 'colored races' of the world."

47h-1943
Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

JUL 24 1943

SCHOOL—FIRST STEP TO A GOOD WAR JOB

These students of the Bedford Welding School, 11 W. 42nd St., are here shown exhibiting their work to Phil Siebel (right) the school's director. The students are Nathan Hamilton and Malachy McLeavey (left). Bedford School students do not have to pay for their training until after Murray Taylor, the registrar, places them in a satisfactory war job. The school does not discriminate against any student because of race, creed or color.

Industrial Democracy At Home

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

FDR Praises Shipbuilder For Race Policy; Raps Hoodlums

JUL 31 1943

WASHINGTON, July 29—A New York shipyard owner was the possessor this week of letters from President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, commending him for eliminating racial barriers in his shipyard. The builder is William Edgar John, owner and general manager of the Milton Point Shipyards at Rye, N. Y. His plant, formerly a small yard for the construction of pleasure boats, recently celebrated its 30th launching of war vessels for the War and Navy Departments.

FDR EXPLAINS POLICY

In the pleasure boat days, the Milton Point Shipyards had never hired a Negro worker. Soon after the firm received its first defense contract, however, a Negro applied for a job and was turned away. The rejected worker wrote President Roosevelt, and the Chief Executive, in turn, wrote Mr. John explaining the Government's policy of "full participation in the defense program by all persons, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

Mr. John had only 75 workers in his yard when he received the President's advice. Needing a crew of caulkers, he went to a Harlem River shipyard and signed up 12 Negro craftsmen. He regarded his experiment as a success when his yard, aided by the Negro caulkers, finished his first Navy contract 28 days ahead of schedule.

A LOYAL BUNCH OF AMERICANS

"I not only found out that they were good workers," Mr. John stated, "but that they are the most honest, square-shooting, loyal bunch of Americans you'd ever want to meet.

"Why, when we've had rush contracts, every one of my colored workers volunteered to work 12 hours a day, seven days a week. They all gave three hours pay to the Red Cross. They all buy bonds. They're expert workers and gentlemen."

Mr. John was so pleased at the outcome that he continued to increase the number of Negro workers in his yard. Today, 88 Negroes—one-fifth of his total staff—are working in all skills in the Milton Point Shipyards. A few weeks ago, the owner decided to tell the President about it. And Mr. Roosevelt promptly replied:

"My dear Mr. John:

"At a time when I have been hearing so many tragic things about racial tensions and racial violence on the home front, your letter came as an evidence of what I know is the basic goodwill to work and decency of the American people with regard to their fellow citizens of other races.

"I hope many Americans will read the story of your achievement in industrial democracy. It should be especially heartening to them at this time when in the many cases hoodlum violence has interrupted our production for victory at home and given comfort to our enemies abroad.

"Thank you for sending me the story, but thank you even more for your fine example for all of us today. I am happy if, as you say, I had a part in turning your mind to the task of human relationships which you have accomplished so well."

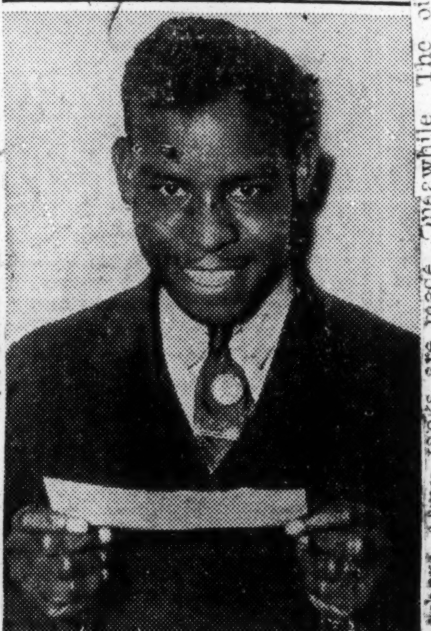
Wins Honors

BELLE CALHOUN

Shop steward of Local 26, CIO United Wire and Metal Workers union, has been chosen "Miss Negro War Worker" and will be presented a $25 War Bond at Negro Freedom rally in Madison Square Garden June 7. Chief operator at her plant Miss Calhoun has already purchased ten bonds during her employment there. She is active in AWVS, church affairs in Jamaica, L. I., where she lives and has aided Red Cross with donations of both blood and money.

JUN 5 1943

Wins Check for Suggestion on Way to Do Job Better



Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Precious man-hours are being saved daily in processing metals for Navy equipment at a General Electric plant, thanks to a production suggestion submitted by Hezekiah Coleman, shown above with the check he received for his idea. Coleman, whose job is dipping metals of various sizes and shapes into vats containing cleaning fluids, suggested larger containers for handling the metals, enabling him to put through greater quantities in a day.

Born in Denmark, S. Car., where he attended school, he worked for several years in furniture factories in the south until he learned to operate various types of machines. In 1941 he moved to Schenectady, and after working as a cook in a drug store and a hotel, obtained his present job at G. E. Married, his favorite forms of recreation are fishing and baseball.

JUN 17 1943

Former Atlantan Wins Certificate For Production

Daily World

Detroit Janitor Save Government Oil Worth $10,000

Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—(SNS)—A Detroit janitor in a tank factory whose ingenuity has already saved 12,000 gallons of oil, worth $10,000, became the second Negro war worker to win a Certificate of Individual Production Merit, the War Production ~~Drive~~ Headquarters announced this week.

The award winner in Edgar Gaston, who is handicapped by having only three fingers on his right hand. He is a janitor in the Cadillac plant of General Motors in Detroit where Army tanks are made. One of his responsibilities is the disposal of chips and shavings from metal-working machines. He realized that quite a large amount of good oil was being thrown away when the chips were cleaned from the machines and dumped into small carts for disposal. There was no oil slinger for salvaging this oil from the chips, so Gaston, on his own initiative, proceeded to build a cart with a false bottom. He filled this cart with the chips and let it stand for a while. The oil drained off very easily and could be replaced in the machine from whence it came.

BORN IN ATLANTA

The production soldier responsible for this idea was born in Atlanta, Georgia, 31 years ago He graduated from high school and that was the end of his formal education. Because he believes so thoroughly in the advantages of education, his ambition is for his children to become school teachers.

Charles H Fletcher, a welder in the Moore Dry Dock Company shipyards at Oakland, Calif., was the first of his race to win the Certificate of Individual Production Merit. His contribution was a device to use in welding operation 400 per cent.

TYPES OF RECEPTION

The Individual Awards Plan provides for several types of recognition for workers whose suggestions increase the quantity or improve the quality of war production. Plant Labor-Management Committees confer local Awards of Individual Production Merit for suggestions deemed meritorious in their own plants. They then submit to Headquarters suggestions which may be used on an industry wide basis.

These suggestions are processed and evaluated in the Awards Branch of the War Production Drive Headquarters before the Board of Individual Awards. This Board, composed of technical experts, recommends letters of Honorable Mention, Certificates of Individual Production Merit, or Citations of Individual Prodction Merit.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Named Labor Adviser In Dixie Plant

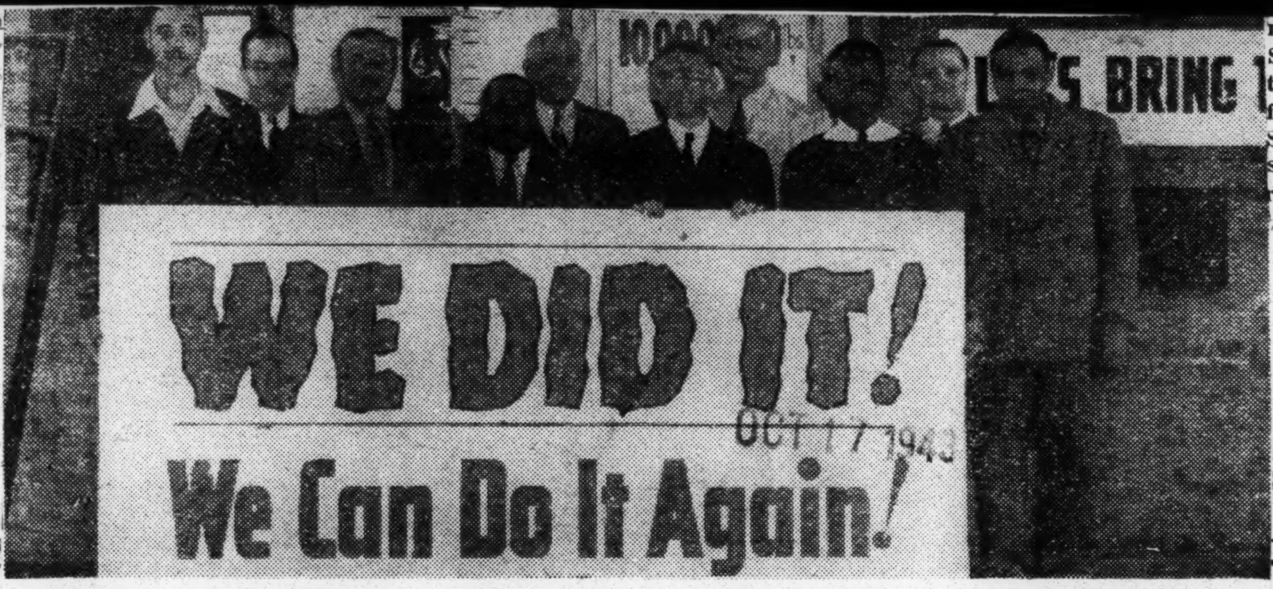
SEP 16 1943

ATLANTA, Sept. 23. (ANP)—Joel W. Smith, who for seven years has been serving as vocational advisor at Booker T. Washington High school, Monday began work as labor counsellor at the huge Bell Bomber plant, the first of his race to be named in this position here.

Present plans call for the plant to use 26,000 workers when it begins operation at top schedule, with more than 9,000 of these expected to be Negroes. Several other counsellors will be named, it was disclosed.

SEP 26 1943

The position pays [illegible] annually. Mr. Smith, a graduate of Morris Brown college, has been working as sports editor for the Atlanta Daily World and is a member of the Southern Coaches and Officials' association and the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.


WE DID IT!
We Can Do It Again!
BRING
OCT 17 1943

LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE at the National Smelting Co. in Cleveland displays one of the slogans in their production victory.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

How One Shop Doubled Aluminum Production

[illegible] G. WENGER

CLEVELAND, O.

THE workers at National Smelting have done it again! Fulfilling their slogan of "Let's Make the Axis Remember September," the members of the National Smelting unit of the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers exceeded all their own outstanding production records by turning out in the past month more than ten million pounds of aluminum, vitally needed by the armed forces.

Union and management representatives agree that the latest production victory, at the plant which has become famous for its output records, is the direct result of the incentive pay agreement which was approved earlier this year by the War Labor Board.

Twenty months ago, in February 1942, upon the initiative of the union a Labor-Management committee was formed at National Smelting. That was before the government had adopted a policy of urging the establishment of such committees and it was the first in this area. It was then decided that labor and management would, in the interest of the war effort, cooperate for the three main objectives:

1) Sale of war bonds.

2) Unity of Negro and white workers in the plant. (Of the 1,000 workers, 70 per cent are Negro.)

3) Work for a production goal of 10,000,000 lbs. per month (almost double the output when the plan was agreed upon).

Long ago, the shop was awarded the Treasury Department pennant for 10 per cent sale of War Bonds; through the joint efforts of union and management the plant has become a model for unity and cooperation of Negro and white employees—all union brothers in local 735 of the IUMMSW; and now the September output fulfills the third objective originally set

In the beginning of this year **under the slogan of "Produce for the Second Front," the company and union agreed upon an incentive pay plan,** in order to achieve the goal of 10,000,000 pounds and to give the workers a justly deserved share of the increased production. Under the agreement, which was subsequently approved by the WLB through its Non-Ferrous Metals Commission, the production workers receive each month all savings below the average monthly labor cost during the latter half of 1942

This saving from increased production is placed in an incentive pool at the end of the month and is then divided equally among all production workers in the plant, with the following condition: a worker who was absent without cause once during the month loses one-third of his incentive pay; for two inexcusable absences he loses two-thirds of his share and for three days lost he forfeits his total incentive wage.

Shop Chairman Ray Dennis, one of the city's outstanding Negro leaders and a member of the Executive Board of the Cleveland Industrial Union Council, estimates that the workers will each receive a bonus of approximately $50.00 or about 25 cts. per hour for their September production. He explains that since the incentive plan has been in effect there has been a steady increase in production and, simultaneously, in the monthly bonus—and they expect it to keep going up.

All this has been done without any increased cost to the company or to the government. The company, in fact, benefits from decreased overhead cost per unit with each production increase.

Under the plan, vital war production is being increased; the workers are benefiting materially and in improved morale; absenteeism has been reduced and bond purchases are increased. As the National Smelting workers are saying, **"The incentive plan works."**

The leaders of the union in the shop have praised THE WORKER for helping to give them an understanding of the advantages of incentive pay as a win-the-war measure. A recent membership meeting of the union's National Smelting unit voted unanimously to take 110 subs to THE WORKER for all officers and Production Soldiers (leaders of production squads), so that they regularly receive proper information to continue their able leadership.

Discriminators Will Lose Labor Priority

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

CLEVELAND—(ANP)—War plants in this area that refuse to employ Negro men and women will lose their labor priority, which entitles them to preferential recruitment of additional workers by the U. S. Employment service, Dr. William P. Edmunds, WMC Cleveland director, announced Monday.

"No company has the right to claim that it has a priority on the supply of labor left in this community when it has made no effort to break [illegible] color barriers and to draw upon a source of manpower that is [illegible] available in considerable [illegible]," he stated.

Edmunds took action after Miss Mary C. Schauffler, assistant director in charge of Negro employment, disclosed that [illegible] of Cleveland's 2[illegible] basic war plants employing over 140 persons had not hired a single Negro. Three of these companies were removed immediately from the labor priority list.

Miss Schauffler further revealed that of the [illegible]70 armament factories which employ Negroes 63 have each hired more than [illegible]0, and of these 63 plants seven are on the priority list. Seventy of the concerns employ some Negro women, but no Negro men.

Dr. Edmund said that there are still more than 8,000 employable Negro women unable to obtain jobs in war factories.

Reidsville
November [illegible]

Many Negroes In N. C. Industrial Plants

Raleigh, Nov. 26—(U.P.)—Use of negro workers in the 485 more important and larger establishments engaged in war and essential civilian production in North Carolina increased 102 per cent from July 1942 to July, 1943, figures on these firms, most of them with 200 or more workers, some types with 100 or more workers and a few with 50 or more workers, announced by Dr. J. S. Dorton, State manpower director, show.

In July, 1943, only 17,682 negroes were employed in these 485 establishments, or only 6.8 percent of the entire force of 259,014 workers. A year later 35,754 negroes were employed in the same plants, or 11.43 per cent of the total force of 312,900 workers. While the number of negro workers increased 102 per cent, the increase in white workers was 11.9 per cent, Dr. Dorton reports.

47h-1943

Owner, Manager, Foreman, Employes—All Women

The New York Times Studio

Grace Bowen, owner of an all-woman plant, was first a model, then a decorator (top left). Now she works in her shop (lower left) and supervises production.

WAR PLANT RUN BY WOMEN

By **BEATRICE OPPENHEIM**

GRACE BOWEN, "America's most beautiful model" of a dozen years ago, is probably the only pin-up girl in the world who runs two war plants. Both of them—a small shop in a Fourteenth Street studio building where she formerly fabricated cellophane party favors, and a large, newly opened New Jersey unit—were organized and are owned and managed entirely by Miss Bowen.

The small all-girl shop in New York is a striking example of feminine ingenuity. Amid the whirr of drill presses and the screech of power saws a female staff carries on, without male assistance, the production of hundreds of thousands of wood and metal parts for fire-fighting and life-saving equipment used by the armed forces. Each girl is trained to run and service any of the fourteen machines in the place. The "foreman" is 20-year-old Olympia Serritella.

Absenteeism is never a problem at this war plant. Girls who become ill usually stay on the job until they are sent home.

Miss Bowen needed only one month and six days after Pearl Harbor to convert her downtown studio into a wood and metal working shop. During the same brief period she retrained her young artist assistants—adept at making delicate cellophane novelties by hand—to become skilled machine operators.

Miss Bowen's own role as a factory manager was learned by poring over books on wood-working and machine-shop practice and studying the new machines.

The total production of the two Bowen factories is, of course, a military secret; but some indication is given by a single delivery of 480,000 metal screws to be used on tanks in the African campaign.

Grace Bowen takes satisfaction that all the products of both plants are for saving lives and matériel. They have included filler blocks and a portion of the valve assembly for carbon dioxide fire extinguishers on tank destroyers and other combat vehicles, and on Army and Navy aircraft.

The recent opening of the large wood and metal working plant in New Jersey climaxes the third success story of Grace Bowen's career.

The first story began when her sensitive face and slim figure made her a favorite artist's model.

"I enjoyed it," she frankly admits, "but I wanted to quit while I was at the top."

And so, six years ago she accepted a job designing party favors for a large paper company. After a three-year apprenticeship, she began her second success story by opening her own studio.

The end of the war will probably mean a fourth career for Miss Bowen. The former model is already using her spare time to design decorative wood and metal products for civilian use.

47h

NOV 28 1943

438,000 Workers Placed In Non-Agricultural Jobs

New York Times
New York, N. Y

DEC 7 1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — More than 438,000 non-white workers were placed in non-agricultural jobs by the United States Employment Service in July, August and September, a report of the War Manpower Commission revealed this week. This represented an increase of 19:5 per cent over similar placements in the April-June period.

Despite an increase for the 3-month period however, non-white placements declined from 155,000 in August to 144,000 in September. The September figures represented 15:8 per cent of the total USES placement of 909,000 persons for that month, but it also showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent below the August rate

The decline in the rate of non-white placements for September was particularly in New Jersey and Connecticut where such placements were approximately one-half of the previous month. These two states, together with Georgia, where the decline was 34 per cent, experienced decreases amounting to 8.400.

The Reports and Analysis Service of WMC revealed that 9,163 skilled nonwhite workers were included among the 438,495 USES placements in the July-September period, while 28,143 non-white workers were placed in semi skilled jobs. Unskilled and other placements accounted fos 260,037 non-white workers, and 138,469 were placed in service [illegible] Clerical ad sales placements amounted to 2,479, while 204 non-white workers were placed in professional and managerial positions by tne USES.

DEC 7 1943

Ex-Hampton Teacher Now Engineer at Bell Aircraft

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

NOV 20 1943

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.—Jefferson D. Davis, former head of the physics department and the vocational training program for war production workers at Hampton Institute, is now employed as a vibrations engineer in the Bell Aircraft Company here.

J. D. DAVIS

NOV 20 1943

Mr. Davis's analyses are used when changes are to be made in the now world's fastest pursuit ship, P-39, better known as the Airacobra.

Featured in Plant Paper

In a feature story on Mr. Davis in this week's Bell Aircraft News, he is quoted as saying, "There is a place for the American colored man in American industry, and if I can help blaze a trail for my students to follow, I will feel that I have accomplished something far beyond doing my job at Bell."

A native of Columbus, Ga., Mr. Davis is a graduate of Lincoln (Pa.) University; received the M.S. degree in engineering from Harvard, and has completed the residence requirements for the doctor's degree in physics at Columbia University.

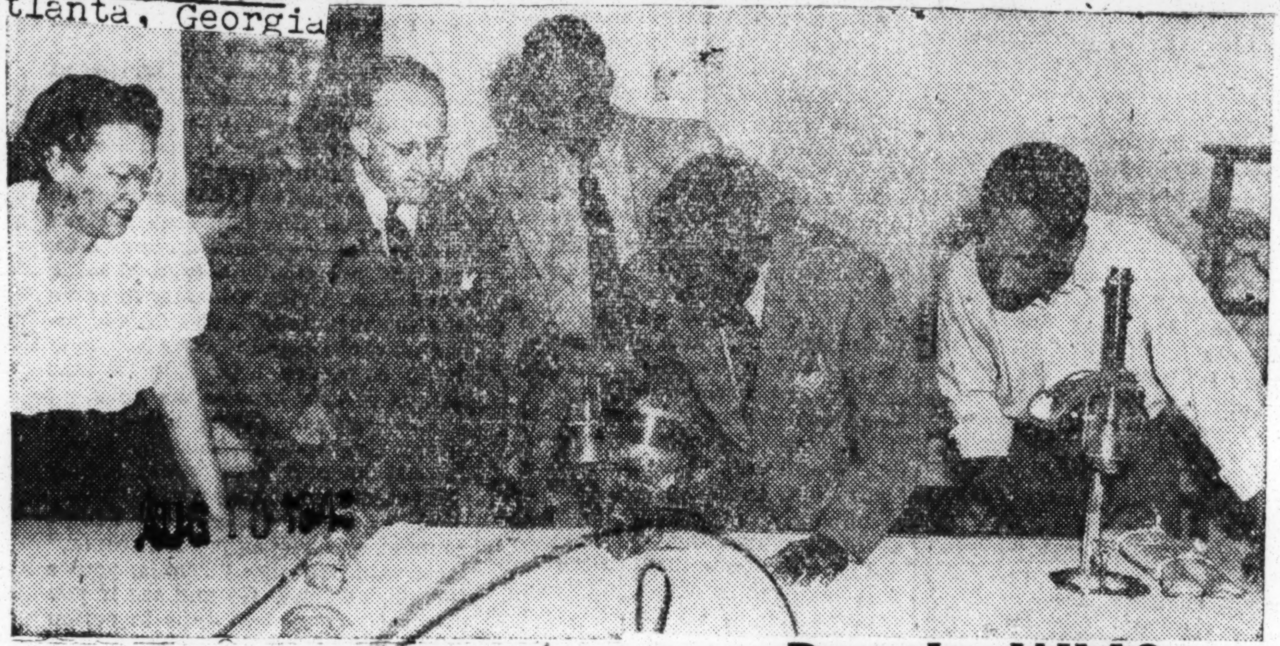
Brothers in War Work

He has two brothers in war work—George W., a chemist at the Hooker Electro-chemist plant in Niagara Falls, and John H., an electrical engineer in the Washington Navy Yard.

Another brother, Paul D., is a student at the Harvard University Law School and a sister, Frances, holds a government job in Washington.

Watch 'Bojangles' Operate Power Cutter

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



AUG 10 1943

Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, world's ace tap dancer takes time out from show [illegible]ess to visit the Pacific Parachute Company in San Diego, Calif. The plant is the only Negro-owned in the United States engaged in war industry and it employs workers of seven nationalities. Watching Bill operate an electric cutter are Mrs. [illegible]ola Sample, supervisor; Mayor H[illegible] Knox, Howard "Skippy" Smith, president; Budweiser Hawkins, stockclerk.

AUG 10 1943

SHE'S "BACKING THE ATTACK"

Courier
Pittsburgh
Pa.

SEP 18 1943

Mrs. Ruth Austin Corbin, of Pittsburgh, civilian instrument maker with the Air Service Command at Middletown, Pa., **participated in the "Back the Attack" show in Washington, to** launch the Third War Bond Drive. She demonstrated delicate altimeter instruments.—**Photo by Harris and Ewing.**

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Discrimination Ban In WMC Agreements

Full Utilization Of Manpower Is Aim Of [illegible]sion

OCT 23 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Reasonable safeguards against discrimination are being incorporated into the employment stabilization agreements announced last week by the War Manpower Commission, a Washington source has revealed.

Written into every stabilization program in effect before October 15 and those now being instituted is this clause: "The decision to hire or defer a worker shall be based on qualifications essential for performance of our suitability for the job, and shall be made without discrimination as to race, color, creed, sex, national origin or except as required by law, citizenship."

Employment stabilization programs, the [illegible] management [illegible] to [illegible] problems of labor supply and demand, are arrangements involving restrictions on separation or hiring of workers, whether through issuance of statements of availability, referral by the United States Employment service, or otherwise.

Specifically, they seek elimination of wasteful turnover in essential activities; reduction of unnecessary labor migration; direction of the flow of scarce labor where most needed [illegible] the war [illegible]ram; and maximum utilization of manpower resources.

MODEL PROGRAM

For sometime now various areas and regions have been operating under stabilization programs arrived at by labor-management committees.

WMC had set up a model program in which a non-discrimination clause was included, but it was not compulsory for the several areas and regions using the pattern to include every item in the mode.

Washington, for example, is one area where the non-discrimination clause had been deleted although there are two Negroes on the area labor-management committee for the District.

According to the bulletin one subject of stabilization programs, all programs now in effect shall be promptly amended by the appropriate manpower director so as to include the non-discrimination hiring paragraph.

It is poin[illegible] out that an employer who fails to adhere to the terms of these programs on this score will be denied the use of USES facilities, which means that he will be unable to recruit labor through that agency if he is unwilling to use Negroes.

Anna Rosenberg, regional director in New York, had already said that she is prepared to withhold service from an employer who violates the program.

OCT 23 1943

47h- 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NYA DOES THE JOB

The first colored worker in the United Stat to win a certificate of and the anti-poll tax bill.

It is cause for alarm that these men have had the upper hand in this session of Congress.

The time has come for a cry of alarm to rally the people's army for a last-ditch stand against the Bourbon enemy. NYA must be saved!

individual production merit is Charles Fletcher, a welder in the Moore Dry Dock company shipyard at Oakland, Calif.

Fletcher worked out a method of increasing welding production on a certain ship part by 400 per cent.

It is significant that Fletcher is a former NYA trainee from Bloomington, Illinois.

Fletcher's accomplishment bespeaks volumes on the fine work that the NYA has been doing throughout the nation in giving Negro youth the long-sought-for opportunity to learn skilled trades. Possibly no other government agency has done as much as NYA to promote the long term welfare of the Negro. The young men and women who have reaped its benefits will remain an everlasting tribute to its program.

Yet today in Congress an economy-minded bloc of Midwest Republicans has its mind set on wiping out this agency that is doing so much to help win the war. These are the same wilful men who have their blades whetted to knife the Farm Security adr istration

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HOLD YOUR JOB

Campaign to Help People To Hold Their Jobs Should Be Supported by Citizens

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

INTELLIGENT and far-seeing colored people, realizing that the future participation of their workers is at stake, have wisely set about to do something tangibly constructive. The National Hold-Your-Job committee, consisting of alert and active colored citizens, from important points throughout the nation, has set aside the week of September 12 to September 18, as a time to focus the attention of the people on the means and methods of making good on the job, breaking down spurious contentions against them, and winning the goodwill of both their employers and their fellow workers. This effort is timely and constructive, and should be of inestimable benefit, both to the industry of the nation and to the great hordes of workers.

Mr. Bibb

The most important task confronting the committee and its supporters is the necessity of getting the message over to the workers themselves. It is highly necessary that they be awakened to a full sense of their responsibilities and duties, and that they be convincingly informed that they are being attacked by sinister and evil forces, that they are being maligned and slandered, and that studied attempts are being made to poison the minds of both their employers and their fellow workers against them. The attention of the colored worker must be arrested. He must be reached and he must heed the warnings, and the admonitions of the "Hold Your Job" committee.

DURING the course of the campaign, convincing evidence will be laid before the employers, destined and calculated to discount the propaganda of the enemies of the colored workers who have persistently charged that Negroes have a peculiar body odor; that Negroes are careless about health and cleanliness; that Negroes are syphilitic; that Negroes are guilty of a large percentage of absenteeism; that Negroes are of inferior intelligence; that Negroes receive more garnishments than white workers; that Negroes are unaccustomed to exacting industrial discipline; that they are unreliable and less satisfactory than white workers; that Negroes and white workers do not co-operate together, neither will be happy and that there will be trouble, and that employment of Negroes leads to undesirable social intercourse."

MUST OF NECESSITY MAINTAIN JOBS

These accusations will be disputed and decried and will be discounted by substantial proof that the committee has secured. The workers themselves should be acquainted and informed of the great struggle that they must wage to hold their jobs and to maintain a place in the sun for themselves. Those who read about the "Hold Your Job" campaign should pass on the propaganda, inform the workers of what is expected of them, and, in short, engage themselves in the stupendous task of securing economic liberty and social liberty for their people.

IF the colored American is not sagacious enough to know that the most vital phase of his existence is the maintenance of his job, then he is doomed to remain shackled, underprivileged and deprived of all the freedoms that go along with democracy.

WORKERS MUST MAKE SELF-APPRAISAL

It will be well for the colored worker to make a cold-blooded and dispassionate appraisal of himself and to become aware of his shortcomings. It will be well for him to understand, that he will not advance his cause by constantly belaboring the white man and those enemies of his who are cunningly plotting against him. He will benefit himself by improving the quality of his work, his conduct on and off the job, and proving his adaptability to the accepted codes of modern day workers.

THE worker himself must be aroused and awakened to the full realization that IT IS HIS JOB and that in the last and final analysis that HE IS THE ONE who must figure out the most feasible things to do to win security and the good-will of his employers and his fellow workers. The committee can merely point the way and map the plan, but the colored worker must stand the acid test.

CITIZENS SHOULD AID CAMPAIGN

The colored worker in the past has labored under different conditions. He is no longer largely a sharecropper, a peon or a tenant farmer. He is a war worker, and is a cog in the machinery producing to meet the war exigencies. When the war is ended, there is a strong possibility that for a few years to come there will be a boom in industry. There is a good chance that the exceptional workers will be held on the job. Those who stay on the job now and do their bit should be given preference. There is every hope that there will be a need for the colored worker and that is why he should strain every nerve and fibre to measure up and make good.

EVERY good citizen should join in the "Hold Your Job" campaign and spread the message and emphasize the importance of every worker knowing what lies before him. If the colored American is enabled to hold his job, the way of the future will be bright before him. HOLD YOUR JOB!

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Wife of Col. Benjamin Davis Is Engaged in War Industry

NEW YORK.—When it came to following in the war effort footsteps of her distinguished husband and celebrated father-in-law, it was a toss-up between the Women's Army Corps and war work of a highly important and confidential nature with one of the nation's greatest war production plants, the Sperry Gyroscope Company. Mrs. Davis chose Sperry where she now works as an instrument inspector.

The Sperry inspector's husband, Lieut. Colonel Benjamin Davis, Jr., is in the North African war theatre commanding an all-Negro air squadron that has already been engaged in some of the fiercest sky fighting on the

Mrs. Benjamin Davis, Jr.

Tunisian and Sicilian fronts. Her father-in-law, Brig. General Benjamin Davis, rose from the ranks to become the first colored general officer in the United States Army.

While Mrs. Davis feels that her work as an inspector in the great Sperry plant may be less exciting than her husband's job, she says, ". . . it is just as important in its own way and is a job that almost anyone with a little common sense can learn to do . . ." Mrs. Davis is a graduate of the New Haven Teachers' College and studied at the Yale University School of Education and the Art Institution of Chicago.

Negro Unit In OWI Assailed

Advertiser

Senate Committee Has Request To Abolish Jobs

Montgomery, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Members of the Senate appropriations committee said today they had been asked to abolish the negro bureau of the Office of War Information by a witness who asserted the bureau was engaging in "fourth term" political activities among negroes.

Edgar J. Brown, who identified himself as a director of the National Negro Council, made recommendation at an executive session of the committee yesterday.

He brought to the committee room tear sheets from a Philadelphia negro newspaper and from a national magazine (Life) showing a picture distributed by OWI of President and Mrs. Roosevelt with Elie Lescott, president of Haiti, at the White House during Lescot's recent visit to Washington.

Senator Nye (R), North Dakota, an appropriations committee member, said Brown cited the photos as "an example of fourth term propaganda distributed by the bureau." Nye explained the committee took no action on the complaint and could take none, since the OWI's request for a supplemental $5,000,000 appropriation, now before the committee, concerned overseas activities exclusively.

Theodore Poston, chief of the negro news desk at OWI headquarters, said the picture referred to by Brown was of a routine nature, of the type taken "when the head of any state visits the White House," and that it was distributed "only upon request,"

Poston added that 23 negro newspapers, out of a total of 248 in the nation, and one magazine requested it.

Poston said the negro bureau is maintained as a part of the OWI's domestic branch without a specific appropriation for the purpose of furnishing information about negro war activities to negro newspapers and others.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Break All Records On First Warship Named For Negro

SEP 4 1943

QUINCY, Mass.—It may have looked like just another destroyer escort to many who saw the show, but the Fore River Yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company nailed a national wartime production record to the mast last week when it delivered the U.S.S. Harmon to the navy—92 days from the hour the keel was laid.

To both the navy and the Bethlehem Steel company the Harmon, first warship ever named for a Negro, represented much more than a sea-going challenge to enemy submarines.

The Harmon hit the crest of the tide at launching exercises July 25, less than two months after her keel was laid. The navy hadn't expected that. No later than August 11, Under Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal visited Bethlehem and New England and challenged the shipbuilding industry to beat what was then the record for turning out destroyer escorts—128 days.

Fore River accepted this challenge because it was Fore River's army of 30,000 men and women who established this record. A little more than three weeks after, Fore River shattered its own mark by 36 days.

Unfortunately, the delivery of the Harmon lacked all the gaiety that marked its launching. It was a grim, businesslike ceremony in which the ship changed hands from its builders to the navy. And yet, another precedent was established by the exchange because it was the first navy warship named in honor of a Negro.

He was Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant first class of Cuero, Texas, who not only saved several of his shipmates on the night of November 13 1942, but also threw himself in front of a ship's officer and dragged him to safety before being mortally wounded himself by machine gun fire.

The Harmon is now at sea, or will be shortly.

Tell How White, Negroes Work With Each Other

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Racial Amity In War Plant Told On Radio

SEP 5 1943

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS) — A New oYrk war plant where Negro and white employes are working side by side, was described on the War Production Board's weekly radio program "Soldiers of Production," here recently. The plant was depicted as a modern melting pot where many nationalities are represented.

The factory is the Breslee Manufacturing Company, a war plant that's busy these days out canvas equipment for war weapons, and also one of the top manufacturers of the highly effective fragmentation bomb parachute.

Among the four employes, all of diferent stock, interviewed by the announcer, was Mrs. Ethel Blackwell, 45, a machine operator who hems the top of canvas gun covers. A naturalized American, she came here from Barbados, British West Indies, thirty years ago. Mrs. Blackwell reported two sons in the service. A third son died shortly after he had volunteered but before he could be inducted into the army.

One of the sons is a staff sergeant in the Ordnance Division and is stationed in Arizona. The other son is at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station near Chicago.

Miss Willie Mae Love, 20, a native of Valdosta, Ga., and a resident of New York for seven years, was also scheduled to appear but arrived late for the broadcast. Working as an asembler in the parachute department, Miss Love's job requires much skill. The life of a pilot may depend on her adjusting a chute in its container properly. She was formerly a hotel worker and underwent a period of training before beginning her job.

"Soldiers of Production" is a program of the Labor Production Office of the War Production Board, and is produced by Alton Alexander. Presented each Sunday from 11:00 to 11:30 a. m., EWT, this program is a salute to the men and women fighting the battle for freedom on our assembly lines.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Riveting Class Now Open To All Employees

AUG 8 1943

Union Executive Board Gets Tough With Strikers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(S N S)—Workers, Negro and white, were back on their jobs at the Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding Company at Sparrows Point, Maryland, this week after several days of walkouts and negotiations involving a training course being set by the company.

The training course has been reopened on its original basis-available to all regardless of race, creed or color.

The settlement was put into operation Friday when the union involved—International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers (IUMSW-CIO)—the company and the workers themselves reached an agreement with the aid of Clarence Mitchell, representative of the Presidents Committee on Fair Employment Practice and Julius M. Gardner, regional representative of the War Manpower Commission.

The executive board of the union Local 33 met Sunday and voted for reopening of the riveting school on a non-discriminatory basis after two six-man committees of Negroe and white workers had failed, in three day conferring, to reach agreement on the question.

The company, which had opened the school a week before and had closed it down under pressure from white workers, promptly launched the course again and Monday Negroes were being trained.

The trouble originated Monday, (July 26) when white employees in the company's riveting department walked off their jobs in protest against the training program which included Negroes. The company immediately met with the white workers, pointed out the need for a 50 per cent increase in the riveting department. When the white workers offered to guarantee this increase, the management agreed to close the school.

Negro workers in the plant immediately walked out in protest against the school's closing and, after a conference with them, the management agreed to reopen the course.

This was done last Friday but strong protests from white workers caused the management to close down the yard "to prevent violence." The three-day conference of the two union committees and the union local's executive board meeting followed.

Monday morning the majority of workers of both races reported to work and, although some of the white workers walked off the job again, the yard continued operations, with state, county and company police present to insure order.

On Tuesday, the absent white workers returned to their jobs after the union had threatened to discipline any members who walked out.

Defense Gals In War Rally

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

SEP 11 1943

Women war workers right out of the shop with welding masks, working costumes and all — will parade on Broadway to Herald Square, at 3 p.m., Wednesday, September 8, to advertise the Third National War Bond Drive and a CIO political rally September 12 in Madison Square Garden.

Fifty or more attractive girls and women from such plants as Sperry Gyroscope, Brooklyn; Ford Instrument, Long Island, and International Projector Co., N. Y., will participate. They are members of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO).

The women workers will speak over loudspeakers to urge extra bond purchases and to urge attendance at the CIO rally, at which Philip Murray, CIO president, will speak, and such stage and screen stars as Shirley Booth, Duke Ellington, Lucy Monroe and Kenneth Spencer will entertain an anticipated crowd of 21,000 persons.

MORE NEGROES IN WAR WORK

Reports From 485 Defense or "Essential" Plants Show a Large Increase.

RALEIGH, Nov. 22. — Use of Negro workers in the 485 more important and larger establishments engaged in war and essential civilian production in North Carolina increased 102% from July, 1942, to July, 1943, according to figures on these firms, most of them with 200 or more workers, some types with 100 or more workers and a few with 50 or more workers, announced by Dr. J. S. Dorton, State man power director, show.

In July, 1943, only 17,682 Negroes were employed in these 485 establishments, or only 6.8% of the entire force of 259,014 workers. A year later 35,754 Negroes were employed in the same plants, or 11.43% at the total force of 312,000 workers. While the number of Negro workers increased 102%, the increase in white workers was 14.9%. Dr. Dorton reports.

Inefficiency Is Charged To Welders

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—A startling charge of general inefficiency and wilful neglect in the performance of work was placed last week against hundreds of Negro welders on segregated ways three and four of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company's Pinto yard, where ships are being built for the U. S. Maritime commission. The charge was made by inspectors for the commission.

Threatened wholesale dismissal of colored welders spurred CIO Local 18 and the Southern Conference of NAACP branches in an effort to save the jobs of the men.

J. F. Floyd, personnel director of the Maritime Commission, urged both the union and the NAACP to seek a number of first class welders elsewhere who may serve in supervisory capacities over the colored welders.

Through Charles Hansen, CIO leader here, Tuskegee Institute and John Green, president of the IUMSWA, whose headquarters are at Camden, N. J., were contacted and apprized of the facts regarding the status of the welders. The NAACP also wired Tuskegee institute and the association's national office in New York with appeals for assistance in locating competent men to come to Mobile.

It will be recalled that through an unsatisfactory agreement promoted by the FEPC, the Maritime commission, the union, and management of the shipbuilding company, worked out after racial disturbances at the ADDSCO's yards last May, it was decided that Negro skilled workers would be confined to the necessary trades to do bare hull construction work, and that they would work on four segregated ways, one, two, three and four.

Three factors are given as the causes of the unsatisfactory work being done by some of the Negro welders. They are sub-standard wages, failure of white training school instructors to properly train Negro trainees; and a deliberate plan of white supervisors of hull construction to have the Negro workers turn out unsatisfactory work.

47h-1943

WMC Cites Job Gains, Hits Lag In Upgrading

Defender
Chicago. Ill

NOV 27 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—While the overall employment of Negroes in war industries has shown a tremendous increase, the occupational upgrading of these workers has failed to keep pace with this rise, a War Manpower Commission report discloses this week.

The release, titled "Developments in the Employment of Negroes in War Industries," points out that, for the most part, colored workers are concentrated in a relatively few large firms and that there has been "slow occupational progress generally."

The degree to which colored persons are employed varies widely among specific plants, areas, and industries. In the shortage areas of the South, they are concentrated in those establishments and occupations where heavy unskilled work is performed, the report reveals.

In the South, also with few exceptions, no steps are being taken in the direction of upgrading colored workers to new occupations, nor is there any hiring of Negroes to meet the demand of establishments seeking workers for skilled jobs.

Cites Bigotrous Policies

Use of Negro workers has progressed much further in the North's labor shortage areas, the WMC findings declare, but their employment is limited to certain occupations, establishments and industries here, as well. There is very little indication of an increase in diversified employment of Negroes to meet shortages generally in the tight labor market areas.

Although current placement developments outside the South show slight improvement in the placement of Negroes in skilled war jobs as compared with unskilled and service occupations, discrimination is still a formidable barrier in many plants and occupations.

Their successful recruitment for war work is now fundamentally a problem of the removal of these barriers against their employment in many smaller individual establishments and against the general use of Negroes in all occupations for which they can qualify.

This problem is now being accentuated by the efforts of Negroes to transfer from nonessential to essential war occupations in accordance with Selective Service policies.

Steady Increase

Employer reports indicate a slow but continued upward trend in the general level of employment of Negroes. As shown in the following table, Negro workers in July 1943 represented 7.3 percent of total employment in those major war establishments reporting nonwhite employment. In July 1942, a year ago Negroes constituted 5.8 percent of total employment in such establishments.

Nonwhites Employed In War Industry Establishments
July 1942—July 1943

Month	Total reporting Nonwhites	Percent nonwhite of total
July	11,993,874	5.8
Sept. (1942)	12,153,755	5.7
Nov.	13,148,356	6.0
Jan. (1943)	13,375,000	6.4
March	13,954,463	6.7
May	14,262,614	7.0
July	14,157,099	7.3

Placement of nonwhite persons by the Employment Offices increased by about 20 per cent between July 1942 and July 1943, but the proportion of nonwhite to total placements declined slightly (from 18.2 percent to 15.9 percent) chiefly as a result of the reduced emphasis on filling service jobs, in which Negro placements formerly predominated.

Only very small advances have been made in the placement of Negroes in skilled and semiskilled occupations. During the second quarter of 1943 Negro placements were 3.2 per cent of all placements in skilled jobs as compared to 2.7 per cent in the same quarter of 1942; placements in semiskilled occupations were 7.6 per cent in 1943 and 7.3 per cent in 1942.

Out of every hundred placements of nonwhites, 6 were in skilled and semiskilled jobs in the second quarter of 1942, while a year later the number had risen only to 10.

Employment Varies

Although the long-run employment trend of Negroes has shown some progress, the real problem is to get employers to hire locally available and qualified Negroes to meet all types of labor needs. A current illustration of this difficulty now prevails in the textile mills in Spartanburg, S. C.

There, employers are refusing to hire locally available Negroes and at the same time are insisting that the government provide additional housing facilities to house in-migrant white workers. This situation and many other similar situations have not been met because the practice has been not to employ Negroes where serious opposition has appeared.

Hence, the employment of Negroes in war industries has been scattered and varied as between areas, industries, and plants.

There is a large variation from one industry to another in the extent of utilization of Negroes For example, in May 1943, Negroes represented approximately 43.2 percent of total employment in tobacco manufactures, 21.8 percent in lumber and timber basic products, 17.2 percent in contract construction, at the same time, Negroes constituted only 2.7 percent of total employment in electrical and other machinery, 3.0 percent in textile mill products, and 4.0 percent in transportation and other public utilities.

Affected By Community Patterns

Within a given industry there is a large variation from one geographical area to another in the extent of employment of Negroes. For example, in May the proportion of Negroes employed in aircraft establishments ranged from 2.3 per cent in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls area to 10.4 per cent in Detroit; and in shipbuilding establishments from 12.7 percent in Savannah to 25.1 percent in Charleston.

While geographical variations cannot be adequately interpreted without an analysis of variations in supply, it is known that an important part of the variation is due to difference in employer, labor, and community attitudes and practices. The importance of variations in employer attitudes and practices is evidenced by the variation between plants in the same industry in the same locality.

The result of this pattern of extreme variability in the utilization of Negroes is that unnecessary shortages are allowed to develop and persist in occupations for which Negro workers are available. For example, the Office of War Information reports that in some cities transport vehicles are lying idle due to lack of people to run them. Out of 227 local transportation companies—representing 80 percent of total employment in the industry—only eight employ Negro operators.

Haas Reports Huge Gains For Negroes In War Jobs

Defender
Chicago. Ill

OCT 30 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Negroes have scored real gains in war employment since the beginning of the war emergency, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, retiring chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told newspapermen at his final press conference at the committee's headquarters Monday, October 18.

"At present," Monsignor Haas declared, "Negroes constitute one out of every 14 war workers, and one out of every 11 government workers."

"Improvement in Negro employment in war industries has been substantial in the last year," the chairman stated.

"In July, 1942," he pointed out, "Negro workers constituted only 5.8 per cent of total war production employees. By July, 1943, this percentage had risen to 7.3 per cent. Since Negroes constitute roughtly 10 per cent of our population, you can see that we still have a big job ahead. Negro employment is still limited to too few establishments, and there is still much under-utilization of the skills of Negro workers."

Malcolm Ross, his successor, was sworn into office on Tuesday. Ross, former deputy chairman of the committee, stated briefly that there would be "complete continuity of the committee's work," and announced that George M. Johnson, Negro assistant chairman, would be promoted to the deputy chairmanship.

Monsignor Haas stated that he would leave Washington, D. C. within ten days to assume his new duties as bishop of the diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. He was appointed to this post on October 7 by Pope Pius XII.

Detroit Janitor Wins War Production Merit Award

Defender
Chicago. Ill

WASHINGTON—A Detroit janitor in a tank factory whose ingenuity has already saved 12,000 gallons of oil, worth $10,000, became the second Negro war worker to win a Certificate of Individual Production Merit, War Production Drive headquarters announced this week.

The award winner is Edgar Gaston, who is handicapped by having only three fingers on his right hand. He is a janitor in the Cadillac plant of General Motors in Detroit, where army tanks are made. One of his responsibilities is the disposal of chips and shavings from metal-working machines.

He realized that quite a large amount of good oil was being thrown away when the chips were cleaned from the machines and dumped into small carts for disposal. There was no oil slinger for salvaging this oil from the chips, so Gaston, on his own initiative, proceeded to build a cart with a false bottom. He filled this cart with the chips and let it stand for awhile. The oil drained off very easily and could be replaced in the machine from whence it came.

The production soldier responsible for this idea was born in Atlanta, Ga., 31 years ago. He graduated from high school and that was the end of his formal education. Because he believes so thoroughly in the advantages of education, his ambition is for his children to become school teachers.

Charles H. Fletcher, a welder in the Moore Dry Dock Company shipyards at Oakland, Calif., was the first of his race to win the Certificate of Individual Production Merit. His contribution was a device to use in welding insulation pins to deckheads which increased production in tack welding operations 400 per cent.

Paired to Smash the Axis

47h

AUG 28 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

These youths are installing De-icer reinforcement on the leading edge wing of a bomber at Crown Cork and Seal Aircraft Division, O'Donnell and Kresson Streets, in Baltimore. Both 18, the two, Abraham Hess, white, and Charles L. Ta[illegible] form one of the best riveting teams in the plant. They are known as trouble shooters about the plant, doing much of the rework on faulty jobs. They say their main job is to help smash the Axis.

Anti-Discrimination Clause Must Be in All US Contracts--FD

NOV 13 1943

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

President's Ruling Hits Comptroller General Lindsay Warren Who Called FDR's "Order" a Mere Directive

WASHINGTON

President Roosevelt last Saturday directed that all contracts with the U.S. Government must contain clauses forbidding race and religious discrimination in war industries.

He thus overruled an opinion given to James F. Byrnes, director of war mobilization, by Lindsay C. Warren, Comptroller General of the United States, that the President's order to all government agencies to include such a provision in their contracts was "directive" and not "mandatory."

Stephen T. Early, the President's press secretary, said he believed the action of the President "clears it up once and for all."

Phone Company Refused Contract

The Comptroller Genera[illegible] opinion [illegible] given October 7 in a case in which the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., refused to execute a contract containing a clause forbidding discrimination against any worker on account of [illegible] color, creed or national origin.

The company's refusal, Mr. Warren held, was no barrier to a contract because the President's Executive Order No. 9346 was only a "directive" and was not binding upon contracting officers.

Had Warren's ruling stood, the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) would have been left without its means of enforcing no discrimination in war plants.

Roosevelt Lauded

The President was praised in the Capital Saturday for his direct action. He could have left the Warren ruling up to the Attorney General for consideration and a statement.

Instead he wrote the Attorney General advising him what his wishes are.

In his letter Saturday to Attorney General Biddle, the President said:

The President's Letter

"You have [illegible] to my attention the Compt[illegible] General's opinion holding that Executive Order 9346 is directive only and not mandatory in requiring insertion in all government contracts of a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on account of race, creed, color or national origin, and requiring the contractor to include similar contractual provisions in all subcontracts.

"There is no need for me to reiterate the fundamental principles underlying the promulgation of the executive order, namely, that the prosecution of the war demands that we utilize fully all available manpower and that the discrimination by war industries against persons named in the order is detrimental to the prosecution of the war and is opposed to our national democratic purposes.

"I Wish to Make It Clear"

"I realize the hesitancy of the Comptroller General to withhold payments on government contracts in which these provisions have not been included where there is doubt [illegible] whether the order is mandatory.

"I therefore wish to make it perfectly clear that these provisions are mandatory and should be incorporated in all government contracts. The order should be so construed by all government contracting agencies."

Bell Telephone Company Yields

WASHINGTON

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced Tuesday that the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., has signed a Government contract, containing the anti-discrimination clause required by Executive 9346, for telephone services to be furnished the national war agencies in that area.

President Seizes Plant Hit by Anti-Negro Strike

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

47h

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Dec. 19.—Acting on orders of President Roosevelt, the War Department today seized and began to operate the Point Breeze plant of the Western Electric Co., crippled for more than a week by an "independent" union's anti-Negro strike.

The President's action came after President James Drury of the Baltimore CIO Council and other labor leaders wired appeals for seizure.

Faced with rapid progress of the United Electrical, [illegible] and Machine Workers, CIO, in organizing the plant, the Point Breeze Salaried Employes Association, raised the issue of separate washrooms and toilets for Negro workers and called the walkout. While more than 1,000 Negro workers remained at work on essential war orders, the bulk of the remaining 6,000 whites walked off the jobs.

Brig. [illegible] A. A. Farmer took over the plant at 11 A. M., serving the following notice on Clarence G. Stoll, president of Western Electric who is now in Baltimore:

"In accordance with an executive order by President Roosevelt, I have been designated as War Department representative and director to take possession of and operate the Point Breeze plant of Western Electric Company. Taken over today, the plant will continue to operate under army control.

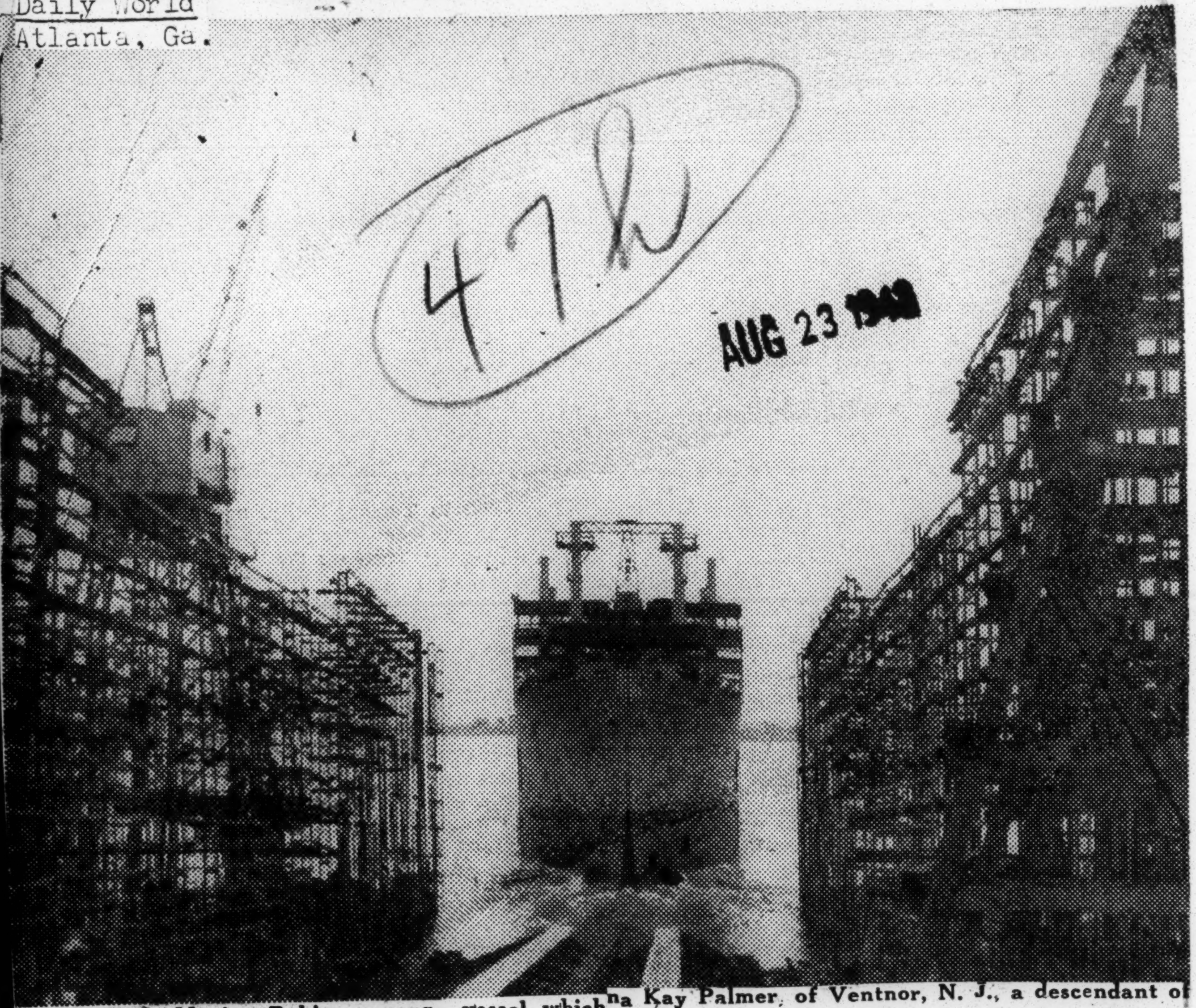
"As soon [illegible] possible we hope to have production back to normal in turning out vital war materials. We are counting on management and labor to cooperate to the fullest extent."

DEC 20 1944

47h-1943

Another All-Negro Ship Launched

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.



47h

AUG 23 1943

The S. S. Marine Robin, a cargo vessel which can be converted into a troop carrier, is shown leaving the ways of the Sun Shipbuilding Company in Chester, Pa., after being christened by Mrs. Anna Kay Palmer, of Ventnor, N. J., a descendant of Francis Scott Key, author of the Star Spangled Banner. The Marine Robin is the third vessel launched in Chester which was constructed by all-Negro workers. — (International News Photo)

AUG 23 1943 AUG 23 1943

WMC Official Praises Fair Employment Policy Of NMU

DEC 5 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Believes Same Can Be Done In Any Phase Of Defense

NEW YORK—(A N P)—The relationship of white and Negro workers of the National Maritime Union has received public praise after a review of their employment policies conducted by Walter Diehl, secretary of the sub committee on minority groups employment of the War Manpower commission.

"Your experiences in utilizing Negro seamen and the success of your endeavors give us reason to believe that the same can be done in any phase of defense work," wrote Diehl to NMU officials recently.

DEC 5 1943

Diehl's letter was in response to a letter from Lou Ogull, assistant director of the public relations department of the NMU he wrote requesting information on race relations between white and colored workers in the marine industry. Ogull is reported to have given full details in his letter to Diehl, stressing by specific examples the democratic policy of the NMU and its extraordinary contribution to the war effort.

JEFF YARD PRAISED

The complete absence of racial discrimination at Jeff yard as cited by Vice-President Myers' testimony before the FEPC recently was mentioned in Ogull's letter. The production board of Jeff yard is exceedingly greater than at nearby ship yards where Negroes are not employed, it was pointed out.

"This union, which has a membership of 50,000, 15 per cent of whom are Negroes; has a rotary hiring system which provides that all seamen regardless of race, color or creed shall receive employment in accordance with their date of registration for jobs. This means that Negroes are employed on NMU contract ships in the capacities for which they are qualified and must be employed by the shipping company to which they are dispatched," declared Ogull.

DEC 5 1943

POLICY OF EQUALITY

The basis of the policy of the NMU is that Negro seamen, like their white brother, make all of the sacrifices and endure all the hardships that men of the merchant marine are asked to make in keeping their pledge to "keep 'em sailing" and deliver the goods, officials pointed out.

The example of the NMU and the high production of the Jeff yard "has given us added encouragement that utilization of Negro workers in defense efforts will be vitally necessary in furthering this war effort," stated Diehl in his letter praising the fair employment policy of the NMU.

DEC 5 1943

NYA Equipment Still Idle Despite Manpower Needs

Defender
Chicago, Ill. Bureau)

SEP 18 1943

WASHINGTON — The National Youth Administration was killed by the axe of congress—led by the Republican from Auburn, N. Y., John Taber — just before the summer recess. One of the arguments used against NYA was that already existing agencies could do the training of our youth even more efficiently.

More than two and a half months have now passed, and NYA equipment is lying idle all over the country. The much vaunted vocational education program operated by the states with federal Office of Education cooperation has failed to take up the NYA slack.

Prior to its demise, NYA was turning out almost 30,000 trainees a month equipped to take their places in war industries. At this rate, the war effort is now 75,000 war workers short of what it could have had if NYA had not been killed.

Following the scuttling of the NYA program, Congress hied off on a vacation for the summer. During its absence, the War Manpower Commission, of which Selective Service is a part, found it necessary to issue an order for the drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, admittedly in an attempt to force more men into war work. The order came as a surprise to many Congressmen, who said they had an understanding that nothing of this nature would be done while Congress was in recess.

War production figures have slipped backwards, too. Of course, NYA's discontinuance cannot be cited as the sole cause — but certainly the absence of 75,000 potential workers is a contributing factor.

It's another instance to prove how expensive is prejudice and discrimination. The death warrant of NYA was first written in the Appropriations of the House, when Rep. Taber raised the "race" bugaboo. He raved and ranted in typical Rankin fashion about white and colored boys and girls associating indiscriminately at the Auburn center of the NYA. By his efforts, he obtained a one-vote margin in favor of killing the NYA.

Now the ghost of NYA is haunting the fathers of its former trainees, and threatening the lives of boys on the battlefields who are relying on up-to-schedule production on the assembly lines and in the shops and shipyards and foundries of the nation.

The idle machinery of NYA is humming — a funeral dirge.

WMC Rule Outlaws Prejudice in Hiring

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Employment discrimination has been definitely outlawed by the War Manpower Commission.

A WMC order issued Friday requires that the following clause be written into every employment stabilization program already in effect or to be instituted.

"The decision to hire or refer a worker shall be based on qualifications essential for performance of, or suitability for, the job, and shall be made without discrimination as to race, color, creed, sex, national origin or, except as required by law, citizenship."

USES Aid Sacrificed

An employment stabilization program is an arrangement restricting the severance or hiring of workers with a view to eliminating wasteful turnover, reducing migration and utilizing manpower to the best general advantage.

The new WMC order specifies that facilities of the U.S. Employment Service are to be denied to employers who refuse to abide by the terms of the amended stabilization programs.

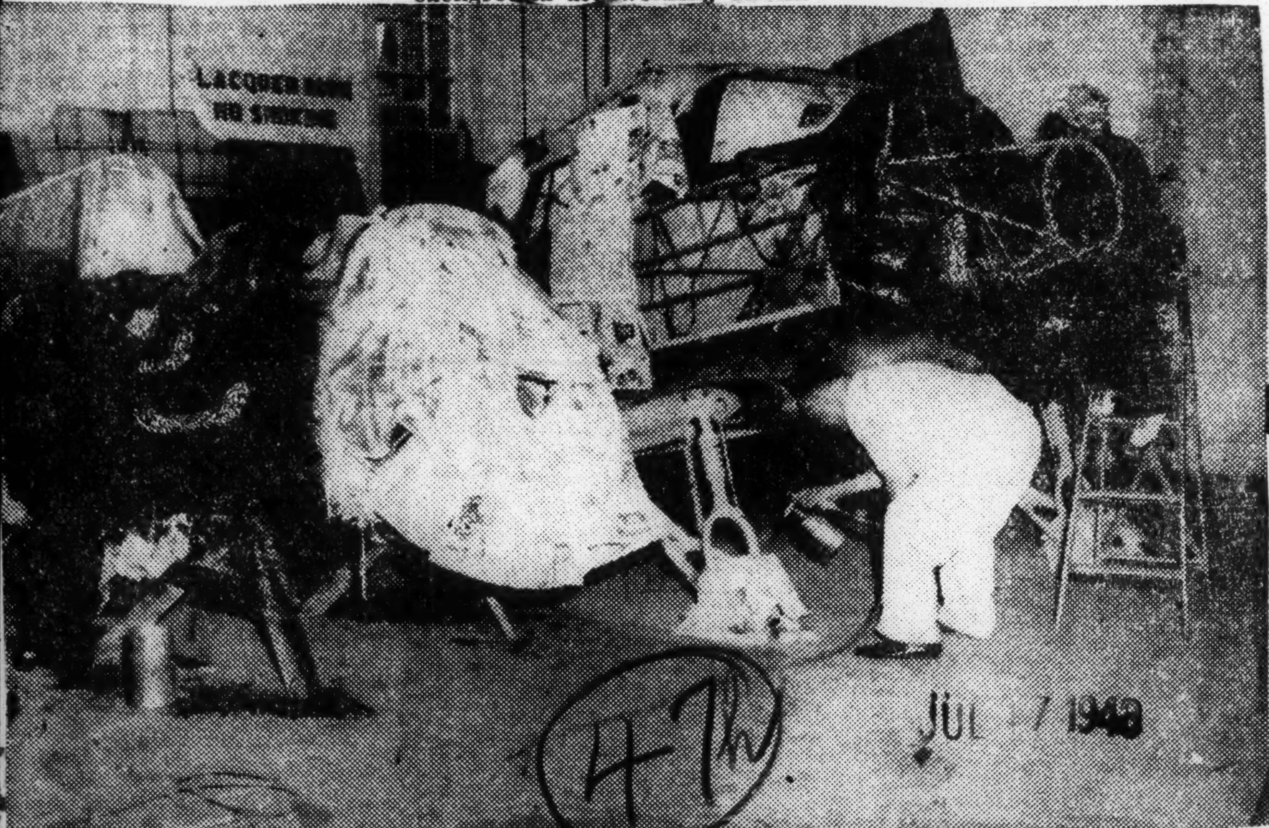
The FEPC, meanwhile, has worked out with the U.S. Maritime Commission, the War and Navy Departments procedures by which cases of alleged discrimination occurring within the jurisdiction shall be adjusted.

Similar procedures are being negotiated with the National War Labor Board, the National Labor Relations Board, War Shipping Administration and the Interstate Commerce Commission.

JUL 17 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

MAKING READY FOR ASSEMBLY—The cleaning of aircraft parts preparatory to the assembly of the ships is a major task in the Aircraft Repair Laboratory at the Tuskegee Army Flying School, Tuskegee, Ala. The students seen in the background are working on the retractable landing gear of a P-40 Pursuit Ship. In the foreground, a wing section is being prepared for spraying.



JUL 17 1943

WHERE THEY PAINT 'EM UP—Here is a view of the painting shop at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., which is now used for aircraft painting and spraying. The trainees in the foreground are water sanding the surface coat on the fuselage of a P-40 Pursuit Ship. The aircraft seen in the rear is a Five-Place Beachcraft used for liason by the Army.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Intensive Drive for War Workers Begins in Harlem

DEC 4 - 1943

WMC Making House-to-House Canvass for Men and Women for Factory Jobs

NEW YORK—In an unprecedented move to relieve the labor shortage in this area, the War Manpower Commission has resorted to a house-to-house canvass in Harlem to recruit men and women for jobs in New York and New Jersey factories.

The recruiting, which began Monday, is being done by a group selected by B. J. Barnette, employment secretary of the Harlem YMCA, and will cover five square blocks bounded by Seventh and Eighth Avenues and 140th and 145th Streets.

All Unskilled Jobs

The WMC regional office pointed out that all jobs being offered are in unskilled classifications with good opportunity for advancement, and that a new worker may begin at a minimum of $35 a week.

Most jobs are for a 48-hour-week, with time and a half after the first forty hours. The plants are all in easy commuting distance of New York.

Little Red Tape

Interested persons are asked by recruiters to report immediately to the Harlem YMCA where war plant representatives and U.S. Employment Service agents are stationed. Those who agree to take jobs are being hired on the spot with a minimum of red tape, and in some cases busses are waiting to take the workers to the plant.

If the recruiting campaign is a success in this thickly populated test area, the WMC plans to extend it to other sections of the city.

NEW DESTROYER ESCORT PRODUCTION MARK SET IN DELIVERY OF HARMON

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 3

BOSTON — (SNS) — A new record in destroyer production was established Tuesday when the USS Harmon was delivered to the Navy by the Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy, Massachusetts, only 92 days after the vessel's keel was laid.

The USS Harmon is named in honor of the late Leonard Roy Harmon, Mess Attendant, First Class, U. S. N., who posthumously was awarded the Navy Cross for "extraordinary heroism" while serving aboard the USS Sa[illegible]ncisco. He lost his life in ac[illegible] against enemy Japa[illegible] forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal, November 12 and 13, 1942.

The Fore River Plant o fthe Bethlehem Steel Company broke its own record for destroyer escort construction in delivering the USS Harmon. On August 15, 1943, this yard completed a destroyer escort in 115 days.

On August 11, while presenting the Army-Navy Production Award to the Hingham, Massachusetts, Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company, also builders of destroyer escort vessels, under Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal announced that the average time of construction of the first ten destroyer escort vessels was 316 days and that the average elapsed time from keel laying to commissioning of the last 20 of the new type vesse[illegible] been cut to 245 [illegible] He poin[illegible] out at the time th[illegible] the record for destroyer escort construction was 128 days and asked the cooperation of all destroyer escort builders in breaking this record. As stated above, this was accomplished four days [illegible]

On August 18, 1943, the U. S. Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., delivered a destroyer escort vessel 119 days after its keel had been laid.

The keel of the USS Harmon was laid May 31, 1943. Harmon's mother, Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll, Cuero, Texas, sponsored the vessel at the time of its launching July 25, 1943.

Harmon, who was 26, was killed when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire to [illegible]ct a shipmate. [illegible] th[illegible] engagement, with persistent disregard for his own personal safety, he had rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to dressing stations aboard his ship.

47h-1943

All Nations Were There at War Plant 'E' Ceremony

AUG 23 1943

Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

It's too bad that the whole United Nations couldn't see the ceremonies at the A. E. Edwards war plant at 223 East 106th St. this week-end, when the workers were honored for their part in winning the coveted "E" of the Army and Navy.

They were a real United Nations crowd.

One saw Chang Ling, a Chinese machinist; Al Mason and a group of other Negro workers, Spaniards, Latin Americans, Greeks, Italians, Jews, anti-fascist Germans, Irish, Yankees, and many more coming forward to get their production certificates.

Just a little shop but so many nations represented.

"And Americans all," said the shop chairman, Charles Gwynn, a former coal miner, in his speech.

This little house of all nations that makes precision parts for military equipment is really tops in production.

Its spoilage rate is under a half of one per cent.

GIVES WORKERS CREDIT

And the credit for its part in winning the "E" goes to the workers themselves and the "100 per cent cooperation the shop committee has given the management," said Al Edwards, the head of the company in a short address.

Technically the little shop, and the twin plant of the Allied Tool Co., with which it is connected, didn't win the "E" for itself. It won it [illegible] the big Arma Corp., of which it is a sub-contractor.

But at the ceremonies two Arma representatives said the twin company was one of five sub-coutractors out of more than 200, which rated special recognition for their part in winning the "E" for the parent corporation.

So each worker was given an illuminated certificate testifying to the part he or she had played in contributing "wholeheartedly to the all-out effort" that won the coveted "E".

"The production record of this all-nations plant shows how foolish is the Axis racial propaganda," said Gwynn.

"Negroes, Jews, Chinese, Mexicans, Italians, Spaniards, Germans and others have won the famous "E" for excellence of the Army and Navy.

"The workers of this plant are speeding production and cutting down spoilage because they want to see facism stamped off the face of the earth," Gwynn continued.

"They want to see the war won as quickly as possible.

"They want to see the Second Front opened quickly [illegible] continent of Europe. They are producing for [illegible].

Gwynn and Jack Sapphire are the labor part of the labor-management committee, that was set up in the plant through the cooperation of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT JOB

The labor - management committee's job is to clear out all bottlenecks of production. The committee found, for instance, that production was sometimes delayed because certain parts of the machines gave way under strain. That problem was solved by getting an ample supply of spare parts.

Gwynn was especially happy at the "E" victory this week-end, which [illegible] the death of fascism that much nearer. He's a veteran anti-fascist, who took part in many battles of the coal miners union and aided many other struggles to make America a better place to live in.

Labor and Management Unity Wins 'E'

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Aircraft School Holds Its First Anniversary

DEC 4 1943

The Washington Aircraft School of Atlanta, located at 1041 Beckwith St., S. W., is the first institution of its kind in the deep south and is rendering a splendid public service as it celebrates its first birthday anniversary. The observance in connection with the anniversary was an event of the past week.

The school was established here as a prospective for Negro aircraft workers, and as a result of its operation for the past year, more than 3,000 persons [illegible] race have been certified by the United States Employment Service 400.

Graduate trainees are working at Bell Aircraft, Lockheed, Grummer and several other leading aircraft corporations throughout the United States. But the men in charge of the school here are asking that there be a greater response on the part of all persons in this area interested in the project which has had a far-reaching effect. They feel that, despite [illegible] has been done in the matter of accomplishment, support and interest may have been greater.

More than $10,000 in equipment has been appropriated for the operation of the school and a strong appeal is issued for this free training in a program which can mean much more in training, and preparation of Negroes during the present war and in the post-war period. Classes are held day and night.

To qualify for one of these war jobs, vital to national welfare, school officials strongly urge that Negro residents register with the USES, 191 Marietta St., immediately so that this large appropriation granted for the operation of the school may be utilized to the fullest extent. The faculty is well trained and trainees who graduate will find it easy to gain profitable employment.

There is a definite demand for well qualified workers, and Bell Aircraft will place every man who graduates. This is a surety, company officials stated. Next night classes will [illegible] on December 13, Monday at 5 p.m. and 8 p. m. Next day school will begin Wednesday December 15 at noon. It is asked that all interested persons seeking further information call Raymond 9755.

There is a need for this free training and it is asked that this chance be grasped by Atlantans at once.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Col. Julian Changes "Uncles"

SEP 10 1943

Pvt. Hubert Fauntleroy Julian, Harlem's most famous soldier, is no longer in the U.S. Army. His status as a man of military affairs was made public Monday when the dashing, "Black Eagle" arrived at LaGuardia Field from Detroit.

"I'm here to buy myself a new wardrobe," he said, "and I do hope my tailor is able to fix me up in time to catch that 10 p. m. plane back to Detroit on Friday."

Julian was still wearing khaki on his arrival. Judging from his bankroll, however, it was evident that he'd be able to purchase some of the best serges and tweeds on Fifth Avenue.

Before leaving the Army, Julian succeeded, he said, [illegible]ting himself one [illegible] 200 a week jobs at Henry [illegible]s Willow Run plant.

"I am an assistant to Mr. Paul Collier, director of employer-employee relations," he added, "and I am much happier there than I have been in a long time. As a man of 46, I was too old for active duty. So they permitted me to transfer to Willow Run."

Julian became John Q. Citizen, active on the home front, three months ago. His application, sent to five different aviation companies, was accepted by the Ford Company.

"There is absolutely no Jim Crowism at Willow Run," he said, "and I am convinced that the Ford plant is the most democratic business organization in Detroit. A few weeks ago, they fired a southerner for insulting a Negro. They refuse to tolerate that sort of stuff and the union, the United Automobile Workers (CIO), backs the company up 100 per cent. Incidentally, I am a member of the UAW myself."

Recently, Julian said also, he has been serving as a liason officer to preach goodwill among company's 42,000 Negro and white workers. "Occasionally," he said, "we are faced with difficult situations but on the whole we [illegible] to iron everything [illegible] there in the plant."

Julian lives in Detroit. "Many Negroes don't like the Willow Run plant because it is located quite some distance from the city," he revealed. "But Negro workers are doing their share, something we all can shout about. There's a young Negro woman on the job who handles a crane better than any man I've ever seen. I'd certainly like to see our papers print some stories like that because it would do a world of good."

'Skippy' Smith, Parachute Maker, Is A Regular Guy

SEP 11 1943

Defender—Chicago. Ill.

Aside from the fact he is an individual of unusual initiative and foresight, Howard "Skippy" Smith, youthful head of the Pacific Parachute company, is a decidedly likeable personality and one who believes in placing the principle of fairness above everything else.

"Skippy" is the type of fellow who shakes your hand cordially upon meeting you, then says, "Get your questions asked, then let's have some fun."

In Chicago last week, the 29-year-old manufacturer was interviewed by the Defender and then, after reporters' questions had bogged down, joined in a hearty laugh over the irony which attended his recent plane trip to Baltimore, where he was handed the Spaulding Award for achievement in business.

Young Smith, who has made over 150 parachute jumps and has been featured in Hollywood air shows, to the extent that he has become accepted as something akin to the clouds, was stricken with air-sickness on the trip from San Diego. That he, with all his air experience, should be so affected was equally as amusing to him as it was to others in the group.

Injects Democratic Principle

Shortly after he left his home in Birmingham, Ala., "Skippy" won the esteem of Col. C. E. Founteroy, president of the Parachute Corporation in San Diego. Together with Founteroy, who was impressed by the young jumper's daring and ingenuity, and Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, "Skippy" organized his own parachute company, after an extensive course in parachute-making.

His studies completed, "Skippy" set to work organizing the plant which has made history for himself and his race in San Diego.

Throughout his entire life, the youth has been a firm believer in fair practices, so it was only natural for him to carry this attitude into his business.

The result is that today young Smith hires in his factory workers of all nationalities and creeds and thus explodes the myth that men of different groups cannot work together effectively. In his employ are Mexicans, Brazilians, American whites, Negroes, Jews and Swiss.

Seek Post-War Contracts

Young Smith and his public relations director, J. Robert Smith, were here to discuss contract terms with responsible business agencies for the manufacture of men's and women's shirts at the end of the war. They were in lengthy sessions with several local dealers, wholesale and retail, and at the conclusion of the talks appeared fully confident that agreements would be reached.

The west coast manufacturer told the Defender that the present set-up at his San Diego plant, where war contracts are held for the making for parachutes for the army and navy, is ideal for transformation into a shirt-making unit. Much of the equipment now in use there can be converted overnight into machines for the stitching of men's and women's wearing apparel, he said.

SEP 1 1943

Should Smith obtain the market sufficient to justify the attempt, he will become the first Negro to engage in this type of work on such a large scale. When he boarded a westbound plane Saturday evening, he was confident that his dreams would become a reality.

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Alexander Firm Completes D. C. Tidal Basin Bridge

WASHINGTON. — The $1,000,000 Tidal Basin Bridge, completed on schedule and opened to traffic more than a month ago, and the Independence Avenue Structures were turned over to the District of Columbia last Tuesday — exactly one year after construction was begun on the projects.

The structures were built by the firm of Alexander and Repass of Des Moines, Iowa. Archie A. Alexander, noted Negro engineer, is senior partner of this firm.

The projects, in addition to the new Tidal Basin Bridge, include a grade crossing and a sea wall opposite the Jefferson Memorial in Potomac Park. The sea wall and bridge are constructed mainly of North Carolina granite and limestone.

AUG 21 1943

Several months ago, the War Production Board ordered suspension of work on this project, but the order was rescinded when it was found that the job could be completed on schedule without the use of more strategic materials.

Archie A. Alexander and Maurice A. Repass, former varsity football stars at the University of Iowa and classmates in the School of Engineering, have been business partners for more than 28 years. The firm's first $1,000,000 contract called for the erection of several buildings and a heating plant at their alma mater.

AUG 21 1943

The firm has constructed half of the bridges in the Des Moines, Iowa, area. Its other major contracts include the erection of a power plant at Columbus, Neb., the construction of an airport for a civilian aviation program at Tuskegee, Ala., and the building of a model sewage disposal plant at Grand Rapids, Mich.

Following completion of the D. C. job, the firm has begun the sale of more than $90,000 worth of heavy machinery used on the project. Part of this equipment has been purchased by contractors in such widely separated areas as Georgia, Illinois North Carolina and Connecticut, Mr. Alexander stated.

The engineer praised government officials with whom he worked on this job, and credited their cooperation with the firm's success in completing its contract ahead of schedule.

TURNING OUT THE SINEWS OF WAR AT THE MARTIN-NEBRASKA PLANT IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

An excellent example of the Negro's contribution to the war effort can be gleaned from these photos, taken at the Glenn L. Martin-Nebraska company at Omaha, Neb.

Left Photo: Forming [illegible] for Victory, this group of Martin-Nebraskans are speedy workers in the splicing division. From press, while his wife Evergene works in the welding department. Before joining the Martin-Nebraska company in Omaha, Bryant was a professional musician, playing with some of the leading dance bands of the Middle West.

AUG 28 1943

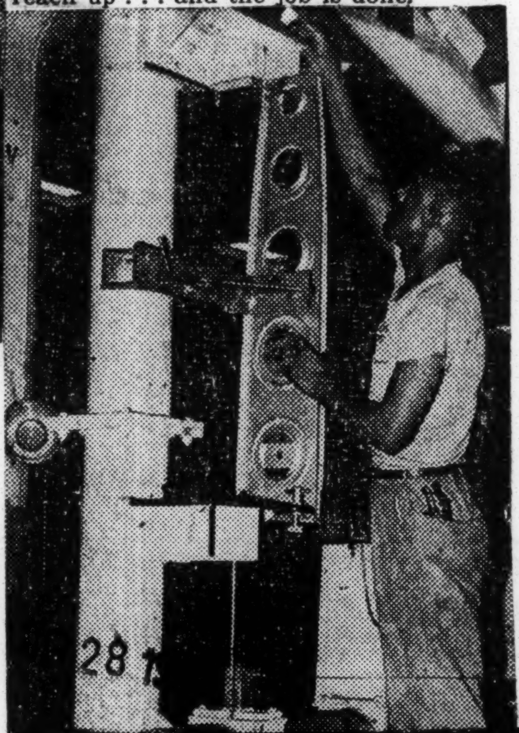
Insert: Bernice Richardson, at the Modification center of the top left to top right are: C. A. Webb, Al Abeny, C. E. Butler, William O. Howard, Miles Martin. William Edson and Leadman Ralph Greene kneeling.

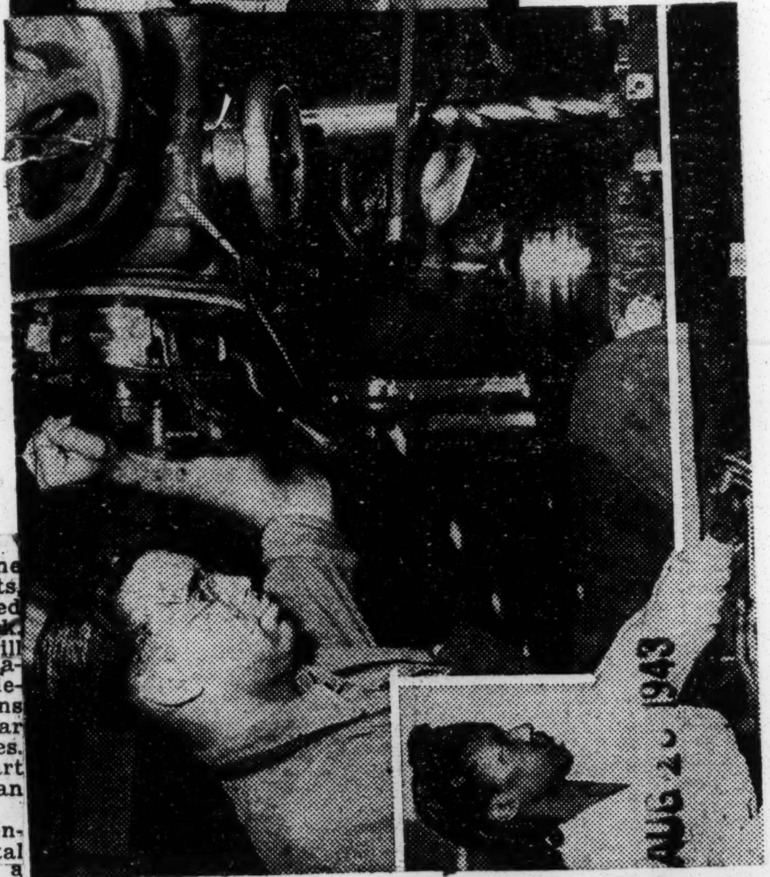
Left Center: In the machine shop and welding departments, it's not unusual to find colored craftsmen doing top-notch work. Ernest Bryant operates a drill Martin-Nebraska plant in Omaha, works in the arsenal department, keeping the guns cleaned. This job calls for clear knowledge of metal surfaces. Bernice oils and cleans each part of the machine-gun, and, she can put it back together, too.

Right Center: Mrs. Eva Johnson, who works in the metal bench department, is doing a good job of turning out small fittings for a new B-26 Martin Mauraude. She studied evenings at Technical high school where she learned how to do this important job.

AUG 28 1943

Right: James (Bill) Monday stands six feet, seven and a half inches high, and weighs 240 pounds. For 16 months, he has been using his great strength as a Martineer in Transportation, Final and Sub-Assembly, helping to turn out new B-26's at the Glenn L. Martin-Nebraska company, Omaha. Bill is adjusting a clamp on a fin jig. To do this job, an ordinary-sized man would have had to resort to a ladder. But all Bill has to do is just reach up . . . and the job is done.





AUG 28 1943

17h-1943

The Feminine Front

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
NOV 27 1943

Down in the lubrication pit of a vehicle processing plant at a large eastern Port of Embarkation, two of the army's women employees turn their grease guns on an ambulance consigned to one of our fighting fronts. Not only do colored and white workers work together, here, they eat together and use the same recreation facilities.

Women Work Instead of Weep When Men March Off to War

By MABEL ALSTON

NEW YORK. -- Not so many years ago, when men went marching off to war their women sat at home and wept, but not so these days.

Today they are handling jobs left by men, and how thoroughly is demonstrated at one of the larger Eastern ports of embarkation, which was visited by a group of women, Tuesday.

The newspaper, radio and feature writers were guests of the War Department on a tour through the port. The group was welcomed by Major General Homer M. Groninger, the port commander, who paid high tributes to the women workers.

He said:

"Not only are the women workers here doing the jobs [illegible] are given to perform in a thoroughly satisfactory manner, but in the matters of tardiness and absenteeism, they excel men by a considerable margin."

Readjust Readily

The major general pointed out that these women, many of whom have never before been engaged in gainful employment outside of their own home, make more basic readjustment than most men have to make to contribute their share to the war effort. They have made the required changes perfectly, and they have won the gratitude and respect of their employers.

In the motor pool crib apparently frail women handle loaded trucks like veterans. The first woman to be hired in that department was Mrs. Jannie Alexander of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was a former employee of [illegible] Raritan Arsenal. She started [illegible] the motor crib pool in October, last year. She is at present a tractor operator.

Her husband, Technical Cpl. Prince Alexander, recently completed a course in engineering and at present is stationed at Drew Field, Tampa, Fla. She has a son 13 years old, who is cared for by his grandmother.

Whites Only Promoted

There have been several promotions of white women to supervisors, foremen and dispatchers since the hiring of Mrs. Alexander.

Then there was an attractive red-head such as one would expect to find in a [illegible] line-up instead of expertly handling a tractor. Her name is Mrs. Roxanna Brewster. She has two brother in the army, Privates Sidney and Elias Green, stationed in New York City and Wyoming, respectively.

Mother of Three

Mrs. Brewster is the mother of three children, the youngest being 7 months and the oldest 15 years. She works on the evening shift so that it will not interfere with her daughter's education, and she can help care for the younger children during the evening.

Son in Service

"I am working hard to help win this war so that my son, Pvt. Robert Smith, who is preparing for aviation at West Virginia State College, [illegible] return to Morgan State College and complete his education," said Mrs. Viola Smith.

She is a former beauty parlor owner, but when he son got his greetings from the President, she said she decided to do something about Hitler and Tojo. She operates a tractor.

"I accepted a job in the defense industry to help both my children and my husband, Sgt. Leonard Daniels, who is somewhere overseas," said Mrs. Irene Daniels, who is also in the motor crib pool.

On Swing Shift

Mrs. Daniels lives in the Bronx and she has to be up and ready to leave home at six o'clock every morning in order to be at her work at eight o'clock. She has, however, a swing shift which will enable her to spend a few mornings a week with her children. She is working very hard for a promotion.

Mrs. Janie Ellis of New York City was a housewife before she decided to try for a job at the motor pool. She is now handling a tractor expertly and claims that she can manage her housework the same as usual.

The women are attractively attired in neat suits or slacks. They have their cosmetics applied very conservatively and hair arranged in the latest coiffures.

These tractors are truck-like vehicles with a fork-like lift and the women must be on their toes to hit the loads to be lifted in the correct spot. The average pay of a tractor driver is 80 cents an hour.

Women Easy to Teach

Major Ted J. Madden is in charge of the motor crib pool. He said that women are easier to teach than men. Especially is this so with women between the ages of 20 and 35.

Paul McNutt Puts Author On U. S. Body

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
OCT 2 1943

Dr. Henderson Wrote "Negro In Sports"

WASHINGTON.—Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt this week announced the appointment of Dr. Edwin B. Henderson as a member of the National Council on Physical Fitness and the subcommittee on schools and colleges of the National Committee on Physical Fitness.

Dr. Henderson, department head, Health and Physical Education Division 10-13 of the public schools of Washington, D. C., will work under direction of Col. Theodore P. Bank, Chief, Athletic and Recreation Branch, Special Division of the War Department.

On 1910 Champ Five

A native of the District of Columbia, Dr. Henderson has a noted record as an athlete, football official and teacher of physical fitness. He was a member of the basketball team which won the Y. M. C. A. national championship in 1910-12.

A graduate of the old Washington Normal School, [illegible] received an A B. degree from [illegible]rd University, a[illegible] M. from Columbia University, and studied physical education under the late Dr. Sergeant at Harvard University.

He has headed the physical education department, Division 10-13, in the District of Columbia since 1925.

He has also served as president of the Affiliated Board of Football Officials, and is the author of a book, "The Negro in Sports."

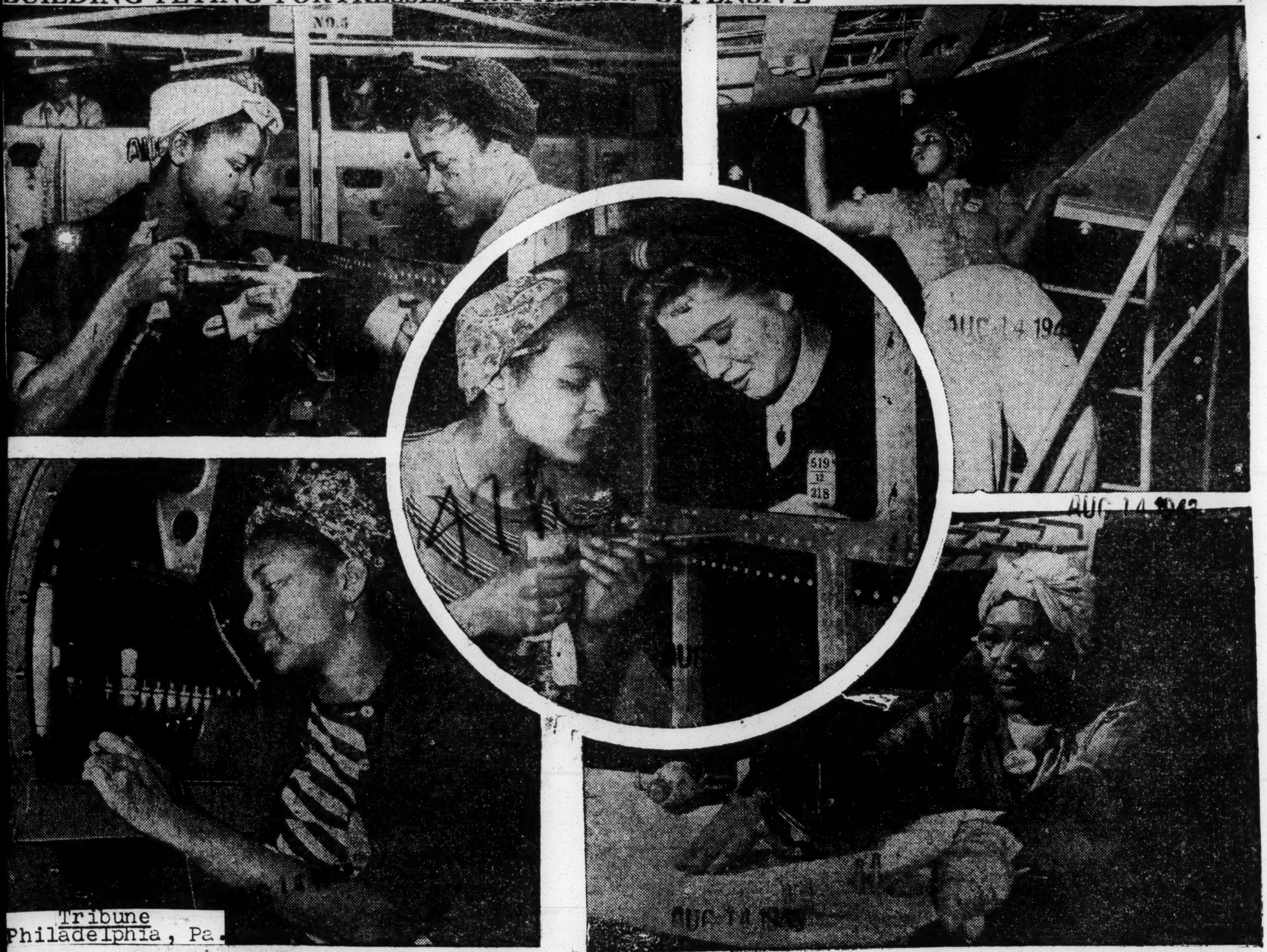
Headed Committee

Long cognizant of the need for increased physical fitness among the civilian population in war time, Dr. Henderson, headed a committee which staged "Victory Through Physical Fitness," exhibition at the Uline Arena last spring at which the physical fitness program in the public schools of Washington was dramatized.

Several outstanding Negro athletes participated on the exhibition which attracted national attention and elicited a letter of congratulation from John B. Kelly, chairman of the Committee on Physical Fitness of the Federal Security Administration.

Members of the Committee on Physical Fitness include: John B. Kelly, chairman; Col. Theodore P. Bank, chief, Athletic and Recreation Branch, Special Service D[illegible] War Department; Asa S. Bushnell, executive director, [illegible]ral Office of Eastern Intercollegiate Athletics; Dr. Warren F. Draper, deputy Surgeon General, U S Public Health Services; Dr. J. W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education; John L. Griffith, Commissioner of Athletics, Big Ten Conference; L. B. Icely, chairman, Ahletic Goods Manufacturers Advisory Committee; Captain Benjamin Perry, Assistant Director of Counter Intelligence, Navy Department; Captain John Reynolds, Director of Welfare Division, Navy Department; Col. Leonard G. Rowntree, chief, Physical Training Division, A. A. F., and Office Assistant Chief of Air Staff Training; Charles P. Taft, director, Community War Services of the Federal Security Agency; George M Trautman, president, American Association of Professional Baseball; Arch Ward, Sports Editor, Chicago Tribune, and Hiram Jones, New York State Director of Physical Fitness program.

BUILDING FLYING FORTRESSES FOR ALLIED OFFENSIVE



AUG 14 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Women are helping to build the Flying Fortresses which are blasting a path for the victorious armies of the United Nations in Sicily.

47h-1943

Sun Launches Largest Cargo Vessel Built

Daily World

Rear Admiral Vickery Speaks At Ceremonies

Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 22 1943

CHESTER, Pa.—(S N S)—The cargo ships now being built in Sun Shipbuilding Company's all-Negro yard are to be converted to troop transports, it was announced last Monday afternoon by Rear Admiral Howard L. Vickery Vice-Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

Admiral Vickery's announcement was made over the yard amplifyer as he stood on the sponsor's platform following the christening of the S. S. Marine Robin by Mrs. Anna Key Palmer, great-granddaughter of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner."

The launching at the Sun wards was the 42nd in seven and a half months of 1943, which equals the total for 12 months of 1942.

CONTRACT FOR 50 VESSELS

The Sun Company has a contract for 50 cargo vessels which are to be built in the New No. 4 yard. Two of the ships constructed in Yard No. 4 are about ready for delivery to the U. S. Maritime commission. The Marine Robin, which was launched last Monday, is the third, and it will immediately be converted into a troop carrier, the Admiral declared.

"The ships you have built in this yard will be carrying tanks, guns and war materials across the oceans within a few weeks," Admiral Vickery told the workers. "The big ship you have just launched will be converted from a cargo vessel to a troop transport, as will those that are now being built. We've got to get more troops to the other side, and the responsibility rests on you workers," declared Admiral Vickery.

The "S. S. Marine Robin" is the largest ship built in America declared Robert Haig, a Vice-President of the Sun Shipbuilding Company and will cost when completed approximately $3,000,000.

Mrs. Palmer, who sponsored the Marine Robin, is the widow of the late Commander Edward C. Palmer, U. S. Navy. A great-granddaughter of Francis Scott Key, Mrs. Palmer's father and grandfather were career men in the U. S. armed services. She was chosen by the Maritime Commission to sponsor the Marine Robin. In 1921 Mrs. Palmer had the honor of christening the S-9, a submarine launched at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

GUESTS PRESENT

AUG 22 1943

In addition to Rear Admiral Vickery, and Mrs. Vickery, Mrs. Palmer was accompanied by Mrs. William Thompson, Mrs. Clarence Andrews, Mrs. Cyril Morand, and Mrs. Arthur Ackerman, of Ventnor, N. J., Mrs. Daniel Moffet, of Washington, D. C., Conmmander William Weber, aide to Admiral Vickery, and J. McInnis, regional Director of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

John G. Pew, President of Sun Ship, officiated on the sponsor's platform. Mrs. Pew, Robert Haig, Sun Vice-President, John G. Pew, Jr., a Company Vice-President, Mrs. Pew and their two children, Mrs. A. M. H. Sheldon, Robert Haig, Miss Edith Reminton, of Rochester, N. Y., and Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Personnel Director of the No. 4 Yard, were interested spectators at the launching of the third all-Negro built ship. Keels have been laid on all the other 8 ways, with 2 other vessels now nearing completion.

Richard L. Burke, Sun Vice-President in charge of shipbuilding, and George D. Carney, in charge of installations, made a last-minute inspection of the hull, and launching Foreman Frank A. McShane, and his assistant, Wilmer Marine, knelt by the keel blocks, under the prow,, and called off the half-inch marks as the saw crews cut through the heavy timbers which held the vessel to the ways. R. Ottinger, J. Aigeldinger, A. Bedwell, and A. Buckley manned the port saw. R. Sutton, and F. Mosser were the assistant foreman at the launching.

Admiral Vickery's announcement that the ships built in the No. 4 yard are to carry troops instead of cargoes created a stir among the workers. "We're building troop transports now, and not just cargo boats," one workman was heard to remark.

Wartime Clinics Announced To Aid Women Workers

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 15 1943

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—(ANP) — While the committee, on arrangements pushed plans for the national celebration of the "Hold Your Job Committee" Sept. 12-18 sponsored by the National Council of Negro Women, C. A. Franklin, chairman NHYJC, urged workers through out the country to aid interracial unity by adopting friendly attitudes. Franklin said that much of the racial tension abroad in the nation today resulted from both white and Negro workers carrying a chip on the shoulder and daring the other fellow to "knock it off."

"Ths kind of attituted on the part of our workers will not win the war nor the peace," he declared, "but a friendly, intelligent, courteous and harmonious attitude pays the country rich dividens.' '

AUG 15 1943

National organizations, church, labor, civic and fraternal associatons are being expected to cooperate with the national committee in sponsoring mass meetings in local communities to promote "Hold Your Job" observances in every section of the country. Pledge cards with the vow "to be a more efficient and courteous wroker" are being mailed for distribution to organizations from the west coast to the Atlantic ocean.

The NCNW also announced that plans for a wartime employment clinic were being completed. Miss Jeanetta Welch, executive secertray, said the clincs would analyze and recoommend treatment for some of the "employment ills" of this industrial are resulting from a large increase of Negro women in industry.

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WMC Tells Plant Bosses To Provide More Training

AUG 21 1943

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20—Regional directors of the War Manpower Commission, have been instructed to urge managers of war plants to provide more training facilities for persons already on their payrolls, Chairman Paul V. McNutt announced last week. This action, he explained, was taken because reports received by the Commission's Bureau of Training show a steady decline of enrollments in pre-employment courses, particularly in communities where labor shortages have become acute.

AUG 21 1943

Not Enough!

Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 21 1943

OWI Says High Cost Of Living Shrinks Fixed Low Wages

-Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 19 — The incomes of more than 20,000,000 persons who depend on fixed low wages, pensions or allotments, or meager checks from governmental units, are shrinking with every rise in the cost of living, the Office of War Information said this week.

AUG 21 1943

Nine million are dependents of men now serving in the armed forces of the United States.

Nearly 2,200,000 are aged persons on state public assistance rolls.

Another million are disabled veterans drawing pensions or disability compensation, or the widows and dependent children of veterans.

739,000 CHILDREN

Retired and disabled firemen, policemen, state and municipal employees totalling 158,000 are receiving pensions or retirement pay.

Dependent children receiving aid through Federal and State welfare funds number 739,000.

Fifty-three thousand are blind.

About [illegible] retired workers, widows and young children receive social insurance payments under the Old Age and Survivors Insurance program of the Social Security Board.

AUG 21 1943

More than 400,000 persons are drawing annuities for which they had put away their savings for many years.

BLIND DEFENSE TRAINER ANXIOUS TO DO HIS PART

AUG 3[illegible] 1943

TUSKEGEE, Alabama — (ANP) —"Just because I am blind does not mean that I [illegible] assume my share of the war effort," said Ocie Lee McLain, blind ESMWT tranee in the courses of physics and mathematics at [illegible], Alabama, last week after the Library of Congress had forwarded him a treatise in braille on "Principals of Physics."

Atlanta, Georgia

The 35-year old trainee lost his sight through an accident several years ago. He earns his living by directing the activities of a mattress factory.

Daily World

S. S. Panther Built At Cost Of $3,000,000

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily World

Two Others To Be Sent Down Ways This Year

NOV 2 1943

CHESTER, Pa.—(SNS)—The S. S. 'Marine Panther,' the sixth constructed in Shipyard No. 4 of the Sun Shipbuilding Company for the U. S. Maritime Commission was launched here Thursday at 4:30 with Mrs. Nannie B. Alexander, wife of Cleveland Alexander, a guard of Shipyard No. 4 as sponsor.

Mr. Alexander has been in the company's employ since February 20 1941. On November 27 1942, he was appointed to his present job.

The S. S. "Marine Panther," a troopship costing approximately $3,000,000 will be followed before the end of the year by two others completing a schedule of eight since the first keel was laid in this Negro-manned yard on December 5 of last year.

John G. Pew, Jr., vice president of the Sun Ship Compnay, was in charge of the ceremonies.

Capt. Thos. Campbell To Maryland School

SEP 18 1943

Deferder

Chicago, Ill.

Capt. Campbell

TUSKEGEE AIR FIELD. Ala.— Captain Thomas M. Campbell, M.C., 795th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Camp Hood, Texas, has arrived by plane at Tuskegee Institute, his home, where he is spending a few hours with his wife, Mrs. Helen Campbell and his young daughter, Anna Helene. Capt. Campbell is enroute to Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, for a three week special training course in chemical warfare. His friends are congratulating him on his recent promotion from 1st lieutenant to captain and his being chosen from his outfit to attend this school in Maryland.

N. Y. War Plant Called 'Modern Melting Pot

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

SEP 11 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y. — A New York war plant where Negro and white employees are working side by side, was described on the War Production Board's weekly radio program "Soldiers of Production," on August 22. The plant was depicted as a modern melting pot where many nationalities are represented.

The factory is the Breslee Manufacturing Company, a war plant that's busy these days turning out canvas equipment for war weapons, and also one of the top manufacturers of the highly effective fragmentation bomb parachute.

Among the four employees, all of different racial stock, interviewed by the announcer, was Mrs. Ethel Blackwell, 45, a machine operator who hems the top of canvas gun covers. A naturalized American, she came here from Barbados, British West Indies, 30 years ago.

Mrs. Blackwell reported two sons in the service. A third son died shortly after he had volunteered but before he could be inducted into the Army.

One of the sons is a staff sergeant in the ordnance division and is stationed in Arizona The other son is at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

In addition to her regular employment, Mrs. Blackwell is a member of several civic committees and a post warden in Civilian Defense.

Miss Willie Mae Love, 20, a native of Valdosta, Ga., and a resident of New York for seven years, was also scheduled to appear but arrived too late for the broadcast. Working as an assembler in the parachute department, Miss Love's job requires much skill. She was formerly a hotel worker and underwent a period of training before beginning her war [illegible]

"Soldiers of Production" is a program of the Labor Production Office of the War Production Board, and is produced by Alton Alexander. Presented each Sunday from 11:00 to 11:30 A. M.-EWT, this program is a salute to the men and women fighting the battle for freedom on our assembly lines.

'No Discrimination,' President Rules

World-Telegram

By the United [illegible]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6.—President Roosevelt in a letter to Attorney General Biddle today said his executive order requiring a "no discrimination" clause in all government contracts, was mandatory and must be incorporated in all government agreements.

The President's interpretation cleared up confusion caused by a ruling of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren in the case of a contract with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. of Kansas City. Mr. Warren held that the executive order which required any government contractor not to discriminate against any employee or applicant on account of race, creed, color or national origin was a directive only and not mandatory.

New York, N. Y.

The President wrote Attorney General Biddle that "there is no need for me to reiterate the fundamental principles underlying the promulgation of the executive order, mainly, that the prosecution of the war demands that we utilize fully all available manpower and that the discrimination by war industries against persons for any of the reasons named in the order is detrimental to the prosecution of the war and is opposed to our national Democratic purposes."

B'klyn Firm Promises to Hire Negroes

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

The industrial department of the Brooklyn Urban League announced yesterday that, as a result of a conference between the employment officials of the Arma Engineering Corporation and the Urban League's industrial secretary, the company promises full cooperation to the League's efforts to procure more employment for Negroes.

The conference followed a statement by Lorenzo Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League, that the Arma Corp. was rejecting "too many colored applicants." The company revealed in its talks with the League its thorough satisfaction with its present Negro employees, yesterday,s announcement said. It was brought out that some foremen of Arma had testified in writing that they were satisfied with the Negro workers.

The company now has about 400 Negro employees distributed throughout the plant, in a wide variety of occupations, among a total of more than 6,000 workers. It was brought out also that talks with Negro workers in the plant revealed satisfaction with their jobs and their treatment.

Wife of Negro Lieut. Col. Serves as Production Soldier

New York, N. Y.

Daily Worker

Mrs. Benjamin Davis, Jr., wife of the organizer of America's all-Negro Air Squadron, and daughter-in-law of Brig. Gen. Benjamin Davis, is working on an important and confidential job at one of the nation's greatest war plants, the Sperry Gyroscope Co., Brooklyn.

It was a toss-up at first whether Mrs. Davis would follow in the steps of her distinguished husband and his father, and join the Women's Army Corps or put her talents into industry. Industry won out and Mrs. Davis is working as an instrument inspector there.

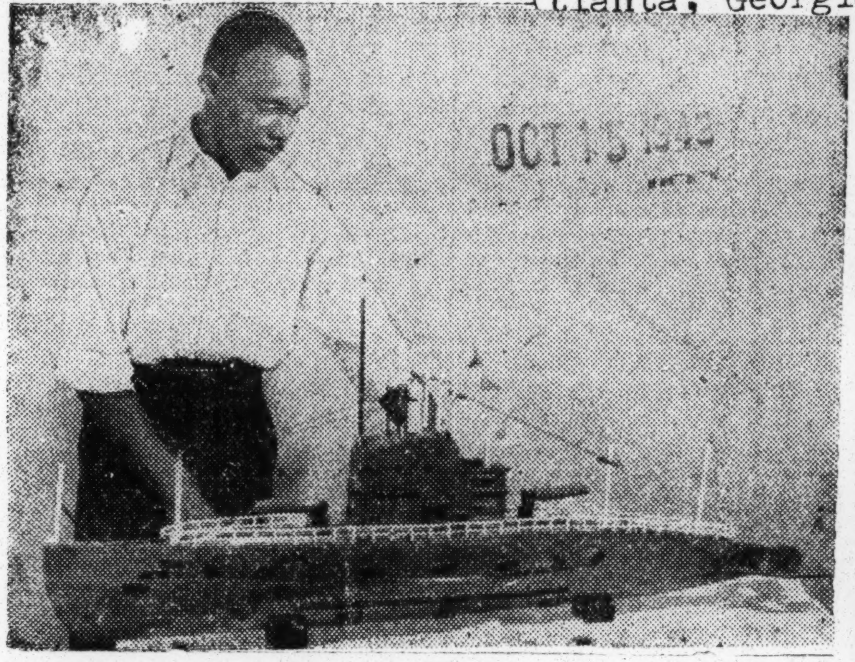
Her husband, Lieut. Col. Davis, is in the North African war theatre commanding an all-Negro air squadron that has already been engaged in some of the fiercest sky fighting on the [illegible]sian and Si[illegible] fronts. Her father-in-law, the Brigadier General rose from the ranks to become the first colored general officer in the United States Army.

While Mrs. Davis feels her work as an inspector in the great Sperry plant may be less exciting than her husband's job, she says, ". . . it is just as important in its own way and is a job that almost anyone with a little common sense can learn to do. . . ." Mrs. Davis is a graduate of the New Haven Teachers' College and studied at the Yale University School of Education and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Lieut. Col. Davis was graduated from West Point in 1936. He was appointed to the Academy by Congressman Oscar De Priest of the 1st Congressional District, Illinois.

Virginian Makes Hobby Pay

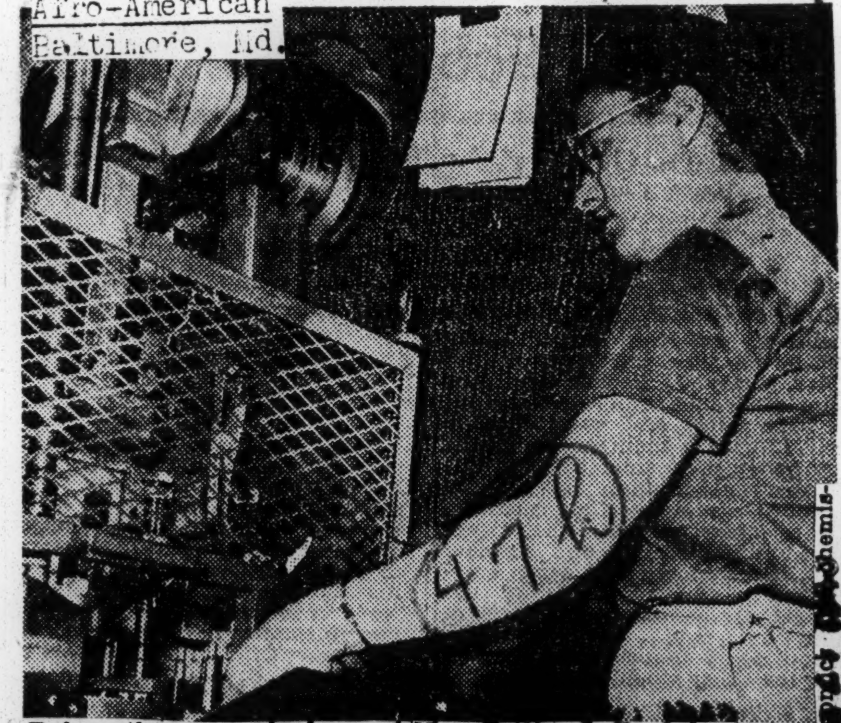
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



NORMAN E. ROSS, model maker of Richmond, Va., who has turned his hobby to a paying profession. A specialist in building ship models with only a ruler and a razor blade, he left Richmond last week to take a job in Newport News. The model of a submarine, pictured here, was made from pictures and drawings in magazines and books. Constructed of light balsam wood, the hull is built after the fashion of a real ship and an outer "skin" of balsam strips is glued on.—(ANP Photo Courtesy Richmond News Leader.)

SECRETARY OPERATES MACHINE

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



47h

Before the war broke out Thelma Berry was a busy secretary for the Twin City Urban league. Now she operates a taper and plug machine at the Twin Cities Ordnance plant, New Brighton, Minn., and she's as much at home at her huge machine as she was at her typewriter. Mrs. Berry is a graduate of the University of Minnesota where she received her degree in home [illegible] chemistry. Her husband is a veterinarian for the Department of Agriculture in Minnesota.

47h-1943

Saga Of Sun Shipyard Tribute To Sagacity Of Emmett Scott

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By ALFRED E. SMITH

(Defender Washington Bureau)

SCOTT ON THE JOB WITH SUN SHIPBUILDERS

At the Sun Shipyard No. 4, Personnel Director Emmett J. Scott (right), chats with three workers (left to right) George Thomas, Oswald Gilford and E. Chism.

CHESTER, Pa.—An experiment, say the dictionaries, is a test by which something is confirmed or proved. Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company has experimented with an "all-Negro" yard.

Year-old Shipyard No. 4, staffed by some 8,000 Negro workers, has confirmed and proved startling things of interest and value to American industry and American race relations. The intriguing confirmation process is a saga of the shipyards.

On Wednesday, May 27, 1942, without fanfare, John G. Pew, Sun Ship's president, announced in the daily press construction of a new yard to be staffed with Negro workers, initial supervision of necessity to be white, until Negro supervisors could be trained. Personnel director for the new yard was announced as Dr. Emmett J. Scott of Washington, D. C.

Industrialist Pew had conceived in January a revolutionary use of Negroes as ship workers, possibly while contemplating the bare bottom of the usual labor market. He prevailed upon Doctor Scott to come to Philadelphia for a series of conferences. The terse May announcement marked end of an exploratory period of about three months.

Scott Lays Plans

Availability of Dr. Scott, mellowed Negro leader, a happy combination of personal charm, sheer intellect, sagacity, and an unparalleled experience including 18 years as secretary to Booker T. Washington, a diplomatic assignment to Liberia by President Taft, a special assistantship to the Secretary of War during World War I, and 19 years as secretary and as secretary-treasurer of Howard university, was a windfall.

Frankly suspicious of some potentialities of an all-Negro yard, which northern Negro leadership would undoubtedly regard as unwarranted extension of Jim Crow segregation, Dr. Scott, rated a "conservative" in comparison with young New Deal-nurtured Negro leaders, wieghed the matter carefully between conferences with the impatient Pew.

He called in one or two of his life-long friends and laid the cards on the table. Finally, fortified with their advice, guaranteed adequate authority, and assured a healthy overall race policy by the at-first mildly skeptical Mr. Pew, he was granted leave of absence from the Republican National committee and from February through the May-to-July, 1942, construction period, he planned long and shrewdly.

Work Begins

Under the magic touch of the Pew engineers, some 2½ square miles of desolate sand dunes and river mud on the Delaware elbow adjacent, the Sun yards were transformed figuratively overnight into the most modernly equipped yard in the area. Twenty-eight (28) shipways in all touch flanks on the same shoreline as Yard 4, between towering cranes capable of lifting an average family dwelling. Wide "highway" piers mark deep wet docks for launched but unfitted vessels. Envy of workers in other yards are two travograph robots which slice through piled layers of ship armor steel with the facility and precision of a tailor's cutting machine slicing through cloth thicknesses. It is said, there are only six in operation in the U. S.

Concurrently, there [illegible] other transformations. First [illegible]re in the Negro press over the segregation issue was surprisingly light, and soon subsided editorially into a state of watchful waiting. Negro leaders, after some token protests, assumed the apparent position that immediate employment of several thousand Negro skilled workers constituted an "entering wedge" infinitely more important than physical arrangements which possibly would crumble.

All of this was in part a commentary [illegible] faith of the Negro in Emme[illegible]

NOV 6 1943

Workers Swarm In

Real transformation began in June, 1942. Sun shipyards have always employed Negro labor, but the 2,000 Negro workers in January, 1942, were concentrated almost wholly in the "bullpen" which supplies laborers when and where needed for all heavy work, such as cleaning, digging, or lifting. In June, Negro workers with and without skills swarmed in from the Chester area — Philadelphia, Camden, Wilmington — in such numbers as to dispel fears of President Pew that the Negro labor market like the white, was depleted.

Today 18,000 Negro workers in all have been employed, nearly one-half of the overall total. The "turn-over" here, as elsewhere has reduced this total hiring number to the present total of 12,000. They are being used in nearly every conceivable capacity. Excepting original employees, all of these have come through the exacting routine of the employment office at the gate of Yard No. 4. There, an office staff of 14, functions effortlessly but efficiently amid unceasing bustle. Charles A. Shorter, an assistant to Doctor Scott, tirelessly gives preliminary interviews to each of the hundreds of applicants who crowd the office each day from opening to closing. Promising applicants are assigned to women interviewers who secure vital information for record file cards. Those passing these screenings—Dr. Scott having passsed on questionable cases—are given physical examinations, fingerprinted and photographed for identification buttons.

NOV 6 1943

Throughout Yards

This employment office, gateway to Yard 4, is the gateway to opportunity. This is the major miracle making this a shipyard saga. Yard 4 alone employs some 8,000 Negro workers. The remainder are employed in the other Sun Yards, thoroughly integrated. Graduates from the inspired training programs in Yard 4, these fugitives from the "bullpens" now weld and rivet and machine tool from one end of the vast Sun yards to the other. There is no involuntary segregation at Sun Ship.

Just outside the employment office door, a round-faced Negro engineer drives a puffy switch engine, busy shunting loaded flat cars along the maze of Yard 4's trackage. It puffs past vast orderly piles of materials, past humming machine shops, and the hangar-like fabrication shops where whole sections of ships take shape before being swung into place by mammoth cranes. It swings around by the ship ways, each swarming with workers on the scaffolding around ships in various stages of construction. It pauses to allow a towering traveling crane, a Negro operator peering down from its three-story high cab, to lift off ton-heavy supplies from the cars.

On it huffs and puffs again, past more ways, crossing and recrossing Yard 4's unequalled miles of paving, pausing at last before the wet docks where five mighty grey vessels ride high and easily. These are Yard 4's prides, its launched vessels being feverishly fitted out for immediate commission. Fittings are not those of the ordinary merchantman, for these, the largest merchant ships launched during this war, have been designated as troop ships by the U. S. Maritime commission, because of their excellence of design and carrying capacity. Each must have its complement of anti-aircraft and submarine guns, and each its quarters for Navy gun crews.

One Ready For Wars

One of these, the first-launched "Marine Eagle," has had its shakedown cruise and is ready for the wars. Flanking it is the mighty "Marine Raven," largest Sun merchantman ever launched, then the "Marine Robin," and next the "Wolf." The latest was launched October 18.

Yard 4's 8,000 workers, approximately 300 of them white and 670 of them women, boast high morale. Announcement that these are troop ships to carry precious human cargoes has made it higher.

Dr. Scott's other assistant, Jerome H. Holland, the "Brud" Holland of Cornell football fame, practically lives with the workers, maintaining his office close to the ways, and interesting himself in the actual welfare of the worker on the job. There is a Yard Band which plays during lunch hours and for special occasions, to the delight of weary workers. The yard also has a winning baseball team.

Aid to morale is the advancement of workers through promotion. The yard foremen, white, frequently turn shipmaking responsibilities over to their colored assistants. Other of the 300 whites, not in supervisory capacities, work in Yard 4 by choice. Women workers, like men, are in varied and skilled jobs, one doughty miss running one of the travograph steel shearers.

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Medical Service

Master morale stroke is the ultra-modern dispensary, with its nine comely female nurses, five male nurses, and three orderlies, its ambulance, and its unexcelled service. Organized in inspired fashion by Dr. Horace Scott, a practicing physician of Philadelphia, and son of Dr. Emmett Scott, this dispensary has records which at first glance seem to reflect a too-high frequency of accidental injuries in the yard. Actually, Negro workers in other Sun yards are wont to slip away with their minor injuries to have them treated at Yard 4. Presence of the comely nurses, it is feared, has its effect. A feature of the dispensary is the $3,000 x-ray machine.

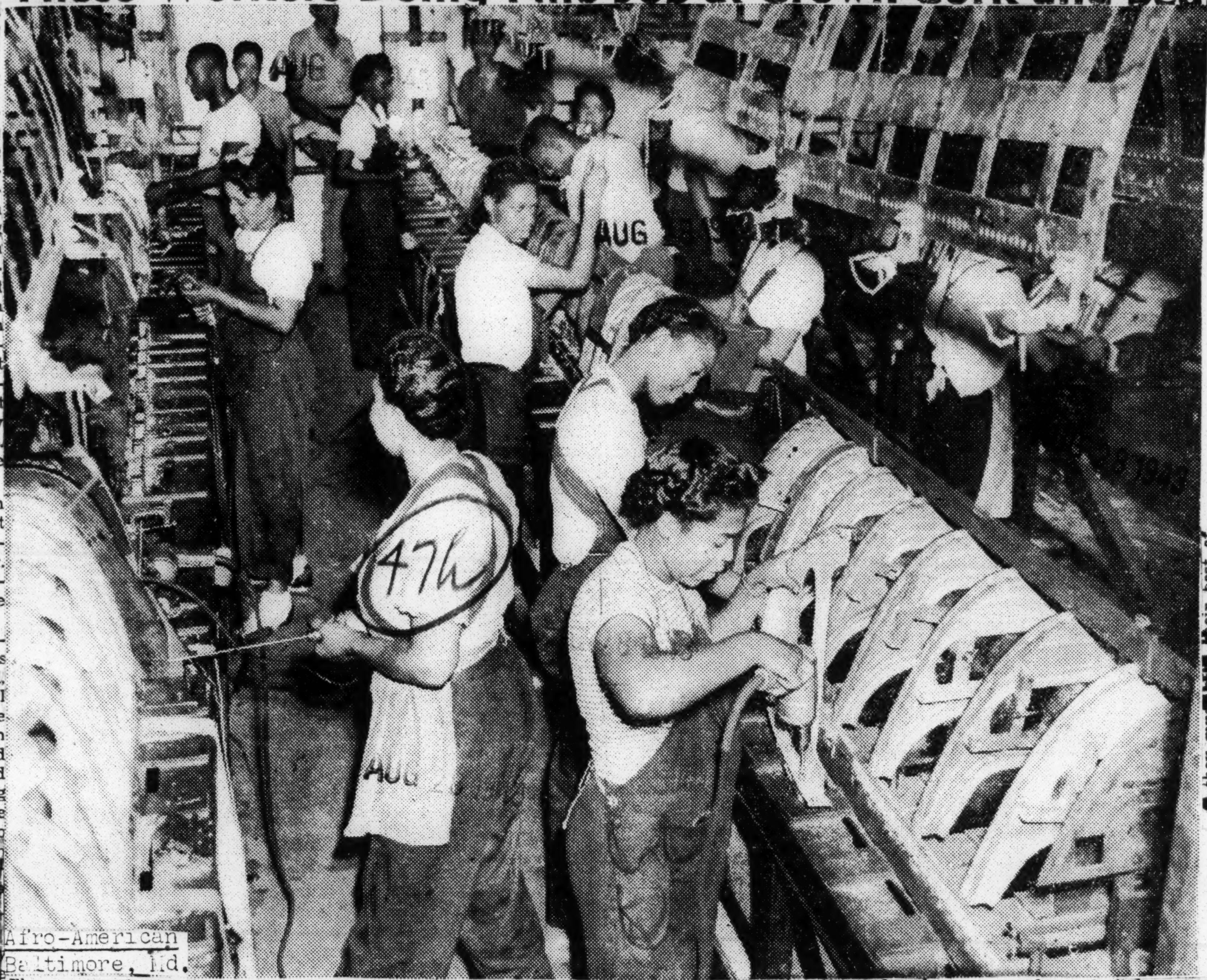
Every day, local trains from Philadelphia are full of clean-cut Negro workers with the unmistakable mark of the shipbuilder. Some wear their protective helmets, some are women, some mere boys.

From 2,000 low paid Negro laborers to 18,000 Negro workers hired since Yard No. 4 opened, skilled and semi-skilled and all paid the identical wages paid white workers for the same work. From no Negro women to 670 colored disciples of the riveter, lathe, and the torch. From a shipbuilding and drydock company with three white yards and one all-Negro, to a company with four yards open alike to the qualified regardless of color and sex, one of them with a Negro personnel director and Negro supervisors.

Conceived with misgivings by President John G. Pew, these miracles Dr. Scott modestly ascribes to the natural ability of Negro workers to make good when given a chance. [illegible] at 70 he does not spare himself; he sees that they get a chance. He holds the reins in his office lightly but firmly, he misses no detail. When they told him he could not find a Negro fingerprint expert, he laughed and came up with two, hiring the more experienced. When the "Marine Eagle" took its shakedown cruise in rough waters, he was aboard.

The Pews do not like fanfare. No great ceremonies at launchings. They build a good ship, with U. S. Maritime experts there to watch and check, workers gather round and they slide it down the ways with a cheer and start another. Yard 4, following this pattern, is quiet, unsung amid its miracles, a Saga of the shipyards.

These Workers Doing Fine Job at Crown Cork and Seal



Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

These are sub-assembly workers in the aircraft division of Crown, Cork and Seal Company in Baltimore. They are among the many colored employees in this division who are doing a tip-top production job, according to the management. Workers in the foreground are drilling holes in the rib of the leading edge wing of a famed bomber. Others in the background do sub-assembly work. This is one of the two operations performed in this section. Colored persons also work in the section which produces parts for this same aircraft.

America Must Decide Now:

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Whether Negro War Worker Is Asset or Liability

"The Negro War Worker—Asset or Liability? America Must Decide Now," is the title [illegible] the Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department's semi-annual report of activities concerning the employment of NYC's Negroes during the first half of 1943.

The report, prepared by the league's industrial secretary, Loren[illegible] Davis, lists the following conclusions as constituting the major obstacles impeding the fair employment of Negro workers in the war production effort of this area "drawn upon the observations made from its dealings with thousands of Negro workers and hundreds of employers":

- unfair hi[illegible] practi[illegible] essential and [illegible]essential employers. More than 50% of the war plants served by this department still suggest discrimination in the employment of Negroes;
- the refusal of employers to hire Negroes at their highest skills or to upgrade them where their skill can best be utilized in war production;
- Negro woman power is still the most greatly neglected segment of Negro workers. They are almost totally denied clerical employment. Qualifications demanded of them by large industries are so unnecessarily hig[illegible] pa[illegible]al and arbitrary as to auto[illegible]ify them;
- industry for the most part is not understanding of the problems faced by newly introduced Negro workers and therefore not fair in its treatment of them. It is too ready to fire Negroes in questionable situations unusually provoked by anti-Negro, unpatriotic agitators;
- lukewarm and biased labor organizations which should demand the utilization of more Negroes;
- the need for a constant check on the referral procedures of the local U. S. Employment Service offices to ins[illegible] undisc[illegible]tory placement m[illegible]s.

Advice to Workers

The report gives the following advice to Negro workers to aid them in gaining their just place in the war effort:

- they must be vigorous but orderly, rational and tolerant in striving for their rights;
- they must unite themselves with progressive forces as organized labor which has shown sincere interest i[illegible] Negroes' fight for economic e[illegible]y;
- they mus[illegible] their best effort to their job—be cooperative and avoid interracial friction;
- take training courses for post-war value;
- formally report all cases of race discrimination in order to exhibit how widespread it is and the urgent need for corrective measures.

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Crown Cork Supervisor, Leaders

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

AUG 28 1943

Shown are the general supervisors and leaders of aircraft division, Crown Cork and Seal Company, located at O'Donnell and Kresson Streets, Baltimore. The leaders were trained by Clifton Scott, general supervisor, a graduate of Hampton optioned to the company from Glenn L. Martin Company. Sitting left to right, are Miss Lillie Branch, leader; Mr. Scott and Miss Elsie Anderson, leader. Standing, left to right, William Mason, leader; Carlston Peterson, sub-foreman; Gordon Owens, leader; W. Holmes, leader; Antonio Mello, leader, and Manuel Mello, sub-foreman.

Technicians Outstripping Their Own High Records

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

AUG 14 1943

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How an important part was played by an American Negro in helping produce in record time thousands of pounds of a secret grease urgently needed overseas by General Dwight Eisenhower was revealed by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey in announcing the production of the vital war material.

Outstripping even its own high production records to turn out in a matter of hours the special lubricant, the technicians of Standard Oil figured in a colorful drama that matches present-day movie thrillers.

Not disclosing the purpose for which the grease was to be used, General Eisenhower recently cabled the U. S. Ordnance Department ordering the lubricant. Ordnance officers turned over the order to the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey requesting 45,000 pounds quickly for "an important war operation."

How It's Done

Assigned the job of making the grease, workers at the Standard Oil plant at Baltimore were told of the importance of their assignment and were held in instant readiness to start the grease-making machine. Three hours late, the ingredients arrived at 11:30 a. m. on a Wednesday. The plant then went into furious action to make the grease which never before had been made in this country.

Turning continuously, the huge kettles, with their belt-driven paddles, turned out 1,800 pails of grease totaling 15,000 pounds by Friday night, and fleets of Army trucks formed convoys to rush it to a ship ready to sail for Africa. By Saturday night an additional 15,000 pounds were made. [illegible] operating under intense strain, the belts and paddles on most of the kettles broke down. Despite this serious handicap, the final 9,000 pounds, completing the order, were delivered on time Sunday night.

The Ordnance Department then suddenly asked Standard Oil to make 260,000 pounds more, to be delivered ninety-six hours after the first order.

With the Baltimore plant useless because of the breakdown of kettles, Standard Oil sublet the contract for 110,000 pounds to another firm, furnishing it with the secret formula. The remaining 150,000 pounds were assigned to the Standard Oil plant at Pittsburgh. Army trucks from various eastern points were rounded up to rush the ingredients, including some fats salvaged by housewives, to the Pittsburgh grease kettles.

Vital Work

Informed of the tremendous task to be done, Edward Harris, Negro, Assistant Greasemaker at the Pittsburgh plant, along with his co-workers, declared that they would neither eat nor sleep until the job was done. The Pittsburgh grease kettles were driven night and day without a let-up and Harris carefully watched them to prevent a breakdown.

Then the sub-contractor notified the Army that it could not complete its part in producing the grease. To the Pittsburgh plant fell the task of making the additional 110,000 pounds.

The grease kettles continued to operate without a slow-down and Harris and his fellow greasemakers turned out the grease for over 24 hours without food or rest.

As fast as the grease was made it was sped east in railroad express trains. When the final 22,000 pounds were not made on time for train shipment, Army bombers flew the pails to an embarkation [illegible] where they were transferred on shipboard.

Feeds the Army

Totalling the amount of grease made, Standard Oil discovered that 245,554 pounds were manufactured—554 pounds more than were requested by the Army. At the same time, Ordnance officers revealed that speed was of such paramount importance that neither Standard Oil nor the Army mentioned the price of the grease.

When all of the grease was delivered to General Eisenhower, he cabled, "The grease has been received and is doing a satisfactory job."

For their work in producing the grease in record time, Harris and other greasemakers from the Pittsburgh and Baltimore plants, were commended by Army Ordnance officers and Standard Oil officials at a dinner held June 14 at the Union League, Philadelphia.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

MAJORITY OF JOB

INEQUITY CASES AFFECT NEGROES

DEC 22 1943

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New York, Dec. 21 (AP).—Malcolm Ross, national chairman of the president's committee on fair employ[illegible] cases involving [illegible] comprised about 80 per cent of all complaints received by the agency. He added at a press conference there had been a rise since last July in cases involving anti-Semitism.

Negroes and other minority groups in this area, Ross said, did not have as much difficulty in obtaining jobs as they did in being upgraded to higher skills.

"From July to September, 1943," he said, "twice as many women as Negroes were placed, of whom one in four went [illegible] skilled jobs, whereas one in 12 Negroes went into [illegible] jobs."

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850 Workers In Memphis Get Army-Navy 'E'

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 3 1943

47

MEMPHIS. — (ANP) — More than 850 Negro employes of the American Finishing company here Thursday were given the army-navy "E" emblem following an impressive ceremony during which the coveted award was presented the concern at its plant.

Featured speaker was Brig. Gen W. A. Danielson of the Memphis Army Service Forces depot, who praised the gathered Negro workers for their fine contribution to the victory effort. Officials of the company, one of the largest users of Negro workmen in the South, also praised the workers and disclosed that they were participating 100 per cent in the payroll deduction plan for the purchase of war bonds.

Recently it was revealed, the workers voluntarily increased their rate of deductions from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. Absenteeism, it was said, has been kept at a surprisingly low level.

Brooklyn Navy Yard Employs 70,000

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AUG 14 1943

52 Out of 60 Interviewed Say Colored and White Can Work Well Together

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BROOKLYN, N.Y. — (Special) —Although I saw and interviewed at least a hundred colored and white employees in the Brooklyn Navy Yard who are working together in machine shops, foundries, on ships, and in offices, I left with the feeling that there was still plenty of room for improvement in racial relations on this industrial front.

In some cases I viewed either deliberate or unconscious segregation of colored men and women at work benches. As the Navy Yard is the employer of some 70,000 people, the treatment of the racial problem by this governmental agency is evil foreboding for the future when the war is won and peace restored and when the colored people may again feel the pinch of unemploy-

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ment much worse than their white brethren.

Supervisors Talk

I spoke to several supervisors and asked them why the malpractices of segregation were continued in time of war. Did it aid production? Was it done under order from higher-ups? Were they afraid the mingling of white and colored people might cause racial conflict?

They replied that they believed that colored employees work in better harmony if put together in one group rather than mingled with whites. They admitted that colored men and women were among the most efficient workers in the Yard, and also that they had had no orders from their superiors to keep them segregated. However they felt the race question was a very ticklish one and that it was no business of theirs to go out of their way to make an attempt to solve it. As one supervisor put it, "I am here to see that the job is done and nothing else."

War Veteran Loses 4 Days

I could extract no more information from them.

I spoke to a colored employee who told me a very sad story. He said that he had been in the armed forces and was recently given a medical discharge from the army after seeing action overseas.

He had contracted malaria and after he was sufficiently recovered he applied for and received employment at the Navy Yard. It seems that he had a recurrence of malaria a few weeks ago and was unable to get to a telephone to call his shop and report his absence from work, nor did he have anybody at home to call for him.

He was out sick two days. when he returned to work, he received a suspension of two days for failing to comply with the regulation which makes it mandatory for an employee to call in if he is absent from work. He also lost his sick leave pay for this reason. He explained the situation to his superiors but could make no headway with them.

They insisted that regulations were regulations and could do nothing about it. As a result, he lost four days' pay through no fault of his own.

This man felt that he should have been treated more fairly in view of the service he had given his country.

Engineer Does Menial Work

I spoke to another colored employee who told me he was an engineer and also a graduate of a technical school where he had been taught to operate an engine lathe.

lathe. He told his supervisor about this. But instead of his being put to work in accordance with his abilities, he was placed at some menial work that an unskilled man could do and was still doing it for over six months. He definitely believed he was being discriminated against because of the color of his skin.

I visited the Navy Yard cafeteria at lunch time and found groups of colored women and men sitting together at one table and whites at another. I approached the first table casually, sat down and engaged the colored workers in conversation.

Why Segregate Yourselves

"Why," I asked, "do you people segregate yourselves at lunch time? Wouldn't you like it better to sit and talk with your white fellow-employees"?

"We certainly would," one man answered, "but they might think we're trying to encroach on them so we feel we're better off staying right here."

"That certainly is no way to solves the problem," I contended. Somebody has to make the first move. After all, you're working with them. Why not invite them to your table for lunch? You've got nothing to lose by trying. The most they could do is refuse."

I left their table after receiving a promise from this man that he would ask some of the white workers in his shop to have lunch with him the following day.

What White Workers Say

I approached a table where there were a dozen white men eating and talking. I sat down and spoke to a young man who told me he was a lawyer and had had to give up his practice and work in defense industry to support his family.

I asked him how he felt about associating and working with colored people, and whether he had any race prejudices.

'Nnone whatsoever," he replied, "You know," he said, "One thing education has done for me is to open my eyes to these things. I have absolutely no use for any person who has race or religious prejudice."

"Have you any colored friends"? I asked.

"Yes, many of them and should I cultivate another friendship here in the Navy Yard, I wouldn't have the slightest hesitation of associating freely with him and of eating at the same table with him."

Relations Better Now

At the cigarette counter I spoke to a colored man of about 50 years of age who told me he was a veteran of the first World War and that he believed that relations between colored and white employees were better now than when he first started work in the Yard and that this was partly due to the fact that they were getting used to working together all day long.

He admitted that the problem was still a long way from a solution but he believed that these things took time and that race prejudices which had been going on for centuries could not be done away with overnight.

I asked him whether the management was helping to eradicate discrimination at the Navy Yard. He said that some supervisors made an attempt and some didn't.

"It's all up to the foreman you work for," he contended. "If he's a decent fellow, he gives everybody a square deal. If not, well, you know the answer."

"What are you doing about it"? I challenged.

"Just this," he replied. "Tonight I am going to speak at an American Legion meeting on the evils of racial discrimination. Maybe they'll throw me out when they hear what I have to say, but I'll take the chance."

I shook his hand and wished him luck.

52 Out of 60 Answer

I left him and started on a tour of the building. I spoke to sixty men and women, half of them colored and the other half whites. To all of them I proposed the question:

"Have you any objections to working together with members of the other race and do you think this would cause racial conflict?

I am happy to report that fifty-two answered that they had no objections whatsoever nor any fear tha tit would cause any disruption. Only eight dissented, six for the reason that it might cause trouble and two because they believed the problem was best if left alone.

Employees Ahead of Managers

On the basis of these interviews I feel that the employees at the Navy Yard seem to have a better understanding of race issues than the management and should be given wider latitude in associating with and working with members of another race.

Perhaps it is custom and perhaps it is tradition which makes the management see things in another light, but whatever it is it had better open its eyes to reality.

And that reality is the fact that we are all engaged in the same struggle now on a world front and that the enemy does not look for the color of our skin when he faces us on the battlefield.

War Worker's Pledge

Argus

NOV 26 1943

AN EDITORIAL

DIRECT and many statements have appeared in the daily papers during the last week which indicated very definitely that thousands of war workers will lose their jobs in the very near future. And while we do not expect the old rule "LAST to be hired and the FIRST to be fired" to hit the Negroes with the same force it has in the past, yet it is not too late for us to renew our efforts to work and work so as to make our services indispensable to the employer so there will be fewer among us who will lose our present jobs. And with a good record of work and fine attitudes toward employers and fellow workers, it will be easy to get work in other fields, whether government or private industries.

The following pledge is offered by the Hold-Your-Job movement sponsored by the National Council of Negro Women:

St. Louis, Missouri

"The Pledges"

"As a Negro war worker, I know that the job I am performing every day is contributing to the victory of my country in a war to guarantee four fundamental Freedoms to peoples of every race, color and creed. I know, also, I am contributing to a record which will prove to the world that Negroes are efficient and dependable workers.

"I fully realize that my conduct, my work habits, my attitudes, and trustworthiness are the weapons I must use to combat misunderstanding and prejudices, and are the tools I must use to open wider the doors of opportunity which now stands ajar for my race. Further, I realize that training is an additional tool to that opportunity.

"I shall never for a moment forget that thirteen million Negroes believe in me and depend upon me. I shall perform every duty, large or small, with the knowledge that the employment of other Negro workers may depend upon my success. I am a soldier on the Home Front, and I shall keep the faith.

To my Nation, and to my Race, I solemnly pledge:

1. To carry myself with the dignity of a worker and a citizen of my community by being congenial so as to not make my fellow-workers bear the brunt of my fatigue, nervous tensions, or my bitterness growing out of my grievances.

2. To be industrious and efficient, so those who would hold me back shall never be able to defend their actions by pointing to my record and finding it blotted with inexcusable absences, lack of respect for supervisors, or failure to do my job well.

3. To safeguard my health, so that I am physically fit to work efficiently every day—including the day after week-ends and the day after pay days.

4. To support organized labor not only as a member, but as an active participants, for I realize that this is an avenue through which many of my problems as a member may be approached.

5. To be clean, neat, and suitably dressed on and off the job.

6. To stand firmly for every privilege of an American citizen, including the opportunity to use my skills for the Victory of my country; but at the same time to accept the full responsibility of deserving every privilege I seek as my right.

7. Finally, I re-affirm, as a real and living creed, the universal avowal of every American:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands.........one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Nation New York, N. Y.

THE BRESLEE Manufacturing Company, which produces war materials, not only hires, pays, and promotes Negroes on the same basis as whites, but is encouraging its employees to think about the issues involved in the war by offering a $25 war bond for the best letter on the subject "What I Am Fighting For."

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Publishers' Committee Advises O W I on Press Problems

New York, N. Y. Amsterdam Star-News

By ALEXANDER BARNES

Acutely aware, through first hand information, of the confusion and discouragement of American Negroes concerning their stake in the war, colored publishers meeting here this week took steps to increase the race's knowledge of "what we are fighting for" and to make further progress in their campaign to have the armed services of the nation liberalize policies controlling their utilization of colored men and women in unform.

Toward this end the publishers on Friday and Saturday conferred with Navy and Office of War Information officials and Wednesday morning visited the White House with proposals designed to remove some of the causes of disaffection.

The newspaper group gathered for a two-day series of conferences in a special session called by the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, which embraces in its membership over forty of the largest and most influential Negro publications throughout the country.

A committee representing the newspapermen laid before Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of Navy personnel, reports of complaints voiced by America's largest racial minority [illegible] the limited opportunities permitted Negroes in the Navy. These complaints were especially directed against the failure to enlist Negro Waves, chaplains, and aviators and against the Navy's refusal to permit Negroes to become officers.

This committee also urged a broader program by the Navy public relations bureau in providing information about colored service men and their achievements and activities even within the scope of their present opportunities.

At the White House, in a conference with Stephen Early, the President's press secretary, the publishers' representatives discussed the general problems and specificially the current obstacles limiting them in keeping the administration and their reading public fully advised on matters of vital public interest.

After this conference with Mr. Early the publishers took action looking toward representation in White House press conferences and in the Senate and House press galleries.

In talks with OWI officials proposals were offered in the hope of making more effective that agency's news, pictures, radio and movie shorts presentation of the Negro's role in the war effort, and in augmenting the effectiveness of the Negro's contribution to the government's efforts.

One of the publishers' final actions was to authorize a formal statement to be laid before the President on certain conditions which in the publishers' opinion are contributing to disunity and loss of productiveness in the drive for victory.

The Publishers also discussed their participation in the War Advertising Council, the bill before Congress to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in federal elections, the FEPC and the forthcoming annual observance of Negro Newspaper Week.

In attendance were: John Sengestacke, NNPA president and publisher of the Chicago Defender; P. L. Prattis, executive editor and Mrs. Robert L. Vann, treasurer, Pittsburgh Courier; Carl, Howard and Arnett Murphy, editor, auditor and secretary, Afro-American; Charles Browning, Chicago Defender; **P. Bernard and Thomas W. Young editor and business manager Journal & Guide; Frank Stanley general manager, Louisville** Defender; Carter Wesley, editor, Houston Informer; W. O. Walker, editor, Cleveland Call-Post; Alexander Barnes, promotion manager, Washington Tribune; C. B. Powell, editor, New York Amsterdam Star-News; Joseph Christian, New York Voice; Mrs. Juanita Goodman, Los Angeles Sentinel; Roy Garvin, Joe LaCour and Ralph Matthews of the Washington office of the Afro-American.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Talbert-Hess Model Team at Crown Cork and Seal

Teamed as riveters and rework men, two 18-year-old youths, Calvin L. Talbert and Abraham Hess, white, are teaching older employes at Crown, Cork and Seal Aircraft Division a thing or two about democracy.

The division, located at O'Donnell and Kresson Streets, is a subsidiary making parts for the Glenn L. Martin Company.

The youths have been working as combination since February, when Talbert was first employed, and clicked from the outset in face of snide comments from cynical fellow employes who apparently had little faith that they would endure as a team.

The duo are now known about the plant as trouble shooters. When a faulty piece of work turns up, they are the ones who ferret out the defects and correct them.

Both Like Combination

I was interested, during a recent visit to the plant, to learn how Hess felt about teaming with Talbert, and vice versa. Both said that they wished some of the other employes would follow their example.

They impressed me with the fact that they were making a real and concrete contribution toward ending the war soon which, as they put it, is what everybody should keep foremost in mind anyway.

Hess has been with the compayn for over a year, while Talbert came after graduating from War Vocational Training School No. 453.

The management has noted their work. S. S. Key, white, in charge of employee relations, said:

"They have been working together for several months in this department (leading edge wing section), get along swell and have done a magnificient job."

Constituting about one-fourth of the personnel, colored persons have been working in the same sections with whites since January, but instances wherein races are intermingled are few.

All Doing a Tip Top Job

They are employed in the leading edge wing and spars section as riveters, lathe drillers, subassembly workers and drillers. With few exceptions, all are doing a tip top job, management says.

In general, according to Mr. Key, the relations between races and between employees and management are "exceedingly harmonious." Everything is done to keep them that way, he added.

P. E. Greenhotz, white, manager of the plant, said:

"I think everything has been satisfactory as far as the colored workers are concerned. We have gone to extremes to keep happiness among all workers."

Leisure Time Activities

He was referring to leisure time activities which the company sponsors for the workers, including the underwriting of social affairs and a softball league.

A team composed of colored persons plays regularly in a softball loop with teams from other divisions of Crown, Cork and Seal, Mr. Grenhotz pointed out.

Absenteeism Low

The plant has a remarkably low rate of absenteeism, management avers. Nevertheless, even though conceding that some of it is almost inevitable, they are not remaining complacent, but are taking steps to keep it at an absolute minimum.

Recently the company started operating on a 48-hour, five-day week. This gives workers a long holiday week end, Mr. Key pointed out, and also enables those with families to have adequate time for shopping and other es-

Colored workers are supervised

sential personal matters.

by Clifton Scott, graduate of Hampton Institute, who has been optioned to Crown, Cork and Seal by the Martin Company. He personally trained leaders, sub-foremen and other workers in supervisory capacities.

Trains Woman Foreman

This group includes Miss Irene Cooper, foreman, who handles all problems concerning women while doing a bang-up job in sub-assembly; Manuel Mello and Carleton Peterson, sub-foremen, and seven leaders, including two women.

Although nothing can be said of the exact production output of the workers, progress charts are kept for each operation and they have been steadily rising each month. As Mr. Scott proudly points out, the workers are keeping their production schedules.

The pay for workers, according to management, "is comparable to that received elsewhere in the aircraft industry."

Charges Of Gross Discrimination At Brooklyn Navy Yard Are Denied Categorically By Naval Commander

Age New York, N. Y.

In answer to charges of gross discrimination at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the National Negro Congress received here this week, from the Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, categorical denial of the existence of any discrimination against Negro workers at the Yard, and refused to discuss the matter with Congress officials on the basis that such a discussion "could serve no useful purpose . . . All it could accomplish would be to 're-hash' generalities."

The letter from Rear Admiral Kelly, Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard was received in reply to a request for a conference to discuss gross discrimination in upgrading, working conditions practiced at the Yard against Negro women workers. Negro workers at the Yard reported to the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress continuing abuses which forced them to work under conditions detrimental to their health as well as continued assignments not in line with their work classifications and abilities. Complaints against these conditions, it was reported, led only to lowered efficiency ratings and assignment to more undesirable work.

The Congress, in taking up the cases with the Commandant, indicated its desire to render assistance in arriving at a satisfactory solution to the grievances which lower morale and thereby lower the production of these essential war workers. Although the initial request for an interview was met with complete rebuff, the National Office of the Congress and the Brooklyn Council at a recent meeting, indicated their determination to work with the Brooklyn Urban League, organized labor and other community organizations for full integration and utilization of Negroes at the Yard.

A drive is now under way to get complaints registered through the New York Office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

MANY COLORED WORKERS FAILING TO MAKE GOOD ON JOBS, ANP FINDS

Globe and Independer Nashville, Tenn.

Staff Reporter Gives Results of 3-Year Survey of Plants; Prejudice of Whites Based on Individual Shortcomings, In Most Instances, Taylor Finds.

By [illegible]. Taylor

Dayton, O., Nov. 18 (ANP)—All of us have heard the many bitter stories of Negro workers denied jobs at their skills or denied any kind of emloyment in most of our large industrial plants throughout the country. All of us have been at times discouraged and of course deeply resentful of discriminatory practices by both white industrial leaders and some union organizations.

After a three year study of the problem during which I actually worked at several types of occupations in several kinds of iudustrial plants, I have obtained some very definite information pro and con and drawn some, I hope, useful conclusions. Perhaps at the outset it will be well to deal with mistakes in the Negro labor situation:

Of 1.000 Negroes discharged summarily from their jobs:

314 dismissed for laziness, refusal to work out a given period.

234 dismissed for drunkenness, or coming to work intoxicated.

149 dismissed for using obscene language.

185 dimsissed for being abusive to fellow-workers.

194 dismissed for leaving work without notice.

62 dimsissed for continued boisterousness after warning.

82 dismissed fo[illegible]

Of 500 white workers interviewed as to their willingness to work with Negroes in any capacity:

46 voiced strong sentiments in favor of all Negroes.

181 expressed willingness to work

60 flatly stated they would not tolerate Negroes in the skills.

20 agreed to work anywhere with Negro janitors.

193 qualified their willingness with the privilege of naming Negro workers with whom they would labor.

This last offers some significant interpretations. First, it reflects blame upon Negroes themselves collectively as the prime source of friction. Second, it indicates there is a differentiation by white workers of worthwhile Negroes. Third, it takes discrimination out of the class of plain prejudice and places it as the rightful ally of careful, personal, human reactions. Fourth, it impresses one as the fundamental and focal reason for the necessity of a Negro personnel officer in all employment offices, to provide industry with that acceptable type of Negro worker capable, by virtue of personal attributes, of fitting into the continuity of production lines.

This same group of 500 white workers with whom I talked individually revealed a classication of grievances against Negro workers: 39 per cent unhesitatingly names boisterousness as the prime objection.

17 per cent exclusively designated uncleanness.

9 per cent named both boisterousness and uncleanness together. Thus 325 out of 500 white workers laid the prohibitions against only two faults.

77 per cent gave shiftlessness and laziness.

8 per cent covered many causes under the generalization, incompatibility.

5 per cent linked drunkenness with injurious layoffs.

5 per cent listed arrogance resulting from important jobs.

4 per cent claimed personal contact distasteful to them.

2 per cent [illegible] solely upon the prohibitions of social equality.

But it was [illegible] 100 foremen and superintendents that the greatest surprise came to light. They revealed the following reactions:

46 without qualification expressed themselves heartily in favor of using Negro workers in any job—if there was not danger of white workers walking out. They gave as their reason the ability and steadiness of tried Negroes under them, and their productive capacity.

23 preferred all-Negro crews, picked with care, instead of mixed workers, provided they were available in the skills.

19 wished separate departments handling certain skilled productivity.

10 wanted no Negroes at all except menials.

2 would allow Negro apprentice-helpers without a guarantee of further promotion.

9 executives heading factories or approved shops gave up the following stands:

3 wished to equip entire sections with all-Negro workers, with the statement it would be interesting to see the competition developing between them (white and Negro sections of the same plant), and we owners would really get something done.

4 expressed a desire to elevate responsbile Negroes already in their employ: fear of strikes held them back.

One politely refused to commit himself, but evasively prophesied the universal mingling of workers would occur.

One refused point-blank to consider the hiring of Negroes.

MY OWN CONCLUSIONS

1. Attitudes and traits have contributed immeasurably to the plight of the average Negro worker in the lower [illegible] brackets.

2. That if the Negro worker would put a muffler on his mouth, take the chip off his shoulder, assume a deeper sense of responsibility for the work at hand, and expect to barter a fair amount of labor in exchange for his pay-check, his services would be more in demand in all lines of production.

3. One-fifth of all Negro workers in this bracket are incapable of sustained effort at their given tasks, thus causing the remaining four-fifths to receive the same label in the eyes of the average white worker, who makes no distinction among Negroes.

4. Great numbers of Negro workers are unable to bear promotions with a mental equanimity precluding presumptions of false importance.

5. The average worker enters upon every job calling two strikes upon himself, in that he scouts the eventuality of his own promotion and does nothing to render himself worthy of same.

6. Contrary to our conception, the white worker is sympathetic and friendly to Negro workers of ability.

7. The majority of executives are more than anxious to fit in competent Negro workers who prove free from obnoxious characteristics.

8. The discovery of real ability and proficiency in a Negro worker means usually to the executive, "not where he came but how far can he go."

9. In plants where a firm stand is taken from the start by the head of an organization, little trouble is experienced from newcomers, and they take their places beside Negro workers without comment.

10. The "Uncle-Tom" or "monkey-shine" type Negro worker in any plant is the greatest handicap to the progress of his fellow-men.

11. The system of seniority as employed by both labor unions in big plants is a stumbling-block to masses of Negro workers, since a comedy-type Negro worker may be held above efficient workers below who may not be advanced over him, by virtue of his seniority.

12. The average worker fails to keep pace with the times, and is unwilling to accept modern innovation. He loses stride, and is relegated to the rear.

13. Negro teachers everywhere can do a yeoman's job instilling into youth the dignity of honest labor, and the mi[illegible]ance of doing its job well rather than in a haphazard fashion.

14. The importance of work must be epitomized, instead of a capitulation to frivolity and a deification of false sophistication.

15. My last conclusion pertaining to the general field of Negro workers, skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled, is, "The fault, Dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves that we are underlings."

OCT 19 1943

Negroes Constitute One Out Of Every 14 War Workers, Retiring FEPC Chairman Says

Age New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Negroes have scored real gains in war employment since the beginning of the war emergency, Monsignor Francis J. Hass, retiring chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told newspapermen at his final press conference at the Committee's headquarters, Monday.

"At present," Monsignor Haas declared, "Negroes constitute one out of every 14 war workers, and one out of every 11 government workers."

"Improvement in Negro employment in war industries has been substantial in the last year," the retiring chairman stated.

"In July, 1942," he pointed out, "Negro workers constituted only 5.8 per cent of total war production employees. By July, 1943, this percentage had risen to 7.3 per cent. Since Negroes constitute roughly 10 per cent of our population, you can see that we will have a big job ahead. Negro employment is s[illegible] too few establishments, and there is still much under-utilization of the skills of Negro workers."

Malcolm Ross, his successor, was sworn into office Tuesday, October 19. Mr. Ross, former deputy chairman of the Committee, stated briefly that there would be "complete continuity of the Committee's work," and announced that George M. Johnson, assistant chairman, would be promoted to the deputy chairmanship.

Monsignor Hass stated that he would leave Washington, D. C., within ten days to assume his new duties as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich. He was appointed to this post on October 7 by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

OCT 30 1943

Note For Victory:

People's Voice — New York, N. Y

Largest U. S. Cargo Vessel Constructed by Negroes

CHESTER, Pa.—The cargo ships now being built in Sun Shipbuilding Company's all-Negro yard are to be converted to troop transports, it was announced last Monday afternoon by Rear Admiral Howard L. Vickery, Vice-Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

Admiral Vickery's announcement was made over the yard amplifying system as he stood on the sponsor's platform following the christening of the *S.S. Marine Robin* by Mrs. Anna Key Palmer, great-granddaughter of Francis Scott Key, author of *The Star Spangled Banner.*

To Carry C[illegible]

"The ships you have already built in this yard will be carrying tanks, guns and war materials across the oceans within a few weeks," Admiral Vickery told the workers.

The *S.S. Marine Robin*, is the largest cargo ship built in America declared Robert Haig, a vice-president of the Sun Shipbuilding Company and will cost when completed approximately $3,000,000.

Mrs. Palmer, who sponsored the *Marine Robin*, is the widow of the late Commander [illegible]rd C. Palmer, U. S. Navy. A great-granddaughter of Francis Scott Key, Mrs. Palmer's father and grandfather were career men in the U. S. armed services. She was chosen by the Maritime Commission to sponsor the *Marine Robin.*

AUG 28 1943

47h-1943

Age
New York, N. Y.

Negro Women Advance As Pennsylvania Railroad Men Go to War

DEC 4 - 1943

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DEC 4 - 1943

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1. Mrs. Marion Turner, head waitress (standing), watches Mrs. Metta Tally set a dining car table as Mrs. Esther Terry, left, and Mrs. Eva Baxter, waitresses, look on. Mrs. Turner was promoted from waitress.

2. Miss Irene Dunne, one of numerous coach lunch waitresses, finds hungry customers in a Pennsylvania Railroad train.

3. Miss Flossie Sawyer inspecting and packing fresh pies baked in the Pennsylvania Railroad commissary kitchen at Sunnyside Yard, Long Island City.

4. Mrs. Jessie Sims, left, is foreman of a gang of 38 coach cleaners at Sunnyside Yard.

5. Mrs. Gertrude M. Whitley, promoted from station cleaner, operates an elevator in Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

FDR Lauds Shipyard For Cracking Racial Bars

Defender Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON. — A New York shipyard owner was the possessor this week of letters from President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, commending him for eliminating racial barriers in his shipyard.

The shipbuilder is William Edgar John, owner and general manager of the Milton Point Shipyards at Rye, N. Y. His plant, formerly a small yard for construction of pleasure boats, recently celebrated its 80th launching of war vessels for the War and Navy Departments.

In the pleasure boat days, the Milton Point Shipyards had never hired a Negro worker. Soon after the firm received its first defense contract, however, a Negro applied for a job and was turned away. The rejected worker wrote President Roosevelt, and the chief executive, in turn, wrote Mr. John explaining the government's policy of "full participation in the defense program by all persons, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

Gets Harlem Crew

Mr. John had only 75 workers in his yard when he received the President's advice. Needing a crew of caulkers, he went to a Harlem River shipyard and signed up 25 Negro craftsmen. He regarded his experiment as a success when his yard, aided by the Negro caulkers, finished his first navy contract 28 days ahead of schedule.

"I not only found out that they were good workers," Mr. John stated, "but that they are the most honest, square-shooting, loyal bunch of Americans you'd ever want to meet.

"Why, when we've had rush contracts, every one of my colored workers volunteered to work 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. They all gave three hours pay to the Red Cross. They all buy bonds. They're expert workers and gentlemen."

Letter From President

Mr. John was so pleased at the outcome that he continued to increase the number of Negro workers in his yard. Today, 88 Negroes—one-fifth of his total staff—are working in all skills in the Milton Point Shipyards. A few weeks ago, the owner decided to tell the President about it. And Mr. Roosevelt promptly replied:

"At a time when I have been hearing so many tragic things about racial tensions and racial violence on the home front, your letter came as an evidence of what I know is the basic goodwill to work and decency of the American people with regard to their fellow citizens of other races.

"I hope many Americans will read the story of your achievements in industrial democracy. It should be especially heartening to them at this time when in the many cases hoodlum violence has interrupted our production for victory at home and given comfort to our enemies abroad.

"Thank you for sending me the story, but thank you even more for your fine example for all of us today. I am happy if, as you say, I had a part in turning your mind to the task in human relationships which you have accomplished so well."

Important Battle

Mr. McNutt wrote him:

"Our mutual friend, George Sutton, sent me a newspaper clipping concerning you and your shipyard's policy on race discrimination.

"The story had escaped my attention and I am deeply grateful to George for sending it to me. Had I not seen it I would have missed this opportunity to express to you my very great appreciation of the job you are doing.

"The war we are fighting is more than just a matter of guns, tanks and planes. It reaches far back of the fighting line, a war of minds rather than merely materials. We could win one and lose the other and in the end we would find we had lost both.

"By proving, as you and your workers have done, that men of all race and creeds can work as well as fight together you have gained, for all of us, an important battle. In the final analysis we may discover that your victory had as important result as those in Africa, in Guadalcanal. Yours is the first front, the front on which the battle for democracy will be won or lost, regardless of victories on the battle-fields."

And out at the Milton Point Shipyards, Mr. John's workers, Negro and white, continue to buy bonds, make Red Cross contributions—and build ships.

Press Photo Service

NOV 20 1943

NEGRO PUBLISHERS ADVISE OWI ON PRESS PROBLEMS—Members of the Executive Committee on the National Negre Publishers Association and members of OWI's Advisory Committee of Negro Newspaper Publishers conferred with Elmer Davis, director, and other OWI officials, Friday, November 12, on the overall problems of the Office of War Information and the problem of the Negro press and public. Mr. Davis, Palmer Hoyt, director of the Domestic Branch; Charles Al[illegible] chief of the News Bureau, and other domestic and overseas officials conferred with the group. Shown after the meeting are five of the twelve conferees. (Left to right) Ralph Matthews, managing editor of the Afro-American; Frank Stanley, editor of the Louisville Defender; John H. Sengstackle, general manager of The Chicago Defender and president of the National Negro Publishers Association; Joseph Christian, business manager of The People's Voice; Mrs. Robert L. Vann, treasurer of the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Co.; Howard H. Murphy, business manager of The Afro-American Newspapers; Carter Wesley, publisher of The Houston Informer, and Thomas Young, business manager of The Norfolk Journal and Guide. Messrs. Sengstacke, Murphy and Wesley are members of the OWI Advisory Committee of Negro Newspaper Publishers. Three other members, not shown in this picture, are Alexander Barnes, promotion manager of the Washington Tribune; C. A. Scott, publisher of The Atlanta Daily World, and William O. Walker, publisher of The Cleveland Call and Post.—Press Photo Service

NOV 20 1943

Arma Pleased With Negro Workers; Intertype Hires First Women on Staff

People's Voice
New York, N. Y

AUG 28 1943

The Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department has just announced that as a result of a conference held between the employment officials of the Arma Engineering Corporation and National and Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Securities, the Company has promised full cooperation to the local League in its efforts to gain employment for more Negroes.

The conference followed a statement made by Lorenzo Davis, Industrial Secretary, that Company was rejecting too many Negro applicants. The talks revealed that Arma is thoroughly satisfied with its Negro employees, both male and female.

Some foremen have even testified in writing as to their satisfaction with the work of their Negro workers. The company now has about four hundred Negro employees who are distributed throughout the war plant in a wide range of occupations, out of a total of more than six thousand workers.

Talks with Negroes in the plant brought out that they were well satisfied with their jobs. The working conditions and pay rates of the Arma Corporation are among the best in New York City. On concluding the conference, Arma requested the League to refer Negro women over twenty-one for night work and some men for day and night shifts.

First Women

The Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department is also pleased to announce that as of last week it referred the first Negro female production workers to be employed by the Intertype Corporation, a large Brooklyn war plant.

Of a total of five Negro women now employed here, the first four were sent by the League. This gain for Negro workers is the direct result of the constant cooperation of the New York State Committee on Discrimination with this Department. In 1941, the first male Negro production worker was placed with this same plant as a blacksmith.

Mr. McConnell, employment manager for Intertype, told the League this week, "I am completely satisfied with the work of our first Negro women, and will not hesitate to employ more when in need of workers."

AUG 28 1943

Gains Negroes Are Making In Job Opportunities Can Be Maintained After The War By Diligence Now

Age
New York, N. Y.

AUG 7 1943

BY LORENZO DAVIS

While Negro workers must in no way withdraw emphasis from their main fight for full and equal employment opportunity in war industry and government, at the same time they must recognize the substantial gains they are making and can make in the non-war fields of work during this period.

To cite a few examples of such progress made since Pearl Harbor New York City's department stores, retail chain stores and super markets have hired Negro women as salesgirls, clerks, stockgirls, escalator girls and counterwomen. The utilities, the telephone and electric companies, have hired Negro women in their offices only since the war; the telegraph services are for the first time training Negro women as automatic telegraph operators and general office clerks. Private and publicly-owned transportation lines have also [illegible] it practical to hire more Negroes as drivers and mechanics to meet their increasing schedules. Also since the war, all the major chain restaurants with the exception of Schrafft's are hiring Negroes.

Even the highly exclusive and sophisticated Longchamps and Toffenetti's are willing to use Negro women as bus-girls.

These gains are as important as those to be made in war industry for several reasons: First, American history has shown that economic gains made by Negroes during war periods are more or less permanent. They add to Negro workers store of experience and defeat any future argument that they cannot qualify. Such jobs as stenographers, clerks receptionists, bus drivers and salesgirls which allow the Negro to meet the public in positions of relative dignity gives him the opportunity to dispel popular prejudices and misconceptions of him held by averages whites.

Finally but equally as important, such new jobs for Negroes offer the white worker the chance to work with them on the same occupational level and recognize Negroes as fellow workers with similar [illegible] as [illegible]selves; and not only fit for jobs of a servile character into which most are forced.

The Negro worker can do much to secure his own gains. Wherever he is working he should seek out and join the labor union for his trade. If he is refused membership he must fight collectively for his right to be included. When once in, he must be an active participant and be ever alert to protect the rights of fellow Negro workers and see to it, if at all possible, that the door stays open to Negroes in the future.

He must do a good job and be a friendly co-worker and in this way prove to management the practicability of employing him. These are positive steps that Negro workers can take to insure that many of their wartime gains will stick.

AUG 7 1943

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47h-1943

THEY HELPED TO FABRICATE THE S.S. ROBERT L. VANN

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

OCT 30 1943

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OCT 30 1943

Among the workers at the New England Shipbuilding corporation, South Portland, Me., who worked on the S.S. Robert L. Vann, Merchant Marine vessel named for the famous American lawyer and late publisher of The Pittsburgh Courier, were: front row, [illegible] Smith, Esther Dawkins, [illegible]ly H[illegible] and Suzan Correy.

OCT 30 1943

Back row: Russ Singleton, John Dykes, James Fontaine, Charles Jones, Roy McKinney, James Meikle and Cornelius Walton.

Better Pay, Major Motive

Many Reasons Underlie Heavy Labor Turnover. OWI Discloses

OCT 30 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Approximately 26 definite causes, singly or in combination, underlie the heavy labor turnover in American war plants, the Office of War Information reported this week on the basis of information supplied by the War Production Drive headquarters, the War Manpower Commission and the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

This information shows that many of the causes are familiar ones in industrial circles, while others are new and often seemingly trivial.

BETTER PAY, BIG MOTIVE

Desire to secure a job at better wages continues to be a major motivating factor in workers quitting. Another reason is a feeling of the worker that he is not doing enough for the war effort—even though he may be working in a war plant. A worker may quit his job because there seems to be no chance for advancement; another may feel that the job gives him no chance to express his ideas and that, therefore, his ability is going unrecognized. Poor health causes some quits. A worker often quits because he cannot find adequate housing or because he gets tired of battling his way long distances on crowded street cars and buses. He may not like his hours, working conditions or his [illegible]man. He may consider his [illegible]k too hazardous. These are the long-familiar reasons for workers quitting.

Then there are newer, lesser-known, but just as potent reasons. If a worker is a stranger in town, he may become restless and unhappy because of a lack of social contacts or recreation after work. He often becomes discouraged because of enforced delays, layoffs or work interruptions that he does not understand even though they may be justified. There may not be proper facilities for providing meals near the plant. The worker may think the war is nearly over and want to find a more permanent peacetime job. And then some men are naturally restless and periodically get the urge to look elsewhere for a job.

47h

War Production Board Appeals To Churches

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 21 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Lagging war production on the home front evidenced in the past two months, which is chargeable to various factors including labor turn-over and absenteeism, has moved the War Production Board to appeal directly to the nation's churches for help, through their congregations.

Joseph D. Keenan, vice chairman of the board is quoted as saying that immediate action is required, because "we cannot wait for surveys."

An appeal is made to men and women workers of their congregations to stick to their present war jobs; to appeal to those who can do so to get into war jobs.

Mr. Keenan said: "I wish there was some way in which we could get these new wartime, wo[illegible]to take a pledge to their country that they would stay in their war jobs till the war ends."

In addition, Mr. Keenan said, he hoped various pastors where there was need would pitch directly into the war effort themselves by arranging day nurseries for workers' children since worry over their offspring has caused many mothers to leave factories.

47h

War Or Civilian Work Is Gain For Negro Worker

Journal and Guide

By LORENZO P. DAVIS

Norfolk, Virginia

NEW YORK, (ANP) — While Negro workers must in no way withdraw emphasis from their main fight for full and equal employment opportunity in war industry and Government, at the same time they must recognize the substantial gains they are making and can make in the non-war fields of work during this period.

To cite a few examples of such progress made since Pearl Har-

47

bor—New York City's department stores, retail chain stores and super markets have hired Negro women as salesgirls, clerks, stockgirls, escalator girls and counterwomen. The utilities, the telephone and electric companies, have hired Negro women in their offices only since the war; the telegraph services are for the first time training Negro women as automatic telegraph operators and general office clerks.

Private and publicly-owned transportation lines have also found it practical to hire more Negroes as drivers and mechanics to meet their increasing schedules. Also since the war, all the major chain restaurants with the exception of Schrafft's are hiring Negroes.

GAINS IMPORTANT

These gains are as important as those to be made in war industry for several reasons. First, American history has shown that economic gains made by Negroes during war periods are more or less permanent. They add to Negro workers' store of experience and defeat any future argument that they cannot qualify. Such jobs as stenographers, clerks, receptionists, bus drivers and salesgirls which allow the Negro to meet the public in positions of relative dignity gives him the opportunity to dispel popular prejudices and misconceptions of him held by average whites.

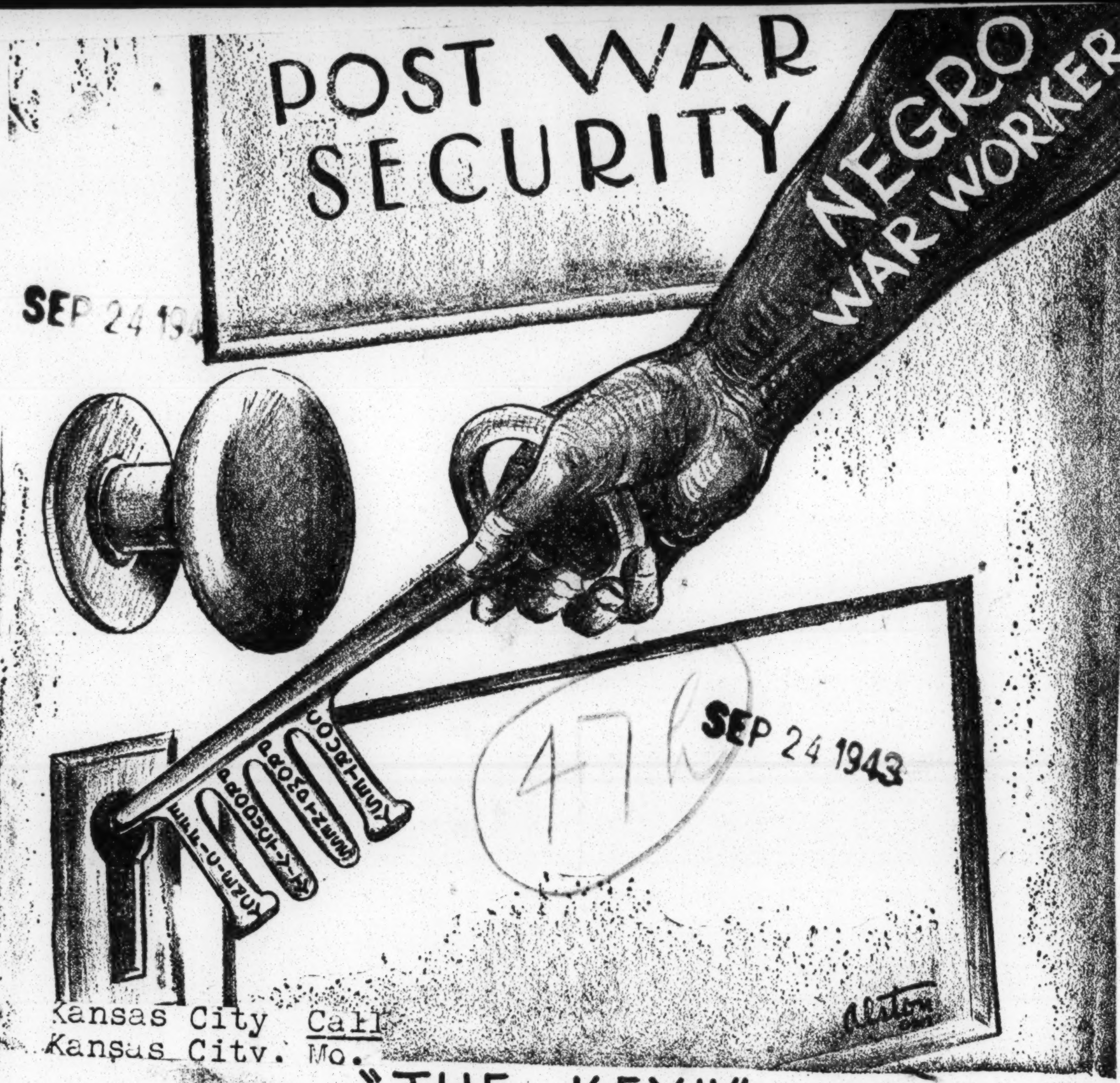
AUG 4 1943

Finally, but equally as important, such new jobs for Negroes offer the white worker the chance to work with them on the same occupational level and recognize Negroes as fellow workers with similar abilities as themselves; and not only fit for jobs of a servile character into which most are forced.

MUST SECURE OWN GAINS

The Negro worker can do much to secure his own gains. Wherever he is working he should seek out and join the labor union for his trade. If he is refused membership he must fight collectively for his right to be included. When once in, he must be an active participant and be ever alert to protect the rights of fellow Negro workers and see to it, if at all possible, that the door stays open to Negroes in the future.

He must do a good job and be a friendly co-worker and in this way prove to management the practicability of employing him. These are positive steps that Negro workers can take to insure that many of their wartime gains will stick.



SEP 24 1943
SEP 24 1943
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Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

"THE KEY!!"

List Free Training For Negro Workers

OCT 7 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eugene Gordon

The Negro Labor Victory Committee yesterday, through Moran Weston, field secretary, told of its free training program for Negro workers who want employment in war industries.

OCT 7 1943

The program was outlined in answers given to a series of questions by the Daily Worker, as follows:

1. The Negro Labor Victory Committee announces a program to get skilled jobs for Negroes now doing non-essential work. What facilities are available for training such workers?

Answer: Free courses are offered by the Board of Education under the War Industries Training Program of New York City's Board of Education; by a Training Unit of the War Manpower Commission, sponsored by U. S. Office of Education and offered through colleges in New York City and Long Island; and by the National Technical Institute, 250 W. 49th St., New York.

COURSES

The War Industries Training Program will train for Aircraft Builders: assemblers, inspectors, machinists, patternmakers, riveters, sheet metal workers, wood workers, leather workers, etc.; for Shipbuilders: carpenters, electricians, shipfitters, loftsmen, plumbers, pipefitters, sheet metal workers, riggers, inspectors, testers, welders, etc.; for Machinery Manufacturers: draftsmen, foundery workers, pattern makers, lathe operators, drill press operators, grinders, polishers, tool makers, assemblers, bench workers, milling machine operators; for the Armed Forces: cvilian workers as radio operators, repair and maintenance men, machinists, welders, draftsmen, etc.

The Training Unit of the War Manpower Commission (Region 4) with courses in Brooklyn College, City College, Columbia, Cooper Union, Hofstra College, Hunter College, Long Island University, Manhattan College, New York University, Pratt Institute and Vassar College, offers engineering, science and management war-training courses too numerous to list in a newspaper story.

Detailed information about courses at the National Technical Institute, 230 W. 49th St. (as from the others) may be procured direct.

ROLE OF NLVC

The role of the Negro Labor Victory Committee is that of assisting the workers to get training and assisting the trained worker to get a job.

2. What assurance will the worker have that he will get a job, once his training has been completed?

Answer: Stephen Sheridan, New York Area Director of the War Manpower Commission, in a letter to the Negro Labor Victory Committee, said: **"We would like to take this opportunity to tell you that we are doing our utmost to have Negro workers utilized in war industries."**

The Negro Labor Victory Committee, on its own part, will assist any worker who encounters difficulty in getting admission to courses or in getting placed after completing training. **The NLVC is in a position to place workers through the 54 CIO, AFL and independent unions affiliated with it. This is especially true when vacancies exist in the shops of these unions. That is being done right now.**

It is important to emphasize the fact that the Negro Labor Victory Committee is not trying to substitute the work of the United States Employment Service, but only to facilitate the placement of Negro workers who encounter or may encounter discrimination.

The National Technical Institute, so far as the NLVC knows, is the only training school which pays students.

UNION COOPERATION

3. How will the affiliated unions cooperate?

Answer: The NLVC will advise union members who are delegates to the Committee to present this program to church groups, clubs, fraternal bodies, and other community organizations, urging the members to take the free training through the three sources named.

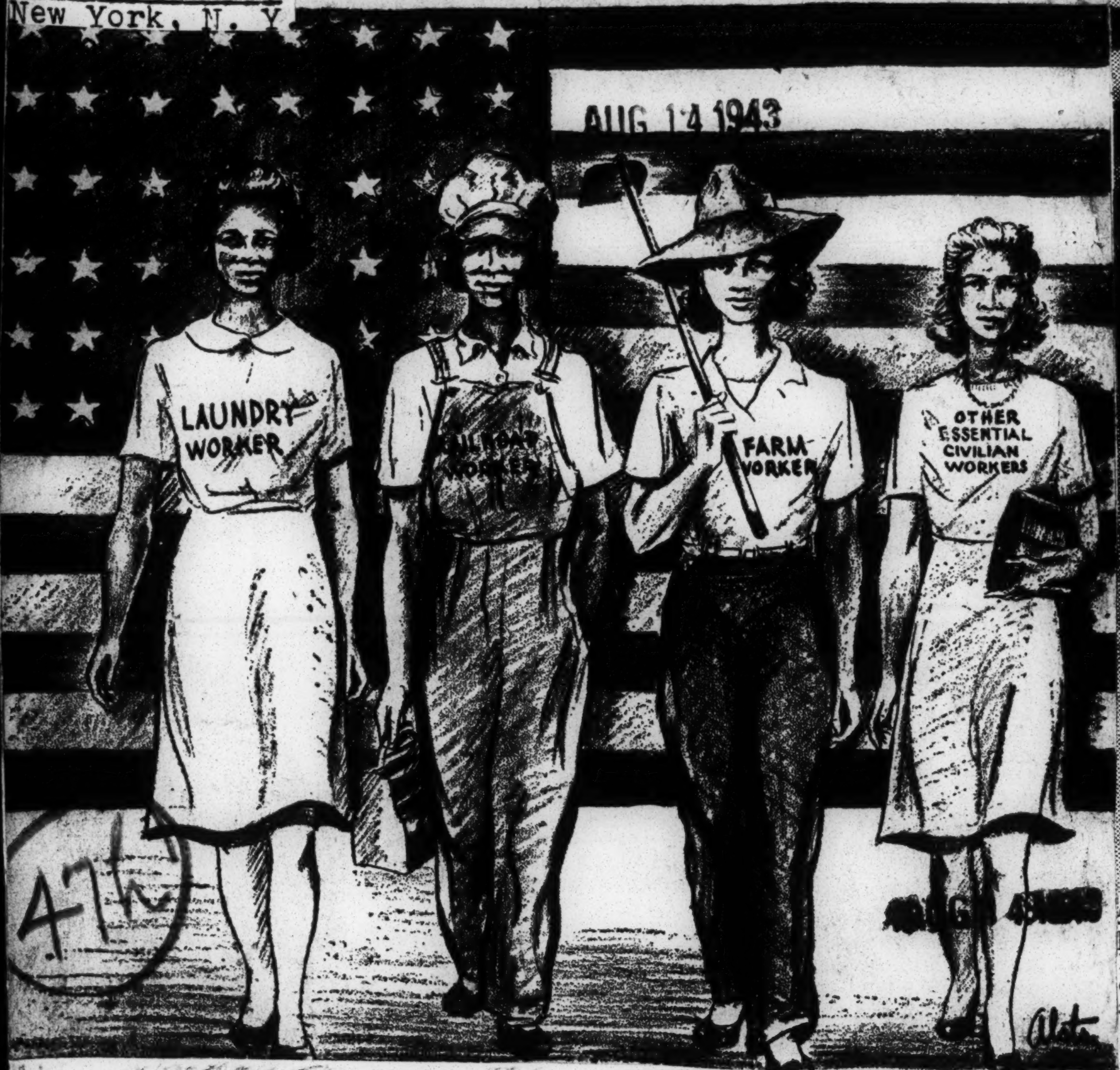
The Negro Labor Victory Committee is especially interested in getting jobs for housewives who are not working; for men and women in low-paying, unskilled work—porters, dishwashers, domestics, etc.; for young people, who must already have their eyes on the possibility of job security after the war.

Important: ALL THESE COURSES ARE FREE.

47h-1943

THEY ALSO SERVE

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.


LAUNDRY WORKER
RAILROAD WORKER
FARM WORKER
OTHER ESSENTIAL CIVILIAN WORKERS
Alston

AUG 14 1943

47h

Women Prove Good Riveters

AUG 28 1943

47h

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Miss Margaret Peace, left, and Miss Sarah Barber, riveters in the aircraft division of the Crown Cork and Seal Company in Baltimore, are examples of what a capable job women are doing at this plant. They are shown riveting parts of the leading edge wing of a bomber. This is part of the second operation in the leading edge wing section.

47h

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

SYMBOLIZING THE VERY ESSENCE of what we are fighting for—unity, equality and a world free from fascist bigotry, the picture above, taken recently when the Surrey Engineering Co. in Long Island City won the Army-Navy "E" Award, shows (l to r): Lt. Col. Austin D. Smith, wwho presented the "E" pennant; Roger Tucker, oldest Negro employee; William Lynch, oldest white employee; and Samuel C. Dretzin, head of the company.

Gov't Hotel Named For Howard Dean

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47h

DEC 26 1943

47h DEC 26 1943

Tributes were paid to Lucy Digges Slowe, late Dean of Women at Howard University, at the first anniversary celebration of the opening of the Lucy D. Slowe Hall, government hotel for women war workers on December 5: Two residents of Slowe Hall, which is located at Third and You Streets, N. W. are shown holding a portrait of Miss Slowe as W. Spurgeon Burke, managing director, looks on. They are: (left) Miss Winfred Phillips, a member of the committee which sponsored the celebration, and Miss Nettie Booker, formerly assistant Dean of Women at Howard under the late Miss Slowe, but now house manager of Slowe Hall. Mr. Burke is managing director of both Slowe Hall and George W. Carver Hall, government hotel for male war workers in the same neighborhood (Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith).

47h-1943

YES . . . THE ARMY!

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Twenty-three of the corps of technical instructors on duty at the Army Air Forces Technical Training School, Army Air Base, Lincoln Negraska, are Negroes. Located on Nebraska's rolling prairie land, the school began functioning in June, 1942. The course consists of 13 phases each phase given over to the study of some particular branch under expert supervision. Pictured above is Mr. Major Alfred Reevers, instructor of aircraft mechanics, who is giving pointers to students in the engine assembly class. Reevers was formerly principal of a school at Oswego, Kansas.

People's Voice
New York. N. Y.

Brooklyn War Plant Hires First Negroes

Cooperation between the War Manpower Commission, the Brooklyn Urba[illegible]e, and the B[illegible]Committee on Fair [illegible]ployment Practice FEPC) has resulted in employment of Negro workers for the first time in the Atlantic Basin Iron Works, a Brooklyn shipyard engaged in essential war work, according to Edward Lawson, Regional FEPC Director.

Because the shipyard consistently found reasons for not hiring Negroes referred by the United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission while hirin[illegible]ge numbers of [illegible]e workers so referred, t[illegible]USES stopped service to the firm.

DEC 25 1943

First All-Negro Built Ship Passes Severe Trial Tests

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

OCT 2 1943

CHESTER, Pa.—Last week was a Red Letter One at the Sun Shipbuilding company here, when the "S. S. Marine Eagle," launched some weeks ago at Shipyard No. 4, all-Negro shipbuilding unit, had its trial trip under supervision of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

A complement of 180 engineers, official representatives of the Sun Ship company, and of the U. S. Maritime Commission, together with a crew of No. 4 yard workmen, made up the party.

The vessel was put through all of the shake-down processes usually employed, including rigorous checks on speed, fuel consumption, crash stops, and general maneuverability. The trial tests, set by the U. S. Maritime Commission, for whom the vessel has been constructed, were met, it is reported, with maximum credits on the requirements set before it.

Sunship Management was represented by G. D. Carney, Superintendent of Installation of Machinery and Engineering, and J. H. G. McConechy, Chief Engineer.

The U. S. Maritime Commission by a group of Engineers, Naval Architects, etc.

Yard No. 4, by Dr. Emmett J. Scott, director of employment and personnel relations, and the Yard personnel representative, Jerome H. Holland.

On the Saturday following, "S. S. The Wolf," fourth vessel of No. 4 yard, slid down the ways as the fiftieth launching of the year for the Sun Ship company.

It will speedily be outfitted for the tasks to be set before it. The vessel is of the same dimensions as the cargo ships already built, but will be utilized for troop transport instead of for carrying cargo.

The three ships preceding "The Wolf" were "S. S. Marine Eagle," "U. S. Marine Raven," and "S. S. Marine Robin." These ships were constructed from special designs of the Maritime Commission and are the first of their type.

Waiter Urges Negroes To Think Of Future Before Quitting Jobs

Cartersville (Ga.) Tribune-News
September 23, 1943

Augusta, Ga.—W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter and War Bond salesman extraordinary, urges Negro house servants to think of their postwar future before throwing up their jobs for higher-paying industrial positions.

"In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher salary demands are agreed upon," Murphy declared in an article written for the Augusta Chronicle.

This attitude, he said, may provide Negroes "a temporary feeling of relief today, but it is a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace."

Murphy, as chairman of the Atlanta Service Group War Bond Committee, was a leader in a July 5 War Bond rally among Atlanta Negroes which sold $10,000 in bonds within a few hours. His organization and the Atlanta Council of Negro Women jointly sponsored the drive. Murphy is a waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club in Atlanta.

Murphy wrote that it seemed to him "the domestic field offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve well and profitably.

"The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come, with its peace. We shall need many friends after this war is over. Most of us have to depend upon our friends for all we need. Why can't we let them depend upon us now for what they need."

Shipbuilders Find Southern Negroes Capable Workers

News
Birmingham, Ala.

BY JOSEPH C. GOODWIN

NEW ORLEANS— (AP) —Manpower shortages in war industries hold no terrors for the rapidly expanding shipyards and airplane plants in this center for production of instruments of destruction and war transportation.

In the words of George W. Rappleyea, dynamic assistant to Andrew Jackson Higgins, Southern pioneer in "assembly line" ship building: "The Southern Negro population forms a great untapped reservoir of manpower. Negroes are anxious to help in the war effort. They make good workman, and we now have approximately 1,300 of them in our plants."

Consolidated - Vultee, beginning production of giant flying boats for combating the submarine menace, also has recognized the nearness of a valuable supply of labor.

"We expect to employ 20 per cent Negro labor when we reach full production," says William D. McAdams, director of public relations. "We will use both men and women, and those showing particular aptitude will be given an opportunity for special schooling in skilled operations in the aircraft industry."

Both Mr. McAdams and Mr. Rappleyea see an added expediency in utilizing labor already available in preference to attempting to bring in labor from other sections of the country.

"In the first place," says Mr. Rappleyea, "the rest of the country is short of war workers now, and, in the second place, the Southern Negro—and there are 150,000 of them in the city of New Orleans alone—already is here and has a place to live. That eliminates the housing shortage."

Among Negroes employed by the Higgins industries many already are skilled workmen and others are being trained. Among the trades followed by Negroes in the company's shipyards and plane plant are: Bricklayers, painters, carpenters and carpenter helpers, welders, cement workers, and foremen over Negro construction gangs building landing barges and cargo boats.

And New Orleans plants have no "race" troubles. Negro and white workers have separate canteens and comfort facilities and work primarily on different projects.

In the words of one industrialist: "The Negro is a good American. He wants to help win the war. He is completely loyal and has no past or present associations with any foreign country. He is one of a 13,000,000 minority and he certainly is needed in the war effort. If the country did not make full use of this ready pool of manpower it would constitute sabotage of the war effort."

Labor Group Seeks War Job Trainees

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

OCT 4 1943

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Moran Weston, field secretary for the Negro Labor Victory committee, announced last week that a drive to secure workers engaged in non-essential work to take training for skilled jobs in war industries had been launched. He said that the campaign is being conducted through its 54 affiliated CIO and AFL unions and independent unions.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Campbell Johnson Named Colonel

SEP 29 1943

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Promoted to a full colonelcy, Campbell Johnson, executive assistant to Major General Hershey of the Selective Service System, assumed his new rank last week with no other changes in his duties noted. Colonel Johnson, long known for his splendid record in civic work and in social work in this city, was appointed to his post early in the war on ret[illegible] his title of major for a considerable length of time. However, he was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel, and after a brief time at that rank, received the full rank. He has just returned to the city from a prolonged tour of various sections on behalf of the service he serves.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

LABOR
SEP 25 1943

DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT WORKER Amanda Smith, employed in the Long Beach, California plant of the company, is working side by side with white employees to keep America's air strength at its peak. S. O. Porter, Douglas director of personnel, recently declared that Negroes are doing an outstanding job in all plants.—Douglas Aircraft photo from OWI.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Colored-Built Ship Completes Trial

OCT 2 1943

CHESTER, Pa.—Last week was a Red Letter one in No. 4 Shipyard of the Sun Shipbuilding Company, here, when The "S. S. Marine Eagle" launched some weeks ago at Shipyard No. 4, had its trial trip under supervision of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

A complement of 180 engineers, official representatives of the Sun Ship Company, and of the U. S. Maritime Commission, together with a crew of No. 4 Yard workmen, made up the party.

Sunship management was represented by G. D. Carney, superintendent of installation of machinery and engineering; and J. H. G. McConechy, chief engineer, the U. S. Maritime Commission, by a group of engineers, naval architects, etc.: Yard No. 4, by Dr. Emmett J Scott, the director of employment and personnel relations and the Yard personnel representative, Jerome H. Holland.

On Saturday following, "S. S. The Wolf," fourth vessel of No. 4 Yard, was launched.

The three ships preceding "The Wolf" were "S. S. Marine Eagle," "S. S. Marine Raven," and "S. S. Marine Robin." These ships were constructed from special designs of the Maritime Commission and are the first of their type.

Rosedale [Ala.] Women Study War Job Education

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47 w

Negro women all over the United States are responding to the war effort, taking important war industry jobs, entering the service units and auxiliaries and buying war bonds, among many other things is a scene of the War Production Class at Rosedale (Alabama) High School, which held commencement exercises recently. 27 were awarded certificates.

OCT 1 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Old Record For Building Similar Ship Was 128 Days

SEP 4 1943

QUINCY, Mass.—It may have looked like just another destroyer escort to many who saw the event, but the Fore River Yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company nailed a national wartime production record to the mast this week when it delivered the U. S. S. Harmon, named after a Negro war hero, to the Navy — 92 days from the hour the keel was laid.

To both the Navy and the Bethlehem Steel Company, the Harmon represented much more than a sea-going challenge to enemy submarines. Among other things, it represented what can be accomplished when capital and labor get together in a common cause of victory production.

LAUNCHED JULY 25

The Harmon hit the crest of the tide at launching exercises July 25, less than two months after her keel was laid. The Navy hadn't expected that.

No later than August 11, Under Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal visited the Bethlehem Yard and New England and challenged the shipbuilding industry to beat what was the record for turning out destroyer escorts—128 days.

Fore River accepted this challenge because it was Fore River's army of 30,000 men and women who established this record. On September 1, a little more than three weeks hence, Fore River shattered its own mark by 36 days. (Tokio papers please copy).

A PRECEDENT SET

Unfortunately, the actual delivery of the Harmon lacked all of the gaity that marked its launching. It was a grim, businesslike ceremony in which the ship changed hands from its builders to the Navy.

And yet, another, precedent was established by the exchange because it was the first Navy warship named in honor of a Negro.

He was Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant first class, of Cuero, Texas, who not only saved several of his shipmates off Guadalcanal on the night of November 13, 1942, but also threw himself in front of the ship's executive officer and dragged him to safety before being mortally wounded himself by machine gun fire.

BROKE WORLD'S RECORD

Bethlehem at Fore River knows that it broke the world's record in turning out a destroyer escort, but the nation should know that Bethlehem did it unconsciously, without pressing.

No one, from W. H. Collins, general manager of the plant, down to the humblest apprentice in the yard even imagined that the company was on its way to a world's record until the Harmon was almost four weeks under construction.

No shipbuilding "shock troops" were rushed in to slap the vessel together. The Harmon was just built, as former destroyer escorts were built.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Blind Defense

Trainee Anxious To Aid In War

SEP 13 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Sept. 2—(ANP)—"Just because I am blind does not mean that I cannot assume my share of the war effort," said Ocie Lee McLain, blind ESMWT trainee in the courses of physics and mathematics at Anniston, Ala., last week after the Library of Congress had forwarded him a treatise in braille on "Principles of Physics."

The 35-year-old trainee lost his sight through an accident several years ago. He earns his living by directing the activities of a mattress factory.

47h-1943

Whites Learn Aircraft Mechanics from Colored Instructors at Army School

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Twenty-three of the technical instruct[illegible] the A[illegible] Air Forces Technical Training School, Army Air Base, Lincoln, Neb., are colored. Major Alfred Reevers (center above), instructor of aircraft mechanics and former Oswego (Kans.) school principal, instructs an engine assembly class.

OCT 23 1943

Details of a Pratt Witney airplane are explained to students by Lloyd M. Williams, Kansas City, Mo., graduate of Southern University, Kansas State Agricultural College and Bradley Polytechnical Institute, wh[illegible] an instruc[illegible]at the air base.

Charles Gwynn, chairman, the shop committee at the A. E. Edwards war plant at 223 East 106th St., left, shakes hands with Al Edwards of the company after the plant wins the coveted Army and Navy "E" recognition. Charles Garland and Al Mason, Negro, two plant workers [illegible]eme right.

AUG 2 1943

Henry P. Milligan, instructor, teaching the functioning of an airplane engine on a "cutaway" model at the Army Air Forces Technical Training School, Lincoln Air Base, Lincoln, Neb. Milligan is a graduate of Langston University and received his training in aircraft engines at Amarillo F[illegible] Texas.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

HEAT INTENSE IN WAR PLANT

How Deadly Missiles Are Made To Help Knock Out Axis

By Duke Merritt

Hand grenades are being made in immense quantities in the Birmingham district.

Liquid fire is what [illegible]on and steel become in the process of manufact[illegible] these grenades, under supervision of Birmingham Ordnance District officers. The coke

Third Of A Series

to heat the metals, as well as the iron and the steel, are produced in the Magic City's coal and iron mines as raw ores.

These destructive missiles come pouring off the production line and their manufacture is as spectacular as is their destruction in battle.

Three primary processes are carried on simultaneously in the making of grenades, the formation of molds, the making of dummies, or patterns, and the heating of the metals.

Din Is Terrific

A terrific clatter and din in a feverish temperature marks the manufacture of these weapons. Workmen become accustomed to the terrific heat a few at a time, plant foremen say.

"Military inflammation," which produces no aid and [illegible] to the enemy, is [illegible] metals while the [illegible]mies and molds are shaped. The patterns are put into the molds for shaping the grenades.

Workmen, really magicians, fashion the patterns and molds, with a speedy and rhythmic motion that is amazing. Sand and oil, under application of scorching heat, make the patterns, which are sent along to the molders.

Placed In Molds

The pneumatic presses, which are also used in making patterns, clamp and pack the molds and patterns.

Then the finished mold, with its final packing, is ready for the casting of grenades.

Placed on a conveyor, or production line, the molds move [illegible] past the furnace, heated to more than 5000 degrees, in which the molten iron and steel mixture is boiling.

AUG 16 1943

An expert workman is "machining" a hand grenade here, with a box of the nearly-finished missiles seen in the foreground. The machine is cutting threads on the inside of the grenade, into which the fuse may be inserted. Through the opening in the upper end, explosives are poured to "charge" the missile. The other end has no opening.

Grenades Pour Off Birmingham Production Line

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Ala

The fiery, reddish mixture is poured from the furnace into dippers on the end of long handles gripped by workers.

Fiery pinwheels pop into the air and zip and sparkle as the reddened metal is poured into the molds. After sufficient metal is poured into each mold, the production line carries each one along to the "shake out," into which it is dumped, slipping the blazing-hot grenades into this machine.

Get A Shuffling

Shuffled back and forth in the "shake out," the mold is loosened from the grenades. The loosened particles fall through a screen in the bottom of the shakeout.

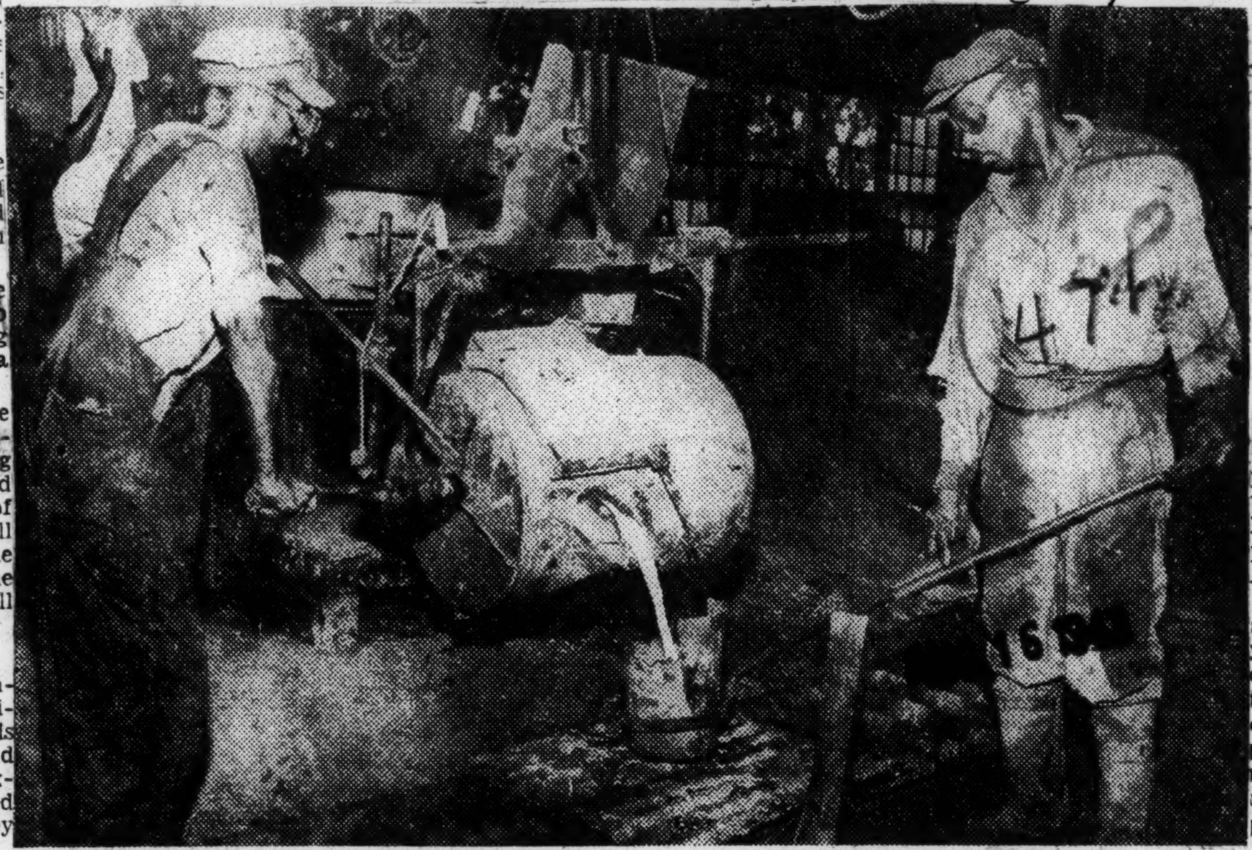
Still red-hot, the grenades are taken from the shakeout, raked into a wheelbarrow by heat-defying workers, who dump them under a shed to cool.

After cooling, the grenades are shoveled into a great, hollow cylindrical device called a "tumbling mill." Then around and around the grenades go, ridding them of extraneous mold and particles still clinging to them. Dumped, the grenades are allowed to cool some more, and then cleaning and still more cleaning follows.

Grenades Machined

Machining of the grenades insures that they are exactly of uniform size. Machines drill threads provide for insertion of fuses and leave an opening for pouring explosives into them. Painting and final inspection follows. Then they are packed.

Follows filling with explosives at other plants and the grenades are on their way to blow a toe off Tojo.



Flaming-hot molten steel and iron are seen pouring from a furnace in a Birmingham grenade factory, into a dipper such as those used by workers for pouring the metals into a mold in casting and making the weapons.

The above picture depicts a workman in a Birmingham grenade factory packing hand grenades in a box, ready for shipment. On a conveyor are seen a number of grenades moving along to his hand, after being painted and inspected as they move along an automatic production line.

Blind Alabama Man Prepares For War Work

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Studies Physics, Mathematics By Braille at Talladega

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Of interest even in these hectic days when patriotism is no novelty, is the attitude of Ocie Lee McLain, blind ESMWT trainee in the course of physics and mathematics at Anniston, Ala.

Deprived of his sight through an unfortunate accident several years ago, McLain earns his living directing the activities of a mattress company, but finds time during his [illegible] moments to improve his mind and make preparation for a probable Civil Service career.

BRAILLE WORKS

At the request of the ESMWT office at Tuskegee, the Library of Congress forwarded to Mr. McLatin a treatise in Braille on Principles of Physics consisting of nine large volumes.

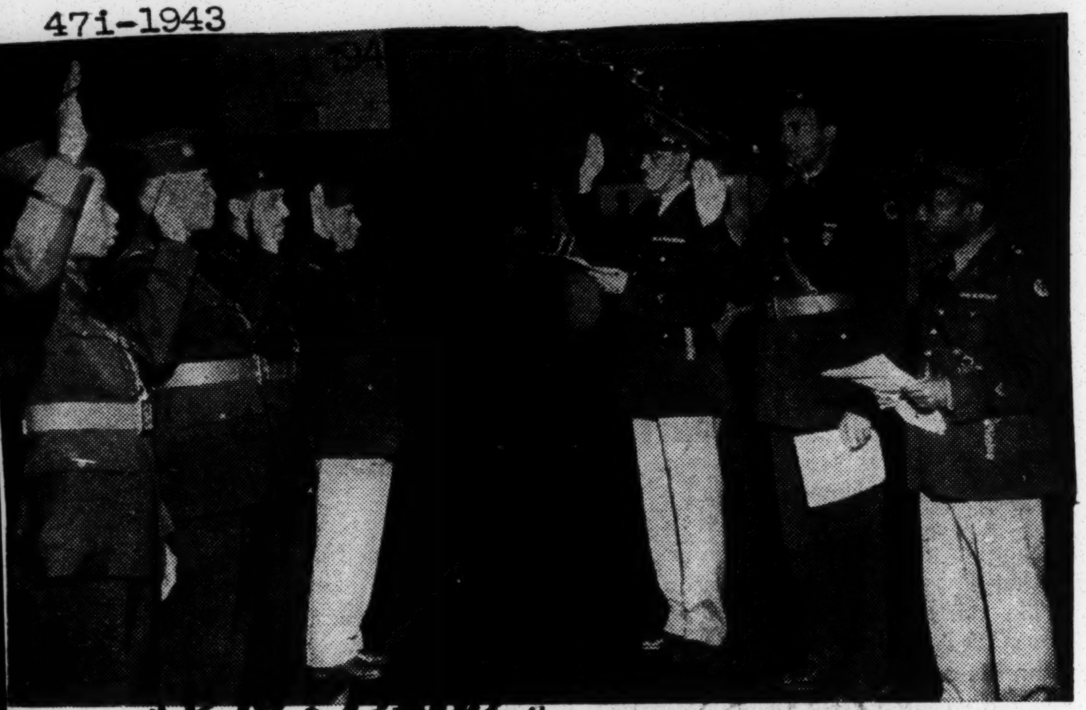
> **"I want to do my part," said McLain, "and just because I am blind does not mean that I cannot assume my share of the war effort."**

McLain is [illegible] years old and is rated by his instructor, R. A. Thornton of Talladega College, as the most apt pupil in the class of 23 persons. He is the only blind member of this group.

AUG 16 1943

AUG 14 1943

471-1943



"P.M. Daily"

JAN 11 1943 JAN 11 1943

47

N.Y./N.Y.

Negro State Guard Mustered In

About 150 men were sworn into the Third Separate Battalion over the weekend. Here are some taking oath, administered by Lt. Col. Ira L. Aldridge of 15th Regiment, New York State Guard *PM Photo by Wilbert H. Blanche*

February 9, 1943

47

NASHVILLE, Feb. 9. (AP) — A delegation of negroes visited the Capitol today to protest against failure of steering committees of the Senate and House of Representatives to report out for final action a bill to authorize formation of a negro unit of the state guard.

Guardian

Boston, Mass.

State Guard To Tell Of Dangers Of Bombing Raids

MAR 12 1943

47

(KNS) The Mass. State Guard is getting results, but wants more colored men who do not have to go into active service in the Army to join the 27th Infantry at the South State Armory on Dartmouth St. Boston.

MAR 12 1943

Lt. Col. Larkland Hewitt is the C. O. of the 27th Infantry. His Executive Officer is Major Harvey Wilson while Capt. Stephen Douglass is a member of the Lt. Col. Hewitt's Staff.

In case of invasion or bombing of Boston during this war the State Guardsman will instruct civilians how to protect lives and homes.

MAR 12 1943

On Sunday, March 21 in all the Churches Mass. State Guard Day will be observed. At the close of the church services morning and evening. Officers and enlisted men of the State Guard will explain how to become a member, also present will be members of the Mass. Women's Defense Corps and members of the Red Cross to tell you what you ought to know.

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Pa. to Have Jim-Crow Guard Unit

47

HARRISBURG, Pa.—For the first time in the history of Pennsylvania, colored men are being permitted to join the Commonwealth's militia unit—under a segregated plan.

The recruitment of a battalion of colored troops, which will include three companies of "combat engineers" and will have colored officers, was authorized recently by Governor Edward Martin. He said this was in line with plans to expand the State Guard.

Two of the companies, each to include 82 men and 3 officers, will have headquarters in Philadelphia and the other in Pittsburgh. One of the former will comprise members of the State Guard auxiliary which has been training since May.

47j-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

CIO Sailors Defy Color Bar In S. Africa Hotels

MAY 8 1943

MAY 8 - 1943

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Chicago Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON. — (Censored) — While American authorities may ignore the color bar problem at home and abroad, there are signs of growing solidarity between white and colored American merchant seamen in foreign ports to unite against attempts to segregate Negroes sailing under the "stars and stripes" carrying lend-lease cargoes.

Describing a recent united front action of white and colored members of the CIO National Maritime Union in a certain port in South Africa, Lady Milner, wife of a former British governor-general of South Africa, said: "We hope that lessons like these will penetrate the thick heads of the Afrikanders.

"In South Africa there has gradually grown up under Boer influence a very strong social repression of all natives," explains Lady Milner in the London "National Review."

"This culmination under the Hertzog-Smuts coalition government when the natives in the Cape Province were deprived of the franchise they had exercised for 80 years, as long as the white population. But Americans very properly do not allow this discrimination to extend to colored American citizens who, whether black or white, have to be treated properly out of America.

Refuse Segregation

The following anecdote illustrates their attitude and the Cape reaction. It comes from a small coastal town:—

"Some two weeks ago, just following our catastrophic rainfall of 13 inches in two days, two boatloads of American merchant sailors blew in here, from a torpedoed ship. About 40 in all, to be fed, clothed, housed and forwarded.

"No difficulty about house-room, as both our hotels stand practically empty. But three or four of the men were Negroes. Suggestion to segregating them at a quite nice non-European boarding house was made by certain officials but the white seamen protested.

"American citizens cannot be treated as inferiors," they asserted.

Stroll Hand In Hand

"So the Hotels Magnifique and Ballymoral had to let them 'muck-in' with their white mates, and for a week our local colored and Pondo inhabitants were treated to the spectacle of white and black parading the village arm-in-arm, sharing drinks, lounging in the hotel lounges, sitting together at table in the 'Est-kamer,' with Ponde waiters to fetch and carry for Yankee 'black-stuff'—and dutifully call them 'Sir.'

May 8, 1943

"The effect was rapidly demoralizing our color-bar, and a plan was made to get rid of the lot by the next South African Railway passenger motor-bus.

"Alas, the Yanks, white and black, all insisted in traveling first class. There are only 10 first class seats in front, and none of them would agree to travel in the empty tail-end of the bus, herded with Brother Pondo. So it took three buses at two-day intervals to clear the lot and give the color-bar in South Africa a chance to straighten its back again."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Negro Marines High in Scholastic Rating

MAY 22 1943

When the first 1,200 Negro marine recruits started training last September at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, N.C., the number of leathernecks holding Master of Arts degrees went up sharply.

MAY 22 1943

Not only did this group bring a flock of college degrees with them, the Marine Base Personnel Office revealed this week, but they also brought a deputy assistant State Attorney, an assistant college dean, a Golden Gloves light heavyweight champion, a newspaper publisher and a whole gang of mere B.A.s.

The college and professional records of the Negro volunteers probably accounted for the fact that the original 51st Composite Defense Battalion established a very high record for intelligence when given the regulation Army classification and intelligence tests. Only 10 per cent of the 1,200 recruits were placed in Class 5, lowest rating.

Since Camp Lejeune is now receiving 40 Negro recruits a day from local Selective Service boards, and approximately 2,000 colored marines are now in training, the 10 per cent average has risen, but the 51st Composite Defense Batallion still rates high in this respect.

Volunteers in the original group included Pfc. Chester A. Thomas, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Private Thomas, holder of an LLB degree from St. John's University in Brooklyn, was until recently a deputy assistant State Attorney General of New York.

Others included Cpl. James E. Huger, director of public relations and assistant dean of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Sgt. Charles Anderson, Atlanta University graduate, and at one time co-publisher of Pic Magazine; Sgt. Edson E. Blackman, Jr., M.A. in Business Administration from the University of Michigan; Pfc. Raymond Floyd, a mathematics instructor and Pfc. Hiner Thomas, one-time Golden Gloves light heavyweight champion.

MAY 22 1943

Also Pfc. Roy A. Young, a cartoonist working on his Master's degree at New York University; Pfc. Eddie Culp, a former outstanding distance runner at Xavier University; Pfc. J. D Lewis, varsity football star at Morehouse College; Pfc. William Hubbard, electrical engineer; Cpl. Harry L. Wright, Cpl. William Vaugh and Cpl. Robert P Davis, Tuskegee Institute graduates and Pfc. Walker Manley, a professional organist who now serves in the capacity for the whole Marine Base.

MAY 22 1943

Bristol, Va. [illegible]
August 9, 1943

COLORED MESSBOY PLAYS LARGE ROLE

Valdosta, Ga., Youth in Sicily Keeps Ship from Downing Allied Planes

By JOHN A. MOROSO, 3RD

WITH U. S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES. (AP)—Back in the library at Dasher High School in Valdosta, Georgia, a 16-year-old negro boy used to spend his spare time poring over books on military aviation.

With the few pennies he saved from working for a dry cleaner, Arthur James Goodwin, of 206 East Branch street, bought plane parts and built models. Little did this slightly-built boy realize then that some day, off the embattled shores of Sicily, what he was learning would help protect Uncle Sam's navy from furious assaults by Axis planes.

A year ago, when he joined the navy, they put him aboard an assault transport as a messboy in the officer's wardroom. Life went along quietly until the transport sailed for an unknown destination—the invasion of Sicily.

On the way across the Atlantic he was made a member of a gun crew and attended classes in plane identification. His knowledge of planes caught the attention of instructors who were impressed also with his excellent sight. As a result he was moved from an aft gun to a gun on the bridge.

When we started in for the beaches Steward's Mate Second Class Arthur James Goodwin, now 17, dropped his plates and silver and took his place on the bridge. It was 11 p. m. Friday night.

He proved so valuable in identifying both enemy and friendly planes that he never left the bridge until Monday night. Some sandwiches and coffee and a few catnaps between air attacks kept him going.

His job was difficult, because enemy planes often became mixed up with friendly planes. Transport planes that carried paratroopers inland returned during the middle of an air attack. Spitfires and Beaufighters often dove on enemy bombers and fighters and this made it almost impossible for us to keep from shooting down some of our own planes.

At times the night sky would be full of planes and about the only thing we could do was to shoot at the ones that dropped flares and bombs. It was tough going.

Arthur went through these battles calmly. He correctly identified the first Focke-Wulf 190s that bombed our landing beaches. When Spitfires attacked these enemy craft, Arthur identified them and prevented his ship from shooting at them.

He was the first man aboard to identify three German Ju 88's that roared in to attack the convoy. They got a warm reception. On another occasion he prevented fire at some Mustangs.

"I knew 'em by their square wingtips," Arthur said.

Through it all this little country boy said the only time he was really afraid was when Nazi planes dropped three bombs into the water one hundred feet from his ship. The ship quivered and reeled but escaped damage.

Arthur's only plane ride to date was in a barnstorming plane at the county fair at Valdosta. Strangely enough he doesn't remember what type it was.

As to his future in the navy he says he just wants to be a plane spotter. Unfortunately, the navy has no such rating so chances are Arthur will keep on serving food and run to the bridge when action appears in the sky.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO SAILORS' RANKS ENLARGED AT GREAT LAKES

Commander Tells Rotary of Increase Planned.

JUN 16 1943

Great Lakes Naval Training station, which has had about 4,500 Negro sailors among the 56,000 undergoing basic training, will increase the ratio of Negro seamen to one-fourth of the station's capacity by Aug. 1 and have from 12,000 to 15,000 Negroes.

Plans to increase the number of Negroes in training at Great Lakes were disclosed yesterday by Capt. R. R. Emmet, commanding officer, in telling the Rotary club of Chicago what had been accomplished at Great Lakes in the last two years.

Capt. Emmet said the reason for increasing the ratio of Negroes in basic training was the proximity of the station to the southern states, from which a majority of the sailors are drawn.

Station Has Vast Growth.

The station commander said the navy was getting a fine product in the young men of the nation and that he can't see any difference between the recruits obtained thru selective service and those obtained by voluntary enlistment.

Two years ago Great Lakes had the capacity for training 3,500 men. Today it has 56,000 in training and several thousand additional stationed there to operate the station and assist with training.

Capt. Emmet said trainees formerly were allowed liberty after they had been at the station for a few weeks, but that the practice had been discontinued. Life at the station, the commander said, has been made so interesting that the recruits do not miss "going ashore."

Aptitude Tests Used.

The selection system in use at Great Lakes, Capt. Emmet said, is playing a vital part in getting sailors placed in jobs for which they are best fitted. Aptitude tests are given about a month after recruits have started training. The plan has been so successful that the commander of one of the newest battleships in service obtained the service of a Great Lakes interviewing team to examine his crew.

JUN 16 1943

Discussing the war to date, Capt. Emmet said blows dealt to the axis enemies in North Africa and in the South Pacific had left the smell of victory in the air. "A year ago," he continued, "I believed the republic was in greater danger than at any time in history. Last fall the picture changed.

"Russia had dealt Germany a loss from which she cannot recover. We had landed in Africa and now Rommel's army has been smashed and the forces of Mussolini are on the run. We have proved, plane for plane, ship for ship, and man for man, that we can whip our enemies.

Must Hate Enemies.

"We will have to steel ourselves in the days to come and if the dark angel swoops over our homes we will have to bear our losses bravely. We will have to learn to hate our enemies and pray for vengeance upon them. If we continue to do that, we shall win the war."

Capt. Emmet, who was graduated from the Annapolis naval academy 39 years ago, was decorated in November, 1942, for his part in landing invasion troops in the Solomons last summer. Three months later he was assigned to command the training station. In World War I. he received the navy cross for mine laying against Germany.

5 BROTHERS PERISH ON BATTLESHIP

An Associated Press release carried in some of the country's leading dailies disclosed a report for the first time of the epoch of five Negro brothers who died in the sneak raid on Pearl Harbor more than a year ago.

March 19, 1943

As the story of the heroism of Dorie Miller in this attack first broke through the round about way of a Canada commentator's news broadcast, this report came from the files of John A. Moroso III, Associated Press Correspondent who was with the Atlantic fleet. Says Moroso:

The hail of Japanese bombs and torpedoes that destroyed the 32,600-ton battleship Arizona at Pearl Harbor also killed five brothers of the fighting Holden family—an orphaned group of nine Negro boys.

3-11-43

On Sept. 14, 1942, Warren Holden, 18, of New York City enlisted in the navy as an apprentice seaman. He said:

"I'd like to get on a gun crew and get over there to get a few Japs for my brothers who didn't have a chance to defend themselves last December."

Young Holden has three brothers in the army. His father served in the navy in the last war. Aunts and uncles helped raise the Holden boys after their parents died.

These youngsters, like many other Negroes, have been upholding the honor of the Negro race in American armed forces in this war. Several have been decorated. I have heard many stories of their bravery in my travels with the fleet.

3-19-43

March 19, 1943

Bee [redacted]
Chicago, Ill

To Launch First Warship Named For Negro Sunday

Washington, D.C.

JUL 24 1943

The destroyer escort, which has first United States warship to be named for a Negro, will be launched at the Fore River Yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy, Sunday, July 25, according to a recent announcement by Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox.

The stroyer escort, which has been named for the late Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, will be sponsored by his mother, Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Texas.

Mr. Harmon, who was 26 years of age at the time of his death, was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism," while serving aboard the cruiser San Francisco. He was killed in action against the Japanese in the battle of Guadalcanal, November 12 and 13, 1942.

JUL 24 1943

CALL MEETING TO DISCUSS NEGRO WAVES WEDNESDAY

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 22—About six or seven prominent persons here were to meet with Commander Mildred McAfee of the WAVES Wednesday afternoon to discuss a plan, said to have been approved by Secretary Knox for the enlistment of Negro women into that organization.

JUL 25 1943

The meeting is supposed to be held on the quiet for the purpose of advising Commander McAfee, but there is some feeling that she will attempt to wring a sanction out of the group.

The names of four persons invited to the meeting have been learned. They are Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, lobbyist for the AKA Non Partisan Council on Public Affairs; Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, chairman of the board, local YWCA; Mrs. Pauline Redmond Coggs, secretary, Washington Urban league; and Miss Jeanette Welch, secretary, National Council of Negro Women.

One report is that the plan contemplated is to take Negro women into the WAVES as auxiliaries, train them at a Negro school, and deny them to the ranks of officers. The council has already expressed itself as being "unalterably opposed" to any such plan of segregation. The positions of the others have not been determined.

The call of the meeting is believed to have come as a result of a hot letter which rs. Johnson had sent to the President ten days ago protesting the reported plan, and calling for a conference with either him or Secretary Knox. It appears that Commander cAfee will carry the load. The stated purpose of the various auxiliaries of the armed forces is to have women replace men who may be used in other tasks for which women would not be suited.

JUL 25 1943

In the navy Negroes are denied commissions. An adjustment in navy policy last year allowed for the training of Negroes as seamen. They are being used at shore establishments. But Negro women could hardly replace them in any of these capacities.

Mulzac Crew Pleads For More Democracy

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, June 10—(ANP)—The SS Booker T. Washington, whose crew comprises 18 Negroes, six Filipinos, and the balance white, under Capt. Hugh Mulzac, has sent a letter to President Roosevelt criticising discrimination in the U. S. Army.

JUN 12 1943

The crew condemned this condition as a means of endangering the war effort and hazarding the prestige of our armed forces.

NO DISCORD

The letter revealed that even though the crew is mixed, with 27 white men in the armed guard, and with many of both crews and the navy gun crew coming from the Southern states, "there has been no instance of discord lack of co-operation, or impaired efficiency in the manning and working.

The crew suggested that the President institute immediately a forthright educational program "designed not only to enlighten the men of our armed forces but the citizenry as well, to eliminate once and for all ridiculous race theories based on Nazi and fascist concepts.

JUN 12 1943

Booker T. Unharmed in Voyages Despite Sub, Plane Attacks

Afro-American – Baltimore

Capt. Hugh Mulzac, Skipper of 10,000-Ton Liberty Ship, Says Storms Worse than Enemy Shells

BALTIMORE

Several trips to sea and numerous attacks by enemy planes and submarines have failed to damage the S.S. Booker T. Washington, 10,500-ton liberty ship.

JUN 10 1943

Capt. Hugh Mulzac, skipper of the ship, told the AFRO Wednesday that one or two of the more severe storms encountered at sea actually caused more concern than enemy shells, all of which failed to score a hit.

The bravery of Captain Mulzac and his crew, who at great risks were successful in saving their cargo during one of these storms while that of some other ships in the convoy was lost, was dramatized over a nation-wide hookup of the Columbia Broadcasting System recently by the Office of War Information.

90-Mile November Gale

The storm in question was a 90-mile-an-hour gale which struck the ship last November with such severity that the cargo was dislodged and the ship's lifeboats and rafts washed away.

Captain Mulzac, commanding a mixed crew representing eighteen nationalities, termed the Booker T. a "floating democracy" and said his men believe it to be the best and easiest ship afloat to work on.

JUN 10 1943

He recalled an occasion recently when a white naval gun crew officer, a Lieutenant Curley, asked to be reassigned to the ship because he had "never worked with men who co-operated any better."

Spirit of Brotherly Love

Some idea of the spirit and brotherly love ideals of the Booker T.'s crew was revealed, the captain said, when upon hearing of the Detroit race riot via radio while at sea, they promptly assembled, drawing up a letter protesting this undemocratic outbreak.

Afro-American

The letter was sent to the U.S. Congress and is scheduled for an early reading before that body.

Accompanied by J. Howard Payne, his attorney, Captain Mulzac on Wednesday made his first visit to the AFRO offices since 1918. At that time he held a second mate's license.

He revealed that he was the first man of his race to sail out of Baltimore during World War No. 1 as an officer.

Holds Commander's Rank

He now holds the rank of commander, due to a recent government ruling that all captains of ships over 10,000 tons be recognized as such.

One difference between circumstances surrounding that war and the present one, he said, is that it seemed easier then for a man of his race holding an officer's rating to get a ship.

JUN 10 1943

Captain Mulzac revealed that he had to go to Washington and personally present his papers before government officials before he was given command of the Booker T. Then, he said, they wanted him to sail it with an all-colored crew.

Refused Jim Crow Crew

"I told them," Captain Mulzac said, in revealing how he had refused the ship unless given authority to assemble a mixed crew, "that all my life I had been fighting jim-crowism, segregation and discrimination and that if I agreed to take the ship with an all-colored crew I would be compromising with those things I've been fighting against."

JUN 10 1943

Tunisia Democratic Oasis

Casablanca, he said, is the only port on the globe where he has found a service men's club catering without discrimination to all races during the present war.

On a recent trip, the captain said, his mixed crew was such a curiosity that newsreel films, under sponsorship of the Great Western Railway Company, were made and shown throughout England's theatres. The pictures always drew large audiences, he said.

Captain Mulzac said he was the guest of several high-ranking officials during his trips abroad and that he and his crew were always treated courteously.

47i-1943

LONE SURVIVOR OF NAZI U-BOAT

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

479
1943

LIBERTY SHIP SURVIVORS ELKS' GUEST—Seaman James Garey, second class cook (center) and only Washington survivor of the ill-fated U.S.S. Frederick Douglass Liberty Ship torpedoed recently, receives a warm welcome from his wife, Mrs. Rose Garey. Entertaining him as an Elks' guest are L. Franklin (left), Mrs. Alice Garey Franklin, mother, and Thomas Johnson, Jr. (right), Elks' Home supervisor. Wright-Rilley Photo.

Harlem Citizens Blast

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Bias In WAVES, SPARS

JUN 5 1943

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NEW YORK—A wave of protest has followed the recent assertion of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox that Negro leaders favor barring colored women from enlistment in the naval and coast guard reserves, the WAVES and SPARS.

A formal blast, denying the statement, came this week from the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem, which is holding a series of meetings on problems affecting Negroes.

Some time ago the committee sent a letter signed by Algernon D. Black, co-chairman, to Mr. Knox, asking for clarification of the Navy Department's policy with respect to the recruiting of colored women.

On March 5, say the committee members, Mr. Knox answered that the Women's Reserve "shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the navy, to release male officers and enlisted men of the naval service for duty at sea."

The letter added: "The navy does not have any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea. There is no occasion to replace Negro enlisted personnel by Negro women enlisted in the Women's Reserve."

Paragraph Stirs Protests

Secretary Knox closed his letter with the paragraph that has stirred the "tempest in a teapot," and which stated: "This program is necessarily experimental, but it is not discriminatory, and it has received the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press generally."

Later, in reply to letters sent to Negro leaders and representative organizations, the City-Wide committee received an avalanche of messages criticizing the assertion made by Mr. Knox.

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell said the Knox statement was "entirely erroneous." He stated that while it is true that the WAVES was established to relieve male officers and enlisted men of the naval service for duty at sea, "it does not say that these must be supplanted by whites only."

JUN 5 1943

Channing Tobias, senior secretary, Y.M.C.A. National Council, said that Mr. Knox's letter was a "classic illustration of subterfuge and evasion."

Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, asserted:

"The statement of Secretary Knox that the navy department's program is 'necessarily experimental,' and has received the approval of Negro organizations' certainly does not express the opinion of the National Urban League. Neither does the League approve the over-timid and frequently contradictory policies which the navy department has instituted."

Members of the committee said they would continue the protests and call upon navy department officials to abolish discrimination against both Negro men and women in its services.

Officers of the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem include Algernon D. Black and Rev. A. Clayton Powell, co-chairmen, and William T. Andrews, the Rev. George Ford, Lester B. Granger, Stanley M. Isaacs, Dr. David DeSola Pool, Dr. Robert Searle and Walter White, vice chairmen.

JUN 5 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

FORGETS RACE NAVY DAY

NOV 20 1943

BEAUFORT, S.C. — (ANP) — No colored sailors nor servicemen participated in the Navy Day celebration here in the hometown of Robert Small, Civil War naval hero.

BTW's Mixed Crew Delivers Stinging Rebuke To Rioters

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUL 10 1943

WASHINGTON, July 8—A stinging rebuke to the "home fascists" responsible for the anti-Negro riots in Detroit was delivered by the Negro and white crew of the United States Liberty ship, Booker T. Washington, in a letter, written on the high seas June 25, sent by every member of the crew to Congressman Vito Marcantonio (A.L.P., N.Y.) and read by him into the Congressional Record last week. The members of the crew, with their Negro captain, Hugh Mulzac, urged the New York Congressman "to take every opportunity on the floor of Congress, and off, to demand a fearless, searching investigation of the Detroit massacre, this to be followed by prosecution of the guilty parties, including the higher-ups who instigated the massacre as well as the mobsters who did the killing."

CITES OWN EXPERIENCES

Denying that the riots were the result of "some sort of spontaneous combustion," the letter stated:

JUL 10 1943

"For nine months now, we—a fairly average group of Negroes an whites from the deep South as well as the North, East and West—have been sailing together on the S.S. Booker T. Washington under circumstances which have compelled the most intimate contact. If there were any real antagonism between the races, surely it would have burst forth again and again aboard.

"Even in peace time, a ship like the Booker T. Washington is a much smaller place than Detroit, but in war time, due to the blackout, the space actually occupied by the crew most of the time is smaller than the smallest drug store in Detroit. And yet some would have us believe that the vast metropolis of Detroit, extending over 250 square miles, isn't big enough for the two races to live in side by side without bitter discord . . . During the nine months that we have lived and worked together on this ship—and manned the guns together when under attack from planes or submarines—we have not known the slightest racial tension, discord or instance of animosity between white and colored."

"While on the high seas," the letter stated, "sailing homeward to pick up another cargo of war materials to follow that which we had just put into the hands of our armed forces in North Africa, we heard over the radio with mingled rage and disgust of the Fascist attack of the Negro people of Detroit."

WANT TRAITORS PUNISHED

JUL 10 1943

The letter declares: "We know what sinister and disruptive forces really plotted and carried into action the Detroit massacre. We know further that unless these traitors are brought to justice, the Detroit slaughter is but the beginning of a nation-wide drive on the part of the home Fascists to disrupt the war effort, paralyze the Allied drive against Hitlerism, just as victory is within our grasp, and so ultimately to divide the American people that Fascism can seize power in the United States in the classic manner adopted by Hitler in Germany."

Among the 38 signers of the letter are, John Beecher, now ship's clerk, formerly on the staff of the New York Post and an investigator for the FEPC; Chief Engineer J. A. Smith, Allister Mulzac, a relative of the captain; Captain Mulzac and Frederick A. Reed, ship's carpenter.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 22, 1943

NEGRO FARM HAND'S WIFE TO GET $308 DEPENDENT'S PAY

479

SHREVEPORT, La., Oct. 22.—(AP)—A 34-year-old Negro, Tom Washington, father of 11 children ranging in age from 5 days to 15 years, was sworn into the Navy here Thursday as a volunteer.

Navy officials said that under the new Service Men's Allotment Act Washington's allotment would be $308 per month. The family lives on a farm and Washington has been employed by a railroad.

All Colors Of Men Are Same to the Navy Now

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

AUG 1 1943

47j

SOMEWHERE IN S. PACIFIC—(SNS)—Proof that this is not a 'white man's war' and that all colors of men are needed to achieve victory is this scene showing the U. S. Navy, which at first was reluctant to enlist American Negroes, recruiting dark-skinned natives of South Pacific islands to give overworked men of the Pacific Fleet a hand in their tasks. Spurred by hatred wherever they have come in contact with the Japanese, the aborigines prove willing workers and guides. They are pictured here as they get their first Navy chow before the ship ups anchor from their home harbor. (Official Navy Photo by INP)

AUG 1 1943

Navy Is Worried Over Big Quota Of Race Sailors

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 1 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — So involved has the navy become in the matter of accepting and utilizing its agreed quota of Negroes that it is unlikely that the enlistment of women into the WAVES, is going to come about until that task is well worked out. This was revealed during a press conference held by Captain Mildred McAfee of the WAVES last Friday afternoon.

47j

When the question was put to her, she said that the department has been working on the inclusion of Negro men more and more, but that as far as women are concerned, "the matter is still under consideration and still under study." She added that "there has been no policy announcement" and could not indicate when one might be expected.

Asked if the question of integrated training had anything to do with the delay in a policy announcement Capt. McAfee neatly side-stepped and said "the whole thing" is being worked out from every aspect" and that the "handling of interracial relationships" would be taken care of then.

Informed of this development, Mrs Thomasina Walker Johnson, legislative representative, AKA Non Partisan Council on Public Affairs, declared:

"A year and five months is long enough to decide the fate of the world let alone the enlistment of a few Negro women into the WAVES Her references was to the time that has been put in battling for the inclusion of Negro women, from the inception of the auxiliary to the navy.

The WAVES expect to have 47,000 women enlisted by the end of this year, and 90,000 by the close of 1944. Capt. McAfee was asked why the wives of naval officers were barred from enlisting and she discussed the "close-knit" relationship of men in the navy, and the important role of navy wives. She said that it might put some officers in a difficult position if they found they had to command the wife of a classmate or close friend of theirs. She stressed the close-knit" relationship of men in the navy, and the important role of navy wives. She said that it might put some officers in a difficult position if they found they had to command the wife of a classmate or close friend of theirs She stressed the closeness of the relationship there.

DEC 1 1943

Talking It Over

OCT 7 1943

47j

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro and white, these two U. S. sailors, both wounded in the Pacific war fighting for the same freedom, talk over their battle experiences in U. S. Naval Hospital, Seattle. Louis Blackshaer (left) hails from Matchitoches, Louisiana, and Everett Howk is a Des Moines, Iowa, boy. Both are "backing the attack by buying war bonds as well as fighting it. U. S. Navy Photo.

OCT 7 1943

WAVES NOT WANTED!

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

AUG 13 1943

Washington—Four Negro girls who applied for admission to the WAVES at the Navy recruiting office here Friday caused such consternation that officials in charge closed the doors four and one-half hours ahead of the usual time, according to the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's National Non-Partisan Council.

47j

Fifteen minutes after two of the girls were asked to leave because the office had "closed", however, two others returned and found the door open. The six girls had decided to test the qualifications for admission to the WAVES which state that a woman must be a native-born American citizen and between the ages 20 and 35. All met both requirements.

AUG 13 1943

"NEGROES FEEL KINSHIP WITH RUSSIANS," DECLARES URBAN LEAGUE'S LESTER GRANGER

"Negroes in this country feel a special kinship with the brave Russian people, not only because the Russians' record of physical and emotional suffering during the centuries matches that of the American Negroes but because the Soviet Union has succeeded in stamping out racial prejudice from its national life."

Thus spoke Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, this week when he endorsed the National War Fund's coming drive as it relates to the Russian War Relief, Inc.

SEP 1943

The Russian War Relief, with 15 other war service and relief agencies, will share in the funds collected during the National War Fund campaign to be launched on a national scale in conjunction with united community campaigns in October and November.

47j-1943

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DEC 3 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

[TRIBUNE Photo.]

DEC 3 1943

Officers' Steward C. C. Shephard, hero of destroyer Borie with his wife, Cherry.

Navy's First Class Of Shore Patrolmen

DEC 1 1943

In addition to their class work and physical drill, students in the Service School for Negro Shore Patrolmen at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., gain practical experience by walking post with veteran SPs assigned to the nearby town of Waukegan. This squad receives last minute instructions from Lt. Abraham Zitenfield (reading orders), officer in charge of the school. With him are Lt. (j. g.) Paul F. Hill, executive officer of the school, and Chief Specialist Lawrence Reaume, (center) chief instructor. (Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI.)

47j

DEC 1 1943

DEC 1 1943

A Tribute To A Hero:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

USS Harmon Launched As Shipyard Breaks Own Construction Record

SEP 11 1943

BOSTON, Mass.—A new record in destroyer escort production was established Tuesday when the USS Harmon was delivered to the Navy by the Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy, Massachusetts, only 92 days after the vessel's keel was laid.

The USS Harmon is named in honor of the late Leonard Roy Harmon, Negro, Mess Attendant, First Class, U.S.N., who posthumously was awarded the Navy Cross for "extraordinary heroism" while serving aboard the USS San Francisco. He lost his life in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal, November 12, and 13, 1942.

Broke Own Record

SEP 11 1943

The Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company broke its own record for destroyer escort construction in delivering the USS Harmon. On August 15, 1943, this yard completed a destroyer escort in 115 days.

Not For Negroes

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Secretary Knox, apparently will welcome enlistees of any nationality and color in the Navy's women's corps, the WAVES, except American Negroes. Proof of this is Susan Ann, born of Korean parents, who has just been enrolled in the U. S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School at Northampton, Mass. Knox's ruling is that Negroes, who were born and lived in America all their lives, need not apply. How does the 'Four Freedoms' formula fit this, Mr. President?

SEP 5 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

S. S. Robert Vann Launching Sunday

PORTLAND, Me.—With Mrs. Robert L. Vann, widow of the founder of the Pittsburgh Courier as sponsor, a Liberty ship, named for the late editor and publisher, will be launched Sunday noon at South Portland.

Constructed by the New England Shipbuilding Corporation, the vessel is the fourth to be named in honor of Negroes. Of the others—the Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver and Frederick Douglass—one, the Douglass has been sunk.

Following the launching a luncheon will be given in the Lafayette Hotel, with Dr. Kenneth C. M. Sills, president, of Bowdoin College; Ferdinand L. Smith, secretary, National Maritime Union, and Ira F. Lewis, president of the Courier, among the speakers.

OCT 16 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Knox Still Silent on Navy Women

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Navy Secretary Frank Knox could give no report of the progress being made toward accepting colored women in the WAVES, SPARS or Women's Marine Corps when questioned at his press conference Friday.

A week prior to the conference the naval secretary told the ANP that the subject was under discussion, and promised to release the information as soon as he found out.

Nothing to Report

Reminded of this promise, Knox said: "There is nothing more to report at the present time."

Asked whether a decision might be reached by the end of the year, he answered: "I don't know when there will be one."

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

SEP 11 1943
47j

USS HARMON BREAKS SHIPYARD RECORD

The USS Harmon, named after Negro messman Leroy Harmon, who gave his life to protect a ship mate during a Navy battle, pro[illegible] sails th[illegible]ters after her launching at the Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company's Quincy, Mass., yards in the record-breaking time of 92 days.

SEP 1943

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

MESSBOY STAR PLANE SPOTTER GEORGIA NEGRO, 17, PROVES INVALUABLE IN SICILY BATTLE

By JOHN A. MOROSO III

WITH UNITED STATES AMPHIBIOUS FORCES. — Back in the library of Dasher High School in Valdosta, Ga., a sixteen-year-old Negro boy [illegible] to spend his spare time pouring over books on military aviation.

With the few pennies he saved from working for a dry cleaner, Arthur James Goodwin, of 206 E. Branch St., bought plane parts and built models. Little did this slightly-built boy realize then that some day, off the embattled shores of Sicily, what he was learning would help protect Uncle Sam's navy from furious assaults by Axis planes.

A year ago, when he joined the navy, they put him aboard an assault transport as a [illegible]boy in the officers' wardroom. Life went along quietly until the transport sailed for an unknown destination—the invasion of Sicily.

HE KNOWS HIS PLANES

On the way across the Atlantic he was mad[illegible] member of a gun crew and attended classes in plane identification. His knowledge of planes caughtt [illegible] attention of instructors, who were impressed also with his excellent sight. As a result he was moved from an aft gun to gun on the bridge.

When he started in for the beaches steward's mate second class, Arthud James Goodwin, now seventeen, dropped his plates and silver and took his place on the bridge. It was 11 p. m. Friday night.

Hep roved so valuable in identifying both enemy and friendly planes that he never left the bridge until Monday night. Some sandwiches and coffee and a few catnaps between air attacks kept him going.

His job was difficult, because enemy pl[illegible]ften became mixed up with friend[illegible] Transport planes that [illegible] paratroopers in and returned during the middle of an air attack. Spitfires and Beafu-fighters oten dove on enem fighters and fighters and this made it almost impossible for us to keep from shooting down some of our own planes.

PLANES SHOT DOWN

At times the night sky would be full of planes and about the only thing we could do was to shoot at the ones [illegible] dropped flares and bombs. It was tough going.

Arthur went through these battles camlly. He correctly identified the first Folke-Wulf 190s that bombed our landing beaches. When Spitfires attacked these enemy [illegible] Arthur identified them and preven[illegible] his ship from shooting at them.

He was the first man aboard to identifp three German JJU 88s that roared in to attack the convoy. They got a warm reception. On another occasion he prevented fire at some Mustangs.

"I knew 'em by their square wingtips," Arthur said.

Through it all this little country boy said the only time he was really afraid was when Nazi planes d[illegible]d three bombs into the water one hundred feet from his ship. The ship [illegible]ered and reeled but escaped damage.

SEP 15 1943
47j

Watch That Hat, Marva

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 10 1943

Press Photo Service

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — (PPS) — Mrs. Joe Louis, wife of the world's heavyweight boxing champion, presents honor man certificate to Bluejacket Ellis Newton, of 2433 Flora Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, at recent recruit graduation exercises [illegible] U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. Mrs. Louis was introduced to nearly [illegible], who were on the field by Lt. D. O. Van Ness (center), commanding officer of Camp Robert Smalls, one of the training camps at Great Lakes.

AUG 10 1943
47j

NAVY 'E' WON BY GREAT LAKES

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

GREAT LAKES, Ill., Sept. 16— There [illegible] new fla[illegible]ng below the national colors on the Camp Robert Smalls' flagpole at the U. S. Naval Training station here—the Navy "E" award for general excellence.

Camp Smalls was presented the award recently by Captain J. S. Freeman, executive officer of the Training Station, under a new program of inter-regimental competition between Great Lakes' three Negro regiments. The camp was judged the most proficient of the three in its training activities during a three-week period.

SEP 18 1943
47j

'Let's Commission Negroes In Navy,' Urges Commander

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO, (ANP)—In an Armistice Day address at the DuSable High School Thursday, Commander D. W. Arm[illegible]g, of the U. S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, said: "I am personally [illegible] record with the Secretary of the Navy in recommending that Negroes be commissioned as officers in the U. S. Navy, and I back up my recommendations." The commandant said he did not know when commissions will be authorized.

Armstrong, in reviewing the Negro's difficult struggle for general service in the Navy, indicated that Great Lakes gets about 25 per cent of its recruits from the north and the balance from the south.

Naval Schooling Needed

He explained that it was necessary for the naval center to institute remedial schools to teach many of these men enough reading, writing and arithmetic so they could read the orders given them.

Commander Armstrong said that there [illegible]ould be [illegible] surer way for this program to [illegible]nded in disaster than by the commissioning of officers before either the prospective officers or the men whom they were to command were trained to discharge the duties and responsibilities incumbent upon them in a satisfactory manner.

DEC 4 1943
47j

Knox Says Navy Accepting Negroes According To Quota

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(A N [illegible] The navy is accepting its quota of Negro selectees according to program, Sec. Knox told his press conference last Friday, although there has been a large percentage of rejections for physical reasons, h[illegible] said.

There is a report that the navy, in spite of the increased proportion of Negroes it has been taking of late, still is far behind schedule and will require a good deal more time to do what it has promised to do by the end of the year.

Several mont[illegible] ago the navy had announced that it planned to take Negroes up to 15 per c[illegible] personnel. This followed the efforts of War Manpower commission to persuade the various branches of the armed services to use Negroes to the extent of at least 10 per cent of personnel. Authentic sources say the army is rapidly approaching its quota.

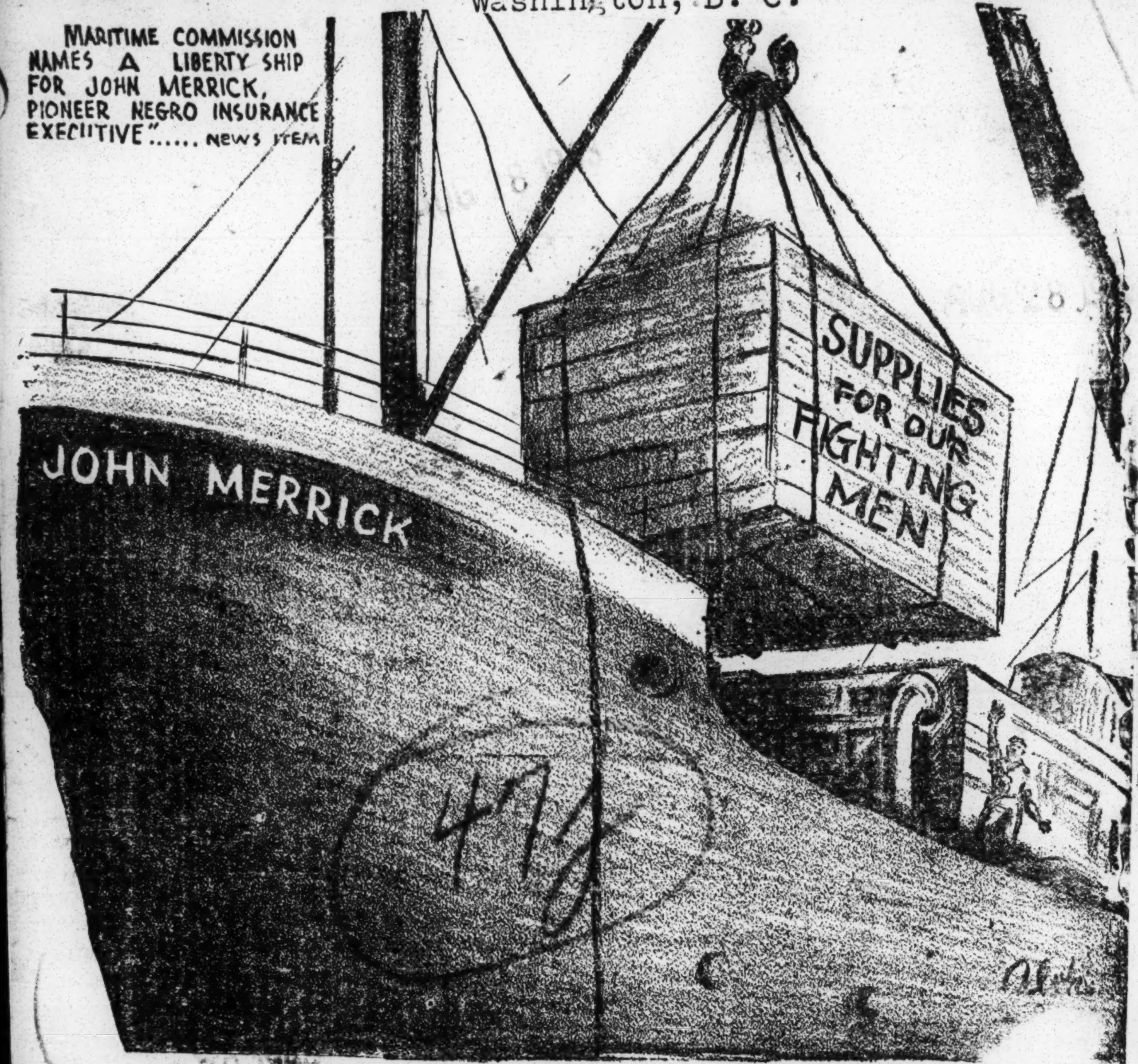
"There has been no delay on our part," Sec. Knox declared. "I don't know whether selective service has given us all [illegible] have asked for. There has bee[illegible] high percentage of physical disqualifications."

SEP 1943
47j

47j-1943

Democracy in Action .. By Alston

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.


MARITIME COMMISSION NAMES A LIBERTY SHIP FOR JOHN MERRICK, PIONEER NEGRO INSURANCE EXECUTIVE"...... NEWS ITEM
JOHN MERRICK
SUPPLIES FOR OUR FIGHTING MEN
Alston

AUG 28 194

"The Greatest Insurance of All."

47j

Local Negro Musician Gets Navy Promotion

Nashville, Tenn., Banner

J. D. Chavis, 33, Negro musician with the Navy, was recently promoted from the rank of musician second class to that of musician first class, and is stationed in Seattle, Wash. October 29, 1943

He is the son of Mrs. M. C. Chavis, 910 First Avenue, South, and of the late Rev. J. D. Chavis.

Chavis entered the USNR last November, and is now leader of a 23-piece band. He attended Fisk University, where he received an M.A. degree, and later joined the faculty of Washington Junior High School. He conducted bands at Washington and Pearl High Schools.

Colored Citizens Hold Navy Meeting

Jackson, Miss. News

October 28, 1943

Specialist First Class Harold Jacobs, only colored member of the Navy on recruiting duty in Mississippi, will conduct a meeting of ministers, business operators and other negro citizens of Jackson at 8 p. m. Monday November 1 at the Farish Street Baptist church, 627 North Farish street to discuss Navy enlistments and induction and to lay plans for civilian Navy recruiters to assist men about to enter the service, it was learned.

The Jackson Navy Recruiting Station invites all colored men and women to attend the meeting who are interested in assisting recruiter Jacobs to inform 17-year-old boys of the opportunities open to them in the various trade schools of the Navy.

Explanations of the current Navy program will cover facts which will pertain to placing young enlistees and inductees in Navy jobs where they are most needed and where they will be most useful.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal

October 28, 1943

Negro Servicemen Hold Musical Program

Navy Day was celebrated by Negro servicemen in the Atlanta area Wednesday in a colorful and musical program at the Servicemen's Club, Ashby and Hunter Streets, arranged by Chief Petty Officer Graham Jackson, widely known Atlanta Negro musician.

High Navy and state officials were guests of honor. Music was furnished by the Booker T. Washington High School Band while members of the Naval Air Station band listened.

It was the second annual observance of Navy Day arranged by C. P. O. Jackson for members of his race.

Takes Command Of New Victory Vessel

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

OCT 3 1943

NEW YORK — Captain John Godfrey, U. S. Maritime Service has been placed in command of the S. S. Robert L. Vann the ship which has been named in honor of the late founder of the Pittsburgh Courier, and who was the first Negro Asst. Attorney General of the U. S. The ship is scheduled to be launched at South Portland, Maine, October 14, 1943.

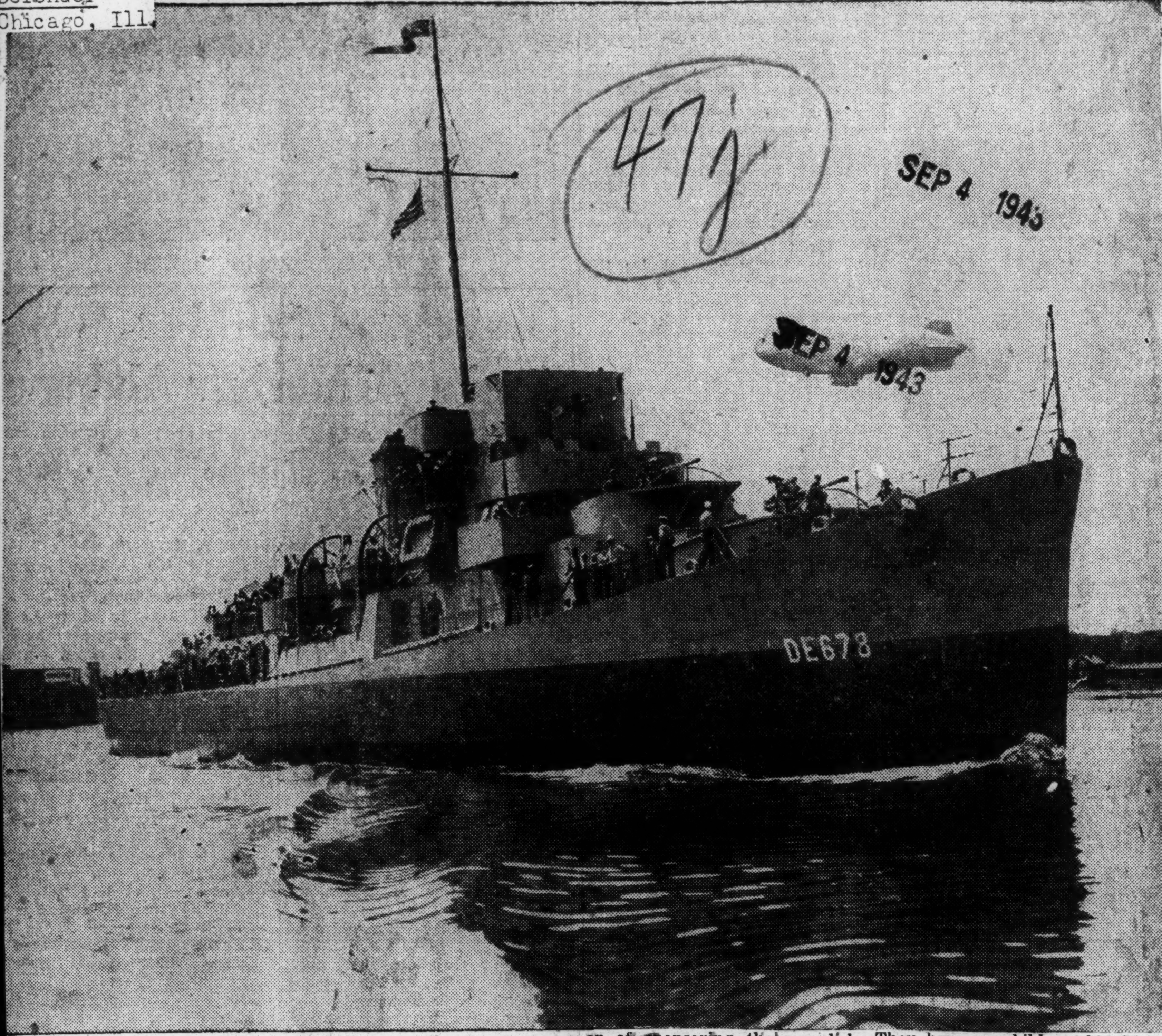
Capt. Godfrey has had twenty five years of maritime experience before joining the postal service. He is a resident of Brooklyn, N. Y. and for the past 14 years has been an employee of the N. Y. Post Office. With him is Lieut. Commander Adolphus Folkes who will be Captain Godfrey's Chief Officer. Lieut. Comm. Folkes is a native New Yorker, a former employee of the New York Sanitation Dept. and was Chief Officer of the First Liberty Ship, the "Booker T. Washington" Photo shows: New York's Postmaster Albert Goldman presenting Capt. Godfrey with his release from the Postal Service for the duration and congratulating him on his new command, while Lt. Commdr. Folkes looks on.

WARSHIP NAMED FOR NEGRO SET FOR ACTION

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

47j

SEP 4 1943



The destroyer, U.S.S. Harmon, plows through the sea water all set for action after its delivery to the Navy in the record breaking time time of 92 days after the keel laying. The first worship ever named after a Negro was built at the Fore River Shipyard of the Bethlehel Steel Company in Quincy, Mass.

Shipyard Worker's Wife Sponsors Liberty Ship

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 20 1943

10,500-Ton John La Farge Christened by Mrs. Robert Parker at Bethlehem-Fairfield

BALTIMORE

Sponsored by Mrs. Robert Parker of 2335 Madison Avenue, the 10,500-ton Liberty Ship John La Farge, the 239th to be launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, was sent down the ways this morning (Friday) at 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Parker, wife of an employee of the yard, was given the honor of sponsoring the vessel because of the excellent attendance record made by her husband during a period of several months.

Selected from Among 50 Others

Mrs. Parker's name was selected from a capsule in a bowl containing those of wives of fifty other men who had compiled good attendance marks in a drive by the management to curb absenteeism.

Following the launching, a luncheon was held in honor of the ship's sponsor at the York Hotel. D. B. Parnell, member of the Y Department for Victory Division, was host.

Have No Children

Mr. Parker has been employed at the yard for eighteen months. They have no children, but Mrs. Parker has eight nephews serving in the armed forces. They are:

Sgt. James A. Ennis, Sgt. Howard Liggins, Pvt. Edward P. Rawlings, Cpl. Clifton M. Johnson, Cpl. Lawrence H. Jackson, Sgt. McKinley M. Johnson, Sgt. Orlando Johnson and Pvt. Harold H. Johnson.

The Johnsons are related, but all are not brothers. Sgt. Harold Johnson is a member of the cast of "This Is the Army," now playing London.

Built in 27 Days

The ship, completed in 27 days, is named for an artist born in New York, March 31, 1835, and died November 14, 1904.

La Farge was famous for his creation of "The Ascension," now in the Church of the Ascension, Fifth Avenue, NYC, and was responsible for the bringing to this country the practice of making stained and mosaic glass.

Physical Fitness An Essential Factor In Navy's Morale Aim

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

AUG 14 1943

GREAT LAKES, [illegible] Mass participation is an important part of the physical training and recreation program at the U.S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Not a day passes that companies of men in recruit training cannot be seen on the Training Stations' drill field or in drill halls going through a series of calistenics or taking part in the various competitive sports which play such an important role in the Navy's physical fitness program.

Negro Bluejackets in recruit camp or in one or another of the three camps devoted to the training of Negroes, are no exception. With an average of about 130 men to a class, each recruit sailor devotes at least an hour and a half a day to "getting a new set of muscles." And in addition to the scheduled classes, most men spend some portion of their free time on the softball diamond or in the gym.

Every man reporting at the Training Station is given the U. S. Navy's standard physical fitness test, which includes squat-thrusts, sit-ups, push-ups, squat-jumps and pull-ups (chins). Based on a chart allowing a certain number of points for the number of times a man is able to do each exercise, his physical fitness score is deterimned.

Men who score below 40 points, or whose score is below their company's average are given additional work designed to strengthen and to bring up to par the muscular weaknesses indicated. With the first test given in the first week of training, the recruit takes the identical test in his fourth week and again in the seventh week.

In addition to the physical fitness tests, the program includes road work (running, jogging, marching); calisthenics (before breakfast exercises and additional periods); boxing, wrestling; tumbling; personal combat (rough and tumble without weapons); track and field events (emphasizing [illegible]) such as scaling cargo nets or fire bucket relays); obstacle course work; mass games; rope climbing and swimming. Inter-battalion and inter-regimental competition is held in the various sports throughout the training period.

The third phase of the program

recreation - includes gym classes, table games, lounge and library activities, group singing, instrumental music, hobbies and special interests. Equipment in each regiment's huge recreation building is furnished through Navy Welfare Funds. Supervising activities in each building are two women recreation leaders and three chief specialists whose task it is to keep equipment busy and officiate at various contest.

The man whose charge it is to whip into shape the thousands of men who train at Great Lakes - over one-third of the total personnel of the Navy - is Lt. Cmdr. Alden W. Thompson, physical training and recreation officer. His staff includes 50 officers and chief petty, officers, all of whom are college graduates with years of experience in physical training and athletic coaching.

Navy Accepts Full Quota Of Negroes

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 5 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox said Friday that the Navy is accepting its quota of Negro although there has been a large percentage of rejections for physical reasons. Mr. Knox denied that there has been any [illegible] on the prt of his Navy in keeping of abreast of this schedule worked out with the Selective Service.

47j-1943

Launch S. S. Merrick, Fourth Liberty Ship

Peoples Voice
New York. N. Y.

JUL 24 1943

WILMINGTON, N. C.—The "S.S. John Merrick," fourth Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding American Negro, was launched Sunday afternoon, July 11, at the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company here.

The vessel was sponsored by Mrs. Martha Merrick Donnell, of Durham, daughter of John Merrick, who was one of the founders of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, one of the country's largest Negro financial institutions.

The "Merrick" is the first Liberty ship built in North Carolina to be named for a Negro. Mrs. Donnell's attendants were: Mrs. Martha Williams Wheeler, of Durham, matron of honor; Mrs. Hazel Scott of Washington, D. C., matron of honor, and the wives of four shipyard emploees, James Gordon, Jerry McGhee, Charles Sparrow and George Judge, all of Wilmington.

N.C. GOVERNOR PRESENT

Gov. J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina and C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, were the principal speakers at the launching.

The North Carolina Shipbuilding Company was one of the yards cited recently by the Special Committee Investigating the Natioal Defense Program, headed by Senator Harry S. Truman, as the most efficient producers of Liberty Ships and Naval vessels.

At this yard, 5,300 Negroes are employed as machine operators, blacksmiths, painters, dismantlers, stage builders, riggers, bolters, drillers, slab benders, erectors, riveters and other skilled and semiskilled capacities. Negroes constitute 29.8 per cent of all employees in the company's Wilmington yard.

JUL 24 1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Big Increase In Number Of Negro Recruits

Sweeping Changes Will Be Made In Training Routine

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — In line with the Navy Department's announcement in Washington a few months ago that an ever increasing number of Negroes were entering its ranks through Selective Service, a huge expansion of the program for recruit training has been undertaken at the Naval Training Station here.

Sweeping changes in training facilities, designed to centralize the regiments' recruit training program and to provide additional space for men of Outgoing Unit and Service School, have been completed.

Under the revisions, Camp Robert Smalls will no longer be used for recruit training, but instead becomes the home of OGU, Service School, Ship's Company, Music and Entertainment Department, and Security Watch, while Camps Moffett and Lawrence are to be utilized solely for recruit training.

The former camp had housed the outgoing unit in addition to recruits since July 3 when Camp Moffett became the third unit to be devoted to the training of Negroes at Great Lakes.

Of the companies in training in Camp Smalls all but a half-dozen have been moved to either of the other two training sites. These will remain in their original camp until completion of training, with the last company scheduled to be graduated October 18th.

Recruit facilities of Camp Smalls, such as the rifle range, gas chamber and obstacle course, will continue to be used by recruits, Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, assistant recruit training officer in charge of Negro training, explained. Recreational and athletic equipment of the camp will be used by activities newly moved into the area.

LATEST PHASE

The Navy has estimated that 15 per cent of the men inducted into the Navy this year would be Negroes and pointed out that most of these would be assigned to Great Lakes.

The program got underway at Great Lakes on May 1, when Camp Lawrence was turned over to Negro sailors and continued with the construction of a $200,000 Service School building in Camp Smalls and the conversion of Camp Moffett to Negro training. Camp Smalls—parent Negro unit—was opened in June of last year.

Seamen Report Bias At Maritime School

Courier
Pittsburgh. Pa

NEW YORK, Sept. 30—(ANP)—Documented allegations of flagrant and illegal discrimination visted upon ten graduates of the United States Maritime Service Training station at Sheepshead Bay by the USMS, the War Shiping Administration and at least one maritime union were contained in a signed letter to the National Maritime union last week.

The complaints list names, dates, places and circumstances in making the sensational charges that reveal a callous violation of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9436 which proscribe "discrimination in essential industries."

FILE AFFIDAVITS

Those seamen filing the affidavit are Henry H. Williams, Lubin E. Spencer, Jr., James E. Bray, Wilton O. Cooper, Alvin A. Watson, Richard J. Stribling, Bryon R. Smith, Chester L. Edward, Sam A. McClellan and Booker T. Brooks.

After graduation from the USMA training school as ordinary seamen, the maritime workers relate that they were quartered at the Chelsea hotel awaiting jobs, but that after five weeks of idleness they decided to act. Spurring their decision was the knowledge that successive classes had graduated from the school and shipped to various vessels, to other stations, and to the Great Lakes. Shipping authorities informed them they could ship only as messmen.

A spokesman for the NMU stated that efforts are being made to correct the situation that is directly opposed to the principles of the leading union organization of sea-going men.

S. S. Merrick Launched Sunday

Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

Vessel Named After Well Known Negro

AUG 5 1943

Sunday afternoon, the mid-part of July, the ship building plant on the Cape Fear River, N. C, was the scene of the launching of the ship named in honor of the well-known John Merrick. More than 1,200 persons witnessed this history making event. The traditional bottle of champagne was smashed on the 10,500 Liberty Ship as she gracefully left the ways. Mrs. Martha Merrick Donnell, daughter of the honored John Merrick, wielded the bottle. President C. C. Spaulding of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance company paid this tribute to the occasion.

"This signal honor to a member of my race has not been conferred in a shipyard south of the Mason-Dixon line. If it was to be, it has rightfully been done for the first time within the confines of the commonwealth of the greatest and noblest state in the Union—North Carolina.

'As I stand here and look out upon this vast concourse of humanity witnessing this grand event, and with my mind anticipate the thousands who will hear the broadcast in this our land and country, I can not help but mention that in all probability nowhere else on earth could an occasion like this one be had except under the protection of the Stars and Stripes—the symbol of the 'land of the free and the home of the brave.'

'John Merrick was not a speaker; he wrote no books, had no publicity agent—never assumed to he a great leader, but he was. He was an humble spirit possessed of superior endowment. Unlike Frederick Douglas and Booker T. Washington—two great leaders who preceded him in death—Douglas spoke—Washington appealed—Merrick taught his race self help in building commercial enterprises—frugality and self employment.

AUG 5 1943

Nixes Mixed Warship Crew

Amsterdam News

Navy Head Admits Special Efforts To Avoid Mixing Negro and White Seamen

New York, N. Y.

DEC 4 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — The Navy Department definitely does not intend to mix the crews of its warships. Sec. Frank Knox, in no uncertain terms, told his press conference last Friday afternoon, in answer to the inquiry of the Associated Negro Press, that the policy of the department is consciously one of Jim Crow.

The subject was precipitated when the Navy secretary announced that he had appointed a Navy manpower survey board to examine the complements—officer, enlisted and civilian—of all naval shore establishments with an eye to "streamlining" and achieving maximum efficiency. The final phase of the Navy's expanding shore organization and mobilization work, he said, is nearing completion.

Streamlining What?

Mr. Knox was then asked whether or not, in view of the stated probability that personnel at shore establishments would be reduced as a result of this study, it would follow that Negroes would be given different assignments since the bulk of those leaving such centers as the Great Lakes Naval Training Station had been sent to such establishments.

"That will depend upon just what the men can do," he stated, "and whether we have places available to them."

"Are they not trained to be seamen?" was the next query.

The secretary sat upright in his spring-chair and looked directly at his questioner and declared: "Well, you know exactly what we are trying to do. We are trying to avoid mixing crews on ships. That puts a limitation on where we can employ Negro seamen. Using them for crews of small shore and harbor craft, and things of that sort, and for shore duty. But we are not mixing crews."

'One-Man Gun Crew'

Mr. Knox's statement came about 48 hours after Lt. Charles H. Hutchins, commander of the destroyer Berio, describing for newsmen the manner in which his ship had knocked out two enemy submarines in fierce combat, told of the exploit of a Negro cook who became a "one-man gun crew" when both the ammunition unpacker, the loader and the pointer all became blinded by the ash of the firing gun.

All-Negro crews are now manning Coast Guard cutters, but there has been no announcement or indication that colored seamen are being used on any other ships outside of the rank of mess attendant. There is ground now for some speculation that those few Negroes known to be enrolled in the Navy's V-12 program, if given commissions as has been hinted, will be assigned to those "small shore and harbor craft" on which they are not presently used and to which the secretary referred.

The only announcements that the department has been in the habit of making about Negroes in the Navy have been with regard to those in construction battalions, popularly called "Seabees."

DEC 4 1943

COLORED SAILORS IN "HALL OF FAME"

Courier — Pittsburgh Pa

SEP 18 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill., Sept. 16—With the contest only a month old, a company of Negro sailors recently became the first of its race and the third at Great Lakes to be entered in the "Hall of Fame" at the U. S. Naval Training station here.

Named as honor man of the company was John Alvin Martin, of 118 W. Gray avenue, Houston, Texas. Martin was apprentice chief petty officer of his outfit during training. Stanley Martin McBride, of 2508 Palmyra street, New Orleans, La., was company clerk, and James O'Dell Chick, of 1417 Wylie avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., was master-at-arms.

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74 SEAMEN FINISH HOSPITAL SCHOOL

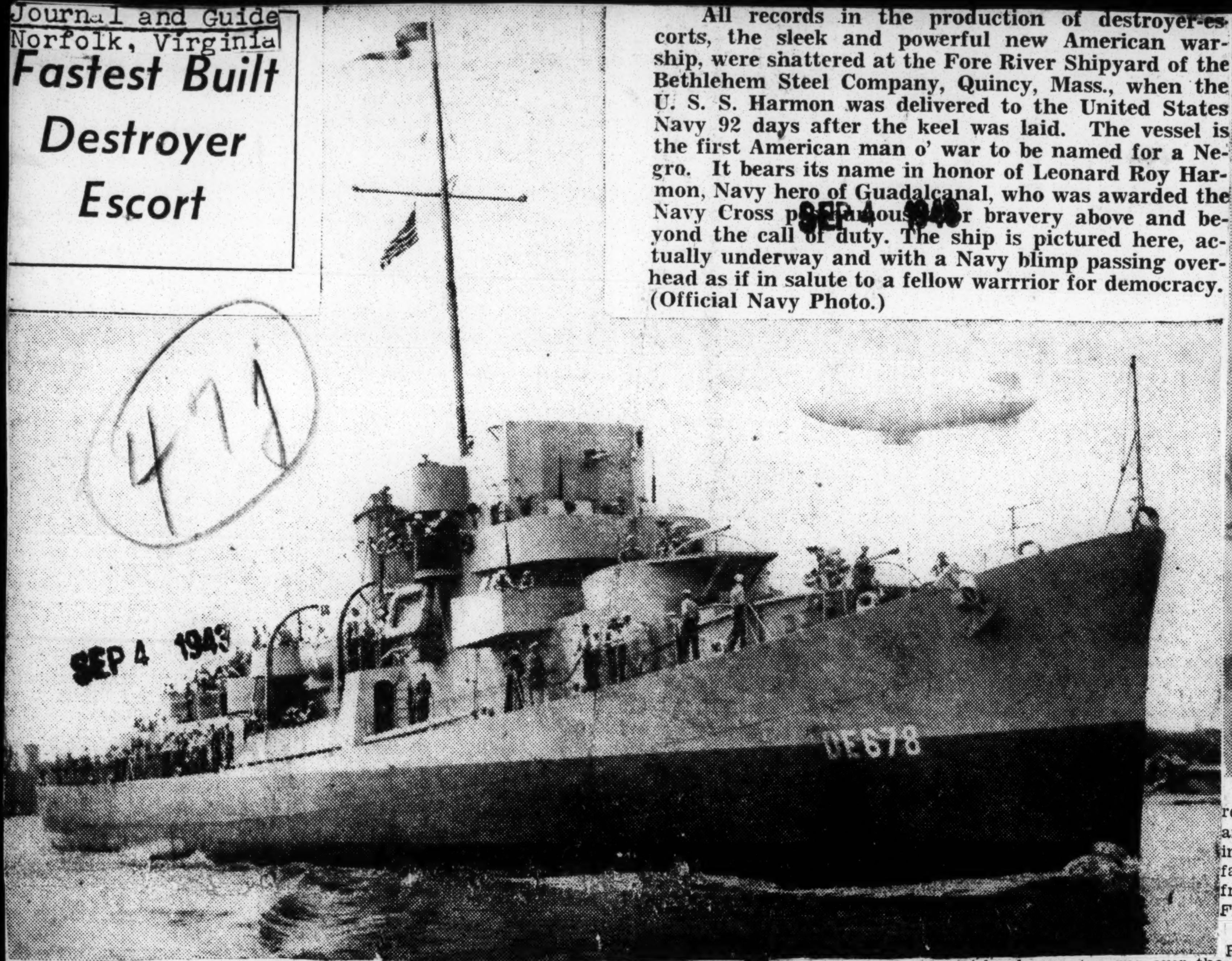
Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

SEP 18 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill., Sept. 16—(ANP)—Seventy-four Negro seamen graduated last week from the hospital corps training school here, first Negro class to enter and complete the school in many years. The last Negro to serve on active duty in the corps was chief Pharmacist's Mate Thomas, who had a splendid record.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Fastest Built Destroyer Escort



All records in the production of destroyer-escorts, the sleek and powerful new American warship, were shattered at the Fore River Shipyard of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy, Mass., when the U. S. S. Harmon was delivered to the United States Navy 92 days after the keel was laid. The vessel is the first American man o' war to be named for a Negro. It bears its name in honor of Leonard Roy Harmon, Navy hero of Guadalcanal, who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for bravery above and beyond the call of duty. The ship is pictured here, actually underway and with a Navy blimp passing overhead as if in salute to a fellow warrrior for democracy. (Official Navy Photo.)

SEP 4 1943

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~~SS~~ Douglass Goes Down-But Spirit Lives in Captain and Crew

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

OCT 28 1943

By Beth McHenry

Captain Adrian Richardson, one of the three Negro masters in the American merchant marine, is happy that of his crew of 70 not a man went down when the S. S. Frederick Douglass was sunk by a Nazi torpedo a few weeks ago.

Named for the great Negro American, the Douglass was returning from her second voyage when she met up with the enemy. The ship sank quickly when the dread needle pierced her but the crew abandoned her in disciplined fashion and all were rescued afterward.

Captain Richardson had nothing but praise for the crew. A fine group of men, he said, as fine as you'll ever get together anywhere.

The men were all members of the National Maritime Union, CIO.

Captain Richardson is a tall slender man with hair just now turning grey although he is nearing sixty. He has been sailing American flag ships for nearly forty years and has had a captain's license for about thirty. In the last war he sailed on army transports and until he took the Douglass he was a master in the Army Transport Service again. He is the second Negro captain to have been chosen to command of a Liberty ship. The first was Captain Hugh Mulzac, master of the Booker T. Washington and third was Captain John Godfrey of the George Washington Corves.

Captain Mulzac and Captain Richardson have been shipmates, incidentally, and they watch each other's progress with pride.

We visited the captain of the lost Frederick Douglass at his home on 110th street the other day and found him restless to be back at sea.

NOT A SHORESIDE MAN

"I'm not a shoreside man," he explained with a slow quiet smile. "And while the war's going on I don't feel right except aboardship. There's too much to be done and my part in it all is out there." He gestured toward the harbor.

The captain was tending his big dog Jerry who had become suddenly ill and lay shivering on the floor. Mr. Richardson put a rug over the dog and fed him liquids. He's an old friend to me, the captain said, an old friend that's mighty close.

The big dog Jerry's son was aboard the Frederick Douglass when she was struck by the torpedo. The captain told us how one of the crew members went back to save the dog. Just like with the cat in "Action in the North Atlantic," he said with a smile.

Mr. Richardson has made his home in New York for the past ten years. As much a home as a seafaring man can have, he explained. He came to the states as a child from the Dutch East Indies and was reared by foster parents in Massachusetts. The men in the family were all deep sea sailors and young Adrian Richardson followed them willingly. His only brother also went to sea.

SON AT GUADALCANAL

Captain Richardson's son, Arthur, 30, was at Guadalcanal and was brought home badly wounded. He recently had a furlough from the army hospital where he is convalescing and came here to meet his father when the latter arrived home from the tragic last trip of the new Frederick Douglass.

CAPT. ADRIAN RICHARDSON

"My boy was badly hurt," Mr. Richardson said, adding proudly "not that you'd ever know it from him. He never would talk about himself. Just anxious to get well and on the job again. He's some lad."

The captain is very proud of the magnificent record that Negro soldiers and sailors have already made in the war and is most anxious that democracy shall fulfill itself quickly. It's time that there should no longer be anything unusual about a Negro captain in the merchant marine or a Negro officer anywhere else, he said.

Captain Richardson has seen all the seas and most of the world's ports in his forty years of seafaring. He said for peace time sailing he likes the South American run the best. A man just takes a fancy, he explained. But now, as he hastened to add, a man's fancy is of no importance. There is only the war voyage and I am anxious to be back on that run, he said.

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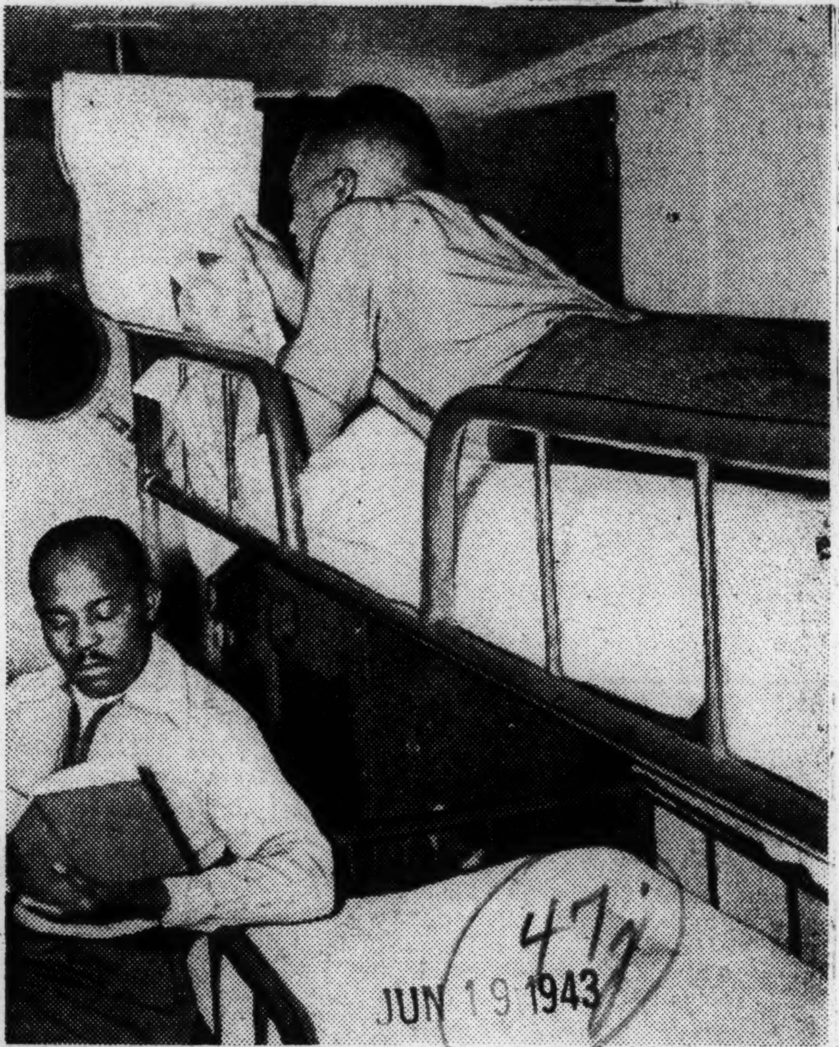
47j-1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Exclusive AFRO Photos of Crew of the S.S. Douglass Now on the High Seas

Capt. Adrian Richardson, skipper of the S.S. Frederick Douglass, is shown above, seated, with two of his three mates about him. John B. Clark, right, is third mate, while Kristian Kristianson, Norwegian, left, is first mate. Not shown in the photo is Benjamin O. Smith, white, second mate.



Relaxing after a day's work aboard the S.S. Frederick Douglass are Able-bodied Seamen Floyd Beavers, lying on his cot, and Claude McCleans, who reads a few passages from the Bible. Seamen's cabins on the Douglass accommodate four men each, with individual steel lockers and an electric fan. In addition, there is a large overhead light and an individual reading lamp over each bunk.

JUN 19 1943

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Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Newest Discovery Speaks Twelve Tongues; Torpedoed 6 Times

By RANDY DIXON
(Accredited U. S. Army War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, July 8 (Delayed)—No so long ago, word came from Pittsburgh concerning a visit there of Harold Donald Harper, messman aboard a merchant ship. At the time, he was the guest of Mrs. Daisy Taylor, of 3303 Iowa street, mother of Mrs. Sydney Taylor Brown, Red Cross worker overseas.

To most folk back home, Harper who lives at 92 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., is just another seaman. But to the keeper of the records, he is Harold Donald Harper, messman, B.A., University of Edinburgh, M.A., Berlin university, linguist who reads and writes eight languages and speaks 12, and a victim of ship torpedoes six times.

LOSES MOTHER, SONS

In addition, the current war has cost Harper his mother and 17-year-old son, and he lost another son during an air raid on London in World War 1. To add to his retrospective woes, his wife and a son were killed in the Tokyo earthquake in 1923.

Born 54 years ago in Kansas City, Harper lived successively in other American cities including Philadelphia until he was 12. He then went to Russia where his father had become prosperous as a fur trader.

ROMANCE BEGINS

He was sent to England for schooling and while at Edinburgh university met the beautiful daughter of an East Indian merchant.

He began his career aboard ships in an escape plot from Vienna where he was studying music, after he struck the professor over the head with a piano stool and had to flee. He sailed for four years, saved his money and went to Berlin to study languages. There he resumed acquaintances with his sweetheart of Edinburgh days and married. She later converted him to her Mohammedan faith.

Harper got a job as a guide and linguist with Thos. Cook and Co., being stationed at Brussels. He was there when the town fell to the Kaiser's armies in October, 1914.

NARROW ESCAPE

Harper left Belgium in 1915 and went to Holland. To get to England from there he booked passage aboard the ship Arabic which was torpedoed off the West Coast of Africa and sunk. Harper was picked up by an ocean going tug and made England safely.

He settled in a London suburb with his family. And in one of London's two daylight raids of the last war, his home was hit, and his baby son killed.

TORPEDOED

After this tragedy his wife decided to serve as a nurse at the East Indian hospital in Paris, and Harper went into the merchant service in England. During the course of the war he was torpedoed four times. In 1917 in the Bay of Biscay, coming into Bordeaux; again in 1917 in the Bristol Channel and in 1918 in the Mediterannean on the explosive-laden ship Medina.

His fifth torpedoing occurred in Shagerrak, while returning to Newcastle from Norway. His ship, the Ellerman, was carrying 1,200 passengers. A torpedo hit the ship at midnight. Only four persons were saved.

Harper then went to work for a British colonel, Sir Walter Marjoribanks, and traveled all over the world with him.

"BLEW" A FORTUNE

After the war, he continued to work for the colonel, who became British High Commissioner for Foreign Trade and went to China, Argentina, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States.

His wife accompanied him. "The colonel was too good to live," explained Harper. "He died, but left me $50,000. But I was a fool with it. I haven't got it today."

WIFE, SON KILLED

In 1922 Harper returned to work as linguist and guide for the Cook firm, first in Egypt and then in Tokyo. Later, Tokyo was struck by its worst earthquake, killing Mrs. Harper and their older son.

Harper came to the United States and then took his infant son to Paris to be cared for by his sister. He went back to sea. His father died in 1926. His mother, who went blind in her old age, was an air raid victim in London in 1941.

Harper said the U. S. consul told him that when the Germans pushed through Belgium in 1940 they blew up everything at Louvain. Harper's 17-year-old son, survivor of the Tokyo earthquake, was attending school there, studying to be an engineer. The consul told Harper the Nazis just lined up everybody and machine-gunned them.

QUITE A STORY TOO!

And that, in tabloid, is Harold Donald Harper's story. And its the same in each of the languages he knows: French, German, Russian, English, Japanese, Arabic, Greek, Gaelic, Icelandic, Hindustani and Basuta, a Zulu dialect.

Although they don't have the rich background of Harper, other merchant seamen encountered in various ports have stories, too. Space prohibits recounting these stories right now. But mention of their names might suffice. They include John Harkins, 2251 N. Orianna street, Philadelphia; John Harrison, 3056 Albany Crescent, Bronx; Jimmy Hughes, 446 W. 164th street, New York City; James Johnson, 2000 N. 27th street, Philadelphia; Albert Bull, 504 S. Ellwood avenue, Baltimore; Richard Clark, 723 St. Nicholas avenue, New York City; Henry Casanova, 913 Longwood avenue, Bronx; Ernest Durham, 453 Foundry street, Atlanta; C. N. Delmore, 504 S. Francis street, Mobile; Matt Graham, 6545 Wentworth avenue, Chicago; Walter Jones, 237 W. 142nd street, New York City; Ernest Matthews, [illegible] St. Nicholas avenue, New York City; Edwin New, 1326 Prospect avenue, Brooklyn; Louis Powers, 625 N. Maderia street, Baltimore; Leland Sykes, 516 W. 149th, New York City; Scottie Scutchins, 351 W. 24th, New York City; Victor Smith, 147 W. 133rd street, New York City; Benjamin Warren, 206 Douglass avenue, Haddonfield, New Jersey; Robert Wilson, 41 Mystic avenue, Everett, Mass., and Walter Williams, 359 Marionette street, Mobile; and, believe it or not, Thomas Thomas, of Camden, N. J., and Greer Greer, 126 13th street, S. E., Washington, D.C.

JUL 10 1943

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Arlington, Ga. Courier
October 28, 1943

NEGRO FARM HAND'S WIFE TO GET $308 DEPENDENT'S PAY

SHREVEPORT, La. A 34-year-old Negro, Tom Washington, father of 11 children ranging in age from 5 doys to 15 years, was sworn into the Navy here hTursday as a volunteer.

Navy officials said that under the new Service Men's Allotment Act Washington's allotment would be $308 per month. The family lives on a farm and Washington has been employed by a rialroad.

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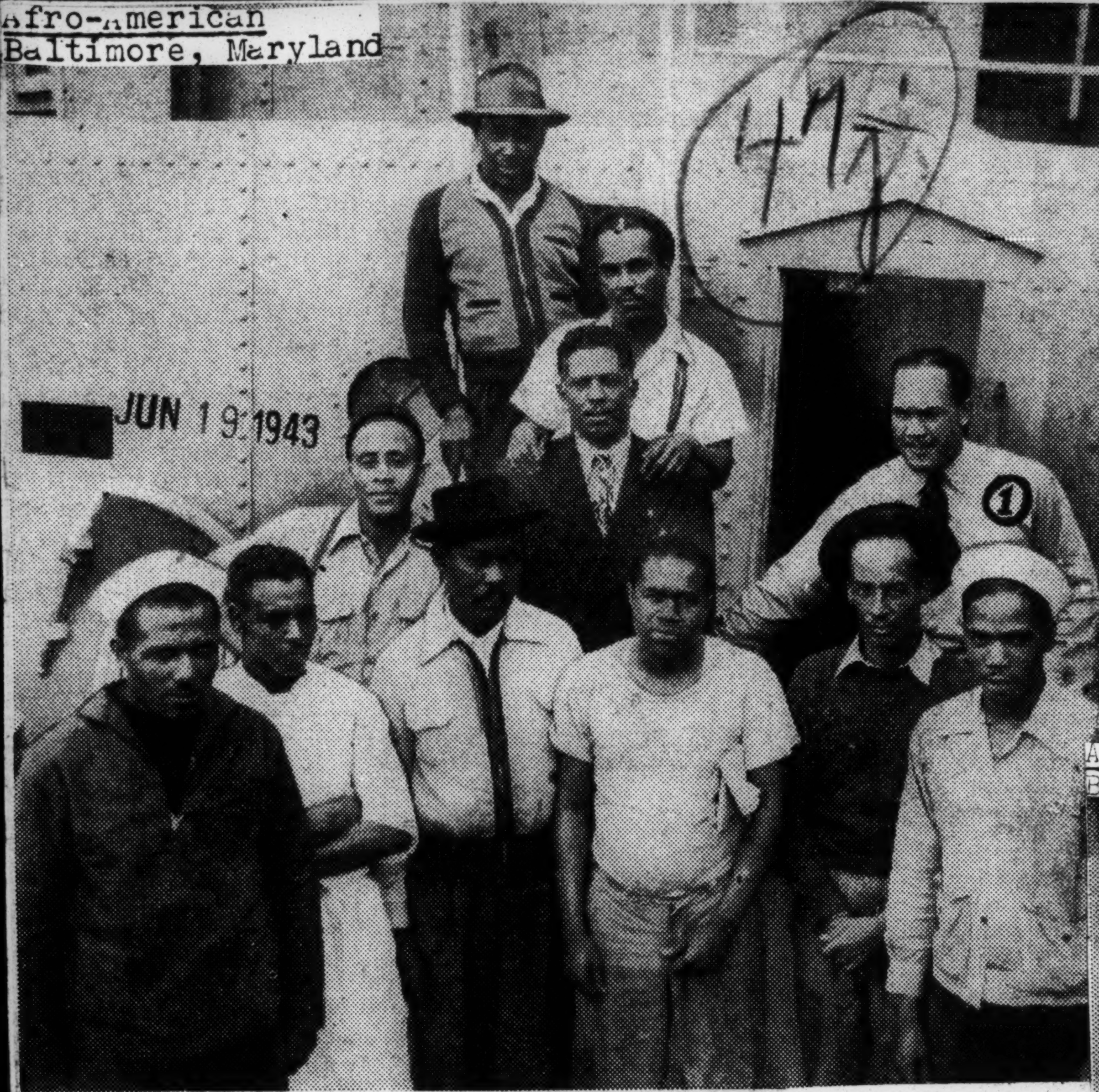
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland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JUN 19 1943

Above are shown a group of the able-bodied seamen who help man the new 10,500-ton liberty ship, the S.S. Frederick Douglass, now in service on the high seas. No. 1 is William Barker, ship purser. Barker sailed under Captain Hugh Mulzac on the maiden voyage of the S.S. Booker T. Washington.

JUN 19 1943

Keel Of S.S. Carver Laid In West Coast Shipyard

Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

RICHMOND, Calif. — The S.S. George Washington Carver, second Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, was under construction this week in a West Coast shipyard, following the laying of the keel of the 10,000-ton vessel on April 12 here.

Assigned the name of the world-famous scientist by the Maritime Commission a short time after Dr. Carver died at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., on January 5, 1943, the Liberty Ship will be the 60th vessel built in the Richmond Shipyard No. 1 of the Permanente Metals corporation.

The launching of the SS George Washington Carver next month will mark the second such ceremony participated in by the thousands of Negro shipyard workers in the four Kaiser company yards in Richmond.

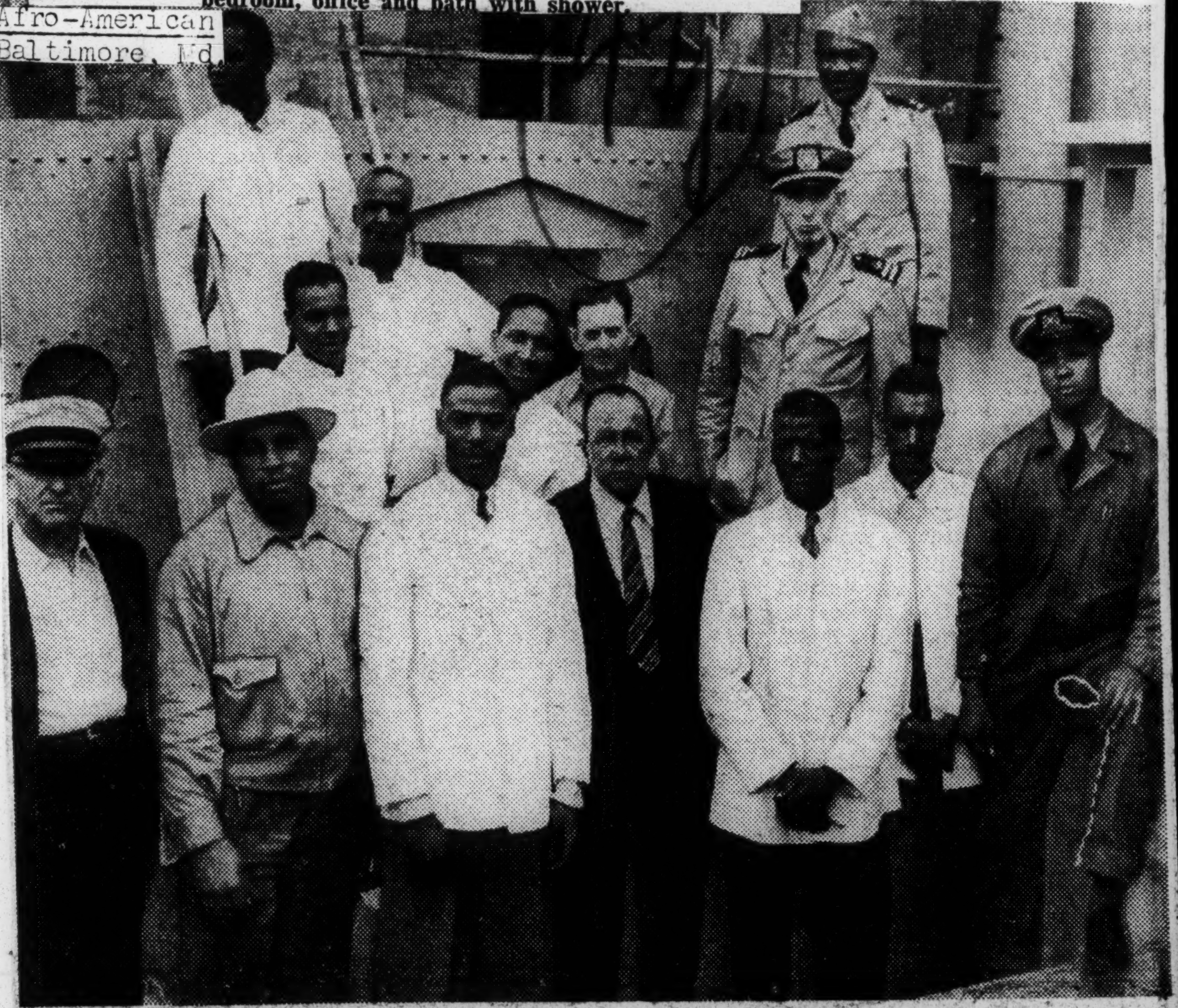
On March 31, the SS S. Hall Young, another Liberty Ship, was launched by Negro workers in Richmond Yard No. 2 after Miss Beulah Whittington, a Kaiser shipyard worker of three days' employment, was selected by lottery to christen the ship. Drawing the lucky number from a pool of 35,000 workers, Miss Whittington christened the ship while Mrs. Katie Lewis served as matron of honor.

The first Liberty Ship named for a Negro, the SS Booker T. Washington, is now in active service under a Negro master, Captain Hugh Mulzac, and the third ship, the SS Frederick Douglass, has been assigned for construction at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore, Md.

47j
JUN 19 1943

Captain Adrian Richardson, skipper of the S.S. Douglass, can talk from his quarters directly to his officers in the ship's wheel house, engine room or galley. He is shown above using the speaking tube for this purpose while relaxing in his quarters, which is combination bedroom, office and bath with shower.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



Officers and crew of the S.S. Frederick Douglass on the deck of their ship. At the rear are John B. Clark and Benjamin O. Smith, white, third and second mates, respectively. At extreme left is Kristrin T. Kristriansen, Norwegian, first mate. At extreme right is William H. Simmons, ship carpenter.

JUN 19 1943

47j-1943

Seamen Tell Why They Like To Sail Under Capt. Mulzac

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Art Shields

No austere sea captain stepped like a deck god out of the pages of a Joseph Conrad sea story, when a Liberty ship skipper took the mike at the National Maritime Union convention last Wednesday.

Now Captain Hugh Mulzac is nothing like that.

And the NMU welcomed its favorite "old man" with a storm of applause as he came forward to greet the union he helped to bring into the world six and seven years ago.

There was dignity, yes, in the quiet, slim Negro skipper, who was greeting his brothers. But warm friendship too.

And the men who had sailed and fought by his side in the past responded with equal affection.

Joe Curran, NMU president, calls him "the head of one of the happiest families at sea," as well as the master of a ship, "whose record is the envy of other sea captains."

WHY MEN FOLLOW HIM

You know why men follow him when you talk to members of his crew, like Harry Alexander, the NMU delegate from his ship, the S.S. Booker T. Washington, and Fred Reed, another visiting seaman.

"First ship I ever sailed on where the crew had no 'beefs' at the end of the trip," said Fred Reed.

"We had no beefs because we all worked together, captain and crew."

The S.S. Booker T. Washington was the envy of the convoy homebound from North Africa for more reasons than one.

The ship's spic-and-span appearance and the seamanship shown had something to do with this envy. But the heat had perhaps more.

THE 'BOOKER T.'S' SHOWER

"We ran into blistering weather coming home," said Fred Reed. "The heat just wilted you down. On almost any other ship we'd have suffered, that's all. But not on the good Booker T. Washington. When we got out the fire (hose) lines to cool certain cargo for reasons of safety we did something else. We rigged up the fire lines so that they sprayed a large section of the deck like a great shower bath. And every seaman not needed on duty got under and cooled off in his shorts.

They Sail With Capt. Mulzac

Harry Alexander, right, the S.S. Booker T. Washington's delegate to the NMU convention, is discussing his favorite "Old Man" with his shipmate Fred Reed, at Manhattan Center. —Daily Worker Photo

Captain Mulzac and all the officers and engineers cooled off with the rest for several minutes.

This went on every hot day, while envious eyes watched the Coney Island scene from the decks of other ships.

Captain Mulzac was always zealous of the health of his men.

BOXING AT SEA

The food was the best and he encouraged the men to box and lift weights and engage in other sports in their spare time.

Bruce Shepard, the Negro bosun, gave many boxing lessons. And Bruce Shepard is good. Nat Low Daily Worker sports editor, remembers the fast bout he put on with Bob Pastor at the Garden several years ago, when Shepard was rated the nation's sixth boxer by the American Boxing Association.

The crew is Negro and white, about fifty-fifty. All the deck officers are Negroes, half the engineers and nearly half of the rest of the crew.

They are brothers together.

"White southern boys in the Navy gun crew went out for social evenings with Negro merchant seamen in foreign ports just as a matter of course," said Fred Reed.

WEEKLY MEETINGS

They played checkers and chess together and discussed the war issues together at the weekly meetings at sea.

And together they took pride in keeping the ship the pride of the fleet.

Army, Navy and Merchant Marine officers, who came aboard at an African port to look at the engine room murals, said they had never seen a cleaner ship.

The NMU is proud of Captain Mulzac, its favorite "Old Man."

Beecher Finds Real Democracy On Booker T

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — John Beecher has quit a job as correspodent for the New York Post to join the crew of the liberty ship Booker T. Washington as a common seaman.

Behind this little item is the story of a man who is following in the footsteps of an illustrious family in American life. John Beecher says he is fed up with the chicanery and bigotry he finds in the practice of democracy in America, and has sought the haven of one of the few places where that democracy is being practiced.

On the Booker T, John Beecher will be a member of a mixed crew, serving under the command of a Negro captain, Hugh Mulzac. The crewmen are of all nationalities and races.

John Beecher's great-great-grandfather was Lyman Beecher, one of the pioneers in the "underground railroad" prior to the civil war. He had a school for preachers, and this little school just across the Ohio river was one end of the "underground railroad." The other end was in Canada, where the "Fugitive Slave Law" could not reach ex-slaves who escaped.

Lyman Beecher had ten children. One of them was John Beecher's great-grandfather. Another one was Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," a book that was read by more people than any other book except the Bible. Another of the ten children was Henry Ward Beecher, whose courage and determination in going to England and speaking out in spite of threats and warnings prevented England from throwing in her might and arms with the Confederacy in the Civil War, which saved the American Union.

John Beecher's mother had in her veins the blood of the Hales. One of the Hales was Nathan, who was shot as a spy by the British in the infancy of this country, and who said "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." Another of the Hales was Edward Everett, who wrote the poetic story "The Man Without a Country."

Before working with the New York Post, John Beecher was a member of the staff of the Fair Employment Practice committee (FEPC). He was in the New York office of that agency. But he quit FEPC in protest over the scuttling of its program by McNutt's cancellation of the railroad hearings.

Prior to working for FEPC, he was a member of the staff of the Farm Security administration (FSA) and had charge of setting up the migratory labor camps in Florida.

Since an American ship is technically American land wherever she may sail, John Beecher feels he has at last found "a little bit of heaven" where true democracy is given a chance.

Navy Won't Enlist Trained Specialists

Afro-American, Baltimore, M

WASHINGTON

The navy's traditional policy of non-admittance of qualified colored specialists in physical education is unchanged, notwithstanding the recent proposal to increase the ratio of colored men in sea service to ten per cent as it is in the army.

Revelation of the navy's continued discrimination in this respect was made by Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel, when he pointedly advised Wendall A. (Buddy) Parris, local junior high physical education teacher, that there was no place in the navy for him except as apprentice seaman.

"The navy does not enlist colored specialists in connection with physical education and instruction," Jacobs wrote Parris last October. On Saturday, he reiterated the stand by writing Senator James J. Davis, who inquired about the refusal to accept Parris, that the policy was unchanged.

Parris, graduate of Howard University, former playground instructor and teacher in Civilian Defense first aid classes, has sought to get in either the navy or army physical education set-up for more than a year without success.

General Ulio, adjutant general of the army, accepted his application for special service in the army over a year ago, but has done nothing about it.

Offer Rejected

His application to the navy, last October, was rejected by Rear Admiral Jacobs with the notation: "With the exception of specialists to assist in recruiting effort, all colored persons who desire to enlist in general service are enlisted as apprentice seamen. The navy does not enlist colored specialists in connection with physical education and instruction."

Parris complained to Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, stating that this policy was not true of other racial groups, but received no satisfaction.

He also offered his services for acceptance, "without question of race," inasmuch as hundreds of other athletes, prizefighters and coaches were being injected into the navy physical training program.

Senator Davis took an interest in the case two weeks ago, only to learn the policy is unchanged.

New Navy School For Ngroes Opened With Impressive Ceremonies At Great Lakes, Ill.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — A new Navy Service School for Negroes was officially opened with impressive dedication ceremonies at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Before 1,000 Negro Bluejackets, standing at "Parade Rest" in the wing of the structure which will house the school for machinist's mates, Captain R. R. M. Emmet, commanding officer of the Training

Station, turned over the command of the new school to Captain H. R. Harris, Service School Officer.

Captain Emmet told his listeners, 500 Service School students, 300 selectees who will begin classes soon, and 200 men still in recruit training:

"The dedication of this new school is like the commissioning of a new ship. This building is an engine of destruction which will help to defeat our enemies and you men make up its crew."

In accepting command, Captain Harris said:

"This is a war of highly-trained specialists. You men who train here today will be the fighting men of tomorrow. You al[illegible] will determine this building's [illegible]. Although, officially this ceremony is being held to dedicate the school building, in reality we dedicate ourselves to this building."

JUL 3 1943

Taking part in the program, in addition to Captains Emmet and Harris, were Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, assistant recruit training officer in charge of Negro training; Lt. A. L. Olson, head of Service School classes for Negroes, and the Negro regimental band.

Located a block north of the main entrance to Camp Robert Smalls, parent camp of the two now devoted to the training of Negroes, the new building is a two-story, frame structure, covered with asbestos shingle siding and shaped like an "L" One wing is 240 feet by 60 feet and houses 24 classrooms and 4 group offices. The other wing (the base of the L) is 60 feet by 128 feet, unpartitioned and with a garage-type roof. The latter will be the home of the machinist's mates school.

Bluejackets are selected for Service School through a series of aptitude tests and a personal interview given to each sailor during his period in recruit training. Between one-fourth and one-third of Negroes trained at Great Lakes to date were found qualified for advanced training. The remainder were assigned to stations for which they are best fitted immediately upon completing their basic training.

Trades and services offered the Negro Bluejackets here, include the schools for aviation machinist's mates, aviation metalsmiths, quartermasters, signalmen, yeomen storekeepers, radiomen, gunner's mates, cooks and bakers. [illegible] school for Negroes is at Hampton Institute, Hampton Va., where courses are offered for carpenter's mates, machinist's mates, metalsmiths, cooks and bakers, and in the study of diesel engines.

JUL 3 1943

JUL 3 1943

Negro Saves Crew, Then Turns Back to Blazing Ship for More

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Art Shields

"They got us at dusk as we approached the Azores, that graveyard of ships," said Ted Goodhertz, young member of the National Maritime Union.

JUN 16 1943

"The shock of the torpedo threw me off my feet in the messroom. I ran to the deck. A big fire was blazing aft. We began lowering a lifeboat but the releasing gear stuck. Some one said the ship'll blow up before we get away.

"The mate put Andrew in command of this boat because he was the best sailor and men would do what he said.

JUN 16 1943

"'Pull hard!' men were saying, 'before the ship blows up. And we were surely pulling, when we heard cries of 'Help!' We could barely see the white faces of two seamen in the glare of the fire as they hung on the nets by the side of the burning ship.

"Andrew's voice rang out like a loud speaker. 'We're going back to get 'em,' he said.

"It sure looked like death. The ship might explode any minute.

"The rudder had been lost when we got the boat over the side. We had a tough time getting back. But we saved Cadet Anderson and a young Navy gunner just in time."

Ted said the mate told the officers of the ship that rescued the life boat crew nine hours later that: 'The best thing I ever did was to put that Negro in charge.'

"I don't know whether they're giving Andrew a medal or not," said Ted, "but they ought to. His wife and children in New York can be proud of their father. The whole city can be proud of him too. He's a real American hero."

JUN 16 1943

USMS Discriminate 'gainst Ten Seamen

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa

OCT 16

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Documented allegations of flagrant and illegal discrimination visited upon 10 graduates of the United States Maritime Service Training Station at Sheepshead Bay by the USMS the War Shipping Administration and at least one maritime union were contained in a signed letter to the National Maritime union last week.

The Complainants list names dates, places and circumstances in making the sensational charges that reveal a callous violation of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9406 which proscribe "discrimination in essential industries."

Those seamen filing the affidavit are Henry H. Williams Lubin E. Spencer, Jr., James E. Bray, Wilton O. Cooper, Alvin A. Watson, Richard J Stribling, Bryon R. Smith Chester L. Edward, Sam A. McClellan and Booker T. Brooks.

The letter was sent to the NMU because, "We feel," stated the seamen, "that this condition is none of your making and we appeal for your help in combating this evil situation. One of the tenets of your organization is that there shall be no discrimination because of race or color on ships carrying crews from your union."

After grauation from the USMA training school as ordinary seamen, the maritime workers relate that they were quartered at the Chelsea hotel awaiting jobs, but that after five weeks of idleness they decided to act. Spurring their decision was the knowledge that successive classes had been graduated from the school and shipped to various vessels, to other stations, and to the Great Lakes. Shipping authorities informed them they could ship only as messmen.

A spokesman for the NMU stated that efforts are being made to correct the situation that is directly opposed to the principles of the leading union organization of seagoing men.

6th Liberty Ship Named Paul Laurence Dunbar

Washington Tribune Washington. D. C.

OCT 30 1943

The sixth Liberty Ship to be named for a Negro, the SS Paul Laurence Dunbar, was launched by the California Shipbuilding Corporation at Wilmington, California, on Tuesday, October 19, the Maritime Commission announced this week. Sponsor of the vessel was Mrs. Clarice Williams, oldest employed Negro woman in the yard. Miss Eva Stringer was maid-of-honor, and J. H. Wadsworth, manager, Public Relations Department, was master of ceremonies at the launching.

OCT 30 1943

The SS Booker T. Washington, first Liberty Ship named for a Negro, was also built in this yard. The Dunbar has been assigned as a tanker—the 18th Liberty tanker and the 274th ship built by the California Shipbuilding Corporation since Pearl Harbor.

Four of the first five Liberty Ships named for Negroes are now in service, two of them with Negro captains and mixed crews. The five ships named for outstanding Negro Americans included the SS Booker T. Washington, the SS George Washington Carver, the SS Frederick Douglass, the SS John Merrick, and the SS Robert L. Vann. A naval vessel, the destroyer escort Leonard Roy Harmon, was named in honor of a Negro naval hero.

OCT 30 1943

Paul Laurence Dunbar, a native of Dayton, Ohio, was born June 27, 1872. When he was graduated from high school he was president of the literary society and editor of the student publication. He also composed the song of his graduation class of 1891. While working as an elevator operator at $4 per week, he started writing the poetry that was to make him famous. In 1873, he published a booklet of his poems at a cost of $125 and defrayed expenses by personal sale of the booklet at $1.00 a copy.

OCT 30 1943

First Anniversary Of Negro Marines Staged

SEP 4 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW RIVER, N. C., Sept. 2—(ANP) — Appropriate ceremonies were held last week at the training center in Camp Lejeune celebrating the first anniversary of the induction of Howard P. Perry of Charlotte, the first Negro admitted into the Marine corps.

SEP 4 1943

Since their enrollment a year ago the "Leathernecks" have advanced rapidly in the service, reporting today several corporals and sergeants. Many have been assigned to battle areas overseas, while others have demonstrated an uncanny knowledge of amphibious tactics. The marines have also organized athletic clubs, an orchestra and a glee club as extra-curricular activities.

SEP 4 1943

Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

Naval Anniversary!

SEP 23 1943

Hampton Institute, Va.—Marking the completion of one year since its establishment last September, the Hampton Institute Naval Training Station celebrated its first anniversary last Wednesday, in cooperation with the college committee on Freshman Week, then in progress at the Institute.

SEP 23 1943

Opening with a dress parade and review by the seamen in training, the celebration continued with a barbecue for the college and the training station early in the evening and a dance at the new Naval Recreational building later on.

47j-1943

Employee's Wife Christens Sun Ship

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

With a swing of the champagne bottle, Mrs. Harris Thomas christens the transport S.S. Marine Wolf at the No. 4 yard of Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Chester, Pa., last Saturday afternoon. Witnessing the event were, left to right, her daughter, Miss Lena Thomas; Harris, her husband, and John G. Pew, Jr., vice-president of the company. Mr. Thomas has been an employee of the yard 13 years.

SEP 25 1943

47j

Liberty Tanker. S. S. Paul Dunbar Launched in California Shipyard

OCT 27 194

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Ship Slides Into Water 31 Days After Keel Is Laid By Company

OCT 27 1943

WILMINGTON, Calif.—(S N S)—The Liberty tanker, S. S. Paul Dunbar, named for the famous Negro poet, was launched by the California Shipbuilding Corporation, October 19, the 18th of the Liberty tankers to be launched in this yard to date, and the 24th ship to be launched since the yard's shipbuilding program started in 1941.

The ship slid into the water 31 days after the keel was laid following her christening by Mrs. Clarice Williams, attractive employee of Calship, who was chosen as sponsor in recognition of the fact that she is the senior Negro woman employee, having been employed longr than any other Negro woman at the plant.

Another Calship employee, Miss Eva Stringer, sister of the sponsor, of the sponsor, and was attended acted as maid of honor.

The launching ceremony was proceeded by a tea given in honor by her friends.

The ship's namesake, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, world famous poet was born in Dayton, Ohio, June 27, 1872. He was educated in the public schools of Dayton, and was the only Negro in his high school graduating class. After he left school, he worked as an elevator boy and in 1893, published the first booklet of his poes. After a review in Harper's Weekly, in 1896, the works of Dunbar became very popular, and in that year, his best known collection, "Lyrics of a Lowly Life," was published by Dodd Mead and Company. After touring England, Dunbar returned to this country in 1898, and served as assistant in the Library of Congress, at the same time continuing his writing. He wrote the school song of Tuskegee Institute and through his poems became singularly beloved by the people of this country.

47j

McMinnville, Tenn. Standard
September 17, 1943

Local Colored Youth Commended By Captain For Meritorious Service

Tarlton H. Martin, colored youth now serving with the United States Navy in the North African theatre has been commended by his commanding officer for outstanding service under fire.

Martin, along with Willie Reynolds, colored, enlisted in the Navy on July 17, 1942, and now holds the ran kof mess attendant, 3/c.

Martin's mother received a letter from his commanding officer, which was a copy of the one given her boy, and is as follows:

"As your Commanding Officer during the amphibious assault on the beaches east of ——— during the period of ———, I take great pleasure and pride in commending you for your meritorious service on your 20 mm. gun. The manner in which you stood your watch during the long hours of ——— in which the ship was being unloaded more than justified the faith which was put in you. Your alertness in opening fire on numerous occasions against enemy planes actually engaged in attacking our forces provided the safety which was needed.

The letter was signed by Philip P. Welch, Captain, U. S. Navy, Commanding.

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Bodega, Ala., Mountain Home
September 29, 1943

Negro Sea Bee Sends Home Relics Of War In South Pacific

Relics of the South Pacific are on display in the Alabama Power Company window on East street.

A grass skirt, shells, beads, bracelets, spear head and a box made of native wood make up the display sent by Willie Wilson, Negro seaman, serving in the South Pacific with the Seabees.

He formerly worked at the Log Cabin Barbecue stand.

The souvenirs were sent to members of his family and put on display by his cousin, Mattie Hancock, who is employed at Jaffe's Store.

He has been in the South Pacific since last December.

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Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

SHIP NAMED FOR ROBERT L. VANN GOES OUT TO SEA

OCT 2 1943

Vessel Was Launched October 10 and Christening Sponsored by Late Editor's Widow

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(OWI)—The fifth Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, the SS ROBERT L. VANN, was launched Sunday, October 10, at the South Portland (Me.) Yard of the New England Shipbuilding Company. Mrs. Jessie M. Vann, widow of the publisher and editor of the Pittsburgh Courier for whom the ship was named, was sponsor of the vessel.

Scores of friends and associates of the late Mr. Vann came from Pittsburgh, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., Detroit and Chicago to witness the exercises. The ship was built in a drydock which could not be flooded for the actual launching until high tide late Sunday evening.

"We are honoring ourselves and the Negro race in paying tribute to Robert L. Vann today," said C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company of Durham, who was the principal speaker at the brief exercises which were climaxed by the traditional breaking of a bottle of champagne across the bow of the ship. Mr. Spaulding characterized Mr. Vann as a "statesman, organizer and great citizen."

The Rev. C. E. Askew of Detroit, Mich., a former teacher of the late Mr. Vann, blessed the ship with a prayer.

P. L. Prattis, who succeeded Mr. Vann as editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, served as master of ceremonies for both the christening and the luncheon reception which followed at the Hotel Lafayette in Portland.

Andrew B. Sides, executive vice president and general manager of the New England Shipbuilding Company, presented the sponsor with a sterling silver plate inscribed in memory of the occasion.

"This is the second happiest moment of my life to know that my husband's name will become known all over the world," Mrs. Vann declared in accepting the plate. "The first was when I said 'I will' ", she added. The company also presented her with a large bouquet of fall flowers and roses.

Also present at the exercises were: Walter E. Harris, Jr., who will be deck engineer, and William E. Simmons, Jr., warrant officer of the SS ROBERT L. VANN. Both were former residents of Pittsburgh. The captain of the new Liberty Ship is John Godfrey, also a Negro, from New York City. He was unable to attend the exercises.

Following a luncheon at the Hotel Lafayette, greetings were brought out-of-town guests by Chester Churchill, president of the Shipbuilding Company; Mr. Sides, and Andrew Pettis and Kenny Sharp, representing workers in the yard.

Mrs. Eleanor Herrick, in charge of Labor Relations for the War Manpower Commission in New England; Ward B. Freeman, representing the Maritime Commission. and Ferdinand Smith, National Maritime Union, brought greetings. Mrs. Vann presented crew members with a large picture of her late husband to be hung in the ship and announced the formation of the Robert L. Vann Memorial Library for the ship.

Other speakers included: Ira L. Lewis, president of the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company, who told of his long association with the late publisher and civic leader; Congressman William L. Dawson of Chicago; Assemblyman Homer S. Brown, who represented the Governor of Pennsylvania; Thom-

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as E. Kilgallon of the Pittsburgh City Council; Edward O. Taber, representing the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce; Wilbur O. Douglass, who read a resolution for the City Commissioners of Pittsburgh; Dr. Emmett J. Scott of the Sun Shipbuilding Co., Chester, Pa.; Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, vice-president of the Courier Publishing Co., and Dr. W. Roderick Brown, representing the Office of Civilian Defense.

The four other Liberty Ships commissioned and named for Negroes are the Booker T. Washington, the George W. Carver, the Rrederick Douglass and the John Merrick. A naval vessel, the destroyer escort, Leonard Roy Harmon named in honor of a Negro naval hero in this war, was recently placed in service.

Survivor

Defender
Chicago, Ill

WILLIAM NUNN JACKSON Steward's mate, first class, who was a survivor of a U. S. battleship lost in the South Pacific. He was in the water for 15 hours before being rescued by a Destroyer. A native of Ladonia, Texas, Jackson has been in service 20 months. He is in Chicago the guest of his uncle Goff Jackson, 5151 Michigan avenue.

Liberty Ship Named for Pittsburgh Editor Launched

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

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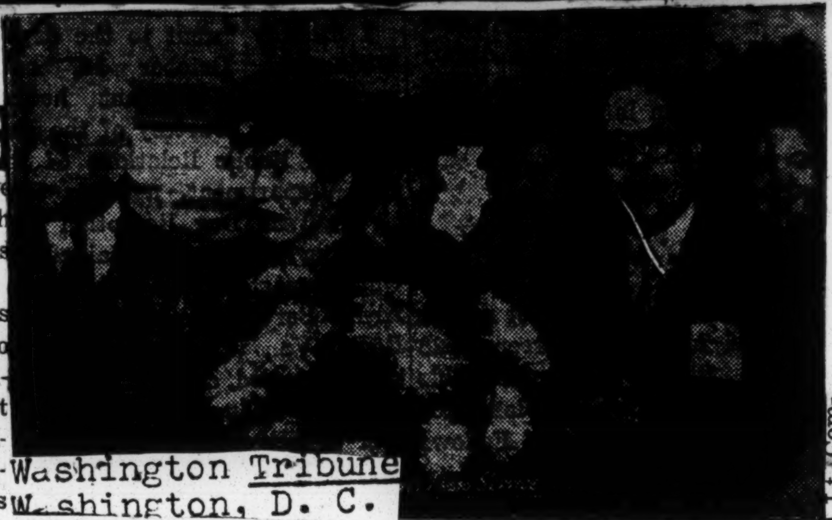


Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOTABLES ATTEND LAUNCHING OF SS ROBT. L. VANN—A part of the group of almost a hundred friends and associates of the late Robert L. Vann, noted lawyer and publicist, who attended the launching of the Liberty Ship named in his honor at the yard of the New England Shipbuilding Company, Portland, Maine, on October 10. In the foreground are: C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, who was the principal speaker at the launching; Mrs. Jesse Matthew Vann, widow of the publisher; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, of the Sun Shipbuilding Company; and Mrs. Daisy Lampkins, vice-president of the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company. (Press Photo Service.)

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

It's Colonel Johnson Now

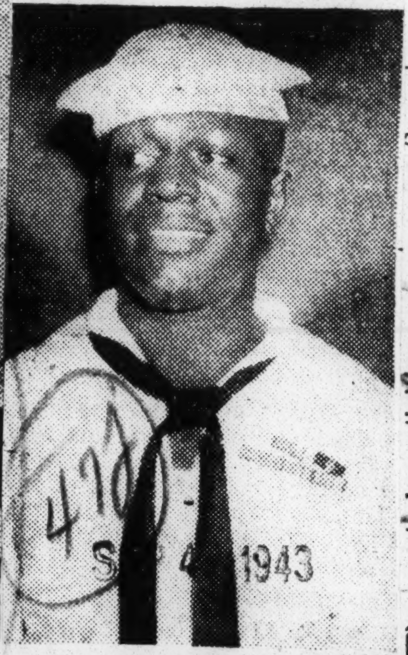
OCT 10 1943

47K

Colonel Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Selective Service Director Major General Lewis B. Hershey, discusses papers covering report of his recent tour of Army induction stations with his assistant, Captain Benson D. Mitchell, in his office in the Selective Service System Headquarters, Washington. Colonel Johnson was promoted to his present ranks on September 21. — (U. S. Army photo.)

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Tells Story



SEP 4 1943

Lincoln Spence, 21-year-old Coast Guardsman from Bell Cross, N. C., describes in vivid detail the action during which the Cutter Spencer sank a Nazi submarine.

Marines Celebrate First Year

NEW [illegible] N. [illegible]—(ANP)—Appropriate ceremonies were held last week at the training center in Camp Lejeune celebrating the first anniversary of the induction of Howard P. Perry of Charlotte, the first Negro admitted into the Marine Corps.

Since their enrollment a year ago the 'Leathernecks' have advanced rapidly in the service. Many have been assigned to battle areas overseas, while others have demonstrated an uncanny knowledge of amphibious tactics. The marines have also organized athletic clubs, an orchestra and a glee club as extra-curricular activities.

Originally the camp site for the 1,200 men expected to be enlisted was a small plot of ground, but has been expanded into seven different camps because of increase and enrollments. Montford Point Camp No. 1, although in process of construction is being partially used for the training of new recruits. It is larger than all the other camps put together. Additional Negroes are planned for the corps in the future and these likewise will receive their basic training here.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dorie Miller Rumor Untrue

AUG 21 1943

GREAT LAKES, [illegible] Aug. 19—Officials at the Naval Training center here denied any truth to the rumor that the OWI poster on Dorie Miller was taken off the bulletin board because some officers raised an objection to it. Declared Lt. Commander White, public relations officer, "We have never heard nor seen such a poster and if any exists we certainly want some of them."

When assured by The Courier that such a poster was available Commander White and Commander Armstrong, head of the colored training station, immediately made a request of Washington for a dozen of the posters on the colored naval hero.

47j-1943

Meet Your Negro Shore Patrolmen

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 11 1943

MIAMI, Florida. — SNS — Here they are, Miami's first group of Negro Shore Patrolmen as they line up just before going on duty. These young men have quite a responsibility on their hands and would have complete cooperation of their fellow sailors and Coast Guardsmen as well as the Army. They volunteered for this service and it is their duty to preserve order where military personnel is concerned.

These boys have received special training as S. P.'s and were stationed here previous to their appointment. Chief Petty Officer R. P. Thompson, in charge of this Patrol with offices at 166 N. W. 10th Street, told a DISPATCH reporter that this group is a trial group and are under strict supervision. He mentioned, also that it is a Federal offense for any civilian to interfere with them in the performance of their duty and that it will not be tolerated. This has happened in one or two instances, he said, and Federal action is awaiting these civilians as soon as they are apprehended.

Reading left to right, front row, they are: C. A. Ward, St. 2c USCG. Ten years naval service, former welterweight champ of the Coast Guard boxed as "Kid Ward" in 67 matches and hails from Baltimore; R. N. Ragin, OC3c USN, boxed as "Big Chief" in over 50 bouts in New England States and will continue in Navy, he is from Macon, Ga.; N. Hawkins, OC3c, USN, Columbus, Ga.; L. Harris, OC3c, USN, Atlanta, Ga.; back row, 1 to r: Tom Wells, St. M2c, USN, Helena, Ark.; J. J. Boddie, OC3c, USN, Birmingham, Ala.; L. Williams, OC3c. Chattanooga, Tenn.; and M. Hill, OC3c, USN, Atlanta, Ga.

Most of these young men are now residents of Miami as they have moved their families here. All are married.

Good Eyes; Decorated by Navy

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

JUN 26 1943

United States submarine look-out team decorated for sighting enemy ships both in the day and night, so that their teammates could sink them. Left, Donald J. Snyder, Pittsburgh, torpedo man's mate, third class and right, Joseph Cross, New Orleans, steward's mate, first class. In pinning the medal on Cross, the commander said: "He is our best Jap spotter." Under navy regulations, no matter how well Cross sees or fires, he is still in the steward's department.

DESTROYER ESCORT HARMON SPONSORED BY HERO'S MOTHER

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUL 28 1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — The first United States warship named in honor of a Negro, the Destroyer Escort Harmon, was launched Sunday from the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company of Quincy, Mass. The SS Harmon, a 300-foot vessel, was named for the late Leonard Roy Harmon, Mess Attendant, First Class, U. S. N., who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism" while aboard the USS San Francisco, during action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal, November 12 and 13, 1942.

Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll, of Cuero, Texas, mother of the hero was sponsor for the new vessel. Mrs Carroll had as her attendants, her daughters, Miss Pauline Mabry Harmon, a war worker in the Air Service Command at San Antonio Texas, and Mrs. Constance Elaine Harmon-Edwards of El Paso, Texas.

Mrs. Carroll was also accompanied by her husband, William D. Carroll, principal of the Hudspeth County Training School. The sponsoring party also included Mr. and Mrs. Gustave M. Solomon of Cambridge, Mass. Mr. Solomon, an electrical engineer and graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is the highest ranking Negro employed by the Bethlehem Yards. He is a technician at the Fore River Plant.

GIVEN SILVER BOWL

Following the launching, Mrs. Carroll was presented with a silver bowl, inscribed in memory of the occasion, by Edward C. Geehr, assistant manager, on behalf of the shipyard.

A reception was also given the sponsoring party in the company's dining room. High ranking navy officials, headed by Rear Admiral Harold T. Smith, supervisor of ship building at the Fore River Lard also attended.

Proudly wearing her hero son's Navy Cross, Mrs. Carroll cried a bit as she smashed the bottle of champagne and said, "I christen thee Leonard Roy Harmon." But she was less emotional after the launching as she told of her son's efforts to enter the Navy. He was turned down at first, she said, because he had a "heart murmur," but he kept coming back to the Enlisting Station until he was finally accepted after the fourth try. He was 26 at the time of his death, and had served four years in the service. He was at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and saw service in several other engagements.

Mrs. Harmon is also proud of the work of her other son, Cornelius White Harmon, employed at the Naval Base at Corpus Christi, Tex. She herself was formerly a public school teacher.

TEXT OF CITATION

The text of the citation accompanying the posthumous award of the Navy Cross to Harmon is as follows:

"For extraordinary heroism while serving aboard the USS San Francisco during action against enemy Japanese forces in the Solomon Islands area on November 12 and 13, 1942. With persistent disregard for his own personal safety, Harmon rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to a dressing station. In addition to displaying unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured Executive Officer, he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire in order to protect a shipmate and as a result of this courageous deed was killed in action. His heroic spirit of self-sacrifice, maintained above and beyond the call of duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave up his life in the defense of his country."

The SS Harmon is the newest type of ship in the United States Navy and is especially designed for the job of convoy protection. The escorts are all being named for Navy heroes, just as destroyers are named. The first of the escorts are now in service. Others have been launched and are fitting out for service at sea. A large number of these vessels has been built and is under construction at the Fore River Yard, which employs 31,000 persons, representing every race.

JUL 2 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
JUL 28 1943

White Asks Colleges Not To Train Jim Crow WAVES

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Aimed to kill off an influence that may result in the establishment of a jim-crow set-up in the WAVES when Negro women are permitted to enroll, Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, has called for "unsparing" condemnation of those groups and individuals who have been proposing certain colleges in the south as training sites should the time come.

White's statement came a day after a group of Negro women had quietly conferred with Commander Mildred McAfee of the WAVES on the subject of permitting Negro women to enter the navy auxiliary and on which occasion they are reported to have shown unanimous agreement that a segregated basis will be undesirable.

Informed of this development by the ANP and that one or two southern colleges had offered their campuses to the navy for training purposes, White declared:

"Negroes must be unsparing in their condemnation of any college group or individual which, to help themselves financially or otherwise assists the navy in jim-crowing colored WAVES."

The group of eight women of national reputation who conferred with Commander McAfee were pledged to remain unidentified and to give no comment on the discussion which lasted three and a half hours on Wednesday afternoon. Privately, it is learned however, that Commander McAfee sought to discount the impression that the department had already approved a plan for the enlistment of Negro women. This had been reported in the press earlier. A stream of protests is understood to have been registered that may have had the effect of scaring them off the plan.

The point of view said to have been taken by the group is that a segregated unit is frowned upon completely by them, nor do they look with favor upon training for the women anywhere in the south, since the humiliations and ill-treatment now accorded Negro men in the army would only find duplication. Of course, they did not reject the idea of training in the south if it was a part of an integrated organization. The group was unswerving in its viewpoint.

From other sources it is known that the move to accept Negro women is not far distant, even if it was not an accomplished fact before news stories broke on it.

The report that several Negro colleges had made overtures to the navy are well supported. Names were mentioned with the request that their identity remain undisclosed for the present. Co-educational institutions are included among them.

JUL 28 1943

CHAT WITH FDR AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Many of the unsung heroes of this war are members of the maritime service whose job is to get supplies to the boys on the fighting fronts all over the world. Here President Roosevelt chats with a group of torpedoed seamen who called at the White House this week to invite the Chief Executive to address a maritime meeting in New York.

Left to right are: G. A. Fernandez, Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the United States Maritime Commission; Wesley Hersey, Thomas Fitzsimmons, Edwin Beck, Joseph Curran, of the Maritime Union; Charles Williams, Hoyt Haddock and Captain Edwin Macauley, of the Maritime Commission.—International News Photo.

Launch Liberty Ship Named For Late Editor;

New York Age

United Fruit Co. Appoints Negro Officers

New York, N. Y.

SOUTH PORTLAND, Me.— The Liberty ship, ROBERT L. VANN named for the late editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, was launched here Sunday with appropriate ceremonies at the New England Shipbuilding Corporation yards.

The ship will be operated by the United Fruit Company, with a Negro captain, John Godfrey, and second officer, Lieut. Commander Adolphus Foulkes.

Vann, born at Ahoskie, N. C., August 29, 1879, received his early education in the home of a family where his mother was employed as a domestic. He was a graduate of Waters Institute, Winton, N. C., the Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va. and received a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1909. In 1910 he helped establish the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company and became the paper's first editor, a post he occupied until his death in 1940.

As a lawyer, Vann received a number of public appointments In 1918, he was named assistant solicitor for Pittsburgh; in 1923, President Coolidge appointed him a member of the Commission to the Virgin Islands, and in 1935 he was appointed by President Roosevelt as special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General.

Company Probed By FEPC

The fact that the ROBERT L. VANN will be operated by the United Fruit Co., with a Negro captain and second officer, takes on aded significance when it is recalled that the United Fruit Company on July 13, 1943 was reported by the New York Office of the FEPC to the Washington office of the committee for allegedly refusing to hire qualified Negro maritime officers.

On August 28th, FEPC in Washington announced that the case had been dismissed for lack of merit, with the following report:

"In the course of its investigation of this case, the Committee (FEPC) found that about 25 Negro officers are presently serving in the Merchant Marine and that the total number of qualified Negro officers, including the 25 afloat, is less than 50. Due to the shortening of training time for officers from 36 to 18 months, more qualifying Negro officers are becoming available. The Committee found that the United Fruit Company has employed unlicensed personnel without regard to color. With respect to the licensed personnel, the Committee has received assurances from the United Fruit Company that any qualified officer meeting the requirements of the War Shipping Administration will be employed without regard to race, color, creed, national origin."

47.j-1943

Another "All-Colored" Vessel Launched

JUL 3 1943 Philadelphia Tribune

JUL 3 1943

MRS. MARIE FLAMER receiving a beautiful bouquet of flowers from Sun's vice president, John G. Pew, Jr., after she had sent the Marine Raven gliding down the ways at Sun Ship Yards on Monday morning.

Right: With one mighty swing Mrs. Flamer, wife of John H. Flamer, senior employee in No. 4 Yard, Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., sends the S. S. Marine Raven down the ways at Sun Shipyards marking the second seagoing vessel launched at Sun built by an all-colored crew. John G. Pew, Jr., vice president of Sun, and Dr. Emmett J. Scott, personnel director, look on.

Sun Shipyard Launches Second Vessel Built By All Colored Labor

CHESTER, Pa.—The second seagoing vessel to be built by an all-colored crew at Sun Shipyard here was launched Monday when the S. S. Marine Raven slid down the ways into the Delaware amid tumultuous applause from visitors and workmen who had gathered for the occasion.

Philadelphia Tribune

The sleek appearing cargo ship, sponsored by Mrs. Marie Vernettie Flamer, of 923 Tilghman street wife of John R. Flamer, the oldest employee in No. 4 Yard, hit the water just a little more than 30 days after the launching of a sister ship, the S. S. Marine Eagle, at the Sun Ship Yard on May 10.

Swinging the champagne bottle with a deftness born abviously from practise, Mrs. Flamer made a perfect hit, yet registered some surprise when she discovered the bottle had actually been broken.

Surrounded by John G. Pew, Jr., vice president of Sun Ship; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, personnel director of No. 4 yard, and a large number of local and out-of-town visitors, Mrs. Flamer was presented with a huge bouquet of flowers by Mrs. Isaiah Lewis, Jr., on behalf of her hushand's fellow workers in No. 65 department.

JUL 3 1943

Hundreds of employees standing on ships under construction in adjacent ways and on the ground let out a mighty yell when the huge Marine Raven took her bow.

Company officials expressed satisfaction with the aptitude and skill shown by employees in No. 4 Yard and were pleased with the fact that the time required in constructing the Marine Raven was considerably less than that required for the Marine Eagle.

Philadelphia Tribune

Simultaneously with the launching in No. 4 Yard the M. S. Brandywine was launched at the Central Yard. The sponsor was Miss Ann Bradley Bothe, white, of Merchantville New Jersey.

JUL 3 1943

Among the visitors witnessing the ceremonies were: Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Flamer, brother and sister-in-law of the sponsor; Mrs. Sophia Kirk, Ira Jackson, Mrs. Frank Davenport, all of Philadelphia; Miss Marion Adams, Miss Doris Graham, Mrs. Francis Graham, Mrs. Mozelle Flamer, Mrs. Margaret Seth, Mrs. Cordie Black, all of Phonexville; Mrs. Isaiah Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Fletcher, and Mr. Paul Blackstone, all of Chester.

Race Captain Takes Over New Ship

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By **BILLY ROWE**
(Staff Correspondent)

MAY 29 1943

NEW YORK, May 27 — Capt. Adrian Richardson is a man of the sea with a lifetime record behind him, but loves the good earth. In an apartment house window that overlooks that bit of country, Central Park, in the heart of Manhattan, he gently spades dirt in a man-sized flower box between work and the time to put to sea again.

A quiet, yet impressive man, Captain Richardson becomes the second master mariner of his race to be appointed to the top post of a modern Liberty ship, designed to deliver the goods to our fighting men and allies on the other side of the world. The captain has been given command of the new Frederick Douglass, the third ship named for a great American Negro.

MAY 29 1943

Launched in Baltimore Saturday, the ship is of the 10,500-ton variety. It will carry a mixed crew of officers and men and will be turned over to the Maritime Commission early in June.

The first Negro to ever receive a Master Mariner's ticket in America, Richardson, who is 51 years old and a native of the Dutch West Indies, has been a captain for 33 years. Unlike most modern seamen, he won his papers the old-fashioned way, having never attended a Marine school. Orphaned at an early age, he was adopted by the late Captain A. C. Chaney, who roamed the seas out of Boston, Mass. Brought up at sea by the white Mariner, the youthful Adrian grew to love the caresses of the salt air as he watched the waves of the ocean shape his destiny.

MAY 29 1943

Working up from an ordinary seaman, he received his first mate's ticket when he was 18, three years sooner than the required rule which states that such a ship's officer must be 21. He stayed 21 for three years sailing the seas as first mate. Taught well by his white foster father who had seen the world through a rigging for 50 years, Richardson was still 21 when he was granted a captaincy, limited to certain seas. At the age of 25 he was issued his unlimited papers in New York and became the first Negro to hold such a distinction.

WAS MULZAC'S CAPTAIN

For many years he sailed the seas, master of all kinds of vessels. For three years he captained ships for the France and Canada steamship company. For 12 years he mastered cargo and freight steamships for Crowell and Thurlow. He was with the Black Star line for over a year and for ten months sailed under the Bohemian steamship company flag. During the first World War he mastered an Army transport and delivered the goods making eight successful croosings to and from Europe. Carrying all white officers and a mixed crew, the captain recorded no trouble in his well filled log book. Taking over the Kanawha for the Black Star line traveling through the West Indies and Cuba, he carried the now Captain Mulzac of the Booker T. as his first mate.

Turning from the sea eight years ago, Captain Richardson went into land business as a heating contractor. In September he was again called to the sea to master an Army Transport and at the time he was told to stand by to become the captain of the Douglass, he had already made several successful trips through the Pacific.

A family man of 20 years standing, the new captain has a son, Arthur Alden Richardson, now in the Army with the American fighting forces somewhere in the Pacific. His two foster brothers, both white Carl and Alden, are both Merchant Marine captains and are of the tree from which the branches of American democracy are fathered.

CALLS FOR RESPECT

During the writer's exclusive interview with the captain in his home here, he was found to be a man not easy to get underneath when talking about self. His deeds at sea are considered just part of a man's day's work and the fact that he passed a weather bureau examination with the highest rating in the country several years ago, meant nothing in his log book.

However, he lauded the men who have worked with him and under him during his 33 years before the mast. "There was never any trouble," said he, "and the white officers and seamen gave the uniform I wear all the respect it was due."

"In the new order of things with colored men coming into their own in our great country, we should and must stand up for ours and give our own the respect which is due rank. We can do it, and will do it, and I hope that the Douglass will become as great a ship as any afloat and as symbolic of the greater democracy expected to come out of this war as the Booker T. Washington which sails the seas delivering the keys of freedom with the hope of many minorities following before and aft."

MAY 29 1943

About Our Fighting Men

(From The Jackson Advocate)

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

JUN 1943

Much has been heard, in recent weeks, from the Negro Press, and Rostrum concerning the lack of news about Negro fighting men, a circumstance which perhaps led to the release, and the wide-spread evidence of a deep appreciation on the part of the Negro public, of an enemy submarine of the Atlantic Coast a few days ago.

Since the beginning of the war, except for the wide spread publicity given to the heroic conduct of Dori Miller, and a few other widely separated incidents of individual bravery, loyalty and heroism, the lack of news regarding Negro fighting men, was beginning to have a pepressing affect upon the spirit and morale of the Negro citizens of the nation.

Following almost immediately upon the news of the conduct of the Coast Guard Crew in the sinking of the enemy submarine, come the news of the bravery, loyalty, patriotism, and sacrifice, of Negroes in the Navy, as referred to, by Capt. Thomas L. Gatch, USN, in his article. "THE BATTLE WAGON FIGHTS BACK," published in the Saturday Evening Post of May 24th. Here is the news of a group of eleven Negro sailors, only a few months ago, raised to such a status in the Navy, who, by their brave and heroic conducts, not only makes a glorious contribution in proof of the Negro ability and worth as a fighting sailor, but at the same time makes a fine contribution to the settlement of the question of the relative merits of Sea and Air Power.

The news of the conduct of the Negro Sailor under Capt. Gatch will not fail to arouse the deepest appreciation where ever read by Negroes, but it is of far greater worth to the race and to the spirit and morale of the nation, that his story, published in the Saturday Evening Post, will be read by millions of Americans of all races, in every section of the Nation.

JUN 1943

No Jim Crow WAVES

Washington, D.C. Tribune

The National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, advises that the Navy Department has decided to admit Negro women to the WAVES, but is withholding the acceptance of Negro women until it can find a school at which they can be trained apart from white women.

Under the direction of Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson, the AKA Lobby has been working on the Navy Department for over a year. They were told several weeks ago that a plan for the admission of Negro women was waiting the approval of Secretary Knox.

Last week they learned that the plan has been approved, but is waiting on the location of a school where Negroes can be trained separately. The plan likewise excludes provisions for Negro women officers.

The Tribune wants Negro women accepted into the Navy on the same terms as white women are accepted—in training, work, and opportunity for advancement. We want for our Negro women the same opportunity given the Chinese, the Indian and women of other nationalities. We want Negro women trained wherever white women are trained, for after all, they will be called on to help win the war against a common enemy.

Smith College, at Northampton, Mass., has always been noted as a liberal college. It has always accepted Negro women as students. Several are there now. The Navy is using the school to train white women for the WAVES, and is now seeking to inject jim crowism into a school that has never heretofore known the meaning of that term.

We can't win a war for democracy unless there is democracy in our Army and Navy. Negro men are still smarting under the hardships brought about by a Jim Crow Army. There are some liberals who would like to do away with jim crowism in the Army, but the traditions are too hard to break down.

The Navy has never accepted Negro women. If it accepts them now it should accept them as American citizens. If it is not ready to do that, if time "is not ripe," we would prefer that it wait until the time is ripe.

This is no time for the extension of a practice that the war is being fought to outlaw.

Negro women must be accepted in the Navy as American women or not at all.

JUL 24 1943

New Orleans Women Hit Color Bar In Navy Units

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The ambition of scores of young Negro women of this city to enlist in the various women reserve divisions of the navy, Marine and Coast Guard were dampened this week when recruiting officers of these divisions stated that no place was available for women of color.

The recent campagn of recruiting Negro WAACs from New Orleans and the state encouraged several young women to contribute their services in other departments of the armed forces only to be met with the traditional discriminatory policy of Navy, Marine and Coast Guard divisions.

Calls from those interested flooded the N.O. Press club office last Tuesday following the departure of 47 WAACs for Camp Des Moines. Representatives of the club contacted the various recruiting offices only to be told that Negro women are not being accepted for these services.

Barred In WAVEs

Ensign Bracker, recruiting officer for the WAVEs, stated that no provisions are being made for the training and acceptance of Negro WAVEs. She explained that the training schools now in operation are so established as to "not accommodate Negro women" but assured that "when the Navy department change its policy relative to Negroes," she would gladly inform the local office.

Captain Hardy, recruiting officer in charge of recruiting for the women Marine reserves stated that "the Marines only use women to replace men in clerical positions, where the services of the men can be used for active services. We have no Negroes in active duty in the Marines and therefore have no position to place Negro women," he said.

The Coast Guard gave a similar reason for not accepting Negroes in the SPARs. Following these disclosures, the New Orleans Press club directed the following letter to Secretary of Navy Knox:

"To our dismay and discouragement have come the verification that the departments of Navy, Marine and Coast Guard are definitely maintaining a practice of rank discrimination against Negro women. This week we were approached by several score of young Negro women whose desire it was to enter the women's auxiliary of one of these branches of the armed services. Because and only because they were of Negro descent were they turned down cold and officers in charge were at bay to give a justifiable reason, disturbedly explaining that 'it is the policy of the department.'

Cite Dangers

"Without questioning your authority to act in the immediate elimination of this policy, we advise that something be done now to preserve the ambitions of young Negro American women who desire and want their country in the capacity that they chose and that you give serious consideration to the effect of this policy upon general morale within the Negro group.

"To flirt with or discourage the ambitions and patriotic gestures of young women is a much more serious situation than setting up a pacifying policy practice for men. We are requesting that you realize not only the general danger to the war effort by adherence to this practice but the specific influence it can and will have on the war support program.

"In New Orleans where there are hundreds of young Negro women qualified in secretarial and other abilities needed by divisional departments of the Navy, Marine and Coast Guard none are employed and the WAACs have only one employed.

"If your department can sanction such policy, then the advocacy of 'Four Freedoms' and 'democracy' is a myth.

"We should lke to know from you if such policy of your department is tantamount to that for which we are waging this war; if the maintenance of this policy is an established rule of the Navy; if you condone these practices and if you expect the Negro to accept them with any degree of complacency?

"May we further advise you that the situation here following our experiences a few days ago is something more than mere expressed discontent."

MAR 13 1943

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

United Seaman Service, 9,000 Negroes Serving!

More than 9,000 Negroes sailed the seas on the ships of the United States Merchant Marine, carrying supplies to the war fronts of the United Nations, it was revealed in a survey made by the War Shipping Administration. This number constituted one-tenth of the entire merchant marine force.

Our merchant seaman are at work on the most gruelling front of the war. The ratio of their losses is 400 per cent higher than for our combined armed forces.

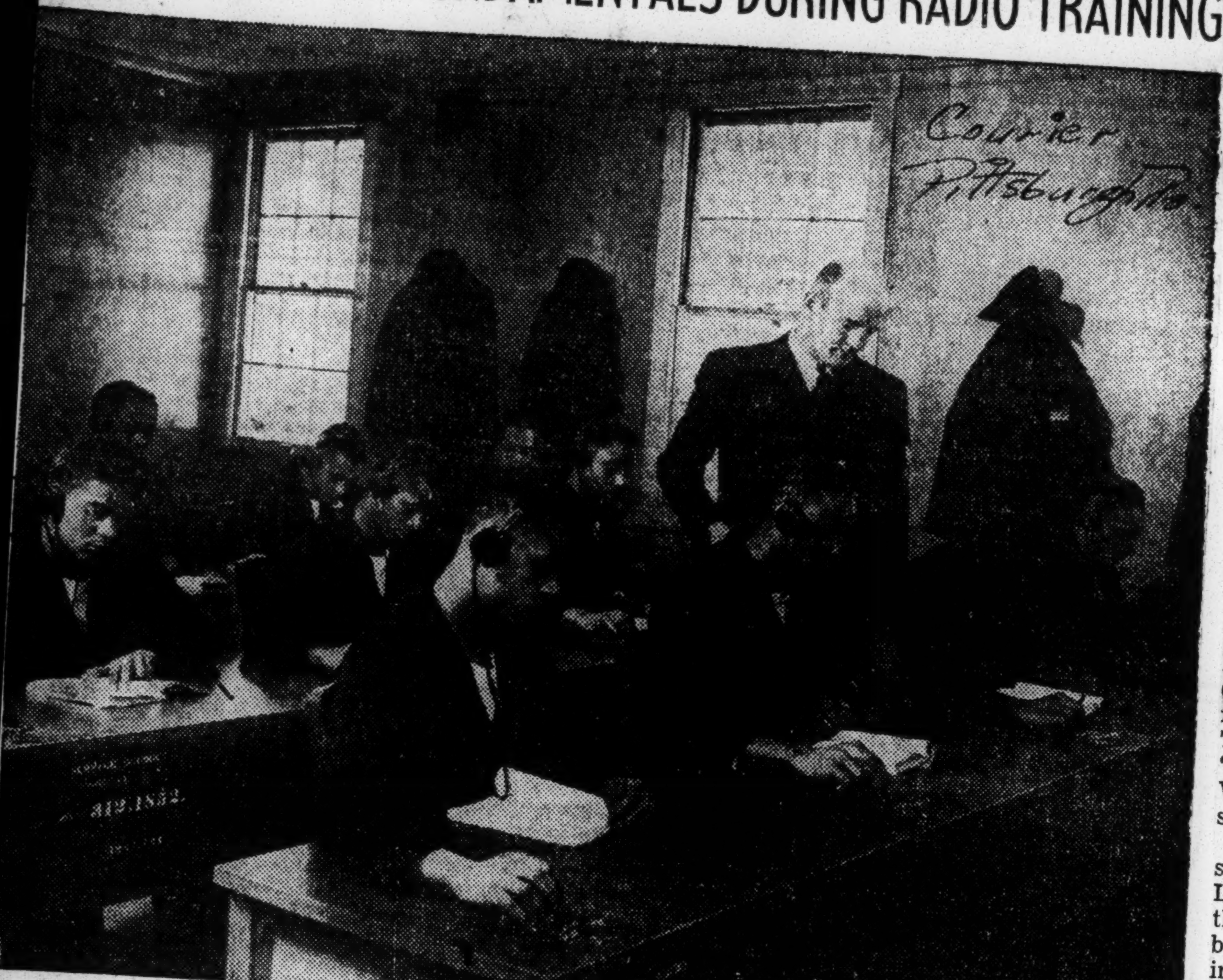
They wear no uniforms, march in no parades, take no bows; but they are braving torpedoes, aerial bombs, seas of flaming oil, machine-gun fire and cunningly-placed mines, days and weeks in flimsy life rafts—racked with hunger, cold and maddeniing thirst.

Realizing that these men, indespensable to victory, must be accorded recognition and benefits equal to those in uniform, the War Shipping Administration took the lead in the launching of the United Seaman's Service in 1942 to administer to the needs and morale of marine workers. The USS provides for American merchant seaman, both in home and foreign ports, medical service, rest and recuperation.

JUL 29 1943

47j-1943

BLUEJACKETS GET FUNDAMENTALS DURING RADIO TRAINING


Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

Seamen in the radio division at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Ill., not only study theory of radio, currents, magnetism and other pertinent matter in their second month of training, but are continually kept at the practice of sending and receiving messages over test sets under the watchful eye of their instructor Chief Radioman Harold B. Huber. Above picture shows the future radiomen at work on their sets, while the instructor looks on. Left to right, front row: James E. White, of Washington, D. C., John R. White, Birmingham, Ala., G. W. Walker, Port Arthur, Tex., and Charles Birden, Sevierville, Tenn.—Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI.

APR 10 1943

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Meet On Waves Program Today

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Race Leaders To Attend Session

JUL 21 1943

47

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — six or seven prominent persons here were to meet with Commander Mildred McAfee of the WAVES Wednesday afternoon to discuss a plan, said to have been approved by Secretary Knox, for the enlistment of Negro women into that organization.

The meeting is supposed to be held on the quiet for the purpose of advising Commander McAfee but there is some feeling that she will attempt to wring a sanction out of the group.

The names of four persons invited to the meeting have been learned. They are: Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, lobbyist for the AKA Non Partisan Council on Public Affairs; Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, chairman of the board, local Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Pauline Redmond Coggs, secretary, Washington Urban League; and Miss Jeanette Welch, secretary, National Council of Negro Women.

JIM-CROW SEEN

One report is that the plan contemplated is to take Negro women into the WAVES as auxiliaries, train them at a Negro school, and deny them tothe rank of officers The council has already expressed itself as being "unalterably opposed" to any such plan of segregation. The positions of the others have not been determined.

The call of the meeting is believed to have come as a result of a hot letter which Mrs. Johnson had sent to the President ten days ago protesting the reported plan, and calling for a conference with either him or Secretary Knox. It appears that Commander McAfee will carry the load. The stated purpose of the various auxiliaries of the armed forces is to have women replace men who may be used in other tasks for which women would not be suited. In the navy, Negroes are denied commissions. An adjustment in navy policy last year allowed for the training of Negroes as seamen. They are being used at shore establishments. But Negro women could hardly replace them in any of these capacities.

JUL 21 1943

JUL 21 1943

JUL 21 1943

Private

Puts O. K. On Marines

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Former Newspaperman Praises Training Program of Marines

JUL 23 1943

47

MONTFORD POINT, NEW RIVER, N. C.—(ANP)—Although the United States Marine corps is noted for its rigorous life and discipline, enlisted personnel are especially well cared for to make them one of the finest fighting units in the nation's war machine, said Pvt. Laurence J. W. Hayes last week in giving an estimate of the "leathernecks". Hayes, a feature editor for the Washington Tribune and author of the book, "The Negro Federal Government Worker", has been in the marines since last May 25.

Both white and Negro commissioned officers attached to Camp LeJeune are highly conscious of the fact that the first Negroes to be admitted to the marine corps in the 167 years of its existence are the cynosure of all eyes, and are working night and day to make the division to top notch, he added.

Hayes proudly pointed to the several records that his fellow marines have broken in rifle practice at the camp.

The ex-newspaperman and author expressed pleasure with the well cooked meals served to the men, and said there is no dearth of food in the camp. Cleanliness of person and equipment, intense exercises and rigid discipline also mark life in the marines, stated Hayes, but he pointed out the men easily adapt themselves to the new routine.

"The United States Marine tradition which requires all of its enlisted personnel to obey orders without question, is enforced to the letter in 'boot camp,' declared Hayes, "and the result, though not altogether painless, is thought-provoking and effective enough to bring about the necessary psychological and a partial physical transition from civilian to military life.

"The religious life of the camp is adequately taken care of by the camp chaplain, a commissioned officer who not only conducts Protestants and Catholic services, but also functions as 'adviser and father-confessor' to the camp's enlisted personnel."

JUL 29 1943

Fifty-Seven Men From Georgia In Naval Training

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Seven Recruits Are Natives Of Capital City

MAY 30 1943

47

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — (SNS)—Fifty-seven Georgia men are among hundreds of -Negro Bluejackets undergoing several weeks of recruit training at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

While in "boot camp" the sailors will be put through an intensive training program, including physical conditioning, military drill, fundamentals of seamanship, and Naval customs and procedure. Upon graduation, they each will be given a nine-day leave, after which they will receive further specialized instruction at one of the Navy's Service Schools, or be sent directly to duty at sea or at a shore station.

Men are selected for Service School on the basis of a series of aptitude tests and a personal interview given to each recruit. Some with sufficient experience in a particular trade needed by the Navy are rated as petty officers upon completing training and sent to active duty immediately.

The Georgia recruits here are: Eugene A. Nesbit, 18, 185 North Rockspring, Athens; Isaiah Tate, 19, 160 Second Street, Athens; Lucius Andrews, 18, 147 Hill Top Circle, Atlanta; Ben L. Butts, 34, 574 Randolph Place, Atlanta; Johnnie J. Hutchinson, 33, 181 Elm St., Atlanta; Jerome Johnson, 27, 59 Hilliard St., Atlanta; Charles W. Greene, 19, 304 Griffin St., N. W., Atlanta; Willie Ector, 25, 398 Simpson St., Atlanta; Hayward J. Tucker, 19, 280 Ashby St., Atlanta; Roland H. Zealy, 22, 2365 Gardner, Augusta; Timothy Harmon, 31, 907 King Street, Augusta; Clarence O'Neal, 19, 1817 7th Avenue, Columbus; Charlie R. Brown, 31, 409 5th Ave., Columbus; John H. Walker, 18. 1028 38th St., Columbus; I. D.

Brantley, 27, 414 B. B. T. W. Apt., Loul, Route 1, Tarrytown; Oscar Moultrie.
Also Julius Clark, 18, 505 18th W. Marshall, 18, Route 2, Lake Also Willie B. Fokes, 18, Monte- East 41st St., Savannah; Benja-
Avenue, Cordele; M. L. Wright, 23, Park; William E. Stephens, 18, zuma; Ralph Kyer, 18, 609 South min Broughton, 18, 1507 East Board
Climax; Willie T. Shropshire, 19, Route 2, Madison; David W. Lee Street, Valdosta; Earnest St., Savannah; Willie Golden, 29,
Chicago Avenue, Douglasville; Strickland, 18, 104 Lake Street, Miller, 18, 1008½ Clark St., Val- 509 West Henry St., Savannah;
Harold Miller, 20, Route 1, Fort Marietta; Edward Taylor, 24, 233 dosta; Albert Durran, 18, Route 3, Richard M. Williams, 28, 606 West
Valley; Earnest W. Ponder, 19, No. Roosevelt Avenue, Macon; John E. Newnan; Theodore H. Goss, 18, 32nd St., Savannah; Rufus Cuny,
Lee St., Forsyth; George C. Jen- Hogan, 18, 142 Carling Avenue, Royston; Isaiah Wynn, 18, Allen- 19, 204 Sudgen St., Savannah;
kins, 18, Greenville; Frederick Do- Macon; George F. Billingslea, 22, hurst; David Truell, 18, 513 East Frank B. Walker, 34, 616 West 40th
berson, 18, Guyton; King Nolan, 833 3rd Avenue, Macon; James Yore St., Savannah; John Mun- St., Savannah; James Marsh, 25,
19, Route 1, Kingsland; Rufus J. Duncan, 18, Route 5, Macon; Ezell gin, 28, 509 West Park Avenue, Sa- 713 Joe Lane, Savannah; James B.
Mark, 27, 325 1 Avenue, N. W. vannah; Lorenzo Pazant, 31, 110 Pinkney, 33, 1010 West Victory
Drive, Savannah;

Also Joel Scott, 24, Sandre Hill, Sylvania; Roy Hardin, 18 Smyrna; Roy K. Richardson, 20, Route 1, Smyrna; James T. Knighton, 23, Sylvester; Emerson Hunter, 18, Route 1, Stephens; Frank M. Mitchell, 36, 730 South Lee Street, Valdosta; David Collins, 18, 407 South Loombs Street, Valdosta; Clifford Harris, 18, Route 1, Warm Springs.

9,000 Black Men Help Man Bridge Of U. S. Ships

Atlanta Daily World

Unsung Heroes Of Deep Form Tenth Of Total

NEW YORK CITY,—(S N S)—More than 9,000 Negroes sailed the seas of the United States Merchant Marine, carrying supplies to the war fronts of the United Nations, it was revealed in a survey made by the War Shipping Administration. This number constituted one-tenth of the entire merchant marine force.

JUL 19 1943

Our merchant seaman are at work on the most grueling front of the war. The ratio of their losses is 400 per cent higher than for our combined armed forces.

They wear no uniforms, march in no parades, take no bows: but they are braving torpedoes, aerial bombs, seas of flaming oil, machine-gun fire and cuningly-placed mines days and weeks in flimsy rafts racked with hunger, cold, and maddening thirst

Realizing that these men, indespensable to victory, must be accorded recognition and benefits equal to those in uniform, the War Shipping Administration took the lead in the launching of the United Seaman's Service in 1942 to administer to the needs and morale of marine workers.

JUL 19 1943

The USS provides for American merchant seaman, both in home and foreign ports, medical service rest and recuperation centers, and recreation clubs. It is the one agency born of the war which does not countenance discrimination in any form. It is generally conceded that the merchant marine service is one of the most democratic institutions now taking part in the war.

The National War Fund was conceived to economize time and overhead expenses in the collection of funds for the various war agencies which have heretofore been conducting their individual fund-raising campaigns. Winthrop W. Aldrich is the president of the board of directors and Dr. Channing H. Tobias is a member of the board.

The USS Harmon: A Proposal

Journal + Guide

THE launching of any man o' war during wartime is an event of significance; but the launching, during a world conflict in which we and our allies are fighting for the democratic way of life and freedom from prejudice, among other things, of the first warship in the American Navy ever to be named after a Negro American, was an arresting event which took place late Sunday afternoon at Quincy, Mass.

JUL 31 1943

The ship, a destroyer, is named after Roy Harmon, a hero slain aboard the USS San Francisco when it fought its almost legendary encounter in Jap-infested South Pacific waters off Guadalcanal; and it was christened by the proud mother of the Texas youth who has joined that heroic band of men including Dorie Miller and Charles French.

Journal + Guide

We have or soon will have five vessels bearing the names of black Americans: Washington, Carver, Douglas, Merrick, and Harmon. The first four are Liberty ships for hauling the material of war, and the Harmon will protect them and prowl the seven seas in defense of the Four Freedoms and the peoples and nations believing in them.

There are no Negro officers in the Navy, although one ensign is assigned to duty in the Coast Guard now, but we are sure that somewhere in America there are men of color learned in the science of the sea sufficiently to be entrusted with the command of the USS Harmon. We've found them for the Liberty ships. Certainly Captain Mulzac of the SS Booker T. Washington or Captain Richardson of the SS Frederick Douglas are capable and can be commissioned for Navy duty.

Great Lakes and Hampton Naval Training Schools have been turning out technicians for the various skilled functions aboard warships, and there is a backlog of chief petty officers from the last war period available for the crew. The USS Harmon can be manned by a Negro captain and a mixed crew; the only requirements are tolerance and courage to put democracy into fuller operation, on the part of those in authority.

Norfolk Va.

The President and the Navy Department would do well to consider seriously acting favorably upon this suggestion; it would be of inestimable value to war morale and a factual answer to the propaganda of the Axis which had a Roman holiday of making the most of the bad news of Detroit, Beaumont, and Mobile. What about it, Mr. President? Let's send the USS Harmon back into the South Pacific to hunt down the Japs who killed young Harmon—with a Negro captain on the bridge!

Navy Bias Hits Negro Athlete

Physical Education Specialist Denied Commission Because of Race Prejudice

PM
New York. N. Y.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The Navy still is discriminating against Negroes.

Last Fall Wendall A. Parris, a Negro with long experience in physical education, applied for a commission in the physical education specialists corps, where commissions were being given to many football coaches and others with similar experience.

JUN 2 1943

He received the following reply from Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel:

"With the exception of specialists to assist in the recruiting effort, all Negroes who desire to enlist in general service are enlisted as apprentice seamen. The Navy does not enlist Negro specialists in connection with physical education and instruction."

Parris recently appealed his case to Sen. James J. Davis (R., Pa.), pointing out that he had had three years experience in the physical education dept. of Howard University, the largest Negro college; four years as athletic director and physical education instructor in a big junior high school, and other similar experience.

"My main interest in this situation," he wrote Davis, "is that in the new Army and Navy physical training schools expanded programs are being conducted which will be used in civilian life after the war, but since the policies of the Army and Navy exclude Negroes from such schools by refusing them commissions, then the Negro race, which has a low physical fitness index and a record of 44 per cent rejection of all selectees examined in the draft, will not be improved because our teachers cannot get this training."

JUN 2 1943

Davis appealed to the Navy and got the following reply from Adm. Jacobs:

"At the present time the Navy's policy with respect to the induction or enlistment of Negroes in connection with physical education and instruction is unchanged from the time of this bureau's letter dated Oct. 19, 1942, to Mr. Parris."

LAUNCHING SS FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

LAUNCHI
FAIRFI

MAY 29 1943

Anne Wiggins Brown, noted soprano and star of George Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess," recently had the honor of acting as sponsor for the launching of the SS Frederick Douglass at Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. The ship, named for one of the foremost orators and writers of the nation, follows the SS Booker T. Washington and the SS George Washington Carver, both of which were launched on the West Coast.

In the photo at the top, Miss Brown prepares to christen the Liberty Ship.

MAY 1943

Inset: The soprano was caught by the photographer as she broke the bottle of champagne across the hull of the ship.

47j-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Coast Guard Trainees Get Entertainment From Stem

FEB 7 1943

Station Is Just 45 Minutes From Great White Way

FEB 7 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. (SNS)—The U. S. Coast Guard Training Station at Manhattan Beach, N. Y., where hundreds of Negro recruits have undergone training, is only 45 minutes from Broadway. Its popularity with famous screen radio and stage professionals, however, makes the station a small White Way.

Because of its proximity to the Broadway sector, the station has become a mecca for Broadway headliners, and the recruits witness a stellar show or a dance every night.

FEB 7 1943

The recruits don't have to depend on Broadway altogether, however. For, in addition to welcoming outside talent, the Manhattan Beach Training Station has developed one of the best entertainment programs in the armed services. There is a band, which gives a weekly concert. And there is a Choral Society, organized and directed by Homer Smith, former tenor with The Southernaires, noted quartet in the radio and concert field.

Like most of other activities of the post, the Manhattan Beach Choral Society is a mixed organization, with both white and colored enrollees lending their voices in song. These enrollees have made several public appearances and, during the recent holiday season, were warmly received in a concert at Carnegie Ha[illegible]

FEB 7 1943

James O. Lewis is another Negro from the entertainment world attached to the staff of Manhattan Beach Training Station. Lewis is assistant recreation director of the post and has charge of dances and entertainment for the Negro personnel. The Negro recruits have a dance every Wednesday night, at which many of the leading Negro bands have been presented.

Mr. Lewis appeared on the stage with "Hot Mikado" during the World's Fair and his baritone voice has more recently been heard as an entertainer at such well known night clubs as Cafe Society and Le Ruban Bleu. He was "loaned" to the Navy for their recent radio program, "This Is the Navy, which was broadcast on nation-wide hookup and short-waved to our armed forces overseas.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Saved Men Who Were Trapped Below Ship Decks

FEB 10 1943

WASHINGTON—(SNS)—A 20-year-old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, U. S. S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored from the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th Avenue, Jamaica, N. Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second class.

FEB 10 1943

FORMER CCC MEMBER

Bell, who attended Jamaica High School for one and a half years and later served in the Civilian Conservation Corps, applied for enlistment in the Navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U. S. S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition. Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest traditon of the United States Naval Service."

An eyewitness account of such a rescue was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnston, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the U. S. S. Lexington was announced. Johnston's account declared:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage x

FEB 10 1943

VOLUNTEERED FOR TASK

"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: I'll go, Sir.'

" 'Sure you know how to reach them?' the Commander asked.

" 'Yes, Sir. I know the way.'

" 'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

" 'Yes, Sir, I do. But I would like to try just the same.'

"Right then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more—he brought the three men with him."

Other enlisted men receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroic action aboard the U. S. S. Lexington included Walter S. Cochrane, pharmacist's mate, (2|c); Douglass Moore, storekeeper, (2|c), Paul Meuleveld, store-keeper (3|c) and Walter L. Stacy, seaman (1|c).

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

HUGH MULZAC, FIRST NEGRO SKIPPER, BRING IN HIS SHIP SUCCESSFULLY 1-2-43

Captain Hugh Mulzac, first Negro skipper in the United States Merchant Marine Service, returned to an Eastern port last week bringing safely to port the 10,500 Liberty Ship, Booker T. Washington, which he commands, and his hand-picked crew which represents seventeen nations and territories of the United Nations.

An uneventful trip was chronicled by Mulzac, but the Captain said proudly that there had been no need for disciplinary action of any sort. that he had proven his capabilities as captain of a ship, and that this proved that "it can be done." The first voyage of the Booker T. Washington, successful as it was, is a convincing argument for breaking down the barriers of prejudice and discrimination, the sea chieftain said. 1-2-43

Twenty-five per cent of the Booker T. Washington's crew are Negroes. There are the four deck officers, chief engineer, wireless operator and others.

Fifty-six year-old native of St. Vincent, Windward Islands, British West Indies, Mulzac has been a seaman since 1907. He lives with his wife and their five children at 536 Dean street, Brooklyn. Mulzac attended Swansea Nautical School South Wales, and was graduated from the United States Shipping Board School at Baltimore in 1918. He had held captain's papers since 1920, but had a master's bertn on only one ship, a small British steamer plying the West Indies in 1922. Recently, due to a vigorous campaign, aided by the National Maritime Union and civic groups, Mulzac won his long campaign to gain a captaincy and thus make the first break into prejudice against Negro officers on the high seas.

HONOR CAPTAIN MULZAC AND CREW AT HOTEL COMMODORE, JANUARY 4

Captain Hugh [illegible]. Mulzac, first Negro skipper in the history of the American merchant marine, and nominated by the editors of PV as PV's Man of the Year for 1942, will be guest of honor at the Hotel Commodore 42st and Lexington ave on Monday evening, January 4 when the Greater New York Industrial Council, CIO tenders a dinner in honor of him and his United Nations crew of Liberty ship, Bocker T. Washington. 1-2-43

Capt. Mulzac and his crew recently landed the vessel at an east coast port to complete a history making maiden voyage through submarine-infested waters. They have already signified acceptance of the Council's invitation to come to New York for the dinner.

Among the speakers at the dinner will be Gov. Charles A. Poletti and Councilman Adam Clayton Jowell jr, Jaul Robeson and Marian Anderson are secheduled to sing and some of the most distinguished figures are expected to turn out for the affair.

Capt. Mulzac will be presented with a scroll at the dinner awarded to him as PV's Man of the Year.

Interviewed at a press conference some time after arrival of the vessel, Capt. Mulzac quietly accepted the congratulations on the success of his maiden voyage as skipper.

"I'm satified that they gave me a chance to prove I could do it," he declared, quietly but proudly.

Warm in his praise for the National Maritime Union which not only gave strong support to the campaign that won him the ship but also helped him select his crew, Capt. Mulzac gave an excellent report of the trip.

PRAISES MARITIME UNION

His crew includes representatives of 18 different nations. He calls his ship a United Nations ship with an American flag." About one-fourth of the crew is Negro. Among the nationalities represented are Belgian, Danish, Honduran, British Guianan, Russian, Turkish, American (Negro and white Filipino, Irish, English, Swedish, British West Indies, Dutch and Mexican.

Mulzac's chief engineer is a Negro, the other three engineers are white. Four deck officers and the wireless operator are Negroes. There are also four white cadets (merchant marine analogy to the navy midshipman).

Capt. Mulzac, born in St. Vincent, BWI, is 56, has been a seaman since 1907. During the last war he served as a mate. In 1920 he secured his master's ticket but, barred from obtaining a ship by color barriers, he sailed on various lines, in various other lower capacities.

He has never been shiprecked never torpedoed. During the last war, he said, he was in convoys in which ships were torpedoed.

He holds membership in both the Masters, Mates and Pilots Association and in the NMU. In the latter he is the only licensed Negro skipper holding regular membership.

The Union

Cincinnati, Ohio

97 BLUEJACKETS!

~~FEB 1 1 1943~~

Ninety-seven Negro Bluejackets the first of their race to complete instruction in various trades offered by the Navy, were graduated recently from the Service School in ceremonies at the United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

In the presence of two outstanding Negro heroes of the las war and this conflict, the graduates filed to the speaker's platform where they received their Service School certificates—the final step of an intensive training period.

FEB 1 1 1943

Chicago Bee

Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO COAST GUARDS IN ALL BRANCHES OF SERVICE

JAN 3 1 1943

With hundreds of Negro Coast Guardsmen already on active duty on sea and land, and with additional hundreds completing training at regular intervals, colored recruits are being integrated into all branches of the service, the United States Coast Guard announced this week.

One of the most popular of the centers now turning out Negro and white coast guardsmen is the U. S. Training Station at Manhattan Beach, N. Y., where recruits are given intensive four-weeks courses in seamanship, signaling, knot tieing, life saving, and life boat handling.

Instructors at Manhattan Beach for all recruits include a number of veteran Negro Coast Guard officers and nationally famous colored athletes. Recruits of all races train, work, study and play together.

Complete Integration

JAN 3 1 1943

Typical of the integration of Negroes into training station activities was the appointment of Clarence Samuels, veteran warrant officer and boatswain to the Manhattan Beach Training Station Board of Education. Mr. Samuels, who has twenty-two years service in the Navy and Coast Guard, was at one time stationed with an all-Negro crew at the famous Pea Island, N. C., Coast Guard Station. He is now librarian for the educational program and instructor in practical seamanship and navigation for all Manhattan Beach recruits.

Another Negro instructor is Benjamin Jones, formerly a post office clerk in Chicago, who holds an LLB degree from the Chicago Law School. He wrote a brochure on traffic regulations at sea, "Rules of the Road", which is now being used as a text book at Manhattan Beach. Mr. Jones is also a member of the Signalling and Quartermaster School, instructor in navigation regulations, boarding and other relevant courses.

Expert Drill Master

Boatswain and commander of Company 24, the all-Negro company stationed at Manhattan Beach, is Paul L. Perkins, onetime football star at Washington and Jefferson university. Boatswain Perkins is an excellent drill master.

Captain G. U. Stewart is commanding officer of the Manhattan Beach Training Station; Commander A. H. Hall, executive officer; Commander H. F. Walsh, training officer; and Lt. E. A. Simpson, assistant training officer.

The Coast Guard, one of the oldest of the military services of the United States, has a glorious record in the saving of lives and ships in distress. It was formerly under direction of the Treasury Department but was transferred by executive order to the Navy at the outbreak of the present conflict.

Illustrative of the spirit of the Coast Guard is a story told about one of their number, called "The Midget." It seems that "The Midget" and a group of his comrades were debating among themselves the advisability of attempting a rescue in a raging storm. Finally "the Midget" settled the argument by saying, "The regulations say you have to go but they don't say you have to come back." And they all went out in the teeth of the storm.

JAN 3 1 1943

No branch of the service is performing more heroically in this war than are members of the Coast Guard, many of whom received their basic training at the Manhattan Beach Training Station.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

TO NAME SHIP FOR FREDERICK DOUGLASS

APR 1 5 194

Washington, D. C.—The Maritime Commission announced Wednesday that a Liberty Ship, assigned for construction in a Baltimore, Md., shipyard, will be named for Frederick Douglass, famous Negro orator and journalist of the Civil War period.

The ship, third of a series named for outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore—a short distance from a site where Douglass, a Maryland-born slave, once worked as a ship caulker.

The first ship of this series, the S.S. Booker T. Washington, named for the noted Negro educator, is now in active service under a Negro master, Capt. Hugh Mulzac. The second, the S.S. George Washington Carver, named for the world-famous scientist, is under construction at a West Coast shipyard.

APR 1 5 1943

47j-1943

How to Knock Jim Crow for a Row--

"Daily Worker" N.Y.

JAN 23 1943

By Art Shields

Nazi subs were rising from the shallow bottom of Barents Sea. Hitler's planes were bombing from overhead. And Columbus Savoy, the Negro helmsman from Harlem, was cool as ice.

Savoy deftly swung the ship from port to starboard and back again in a series of zigzags as torpedoes went by.

"Yes, Savoy saved our ship," said John Venaccio, a member of the crew, yesterday afternoon.

Savoy was bosun as well as helmsman. He had taken the wheel only because a white seaman was sick.

And when the Negro bosun wasn't at the wheel he was machine gunning Nazi planes with his watch mate "Texas" Grover Walter, another Harlem Negro.

JIM CROW OVERBOARD

And Jacob Green and Leonard Kirkwood, two more Negro AB's from Harlem, were passing the ammunition as fast as they could.

JOHN VENACCIO

The Negroes weren't the only merchant marine gunners and ammunition passers on the ship as she went through a terrible two-day battle with the Nazis when the convoy was attacked. But they were among the best fighters on board.

And they were beating Jim Crow as well as beating the Nazis at the same time.

"They knocked Jim Crow right out of the ring by their courage," said Johnny Venaccio. "The Navy gunners began eating with the Negro seamen after that battle. They said they were proud to do so."

The Navy gunners had drawn the color line till then. Most of them were Southerners. But Jim Crow was washed overboard in the fight.

Venaccio, a veteran of the Italian Garibaldi Battalion in Spain, who helped lick Mussolini at Guadalajara, knows a good fight. And he saw one in the Arctic.

SHOT DOWN PLANES

"The Navy gunners were mostly young fellows of 20 to 22," he said. "It was their first time under fire. They worked like a machine with merchant seamen who had taken gunnery lessons in Britain... And several Nazi planes were sent smoking into the sea."

Many British and American seamen were lost in the convoy's big battle. But American fighter planes got many torpedo bombers and American depth bombs got some Nazi submarines.

And the bulk of the war weapons the convoy was carrying were laid down in the Soviet land.

The stuff was laid down on the docks by women longshoremen, who are taking the place of the men who left for the front.

"The women longshoremen work while the bombs fall," said Venaccio. "Nothing can stop them."

Venaccio is proud of the Italian anti-fascists, who thrashed Mussolini at Guadalajara and fought on at Bruete (where he himself was wounded), at Fuentes del Ebro and Huesca and other fighting fronts. And he says the Italian people will thrash Mussolini again, and for keeps.

S.S. CARVER ON WAYS

Pittsburgh Courier

APR 24 1943

RICHMOND, Calif., Apr. [illegible]—With scant fanfare and ostentation the keel of the Liberty Ship George Washington Carver was laid Monday, April [illegible] at the Henry J. Kaiser Yard No. 1. Present were several O.W.I. and company officials and [illegible] Joseph, Courier staff photographer.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Navy Awards Jamaica L. I. Youth For Rescue of Trapped Comrades

FEB 13 1943

A 20-year-old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, *USS Lexington*, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced last week.

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Bell, who attended Jamaica High assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

An eyewitness account of such a rescue was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnson, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the *USS Lexington* was announced. Johnson's account declared:

FEB 13 1943

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage X.'

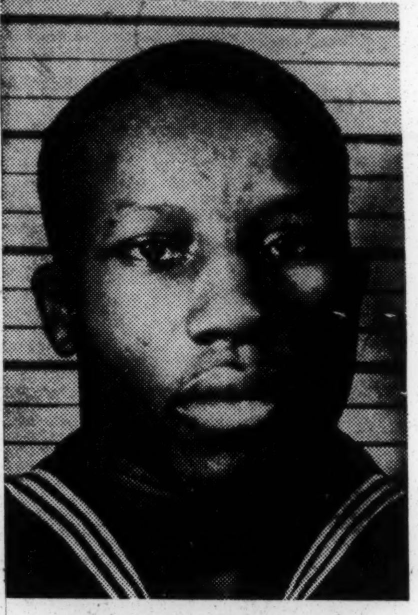
"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: 'I'll go, Sir.'

"'Sure you know how to reach them?' the Commander asked.

"'Yes, sir. I know the way.'

"'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

"'Yes, Sir. I do. But I would like to try just the same.'



MESSMAN ELVIN BELL

Hero of Coral Sea Battle

"Right then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

FEB 13 1943

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more—he brought the three men with him."

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Negro Shares Spotlight With Knox, Jones at Cruiser Houston Ceremony

JAN 2 - 1943

By JOHN H. THOMPSON

Special

HOUSTON, Tex.—Democracy is gradually coming to Texas! John W. Rice, state Negro director of the NYA, was chosen to deliver the keynote speech last Monday night at a huge gathering of whites (estimated at 6,000) plus a few Negroes, when a certificate for $85,749,884.24 was handed Secretary Frank Knox of the Navy by Jesse Jones. This sum of money was raised in a little over 21 days in an intensive bond-buying campaign started by citizens who wished to replace the cruiser *Houston*, recently sunk by enemy action.

Believed to be the first time in the history of this section of the South that a Negro has ever addressed a patriotic meeting. 99 per cent of whom were whites, Rice, noted thruout the state for his oratory, chose *Unity* for his theme. He exemplified it as he sat on the platform surrounded by some of the biggest figures in this war, all white. Besides Jesse Jones and Frank Knox, there were high admirals, a governor, a mayor and many lesser lights of civilian and military life.

GREATEST APPLAUSE

It was an enthusiastic crowd of patriots who had braved the rain to see and hear the "big shot" in action. Rice did not disappoint them. His address, timely and without any direct reference to race, was given the loudest and most prolonged applause of all the speakers.

The Negro was a definite part of the celebration, altho he was out in few numbers. But his dimes, quarters and dollars had helped swell the total for the cruiser fund.

And Rice was their spokesman. He declared we would win this war and the peace to follow for "we are determined that there shall be a brotherhood of man."

MESSAGE OF FREEDOM

"Tonight we celebrate the completion of the task of furnishing the money with which to replace the cruiser *Houston* . . . we dedicate it . . . not to our accomplishments of a peace loving city and nation, but as a vessel of war, one which, tho it shall carry the message of death, shall also carry the message of life to the souls of men all over the world . . . it is a message of freedom . . . it is a gift to those who love liberty for men wherever they may be. . .

"As Texans of all races and kinds are facing the enemies of the souls of men all the way from the frozen North to the burning sands of the Libyan desert, just so are men of all races and creeds all over the world. The American parents here tonight are but replicas of Chinese parents, Negro parents, French parents and parents of all those who compose the forces of freedom. . . ."

UNITY—ALLIED SECRET

"Here is the secret weapon of the Allied nations: A heritage of freedom, the will to win, freedom for the souls of men and unity of purpose that is unshakeable. . . . As we have found that ordinary living for one man means that he is indebted to all other men, just so men have learned that when freedom of any man is threatened, the freedom of all men is threatened.

JAN 2 - 1943

"In just the same proportion have we learned that there can be no splendid isolation. . . . War against freedom in Manchukuo or Ethiopia is war against freedom in Chile, Mexico, America . . . we are united in the battle for freedom, not only for ourselves but for all men wherever they may be. . . ."

Newsreel men from all over the country were on hand to take pictures of the celebration. Also present was a large number of widely known newspapermen. The speeches of the government spokesmen were carried over a national hookup.

Rice's picture appeared in the largest daily published here, one of the few times a Negro's picture has appeared in a white paper in this city.

JAN 2 - 1943

Eisenhower Lauds Valor Of Africa Negro Troops

WITH THE ALLIED FORCES IN AFRICA.—Lieutenant General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the Allied Forces in North Africa last week commended the courage of American Negro troops here who continued putting high explosive bombs ashore while under heavy fire.

"Americans of the colored race should be proud of the service of their representatives in combat," the General said.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Mess Attendants Only For Navy Draftees

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 18—(ANP)—Negroes expressing a preference to join the navy when called before their draft boards will be accepted by the navy, but will be assigned only to the mess attendants branch of the service, it is reported here.

Although other branches of naval service are open to Negroes, the falling off of enlistments in the mess attendant division is given as the reason for the order assigning all Negroes to this status until the required quota is filled. No alternative is given the selectee if he asks for navy duty.

FEB 20 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Race Forgotten At Coast Guard Station

FEB 7 1943

FEB 7 1943

Although the course of training at the Coast Guard Training Station, Manhattan Beach, N. Y., is a tough one with a full schedule, recreation is not neglected. Dances and singing take up much of the leisure in the evening. Homer Smith, tenor of the noted radio Southernaires Quartet, is director of the Manhattan Beach Choral Society, composed of white and colored enlistees. He is shown rehearsing part of his group. Also shown is James O. Lewis, another well-known Negro entertainer, who has charge of dancing and entertainment for the Negro personnel at Manhattan Beach.—Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith)

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Hundreds Of Negro Coast Guardsmen On Active Duty

JAN 30 1943

WASHINGTON—With hundreds of Negro coast guardsmen already on active duty on sea and land, and with additional hundreds completing training at regular intervals, colored recruits are being integrated into all branches of the service, the United States Coast Guard announced this week.

One of the most popular of the centers now turning out Negro and white Coast Guardsmen in the U. S. training station at Manhattan Beach, N. Y., where recruits are given intensive four-weeks courses in seamanship, signaling, knot tieing, life saving, and life boat handling.

JAN 30 1943

Instructors at Manhattan Beach for all recruits include a number of veteran Negro Coast Guard officers and nationally famous colored athletes. Recruits of all races train, work, study and play together.

Typical of the integration of Negroes into training station activities was the appointment of Clarence Samuels, veteran warrant officer and boatswain, to the Manhattan Beach training board of education. Samuels, who has twenty-two years service in the Navy and the Coast Guard, was at one time stationed with an all-Negro crew at the famous Pea Island, N. C., Coast Guard station. He is now librarian for the educational program and instructor in practical seamanship and navigation for all Manhattan Beach recruits.

Another Negro instructor is Benjamin Jones, formerly a post office clerk in Chicago, who holds an LLB degree from the Chicago Law school. He wrote a brochure on traffic regulations at sea, "Rules of the Road," which is now being used as a text book at Manhattan Beach. Jones is also member of the signalling and Quartermaster school, instructor in navigation, regulations, boarding and other relevant courses.

JAN 30 1943

Boatswain and commander of Company 24, the all-Negro company stationed at Manhattan Beach, is Paul L. Perkins, one-time football star at Washington and Jefferson university. Boatswain Perkins is an expert drill master.

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

Naval Officer In Denial of Use of Offensive Terms

NEW YORK CITY—Denial that he had used such words as "nigger" and "buck nigger" came this week from Lt. Commander William McGovern who was charged with making an insulting speech before a mixed group of teachers attending a lecture at a fall meeting of the Madison County Teachers Institute at Alton, Ill.

Lt. Commander P. B. Brennen, U. S. Navy Reserve director of Public Relations, informed the NAACP who had protested against McGovern's speech had been "misunderstood" by the NAACP correspondent.

JAN 2 - 1943

The persons who heard McGovern included Negro teachers, doctors and others who have the advantage of education and an understanding of the English language, the NAACP answered.

47j-1943
The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Capt. Mulzac Brings Ship Into British Port After 1st Crossing

FEB 22 1943

47j

By Eugene Gordon

Captain Hugh Mulzac, commander of the Liberty ship Booker T. Washington, arrived with his United Nations crew at a British port a few days ago. He and his men were met at the dock by reporters and movie-camera men from all over the British isles, according to dispatches to the Chicago **Defender**, and other Negro newsapers.

How did the Booker T. Washington weather its first ocean crossing? What was the condition of the men, physically and with respect to morale?

One dispatch says the ship reached port two days ahead of the convoy of which she was a part. The reason was that the Booker T. Washington became separated from the other ships in a storm which sprang up in the north Atlantic and which followed and buffeted them all the way. The storm caused some damage to the vessel, the dispatch says, but only of a minor character.

FEB 22 1943

British and American reporters asked Captain Mulzac what message he would like to give the United Nations. Then they asked the crew what they thought of their Negro skipper.

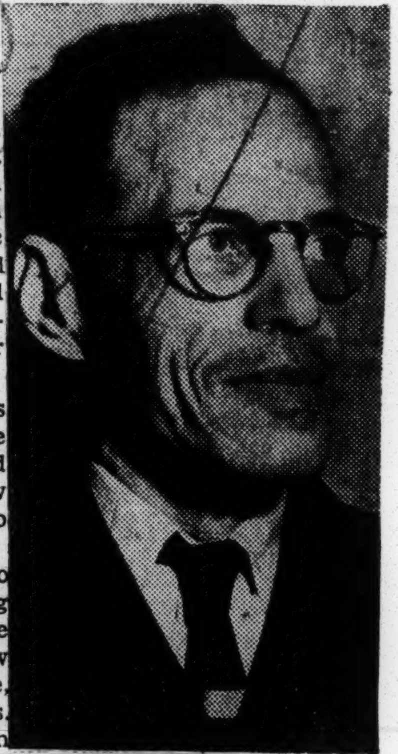
Mulzac was proud, he declared, to have had the opportunity of taking supplies across the Atlantic to the Allies. He admitted that, in view of the ruthless U-boat offensive, the task had been full of hazards.

He told reporters and movie men that he hoped the Negro people would get out of this war some of the benefits promised in the Atlantic Charter. He considered his and his crew's accomplishment of their tasks a successful counter attack against international fascism.

A British newspaperman was quoted as saying to a correspondent of the Negro press:

"It is ironical to think that Captain Mulzac was a Negro braving the dangers of the deep to help white folk in their hour of need, while his own race is denied the most elementary rights of citizens and men."

Captain Mulzac and his crew did not feel, however, that they had made the hazardous crossing to help "white folk." Judging by all they said and by their general attitude toward the anti-fascist war, they did it as citizens of the United Nations and as haters of fascism. They did it to help all decent humanity, which certainly includes the Negro people.



CAPT. MULZAC

Officers of the United States Army Transport Service and of the U. S. Shipping Administration welcomed the Booker T. Washington. So also did British representatives of the Luckenbach Line, agents for the vessel. Captain J. F. Devlin, jovial U. S. representative in Britain of our War Shipping Administration, told the British and American newspapermen that Captain Mulzac was "a fine skipper and a gallant gentleman."

Captain Devlin told British reporters also that Ferdinand C. Smith, the Negro secretary of the National Maritime Union, was one of the most highly respected trade union leaders in the United States.

Captain Mulzac then got in his word for his crew of Norwegians, Danes, Spaniards, black Americans, white Americans, Swedes, Filipinos, Yugoslavs, Poles, West Indians, Hondurans and Irishmen. He repeated what he had said at the banquet in New York—that they were indeed like "one big, happy family."

FEB 22 1943

The men—and that included the all-white guncrew—when questioned by reporters, spoke of Captain Mulzac with affection and admiration. The consensus of the crew was that "the old man" not only knows his business with the wheel but that he is "like a father" to them all

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To Captain Mulzac

By LANGSTON HUGHES

Dangerous
Are the western waters now,
And all the waters of the world.
Somehow,
Again mankind has lost its way,
Down paths of death and darkness
Gone astray—
But there are those who still hold out
Both chart and compass
For a better way—
And there are those who fight
To guard our harbor entrance
To a brighter day.

47j

FEB 18 1943

FEB 18 19

There are those who, too, for so long
Could not call their house, **their** house,
Nor their land, **their** land—
Formerly the beaten, and the poor
Who did not own
The things they made—nor their own lives—
But stood, individual and alone,
Without power—
They have found their hour.
The clock is moving forward here—
But backward in the lands where fascist fear
Has taken hold,
And tyranny again is bold.

Yes, dangerous are the wide world's waters still,
Menaced by the will
Of those who would keep, or once more make
Slaves of men.
We have been slaves before.
We will **not** be again.
Alone, I know that no one is free.
But we have joined hands—
I, with you! You with me!
Together we have launched a ship
That sails these dangerous seas—
A sturdy ship, a solid ship—
But more than these,
Our symbol of new liberties.
We've put a captain on that ship's bridge there,
A man, spare, swarthy, strong, foursquare—
But more than these,
He, too, a symbol of new liberties.

FEB 18 1943

There is a crew of many races, too, many bloods-
Yet all of one blood still:
That is the blood of brotherhood,
Of courage, of good-will,
And deep determination geared to kill
The evil forces that would destroy
Our chart, and compass, and bell-buoy
That guide us to the harbor of the new world
We will to make—
The world where every ugly past mistake
Of hate and greed and race
Will have no place.
In union, you and I can be free.

More than ship then, Captain Mulzac,
Is the Booker T.
And more than Captain you
Who guide it on its way.
Your ship is mankind's deepest dream
Daring the sea—
Your ship is flagship
Of a newer day.

FEB 18 1943

Let the winds rise then
And the giant waves beat—
Your ship is Victory,
And not defeat.

Let the waves rise
And the winds blow free—
Your ship is Freedom,
Brotherhood, Democracy!

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
May 30, 1943

Marines Will Enlist 20,000 More Negroes

NEW RIVER, N. C., May 29 (INS)—Such an exceptional record has been achieved since the United States Marine Corps broke its 167-year traditions and began the enlistment of Negroes just a year ago June 1, the corps now plans to enroll 20,000 Negro Marines within the next year, it was revealed tonight.

47j

Along with this revelation, it was pointed out that one unit of Negro Marines has already been assigned to overseas duty and that there are approximately 2000

others now in training at New River—only training center and recruiting depot for Negroes in the country.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

As An Indian Sees It

JAN 23 1943

BY KUMAR GOSHAL

MULZAC'S CREW REPRESENTS UNITY NEEDED TO WIN WAR

IN THE year 1619 an historic ship came to the American colony—historic because of the cargo it carried. It did not carry ivory nor jade nor precious silks from far off Cathay. It did not bring finespun muslin from distant India nor pungent and savory spices from the legendary Indies. It brought no fabulous gold nor silver from Spanish America. It was an historic ship because it brought the first Negro slaves to America.

MR. GOSHAL

Last month, three hundred and twenty-three years later, another historic ship reached an East Coast port of the United States. This ship was not historic because of the cargo it carried. Its cargo was unknown to the public, as was the points of its voyage to and fro. It was an historic ship because of its captain and its crew. It was the good ship Booker T. Washington, its captain a Negro and its crew a mixed group of black, brown and white seamen.

JAN 23 1943

FOUGHT UPHILL BATTLE TO WIN

Captain Hugh Mulzac's life almost telescopes the struggle of the Negro people of America. Inch by inch, little by little, through bitter struggle and at tremendous sacrifice, the Negro people have gradually gained certain human rights, although they are far from securing all that legitimately belong to them. It has taken Captain Mulzac twenty-three years of persistence and struggle, disappointments and detours, to get the job for which he qualified in nineteen hundred and nineteen. But he made it.

HE MADE it, and we are all proud of it. And yet, the shameful waste of all these years of this valiant man's life! But it will not be a waste if this maiden voyage of his becomes historic in the sense that it inaugurates a new day.

And it should do so because the Booker T. Washington has proven conclusively that men of different colors can work together, eat together, play together, live together, and fight together harmoniously, if given half a chance and the right incentive.

JAN 23 1943

APPEASEMENT DOES NOT PAY

How ironic it was that on the very day that the CIO in New York was giving a dinner in honor of Captain Mulzac, War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt announced that he had indefinitely postponed the Fair Employment Practices Committee's investigation of discrimination against Negroes by the railroad industry! No, "ironic" is too mild a term to use for such action; it was thoroughly dangerous. And the danger is not alone in the fact that it infuriates the Negro people of America, but that it infuriates hundreds of millions of others in Asia and in Africa as well. If this policy is followed, then battles may be won, but the war will be lost.

THE conflict between democracy and fascism has been going on for some time now. Democracies have tried both appeasement and war, and we have accumulated enough experience to make a clear decision. Ethiopia, Manchuria, Spain, Munich, Japan, Vichy-France and North Africa have all proven that appeasement does not pay; on the contrary, it works like a boomerang. This theory applies to domestic policy as well. The increasingly violent oppression of the people of India, the renewed vigor of the reactionaries both in and out of Congress, all prove that appeasement does not pay at home either. Yet the vast majority of liberals here and in the British Empire, by word or by silence, are still appeasing the British government with regard to India. And Mr. McNutt now appeases the railroad magnates with regard to employment of Negro people.

INCREASE POWER OF REACTIONARIES

I will be told that the illustrations I have given are not appeasement but intelligent compromise. It is customary for appeasement to masquerade as compromise. But a little thought will show that in a compromise both sides gain a little and lose a little; and in an intelligent compromise, the intelligent one gains more than his adversary. In the case of India the action—or lack of action, if you please—of the liberals has only increased the arrogance of the British Tories; the Indians have gained nothing. Mr. McNutt's decision, similarly, will only increase the strength of the reactionaries; the Negro people gain nothing.

TO WIN speedy victory all liberals and progressives must give up appeasement, open or camouflaged, and take their stand in the ranks of the common man everywhere, now. This war has produced enough examples already to prove that the common man, irrespective of his color and his creed, is eager to fight fascism, if given half a chance and the right incentive. All honor to Captain Mulzac and the crew of the good ship Booker T. Washington for presenting the latest and one of the best examples of the kind of unity that alone can win this war.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Top Coast Guard Officers

FEB 8 1943

FEB 8 1943

Two of the ranking Negro officers at the Manhattan Beach Coast Guard Training Station are Coxswain Paul L. Perkins, drill commander of Company 24, and Boatswain and Warrant Officer Clarence Samuels, veteran of 22 years service in the Navy and Coast Guard. Warrant Officer Samuels is also a member of the Board of Education of Manhattan Beach Coast Guard Training Station and teaches practical seamanship and navigation.—(Official OWI Photo by Roger Smith)

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Lexington Hero Honored Here

Mess Attendant Elvin Bell, 20 years old, a Negro, of [illegible]-08 114th Avenue, South Ozone Park, Queens, one of the heroes of the sinking of the aircraft carrier Lexington on May 8, 1942, was honored yesterday at services at 4 P. M. at the Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church, 104-41 160th Street, Jamaica, Queens. Bell was decorated for his courage in going to the rescue of men trapped below decks.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Thousands View Launching of Liberty Ship SS Carver

MAY 15 1943

Sliding down the ways to the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner," amid the plaudits of thousands of Negro and white shipyard workers and civilians, the S.S. George Washington Carver, second Liberty Ship named for an outstanding Negro American, was launched Friday afternoon at the Richmond (Cal.) Shipyard No. 1 of the Kaiser Company.

MAY 15 1943

Launched just 26 days after its keel was laid, the 10,500-ton vessel was christened by Lena Horne, singer and motion picture actress, in a colorful ceremony.

Flanked by Mrs. Beatrice Turner, matron-of-honor and first Negro woman welder employed in the Richmond shipyards, and little Teresa Dellums, her flower girl, Miss Horne crashed the champagne bottle against the ship and uttered the traditional words, "I christen thee The George Washington Carver, as newsreel cameras and photographers' flash bulbs went into action.

MAY 15 1943

The launching followed a whirlwind tour through the shipyards by the movie actress during which she sold more than $25,000 worth of War Bonds. Two Negro shipyard workers, Mr. and Mrs. E. Kautzman, purchased a $2,500 bond and Local A-26, represented by its president, Richard [illegible], bought a $1,000 bond as Miss Horne and Percy Bost, a shipfitter and anchor man, made appeals in three of the four Kaiser yards.

MAY 15 1943

Time
Chicago, Illinois

One of the Best

MAY 3 1943

The full story of a great all-Negro gun crew of the U.S. Coast Guard was told for the first time last week on CBS' radio program *The Man Behind the Gun.*

The program re-enacted the Coast Guard cutter *Campbell's* 12-hour scrap with six U-boats in the North Atlantic. Of the *Campbell's* attack on the sixth submarine, the eyewitness account said:

"The searchlight bridge opens up now, and the wallowing hulk of the U-boat is clearly outlined in the glare. It shudders and rocks as the three-inch shells pour into it at the water line. Everybody on the cutter is yelling like a madman. Up forward you can see the Negro crew of number five gun, working like a machine, and grinning all the while. They throw the shells into the gun in a steady stream—the fastest gun crew on the cutter. And their lips move as they pour hot steel into the submarine. They're singing."

The account might have added that the gun crew, volunteers all and, according to U.S. Navy tradition, messmen, had emptied the entire contents of their "ready box" (32 shells) into the sub in one minute. Exclaimed a Coast Guard officer: "Those boys are one of the best gun crews you ever saw!"

MAY 3 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Name New Ship After Douglass

APR 22 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, April 21. — A Liberty Ship named in honor of Frederick Douglass, great Negro Abolitionist, will be launched here some time next month from the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards, it has been announced. The launching will take place only a short distance from where Douglass, born a slave on Maryland's eastern shore, worked as a ship caulker.

APR 22 194

An elaborate ceremony to accompanying the launching has been worked out, according to Tom Aydlett, Negro organizer for Fairfield and chairman of the arrangements committee.

This is the third Liberty Ship to be named after outstanding American Negroes, the other two being the Booker T. Washington, commanded by Capt. Hugh Mulzac, Negro, and the George Washington Carver.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

FORMER SLAVE HONORED

APR 1 194

WASHINGTON, April 13—(AP)— A Liberty ship to be launched at Baltimore next month will be named the Frederick Douglass for the one-time slave who became famous in the Civil War period as an orator and journalist. Two Liberty ships already have been named for Negroes—the Booker T. Washington and the George Washington Carver.

47j-1943

George W. Carver Launched In Colorful Ceremonies

"Pittsburgh Courier"
Pittsburgh Pa.

MAY 15 1943

RICHMOND, Calif., May 13—Sliding down the ways to the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner," amid the plaudits of thousands of Negro and white shipyard workers and civilians, the S.S. George Washington Carver, second Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, was launched Friday afternoon at Shipyard No. 1 of the Kaiser company

Launched just 26 days after its keel was laid, the 10,500-ton vessel was christened by Lena Horne, singer and motion picture actress, in a colorful ceremony.

MAY 15 1943

STAR SELLS BONDS ON TOUR

Flanked by Mrs. Beatrice Turner, matron-of-honor and first Negro woman welder employed in the Richmond shipyards, and little Teresa Dellums, her flower girl, Miss Horne crashed the champagne bottle against the ship and uttered the traditional words, "I christen the George Washington Carver," as newsreel cameras and photographers' flash bulbs went into action.

MAY 15 1943

The launching followed a whirlwind tour through the shipyards by the movie actress during which she sold more than $25,000 worth of War Bonds. Two Negro shipyard workers, Mr. and Mrs. E. Kautzman, purchased a $2,,500 bond and Local A-26, represented by its president, Richard Guilmenot, bought a $1,000 bond as Miss Horne and Percy Bost, a shipfitter and anchor man, made appeals in three of the four Kaiser yards.

The launching program was opened by M. G. Vanderwende, assistant manager of Yard No. 1, who started that "Today we are honored to witness the launching of another great Liberty Ship. We are also launching another blow for the cause of freedom and honoring a man whose whole life was dedicated unselfishly to this same cause."

1500 WITNESS CEREMONIES

MAY 15 1943

Vanderwende then introduced C. Laurence Dellums, West Coast representative of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and president of the United Negro Labor committee, which sponsored the launching. He served as chairman of the program. Following an invocation by Rev. H. T. S. Johnson, former pastor of Taylor Memorial church in Oakland, Vernon McCalla, shipfitter representative of the Kaiser workers declared:

"We are all laborers working together towards the completion of a tremendous job—the job of victory. The American Negro has made himself an integral part of the pattern of this great industry of shipbuilding. The dramatic rise of Negro labor in the Bay area has and always will receive nation-wide attention."

The celebration began earlier in the day when Miss Horne and her aunt, Mrs. Edwin King of Los Angeles, arrived from Los Angeles and were honored with a breakfast at the Athens club by the United Negro Labor committee. The whirlwind bond rally at the shipyards followed and the entire launching committee and guests were luncheon guests of the Kaiser company at Yard No. 2. More than 1,500 civilians joined the shipyard workers in witnessing the launching.

MAY 15 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NAVY STILL BARRED FOR NEGRO WOMEN

MAY 28 1943

Committee on Harlem Reports Failure to Win Enlistment in Waves or Spars

KNOX CITES IMPROVEMENT

But Says There Are Not Enough Negro Sailors in Active Service to Demand Replacements

MAY 28 1943

Correspondence between the Citizens Committee on Harlem and the Secretary of the Navy, showing the failure of the group to effect the entrance of Negro women into either the Waves or the Spars, was made public by the committee yesterday.

The exchange of letters began Feb. 19, when the group, interested in anti-racial discrimination steps, wrote to Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, asking for a statement of policy in view of the fact that the Hunter College campus, property of the city, was being used for training purposes, although no Negroes were taken in.

Secretary Knox's reply, after stressing the steps that had been taken to improve the status of Negroes in the Navy, said that the Waves and Spars were being recruited to replace men for active service, and that the Navy does not at present have "any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea."

MAY 28 1943

There followed a second letter of protest from the group, saying that "we fail to see why Negro women cannot enlist in the Women's Reserve to be trained for duty in the shore establishment to release male personnel for duty at sea, irrespective of whether the male personnel is Negro or white."

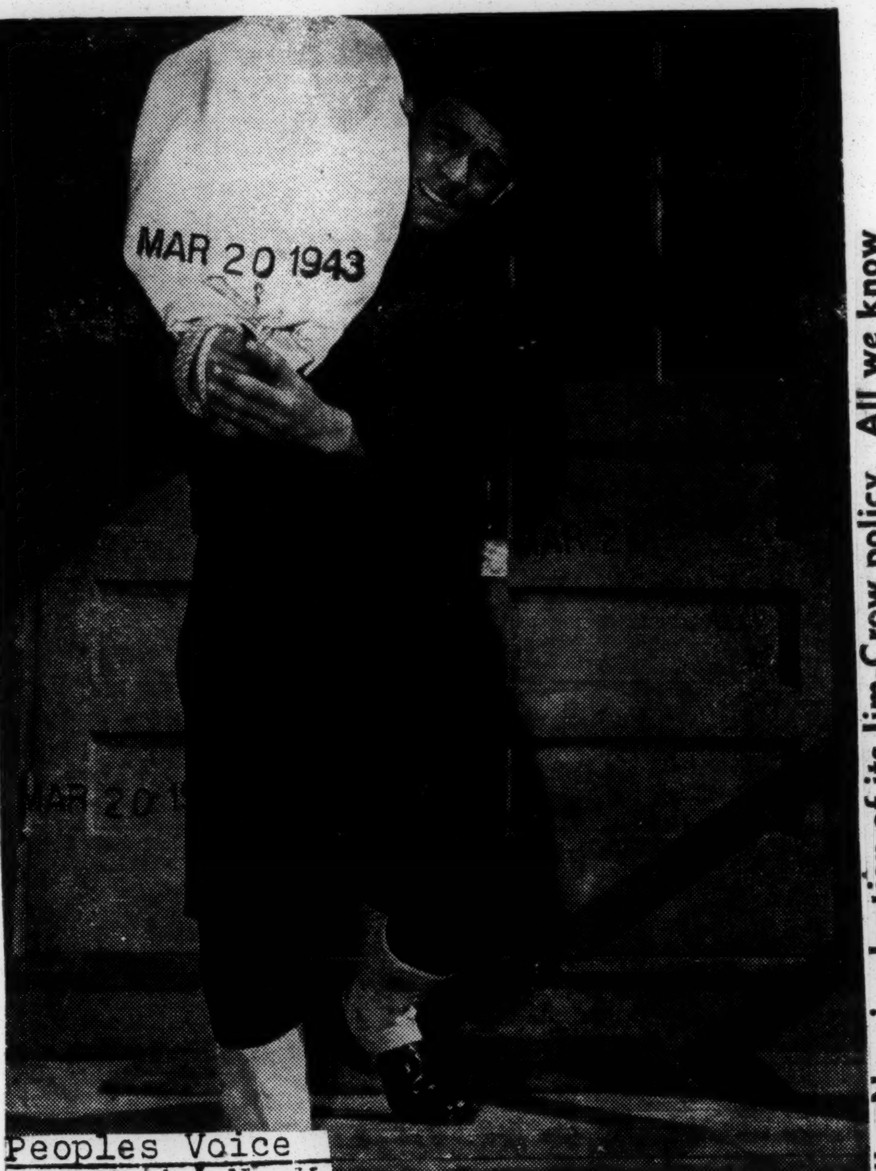
A final erply from the Navy Secretary took the position that "the changes which the Navy has effected in recognition of the Negro's steady progress have been wholly consistent with democratic principles" and "that all theoretically possible steps that are not taken at once cannot reasonably be condemned as undemocratic."

Secretary Knox, in his first letter, spoke of "experimentation" in connection with Negro Navy enlistments, and the group made public a batch of letters from Negro leaders and [illegible] protesting against the terminology.

MAY 28 1943

Meanwhile, a committee of the organization called on Governor Thomas E. Dewey in his suite at the Hotel Roosevelt yesterday afternoon to insure the continuance and expansion of the Committee on Discrimination in Employment of the State War Council, set up two years awo to combat racial discrimination in war industries.

The Governor told the group that the status of all of the citizens' committees working under the War Council was being re-examined by the council, and that he expected that an adequate appropriation would be given to the committee and its work generally revitalized.


MAR 20 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

FDR VALET NOW A GOB

His sea-bag on his shoulder, George Clinton Fields, former valet for President Roosevelt is shown walking from his barracks at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. Fields was drafted by his Washington selective service board Feb. 3 and chose the Navy.—OWI photo.

MAR 20 1943

A DEMOCRATIC CREW

Boston

MAY 8 1943

Those conservant with the preachments by Booker T. Washington would not ordinarily expect to find a democratic crew aboard the Liberty ship which bears his name. Fate has played honestly, however, to correct the evil disseminated by his racial doctrine that "we can be separate as the fingers but one as the hand." It was not democracy that he preached; it was not the kind of unity necessary to win the war or to spur progress toward the American ideal of liberty and justice for all. It was a doctrine that would segregate, lead to discrimination and bolster the notion of "white superiority." But it [illegible]tily pleased Southern bigots and northern reactionaries fell upon his neck in a spectacle of maudlin grati[illegible]

MAY 8 1943

There is no difficulty to run across colored sailors who have "sailed the seven seas" with their lighter brethren. But today Captain Mulzac's vessel affords the most conspicuous example of colored and white men working and living together aboard ship and getting along harmoniously. It belies the Navy's contention that mixing crews on naval vessels is impossible. Nobody yet has given any clear reason for the Navy's adoption of its Jim-Crow policy. All we know is that the anti-democratic practice was shackled upon the Navy and government departments in Washington after Southern politicians and poll taxers got the upper hand in Congress during the Wilson administration.

MAY 8 1943

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

Navy Induction to Be 15 Percent Negro in 1943

MAY 6 1943

Washington, D. C.—Increasingly greater numbers of Negroes are ntering the Navy through Selective Service procedures. It is expected that approximately 15 per cent of the men to be inducted this year will be members of the Negro race, the Navy department announced this week.

Of the thousands of Negroes who volunteered for service with the Navy before the President's executive order of December 5, 1942, banning voluntary enlistment of men between the ages of 18 and 37 years inclusive, most have completed their basic training and many have completed advanced training at the Navy's vocational schools. These graduates have been assigned to duty aboard ships and at shore establishments. Many have already advanced to such ratings as machinist's mates, shipfitters and gunner's mates.

Under the Navy's present plans, Negroes inducted are assigned to duty according to the needs of the service. Aptitude and the personal choice of the individual receive consideration. Following induction, as in the case of all inductees, they are given classification tests to determine the type of duty for which they are best fitted, and then assigned for training.

MAY 6 1943

Various Schools

Schools for the training of steward's mates gunner's mates, quartermasters, signalmen, electrician's mates, radiomen, shipfitters, machinist's mates, motor machinist's mates, aviation machinist's mates, metalsmiths, aviation metalsmiths, all construction battalion ratings, carpenter's mates, yeomen, storekeepers, cooks and bakers, and others are alcessful completion of their training men are assigned to ships and shore establishments of the Navy throughout the world. As they acquire skill and experience, they advance in rating and receive increased pay.

The majority of Negroes inducted into the Navy are assigned to the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois, for recruit training. Upon the completion of their basic training, some of the recruits are immediately assigned to duty at shore establishments or aboard defense and harbor craft. Others attend Class "A" service schools at Great Lakes or at the Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia for additional training before assignment.

MAY 6 1943

Personnel entering the steward's mates branch of the service receive four weeks' training at the Naval Training Station, Norfolk, Virginia. Upon completion of their training, they are assigned to ships and stations according to requirements.

Evergreen, Ala., Courant
March 4, 1943

Negroes Needed For Navy Duty At Pensacola

Approximately 800 Negroes who are between 17 and 18 and between 38 and 50 years of age are urgently needed for immediate service in the Navy at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., according to Chief Petty Officer M. H. Potter, who is in charge of the Navy Recruiting Station at Evergreen.

Many of them will receive as much as $66 a month and in addition free clothing, lodging, food and medical attention, the Recruiting Officer said. The lowest pay for any Negro who enlists for this duty will be $54 a month, he added.

Pointing out another advantage for those assigned to this duty, he said that they will likely have an opportunity to visit their homes ferquently.

Those who are interested should apply to Chief Petty Officer Potter, whose office is in the Jones & Deming Building at Evergreen.

Capt. Mulzac's Ship Sails 15,000 Miles in 4 Months--

APR 24 1943

The Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

The **Booker T. Washington**, recently commissioned ship whose master is Hugh N. Mulzac, Negro member of the National Maritime Union, has been seen lately at a North African port, news dispatches from London revealed yesterday.

The correspondent, who saw and interviewed Captain Mulzac, quoted him as saying that his ship had covered more than 15,000 sea miles in five months and had delivered four "really good cargoes" to the United Kingdom and to North Africa.

Captain Mulzac's home is at 536 Dean St., Brooklyn.

Commenting on the report, a National Maritime Union statement yesterday lauded Capt. Mulzac's seamanship and declared that union officials were "not surprised at the fact that Captain Mulzac and his crew have covered more than 15,000 miles, delivering cargoes for the United Nations.

The only thing that makes this ship different from all the other National Maritime Union ships on the high seas is the fact that Captain Mulzac is the only Negro skipper in our merchant marine," the statement said.

The union statement reaffirmed its contention that "not only Captain Mulzac but any member of any minority group who is qualified" should have the chance to do any job that will help win the war.

"We of course are proud of the fact that Mulzac and his crew, which consists of members of 18 different United Nations, despite great stress and strain, are sailing through submarine-infested waters, working and fighting together in peace and harmony for the good of the United Nations' fight against fascism," the statement concluded.

APR 24 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

They Wanted To Serve

Teen-Age Recruits 'Busted' In Navy

MAY 15 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 13—One under-age Negro bluejacket was back home today and another was on his way after having been found guilty of "stowing-away in the Navy" at the U. S. Naval Training station Great Lakes, Ill.

The boys, one of whom is 14 and the other 13, enlisted in the navy as 17-year-olds by forging their mothers' signatures on navy recruiting papers. The hoax was discovered at the U. S. Naval Training station when their mothers' wrote navy authorities discolsing the true ages of their sons.

PROMISES TO RETURN

Youngest of the two is Hudson Anderson, son of Mrs. Bruce Butler of 3A Harlem square, Greenville, S. C., will be 14 years old August 13. The other is Lionel Harold Brown, son of Mrs. Mayola Keller Brown of 247 Evergreen drive, Baton Rouge, La., will be 15 on December 14. Anderson left Camp Robert Smalls' training center for Negroes at Great Lakes, with the promise that he would return "as soon as I'm old enough." "Sailor" Brown echoed those sentiments.

MAY 15 1943

According to naval regulations, 17-year-olds can enlist in the navy only with written consent of their parents. Anderson, who was in the ninth grade at Sterling High school, Greenville, overcame that little difficulty by giving $5 to a friend to sign his mother's name to the consent papers and another $5 to a notary public who witnessed the signature.

MAY 15 1943

Brown took care of his enlistment papers without handing out any money. Securing the necessary papers from the Baton Rouge post office, he signed his mother's name, joined other recruits at New Orleans and reported with them to the training station. He left the ninth grade at McKinley High school, Baton Rouge, to become a bluejacket.

Both boys had completed recruit training and were in the outgoing unit when their fradulent enlistments were discovered. Lieut. Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, commanding officer of Camp Smalls, advised them, "Come back in a few years."

Columbia, S. C. Record
March 8, 1943

74 Negroes Join Navy In State

A total of 74 Negroes entered the Navy during February, according to figures released today by Chief John F. Potts, specialist Negro recruiter here. Nineteen of these men were 17-year-old volunteers, most of whom enlisted through the navy recruiting sub-stations at Rock Hill, Charleston and Columbia.

The remaining number entered the Navy through the channels of Selective Service and were accepted by the Navy officers stationed at the Joint Armed Forces Induction Stations at Fort Jackson and Camp Croft. Of this number, 27 were accepted as apprentice seamen and were sent to the United States Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois, for their 12-weeks basic training. Twenty-eight qualified as mess attendants and were sent to the training station at Norfolk for their indoctrination.

Peoples Voice

New York, N. Y.

Carver Liberty Ship Under Construction

APR 24 1943

The SS George Washington Carver, second Liberty ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, was under construction this week in a West Coast shipyard, following the laying of the keel of the 10,000-ton vessel on April 12 at Richmond, Calif.

APR 24 1943

Assigned the name of the world-famous scientist by the Maritime Commission a short time after Dr. Carver died at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., on January 5, 1943, the Liberty Ship will be the sixteenth vessel built in the Richmond Shipyard No. 1 of the Permanente Metals Corporation.

APR 24 1943

On March 31, the SS S. Hall Young, another Liberty Ship, was launched by Negro workers in Richmond Yard No. 2 after Miss Beulah Whittington, a Kaiser shipyard worker of three days' employment, was selected by lottery to christen the ship. Drawing the lucky number from a pool of 35,000 workers, Miss Whittington christened the ship while Mrs. Katie Lewis served as matron of honor.

The first Liberty Ship named for a Negro, the SS Booker T. Washington, is now in active service under a Negro master, Captain Hugh Mulzac, and the third ship, the SS Frederick Douglass, has been assigned for construction at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard in

Baltimore, Md APR 2 1943

47j-1943

FDR's Man In Navy Now

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FEB 25 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—(IND.)—President Roosevelt lost his Negro valet as a result of his tour last September through the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, it was disclosed today. George Clinton Fields, valet to the President for the past ten years, is now in training as an apprentice seaman at the Station. Fields, who got the idea when he accompanied Mr. Roosevelt on his visit to the Station, is pictured admiring himself in his new uniform.

Dewey Backs Demand For Fair Play From Navy On Officers' Training

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

JAN 30 1943

ALBANY, N. Y. — Governor Thomas E. Dewey is showing the forces of reaction in this state that his eloquent remarks about equality of rights for all citizens have been made in sincerity and by a fair-minded public official who intends to do something to correct them.

The former New York prosecutor who recently became the Empire State's first GOP Governor in two decades, served notice last week that the barring of Negroes from special training courses at colleges and universities in this State will not be tolerated.

Dewey's attacks on this vicious form of bias was prompted by a complaint filed with his office by Walter White of the NAACP. As a result of that complaint, the State War Council has formally protested to the United States Navy in the form of a resolution.

The Governor, in statements to the press, refused to name the type of courses or the colleges involved, but it was believed that the complaint referred to included the V class of courses which fit students in college for enlistment in the Naval Reserve and allow them to conclude their college careers. Under present Navy policy Negroes are not eligible for the officer corps, but may become non-commissioned officers. The Governor's refusal to comment extensively was explained in his statement that the report involved is a confidential one.

Resolution To The Navy

The War Council resolution referred to the Navy and made public by New York's Governor, said:

"Whereas, the War and Navy Departments of the United States have deemed it desirable to utilize the facilities of certain colleges and universities in the State of New York for the purpose of giving special training to men in the armed services, and

"Whereas, pursuant to the State Constitution and legislative enactments, it is the declared policy of this State that there shall be no discrimination or segregation because of race, color or creed in the public schools and colleges or other institutions serving the public, and

"Whereas, colored citizens are freely admitted as students to the universities and colleges of the State for the regular courses of instruction and are members of the student bodies of several of these universities, therefore be it

"Resolved that the State War Council of New York express to the War Department and to the Navy Department of the United States and to the War and Navy Committee of the War Manpower Commission its solemn conviction that any departure from recognized policy of the State of New York of equality of opportunity for all its citizens to enter the colleges and universities in this State, regardless of race, color or creed is inimical to the best interest of its citizenry and to their participation in the war effort."

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Cap'n Mulzac Does It Again

MAY 8 1943

NEW YORK — Capt. Hugh Mulzac, America's only colored sea captain, has done it again.

Captain Mulzac, skipper of the new Liberty ship, Booker T. Washington, brought his vessel into an Eastern port last week after a 15,000 mile voyage, "delivering the goods" to our troops and Allies in Britain and the Mediterranean.

Describing those incidents of the voyage which war-time regulations permit, Capt. Mulzac told reporters that he had visited 24 camps of American soldiers in North Africa, had been the guest of numerous American officers and had talked with hundreds of colored troops.

The colored boys he talked with, Capt. Mulzac reports, are healthy, working hard, preparing for combat and in a hurry to "get the job done."

"I think the people of England realize today that they are fighting a war for democracy and not for just a few individuals," said the Captain. "They are getting down to it. A change is definitely being made in England with the feeling that, after this war, democracy must rule."

The skipper described a visit to his ship by the Lord Mayor of one port and another by five Czechoslovakian generals.

He said that the British press welcomed the arrival of his ship with enthusiastic page one stories, and that they wer all, even the tory press, pressing for a Second Front in Europe now.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Captain was asked if he had some message to give the people.

"I am always glad to be back," said Capt. Mulzac. "Our people should not be disheartened because they have privations. We don't really see anything of the war itself. We don't really know what it is yet. We should do our best to back with every ounce of energy we have the people who are carying on the war at the fronts."

Seaman Tells of Ship Torpedoing

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

APR 24 1943

Swam Two Hours in Mediterranean; Only One Casualty

(Passed by Censor)

NEW YORK. — The Edward Rutledge, one of the transports which carried the invasion forces to North Africa was torpedoed off the coast of French Morocco after it had discharged its passengers.

Saved from the twice-torpedoed ship, Edward S. Stokes, steward's mate, first class, told how he swam in the Mediterranean for two hours, waiting to be picked up, in an interview, last Tuesday over Station WCAU, Philadelphia.

Although two thirds of the colored seamen could not swim, there was only one casualty.

Describes Experience

Orders to abandon the ship were given; the lights went out and life jackets were grabbed, Stokes explained.

"One boy jumped overboard, but when I looked down, it seemed an awful long ways for me to jump," the seaman said. "But they put a rope over the side and I went down it.

"But after I started, I found out that it only reached about six feet. So I had to jump anyway.

All Rafts Loaded

"When I hit water, I swam about 50 yards, when I heard one of the officers calling to me to wait. He hadn't been able to get his life jacket fastened, so I hauled him to the life raft, and then started looking for a life raft for myself.

"All other rafts were loaded so I swam for about two hours before I was picked up.

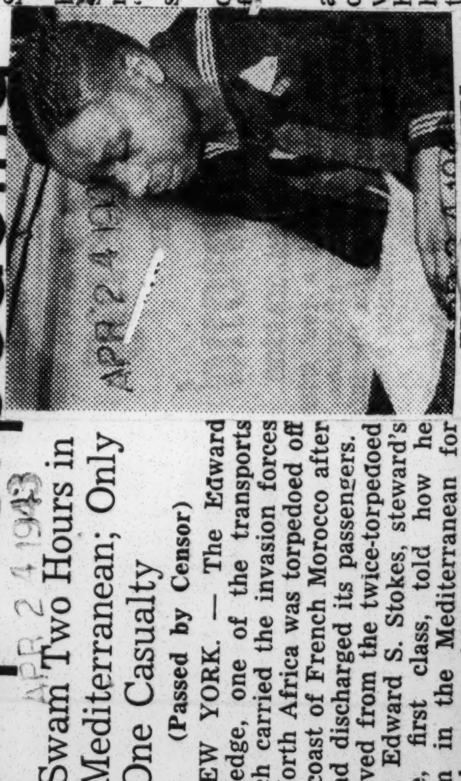
"Our first night ashore, we stayed in a school, and the second night, in a church. The only trouble was that a shell had gone through the roof of the church, and it rained in.

Germans Took Food

"The Germans had cleaned all of the food out of that part of Africa, and there was hardly anything in Casablanca to eat. We got our rations through the army.

"We stayed in Casablanca six days. We weren't supposed to go sightseeing, but we all got to look the town over before we left I've been home since November," he concluded.

A native of Grafton, Va., Seaman Stokes was working in the Navy Mine Department in New York before he went to sea a little over a year ago.



EDWARD S. STOKES

PRIDE AND THE ROSE

By JOHN McALILEY BOYD

How may I couch my remarks to
conceal what I dare not
disclose?
What can I say to uphold the re-
spect that's so dear to a man
And yet without shaming, uncover
the ordure which fosters the
rose?

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
April 27, 1943

PLANS INDUCTION BOOST

McNutt Says More Negroes to Be Drawn by Navy

Washington, April 26.—(AP): The navy, marine corps and coast guard are going to increase their inductions of negroes, war Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt told a press conference today.

He added that he had worked out a "schedule" which would guarantee that the proportion of negroes in the sea services eventually would be the same as their proportion of the national population—about ten per cent.

The army, McNutt said, has been inducting negroes at this rate "right along". He would not say when the sea services would begin taking negroes in higher proportion.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

WARSHIP TO HONOR NEGRO NAVAL HERO

MAY 24 1943

WASHINGTON, May 23—(AP)—Secretary Knox approved Friday the naming of a destroyer escort vessel for a Negro mess attendant who lost his life in the naval battle of Guadalcanal in mid-November.

MAY 24 1943

The first American warship named for a Negro, it will be designated the "U. S. S. Harmon."

The mess attendant, first class, was Leonard Roy Harmon, who was aboard the Cruiser San Francisco during the great sea battle. Harmon, 26, son of Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Texas, assisted throughout the engagement in caring for wounded men and removing them from battle stations to dressing stations aboard ship.

MAY 24 1943

He was killed, the Navy said, when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gun fire to protect a shipmate. The secretary has awarded him the Navy Cross posthumously.

Petition By 51 Coast Sailors Scores Defender Story But The Facts Are...

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

A big question mark this week surrounded the treatment of Negro sailors at Port Chicago, Calif., despite a lengthy petition signed by 51 colored enlisted men protesting to the Chicago Defender that "we are not jim crowed."

The petition attacked as "untrue" a recent Defender story in which a group of sailors at the West Coast navy base charged that Negro sailors were not given ratings, that there are desertions because of bad treatment, that there is no place for Sunday services, that hours of work and drill are very long, that no colored gobs are allowed to go to sea.

MAR 6 1943

In reply to these charges, Lt. Comm. C. W. Hutton, commanding the base, sent the petition signed by 51 sailors to the Defender with the comment:

"I am wondering whether your paper would be interested for a change in publishing facts instead of insinuations designed to promote racial animosity within the ranks of the armed forces of the U. S. For the information of all loyal and decent thinking citizens of this country, colored and white men have an equal chance for advancement at these barracks depending of course on the initiative and ability of each man concerned. These conditions will continue to exist as long as I am in command."

Two Other Letters

But along with the petition which makes a blanket denial of the Defender's charge, the mailman brought two other letters from Port Chicago from enlisted men who did not sign the petition.

One of the letters is signed by a seaman who says, "I may be court-martialed for telling this, but I feel that it is about time America showed some respect for the Negro people."

MAR 6 1943

This sailor (and the Defender is willing to turn the writer's name over to an impartial board of investigators if he is guaranteed protection from unwarranted prosecution) writes:

"They say that there is no discrimination in the navy. Well, it's a lie.

MAR 6 1943

"The boys here are willing in every way to help win the war. At least they were up until February 11 or 12, when the naval ship R.... pulled into port to be loaded. The first 24 hours went by pretty nice. The next 24 hours the ship's fire guards wore sticks while in the hold where we were working.

Fight Starts

"The next day one of the white fellows that was stationed on the ship threatened a few of the boys from our side with a gun. Then it started. The white sailor called the colored sailor a 'nigger.' With a hard right to the jaw from the colored sailor, down went the white sailor flat on the deck.

"Now this is what made us mad as the devil. The captain of the navy ship says that he don't want 'niggers' on his ship and to get the hell off. So we did and were not going back, but we thought about our colored brothers fighting over there, too, so we went back to work.

"Now the truth is here and must be told. The captain and officers of our camp here at Port Chicago, Calif., are some pretty swell men. They will stick up for us in every way they can. But they couldn't even reason with the captain of the R.....

"We have white shipmates stationed here with us and get along fine together. It is just some ships that have a green crew fresh from Great Lakes that cause the most serious trouble."

MAR 6 1943

Long Petition

The second letter from the Coast naval base is even more inflammable and could not very well be quoted by the Defender.

But both letters, in addition to the original letter published in the Defender which brought on the Port Chicago petition, agree that everything is not right at the Coast naval base as far as treatment of race sailors is concerned.

In the petition circulated on the official stationery of "Naval Enlisted Barracks, Naval Magazine, Port Chicago, Calif.," the 51 sailor signers maintain:

"1. We are not 'Jim Crowed.' We eat at the same mess hall as the white petty officers. Even the commissioned officers eat the same food as is served us.

MAR 6 1943

Cite Ratings

"2. We have the following ratings among colored personnel: five coxswains, four gunners mates third class, two painters third class, six ships cooks third class, two bakers third class, five firemen second class, and 10 firemen third class. There is a proportion of one seaman fire class to three seamen second class which we feel is pretty good inasmuch as a white seaman spends six months as seaman second class and 12 months as seaman first clas before being rated.

"3. As for men running away, there has only been one homesick deserter from this activity.

"4. Our working hours call for seven hours a day, on the days when we are not passing ammunition for the men out there that are doing the fighting. We never drill over five hours a day.

"5. That we have not drawn sea duty as yet can be explained by the fact that we are doing our share in the war effort and more here on land and we do assure you that our efforts and daily work here on shore is hitting the enemy below the belt, as well as if we were at sea.

Charges Not Denied

"6. That our station has no chapel or religious services on board but every man who does desire of his own free will to attend religious services in the community church in Port Chicago, Calif. One of our men has spoken to the congregation of the church here in Port Chicago, Calif., and was received royally."

It is not evident who circulated the petition—the barracks commandeer who sent it to the Defender, or the enlisted men.

But even in the petition, most of the Defender's charges are not denied.

MAR 6 1943

1. The Jim Crow charge is not answered, since it is still evident that the colored sailors are segregated in their barracks. It is stated that all eat in the same barracks but it is not made clear whether black and white are segregated as they are in the mess hall at the Tuskegee air base.

2. Most of the ratings received are not in combat classifications but rather in the traditional menial capacities—cooks, bakers, painters, firemen.

3. There has been desertion, it is admitted.

MAR 6 1943

4. Seven hours of work and five hours of drill make a long day when combined with hours of ammunition passing, which is a fancy name for stevedoring.

5. There has been no sea duty for Negroes, it is admitted. Land duty is important, but the navy still wins its battles at sea.

6. There is no place provided by the navy for church services, it is admitted. Negroes have to depend on civilians for religious observances.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
[illegible]

Ship Built Entirely By Negroes Launched

CHESTER, Pa., May 11.—(AP) The Marine Eagle, first ship built completely by Negroes, was launched Monday at the Sun Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company.

The Earle was built for the Maritime Commission in Sun's yard No. 4, manned entirely by Negroes. Rachel Stevenson, a Negress, employed by the firm for 22 years, was selected to Christen the ship and receive a $1,000 war bond, gift of the company.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

BIRMINGHAM NEGRO MAKES SHIP'S PIES

We have 11 Negro boys aboard, all in the stewards' department. They wait table in the officers' mess, and run the wardroom pantry that keeps hot coffee going 24 hours a day. They have a separate compartment of their own for quarters, but otherwise they live just as the white sailors do.

They are all quiet, nice boys and a credit to the ship. Three of them are exceedingly tall and three exceedingly short. They all have music in their souls. Sometimes I have to laugh—when the wardroom radio happens to be playing a hot tune during meals I've noticed them grinning to themselves and dancing ever so slightly as they go about their serving.

AUG 6 1943

I haven't room to give more than a couple of their names. One is George Edward Mallory, of Orange, Va. He is 32, and before the war worked as an unloader at a chain grocery store in Orange. He has been in the Navy for a year and has been operated on for appendicitis since coming to the Mediterranean. He got seasick once but it doesn't bother him any more. He is tall, quiet and serious. He had never waited tables before but he's an expert now.

Another one is Fred Moore, who is the littlest, meekest and blackest one on ship. Fred has a tiny mustache that you can't even see, and a perpetually startled look on his good-natured face. He is very quiet and shy.

AUG 6 1943

His home is at (1910 10th-av., s), Birmingham, Ala. He is just 21 and has been in the Navy only since March. He likes it fine, and thinks he may stay in after the war. Before joining up he did common labor at Army camps and fruit farms.

Fred has a gift. He is a wizard at baking delicate and beautiful pastries. He makes all the pastry desserts for the officers' mess. He had never done any cooking before joining the Navy, except to fry a few hamburgers at a short-order joint. He can't explain his knack for pastry-baking. It's just like somebody who can play the piano beautifully without ever taking lessons. The whole ship pays tribute to his little streak of genius.

Fred says he has never been seasick nor very homesick, but during some of our close shaves in action he says he sure was scared.

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
July 25, 1943

NAVY TO GET NEGROES

800 Will Be Assigned To Millington Air Station

Approximately 800 negroes will be assigned to the Naval Air Technical Training Center at Millington in midAugust, the Navy Department disclosed last night in Washington.

The Navy Department declined to give further information on the plans.

Public relation officers at the training center were not available for a statement.

47j-1943

"I CHRISTEN THEE..."

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

22 1943

MAY 22 1943

Mrs. Rachel Stevenson is snapped as she christens the "Marine Eagle," the first ship built by Negroes at the Sun Shipyards at Chester, Pa. Witnessing the ceremony are Albert Thomas, brother of the ship's sponsor, and John G. Pew, president of the shipyard.

Lower photo: The camera catches the actual splash of the champagne as Miss Lena Horne strikes the bow of the George Washington Carver in the christening ceremony last week in Richmond, Calif. — Upper photo by Lawson. Lower photo by E. F. Joseph.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MANY TAKEN SICK BY FOOD AT NAVY CAMP

Tainted Rations Blamed For Widespread Illness Among Recruits

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Food poisoning felled an undetermined number of naval trainees late last week, causing widespread alarm among Chicagoans having relatives and friends assigned to the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

AUG 7 1943

While only limited information was available, it was learned that a large number of youths, possibly several hundred, were stricken with stomach disorders as a result of something they ate for lunch and dinner on Friday.

A statement from Lt. R. B. McCurrie, public relations officer, offered the following explanation:

Camp Lawrence Affected

"In the afternoon and evening of July 30, there were a considerable number of cases of gastro-intestinal disturbances in one of the regiments at this station. The cause is under investigation but has not as yet been determined. Many of the patients have entirely recovered and have returned to normal duty. All others are doing well and it is expected they will return to their normal duties soon."

AUG 7 1943

Lt. McCurrie declined to give any further information. He stated he could not give an estimate of the number of men involved and refused to say what the menu was for that day. He did, however, admit that the regiment involved was that assigned to Camp Lawrence.

No trainees connected with Camp Moffett or Camp Robert Smalls were affected, Lt. McCurrie declared.

20,000 Negro Marines To Be Enrolled

Savannah, Ga. Tribune

New River, N. C., May 30—Such an exceptional record has been achieved since the United States Marine Corps broke its 167 year traditions and began enlistment of Negroes just a year ago June 1, the corps now plans to enroll 20,000 Negro marines within the next year, it was revealed last night.

JUN 3 1943

Along with this revelation, it was pointed out that one unit of Negro marines has already been assigned to overseas duty and that there are approximately 2,000 others now in training at New River--only training center and recruiting depot for Negroes in the country.

Under the rapidly-expanding program, camp facilities at New River will be doubled by July 1.

There are four different Negro camps on the mammoth reservation of Camp Lejeune—Montford Point Camp No. 1; Montford Point Camp No. 2; a canvas camp and a barracks camp at the rifle range. A fifth camp is at present rising miraculously under fast construction. It will be larger than the first four combined.

JUN 3 1943

A new administration building, another theatre, and infirmary, a hostess house and four school buildings will be erected at Montford Point Camp No. 1, it was stated. The school structure will be for seven schools—electrical, first sergeants, quartermaster, engineers, signal corps, motor transport and fire control.

(471)

The Negro marines, just as the whites, first have to complete basic training as "boots" before receiving special instructions in manning outposts in various offensive actions. All are taught the use of seven weapons of war.

Some of the first recruits have advanced to the grade of sergeants. As a result of their aptitudes and capacities for leadership demonstrated at New River, it is officially reported that members of the original Negro volunteer group eventually will dierct the entire training program for Negro marines.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Mixed Crew of S.S. Douglass to 'Lick Axis'

List 12 Marylanders Among 34 Men Under Capt. Richardson

By MAX JOHNSON

BALTIMORE — The S. S. Frederick Douglass, new 10,500-ton liberty ship launched here two weeks ago, has a mixed crew of thirty-four under the command of Capt. Adrian Richardson, all of whom are out to "lick the Axis."

Crew members, including 12 Marylanders and natives of Brazil, Norway and the Virgin Islands, were interviewed at a local port prior to embarking on the high seas.

JUN 19 1943

The ship was launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards here on May 29 and [illegible] the third to be named for colored Americans.

Previously, the S. S. Booker T. Washington and the S.S. George W. Carver were launched from shipyards on the West Coast.

Crew Proud of Ship

Ships are just ships to some seamen, but how this crew seemed to feel about the Douglass with all its modern conveniences was perhaps best expressed by Third Mate John B. Clark of New York City who told the AFRO:

"She sure is a fine ship. I only hope we can keep her this way a long time."

Ensign Clark, 31, is a graduate of the Maritime School in New London, Conn., and a seaman of several years' experience.

JUN 19 1943

Captain Richardson's first and second mates are Kristrin T. Kristiansen, a Norwegian, and Benjamin O. Smith, white.

The ship's deck and engine departments are manned by a mixed crew, but its radio, purser and steward departments are all colored. The U.S. Navy gun crew is all white.

Radio Man Baltimorean

Radio operator is 21-year-old Reginald Brandon whose aunt, Mrs. A. C. Langley, lives at 1421 Druid Hill Avenue.

JUN 19 1943

William A. M. Barker, 24, of Louisville, Ky., who has been sailing about six years and has been to all major ports on the globe, is the ship's purser.

Ship carpenter is William H. Simmons, 22, known as "Chips" by his mates, who hails from South Carolina and holds a chief's rating although he has been sailing only nine months.

Bos'n's mate is Hans Rising, 37, of 104 N. Bond Street.

Rising and Alvano Ortiz, 35, able-bodied seaman of 1516 E. Lombard Street, are two among the ship's crew who have survived U-boat attacks during a previous sea voyage last July. Both were on the same ship and spent several days on a raft before being rescued.

Gives Up War Job to Sail

Jerome Davis, of 1001 Bennett Place, another veteran seaman, gave up a welding job at Bartlett-Hayward's war plant here to sail under Captain Richardson. Davis, listed as an able-bodied seaman, revealed that he expected the rating of boatswain on the Douglass soon.

Proud father among the crew is Claude McClean of 102 Convent Avenue, NYC, whose son, Claude, Jr., 18, has just enlisted in the army and is stationed at Camp Lockett, Calif.

JUN 19 1943

Claude, Jr., he said, is following the right procedure by joining the army to perhaps toughen himself up for merchant marine service. The latter service, he said, is no spot for a softie.

Other Baltimoreans on the ship are:

Willie M. Johnson of 1512 Pressman Street, Wayland Harding of 1824 Madison Avenue, Vernon Forrest of 814 N. Gay Street, Leslie Logan of 1329 N. Caroline Street, all messmen;

James Gregory of 31 S. Bond Street, Adam Van Landingham of 1101 Harlem Avenue and Charles E. Dean of 420 N. Bond Street, are wiper, chief steward and third cook, respectively. Clarence Neal, of Henryton, Md., is a wiper.

Other Crew Members

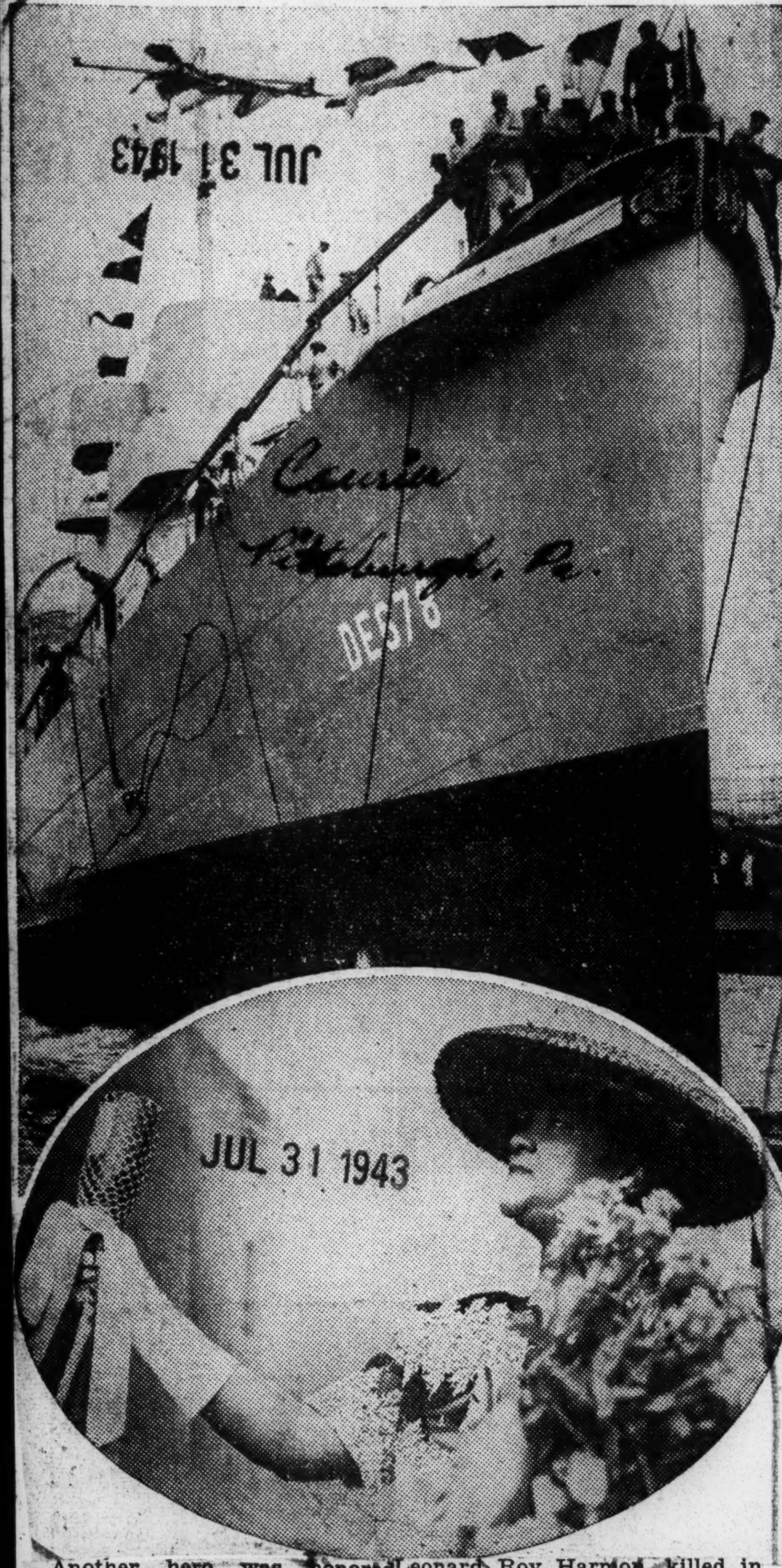
Other crew members are: Charles Richardson of NYC, chief cook; Melvin Briggs of NYC, second cook; Nollie Davis, white, chief engineer; William H. Thompson of Colorado, deck engineer;

JUN 19 1943

Langston Hardaway of Texas and Cecil Usher of South Carolina, oilers; Emmett E. Harris of NYC, fireman; Amaro Coeho of Brazil, wiper;

Alexander F. Sennett of Louisiana, Curtis Bryant of NYC and Floyd Beavers of Georgia, able-bodied seamen; William Jones, John Rector and William Rice, all ordinary seamen of NYC; James H. Gorham of North Carolina and Thomas E. Fountain of Washington, messmen.

ANOTHER "FIRST" RECORDED AS USS HARMON SLIDES DOWN THE WAYS



JUL 31 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 31 1943

Another hero was honored last week, when the USS Harmon, destroyer escort, was christened at the quaint old seaport of Quincy, Mass., Sunday. A whistle blew, shouts were heard, champagne was splattered and the ship was launched.

This ship bore the name of Leonard Roy Harmon, killed in action off Guadalcanal. Selected to do the christening was the dead hero's mother, Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll.

Top photo: the USS Hamon slides down the ways. In the oval, Mrs. Carroll is shown breaking the bottle of champagne upon the bow. This marks the first time in history the U.S. Navy has posthumously honored a Negro in this manner.—Rowe photos.

JUL 31 1943

Hero Ship, Harmon, Is Launched

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By JAMES EDMOUND BOYACK

QUINCY, Mass., July 29—One hundred and sixty-seven years ago, only eight miles from this quaint old seaport, Crispus Attucks, first hero of the War for Independence, laid down his life that America might be free. His monument on Boston Commons is a symbol of liberty.

JUL 31 1943

Today, we are again at war . . . a global war for the freedom of all men.

And here Sunday, another colored hero made the headlines of history. When the first United States warship to honor a Negro was launched at the the Fore River shipyard of the Bethlehem Steel company.

GUADALCANAL HERO

He is Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, U.S.N., who laid down his life for his country and became the hero of the battle of Guadalcanal. November 12 and 13, 1942.

The "U.S.S. Harmon" too, is a symbol of liberty, which will ever remind all men that Negroes today, as 167 years ago, are a race of fighting men who still treasure liberty above life itself.

Precisely at 6:20 p. m. E.W.T. Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Texas, broke a beribboned bottle of champagne across the bow of the destroyer escort named for her fighting son. Whistles from ships in the harbor bellowed hearty Godspeed to the newest addition to the United States Navy. A record crowd of 2,000 visitors and Bethlehem's workers cheered the historic occasion and the 1,300-ton destroyer escort slid majestically down the ways, her flags waving greetings to the offshore breeze.

JUL 31 1943

NOTABLES ON HAND

Present at the ceremonies were Mrs. Carroll's husband, William Carroll, principal of the Willkin's school, Port Levaca, Tex.; Miss Pauline M. Harmon, 24, the boy's sister, who is a war worker at Kelly Field, Tex., and Mrs. Constance Edwards, another sister.

Representing the United States Navy were Rear Admiral Harold Travis Smith, supervisor of shipbuilding; Comm. Claude L. Turner, Lt. Comm. J. B. Varney, Lt. Comm. E. O. Peterson, and many other officers representing the First Naval district, Boston, Mass.

Practically the entire executive personnel of the Bethlehem Steel company was on hand with their wives in colorful dresses, to welcome Mrs. Harmon's party and to participate in the ceremonies.

NEWSREEL CAMERAS

As newsreel cameras purred and flashlight bulbs lit up the festive scene, E. C. Geehr, assistant to the general manager, coached the honored Texas lady in the traditional ship launching ceremony.

JUL 31 1943

Suddenly a whistle blew, a foreman down forehead shouted, and pandemonium broke loose as Mrs. Carroll, with a swift stroke of the champagne bottle, sent the gallant ship on its way up to a glorious career in the United States Navy, uttering the timeworn words: "I Christen Thee U.S.S. Harmon," and turning away with tears in her eyes.

WEARS SON'S NAVY CROSS

Mrs. Harmon wore a stunning black and white two-piece dress of semi-sheer material, with a matching hat and white shoes. On her left breast she proudly wore the Navy Cross, which was presented posthumously to the gallant Negro messman hero.

JUL 31 1943

Bethlehem company officials noted on the flag-bedecked dais included John E. Burkhardt, manager of engineering of the shipbuilding division; E. R. inclair, purchasing agent; John T. Weisman, general superintendent; James K. Launders, superintendent of outfitting; Henry P. Hazard, superintendent of hull construction; William H. Collins, general manager; S. W. Wakeman, general superintendent of the Bethlehem-Hinghan Shipyard, Inc.; H. V. Bisbee, assistant to the general manager; H. R. Pund, assistant to the general manager, and many department heads and their wives.

GUESTS OF BOTH RACES

Mr. Collins was seen giving personal attention to his many guests of both races.

Also active during the ceremonies was Frank Leahy, the company's genial director of public relations, who rendered invaluable assistance to the small army of reporters and photographers during the entire proceedings.

Among local colored guests noted were Mr. and Mrs. Allen E. Sasser, his wife and daughter. Mr. Sasser is the Boston district instructor for the Pullman company, and attended the ceremonies representing W. S. Murray, district superintendent. Attorney Ray Guild, of Cambridge, Mass., was also among those present.

TOUCHING SCENE

As a bevy of chugging tugboats took the "U.S.S. Harmon" in charge, a touching scene was enacted on the high dais. An official produced a ribbon-tied box in which was a magnificent Paul Revere silver bowl, suitably inscribed on the side. Mr. Geehr spoke as a hush fell on the thrilled crowd.

"On behalf of the Bethlehem Steel company, the workers of both races, who worked day and night that this fighting ship might be finished on schedule to go forth to battle, and on behalf of all the men and women in this shipyard, I want you to accept this gift," he said, "as a memento of this great occasion."

JUL 31 1943

NOVEL SOUVENIR

Mrs. Harmon, almost overcome, whispered her thanks, she also received the fragments of the bottle of champagne which she broke. It was placed in a suitable mahogany box, still in its cord net protective covering.

The number of the historic ship it launched is "De 678."

Len Harmon was only 26 when he fought the Battle of Guadalcanal, on the "U.S.S. San Francisco." The text of the citation which elevated him to an honored place in American Naval history follows:

"For extraordinary heroism while serving aboard the 'U.S.S. San Francisco' during action against enemy Japanese forces in the Solomon Islands area on November 12 and 13, 1942.

"With persistent disregard for his own personal safety, rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and in evacuating them to a dressing station.

"In addition to displaying unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured executive officer, he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire in order to protect a shipmate and, as a result of this courageous deed, was killed in action.

"His heroic spirit of self sacrifice, maintained above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval service. He gallantly gave up his life in the defense of his country."

At night on the broad Atlantic or Pacific, in the ward room as well as the mess room, old timers will tell future Navy sailors of the Negro boy at Guadalcanal way back in 1942, who set an example for every sailor in fearless devotion to duty when battle against our country's enemies, raged.

JUL 31 1943

For, today, Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, U.S.N., became a symbol of that irresistible courage—in the face of death—which made our country great.

Globe and Independent
Nashville. Tenn.

Ship Named For John Merricks Business Genius

JUL 9 1943

John Merrick, a Negro, was born in slavery in Sampson County. North Carolina, September 7, 1859 When only twelve years old, he went to work in a Chapel Hill, North Carolina, brickyard. He had no opportunity to go to school, because the support of his mother, brother and himself was his responsibility, but he somehow learned to read, write, and "figure" a little.

JUL 9 1943

What might be regarded as his particular monument is the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company which he organized in 1898 as the North Carolina Mutual and Provident Association. On the 20th day of October in that year, this organization was formed for the purpose of providing sick and death benefits for its members; and John Merrick was elected its president. During the first year's operation, five of the organizers became discouraged and withdrew; whereupon the company was reorganized and John Merrick was elected president of the reorganized company. (He remained president until his death in 1919.)

With no capital, no training, and no experience, the company began doing business. Its "home office" was space in the office of the company's treasurer, Dr. A. M. Moore, rented for $2.00 a month. A home-made desk and a few chairs were its total equipment.

JUL 9 1943

The North Carolina Mutual's forty-four years' history is a long story—one of near-failure, discouragement, doubts, and fears in its early days. At the end of the first year's operation, its income was -393.95 and its assets $350.00.

Time marched on; and from such an humble beginning, the company founded by John Merrick was not only advanced to a position where it stands 28th among the first fifty life insurance companies of the nation from the standpoint of insurance in force and first in the accumulation of assets among Negro-managed companies, but it has lighted up the business horizon for Negroes in all avenues of business.

47j-1943

MAKING PLACES FOR THEMSELVES IN THE SERVICES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 10 1943

Outstanding in scholastic activities and with excellent backgrounds, many Negro youths are fast proving themselves capable of taking over responsibilities which have heretofore been denied them in the armed services.

Above are pictured two such Americans.

Left, Bernard Whitfield Robinson, third year student at Harvard University Medical School, first race youth to be commissioned in the Naval Reserve. Mr. Robinson holds the rank of Ensign and will be called to active duty when he graduates in 1944.

At the right is Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins, the first active commissioned officer in the United States Coast Guard or United States Navy. He is a University of Michigan graduate.

GETS PHARMACIST'S RATING

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.
July 19, 1943

Photo shows James Lewis Perry of New York City, typing out a medical report aboard the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter "Spencer." Although a mess attendant, Perry was "striking" for a rating of Pharmacist Mate, and so excellent was his work in aiding the wounded that the captain of his ship made him a Pharmacist Mate 3 c on the spot. Perry was a medical student in civilian life.

JUN 5 1943

Peoples Voice, New York City

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Nearlyy 10,000 persons jamming the street in front of the Harlem Recreation Center Sunday afternoon saw democracy in action when of which are white, perticipated in the program. Directed by former the quartet from the Coast Guard of Manhattan Beach, two members James Lewis and Martin Boughan. The group's accompanist is Frank Southernaire Homer Smith, pictured l to r are Smith, Thomas Lockard, Boyyle. Coast Guardsman Smith also directs a chorus of 40 voices, only 3 of whom are Negro, at Manhattan Beach. Cecil Layne Photo.

JUN 5 1943

47

Citizens Are Asked To Protest Planned WAVES Segregation

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Aug. 5

JUL 31 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29—Since the Alpha Kappa Alpha legislative representative, Thomasina Johnson, learned through reliable sources on July 10 that the plan to admit colored women to the auxiliaries of the Navy as WAVES had been approved, but that the announcement of it had been withheld until they could find a school at which Negro women could be trained, and further, that the plan did not provide for Negro women officers, the National Non-Partisan Council of A.K.A. has issued a bulletin asking that every colored citizen in the United States take certain steps to change the situation.

The A.K.A.'s have taken the following position:

1. We want Negro women admitted to the auxiliaries of the Navy on the same basis as other women—in training, work, chance for advancement. (At present all American women citizens are permitted in these services except Negroes.)

2. We are tired of "steps in the right direction." We want simply to have what every other American woman citizen has already.

3. We want no compromises!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

With the help and co-operation of every man and woman, there is a chance to gain the first victory on the home front. First, Negro colleges should not ask for segregated units of WAVES to be trained at their school.

Secondly, it is necessary to get thousands of telegrams and letters to President Roosevelt and Secretary Knox saying simply that you are opposed to any plan that is different in any way to that now in effect for any other American woman citizen.

Thirdly, ask everyone you know to send a letter or a telegram.

Fourth, your congressmen and senators are now at home. Call them up and ask them to write or telegraph Secretary Knox, voicing his protest.

WE MUST NOT LOSE THIS

BATTLE FOR DEMOCRACY

FREIGHTER NAMED FOR NOTED NEGRO

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
August 26, 1943

Liberty Ship To Bear Name of Robert L. Vann, Native of Hertford County

Ahoskie, Aug. 25. — A United States Liberty ship, which will be launched from the yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation in South Portland, Me., either in late September or early October, will bear the name "The Robert L. Vann," in honor of a Hertford County Negro who was born near Ahoskie and lived the first 16 years of his life in the county.

A driving force in the Negro community life of Pittsburgh, where he established after securing his law degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1909, Vann became owner and editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, America's largest weekly publication with a circulation of 127,010, and served as special assistant to the Attorney General of the United States from 1933 to 1936 when he gave up law practice to devote his full time to the editorship of his paper.

Vann received his early schooling from the Water Training School, now the C. S. Brown High School, in Winton and then went to Richmond, Va., where he was graduated in 1903. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1906.

Vann was born on what is known as the "Old Dr. Mitchell farm" just outside of Ahoskie.

Although Vann was born just outside Ahoskie, he was taken to Harrellsville, also in Hertford County, as a very young boy, where his mother for awhile was a domestic in the employ of the late Mr. and Mrs. John O. Askew.

Of them he once said in part, "The Askew estate is still hallowed ground to me and Mrs. Molly Askew is still the finest specimen of womanhood I ever knew. It was she who shaped my early education and I attribute to her whatever foundation was laid for me when I was unable to choose my own course of conduct."

"From a painfully obscure beginning, its darkness blacker by long hours of hard work and unhappy childhood, Robert Lee Vann rose to the heights in prestige and importance . . . and his death marks the retirement of a valuable champion of the Negro race," said the Hertford County Herald in October, 1940, at the time of his death.

Awaiting Call To Duty

Age
New York, N. Y.

REGINALD BRANDON, 21, of Washington, D. C., who recently completed the 8-months course in radio operation and maintenance at Gallup's Island (Mass.) Radio Training School of the Maritime Commission. He is the first Negro graduate of this school and is living with his aunt, Mrs. L. J. Williams, of 1241 [illegible] street, N. E., Washington, D. C., while awaiting call to active duty. Upon assignment, he will have the rank of an ensign.

JUN 1943

His Music Builds Morale Of Leathernecks

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C.—(SNS)—Private first class Walker [illegible], [illegible] organist of the Christian Church in Raleigh and a demonstrator for the Hammond Organ Company, who is now the post organist for the Marine base here. In addition to being organist for the Montford Point chapel, he is also organist for several of the chapels where white enlistees worship. — (OWI Photo by Roger Smith.)

JUN 12 1943

SEGREGATED WAVES

New York Age New York, N. Y.

THE NATIONAL Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has issued an urgent appeal to the public to join in its new fight against the Navy's plan for admitting Negro girls to the WAVES on a segregated basis. The sorority has been campaigning for almost a year to secure the admission of Negro women to the navy auxiliary services.

About six weeks ago it was learned that Navy officials had finally approved a plan whereby Negroes could enlist in the WAVES. But, like every other action taken by the navy in reagard to Negroes, the plan provided for the rigid segregation which has so long been a navy tradition in this country.

It is reported, in fact, that announcement of the plan has been withheld only because as yet no school had been found at which the Negro WAVES could be trained.

The absurdity of the navy department's alleged thinking in insisting on separation of the races even though it is to be presumed that the training courses are to be the same hardly needs new comment here. Adequate comment, which will apply quite effectively, has been made in regard to the navy's "walking on eggs" attitude about elevating Negro men above the messman rank.

But we feel we can't be too emphatic in urging every one of our readers to jump wholeheartedly into the AKA campaign aimed at stopping the plan before steps are taken to put into action.

Send a letter, telegram, or card immediately to President Roosevelt and Navy Secretary Frank Knox, stating your emphatic opposition to any plan for a Jim Crow section of the WAVES. Get all your friends to do the same. Get in touch with your Senators and your Congressmen (they're back home now, Congress has adjourned until September 14) and let them know in no uncertain terms that you're sick and tired of mealy-mouthed compromise with race hatred and that you want them to join in your protest to Secretary Knox and FDR.

We're fighting for democracy now, we are told. Let's make it a real all-out fight.

JUL 31 1943

Mother of Naval Hero Sponsors U.S.N. Destroyer

A new record in destroyer escort production was established this week when the USS Harmon was delivered to the Navy by the Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy, Mass., only 92 days after the vessel's keel was laid.

The USS Harmon is named in honor of the late Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, U.S.N., who posthumously was awarded the Navy Cross for "extraordinary heroism" while serving aboard the USS San Francisco. He lost his life in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal. This action was fought November 12 and 13, 1942.

The Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company broke its own record for destroyer escort construction in delivering the USS Harmon. On August 15, 1943, this yard completed a destroyer escort in 115 days.

The keel of the USS Harmon was laid May 31, 1943. Harmon's mother, Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll, Cuero, Texas, sponsored the vessel at the time of its launching July 25.

Harmon, who was 26, was killed when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire to protect a shipmate. Throughout the engagement, with persistent disregard for his own personal safety, he had rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to dressing stations aboard his ship.

471-1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Stricken Removed Sick On Carrier

Feb. 13, 1943

WASHINGTON—A 20-year-old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier U. S. S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored from the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Mari Lofton, at 139-08 114th Avenue, Jamaica, N. Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant ,third class, to mess attendant, second class.

Bell, who attended Jamaica High School for one and a half years and later served in the Civilian Conservation Corps, applied for enlistment in the Navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

Feb. 13, 1943

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U.S.S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral Sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

Eyewitness Account

An eyewitness account of such a rescue was cabled to this country by Stanley Johnston, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, soon after the loss of the U.S.S. Lexington was announced. Johnson's account declared:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: 'There are three men in frame So-and-So— That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the firse and through passage X.'

"A young colored mass attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly said: 'I'll go, Sir.'

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2-13-43

" 'Sure you know how to reach them?' the Commander asked.

I Know The Way

" 'Yes, Sir. I know the way.'

" 'Do you realize that you might never make it, might never come back?'

" 'Yes, Sir. I do. But I would like to try just the same.'

"Right then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you.'

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more he brought the three men with him."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

FIRST WARSHIP IS NAMED FOR NEGRO

BOSTON, July 21—(AP)—The first United States warship named in honor of a Negro, the destroyer escort Harmon, will be launched next Sunday, July 25, at the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Quincy.

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox assigned the name to honor the late Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, USN, who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism" while serving aboard the U. S. S. San Francisco.

Harmon was 26 years old and the son of Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll, of Cuero, Tex., who will sponsor the new vessel. He was killed in action against Japanese forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal, Nov. 12 and 13. 1942.

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JUL 22 1943

Negroes Will Take Part In Ship Launching Today

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
July 11, 1943

Merrick, Born in Slavery and Reared in Poverty, Became Financier

By JANE HALL.

John Merrick—born in slavery and reared in poverty—will be honored when the first North Carolina-built Liberty ship to be named for a Negro, "The John Merrick", is launched at Wilmington this afternoon.

Merrick was a founder of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in Durham, now the world's largest business run by and for Negroes.

Governor Broughton will speak at the launching, which will be held at 5 o'clock. C. C. Spaulding of Durham, president of the N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company and one of its founders, will introduce the Governor. Sponsor of the ship is Merrick's youngest child, Mrs. Martha Merrick Donnell of Durham. The matrons of honor will be two of Merrick's grandchildren.

IN MERRICK.

The late Dr. A. M. Moore, who was treasurer of the company, joined with Merrick and Spaulding in founding the company.

Once the Mutual Life Insurance Company was organized and started on its career, the restless genius of Merrick and his associates drove him to organizing other companies as the need arose.

Companies that grew out of the Mutual Life Insurance Company are the Bankers' Fire Insurance Company, the only one of its kind in the world operated by American Negroes; the Mechanics and Farmers Bank; the Mutual Building and Loan Association; and the Southern Fidelity Bonding Company, the only bonding company in the world operated by Negroes.

Other businesses touched and aided by Merrick's extraordinary organizing ability are the Royal Knights of King David, a fraternal order; the Bull City Drug Company; the Merrick-Moore-Spaulding Real Estate Company, and the Durham Textile Mill.

Native of Sampson.

Merrick was born in Sampson County in slavery on September 7, 1859. When he was 12 years old, he went to work in the Chapel Hill brickyard and worked there for six years.

Somehow or other he picked up a little reading, writing, and figuring—and this was a feat of some magnitude, for the boy was so busy trying to support his mother and brother that he had little time to take advantage of the scant opportunities the times afforded.

Worked in Raleigh.

At the end of his employment in Chapel Hill, Merrick loaded the family belongings on a steer cart and moved the family to Raleigh. Shaw University was under construction then, and he obtained employment as a hod-carrier and brick mason. Later he worked as a bootblack in a barber shop and managed to pick up the technique of barbering.

To Durham.

A fellow barber decided to open a shop in Durham and offered Merrick the opportunity to go with him; so, in 1880 Merrick left Raleigh and moved to Durham. He made his home in Durham until his death in 1919.

The barber shop in Durham prospered and in six months Merrick bought a half interest in the five-chair shop. A short while later he became sole owner of the shop, and he finally expanded the business into a five-shop chain. About this time, Merrick made his first venture in real estate—the purchase of a three-room house.

As a barber shop proprietor, Merrick became the friend of the Duke, Watts, Carr, and Fuller families of Durham. To Washington Duke, founder of the Duke fortune, he owed much for "Wash" Duke gave him and his associates sound advice and help during the infancy of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Merrick organized the N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company on October 20, 1898. The company first bore the name of the N. C. Mutual and Provident Association. The organization was formed for the purpose of providing sick and death benefits, and Merrick was elected president.

During the first year of operation, five of the organizers became discouraged and withdrew, and the company was reorganized under its present name, and Merrick was elected president of this company also. He remained president until his death.

The company began doing business with no capital, no training, and no experience. Income from the first year's operation amounted to $393.95, and assets totaled $350.

Growth.

In the 45 years of its existence, the company has grown from humble beginnings to an institution that now stands 28th among the first 50 life insurance companies in America from the standpoint of insurance in force, and first in accumulation of assets among Negro-managed companies.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Warship Named For Navy Hero

MAY 29 1943

WASHINGTON. — For the first time in the history of the United States, a warship will be named for a Negro.

Secretary Frank Knox, on Monday, gave official sanction to assignment of the name "U. S. S. Harmon, to a destroyer-escort vessel, one of the newest types of battleships designed especially to combat submarine warfare. The colored sailor for whom it is named was Leonard Roy Harmon, who lost his life in the South Pacific.

Harmon who was 26 and the son of Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll, of Cuero, Texas, was killed during action against enemy Japanese forces in the battle of Guadalcanal, November 12 and 13, 1942. Throughout the engagement he assisted in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to dressing stations aboard the ship, and, according to the citation accompanying the Navy Cross award, displayed "unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured Executive Officer."

He died when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gun fire to protect his shipmates.

Harmon was mess attendant, first class. He was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "Extraordinary Heroism" while serving aboard the USS San Francisco.

MAY 29 1943

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Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald
July 2, 1943

Navy Wants Negro Youths

17 YEAR OLD NEGRO BOYS ARE BEING RECRUITED FOR NAVY SERVICE

Negro youths between seventeen and eighteen years old are being recruited as stewards in the navy, according to B. W. Twitty, recruiting officer, who will be in Fitzgerald Saturday for the purpose of recruiting any negro youth who cares to join.

According to Mr. Twitty, he will be stationed at the Twitty Motor Company, at the corner of Main and Central where full information can be secured.

The Navy is now offering unusual opportunities to the negro youths. The service outlined by Mr. Twitty is most excellent for them.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Vessel Will Displace Ten Thousand Tons

APR 24 1943

Kaiser Workers Will Take Part In Launching

APR 24 1943

RICHMOND, Calif. — The SS George Washington Carver, second Liberty ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, was under construction this week in a West Coast shipyard, following the laying of the keel of the 10,000 ton vessel here on April 12.

Assigned the name of the world famous scientist by the Maritime Commission a short time after Dr. Carver died at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., on January 5, 1943, the Liberty Ship will be the sixtieth vessel built in the Richmond Shipyard No. 1 of the Permanente Metals Corporation.

The launching of the SS George Washington Carver next month will mark the second such ceremony participated in by the thousands of Negro shipyard workers in the four Kaiser Company yards in Richmond.

WON HONOR

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zation and placement of person nel which acted to exclude Negroe from particular branches of th armed forces either on land, a sea or in the air; the extent t which advancement of Negroes i the ranks of commissioned offi cers has been limited; the exten to which the armed services ar failing to utilize the full profes sional and technical skills of Ne groes; and the relation of th system of segregated units to th effective utilization and appropri ate placement of persons on th basis of individual competency and merit.

The resolution empowers this special sub-committee to carry on hearings, aided by a subpoena power, throughout the 78th Congress whether it be in session or

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Colored Coast Guard Crew Scores Hit on Nazi U Boat

APR 2 4 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

New York, Norfolk, Detroit Lads' Fire Was Accurate, According to Official Reports

APR 2 4 1943 WASHINGTON.

A crew of eleven colored enlisted men of the United States Coast Guard participated in the attack on the German submarine which was rammed and sunk by the cutter Campbell.

Reports received at Coast Guard headquarters reveal that this gun crew fired several rounds at the U-boat and scored telling hits which aided in the destruction of the submarine.

The crew was in charge of Louis C. Etheridge, Jr., Officers' Steward, 1st class, of 1256 N. Fifty-sixth Street, Philadelphia.

Accounts for Six U. Boats

The Campbell, which had depth-bombed five German subs, accounted for its sixth victim in a fierce 12-hour running fight in the North Atlantic. The cutter was protecting a United Nations convoy.

The U-boat was first attacked by shell fire, then it was rammed. Officers of the cutter say that the big sub shuddered from the impact and then slowly sank, stern first. The collision damaged the Campbell. She had a 2-foot rip in her side below the water line and was partially flooded.

Cutter Remains Afloat

APR 2 4 1943

She remained afloat and safe, however, and was later towed to an Eastern port for repairs.

Commander James H. Hirshfield was the only man aboard the cutter who was wounded. He was hit by a piece of flying metal but remained actively in command.

When King George and Queen Elizabeth of England visited the U.S. in 1939, making a trip from Fort Monmouth, N.J., to New York City on a destroyer, the Campbell served as an escort ship.

Other members of the crew are:

Raymond L. Knott, officers' steward, 2nd class, 491 Dunbar Street, S.W., Atlanta;

Lester E. Carr, mess attendant, 1st class, 3634 S. State Street, Chicago;

Johnnie R. Elliott, mess attendant, 1st class, 815 Layton Avenue, Monroe, La.;

Arthur F. Galloway, mess attendant, 1st class, 20 Morningside Avenue, New York, N.Y.;

Cleveland Powell, mess attendant, 1st class, 915 Gaiennie Street, New Orleans;

James W. Spence, mess attendant, 1st class, 593 Church Street, Norfolk, Va.;

Coy W. Allen, mess attendant, 2nd class, 1622 North West First Street, Miami, Fla.;

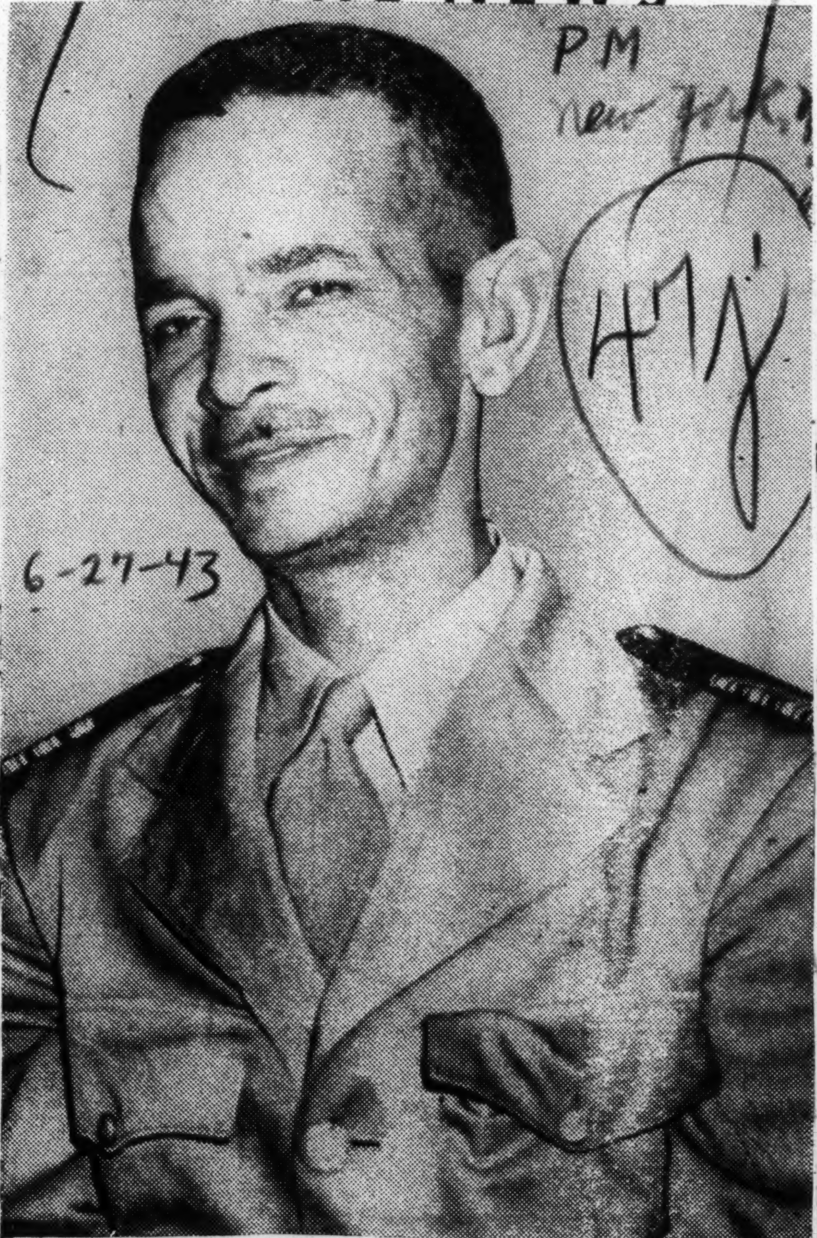
William F. Fitzpatrick, mess attendant, 2nd class 642 Livingstone Street, Detroit;

Earl W. Phillips, mess attendant, 2nd class, 165 North West Sixth Court, Miami, Fla.;

Willie J. Samuel, mess attendant, 2nd class, 211 N. West Fifth Terrace, Miami, Fla.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

PM
New York



6-27-43

Captain Adrian Richardson, Negro skipper of the Liberty ship Frederick Douglass, poses in his U. S. Maritime Service uniform a few days after the commissioning of his ship in Baltimore. Richardson, who at 17 was second mate on a schooner, has been serving with the U. S. Army Transport Service. He is the second Negro captain to be given a post in the U. S. Merchant Marine (Capt. Hugh Mulzac, the first, was given command of the Booker T. Washington last year).

Capt. Mulzac Visits 24 Army Camps In N. Africa After Bringing In Supplies

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MAY 1 5 1943

NEW YORK—Capt. Hugh Mulzac, America's only Negro ship's captain, has done it again.

Captain Mulzac, skipper of the new Liberty ship Booker T. Washington, brought his vessel into an Eastern port last week after a 15,000 mile voyage, "delivering the goods" to our troops and Allies in Britain and the Mediterranean.

His first public appearance was made at the offices of the Negro Freedom Rally, where both he and all the members of his crew, Negro and white, endorsed the big Madison Square Garden meeting which is scheduled for June 7.

Describing these incidents of the voyage which war-time regulations permit, Capt. Mulzac told reporters that he had visited 24 camps of American soldiers in North Africa, had been the guest of numerous American officers and had talked with hundreds of Negro troops.

Working Hard

The Negro boys he talked with, Capt. Mulzac told reporters, are healthy, working hard, preparing for combat and in a hurry to "get the job done."

The reporters fired questions at Capt. Mulzac on the burning issue of discrimination. They wanted to know if the Negro troops were segregated, or if when on combat duty they were fighting alongside white troops.

MAY 1 5 1943

Before Capt. Mulzac answered, Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the CIO National Maritime Union intervened. "I realize, of course, that the question is well meant and very pertinent to the interview," said Smith, "but we should not ask Capt. Mulzac to answer. Everybody knows that Negro troops are discriminated against."

Welcome By British

The focus of the interview was shifted to a discussion of the reception accorded the captain and his crew in the British ports, which the Booker T. Washington made before going to the Mediterranean.

"I think the people of England realize today that they are fighting a war for democracy and not for just a few individuals," said the captain. "They are getting down to it. A change is definitely being made in England with the feeling that after this war, democracy must rule."

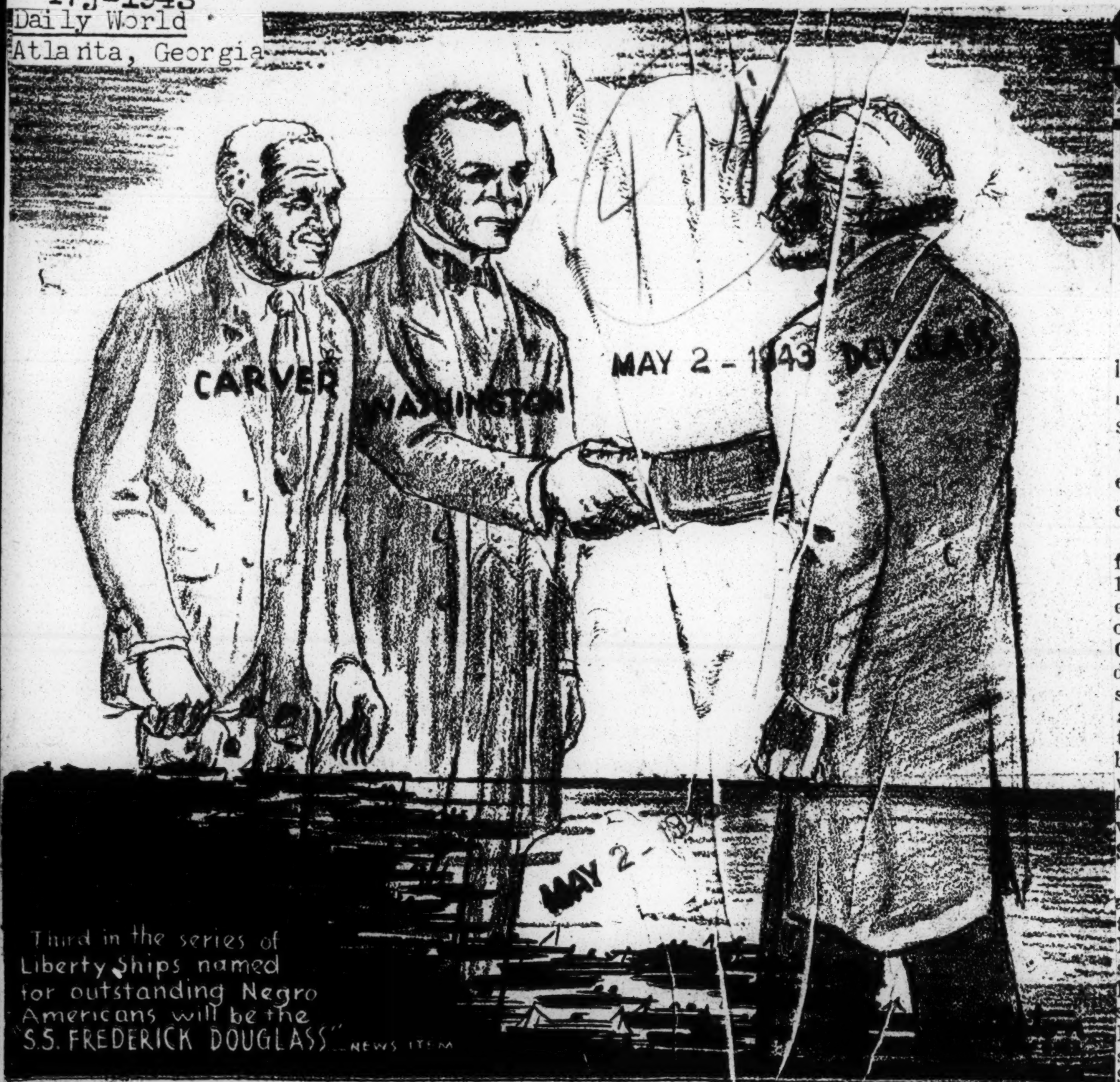
The skipper described a visit to his ship by the Lord Mayor of one port and another by five Czechoslovakian generals who had heard of the Booker T. Washington and its famous captain.

He said that the British press welcomed the arrival of his ship with enthusiastic page one stories, and that they were all, even the Tory press, pressing for a second front in Europe now.

At the conclusion of the interview, the captain was asked if he had some message to give the people.

"I am always glad to be back," said Capt. Mulzac. "Our people should not be disheartened because they have privations. We don't really know what it is yet. We should do our best to back with every ounce of energy we have the people who are carrying on the war at the fronts."

47j-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



Third in the series of Liberty Ships named for outstanding Negro Americans will be the "S.S. FREDERICK DOUGLASS" NEWS ITEM

"DEMOCRACY IN ACTION" NO. III

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Sergeant Rating For Four Marines

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C.—Four Negro Marines have been promoted to sergeants in the Marine Corp at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, N. C., Col. Samuel A. Woods, Jr., commander of the 51st Composite Defense Battalion, announced last week.

The first two Negroes to receive this ranking were Corporal Edson E. Blackman, Jr., of Charlotte, N. C., and Corporal Charles F. Anderson of Birmingham, Ala. Both are in the Headquarters Company and were among the first 1,200 Negro enlistees in the Marines.

Corporal Gilbert H. Johnson, and Corporal John T. Pridgen of the Recruit Depot Battalion were promoted to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Johnson came to the Marines after serving a term as a messman in the U. S. Navy. Sergeant Pridgen had served a term of enlistment in the Army.

MAY 29 1943

Lt. Col. T. A. Holdal praised them for exceptional ability, and stated that they would be placed in charge of "boot" training—the seven weeks' training program given recruits.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

NEW LIBERTY SHIP NAMED FOR NEGRO

JUL 13 1943

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 11—(AP)—The John Merrick, a Liberty freighter named for a North Carolina Negro business leader who was born in slavery, slid down the ways of the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company here Sunday.

Merrick, who died in 1919, founded the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Durham, which claims to be the largest insurance company in the world run by and for members of his race.

Gov. J. M. Broughton, in an address, called Merrick's career an example of opportunity in a democracy, and referred to amicable relations which he said had long existed in North Carolina between the white and Negro races.

SHIP'S STEWARD PASSED THE AMMUNITION

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

Vet Of Eight Years In Navy Has Been In Many Sea Battles

George Upton Sisson returned home lsat week on a leave after being away in the service since February 1936. His mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. John Sisson of 1704 Papin street were happy to welcome their son who entered the service November 5, 1935 and who has had many exciting experiences while traveling thousands of miles on the seas and in encounters in the war zones.

March 26, 1943

The steward, who graduated from Vashon High School in 1934 and attended Stowe Teachers College, and was a member of the Berea Pesbyterian Church Choir, wore several emblems of distinction—the victory medal for service in the navy since 1939 and service at Pearl Harbor; the American theatre of war bar, and for service in the southwest Pacific battle zone; and four stars earned in engagements with the Japanese.

SANK FIRST JAP SUB

His ship was the first to sink a Jap sub and was in action continuously from Dec. at Pearl Harbor until Nov. 1942 when sunk by the enemy. Having at least eight subs to her credit, she was known as "Dead Ready" Benham. Other actions in which she engaged was in the Coral Seas, at Guadalcanal, Santa Cruz Island. The men of the Benham picked up survivors of the Airplane Carrier Yorktown and tried to tow the listing ship in but she sank. They also rescued survivors from the U.S.S. Hammond and made a record run carrying survivors to a hospital base arriving two days ahead of schedule. The most thrilling encounters of this ''veteran" was the Midway Battle in which he said the Americans got their first chance to pay the Japs back for their treachery at Pearl Harbor. He was on the U.S.S. Benham in the American fleet searching for the Mikado's navy. They engaged in a dog fight with the large Jap armada. He was in an ammunition station when the heavy firing started. His ship was struck but more than evened scores by bringing down at least ten planes.

PULLED FROM SEA

Another engagement off the Solomon Islands later saw the crew of the Benham fight off a Jap battle fleet, sinking at least three ships before the Benham itself, was struck by torpedoes and disabled and sunk. Steward Sisson was in the water about half an hour, swimming, before he was picked up.

Officer's Steward Sisson has been on ships in several other encounters, all of which have been successful for the Americans.

Chasing the Japs from the Solomon Islands was another exciting adventure, while his ship's escape from the Pearl Harbor sneak raid was also among his war experience. His ship was due to put in Pearl Harbor the day of the Japs' attack, but received notice of the attack in time.

In Hawaii there is no discrimination or segregation and a man is measured from his shoulders up and not by his race. Steward Sisson said he studied at the Honolulu Academy of Music and sang in recitals all over the Island. He also found Australia very democratic. He heard Marion Anderson sing in Honolulu and dined with her.

Advises Youth

In an article written for the ship paper, Steward Sisson said "Life today is worth living because we have great things for which to fight and for which to die, if need be. Get into the struggles men are waging, and fight for our Americen ideals and institutions. There are great causes to fight for today. There are enemies to be repulsed. There are great principles to be preserved. Get into the battle!'

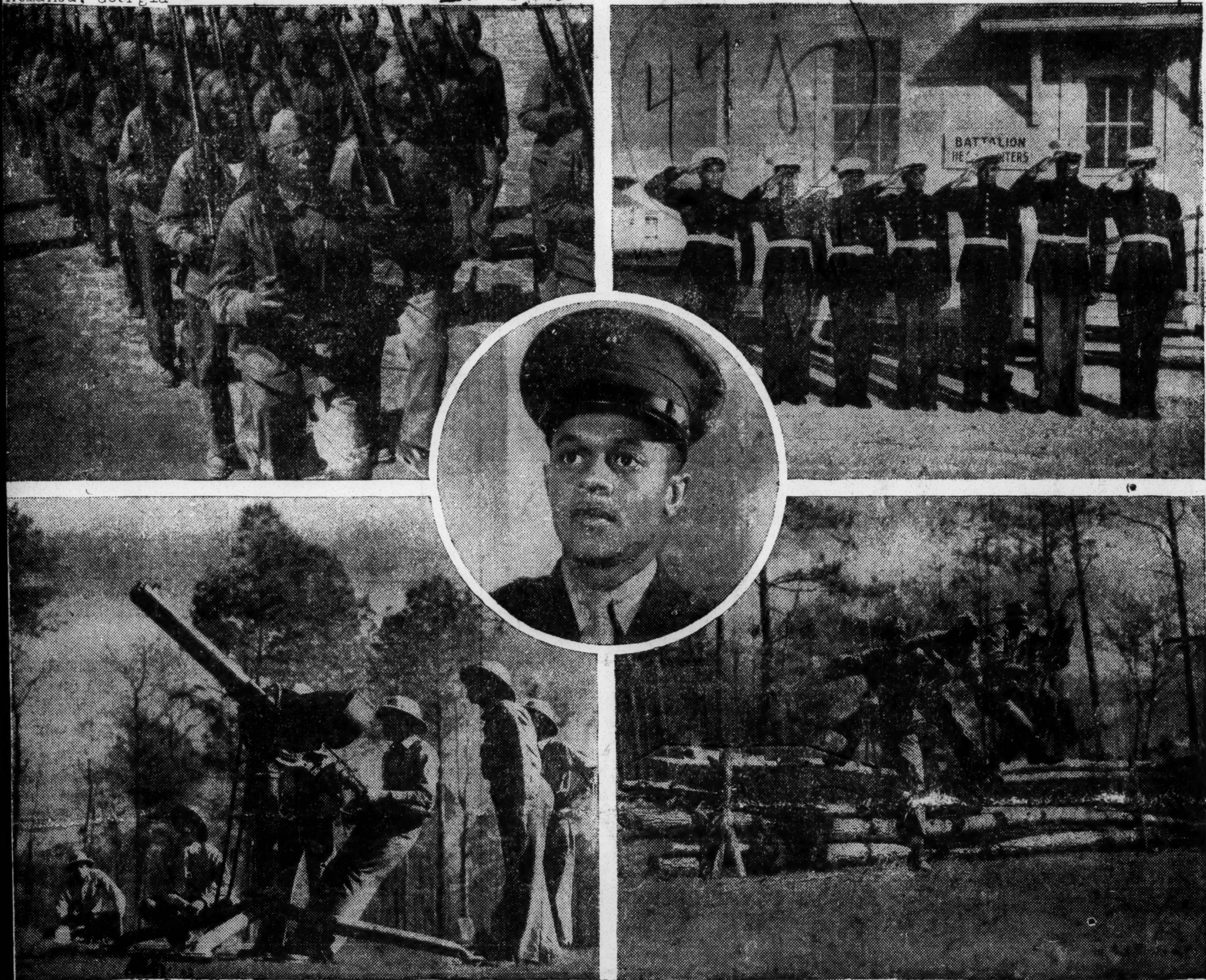
In an interview he further stated: "A new day is dawning for the Negro race. Therefore I implore that boys and girls refrain from procrastinating. In order to meet the demands of the new order they must not waste their time while in school. Also the home will play the greatest role in this great drama of life. From my observation I have concluded that the destiny of any individual or group of individuals depend entirely upon them. Be a man! And people will respect you as such, regardless of race. or creed. You young men of St. Louis, who persist in using knives, guns, etc., disgracing our race as a whole, please stop and consider the pros and cons. If you must fight, wait until you've joined the army, thereby releasing your surplus energy in a more directed constructive way by annihilating people who have upset the entire system of living. I see my race as an archeologist observes a vast, unexplored territory whose natural resources are unlimited. I sincerely believe that after the war the nation will draw much needed material from this source."

Negro Youths Prepare To Live Up To Glorious Marine Tradition

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAY 22 1943

MAY 22 1943



NEW RIVER, N. C.—(S N S)—Wearing the uniform of the United States Marine Corps for the first time in the history of this 167-year old branch of the armed services. Negro Marines are now undergoing training at Montford Point, a section of the 200-square-mile Marine Base, Camp Lejeune, at New River, N. C. One unit of Negro Marine graduates has already been assigned to overseas duty and new recruits are arriving at Camp Lejeune at the rate of 40 a day. The fi[illegible]200 volunteers began training on September 1, 1942. Pvt. Howard P. Perry, first Negro to volunteer for Marine Corps service, is shown in the center. At top left, "boots" of three-day enlistment are shown learning to drill, while at top right, Sgts. Edson Blackman, Jerome Alcorn, Otto Cherry, and Robert T. Davis and Pfc. Gus Pittman and Pvt. Renis Black are shown in flashy dress uniforms of the Marines. At bottom left, recruits are being trained with a 30 calibre machine gun, while recruits at bottom right take the hurdles in bayonet training. Marine Corps Headquarters has announced plans for the enlistment of more than 10,000 Negro Marines.

Lamberton, N. C. Robersonian
August 18, 1943

LIBERTY SHIP TO HONOR TAR HEEL NEGRO LAWYER

Washington. —(AP)— A Liberty ship will be named for the late Robert L. Vann, Negro lawyer who was founder and editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, the Maritime Commission has announced.

The ship, fifth in a series named for outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched in late September or early October in the South Portland, Me., yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation.

Vann was born at Ahoskie, N. C., educated at Virginia Union university and the University of Pittsburgh, and lived for many years in Pittsburgh, where he lie din 1940.

47j-I943

Navy Service School Officially Opened

WASHINGTON. — A new Navy Service School for Negroes was officially opened with impressive dedication ceremonies at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

JUL 3 1943

Before 1,000 Negro bluejackets, standing at "Parade Rest" in the wing of the structure which will house the school for machinist's mates, Captain R. R. M. Emmett, commanding officer of the training Station, turned over the command of the new school to Captain H. R. Harris, Service School Officer.

Captain Emmett told his listeners, 500 Service School students, 300 selectees who will begin classes soon, and 200 men still in recruit training:

"The dedication of this new school is like the commissioning of a new ship. This building is an engine of destruction which will help to defeat our enemies and you men make up its crew."

July 3, '43

47j

Informer Houston Texas

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108 Navy Graduates

Pittsburgh Courier

JUL 10 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill., July 8.—"Yours is the task of doing whatever is assigned you as if the outcome of the war depended on your every act."

This was the counsel extended by W. Ellis Stewart, Chicago Negro leader, to the seventh Negro class to be graduated from the Navy's Service school at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Stewart, who is secretary and vice president of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company, Chicago, was principal speaker at commencement exercises for 108 Bluejackets, who completed instruction in one or another of the various trades and services offered by the Navy.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Captain Hugh Mulzac of the Liberty Ship Booker T. Washington, posed recently for this picture at the headquarters in New York of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, one of the groups that helped him get his berth. His 10,000-ton ship has traveled 15,000 miles since it was launched last September.

MAY 29 1943

47j

Some of the Workers Who Turned Out Liberty Shi

Here are a thousand reasons a ship can be built in 29 days. This photo, showing workers watching the launching of the S.S. Frederick Douglass, was made from the top of a 500-foot crane by AFRO photographer Paul Henderson, during launching ceremonies Saturday at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards. Company officials said 7,500 colored workers contributed to the construction.

Anne Brown Heard at Ship Launching

MAY 29 1943

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 1943

Singer Sponsors S.S. Douglass; Says Fight for Justice Must Last

BALTIMORE—Continuation of the fight for justice, even after the war is won, was advocated by Miss Anne Wiggins Brown, sponsor, during launching ceremonies for the S.S. Frederick Douglass Saturday, at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards.

MAY 29 1943

This, in addition to working and fighting together now, will be necessary, the noted soprano told the 2,500 workers and 70-odd guests, to accomplish the war's final objective, a total victory for democracy.

Workers' Group Sings

Music before and after the launching was provided by the Victory Four, a quintet of Bethlehem-Fairfield workers composed of Julius L. Payne, Charles Jackson, Thomas G. Turner, Allen Curfee and Thomas Travers.

The 10,500-ton Douglass glided smoothly from the pier at 12:27 p.m., after Miss Brown had performed the traditional christening rites.

3rd Named for Colored American

The ship took her place with the S.S. George W. Carver and the S.S. Booker T. Washington, making the third Liberty Ship to be named for famous colored Americans.

The christening followed a speech and presentation of a plaque to Captain Adrian Richardson, 51-year-old master of the ship, who told the assemblage:

"I am proud to command a ship named after a man like Frederick Douglass. His life history is an outstanding example of what a determined man can do in the face of tremendous obstacles. I can assure you that this ship will live up to the fine traditions of its namesake."

The presentation was made by Ferdinand Smith, New York City, secretary of the National Maritime Union.

Robeson Absent

MAY 29 1943

Paul Robeson, also scheduled to appear, was absent. The only jarring note of the ceremony was the playing of a recording of his disliked "Old Man River" with its hated "d—" epithet. Martin Zech, white, company engineer, presided.

Haley Douglass of Washington, grandson of Frederick Douglass, with his wife and daughter, were among the guests at the launching.

Honoree Was Shipbuilder

Mr. Douglass told the gathering that his grandfather was a shipyard worker and had worked up to a job as caulker.

He said it was a pleasure to participate in the naming of a ship in his ancestor's honor and to see "colored and white employees, 100 years after, working together in harmony."

Members of the ship's mixed crew who witnessed the launching were Chief Engineer Vi[illegible] Davis, white; Ensign John B. Clark, New York City, third mate, and Charles W. Harris of Pawtucket, R.I., first assistant engineer

MAY 29 1943

47j

Ensign Clark, a seaman of twenty years' experience, is a graduate of the Maritime School in New London, Conn.

29-Day Job

The Douglas was launched just twenty-nine days after its keel was laid on April 23, breaking all previous construction records. It was the 140th ship to be launched from that yard.

Following the launching, Miss Brown sang a spiritual, "Walk Together, Children," which she said indicated her feelings because the "only way to real victory and true democracy is by walking together."

Afterwards, J. M. Willis, white, vice president and general manager, presented a diamond and sapphire-studded lapel pin to Miss Brown, who also received a bouquet of roses. MAY 29 1943

Sailing Since He Was 9

The new skipper is a native of Phillipsburg, St. Martin, Dutch West Indies, but was orphaned when 4 years old and reared by a white sea captain, A. C. Chaney, in Cambridge, Mass.

He made his first trip to sea when he was 9 years old and since then he has traveled to every port in the world. During World War No. 1, he was captain of an army transport ship.

He has held a master's license since 1916, but admitted to the AFRO that being given command of the Frederick Douglass did not excite him. He described it as "just another job."

Captain a Gothamite

Captain Richardson, whose home is in NYC, commanded the S.S. Louise for five months, but left that ship to carry an army transport to the Pacific war zone. He returned to this country in February. MAY 29 1943

Captain Richardson is married to the former Miss Octavia Waters, a native of Norfolk, Va. They have a son, Sgt. Arthur A. Richardson, 31, now on duty with the army in Africa.

The entire launching party was entertained by the company at a luncheon at the York Hotel, at which time Melvin J. Hodgkinson, white, personnel manager, presided. Guests were:

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Hyman of Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Haley H. Douglass and daughter, Jean Marie, of Washington;

C. R. Thornton, Dr. Ralph J. Young, Dr. O. D. Jones, Julius M. Gardner of Washington, Robert C. Weaver of Washington, Paul L. Chester, George Sanders, Charles F. Eyre, Mrs. W. A. C. Hughes, Jr., William E. Clark, Father Cedric E. Mills, Congressman Thomas D'Alesandro, Dr. Robert L. Jackson;

Frederick Weaver, Washington; Randall L. Tyus, Alexander J. Allen, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. C. Baker, Pearle Miss Alice Carter, Mrs. Nellie [illegible] Moore Mrs. George McMechen, Dr. and Mrs M. E. Wilson;

Mayor Theodore McKeldin, Congressman Daniel Ellison, Calvin Douglass, Charles Mayfield, George Sanders, Miss Florence Menefee, Mrs. B. M. Phillips, Mrs. Lula Patterson, Carl Murphy, William Alexander, Washington; William J. Thompkins, Washington;

Leslie Perry, Washington; Miss Emma Menefee, Miss Lavinia Watkins, William F. Tyler, Joseph Briscoe, Dr. J. Leslie Jones, H. B. Brady of Columbus, Ohio; Miss Antoinette O. Henry, Pocomoke City, Md.; Dr. Harry F. Brown, Mrs. Olivia Dixon, Mrs. Alice Carter;

Dr. J. E. T. Camper, William V. Harper, J. Harvey Kerns, Dr. and Mrs. S. B. Hughes, Mrs. Arnold Sampson, Thomas L Corlette, Mrs. Lillie Jackson, Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, the Rev. E. W. White, Buckwood Gregory, Elroy Wilson, Yale Merrill, Lamar Cook;

James Drury, Marse S. Callaway, Miss Selma Kaslick, Washington; Paula Ann Petit, daughter of the sponsor; Miss Mayme Brown, Washington; W. S. Briscoe, Mrs. Adrian Richardson, New York City, wife of the captain; Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, and Thomas Aydlett.

9

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

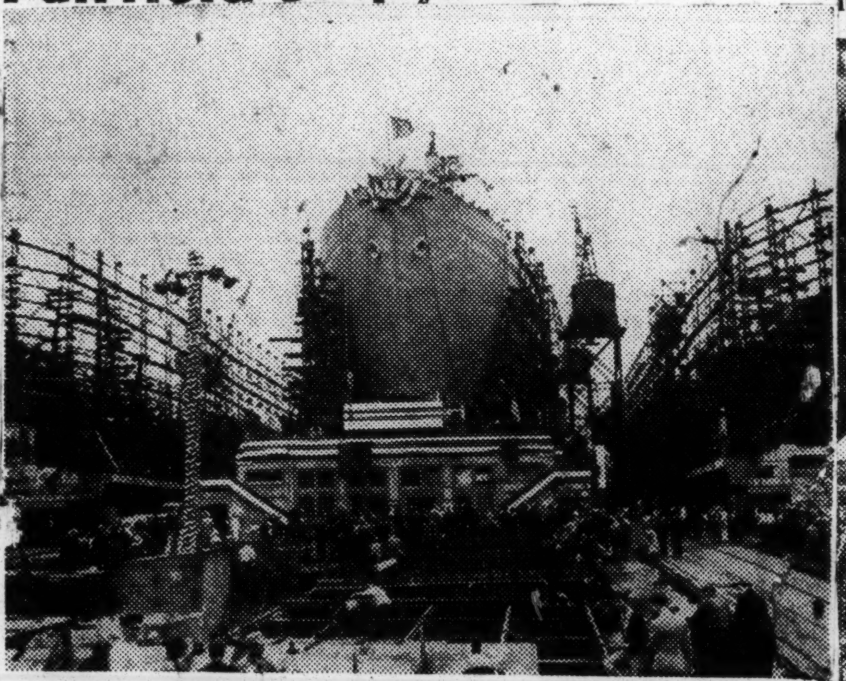
3 Negroes Won Navy Cross During War

Already in this war, three Negroes have won the Navy Cross: Doric Miller, Leonard Roy Harmon and William Pinckney, [illegible]te. (Miller and Pinckney are still on active duty, while Harmon lost his life on the USS San Francisco in the Battle of Guadalcanal last November.)

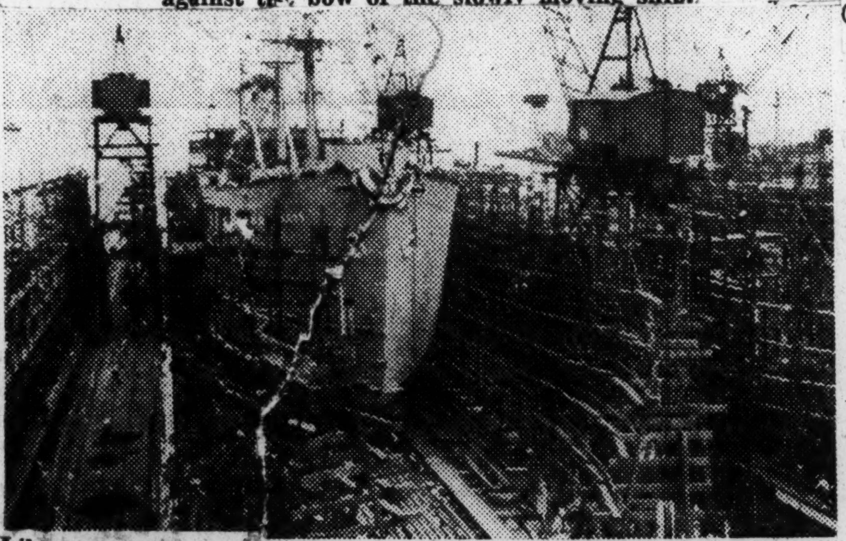
JUL 10 1943

Going, Going, Gone

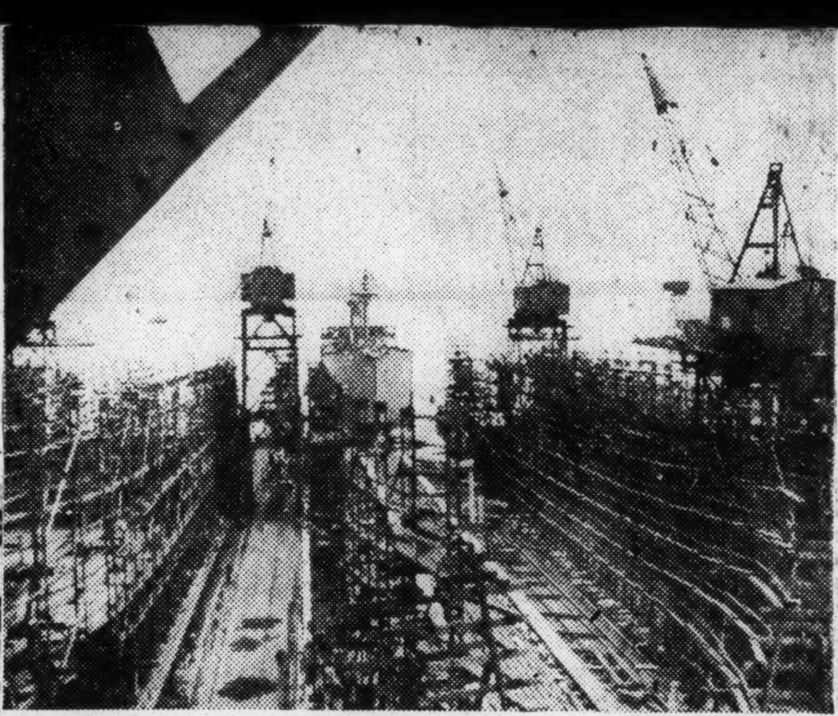
The S.S. Frederick Douglass Is Launched at Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards



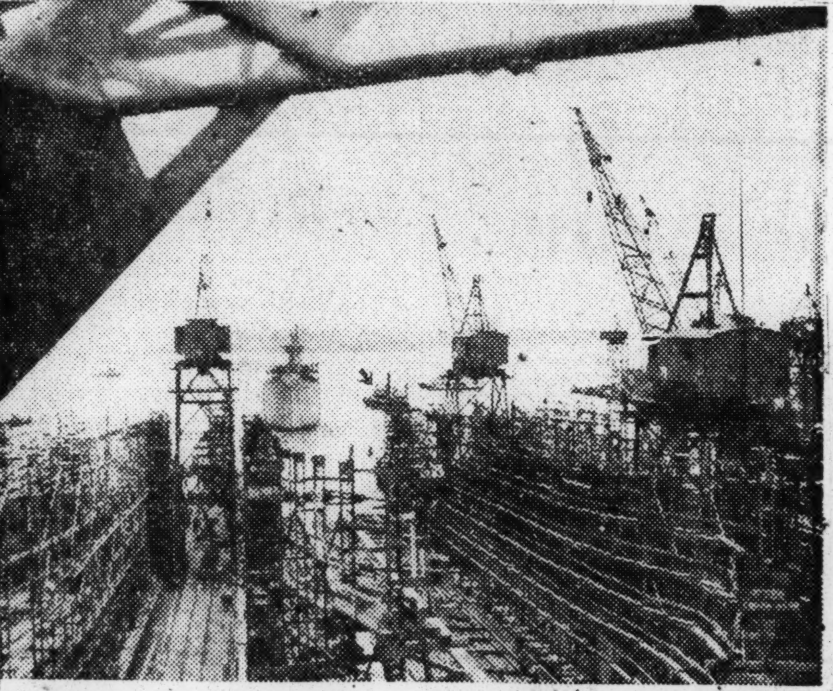
Here is the 10,500-ton vessel just as burners underneath cut the No. 4 prop and Anne Wiggins Brown smashed a bottle of champagne against the bow of the slowly moving ship.



Like a huge building fading away, the S.S. Douglass slides down the ways to the tune of shrieking whistles and cheers of thousands of Yorkers assembled for the launching.



This photo shows the Liberty ship getting its first taste of water as it settles with the grace of an expert swimmer. Captain Adrian Richardson will command her mixed crew.



Completely afloat, the Douglass is taken over by a game little tug (arrow) and anchored for fitting. The ship was launched twenty-nine days after the keel was laid.—All photos by Paul Henderson.

Well Deserved Recognition

AS significant and wholly gratifying as it is, it is not at all surprising that the first ship ever to be launched in the South bearing the name of a distinguished Negro American should slide down the ways of a North Carolina shipyard. Such is the state's traditional reputation for fairness and justice toward its Negro citizenry.

JUL 31 1943

Journal & Guide

In assigning the name of John Merrick, one of the state's most distinguished citizens, to the 114th Liberty ship which was launched at the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company in Wilmington on July 11, the United States Maritime Commission served a dual purpose in strengthening the amicable relations existing between the races in the Old North State.

Not only did the event pay well deserved recognition to one of the founders of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, but at the same time provided an opportunity to pay tribute to the shipyard's colored employees who, according to officials of the yard, have contributed their full share toward its splendid production record.

Of Mr. Merrick himself, we believe the sentiments of every person who comprised the crowd of 12,000 who witnessed the historic event, were expressed in the words of Governor James Melville Broughton of North Carolina who made the principal address.

JUL 31 1943

Norfolk, Va.

Said Governor Broughton:

In the launching of this ship bearing the honored name JOHN MERRICK, it is fervently hoped that the life and character of this great man may be brought freshly to the minds of both races in North Carolina, and indeed in America; that in the light of his wholesome philosophy and successful career we may find a path of harmony, success, victory and peace through mutual respect and honest cooperation.

Journal & Guide

These are noble sentiments, nobly expressed and, we submit, fully appropriate to the occasion. It is to be fervently hoped that a similar tribute may be paid in the not too distant future, on another occasion which would do honor to that great educator, philosopher and humanitarian, the late Dr. Robert Russa Moton. We earnestly commend the idea to the United States Maritime Commission.

JUL 31 1943

47j- 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

The Lilywhite WAVES and SPARS

FEB 13 1943

The strange policy of the Navy, even in wartime, of deliberately flouting Southern Jim Crow ideas in the face of a large part of the fighting population, the Negro, is seen in the disgraceful setup governing the lilywhite WAVES and SPARS, female auxiliaries in the U. S. Navy and in the Coast Guard. While the U. S. Army is busy integrating the Negro WAACS into its scheme of things, the Navy is carrying on its age-old policy of insulting and discriminating against capable, qualified and patriotic women citizens whose only crime is to belong to the "wrong" race.

If this were a war in which the whites were fighting little private battles among themselves and didn't need the help of the Negro population, we probably would have little to say on the matter. But the war isn't that kind of a war. It has been roundly denied by those in responsible positions that it is a race war, since colored peoples are fighting on the sides of both the United Nations and the Axis. Day and night the radios blare statements that we all are affected by the war and must all share equally the burden of fighting it. Yet, a group of die-hard reactionaries in Washington control things to the point where Negro womanhood is denied the opportunity to demonstrate their partiotism and support the war effort by deliberately saying that the WAVES and hte SPARS are set up only to show off and "preserve" lilywhite womanhood. We really don't get it.

FEB 13 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Race Sailors Win Honors In Capture Of U-Boat Crew

MAY 22 1943

WASHINGTON.— The origin of the expression, "Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition," may still be debatable, but two Negro members of the crew of the Coast Guard cutter Icarus kept the song and the deed very much in evidence during the recently announced sinking of a German U-boat and the capture of its crew off the Carolinas.

The destruction of the U-boat and the capture of 33 members of its crew was announced by the Navy Department on May 1, but the "ammunition" incident was recalled last week by the commanding officer of the 165-foot cutter, Lieut. Comdr. Maurice D. Jester.

"We had just detected the submarine dead ahead about 100 yards distant," the commander recalled, "and general quarters was being sounded. I heard the singing first as the crew ran to battle stations.

"Just before we dropped our first pattern of depth bombs, I located the song and the singers. It was coming from Battle Station No. 9 and the singers were two Negro mess attendants. Oddly enough, the song fitted in perfectly with their duties, for they were passing the ammunition to the gunners."

The two singers were identified by the commander as Adolphus S. Jones, mess attendant, 2nd class of Glen Cove, N. Y., and Charles E. Purdue, Jr., mess attendant, 2nd class, of 76 West 132nd street, New York City.

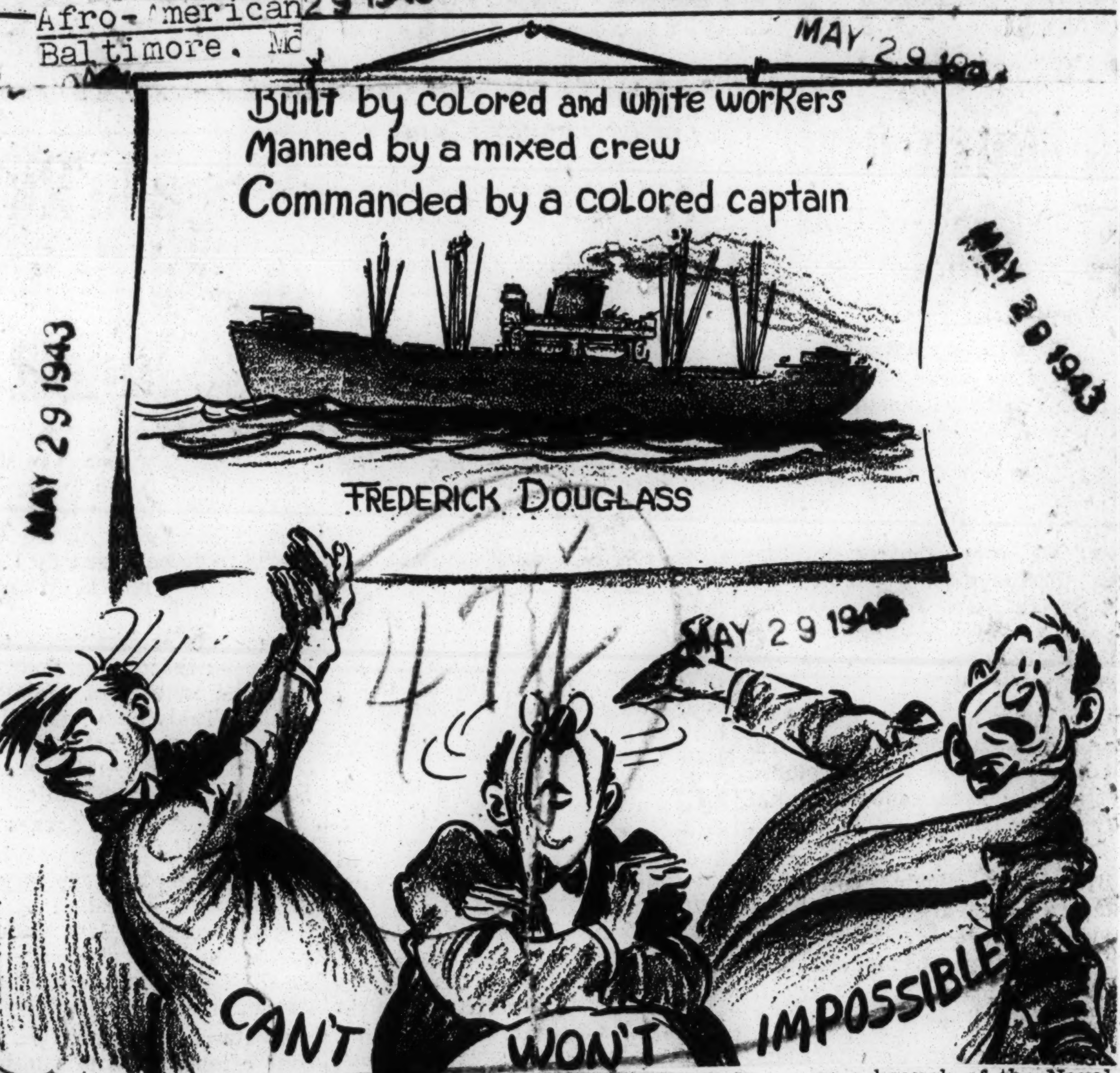
The German U-boat was sunk off the Carolina coast some months ago while the Icarus was on a routine run southward from New York. The captured crew was taken to Charleston, S. C., as prisoners of war. The cutter used depth bombs to force the submarine to the surface and then raked its decks with gunfire.

MAY 22 1943

Where Are the Experts Now?

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

MAY 29 1943


Built by colored and white workers
Manned by a mixed crew
Commanded by a colored captain
FREDERICK DOUGLASS
CAN'T
WON'T
IMPOSSIBLE

WAVES Not Expected to Become Democratic Soon

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Apr. 10, 1943

It's going to be some time before Negro women make the WAVES, the Women's Reserve of the Navy or the SPARS, the women's auxiliary of the Coast Guard. That's sort of a bald statement to make, but we have no less authority for it than Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. He did, however, indicate that perhaps in the future the Navy would be able to integrate Negro women into its program.

All of this was contained in a recent communication to Algernon Black, co-chairman of the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, who had asked him why Negro women were not in the WAVES and SPARS, which were using Hunter College campus and buildings in the Bronx for training purposes.

April 10, 1943

"Our Board," Mr. Black advised Secretary Knox, "supported a resolution before the New York City Council that the use of City property should not be permitted if there is any discrimination because of race or color."

In his answer, Secretary Knox went into great detail to explain the enlistment of Negroes as apprentice seamen in the United States Naval Reserve beginning June 1, 1942, stating that the Navy is carrying out an extensive program to train Negro recruits for service both at shore stations and at sea.

"The Women's Reserve," he wrote Mr. Black, "was established as a branch of the Naval Reserve under provisions of Public Law 689. Under section 505 of the law, it is provided that members of the Women's Reserve shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the Navy to release male officers and enlisted men of the Naval Service for duty at sea."

No Place For Women

A large proportion of the Negro recruits, Secretary Knox went on, are still at training stations or in Class A schools established for their specialized instruction and at this time the Navy does not have any substantial body of Negroes "available or qualified for general service at sea. There is no occasion to replace Negro enlisted personnel by Negro women enlisted in the Women's Reserve.

"The Navy will be glad to give full consideration to the entire question of enlisting Negro women in the Women's Reserve. And it would not hesitate to take affirmative action in this regard whenever such action were necessary to provide necessary personnel for the prosecution of the war effort. However, having in mind the provisions of Section 505 of the Congressional enactment, we do not feel that the enlistment of Negro women is justified at this time."

Secretary Knox assured Mr. Black that although the program is necessarily experimental, it is not discriminatory and that "it has received the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press generally."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FDR Valet Hard At Work Learning Navy's Ropes

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—George Clinton Fields, 31-year-old Negro, who served as President Roosevelt's valet for the last four years, has turned bluejacket.

MAR 20 1943

A butler at the White House for six years prior to becoming the President's valet, Fields was drafted February 3 and chose the navy. A week after being sworn in he reported at the U.S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., where he is undergoing recruit training at Camp Robert Smalls—training center for Negro men.

His White House bed has been replaced by a hammock which he having some difficulty in mastering.

Throughout the recruit training period, he will be given aptitude tests to determine whether he should receive further advanced training at one of the Navy's fifty-odd trade and service schools or be sent directly to duty.

When Bluejacket Fields left his city of Indianapolis, Ind., in 1933 to go to Washington, he became the second member of his family to join the White House staff. His brother, Alonzo Fields, has been head butler at the White House since the Hoover administration.

MAR 20 1943

The sailor shared the President's valet duties with Arthur Prettyman, who remains in this post. The men would take turns attending the President both while he was at home or on his journeys. It was Fields who accompanied the chief executive and his party on his tour last September of industrial plants and army and navy training centers including Great Lakes.

At that time, President Roosevelt said he was greatly impressed with the Naval Training Station here. He wasn't the only one. Fields admits the visit definitely sold him on the navy.

The night before Fields left the White House to enter the navy, the President and Mrs. Roosevelt summoned him to the study to say goodbye. After the First Lady had wished him well, the President grasped Fields' hand and said:

"Good luck to you, George. I know you'll do just as good a job for the navy as you've done for me."

Fields is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton B. Fields of 1728 Columbia avenue, Indianapolis, Ind. He attended Attucks high school there and later took a two-year course in accounting.

He is enlisted as an apprentice seaman.

MAR 20 1943

GEORGE CLINTON FIELD

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
July 11, 1943

Liberty Ship John Merrick, First Named For Tar Heel Negro, To Hit Water Today

Daughter Of Durham Business Man Will Perform As Sponsor

Liberty S. S. John Merrick will be launched with auspicious ceremonies this afternoon at the North Carolina Ship Building Company's yards at Wilmington with Governor J. Melville Broughton delivering the principal address.

The ship, named for the late John Merrick of Durham, is the fourth ship to be named for a Negro in the United States, and the first one to honor a Negro in North Carolina. Other Negro leaders so honored include Booker T. Washington, Frederick A. Douglas and George Washington Carver.

Mrs. Martha Merrick Donnell, youngest daughter of John Merrick, will sponsor the launching of the ship named for her father. Miss Constance Merrick will be maid of honor and Mrs. Martha Williams Wheeler will be matron of honor. They are the youngest granddaughters of Merrick.

Three attendants will be selected from the 7,000 Negroes working at the Wilmington ship yards. They will represent the part the 7,000 Negroes have had in the defense program along with the 13,000 white people employed in like production activities.

Dr. C. C. Spaulding of Durham will introduce Governor Broughton. Spaulding and Dr. A. M. Moore formed a triumvirate with John Merrick to found two of the largest financial concerns for Negroes in the world. Dr. Moore and Merrick are dead, but Spaulding holds the helm of the largest Negro bank in the world.

This afternoon's program will begin promptly at 5 o'clock with music by the Negro Pre-Flight Band from Chapel Hill playing "The Sar-Spangled Banner." Governor will speak and the Liberty S. S. John Merrick will slide into the water for service at exactly 6 o'clock, it was announced.

For lack of facilities the program cannot be heard over Station WDNC at the time of the launching, but at 10:45 o'clock tonight the recording of the occasion will be heard over the Durham Station.

An appraisal of the life of John Merrick will doubtless be of interest to thousands in this area. The story reads like romance to all who knew him, and to the multitudes who never heard his story before.

John Merrick, a Negro, was born into slavery in Sampson County, N. C., Sept. 7, 1859. When only 12 years old, he went to work in a Chapel Hill brickyard. He had no opportunity to go to school, because the support of his mother, brother, and himself was his responsibility, but he somehow learned to read, write, and "figure" a little.

After six years in the brickyard, he loaded the family belongings on a steer-cart and moved to Raleigh. Shaw University was being erected and there he worked on its first building, as hod carrier and brick mason. His next work was as bootblack in a barbership, and in the same shop he learned the barber's trade. A fellow barber was going to a near-by town to establish a business and offered him employment in the new shop. He accepted it and thus began his real career: John Merrick set out for Durham.

The new business prospered and in six months John Merrick bought a half interest in this five-chair shop. The former hod carrier was now a successful business man. With the purchase of a three-room home—his first venture into real estate—he became a property owner. He later became the sole owner of the barbershop and eventually of a chain of five shops. He began to buy other real estate, to build houses for rent, and to accumulate wealth.

John Merrick's personal success is by no means the measure of his greatness, through it is noteworthy that he rose from an unschooled boy to a substantial citizen solely by his own efforts.

John Merrick had a special talent for organizing. He also had the confidence of the people and strong friendship among both races. (The Dukes, the Watts, the Carrs, the Fullers, and their associates were not only customers of John Merrick's, but also his friends.) He began to turn his energy and talents to new enterprises, in coperation with others.

In order that one may properly evaluate this contribution of his, it may be well to cite here figures which will show what the economic status of the Negroes of Durham was at that time. It was in 1880 that John Merrick moved to Durham, 15 years after the close of the Civil War. Tax valuations of 1887 showed that Negroes owned only two lots in Durham and 1,366 acres in the county, a total valuation of $8,696.00. By 1909, the total valuation of Negro property was $583,036; in 1916, $866,207; and in 1923, $4,298,067.

In his book, "The Story of Durham," William Kenneth Boyd, professor of History at Duke University (1925) says: "Definite causes of increase of wealth are always hard to ascertain. But undoubtedly the increase in personal property must be attributed to the genius of three men: John Merrick, Dr. Aaron M. Moore, and Charles Spaulding."

Some of the businesses which were touched and aided by the organizing and promotional genius of John Merrick were: The Royal Knights of King David, a fraternal organization: the Mechanics and Farmers Bank; the Bull City Drug Company; the Merrick-Moore-Spaulding Real Estate Company; and the Durham Textile Mill.

What might be regarded as his particular monument is the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company which he organized in 1898 as the North Carolina Mutual and Provident Association. On the 20th day of October in that year, this organization was formed for the purpose of providing sick and death benefits for its members; and John Merrick was elected its president. During the first year's operation, five of the organizers became discouraged and withdrew; whereupon the company was reorganized and John Merrick was elected president of the reorganized company. (He remained president until his death in 1919.)

With no capital, no training, and no experience, this company began doing business. Its "home office" was space in the office of the company's treasurer, Dr. A. M. Moore rented for $2.00 a month. A homemade desk and a few chairs were its total equipment.

The North Carolina Mutual's 44 years' history is a long story—one of near-failure, discouragement, doubts and fears in its early days. At the end of the first year's operation, its income was $393.95 and its assets $350.00.

Time marched on, and from such an humble beginning, the company founded by John Merrick was not only advanced to a position where it stands twenty-eighth among the first 50 life insurance companies of the nation from the standpoint of insurance in force and first in the accumulation of assets among Negro-managed companies, but it has lighted up the business horizon for American Negroes in all avenues of business.

In Durham are found outstanding financial institutions such as:

Bankers Fire Insurance Company, the only one of its kind in the world operated as it is by American Negroes;

Mechanics and Farmers Bank, with resources exceeding $2,000,000, Mr. Merrick having been its first president;

Mutual Building and Loan Association, with assets amounting to $383,368.75, having increased to over $400,000 since the close of the year;

Southern Fidelity and Bonding Company, the only bonding company operated by Negro citizens in the world.

Then, there is North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company itself, which, at the close of business 1942, had over $64,000,000 of life insurance in force; having paid to its policyholders, in its own life span, over $21,000,000 in matured endowments, sick, death, and other claims; having invested over $1,500,000 in a Government Bond folio; having invested among Negroes on amply secured first mortgages, over $3,500,000; having earmarked in statutory reserves over $6,887,225 for the protection of its policies in force; giving gainful and respectable employment to hundreds of prepared men and women; and showing assets for 1942 aggregating $8,273,734.21.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
August 24, 1943

NEGRO MARINES PLAN ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

New River, Aug. 23.—Negro Marines at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps' only Negro training center, will hold appropriate ceremonies Thursday in celebration of the first anniversary of the enrollment here of the first Negro Marine, Howard P. Perry of Charlotte on August 26, 1942.

During their first year's service in the Marine Corps, Negro Leathernecks have made vast strides. A number of them now are corporals and sergeants. Some have been sent on assignments overseas. They have learned a great deal about Marine amphibious tactics. They have athletic teams, a band, orchestra, glee club and many other such extra-curricular organizations.

The small camp built for them at first, when only 1,200 were planned for the corps, has expanded into seven different camps. Montford Point Camp No. 1, still under construction but already in partial use, is larger than all the others combined, to take care of the many new recruits expected from time to time until the contemplated goal for Negroes in the Marines Corps has been reached within the next year. All of these Negroes will receive their basic training here at various intervals.

Tourists To See Statue Made By Navy Bluejacket

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

GREAT LAKES, Ill., July 1—A seven-ton statue created by a Negro bluejacket now in training at the U. S. Naval Training station here will be a MUST for tourists visiting the great Mesabi Range in Minnesota to see this summer.

The sculptor of this massive work of Leonida Merritt, the man credited with the discovery of Minnesota's wealth of red-gold iron ore, is Robert Crump III, 33, of 620 St. Anthony avenue, St. Paul, Minn. A seaman second class, he has compleed his recruit training and is awaiting assignment to the Navy's Service school for quartermasters.

JUL 3 1943

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The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

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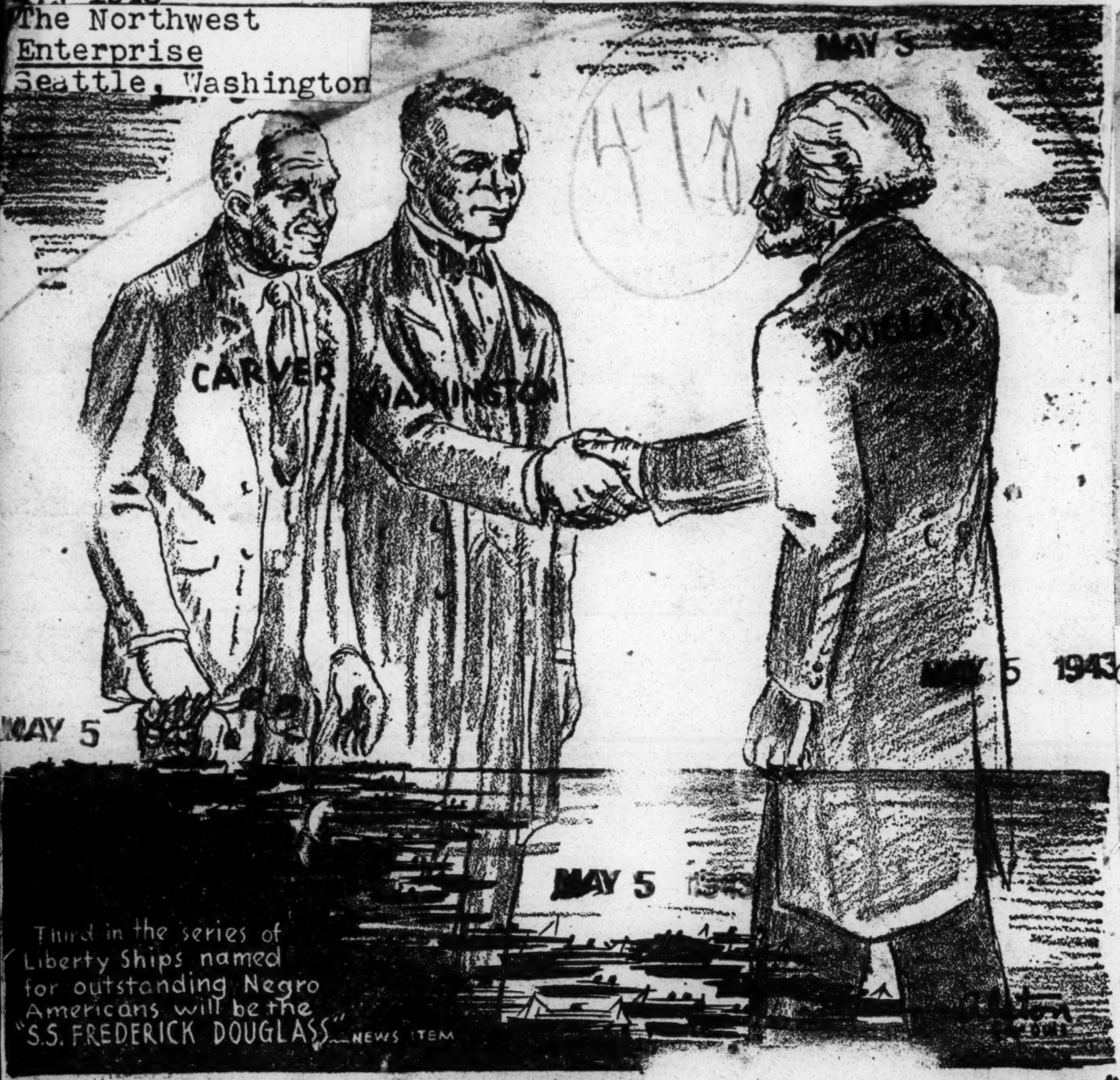

CARVER
WASHINGTON
DOUGLASS
Third in the series of Liberty Ships named for outstanding Negro Americans will be the "S.S. FREDERICK DOUGLASS"—NEWS ITEM

MAY 5 1943

"DEMOCRACY IN ACTION NO. III"

In S. S. Frederick Douglass Launching Party

MAY 29 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Above are, left to right, Charles C. Harris, first assistant engineer; Haley G. Douglass, grandson of the namesake of the ship; Mrs. Richardson, Captain Richardson, Anne Wiggins Brown and Ferdinand Smith, secretaryof the National Maritime Union, phootgraphed following the launching.

Time
Chicago, Illinois

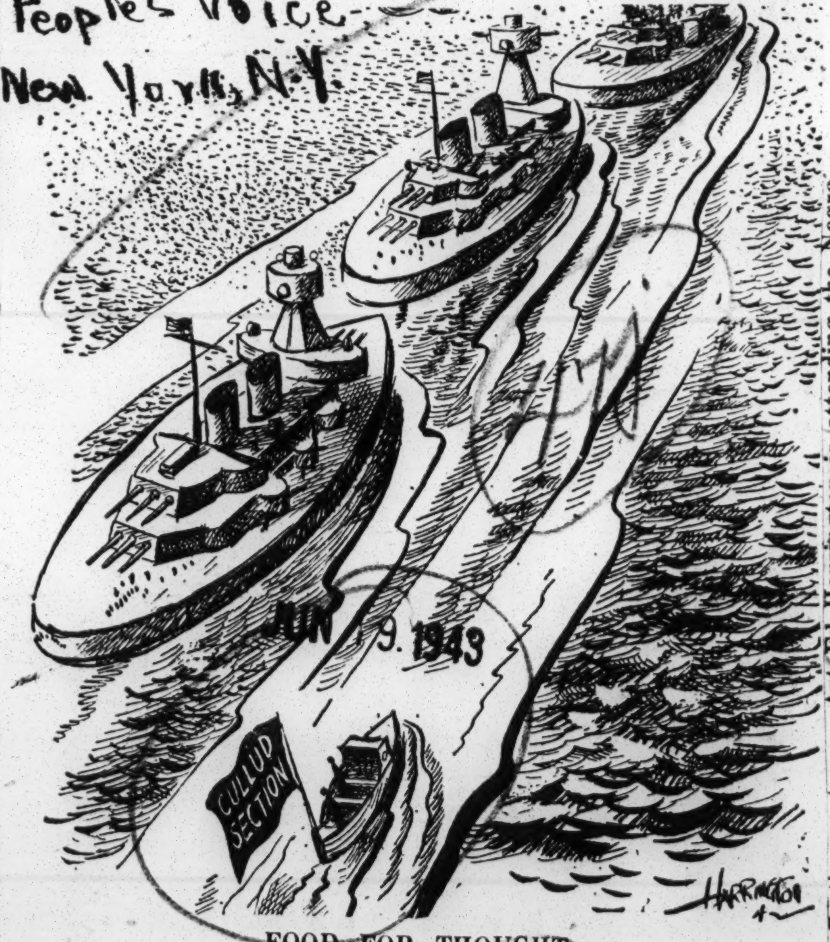
MAY 10 1943

Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo-Wide World

MARINES IN KILTS

These are Samoan "Fita-Fitas," proud members of a native detachment organized by the Navy 40 years ago, now expanded to war strength. Their uniforms: white G.I. undershirts (and drawers) and a khaki wrap-around "lava-lava." Lacking sleeves for chevrons, the native noncommissioned officers wear Marine Corps insignia on the fronts of their skirts. Bare feet are regulation in these detachments, now being trained in other South Sea Isles for defense duties. Marine Corps sergeants (with sleeves and pants) serve as commanding officers.

Peoples Voice
New York, N.Y.



JUN 19 1943

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

At the suggestion of Don Burr, who normally fills this space with his ironical pen sketches, PV reproduces here one of Ol Harrington's most effective cartoons. Art Ed Harrington is attending the Negro Publishers Association Kentucky confab. Last year TIME magazine not only reported on the conference which was held in Chicago, and quoted at length various and sundry unflattering appraisals of PV but also reproduced the cartoon shown above. Despite glowing stories US Navy policy still remains unchanged.

Time
Chicago. Illinois

SHIPS

Honor for a Sailor

AUG 2 1943

Down the launching ways at the big Bethlehem Fore River shipyard at Quincy, Mass. slid the destroyer escort *Harmon*, first U.S. warship named for a Negro. Navy Secretary Frank Knox had assigned the name in honor of Roy Harmon, Navy messman, who gave his life aboard the cruiser *San Francisco* in the Battle of Guadalcanal last November.

9,000 Negroes In Merchant Marine

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 24 1943

NEW YORK—More than 9,000 Negroes sailed the seas on the ships of the United States Merchant Marine, carrying supplies to the war fronts of the United Nations, it was revealed in a survey made by the War Shipping Administration. This number constituted one-tenth of the entire merchant marine force.

MULZAC AND CREW BEAT CONVOY TO LONDON

H.P.W.

MAR 6 1943

MAR 6 1943

Only Negro skipper of a U. S. Liberty ship on the high seas, Captain Hugh Mulzac and his crew took the S. S. Booker T. Washington into a British port carrying a cargo of food and munitions. It was the first trans-Atlantic voyage for the vessel manned by a mixed crew. A heavy storm broke up the convoy and the Booker T. led the rest of the convoy into port by two days. MAR 6 1943

Sing for Victory's Cause

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD QUARTETTE which will sing at the War Chest Campaign Dinner of the Fur Industry at the Hotel Pennsylvania tonight at 7 o'clock. From left to right, they are; Thomas B. Lockard, Storekeeper 2/c; Homer Smith, Boatswain Mate 2/c, and formerly of the famed "Southernaires"; Martin Boughan, Storekeeper 3/c, and James O. Lewis, Seaman 1/c, a concert soloist. Both Lockard and Boughan are Gilbert and Sullivan opera stars.

The dinner ceremonies in which outstanding representatives of United Nations relief agencies will participate, inaugurate the 1943 fund raising campaign of the fur industry—a joint effort of labor and management. Chairman and co-chairman of the campaign respectively are Lou White, president of the Associated Fur Coat and Trimming Manufacturers Association, and Ben Gold, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers Union of the United States and Canada. Last year the War Chest raised $250,000—this year's goal is twice as much—$500,000.

JUL 12 1943

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JUL 12 1943

Negro Ship Captain Complains Mixed Crew Too Well Behaved

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

e Associated Press

JUL 2 1943

Baltimore, July 1.—Capt. Hugh Mulzac, first Negro to command an American ship became today probably the first captain ever to complain because his men were "too well-behaved."

For nine months he has commanded a mixed crew of Negroes and whites, both officers and men.

"When there is trouble on a ship, the captain is supposed to 'log' the men—take away a day's pay—or punish them in some other way. But my men have been too well-behaved. I haven't yet had a chance to learn how to do it," the 57-year-old seafarer said.

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Captain Mulzac, the first Negro to hold a master's license in the U. S. Merchant Marine, has been in the nautical business for almost 40 years. A native of the West Indies, he is agraduate of the Swansea Nautical College in South Wales, England, and of the United States Shipping Board School in Baltimore.

JUL 2 1943

He received his precedent-setting master's license in Baltimore in 1920 after another war had created a pressing need for experienced seamen. He subsequently berthed as second, third or chief officer for steamship companies.

It was not until last year, however, that an opportunity came to command his own ship. Last September he was offered command of the Booker T. Washington, 10,500-ton Liberty ship named for the famed Negro educator. But there was a string attached to the offer.

He was told he would have to have an all-Negro crew.

"I couldn't do that because I had always fought against segregation and this would be the same as approving it," Captain Mulzac said. So he finally got the shipping administrator to agree that he pick his own crew from among the best men he could find.

JUL 2 1943

Captain Mulzac selected three Negroes for chief officer, chief engineer and wireless operator. His other officers were both white and Negro and one-fourth of the crew were Negroes. There is no segregation aboard ship.

"There was no trouble with the crew ashore or aboard ship . . . Not one has left because of dissatisfaction," Captain Mulzac said.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Union Protests Ill Treatment Of Negroes

~~JUL 11 1943~~

New York, July 10 (AP)—A protest that Negro seamen were forced from a train at Rocky Point, N. C., while en route to their ship was made today at the convention of the National Maritime Union, C.I.O.

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Joseph Curran, N.M.U. president, told the convention that the Negroes were members of a group of twenty-nine seamen being sent in a special coach to an Atlantic port. When the Negroes were ejected, other seamen left the train also, Curran said.

The convention adopted a resolution addressed to the War Shipping Administration declaring "we will not tolerate any further discrimination against members of this union," and referred the matter to the union's attorney for further action.

JUL 11 1943

Curran said the crew members were proceeding to a port so that the sailing of their ship would not be delayed. He added that he did not know if the men were in a group or traveling separately.

MARINES TAKE PART IN PARADE

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUN 1943

NEW BERN, N. C., June 10—(ANP)—In their first public display of drilling off their reservation at Camp LeJeune, the marine corps' only Negro recruiting depot and training center, Negro marines participated here Monday in a Memorial day parade and program sponsored by the New Bern Negro civic league.

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Negro non-commissioned officers directed the band and three platoons of Negro recruit marines. The band was conducted by Drum Major Sgt. L. R. Elmore of Washington, and the platoons were commanded by Sgt. Gilbert J. Johnson of Alabama.

Witnessing the parade were Col S. A. Woods Jr., commanding officer of the Negro marine camps; Lt. Col. T. A. Hogan, commanding officer of the Negro recruit depot at New River; and Marine Gunner Crapser, supervisor of the Negro recruit training. Each highly complimented the drilling by the leathernecks in their first public appearance.

JUN 1943

47j-1943

New Liberty Ship S. S. John Merrick Tribute To Genius Of Great Carolinian

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

WILMINGTON, N. C. — Floating proudly in the harbor here this week waiting its final ship fittings before sailing overseas with war cargo was the newly-launched S. S. John Merrick, a liberty ship tribute to the genius of the man who founded the world's largest Negro business.

Launching of the vessel was the occasion of moving ceremonies honoring Merrick as the guiding influence behind the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company.

As its founder and first president, Merrick, an humble Durham barber, guided it into the largest insurance business owned and operated by Negroes anywhere in the world. High tribute was paid him by Gov. J. M. Broughton, principal speaker at the launching of the ship on July 11, when he was described as "a man whose noble life work is a pride of all North Carolina."

Merrick was born in Sampson County in slavery on September 7, 1859. When he was 12 years old, he went to work in the Chapel Hill brickyard and worked there for six years.

Somehow or other he picked up a little reading, writing, and figuring—and this was a feat of some magnitude, for the boy was so busy trying to support his mother and brother that he had little time to take advantage of the scant opportunities the times afforded.

At the end of his employment in Chapel Hill, Merrick loaded the family belongings on a steer cart and moved the family to Raleigh. Shaw university was under construction then, and he obtained employment as a hod-carrier and brick mason. Later he worked as a bootblack in a barber shop and managed to pick up the technique of barbering.

To Durham

A fellow barber decided to open a shop in Durham and offered Merrick the opportunity to go with him; so, in 1880, Merrick left Raleigh and moved to Durham. He made his home in Durham until his death in 1919.

Merrick organized the N. C. Mutual Life Insurance company on October 20, 1898. The company first bore the name of the N. C. Mutual and Provident Association. The organization was formed for the purpose of providing sick and death benefits, and Merrick was elected president.

During the first year of operation, five of the organizers became discouraged and withdrew, and the company was reorganized under its present name, and Merrick was elected president of this company also. He remained president until his death.

The company began doing business with no capital, no training, and no experience. Income from the first year's operation amounted to $393.95, and assets totaled $350.

In the 45 years of its existence the company has grown from humble beginnings to an institution that now stands 28th among the first 50 life insurance companies in America from the standpoint of insurance in force, and first in accumulation of assets among Negro-managed companies.

At the close of business in 1942, the company had more than $64,000,000 of life insurance in force and had paid its policyholders over $21,000,000 in matured endowments, sick and death benefits, and other claims.

Appreciation of the contribution made by Merrick and of the growing amity between the races in North Carolina, was expressed by Gov. Broughten in his address.

In the achievements and philosophy of Merrick's life there are to be found "lessons of great value for this troubled time" declared the governor. He said that great advances have been made in the last 45 years in interracial cooperation and would continue in the future, aborting a repetition of the race riots that gripped Wilmington in 1898.

Cites State's Record

"There has been no race riot in North Carolina since that time," Gov. Broughton continued. "There has been only one act of lynching in this state in over 20 years. A record of racial harmony has been made in this state unsurpassed and perhaps unequalled in any state of the American union.

"We view with deep concern the recent serious race riots in Detroit and lesser outbreaks in other sections of the North, all indicating that the matter of race relationship is still one of the great problems of American life, and that it is not southern but national in its scope."

The state executive pointed with pride to the school system of North Carolina that operates, he said, nine months each year and provides free textbooks and transportation to all races alike. Recently, he added, the legislature passed bills appropriating more than one million dollars to help remove salary differentials between Negro and white teachers. North Carolina's college for Negroes and three other state sponsored schools for colored people have high scholastic ratings, he averred.

"These things in our state have been accomplished by harmonious cooperation and mutual respect as between the two races," he stated, "and not by listening to outside agitators, who in the guise of seeking only economic opportunity for the Negro, would flout established and mutually respected conventions and traditions, which cannot in this state, now or never, be obliterated.

An example of the high esteem in which Merrick was held in the state is contained in the following excerpts from an editorial in the High Point Enterprise, the day of the launching:

"We are glad that honor today will be paid to whom honor is due. We are glad that here in the South—where 80 years ago John Merrick's ancestors were bought and sold as slaves—we have this evidence of a better understanding between the white and colored races.

"We have only to remember what happened in Detroit a few days ago to realize how far we are from a solution of America's greatest 'race problem.' We know this problem has been accentuated by developments during the war — including unrest among both colored and white.

"We realize that there are great dangers ahead, just as there have been great dangers in the past. We know there are fools, hot-heads and criminals in both races who have made, are making and will continue to make the joint problem more difficult.

"But this we know, also:

"If the Negro race can grow leaders like John Merrick and Charles Spaulding; and if more leaders of the white race will give them intelligent cooperation instead sentimental sympathy, we will continue to make headway in a joint effort to deal with each other like men, rather than animals. There will be setbacks. Many of them. But those with faith—those with a vision such as John Merrick had—will not become discouraged.

"The Detroit race riot was a horrible thing. But the launching of the Liberty Ship John Merrick is more significant."

JUL 24 1943

Heroic Sailor In Coral Sea Battle Wins Navy Medal

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illino

FEB 13 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A 20-year old Negro mess attendant, who unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Lexington, during the Battle of the Coral Sea, and assisted in removing injured personnel trapped below decks, has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced this week.

The heroic young mess attendant, one of five enlisted men similarly honored from the Lexington's crew, is Elvin Bell, an orphan who formerly resided with his aunt, Miss Marie Lofton, at 139-08 114th avenue, Jamaica, N. Y. He has been promoted from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, second class.

His citation reads:

"For distinguished heroism while serving aboard the U.S.S. Lexington during the battle of the Coral sea on May 8, 1942. Voluntarily joining a repair party fighting fire in an area frequented by violent explodings of gasoline vapor and ammunition, Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

ELVIN [illegible]

Bell, who attended Jamaica high school for one and one-half years and later served in the Civilian Conservation Corps, applied for enlistment in the navy on July 18, 1941, and reported for active duty immediately.

An eyewitness account of the rescue was written by Stanley Johnston, a war correspondent aboard the stricken carrier, in the recent Victory Edition of the Chicago Defender. Johnson's account declared:

"It was Commander Mort Seligman's task to direct the rescue. I heard him call on the men around him: There are three men in frame So-and-So. That's below the fire. To reach them, one of you must go around the fire and through passage X.'

"A young colored mess attendant stepped forward. I could not see his face for he was wearing a smoke helmet. He saluted and quietly and said: 'I'll go, Sir.'

"'Sure you know how to reach them?' the commander asked.

"'Yes, Sir. I know the way.'

"'Do you realize that you might never make it—might never come back?'

"'Yes, Sir. I do. But I would like to try just the same.'

"Right then. On your way. And good luck to you. We'll be waiting for you."

"He went. Through long passageways and down several flights of steel steps deep into the vast hull. But he was sure of his way. This fine colored lad did come back. And what's more—he brought the three men with him."

FEB 1943

FEB 13 1943

FEB 13 1943

Chicago Defender

Detroiter Is First Colored Navy Officer Put On Duty

BOSTON. — (ANP) — Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins of Detroit has the distinction of being the first colored naval officer to be assigned to active duty.

Chicago, Illinois

He is attached to the coast guard shore patrol of the First Naval district with headquarters at the former exclusive Hotel Brunswick and has under his command a mixed personnel of white and colored seamen.

He was inducted as a chief petty officer on presenting his qualifications about a year ago and after attending the coast guard academy at New London, Conn., was commissioned an ensign on April 19.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of civil engineering degree, class of 1937, and from that time up to the time of his enlistment was connected with the Michigan state highway.

Ensign Jenkins stated that he has been treated fairly and believes there is an ever-widening opportunity for colored boys in the coast guard. Incidentally his friends in Detroit scoffed at his move in leaving the Michigan state highway saying, "It couldn't be done."

Ensign "Whit" Robinson, the only other colored naval ensign, is still on inactive status awaiting the completion of his medical studies at Harvard university in 1944.

JUN 1943

Liberal Article Lauds Soldiers

Navy Yard Newspaper Tells Of Negro In War

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUL 10 1943

CHARLESTON, S.C., July 8—(ANP)—Attention to the great contribution Negro men are making in the war effort was called last week in the newspaper, "Ahoy," printed for the Navy and Marine personnel and civilian workers employed at the Charleston Navy yard. The article, entitled. "One Thing in Mind." said in part:

"The Nazis reported they had sunk a certain American cargo ship."

"The ship wasn't sunk. Merchant Seaman Makhan Kitchens isn't dead. He was in Charleston last week, awaiting sailing orders. He told reporters, however, that he had a close call last time his ship put into port on the African front loaded with 10,000 tons of ammunition. Negro soldiers had started unloading the deadly cargo when Nazi bombers attacked. The ship's gun crews fought them off and the Hitlerites missed their target.

"What impressed Kitchens most though, was the way the soldiers worked. 'In less than 60 hours,' he said, 'they had unloaded 10,000 tons of ammunition. Many of them worked 24 to 26 hours without stopping. There were a few white men in the crowd, but it made no difference to anyone. They had a job to do, and believe me, they did it.

"I asked one of those Negro fellows why he worked so hard. He said: 'We just got one thing on our minds—win the war so we can go back to America.'"

To Name Ship For Frederick Douglass

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

APR 17 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15—The Maritime commission announced this week that a Liberty ship, assigned for construction in a Baltimore, Md., shipyard, will be named for Frederick Douglass, famous orator and journalist of the Civil war period.

The ship, third of a series named for outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore—a short distance from the site where Douglass, a Maryland-born slave, once worked as a ship caulker.

TWO OTHERS

The first ship of this series, the SS Booker T. Washington, named for the noted educator, is now in active service under Capt. Hugh Mulzac. The second. the SS George Washington Carver, named for the world-famous scientist, is under construction at a West Coast shipyard.

The name Frederick Douglass was assigned to the third Liberty ship by the Maritime commission at the request of Local 43 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers' of America, CIO. The Victory Production committee of the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyards will make arrangements for the launching ceremony which is scheduled to be held in May, 1943.

Assails Navy's Failure To Use Race Instructors

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAR 27 1943

CHICAGO, March 25—The failure of the Civil Service Commission here to appoint qualified Negro ground school instructors to the Navy Department was protested to President Roosevelt this week by the Chicago NAACP.

In a telegram to the White House the NAACP pointed out that although it has been more than a year since some of the instructors completed their training, not one has been assigned while a number of whites trained at the same time are now teaching.

"The appropriate use of manpower requires," said the NAACP, "that these men be assigned to the highest and best use for which they have demonstrated their qualifications. Recently some of them have been classified for immediate induction into the armed forces because the Navy Department has not given them the assignment for which they have been trained. These men have no fear of induction. They are loyal citizens who want to serve their country to the fullest extent of their ability. It will be a great injustice to deprive them of their rights simply because of racial prepudices. It may mean the loss of the war for the United Nations.

The names of these men are: James O. Lee. Robert F. Short, Richard L. Farmer, Cassim M. Pendleton, Douglas R. Turner, J. W. Porter. Wilburn W. Barton Robert Lee Cole, Clarence Stephens and Frederick P. Blair Jr. They and we on their behalf ask your intercession to the end that justice and fair play be accorded them."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

'In Behalf of the Navy'—Gunner On Ship Honors Capt. Mulzac

JUL 10 1943

Warm letters of cooperation exchanged between Captain Hugh Mulzac of the S.S. Booker T. Washington and Harold Krulcy, Liutenant, junior grade, of the Navy gun crew on his ship, were made public at the National Maritime Union convention at Manhattan Center.

The Naval lieutenant's letter expresses his "sincere thanks" to the Captain and his officers and men "for the splendid co-operation furnished me and the Navy crew during this voyage.

Referring to the "splendid relationship that existed between the merchant crew and the Navy crew," Lieutenant Krulcy writes:

IN BEHALF OF NAVY

"Whatever I requested was supplied two-fold, and in many cases my needs were foreseen and satisfied even before I could state them. Your men volunteered in greater numbers than was needed to supplement my crew in the manning of the guns, and surpassed that gesture by standing general quarters at dawn and at dusk, an act which, in some cases, meant a sacrifice of sleep and rest, especially for those men who were coming off their regular watches at those times.

"On behalf of the Navy crew and myself, I congratulate you on this successful maiden voyage of the Booker T. Washington and on the fact that you and your crew have proved yourselves to be worthy members of the United States Merchant Marine, the organization that is contributing so much to the war effort.

"Should the exigencies of the present conflict terminate our pleasant association and necessitate my leaving the gallant Navy crew and Merchant crew now aboard this ship, it would be a source of personal regret to me."

Captain Mulzac replied: "We, of the Merchant Marine, think to the fullest extent that it is only through cooperation and sincere effort that we will win this war and win the peace. Cooperation and effort must come from both sides; therefore success has been attained, not only by the effort of the Merchant Crew, but also by the effort of you and your Gun Crew.

"I must further mention, in particular, the fine quality of men under your command; the discipline and conduct cannot be surpassed. I shall not forget the effort and personal interest, in which you undertook to carry out for the good and welfare of all concerned.

"I sincerely hope that this will not be our last voyage together."

AKA's Launch Drive Against 'Wave' Plan

Atlanta Daily World

JUL 26 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) Tired of "steps in the right direction," the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority's Non-Partisan Council on Negro Affairs Saturday launched a campaign to head off a proposed Navy Department plan by which colored women would be admitted to the WAVES on a segregated basis, according to Thomasina Johnson, AKA lobbyist.

Vigorous protests have been lodged with President Roosevelt and Sec., of the Navy Frank Knox by the Council on Public affairs of the AKA sorority and other organizations over proposed plans to enlist Negroes into the WAVES in segregated units. The plan expected to be announced soon does not provide for Negro officers and is allegedly being held up pending decision on a Negro school to train the recruits.

Faye Stephenson, of the women's advisory committee of the public relations division of the war department, declared in a letter to the President last week:

"We are very much disturbed by information that has reached us that Sec. Knox has approved a plan for the recruitment of Negro WAVES which provides for their training in segregated schools and makes no provisions for Negro officers.

"We are concerned about the effect on the morale of Negro people of the announcement of such a plan and ask you to take the matter up with Sec Knox.

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, telegraphed Knox that "any plan which provides for separate training for Negro auxiliaries or limits opportunities of Negroes in the navy or its auxiliaries be disapproved."

Rufus G. Byars, chairman of the civil liberties committee of the Elks, said in another protest "we want no compromise on the conditions under which Negro women will be admitted to the navy."

Other organizations joining in the objections to a separate setup for Negro WAVES included the Washington Urban League, the United Office and Professional Workers of America, and the Congress of Women's Auxiliaries (CIO.)

Liberty Ship Honors Vann

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

The Liberty Ship Robert L. Vann, about to be launched up at the South Portland Yards, will need a captain and there are many who consider Captain Godfrey, 432 Macon st, Brooklyn, as the ideal master. The Pittsburgh Courier, for whose founder the ship is named, is among the captain's sponsors.

Captain Godfrey has seen 40 years' service in the merchant marine and holds, with but a few others, licenses to master both steam and sailing ships. He was recently recalled to service to man one of the other liberty ships.

The captain saw service in World War 1 and was wounded in torpedo action. He was born in 1888 and graduated from the Ackerman Nautical Academy as a young man. He worked his way up to second mate and then to master. As master or captain he has sailed ships for such companies as the Ward Line, Atlantic Fruit Line, France and Canada S. S. Company, Shell Oil Co., and the Cuba Mail S.S. Co.

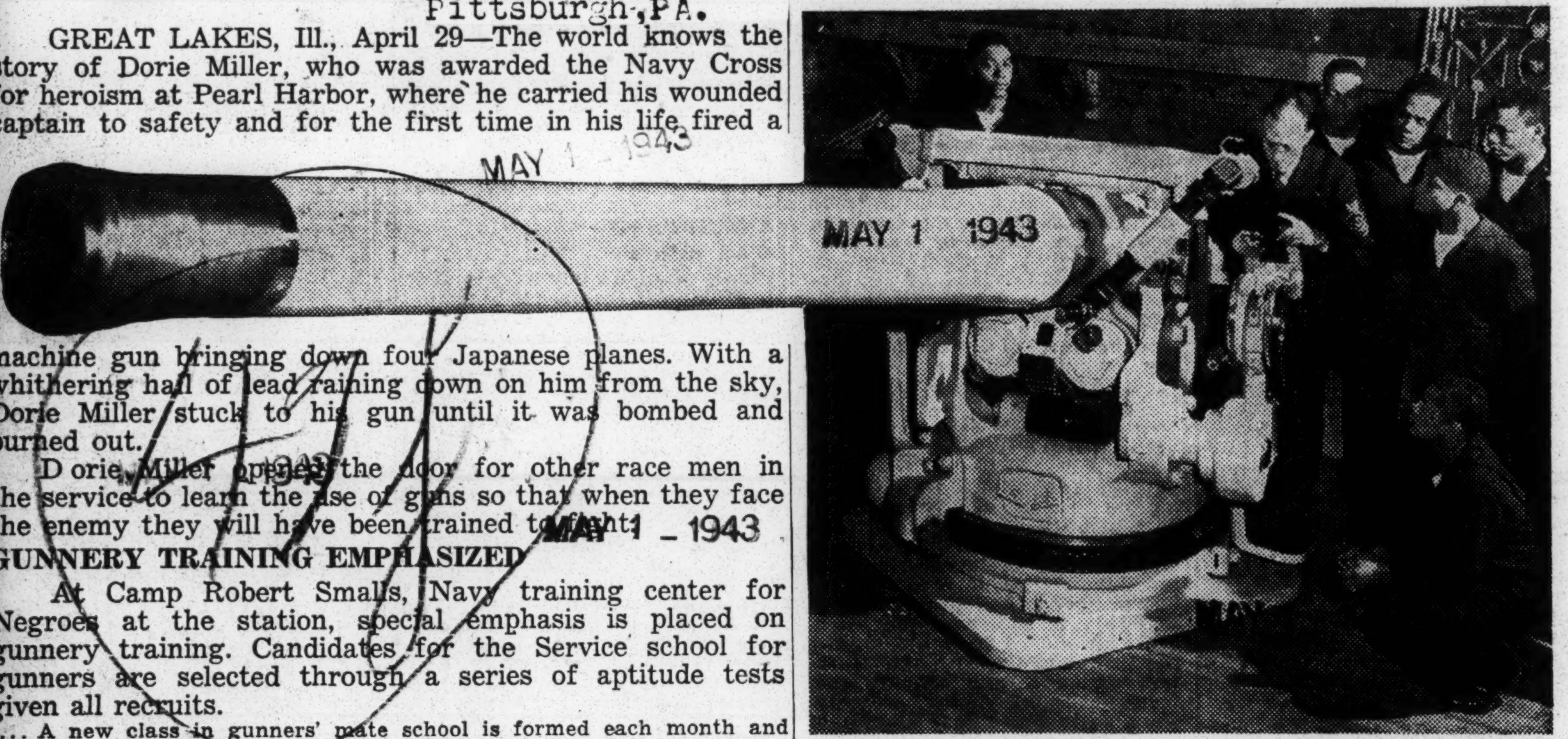
47j-1943

Navy Placing Special Emphasis On Gunnery At Great Lakes As Negro Recruits Thank Dorie Miller For Opening Door

MAY 1 - 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

GREAT LAKES, Ill., April 29—The world knows the story of Dorie Miller, who was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism at Pearl Harbor, where he carried his wounded captain to safety and for the first time in his life fired a machine gun bringing down four Japanese planes. With a whithering hail of lead raining down on him from the sky, Dorie Miller stuck to his gun until it was bombed and burned out.


MAY 1 1943

Dorie Miller opened the door for other race men in the service to learn the use of guns so that when they face the enemy they will have been trained to fight.

MAY 1 - 1943

GUNNERY TRAINING EMPHASIZED

At Camp Robert Smalls, Navy training center for Negroes at the station, special emphasis is placed on gunnery training. Candidates for the Service school for gunners are selected through a series of aptitude tests given all recruits.

... A new class in gunners' mate school is formed each month and each man receives 16 weeks of instruction under veteran naval officers and chief petty officers. More than one-quarter of the men selected for the school are advanced from seaman second class, to petty officer, third class, at the completion of their instruction.

EXTENSIVE TRAINING

During the first two weeks of the course the men are taught the parts, operations, safety precautions, assembling and disassembling of eight guns, including the pistol, rifle, automatic rifle, submachine gun, and machine gun. The remainder of the course covers, in periods of two weeks each, use of the Navy's various types of guns, turrets, sights and battery preparaion, ammunition and care, and aviation ordnance.

DORIE MILLER OPENS WAY FOR REAL NAVY TRAINING

New York, N. Y.
Amsterdam Star-News

MAY 1 5 1943

A year ago next month, Dorie Miller, 23-year-old bluejacket from Waco, Texas, was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism at Pearl Harbor by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet.

The citation, accompanying the award, told how Miller carried his wounded captain to safety while their ship was being attacked by Jap bombers and Zeros, and then manned a machine gun until bombed and burned out, bringing down four Jap planes. That was the first time Miller, a mess attendant, had ever fired a machine gun.

Hundreds of other "Millers" are handling machine guns these days at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. Perhaps none of them will ever receive the Navy Cross; perhaps fate will never give them the chance to become heroes, but when they leave Great Lakes they will know guns. When they fire upon an Axis foe it will not be the first time they have used their weapons.

In Camp Robert Smalls, Navy training center for Negroes at the station, special emphasis is placed on gunnery training as is the case throughout the Navy. Candidates for the Service School for gunner's mates are selected through a series of aptitude tests given all recruits while in "boot" camp. (The same system is used in choosing men for all other Navy trades and services.)

A new class in gunner's mate school is formed each month and receives 16 weeks of instruction under veteran naval officers and chief petty officers. More than one-quarter of the men picked for the school are advanced from seamen, second class, to petty officer, third class, at the completion of their instruction.

During the first two weeks of the course the men are taught the parts, operations, safety precautions, assembling and disassembling of eight guns, including the pistol, rifle, sub-machine gun, and machine gun. The remainder of the course covers, in periods of two weeks each, use of the Navy's various types of guns, turrets, sights and battery preparation, ammunition and care, and aviation ordnance.

Lost Hand At Guadalcanal, Now Helping Build Ships

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

APR 3 1943

QUINCY TILLMAN

WILMINGTON, Calif.—He quit college in his third year to join the navy.

He lost his left hand at Guadalcanal last December . .

He spent four months at the Long Beach Naval hospital . . .

This week, with a distinguished service bar and an honorable discharge, he will start life anew as a draftsman at the California Shipbuilding Corporation.

He is Quincy Tillman, strapping 24-year-old Negro, who saw more than four months of action in the Solomons before a machine gun blast from a low-flying Jap plane tore off his left hand, shattered several ribs and missed his heart by "an inch or two."

Unafraid of Jap Zeros, young Tillman disclosed that he hasn't told his wife, his aged mother or any relatives of his wounds. "I just don't want them to worry, but now, with a fine job to start on, I guess they can take it," he said.

Youngest of 12 children, Quincy has four brothers and seven sisters. He studied mechanical and architectural drawing at Prairie View college, 300 miles from his native Troupe, Texas.

In the navy since June, 1941, Tillman was a shipfitter, third class, until he was honorably discharged.

His bride, whom the young hero has not seen since the day after they were married six months ago, is on her way here from Texas. The couple plan to live in Long Beach.

First All-Negro Built Ship Now Ready For Seas

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

MAY 22 1943

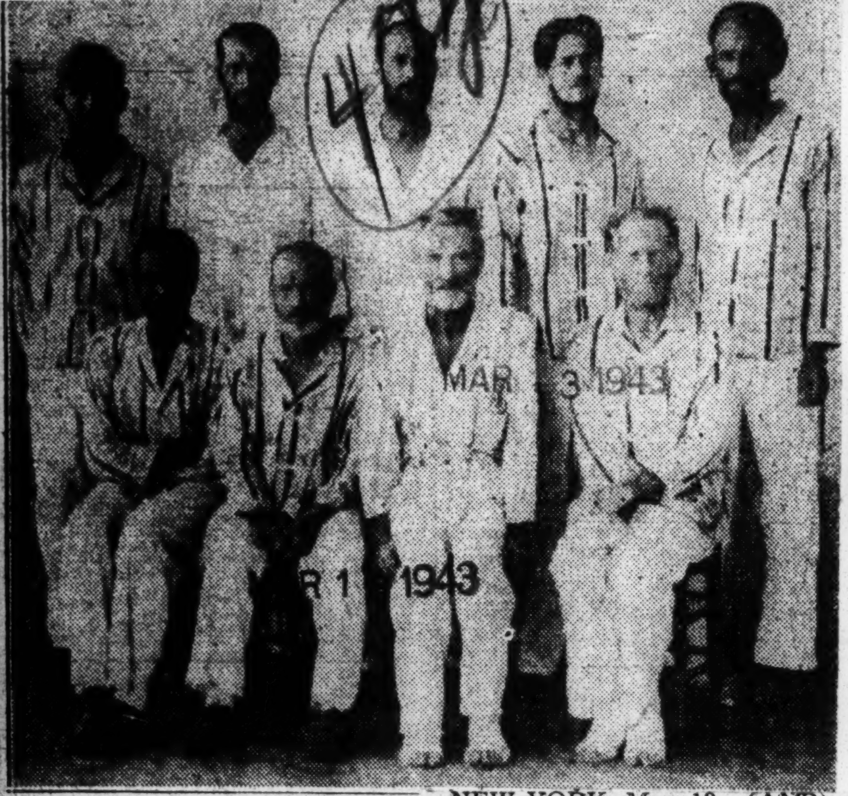
CHESTER, Pa., May 20—(ANP)—The Marine Eagle, U. S. ship built entirely by Negroes, was launched last week at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company.

Sun claims that it is the first company to establish a shipyard manned only by Negroes. Employees receive the same rate of pay as those in other yards operated by the company and according to the company president, John G. Pew, "We are greatly pleased with the wor[illegible]

Mrs. Rachel Stevenson, 22 years an employee of the firm, was selected to christen the ship and receive a $1,000 war bond, gift of the company.

39 Days In Lifeboat After Ship Was Sunk

New York Age
New York, N. Y.



MAR 1 3 1943

Fifty-eight men put out to sea to carry the goods to beat the Axis—fifty-eight stalwart members of the unsung Merchant Marine. In S. American waters they met the fury of torpedos unleashed from a Nazi submarine and nine dauntless men came back to tell the tale of a thirty-nine day vigil against hunger and dire danger in shark-swarmed waters.

MAR 1 3 1943

Standing, left to right are Captain E. E. Greenlow; Naval Gun Officers Philip C. Nolan and W. L. Spring; Oiler John Regalc, and Radio Operator J. C. Casey.

Seated are Pantryman George Nelson, sole Negro survivor whose heroism helped save the day; Fireman William Suprey; James Brooks and Second Officer Seabury Cook.

This remarkable photograph was taken at the General Hospital, of a Vichy-controlled Island on the South Atlantic shores.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Naval Officer Tells Sambo Jokes At Commerce Meet

MAY 1 6 1943

NEW YORK, May 13—(ANP)—Rear Adm. Emory S. Land, (U. S. N. retired) chairman of the Maritime commission and War Shipping administration, thinks it funny to tell sambo jokes and speak in Negro dialect when he addresses large audiences such as he did last Wednesday night at the Waldorf Astoria hotel. It was the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

47

Americans must be a good deal more subtle, he said, than the Negro who beat a rap for stealing a dozen chickens through the skillful aid of a court-appointed lawyer. When the judge asked the defendant if he could pay anything for the lawyer, he is supposed to have replied:

"Ah ain't got no money, but I has got a dozen nice fat chickens you gemmen can spit 'tween you."

MAY 1 6 1943

Adm. Land is not particularly noted for ever having done anything for Negroes. In fact, he has been accused of standing in the way of Negroes who sought to get jobs in the merchant marine until the National Maritime commission (CIO) stepped in and put the matter up to President Roosevelt.

Even now Land is accused of blocking Negroes who want training for upgrading in the maritime service at the government operated schools.

MAY 1 6 1943

Seaman, 21, Was Hero of Battle Of Solomons; Tells Experiences

The People's Voice New York N.Y.

FEB 6 1943

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT

When the Japs touched off the Pearl Harbor fuse which ignited a global war, Seaman Harold E. Ward, who is just old enough to vote, was on board one of Uncle Sam's fighting craft. The first thing he did when hell broke loose from the skies was to take his battle station. Since Pearl Harbor he has participated in more maior sea events than you could count on the fingers of one hand.

Special

During the running fight of the task force of nine ships commanded by Admiral Callaghan in the debacle of the Solomon Islands, Ward went down fighting, handling AA guns. Working with the first-aid gang, he was injured by shrapnel which lodged in his legs, back and arms.

Interviewed in PV's office Monday afternoon, the youthful hero told casually and without braggadocio of the dangerous life he has led following the call of the sea under the Stars and Stripes. He arrived here Jan. 17 after spending two months in a navy hospital somewhere in the Pacific area.

We asked if he could describe the feelings of seamen under fire.

"Feelings?" he asked. "When you're under fire, there isn't an awful lot of room for feeling. We set out knowing what to expect. Most people picture seagoing crews as pretty grim folk. That's not true. We're pretty natural—laughing, joking until the time comes, the word is passed to stand by. Then everyone quiets down and gets ready to turn to. I don't think there are words to describe it—how you feel while the actual bombing is going on. Of course, you feel a little punchy after it's all over, but you're glad then that you can still feel anything at all. Out where I've been you forget feelings because every time you turn around the submarines are throwing fish at you."

FEB 6 1943

It didn't take Pearl Harbor to bring Harold Ward to his country's defense. When the Japs struck the Pacific island, Ward had been a seaman for two years. Atlantic City-born, he was brought up in Brooklyn, schooled there and returned to learn the electrician's trade at Atlantic City Trade School.

Living in the neighborhood of a Navy Yard sort of interested him in things nautical. He applied for an electrician's job there after finishing his course, but Pearl Harbor hadn't yet come to change employment policy and he was turned down. So off he went to sea hoping to get a chance to practice his trade there.

FEB 6 1943

We asked him why he wasn't practicing his trade.

He shrugged and said he could not. That is because Seaman Harold Ward knows when to talk and when to button his lip. Men who have been under fire are like that.

But after we had gone we probed about a bit and found out why it is that Harold Ward, hero of several major battles of World War II and competent to do the work of an electrician can only be a messman.

FEB 6 1943

You see, Harold Ward is a victim of a peculiar kind of discrimination. The lads and men like Ward who entered the service before Pearl Harbor, who didn't need the threat of impending draft to send them to their country's cause—those men are not affected by the recent ruling of the Navy Department that Negroes may rise above the berth of petty officers or messmen.

Harold Ward returns to a Naval Hospital sometime about March 1. Due to the seriousness of his injuries he doesn't know whether or not he'll be assigned to combat duty again. But if he is, he'll go willingly.

That is because Harold Ward typifies the quiet, unassuming, courageous spirit of his blood and race brothers all over the nation. It makes him loyal to his country and flag even though because he was loyal in peace time, he cannot enjoy the advantages forced from a wartime emergency.

We knew when the interview had ended the reason why some guy or other had written something or other about the spirit of the men who go down to the sea in ships.

FEB 1943

EDITORIAL

Seaman Ward didn't say it—he couldn't very well—but PV feels it's obvious that there's a situation. which needs attention. Ward, and many others like him, are proving their ability and loyalty in the navy. But the opportunities for advancement past the petty officer or messman rank don't seem to be coming their way.

When the navy department, last year, announced that it was eliminating its traditional ban against Negroes rising above those ranks, everybody realized the action was calculated to encourage Negro enlistments in the service. Every Negro who joined the navy after that ruling is eligible to rise.

But how about those Negroes who were in before the ruling? We know about the "ex post facto" clause applying to statutes whereby one can't be convicted of a violation which took place before the law was passed. But this philosophy should hardly apply to the navy regulation.

That would be too much like exerting an extra penalty for excessive loyalty.—STB

Age-Herald
Birmingham. Ala

INCREASED CALL OF NEGROES SEEN

APR 27 1943

WASHINGTON, April 26—(AP)—The Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are going to increase their inductions of Negroes. War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt told a press conference Monday.

He added that he had worked out a "schedule" which would guarantee that the proportion of Negroes in the sea service eventually would be the same as their proportion of the national population—about 10 per cent. The Army, McNutt said, has been inducting Negroes at this rate "right along." He would not say when the sea services would begin taking Negroes in higher proportion.

Ho Hum!

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Nothing New in Navy's Use of Negro Combatants, Declares Secretary of Navy Knox

June 5 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3—The Navy will use its race units as part of the combatant group, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox told a House Appropriations subcommittee, but little else concerning their disposition was revealed.

Pointedly questioned by Representative J. William Ditter, Republican of Pennsylvania, Mr. Knox said the Navy plans to use colored personnel "where their capacities will permit them to be used."

Rear Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance had previously disclosed that colored men were being used in construction battalions at shore establishments.

Knox, during the hearing, was very vague in his answers. He stated that the Negro complement will be up to 10 per cent of the Navy strength. This percentage will be reached by July, 1944.

The Secretary also stated that a very careful study is being made as to how Negro seamen will be utilized and that combatant units in the Marines are being organized.

47j-1943

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Captain Mulzac Heard In Radio Talk To Indies

JAN 10 1943

Tells Natives Black Folk In Fight For Freedom

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Negro Americans, West Indians and Africans are fighting so that their women and children may enjoy more of that freedom which exists under democracy, Captain Hugh Mulzac, master of the Liberty Ship, Booker T. Washington, declared last week in a series of OWI broadcasts beamed to the peoples of the Caribbean area and the British Isles.

Interviewed by Claude McKay, noted poet and author, Captain Mulzac told his Caribbean radio audience:

NOW SHIP'S MASTER

JAN 10 19

"Last April when I visited Trinidad, I was chief steward of an American ship. And today I am happy to tell you that I am the master of the American ship, the Booker T. Washington. Some of you know that this ship is named for the noble American Negro educator and builder of the all-Negro school of Tuskegee Institute. For 35 years I have sailed the seas and I regard my present position as the greatest honor that has come to me, because it was something that was difficult to achieve. I hope that it will inspire other members of my race to strive hard to win more of these difficult things.

JAN 10 1943

"There have been other Negro captains, such as Captain Cockburn, Captain O'Neil and Captain Webster, all West Indians, who like myself previously sailed under the Union Jack. We West Indians in our homes are surrounded by deep water and so we naturally

cast, sponsored by the A. F. of L., C. I. O., and Railroad Brotherhoods, originated in New York and was rebroadcast to the British Isles. It included interviews with several members of the crew of the Booker T. Washington, who praised the leadership of Captain Mulzac on their first trip.

Harry Alexander, white deck engineer, told how Captain Mulzac had been teaching his men navigation. Alexander said he had been sailing for twenty-two years in the engine department of various ships. When asked how the Booker T. Washington compares with other ships he declared:

TEACHES CREW

"Listen. I've been on ships where the captains sat up nights thinking of things to do to irritate the crew. Our old man spends his time teaching us navigation. In fine weather, we have two or three classes a week, on the afterdeck. One man in our navigation class is going to take his examination for a mate's license, and there will be others like him, soon."

Speaking on this broadcast, Captain Mulzac said in part:

"I am captain of a ship with a mixed crew of white men and Negroes from eighteen different nations. Our chief officer and second officer, chief engineer and radio operator are from the West Indies. Our first, second and third engineers and carpenter are white. And so my crew stand together as a symbol of that democratic way of life for which we are all fighting.

JAN 10 1943

CREW WITH HIM

"I know how important it is for me to get my ship through. Every ounce of strength I have, every thought I have is concentrated on that job. If we cannot get through to the men on the fighting fronts, we are ready to die in the attempt. And my crew is with me all the way.

"I have said I was proud of my men. My feelings go further than that. I feel that our crew is a fine example of democracy in action. And the more action we see the more opportunities we are given to fight for what we believe in, and the better we'll take it.

"I am proud to say that the men and officers of the Booker T. Washington are as fine an example as there is in the world of black men and white men united for a quick and smashing victory over the Hitlerites, the Facists and the Japanese—in 1934!"

Nashville, Tenn. [illegible]

January 1, 1943

Navy To Accept Negro Volunteers For Mess Duties

JAN 1 - 1943

Local selective service boards have been notified by state headquarters that Negroes may now volunteer for induction into the U. S. Naval Reserve as mess attendants, and that as the Navy's needs for men in other classifications are announced, the local boards will be informed of these later needs.

Lt. Comdr. E. E. Keith, officer in charge of the Nashville Navy recruiting station, announced today that men 17 years of age and over 37 are being accepted for enlistment in all other classifications and ratings.

Only Negroes between ages of 18 and 38 who desire to enlist as mess attendants are at the present time eligible from the selective service rolls, Commander Keith said.

Local draft boards have been informed as to procedure in the cases of Class 1-A registrants who wish to volunteer for naval service.

Negroes wishing to volunteer as mess attendants can obtain the necessary information from either the local draft boards or from any Navy recruiting station. However, they must state their choice to their local draft board prior to receiving notice of induction.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

Sea Biscuits Serving

Lay Runway For Invasions

JAN 1 - 1943

By Julius L. Hibler
Carpenter's Mate Third Class
U. S. N. R.

NORFOLK, Va., — When the United States Navy decided to give Negroes a chance to use their skill in various trades, more than 1,000 colored men immediately enlisted, and on the twenty-sixth day of September this year, reported for active duty at Allen, the Naval Construction Training Center near Norfolk, Va.

Are Tradesmen

Eelctricians, carpenters, drillers, blacksmiths, riggers, truck drivers, pipefitters, painters, draftsmen, steel workers, laborers, and men of some 50 other trades were placed in one unit to make the thirty-fourth U. S Naval Construction Battalion, a unit of that group becoming better known as the "Seabees". More than 300 of these were given advanced ratings due to special skills in their respective trades.

The few weeks at Allen might be said to be the hardest period of anyone's Naval career — detention for physical check-up and inoculation. The first day was easy — assignment of quarters, medical inspection, drawing Navy clothing, and filling out experience record cards.

Get Stiff Training

JAN 1 - 1943

Next morning the job of converting the men into "Seabees" began in earnest. From reveille at 5:45 a.m. to taps at 9:30 p.m., there were few idle moments; and for three and one-half hours in both morning and afternoon we followed a prescribed training schedule, which consisted of courses in military courtesy, manual of arms, combat signals, rifle marksmanship, bayonet drill, extended order marching drill, hand grenade, armaments, chemical warfare, base layout, and air-raid precautions.

Emphasis obviously was on the military, for this was the phase of our coming job with which we were least familiar. The students of base layout and air-raid precautions, however, provided an insight into the real nature of the job ahead. Since all of the "Seabees" had some skill to start with, training was brief but intensive. However, every man was given a course in the fundamentals of all skills needed to construct a faraway base for the fighting fleets.

At Camp Bradford we are given the finishing touches to our previous fundamental military training. With miles of beaches along the Atlantic Coast, brackish swamps, wooded uplands, and lowlands, tough with scrub brush, Bradford offers a terrain for training that matches the difficulties we "Seabees" might expect in any distant nook or fissure of the globe. Here we received more combat training, including landing operations and the use of light artillery and anti-aircraft guns.

JAN 1 - 1943

Through the foresight of our battalion commander, Lieutenant Commander J. P. McBean Jr., this Negro battalion has been placed under the supervision of a group of the best white trade instructors to be found anywhere in the nation. Because 75 percent of this Negro group came from the South, the officers selected to lead us also came from those parts. It has been clearly shown by our leaders that they want, as much as we do, to make this first group of Negro Seabees" one of the best battalions to leave the States.

Negroes May Enlist In Navy Voluntarily

Florence, Ala., Herald

January 8, 1943

Authority to accept Negroes between 18 and 38 years of age, who desire to volunteer for naval service through their selective service boards, has been received at the Birmingham Navy Recruiting Headquarters, Lt. Comdr. J. E. Meredith, Officer in charge, said Monday.

Negro volunteers will be inducted into the Navy as apprentice seamen and their ratings will be changed to mess attendants, third class, at the recruiting station after induction.

Negroes who desire to volunteer for the Navy should visit their selective service boards, procure the proper induction papers and then present themselves to a Navy recruiting station.

Those living in or near Birmingham should report to Room 9 Post Office Building. Those at a distance from Birmingham may apply at the Navy recruiting station nearest their homes and receive transportation to Birmingham for induction the recruiting officer said.

No orders have been received for the induction into the Navy of white men who are between 18 and 38 years of age, but both white and Negro men who are between 17 and 18 and between 38 and 50 years of age will be accepted as quotas permit at any one of the Navy recruiting stations in the Birmingham district Lt. Comdr. Meredith said.

To Be Guests At Testimonial In New York City

"Daily World"

Atlanta, Ga.

JAN 3 1943

Steers 10,500 Ton Ship Thru Submarine Waters

NEW YORK CITY, — (SNS)—A dinner in honor of Captain Hugh N. Mulzac, first Negro to command a vessel in American maritime history, and his United Nations crew aboard the new Liberty ship, BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, will be given by the Greater New York Industrial Union Council, CIO, at the Hotel Commodore, Tuesday, evening, January 12, it was announced Saturday.

JAN 3 1943

Captain Mulzac and the crew recently landed the vessel at an East Coast port after its maiden voyage through submarine-infested waters and have accepted the invitation to come to New York for the dinner, the Council said.

GOVERNOR TO SPEAK

Governor Charles A. Poletti and Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr., will be among the speakers.

Joseph Curran, President of the CIO Council, hailed the dinner as a symbol of United Nations' unity and a triumph of democracy over Fascist race theories.

"To win this war we must mobilize the resources of all the people of the world, — regardless of race, creed, color or national origin. This dinner, commemorating the successful voyage of the BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, so capably commanded by Captain Mulzac and manned by seamen of 18 different nationalities, is concrete proof that men of all nations and colors can live and work together in peace and harmony," Curren said.

ORGANIZATIONS AID

Organizations supporting the dinner, in addition to many CIO and AFL unions, are: National Negro Congress, National Urban League, Negro Labor Victory Committee, Brooklyn Victory Council for Equal Opportunity, Brooklyn Lodge 32, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Congress of Benevolent and Fraternal Organizations, Carleton Avenue branch, Y. M. C. A., National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

JAN 25 1943 "Life Magazine" Chicago, Ill.

JAN 25 1943

SINGER MARIAN ANDERSON CHRISTENS S. S. "BOOKER T. WASHINGTON" WITH FINE SPLASH

Mulzac Praises Ship, Fine Crew After Maiden Voyage

JAN 3 1943

First Negro Skipper Asserts He's Realized Life's Ambition

NEW YORK—(ANP) — Disembarking from the 10,500 ton U.S.S Booker T. Washington at an east port Capt. Hugh N. Mulzac declared the maiden voyage of the vessel a "thorough success" and said the mixed crew "get along very well."

Capt. Mulzac, the first Negro to receive command of a merchant ship of the size of Booker T. Washington in the American merchant marine, said he had realized his life's ambition when he became the ship's master.

The Liberty Ship, christened a few weeks ago at impressive launching ceremonies in California, has a crew representing 17 nationalities. 25 per cent of whom are Negroes, including the chief engineer, four deck officers and the wireless operator.

JAN 3 1943

PICKED OWN MEN

They were selected by Capt. Mulzac with the aid of the National Maritime union after the War Shipping administration and the Maritime commission instructed him to pick his own men.

"This is like a home here for us all," said Mulzac. "We get along very well. There has been no trouble of any kind, for the men who are here wanted to sail on this ship. At sea we held a meeting and I addressed the crew, saying that we now had a fair opportunity to show that we can handle a ship as well as other people."

The captain was born in St. Vincent, British West Indies, in 1886 He first went to sea in 1907 on a Norwegian bark. During the last war he served as a first mate on British-owned vessels. He was denied appointment as master in America because of his color, although he did serve as an officer on American flagships.

JAN 3 1943

WORKED AS STEWARD

In recent years Mulzac has continued his sea-faring career working often in the steward departments of freighters. Before his appointment as shipmaster of the Booker T. he was employed on the intercoastal freighter Montanan in war service.

JAN 3 1943

Mulzac has continued his studies in navigation and was prepared to accept the appointment after a short refresher course. He studied during the last war at Swansea Nautical school in Wales and was graduated from the shipping board's school in Baltimore in 1918. Further study came through correspondence courses and he holds a certificate in compass operation from the Sperry Gyroscope company.

Johnston, S. C., Herald
January 8, 1943

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED NEGROES IN THE NAVY

Information has been received at the Greenwood Navy Recruiting Substation that negroes 17 years of age who meet the physical and educational requirements may still enlist in the U. S. Navy as apprentice seaman according to information received from the Main Navy Recruiting Station at Columbia, South Carolina.

Due to the urgen need of negro mess attendants the Naval Recruiting Service stated that all negroes between the ages of 17 and 50 who are qualified can be enlisted in that branch of service.

All interested persons are asked to make immediate application at the nearest Navy Recruiting Station before getting a release from their selective service board.

A traveling recruiting party will be in Edgefield at the Court House each Wednesday.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.
FEB 13 1943

Philadelphia Woman First Negro Inspector for Navy

PHILADELPHIA.—Edith White Garcia, first Negro woman inspector appointed by the USNavy, has just received a promotion from third to fourth grade rating.

Somerville, Tenn., Falcon
December 31, 1942

Negroes May Enlist As Mess Attendants

NASHVILLE—Local Selective Service Boards have been notified by the state headquarters that negroes may now volunteer for induction into the Naval Service as mess attendants, and that as the Navy's needs for men in other classifications are announced the local boards will be informed of these later needs.

Negroes wishing to volunteer as mess attendants can obtain the necessary information either from their local boards or from any Navy recruiting station. However, they must state their choice to their local board prior to receiving notice of induction.

Andalusia, Ala., News
January 21, 1943

Negro Selectees May Join Navy Voluntarily

Authority to accept Negroes between 18 and 38 years of age, who desire to volunteer for Naval Service through their Selective Service Board, has been received at the Birmingham Navy Recruiting Headquarters, Lt. Comdr. J. E. Meredith, Officer in charge, said Monday.

Negro Volunteers will be inducted into the Navy as Apprentice Seamen and their ratings will be changed to Mess Attendants, third class, at the Recruiting Station after induction.

Negroes who desire to volunteer for the Navy should visit their Selective Service boards, procure the proper induction papers and then present themselves to a Navy Recruiting Station.

Those living in or near Birmingham should report to room 9, Pos Office building. Those at a distance from Birmingham may apply at the Navy Recruiting Station nearest their homes and receive transportation to Birmingham for induction, the Recruiting Officer said.

No orders have been received for the induction into the Navy of white men who are between 18 and 38 years of age, but both white and Negro men between the age of 17 and 18 and 38 and 50 years of age will be accepted as quotas permit at any one of the Navy Recruiting stations in the Birmingham district, Lt. Comdr. Meredith said.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois
MAR 21 1943

F. D. R.'s Negro Valet Joins Navy; Now at Great Lakes

George Clinton Fields, Negro valet to President Roosevelt for the last 10 years, is in training as an apprentice seaman at Great Lakes Naval training station, it was disclosed yesterday by station officials. Fields accompanied the President when he toured the station last September and decided then to join the navy, he said. He enlisted from Washington and arrived at the station last week.

47j-1943

The Color Guard.. Capt. Hugh Mulzac

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

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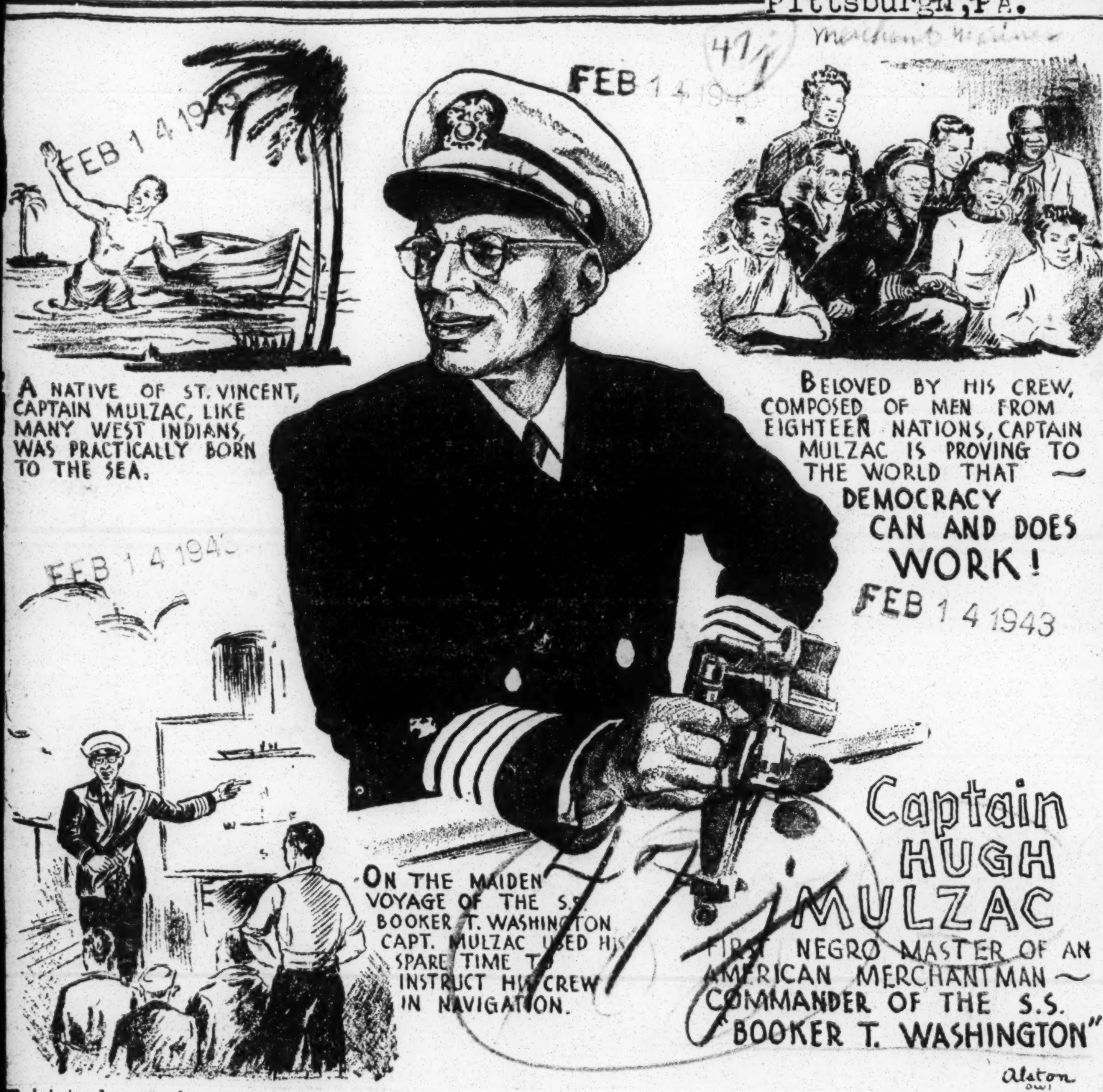
merchant marine

FEB 14 1943


A NATIVE OF ST. VINCENT, CAPTAIN MULZAC, LIKE MANY WEST INDIANS, WAS PRACTICALLY BORN TO THE SEA.
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FIRST NEGRO MASTER OF AN AMERICAN MERCHANTMAN — COMMANDER OF THE S.S. "BOOKER T. WASHINGTON"
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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

No Headlines For Navy Mechanics, But They're "In On Every Kill"

JAN 30 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill., Jan. 28—For every Navy crew that wings its plane off an aircraft carrier to engage the enemy, back on the "flat-top" are scores of men just as important to the Navy's air-arm.

Probably these Bluejackets—the aviation metalsmiths and aviation machinist mates who keep the fighting craft tuned for battle—will never see their names in headlines, but they are "in at the kill" just as much as the flyers. Still others of their rates perform similar duties at flight schools and air bases throughout the country.

Among Bluejackets training in this important branch of the Navy these days at the United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., are many Negroes, chosen to attend the Navy's Service Schools for aviation metalsmiths and machinist mates

through a series of aptitude tests given every sailor during recruit training.

After completion of the eight-week basic training period, the sailors do not, of course, come in for practical instruction immediately. First on their schedule is a month of mathematics and layout study, based principally on its functioning in so far as the construction, operation and maintenance of aircraft is concerned.

Closing their textbooks, the men move on to the shops where for the next five months their "shipmates" are airplane engines, airplane frameworks and airplane tools. Upon completion of the course the Bluejackets have a sound foundation of the theory of flight and are able to maintain and repair practically any one of the many multitudinous parts which go to make up a plane.

Among the men working on the project, under the tutelage of commissioned officers and chief petty officers, are Theodore Burgess, Los Angeles, Calif.; Lamar O. Shipp, Ames, Ia.; Edward Kaufman, Los Angeels; Melvin Holland, Morgntown, W. Va.; and Russell Dash, Acushnet, Mass. Robert E. Handy, Baltimore, Md.; Charles R. Hunter, Paris, Tenn.; Adolph Lloyd, 25, Los Angeles, Calif.; Andrew A. Gainer, Los Angeles; Henry Ratcliffe, Chicago, Ill.; William Rhoden, Chicago, and Joseph McDuffie, St. Louis.

JAN 30 1943

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EDITORIAL

1-2-43

CAPT. HUGH E. MULZAC, skipper of the Liberty ship Booker T. Washington, has been chosen as the Man of the Year by PV's editors. Capt. Mulzac was selected from among those who have contributed something during the past 12 months toward the progress of the Negro and democracy. The fact that Capt. Mulzac is capable of commanding a ship is deserving of commendation. The fact that, given an opportunity, he has proven his ability equal to that of any other man in his position, regardless of race, creed or color, merits higher praise. But the fact that, as the first Negro American merchant marine captain in history, he has opened a way for others of his race (and there are, or will be others) the fact that he has demonstrated to the world at large--at a time when such demonstrations are sorely needed--that men of all nations can and will work together for the common good, place his achievement above the level of ordinary pioneering. For 1942 then, Capt. Hugh E. Mulzac is the Man of the Year. It remains for those of us behind him to follow thru what he has begun. Then he will become a Man of the Age.--STB

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Excerpts From John W. Rice's Keynote Speech At Crusier Houston Rally Monday

"Somewhere in the Java Sea the first cruiser Houston has been lost. Peace to her remains and rest to the souls of the brave men who went down with her. What now seems just months ago the citizens of Houston gathered by the thousands to view her as she lay at anchor in our ship channel. Then the cruiser Houston was a symbol of the respect which this nation had for the sons and daughters of the intrepid pioneers of this great state who had reared upon its coastal plains a citadel of commerce and of trade which ranked with the best of the world.

"For that ship to have been so named was a tribute to the daring leaders of Houston and those who followed them. At that time our thoughts were all of peace. We were beginning to wonder how to feed all of our hungry and clothe all of our naked. We were striving to restore order in a nation which overnight had come into commercial and eonomic choas.

"Then with startling suddenness, it seemed that the forces of evil were let loose upon the earth. Greed, arrogance, lust for power at the expense of the souls of other men on the part of the three nations that now we call the Axis, made us realize that America had no greater problem than that of determining whether or not freedom or slavery should rule the world.

"No more significant gathering has ever been assembled than that which is here tonight. Nowhere in the world have men and women gathered so forgetful of the little petty things which are born of lack of thought of the kinship which we have learned that men all over the world have to each other. In this Coliseum is gathered a typical example of the world as we hope that it

DEC 26 1942

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t sometime will be.

DEC 26 1942

"Here on this platform are representatives of some of the 29 nations of the world who join America in this fight for freedom. Behind me are the flags of all of the nations who, whether conquered or not, nevertheless profess the desire for freedom. Before me sit the families of those who will make up the crew of the new cruiser Houston when it begins its career for freedom. All around and about in this vast building are those of all ranks and kinds who have given their time and sacrificially of their money in order that this celebration might take place. Soon upon this platfrom a Texan, a leading figure of the world by reason of the keenness of his mind and the greatness of his soul will pass to the hands of the Secretary of the Navy, he who guides the destinies of our ships and of our men who go down to sea, a check for an almost unbelievable amount of money. Yes, in this gathering Houston gives to the world a sample of what it calls The Pattern for Victory.

"Here in miniature, as it seems when we think of the world nature of this war, Houston and Texas are proving that what it takes to win a war and to look forward confidently toward winning the peace actually is a fact.

DEC 26 1942

"Rightly do we have satisfaction in the size of this gift. Rightly do men wonder at the zeal of a city which gives not one but almost two cruisers. This is a tremendous sum of money. But as important as it is that there shall be money in large amounts with which to create the munitions of war, it is more important to realize that we also know that we cannot pay for freedom in the coin of the realm alone. Here in this place are the surviving members of the families of those Houstonians who went down to glorious death in the Java Sea. Here also are the mothers and fathers of others who will take their places in the arena of death in order that there shall be freedom and life. And let it be realized that these relatives are but types.

DEC 26 1942

"All over the peace loving world, all throughout the United Nations there is this same spirit. As Texans of all races and kinds are facing the enemies of the souls of men all the way from the frozen North to the burning sands of the Libyan Desert and the infested jungles of the New Guinea wilderness, just so are men of all races and creeds and kinds all over the world. The American parents here tonight are replicas of Chinese parents, Russian parents, Czech parents, Pole parents, French parents, African parents, Holland parents, Norwegian parents, and all of those who compose the forces of freedom.

DEC 26 1942

"Here is the secret weapon of the Allied Nations. A heritage of freedom, the will to win, not more lands to conquer, but freedom for the souls of men and a unity of purpose that is unshakable. The leaders of the forces of the jungle and the beast in a million years could not duplicate the achievement of Houston which this gathering here tonight celebrates. The lessons learned from the trials and failures of human beings through all of the generations of history are being proven in the actions of Houston here tonight.

"We are united in the battle for freedom, not only for ourselves but for all men wherever they may be. We are determined that whenever or wherever the need may be America, all America, United America with the United Nations will fill that need. We glory in giving up the comforts of our bodies for the sake of our souls.

DEC 26 1942

"With the clear and unshakable purpose that freedom for all men shall be brought upon this earth in spirit and in truth, we shall pay the price of this war, whether month by month, year by year or generation by generation—We shall win this war. And we shall in like manner win the peace, for we know that there can be—we are determined that there shall be a brotherhood of man—A federation of the world."

Race Marine Unit Overseas

~~Pittsburgh Courier~~

Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, May 13—Marine Corps headquarters this week disclosed that one unit of colored Marines is already on overseas' duty and others are being trained in artillery, anti-aircraft, communications and other fields.

MAY 15 1943

All told, the report states that fully 2,000 Negro Marines are in training at the 51st Composite Defense Battalion, Montford Point, Camp LeJeune, New River, N. C., and new recruits are arriving at the rate of 40 a day.

When the first Negro Marines were enlisted June 1, 1942, a 167-year tradition of non-inclusion was broken.

MAY 15 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

British Welcome Mulzac And Crew

FEB 20 1943

By RANDY DIXON
(Pittsburgh Courier War Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 18 (Censored)—History added another glowing and epochal chapter to the contributions of brown Americans in the war effort when Capt. Hugh N. Mulzac recently brought his 10,500-ton Liberty-type ship, Booker T. Washington, into port "somewhere in England" to complete the first trans-Atlantic crossing in nautical annals of a vessel captained by a colored man and flying the American flag.

The arrival was epic in many respects and, taking cognizance of this fact, a welcoming party, composed of high government officials, movie newsreel operators, newspaper and magazine photographers, and three selected news correspondents, was on hand to congratulate Mulzac and his "checkerboard" crew of mixed nationalities on its feat of completing a "rough crossing all the way" with its heavily laden cargo of essentials for the war effort in 48 hours less time than had been expected.

ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY

Glancing about at the crew of Irish, English, Norwegians, Hondurians, Belgians, Danes, Swedes, West Indians, Filipinos, and Americans, Captain J. F. Devlin, who headed the welcoming party as operating manager of the U. S. War Shipping Administration, commented:

FEB 20 1943

"This crew is just like one big happy family."

CALLS CREW "THE FINEST"

Captain Mulzac beamed assent, adding that his crew was the finest any ship could have and that there had been no trouble whatever.

"We don't stop to delve into nationalities," Mulzac continued, "we are so wrapped up in doing our best to carry out every assignment. And we certainly intend to do just that until the war is ended. We want to have our places in the complete democracy which is to follow and we want to say we have worked for it. And we want to have and enjoy democracy not only outside but home in the United States as well. We men want to become known in the world not as a race of people but as men—working men all. There must be no recurrence of the fate that befell me when I had to wait 20 years to make use of an unlimited Master Mariner's License."

WARM IN PRAISE OF THEIR PILOT

The crew, many of its members of the seafarer's vintage, was legion in its praise of Mulzac's seamanship, knowledge, administration, and ability to handle men.

"He's a wonderful leader and knows his business. We never worked under a better captain." This was the substance of the expressions of the crew.

COMPETENT COLORED OFFICERS

Of the nine officers under Mulzac, six are colored—Adolphus Folkes of Florida, chief officer; Clifton Lastice of St. Lucia, B.W.I., and New York, second officer; Henry DuPont of St. Kitts, B.W.I., third officer; Cecil Blackman of British Guiana and New York, chief wireless operator; Ignascio Irving Smith of Trinidad, India, and Washington, D. C., chief engineer, and William Barker of Los Angeles, purser.

All these officers boast extensive nautical backgrounds except Barker, who, as "Billy Metcalfe" was a professional light heavyweight under management of Eddie (Rochester) Anderson of srceen and radio fame. Significantly, each officer made a sizeable personal sacrifices in salary, security and position in normal life to respond to Mulzac's call for competent Negro marines "to show the world we know how to handle big ships."

FEB 20 1943

SEAFARER SINCE BUT 16

Folkes was granted a leave by New York City from his job as captain of a Harlem scow. He has been at sea since 16. He was first mate 14 years on a New York City harbor tug.

Lastice has been at sea since 15, sailing out of the English port of Cardiff. He was graduated from the Technical college at Cardiff and became a shipmate of Mulzac's on the S. S. Talisman," a vessel engaged in coastal trade. His wife, Mrs. Marietta Lastice, is a nurse in the New York City Health Department.

FINE ACHIEVEMENT RECORD

Blackman won war and victory medals in the last World War while serving in the British Navy as a signalman. He came to the United States in 1920 and, in 1921, held a first class radio operator's licence. He was chief radio operator on Marcus Garvey's S. S. General Goethals in 1925 and then became the clerk in the Registry Department of the College Station Post Office, New York City. He held this job until last September. He is unmarried but his fiancee is Miss Mabell Harris of New York City.

FEB 20 1943

Smith is the only man of his race holding a chief engineer's licence. For the past six years he has been chief engineer of the Thirteenth Division Public Schools, Washington, D. C., while, prior to that, he spent 10 years as assistant—then chief engineer on the Bull Freight Lines, operating between New York, Baltimore, and Central American ports. He studied engineering in the United States and, on the Booker T. Washington, directs a crew of 14 assistants, only one of whom is colored. Captain Devlin pronounced Smith's engine room on the Booker T. Washington as "one of the finest kept I have ever seen." The engine is 2,500 horsepower, steam-propelled, reciprocating triple-expansion, developing a speed of 12 knots.

ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER

Capt. Mulzac, 54, was born in St. Vincents, B.W.I. As a boy, he lived in Swansea, England, and sailed out of that place and Cardiff as an ordinary seaman when 19. He came to the United States in 1911 and, from 1918-1921 inclusive, was master of a small vessel making the rounds from Halifax, Boston and New York to Central American ports. He became Marcus Garvey's master on the ill-fated S.S. Yarmouth from 1922-1923 inclusive. A master since 1920, only one other Negro, Harry Colburn, an Englishman, holds a similar license as Mulzac. Capt. Mulzac is a graduate of three nautical schools in the United States: the U. S. Nautical school, where he completed a course in 1918; the International Correspondpence Nautical school, Scranton, Pa., where he took up ocean navigation in 1922, and the Speery Gyroscope school, Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1923, where he also received a diploma. In addition, Mulzac was principal in his own school, the Universal School of Technology and Applied Sciences, New York.

RICH MARITIME BACKGROUND

Mulzac comes from a family of seafarers. His father was a shipbuilder and his brother, John, was captain of a schooner in the West Indies. A resident of Brooklyn for the past 12 years, the captain's wife, Mrs. Marie Mulzac, and their five children (four of them girls) live at 436 Dean street. The eldest Elaine, 22, is a reporter for an outstanding colored weekly newspaper.

Mulzac's main hobby and diversion is baseball. He refers to the Booker T. Washington as a nice ship that "handles well." The ship was built by the California Shipbuilding Company and was launched in early September, last year, at Los Angeles. Marian Anderson christened it and sang "The Star Spangled Banner," the American national anthem, as it moved down the ways for its maiden voyage. The ship was commissioned immediately and delegated to coastal trade.

FEB 20 1943

THIRD VOYAGE FOR MULZAC SHIP

The latest voyage across the Atlantic was the Booker T. Washington's third—but its maiden one across the Atlantic. The vessel is owned by the U. S. War Shipping Administratnon, being operated by the Lucken-Black Lines under wartime agreement. The crew numbers 42, with additional gunners.

Included in the welcoming group for the Booker T. Washington here in London were Capt. Devlin; his chief assistant, John Treckman, port commander; Col. R. G. Simpson, Lt. A. Robert Gale, representing the U. S. Navy, and Maj. John Gaffney, resident manager of U. S. Lines in Europe.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Negro Messman Held For Attack On His Captain On Voyage

MAR 20 1943

For an alleged attack upon his captain while at sea, 52-year-old Jerry Ellison, messman, was held by FBI agents in this area last week.

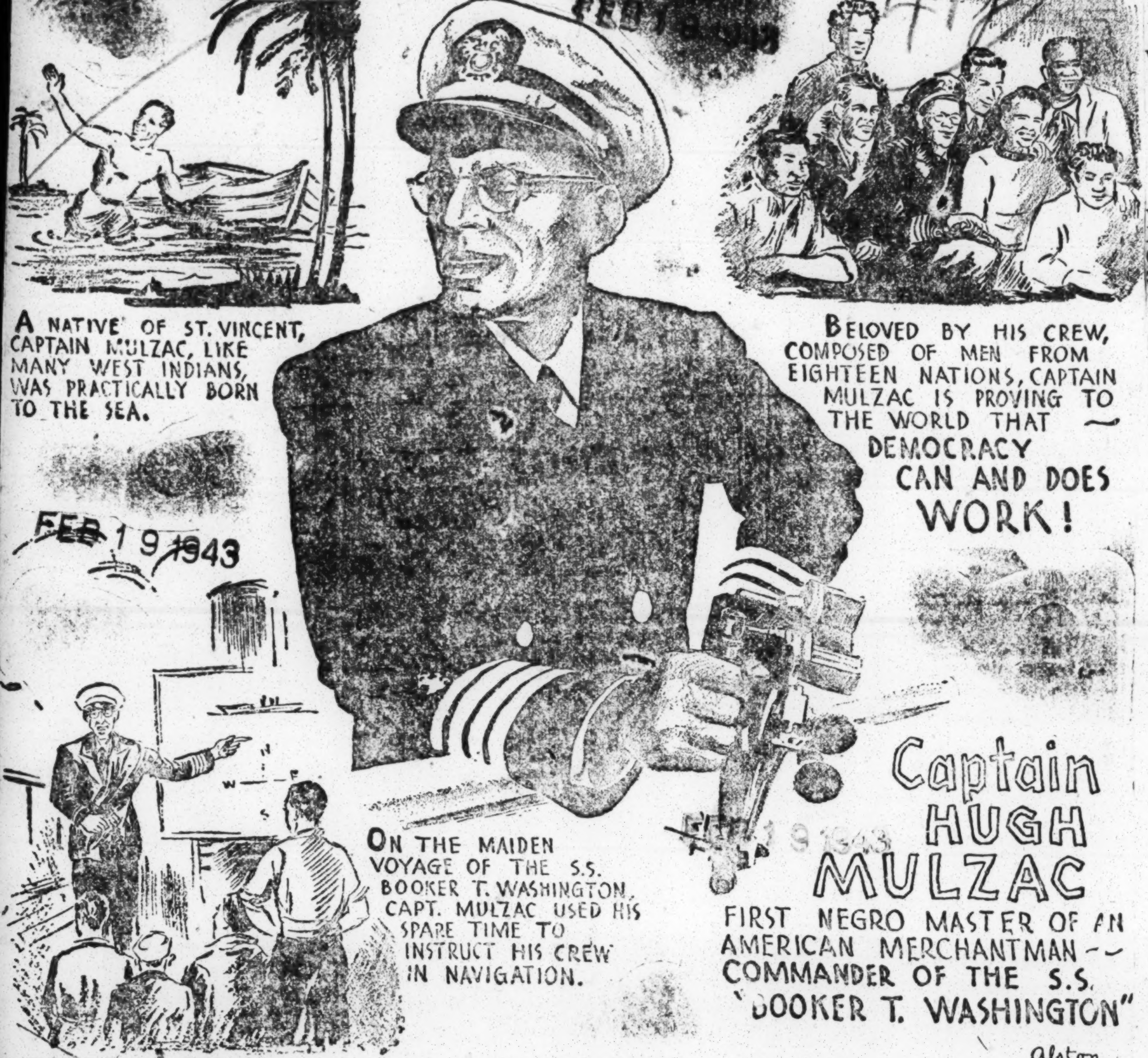
After a period of illness during which he had allegedly been so disgruntled that his efficiency was impaired, Ellison was ordered into the ship's sick bay by the captain.

When he refused to obey orders and the captain remonstrated, the messman is said to have drawn a knife during the ship's trip to Trinidad.

MAR 20 1943

On charges of felonious assault on the high seas, Ellison was held for a hearing before U. S. Commissioner Garrett W. Cotter.

47j-1943
The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.


FEB 1 9 1943
A NATIVE OF ST. VINCENT, CAPTAIN MULZAC, LIKE MANY WEST INDIANS, WAS PRACTICALLY BORN TO THE SEA.
BELOVED BY HIS CREW, COMPOSED OF MEN FROM EIGHTEEN NATIONS, CAPTAIN MULZAC IS PROVING TO THE WORLD THAT — DEMOCRACY CAN AND DOES WORK!
FEB 1 9 1943
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FEB 1 9 1943
Captain HUGH MULZAC
FIRST NEGRO MASTER OF AN AMERICAN MERCHANTMAN — COMMANDER OF THE S.S. "BOOKER T. WASHINGTON"
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The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

RACIAL DANGER SEEN IN WOMEN'S DRAFT

Washington, Feb. 19. (ANP)—Proposed plans for the registration of women to aid in the war effort are likely to develop further problems in racial relations.

FEB 1 9 1943

Basing this statement on the position taken by many white women, now working in defense plants it is presumed that another executive order will have to be issued for the female of the species..

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In the south particularly Negro women are handicapped in obtaining employment simply because white women object to working with colored, who formerly had been in domestic service for the whites.

They do not relish the idea of having their former servants hired by the manufacturers and plants engaged in war industries, where the pay is equal and working conditions comparable to those of whites.

FEB 1 9 1943

So much prejudice exists in this particular field, many letters have been sent, some to the White House, demanding the return of Negro women to domestic work, especially in the southern states.

Complaints have been lodged that white workers no longer find Negro women willing to mind children while the whites earn the high wages now being paid in defense work.

The problem of hiring women also brings again the "separate facilities" problem which white women in particular insist on.

This arose in the Norfolk Navy Yard when a separate toilet was built for one Negro female worker who was later dismissed.

However, the administration has been advised before it attempts to register women to look into the actual existing conditions—find out where discrimination exists in employment of Negro males—just how many have registered for work and been ignored.

FEB 1 9 1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Secretary Hull Asks Parole Of Negro Seaman

MAR 26 1943

Writes Sparks In Behalf Of British Subject Up For Cursing In Mobile

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Acute need of seamen in the war effort was underlined by a letter from Secretary of State Cordell Hull to Gov. Chauncey Sparks, inquiring into the prospect for parole of Cleveland Wiltshire, West Indian negro seaman, given a sentence of eight months and 10 days at Mobile Jan. 4 on a charge of using obscene language in the presence of women.

The Secretary of State enclosed copy of a letter from a member of the staff of the British Embassy. It set forth that Wiltshire arrived in Mobile as a member of the crew of a Canadian ship, and while in Mobile "called for his laundry at Sam Joy's Laundry and when informed it was not ready, in a fit of rage, used language unbecoming to a gentleman in the presence of white ladies."

MAR 26 1943

"I have received no information concerning the matter other than that contained in the attached letter and the facts as stated do indicate that Wiltshire was guilty of highly reprehensible conduct," Secretary of State Hull wrote Gov. Sparks. "At the same time, I am conscious of the need of utilizing effectively all available seamen in furtherance of the war effort. I should accordingly be grateful if you would let me know whether there is any prospect of Wiltshire being paroled prior to the expiration of his sentence to enable him to return to his duties at sea." This diplomatically worded inquiry was referred by Gov. Sparks to the State Pardon-Parole Board, where it was announced Thursday that the board's parole officer at Mobile would be asked to investigate the case.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

BRAVED DANGER AND DEATH ABOARD U.S.S. BOISE AT GUADALCANAL

MAR 1 3 1943

On every war ship every member of the crew has a battle station and on the USS Boise, famed Man O' War which sank six Japanese vessels in 27 minutes at Guadalcanal, the battle stations of 12 of the 13 crew members were in the magazine sections and handling room, where a shell caused explosions, causing them to work in a section filled with gas fumes and water waist deep. Above are pictures of these unsung heroes: Left to right: Jacques Napier, O.C. 2nd class of Washington; Leroy D. Wilson, M. Att. 1st class of Georgia; Woodrow Fitzpatrick, M. Att. 2nd class; Julius Wilson, O.C. 3rd class of Alabama and Benny Patterson, O.C. 2nd class of South Carolina; Harold Winston, M. Att. 1st class of Ohio; Willie W. Branch, M. Att. 1st class of Louisiana; Allen Pipkin Jr., M. Att. 1st class of Texas and Curtis Idlebird, M. Att. 1st class of Texas. Those not in the picture are: Henry Poole, Thomas Torrence and Joe Quintranilla.—Photo by Lawson.

MAR 1 3 1943

Messmen Ignored On Boise

MAR 1 3 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

Negro Sailors Braved Death at Battle Stations; None Cited

MAR 1 3 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Mar. 11—Much has been said and written about the heroic deeds

Guardian
Boston, Mass

MAR 1 2 1943

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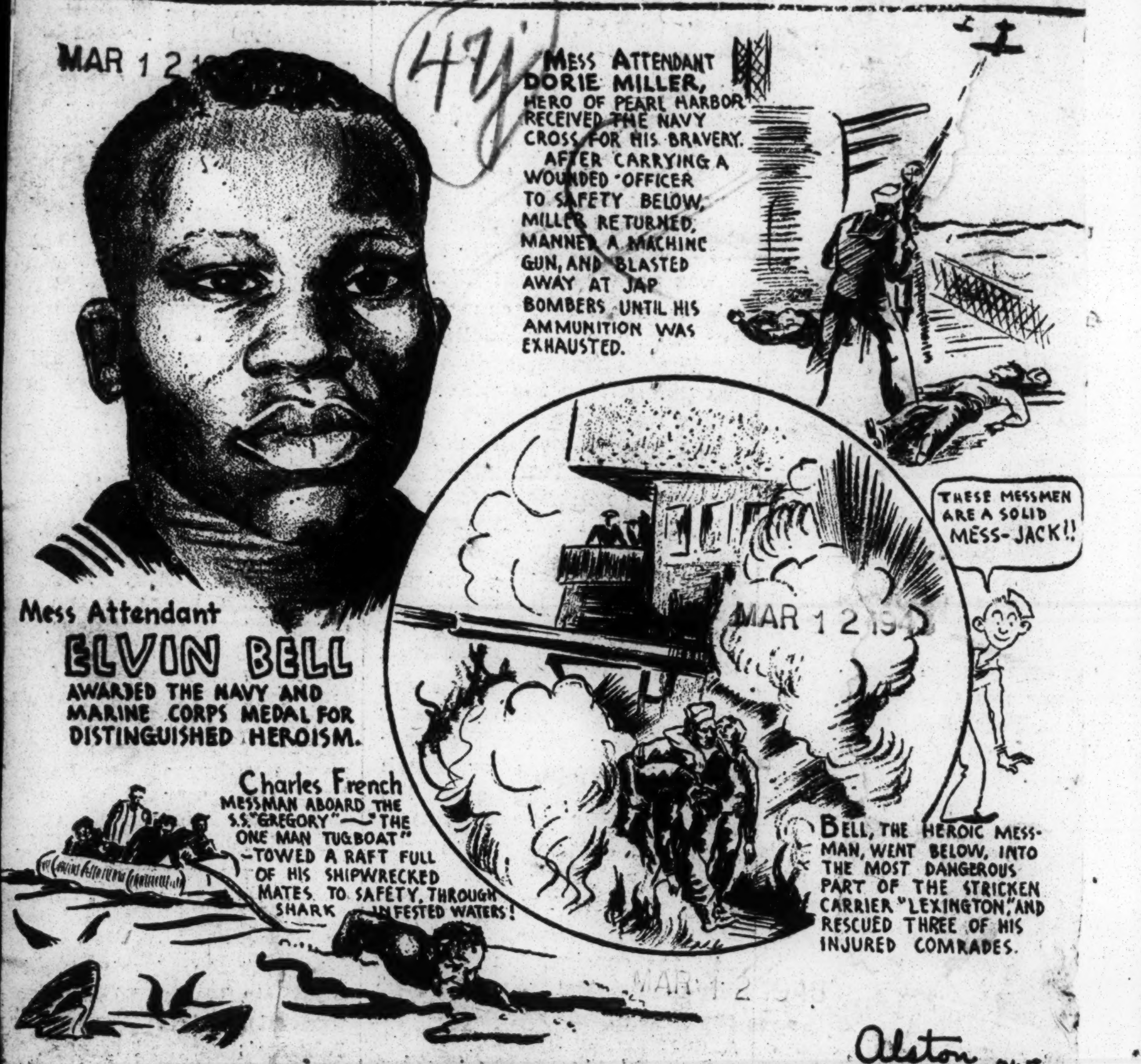

MESS ATTENDANT DORIE MILLER, HERO OF PEARL HARBOR RECEIVED THE NAVY CROSS FOR HIS BRAVERY. AFTER CARRYING A WOUNDED OFFICER TO SAFETY BELOW, MILLER RETURNED, MANNED A MACHINE GUN, AND BLASTED AWAY AT JAP BOMBERS UNTIL HIS AMMUNITION WAS EXHAUSTED.
Mess Attendant
ELVIN BELL
AWARDED THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED HEROISM.
THESE MESSMEN ARE A SOLID MESS-JACK!!
Charles French
MESSMAN ABOARD THE S.S. "GREGORY" — "THE ONE MAN TUGBOAT" — TOWED A RAFT FULL OF HIS SHIPWRECKED MATES TO SAFETY, THROUGH SHARK INFESTED WATERS!
BELL, THE HEROIC MESSMAN, WENT BELOW, INTO THE MOST DANGEROUS PART OF THE STRICKEN CARRIER "LEXINGTON," AND RESCUED THREE OF HIS INJURED COMRADES.
Alston for OWI

MAR 1 2 1943

MAR 1 2 1943

of the crew of the Cruiser Boise, which sank six Japanese ships in 27 minutes in Guadalcanal. But the public is to learn for the first time, through Mess Attendant Harold Winston of Springfield, O., the part that the 13 Negro members of the crew played in that battle.

MAR 1 3 1943

CREW ON ALERT BEFORE BATTLE

On a warship every member of the crew has a battle station, and on the Boise the battle stations of 12 of the 13 Negro crew members were in the magazine sections and the handling rooms. Those in the handling rooms and the magazine sections carry shells to the guns. Winston's battle position was the telephone section of the repair party. His duties were to transmit messages from the bridge to the central station of the ship and to the aviators.

The crew of the Boise was first informed that a naval battle was imminent the afternoon of the day of the battle. Every man was ordered to his station at that time, although the naval engagement did not take place until that night. In addition to the Boise, there were a number of other naval ships in battle line, including the cruiser. San Francisco.

MAR 1 3 1943

BOISE HIT AT WATER LINE

The guns of the Boise began the battle, but because the battle positions of the Negro crew members were below deck they could not see the effect of the Boise's shell fire. Their first notice of the tragedy of battle came when a shell passed through the Boise at the water line of the ship. Winston was informed of this damage from the bridge and he transmitted this message to the central section of the ship, whose officers immediately sent out a repair crew.

A few minutes after the first shell had struck the Boise, it suffered other hits in quick succession. One of these shells pierced the magazine section of the ship and caused explosions.

It was here that the valor of the Negro sailors was displayed. Fire broke out in the magazine sections and the handling rooms where the Negroes were stationed, and gas fumes and water, waist-deep, added to their peril. It was necessary that all shells be carried to other sections of the ship to prevent further explosions. This work was done by Negro sailors. The gas fumes and fire were so terrific that Lt. Howell, who was in charge of the work of removing these shells, had to be revived four times.

MAR 1 3 1943

NONE CITED FOR ACTION

Lt. Howell was cited with the Navy Cross for the heroism displayed in having the shells removed; although the Negro crewmen who removed these shells displayed equal bravery, none of them have been cited for decoration.

The Boise had to leave the battle line before the engagement was ended, as it was so badly damaged it was in a sinking condition. The Negro sailors joined the rest of the crew in making the necessary repairs to enable the ship to reach port safely.

MAR 1 3 1943

The 13 Negro members of the Boise crew and their rank are as follows: Harold Winston, mess attendant first class; Arthur McKeldin, mess attendant first class; Elijah Goss, officers' cook third class; Henry Clark Poole, mess attendant first class; Thomas Henry Torrence, mess attendant first class; Jacques Napier, officers' cook second class; Leroy D. Wilson, mess attendant first class; Woodrow Fitzpatrick, mess attendant second class; Julius Wilson, officers' cook third class; Benny Patterson, officers' cook second class; Willie W. Branch, mess attendant first class; Allen Pippin Jr., mess attendant first class, and Curtis Idlebird, mess attendant first class.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Takes Top Honors in Coast Guard

APR 5 1943

Geraldo King, a Negro, received the highest grade at the completion of a three-month intensive course for pharmacists' mate at the graduation exercises of Coast Guardsmen on Saturday, at the Y.M.C.A. 5 West 63rd Street. The men were trained at the Columbia University College of Pharmacy. Certificates were granted at the same time to 198 Coast Guardsmen, 50 per cent of whom had received ratings of 90 per cent or over.

Other honor men were Edward Brown W. Nelson, Meyer Kaplan, Nathan B. Kaufman and Richard Belknap. The certificates were presented to them and twenty-five others individually by Lieutenant Theodore Le Blanc, head of personnel of the Medical Section at Coast Guard Headquarters.

APR 5 1943

The newly trained pharmacists will administer elementary or emergency treatment where there are no doctors or pharmacists available, wherever they are sent.

APR 5 1943

Dean Charles W. Ballard of the College of Pharmacy, and others who spoke, expressed amazement that the men were able to learn so much in the short space of time, and commended them for their ready response to the accelerated program of education.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

101 Are Given Certificates At Great Lakes, Ill.

Second Class To Complete Trades Course

The second Negro class to complete instruction in various trades and services offered by the Navy has been graduated from Service School in ceremonies at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

MAR 7 1943

Before an audience of relatives, friends, and shipmates, the 101 graduates marched to the speakers' platform where Capt. H. H. Harris, Service School Officer, presented them with Service School certificates—the final step in an intensive training program.

Three of their number were singled out for special recognition, having been selected as honor men of their respective school groups. Leading the three was Wyatt L. Logan, 27, son of Mrs. Harriett Allen of 2204 Olive Street, Kansas City, Mo., who attained an average of 99 in yeoman school, one of the highest marks recorded at Great Lakes.

MAR 7 1943

Honor men in the cooks' and bakers' school and the school for runners' mates were respectively, Frederick B. Easton, 26, son of Mrs. C. F. Easton, of 555 Kempton St., New Bedford, Mass., and William Gregory, Jr., 19, whose father lives at 474 Halsey Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Easton completed his course with an average of 97.35 while Greogory attained 96.85.

In addition to these three schools, graduates from the Navy's schools for signalmen, quartermasters, and radiomen were in the class. All completed 16-week courses in their respective branches. New classes in the Negro Service Schools are formed each month with an average of more than 450 men attending at all times.

Taking part in the graduation ceremonies, in addition to Capt Harris, were Capt. Frank J. Lowry, commanding officer of the Training Station, Chaplain J. M. Flowers, and other high ranking officers of the Station. The orchestra and octette also took part in the exercises which were held in the auditorium of Camp Robert Smalls—training center for men of the Negro race at Great Lakes.

In his address to the graduating class, Capt. Harris said:

"You men have acquired skills that will help you as well as the Navy. The Navy awaits your arrival to your next assignment knowing that you will add to its strength. You take with you our sincere wishes for a brilliant Navy career."

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

LAUNCH 1ST SHIP BUILT BY NEGROES

MAY 1 6 1943

MAY 1 6 1943

CHESTER, Pa., May 13—The Marine Eagle, U.S. ship built entirely by Negroes, was launched Monday at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company.

Sun claims that it is the first company to establish a shipyard manned only by Negroes. Employees receive the same rate of pay as those in other yards operated by the company and according to the company president, John G. Pow, "We are grealty pleased with the work."

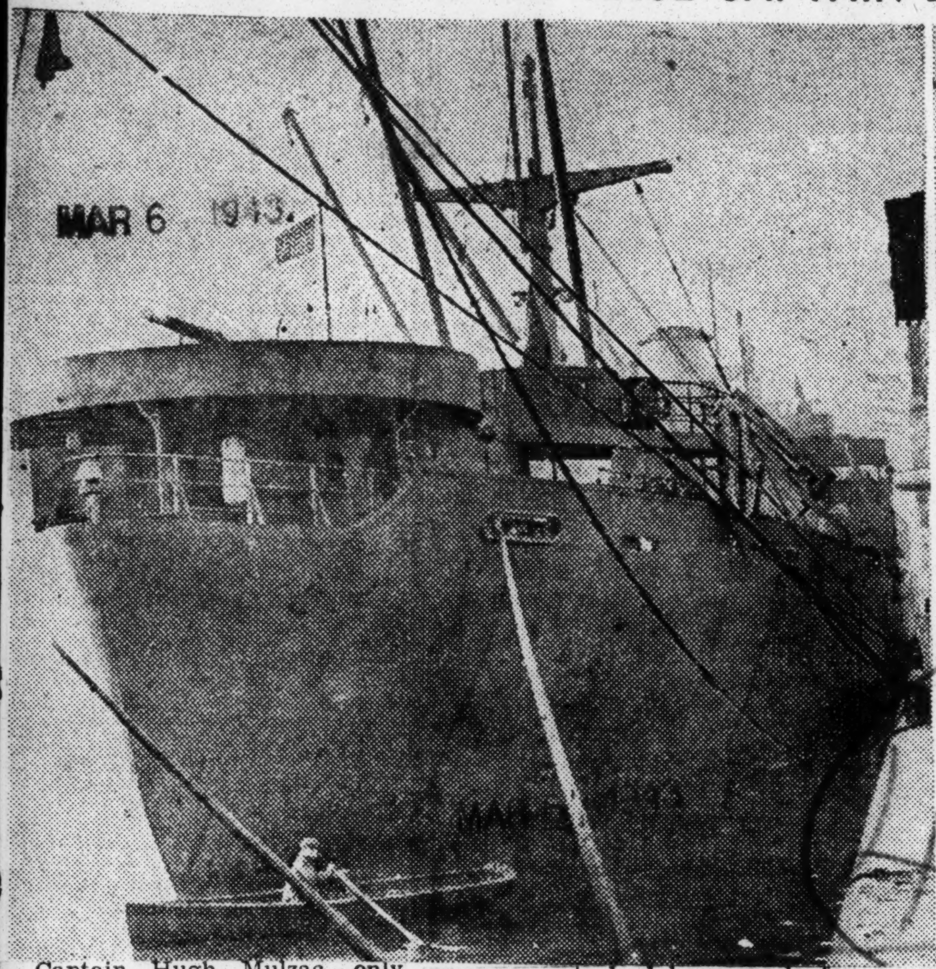
Mrs. Rachel Stevenson, 22 years an employe of the firm, was selected to christen the ship and receive a $1,000 war bond, gift of the company.

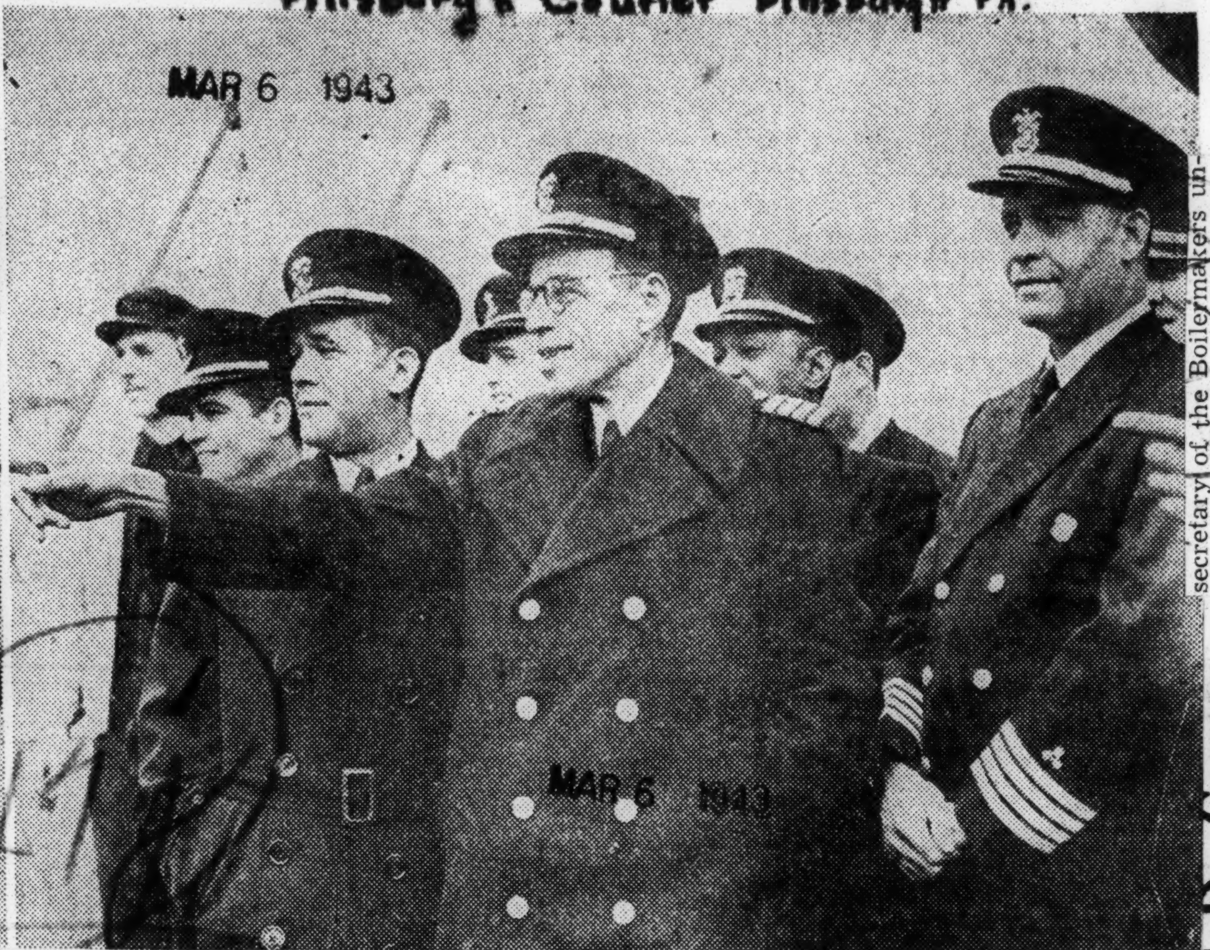
MAY 1 6 1943

47i-1943

LIBERTY SHIP PILOTED BY RACE CAPTAIN DELIVERED GOODS TO WHIP THE AXIS

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh PA.





MAR 6 1943

Captain Hugh Mulzac, only race captain of an ocean-going ship has just completed his maiden voyage aboard the Booker T. Washington through hazardous, shark infested waters, to deliver war-time goods abroad.

First photo shows the trim vessel tied up at a dock somewhere in England.

Second picture is of Captain Mulzac and a group of his ship's officers.

To Christen Liberty Ship Sunday, May 2

MAY 1 1943

Popular Actress Proud Of Honor Extended To Her

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—The tremendous success she has realized in the flicker city dimmed into insignificance when Lena Horne was notified this week that final arrangements had been made for her to christen the Liberty Ship George Washington Carver when it is launched at noon, Sunday, May 2, in the Richmond, Cal., Kaiser Ship Yards.

The Office of War Information received the following wire from the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer player when she was informed of the plan:

> "It is such a high honor to have even the slightest part in a tribute to that great American and outstanding Negro genius and patriot that I am speechless with gratitude. To be privileged to christen the ship named after him will be the most inspiring moment of my life.

Miss Horne has been accorded countless honors and titles from members of the armed forces in recent months, but she stated that this latest tribute to her far surpasses any other expereince of her career.

The Liberty Ship, second in a series of three bearing the names of outstanding Negro Americans, will be sponsored by Miss Horne, and Beatrice Turner, one of the 6,112 Negro workers in the four Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, will be matron of honor. Both were chosen by the United Negro Labor Committee which is in charge of the launching ceremony.

WORKERS TO TAKE PART

Thousands of the Negro shipyard workers, who are employed as boilermakers, shipfitters, shipwrights, stage riggers, joiners, sheet metal workers, painters, warehousemen and laborers will participate in the ceremony, along with representatives of Negro organizations throughout the country. The latter will include a representative of the Carver Foundation at Tuskekee Institute, Ala., and a Negro delegation from Ohio appointed by Gov. John W. Bricker.

MAY 1 1943

C. L. Dellums, West Coast representative of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and president of the United Negro Labor Committee, will serve as master of ceremonies on a program which will include short addresses by Attorney Walter A. Gordon of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Leon H. Washington, Jr., publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel, and Vernon McCalla, a shipfitter, representing the Kaiser workers. Marcus Hall, another shipyard worker and protege of Roland Hayes, noted tenor, will sing "Ballad for Americans."

MAY 1 1943

LENA HORNE

DOUGLASS BEING BUILT

Miss Horne, star of "Cabin In The Sky," will interrupt her work in another motion picture, to christen the ship.

MAY 1 1943

Officials of the United Negro Labor Committee include Dr. Dellums, president; Spencer Jourdan, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, first vice-president; J. R. Hoskins, United Transportation Service Employees, second vice-president; and T. M. Anderson, Dining Car Cooks and Waiters Union, secretary-treasurer.

The SS Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship named for a Negro, is in active service under a Negro master, Capt. Hugh Mulzac, and the third, the SS Frederick Douglass, is now under construction in a Baltimore, Md., shipyard.

MAY 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

LENA HORNE CHRISTENS S.S. CARVER

MAY 2 1943

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29—Screen star, glamorous Lena Horne, will christen the Liberty Ship George Washington Carver, named for the celebrated scientist, which will be launched at noon on Sunday, May 2, at the Richmond, Calif., Yard No. 1 of the Kaiser Shipbuilding company, the Maritime Commission announced Tuesday.

The ship, second in a series of three bearing the names of outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched following appropriate ceremonies which will include short addresses from Atty. Walter A. Gordon, NAACP; Leon H. Washington, Jr., publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel and Vernon McCalla, a shipfitter.

Beatrice Turner, one of the 6111 Negro workers in the four Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, will be matron of honor. A representative of the Carver Foundation at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., will participate in the ceremony along with representatives of leading organiations throughout the country.

MAY 2 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Interest High On Coast Over S. S. Dr. Carver

MAY 7 1943

OAKLAND, Cal., Mar. 5 — The launching of the S. S. Dr. Carver has created great excitement in the Bay area. Citizens lauded the maritime commission for honoring the Northern California citizens by launching the ship in the Richmond yads.

The program committee is composed of Tom Anderson, secretary of Local 456; Spencer Jourdan, secretary of the Boilermakers union; C. L. Dellums, vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Ben Watkins, secretary of the Musicians Local; Tera Hall Pittman of the NAACP, and Leon H. Washington Jr., publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel.

A meeting of the committee will be held Thursday evening at the Elks temple, where further plans will be discussed and various committees will be appointed.

Woman Worker Launches Liberty Ship

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

MAY 1 1943
MAY 1 1943
MAY 1 1943
MAY 1 1943
MAY 1 1943

Thousands of Negro shipyard workers in the Kaiser yards at Richmond, California, participated in the launching of the SS S. Hall Young on March 31 after Miss Beulah Whittington, an employee of three days then, drew the sponsor's ticket from a pool of 95,000 workers. Miss Whittington is receiving a bouquet of American beauty roses from Frank Stearns of Richmond Shipyard No. 2 as Mrs. Katie Lewis, matron of honor, looks on.

MAY 1 1943

The new Liberty ship SS George Washington Carver will be launched soon at Richmond Shipyard No. 1 with Lena Horne, star of Broadway and Hollywood, as the sponsor. The lower pictures show (left to right) James Bain, coordinator and counsellor of Negro workers at the shipyard; Marcus Hall, shipyard worker and protege of Roland Hayes, who was soloist at the launching; and the Rev. D. G. Hill, pastor of the First A.M.E. Church, Oakland, Calif., giving the launching invocatoin. (E. F. Joseph Photos from OWI)

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

S. S. George W. Carver Launching Set For May 7

MAY 8 1943

RICHMOND, Cal.—The George Washington Carver Foundation and the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company paid tribute this week to the celebrated scientist. The Liberty Ship named in his honor was scheduled for launching on May 2 at Richmond Shipyard No. 1, but was tentatively postponed until May 7, according to the Office of War Information.

In a wire made public by the company, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., stated:

"Deeply appreciate the great tribute being paid to our late distinguished scientist, Christian and friend, George Washington Carver, in the launching of a Liberty ship bearing his name. Deeply regret that we were unable to have a representative present on the occasion. I express to you the profound appreciation of the George Washington Carver Foundation and of the students, faculty and trustees of Tuskegee Institute for making this occasion a reality."

In making the Tuskegee statement public, Clay Bedford, representing the Kaiser Company, declared:

MAY 8 1943

"A floating, fighting monument to a great American scientist will go down the ways — the SS George Washington Carver. This 10,500—ton Liberty Ship was constructed by skilled Negro workers, both men and women, working side by side with their fellow Americans—all doing their best to supply the best in cargo ships for our fighting forces overseas.

MAY 8 1943

"The spirit of George Washinton Carver will live on in this modern steel monument wherever its goes to bring strength to our soldiers just as this great man brought and left with the world of science lasting contributions for all people, races and creeds."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Dorie Miller Is Modest

APR 17 1943

By PEARL JOHNS

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Dorie Miller is a modest guy. I met him the other night at the colored USO Club, which was formerly the Japanese YMCA.

I had a long conversation with him and found him a swell person. He has not let success go to his head. He was not wearing his medal and his new stripes. I asked him where his other uniform was and he made an excuse that it was in the cleaners and then winked.

APR 17 1943

Sailors vs. Soldiers

Like soldiers and sailors everywhere, they don't get along together. Both of them are thick as flies in this town. It seems to me that the sailors like to get drunk and pick a fight with the soldiers. They almost took that USO away and I didn't stay long.

I went down to Chinatown to see them welcome Mme. Chiang Kai-shek. She is very beautiful; her pictures don't due her justice. In the afternoon I went down to City Hall to see her review the parade.

APR 17 1943

Hotels Okey

The best hotels and swanky restaurants are open to everybody. I have gone there frequently with my white companions and though maybe that was the reason so the other day I went around by myself and was treated just as fine.

APR 17 1943

This seems to me to be the most democratie State in the union. One hotel was too swanky. I lived there by myself for a while and the help bowed and scraped and waited on me so that I could hardly move for them.

Put in Middle

My white friends fight, argue and raise the devil with each other. I try to be friends with all of them but it puts me in the middle because each one talks about the other and I guess sometimes they talk about me when I am not there.

APR 17 1943

LAUNCH S.S. CARVER SUNDAY

Courier

WASHINGTON, April 29—The Liberty Ship, George Washington Carver, named for the celebrated Negro scientist, will be launched at noon on Sunday, May 2, at the Richmond (Cal.) Yard No. 1 of the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company, the Maritime Commission announced this week.

MAY 1 1943

The ship, second in a series of three bearing the names of outstanding Negro Americans, will be sponsored by Lena Horne, singer and motion picture actress. Beatrice Turner, one of the 6,112 workers in the four Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, will be matron of honor.

MAY 1 1943

C. L. Dellums, West Coast representative of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and president of the United Negro Labor Committee, will serve as master of ceremonies on a program which will include short addresses by Attorney Walter A. Gordon of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Leon H. Washington, Jr., publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel, and Vernon McCalla, a shipfitter, representing the Kaiser workers. Marcus Hall, another shipyard worker and protege of Roland Hayes, noted tenor, will sing "Ballad for Americans."

MAY 1 1943 Courier

47j-1943

18-Year-Old Eats His Way Into Army

"Courier-Journal"

Frail Negro Passes Exam In 3d Month

JAN 8 - 1943

Louisville, Ky.

Chattanooga, Jan. 7 (AP)—Thomas Wilson, Jr., 18-year-old Negro youth, had what might be termed a case of tenacious patriotism.

Three months ago Wilson started trying to enlist in the Navy as a mess attendant. A preliminary examination showed he was several pounds underweight.

Asking how to gain weight quickly, he was given the familiar old recipe of lots of bananas and water. Three days later he turned up again but was still underweight.

Returned Twice Weekly.

Regularly twice a week he came in to be weighed; just as regularly he was found below standard. Finally he argued the recruiters into giving him a new examination—and they found a crooked finger which they said would disquality him.

Disconsolately Wilson left the office and didn't show up again for almost a month. Then one day he walked jauntily in, assuring the recruiters he was all ready to enlist.

"What about your finger?" they asked.

"Oh, that's O. K." he said. "I went to Nashville to see the senior medical officer and he said he'd pass me if you would."

JAN 8 - 1943

Impressed, they asked him how he got to Nashville. He told them he'd scrubbed floors at Fort Oglethorpe until he had earned enough money for the round trip.

They agreed to take him, but he was still underweight. As usual, he promised, "I'll be back in a few days." And went out.

In the meantime Wilson passed his 18th birthday and had to register, which meant he needed his draft board's release to join the Navy.

But that didn't stop him either; he obtained the release, walked into the recruiting office after a big meal.

JAN 8 - 1943

He's in the Navy now.

Constitution
Atlanta. Georgia

Atlanta Negro Aboard Ship Sinking U-Boat

An Atlanta Negro was a member of a gun crew on the cutter Campbell, which rammed and sank a German submarine, according to a Navy Department announcement yesterday.

Raymond L. Knott, of 491 Dunbar street, S. W., was one of 11 Negro Coast Guardsmen who took part in the attack, the Navy said. The Negroes fired several rounds and scored telling hits, the announcement said.

Skipper Mulzac

"The Daily Worker" JAN 3 - 1943 New York N.Y.

By Ben Davis, Jr.

Welcome home to Capt. Hugh Mulzac, Skipper of the Liberty ship, Booker T. Washington, just returned from its maiden voyage.

The Negro people, the labor movement—the country—is proud of Capt. Mulzac and his "League of Nations" crew.

There is a thrill in the realization that the United States Maritime Service has its first Negro skipper. Here is one more nail in the coffin of Hitlerism — one more reason for Martin Dies, Gov. Talmadge and Gov. Dixon to fall prostrate into political epilepsy. And whatever drives these gentlemen to madness is good for the nation, for victory.

Ben Davis, Jr.

CREW LOVES HIM

JAN 3 - 1943

I have never had the pleasure of meeting Capt. Mulzac. But one does not need to meet him to appreciate him. He describes his vessel as "this United Nations ship flying a United States flag." His crew loves him—a crew of Americans, Negro and white, of Belgian, Dutch, Russian, English, Filipino, Honduran, Irish, Mexican, Swedish and Turkish seamen. Many other ship captains can learn a thing or two from this member of an oppressed people who slashed through racial, religious and all other lines to select his crew.

Is Captain Mulzac qualified? For 20 years he has held a license declaring him qualified to command any merchant ship of any size on the ocean. The man is a scholar, and looks the part; he bears the natural dignity of his people and of a worker who takes pride in his job. It is "no personal victory" Capt. Mulzac is describing his honor in his own words, but a "victory for the National Negro Congress, the Brooklyn Victory Committee, the trade unions, the war effort, and for other licensed Negro officers of which there are many."

LONG, HARD FIGHT

But it has been a long, hard pull for Capt. Mulzac, for the Negro people and for the labor movement in which the National Maritime Union played a great role. The present just, people's war—in which the demands of victory must supersede all other considerations—speeded up the fight and brought it to a successful head.

We must be careful that we do not indulge in excessive optimism. Yet a calm appraisal of the forces at work in this global war compels us to recognize that there are progressive trends taking place that even the most solemn pronouncements out of the old imperialist era cannot hold back.

But these progressive developments—the abolition of jim-crow, of lynching, of spurious blood theories, the enforcement of the full citizenship rights of the Negro people — will not take place by themselves. They have to be fought for, fought for with the added impetus of winning this titanic war against Hitler.

STILL EXCEPTIONS

The Captain Mulzacs are still the exceptions. The war industries, while opening their doors to Negroes under the compulsion of war necessity, are still hiring, for the most part, token numbers of Negroes. Many employers comply with the letter of President Roosevelt's anti-discriminatory order in order to violate its essence.

Capt. Mulzac had to fight for the right to fight for his country. Dorie Miller had to violate an order restricting him to the mess work in order to man a machine-gun on deck against the Japanese. Literally, millions of Negroes are faced with innumerable jim-crow barriers before they can serve their country as free and equal citizens, ready to give their all of victory.

Look at all the waste motion which must be expended before the country is totally mobilized. We need every available man on the battlefield yet segregation in the armed forces still sets the stage for inter-racial strife and shameful atrocities against Negro troops. We must have the strongest national unity, yet eight lynchings took place in 1942.

This is no way to fight a war to victory against the most deadly and barbarous foe mankind has ever known. This is the sure way not to win the war in the quickest possible time and at the least cost. The perpetrators of these crimes against the Negro people are working for Hitler just as if they were shooting down our troops in North Africa.

JAN 3 - 1943

In view of the splendid anti-jim crow policies enunciated by Pres. Roosevelt, Paul McNutt and others, there is no reason why these policies are not carried out particularly through Attorney General Biddle's office. This remains one of the biggest pieces of unfinished business that stares us in the face in 1943. But the people can and will change this through their own intervention — for they are determined upon victory. Let's finish this ugly business now and get done with Hitler in 1943.

Colored Attendants Needed By Navy

"Times" Johnson City, Tenn

Colored applicants are being accepted by the United States navy for enlistment in the regular navy or naval reserve as apprentice seamen or mess attendants according to R. M. Chadwell, head of the Johnson City United States recruiting sub-station, post office building. 1/22/43

White men for the construction corps, are also being accepted, said Chadwell. The age limit is from 18 to 50 years old.

Columbia S C Record
January 18, 1943

Navy Places Open To Young Negroes

According to an announcement today, a quota has been set whereby a certain number of young South Carolina Negroes in the draft age (18 through 37) may be eligible for enlistment in the United States Navy as apprentice seamen, selective volunteers, and train at the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Men who are interested, may go to their nearest navy recruiting station and get complete information, or else, they may go to their local selective service board and ask to be placed in class 1-A, so that they can enlist in the Navy as an apprentice seaman. The draft board will then send the man to the navy station for an examination.

The local navy recruiting substation is located on the third floor of city hall. Chief Gunner's Mate M. T. Thigpen is the petty officer in charge of the station.

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

THE CRUISER HOUSTON

DEC 26 1942

We, the citizens of Houston had reason to be proud of our city last Monday night when Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, was presented a certificate by the Hon. Jesse H. Jones for $85,749,884.24 to build a new cruiser and aircraft carrier. Our chests swelled a little more as the cabinet officer praised Houston and Texas for the part they are playing in war efforts. He praised the bravery of Texans in this and other wars.

The audience was surprised to learn from the lips of Secretary Knox when he cited the bravery of Texans, that a Negro shed the first blood in the battle for Texas Independence. This fact, no doubt, was buried in the archives of history and now that it has been brought to light, the historians will get busy. Perhaps, some day, there will stand somewhere on the soil of Texas a monument to this Negro along with monuments of the defenders of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto.

DEC 26 1942

The Cruiser campaign was patriotic from beginning to end. Into the coffers provided for the Cruiser funds went pennies from bootblacks, along with large donations from millionaires. To climax the drive, in a program at the Coliseum, Negroes participated. The race was ably represented by the scholarly and matchless orator, John W. Rice, National Youth Administration director of Texas. The Cruiser Houston program and campaign is a challenge to other states of the union both in raising funds for war efforts and the inclusion of all citizens into worthwhile programs.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Capt. Mulzac In Short Wave Broadcast Tells World His Crew Sails For Freedom

JAN 16 1943

WASHINGTON — Negro Americans, West Indians and Africans are fighting so that their women and children may enjoy more of that freedom which exists under democracy, Captain Hugh Mulzac, master of the Liberty Ship Booker T. Washington, declared last week in a series of OWI broadcasts beamed to the peoples of the Caribbean area and the British Isles.

Interviewed by Claude McKay, noted poet and author, Captain Mulzac told his Caribbean radio audience:

"Last April when I visited Trinidad, I was chief steward of an American ship. And today I am happy to tell you that I am the master of the American ship, the Booker T. Washington. Some of you know that this ship is named for the noble American Negro educator and builder of the all-Negro school of Tuskegee institute. For 15 years I have sailed the seas and I regard my present position as the greatest honor that has come to me, because it was something that was difficult to achieve. I hope that it will inspire other members of my race to strive hard to win more of these difficult things.

Cites Other Captains

"There have been other Negro captains, such as Captain Cockburn, Captain O'Neil and Captain Webster, all West Indians, who like myself previously sailed under the Union Jack. We West Indians in our homes are surrounded by deep water and so we naturally make good seamen. In my voyages to every part of the world, North and South America, Europe and Africa, China and India, I have met West Indian seamen everywhere, in almost every category of seamanship. But as the first American Negro captain I feel that I have a big responsibility to Negroes of the Americas and of Africa.

"We West Indians and Negro Americans and Africans can prove today that for us democracy is not merely an empty rotten name as the Nazis and Fascists have said. We are braving dangers and fighting so that we may not lose such things as we possess under the democratic system. We are fighting so that our women and our children may enjoy more of that freedom which exists under democracy. We are fighting so that our men will stand more firmly on their feet and lift up their heads as other men."

JAN 16 1943

The American Labor Hour broadcast, sponsored by the AFL, CIO, and railroad brotherhoods, originated in New York and was rebroadcast to the British Isles. It included interviews with several members of the crew of the Booker T. Washington, who praised the leadership of Captain Mulzac on their first trip.

Lauds Skipper

Harry Alexander, white deck engineer, told how Maptain Mulzac had been teaching his men navigation. Alexander said he had been sailing for 22 years in the engine department of various ships. When asked how the Booker T. Washington compares with other ships he declared:

JAN 16 1943

"Listen. I've been on ships where the captains sat up nights thinking of things to do to irritate the crew. Our old man spends his time teaching us navigation. In fine weather, we have two or three classes a week, on the afterdeck. One man in our navigation class is going to take his examination for a mate's license, and there will be others like him, soon."

Speaking on this broadcast, Captain Mulzac said in part:

"I am captain of a ship with a mixed crew of white men and Negroes from 18 different nations. Our chief officer and second officer, chief engineer and radio operator are from the West Indies. Our first, second and third engineers and carpenter are white. And so my crew stand together as a symbol of that democratic way of life for which we are all fighting.

JAN 16 1943

Ready to Die

"I know how important it is for me to get my ship through. Every ounce of strength I have, every thought I have is concentrated on that job. If we cannot get through to the men on the fighting fronts, we are ready to die in the attempt. And my crew is with me all the way.

"I have said I was proud of my men. My feelings go further than that. I feel that our crew is a fine example of democracy in action. And the more action we see the more opportunities we are given to fight for what we believe in, and the better we'll take it.

"I am proud to say that the men and officers of the Booker T. Washington are as fine an example as there is in the world of black men and white men united for a quick and smashing victory over the Hitlerites, the Fascists and the Japanese—in 1943!"

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

PV Wins Signal Victory; WAVES' Jimcro Smashed

FEB 11 1943

Negro women holding United States citizenship are eligible to apply and acceptable to the WAVES, women's naval service auxiliary, and the SPARS, women's auxiliary to the coast guard. The ordinary requirements facing all applicants are the only ones they must meet. *The People's* VOICE was so informed Monday by the NYC Office of Naval Procurement.

Up to the time of inquiry, said the ONP informant, there was no knowledge of Negro enlistments in either of the services. Applicants must present themselves at 33 Pine st, NYC.

PV's inquiry followed public announcement last Friday that "the policy of the Coast Guard and of the Navy would be followed in regard to the possible enlistment of Negro girls as members.

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FEB 11 1943

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New York Times
New York, N. Y.

SPARS OPEN TO NEGROES

FEB 5 - 1943

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Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

800 Negroes Sought By American Navy

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Many of them will receive as much as $66 a month and in addition free clothing, lodging, food and medical attention, the recruiting officer said. The lowest pay for any negro who enlists for this duty will be $54 a month, he added.

FEB 25 1943

Pointing out another advantage for those assigned to this duty, he said that they will likely have an opportunity to visit their homes frequently.

Those who are interested should apply to Chief Petty Officer Bromberg whose office is in the new postoffice building.

Jacksonville, Ala. News
January 28, 1943

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Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Capt. Mulzac In Short Wave Broadcast

JAN 16 1943

Tells World His Crew Sails For Freedom

WASHINGTON — Negro Americans, West Indians and Africans are fighting so that their women and children may enjoy more of that freedom which exists under democracy, Captain Hugh Mulzac, master of the Liberty Ship Booker T. Washington, declared last week in a series of OWI broadcasts beamed to the peoples of the Caribbean area and the British Isles.

Interviewed by Claude McKay, noted poet and author, Captain Mulzac told his Caribbean radio audience:

"Last April when I visited Trinidad, I was chief steward of an American ship. And today I am happy to tell you that I am the master of the American ship, the Booker T. Washington. Some of you know that this ship is named for the noble American Negro educator and builder of the all-Negro school of Tuskegee institute. For 15 years I have sailed the seas and I regard my present position as the greatest honor that has come to me, because it was something that was difficult to achieve. I hope that it will inspire other members of my race to strive hard to win more of these difficult things.

Cites Other Captains

"There have been other Negro captains, such as Captain Cockburn, Captain O'Neil and Captain Webster, all West Indians, who like myself previously sailed under the Union Jack. We West Indians in our homes are surrounded by deep water and so we naturally make good seamen. In my voyages to every part of the world, North and South America, Europe and Africa, China and India, I have met West Indian seamen everywhere, in almost every category of seamanship. But as the first American Negro captain I feel that I have a big responsibility to Negroes of the Americas and of Africa.

"We West Indians and Negro Americans and Africans can prove today that for us democracy is not merely an empty rotten name as the Nazis and Fascists have said. We are braving dangers and fighting so that we may not lose such things as we possess under the democratic system. We are fighting so that our women and our children may enjoy more of that freedom which exists under democracy. We are fighting so that our men will stand more firmly on their feet and lift up their heads as other men."

JAN 16 1943

The American Labor Hour broadcast, sponsored by the AFL, CIO, and railroad brotherhoods, originated in New York and was rebroadcast to the British Isles. It included interviews with several members of the crew of the Booker T. Washington, who praised the leadership of Captain Mulzac on their first trip.

Lauds Skipper

Harry Alexander, white deck engineer, told how Maptain Mulzac had been teaching his men navigation. Alexander said he had been sailing for 22 years in the engine department of various ships. When asked how the Booker T. Washington compares with other ships he declared:

JAN 16 1943

"Listen. I've been on ships where the captains sat up nights thinking of things to do to irritate the crew. Our old man spends his time teaching us navigation. In fine weather, we have two or three classes a week, on the afterdeck. One man in our navigation class is going to take his examination for a mate's license, and there will be others like him, soon."

Speaking on this broadcast, Captain Mulzac said in part:

"I am captain of a ship with a mixed crew of white men and Negroes from 18 different nations. Our chief officer and second officer, chief engineer and radio operator are from the West Indies. Our first, second and third engineers and carpenter are white. And so my crew stand together as a symbol of that democratic way of life for which we are all fighting.

JAN 16 1943

Ready to Die

"I know how important it is for me to get my ship through. Every ounce of strength I have, every thought I have is concentrated on that job. If we cannot get through to the men on the fighting fronts, we are ready to die in the attempt. And my crew is with me all the way.

"I have said I was proud of my men. My feelings go further than that. I feel that our crew is a fine example of democracy in action. And the more action we see the more opportunities we are given to fight for what we believe in, and the better we'll take it.

"I am proud to say that the men and officers of the Booker T. Washington are as fine an example as there is in the world of black men and white men united for a quick and smashing victory over the Hitlerites, the Fascists and the Japanese—in 1943!"

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

PV Wins Signal Victory; WAVES' Jimcro Smashed

FEB 13 1943

Negro women holding United States citizenship are eligible to apply and acceptable to the WAVES, women's naval service auxiliary, and the SPARS, women's auxiliary to the coast guard. The ordinary requirements facing all applicants are the only ones they must meet. *The People's* VOICE was so informed Monday by the NYC Office of Naval Procurement.

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FEB 25 1943

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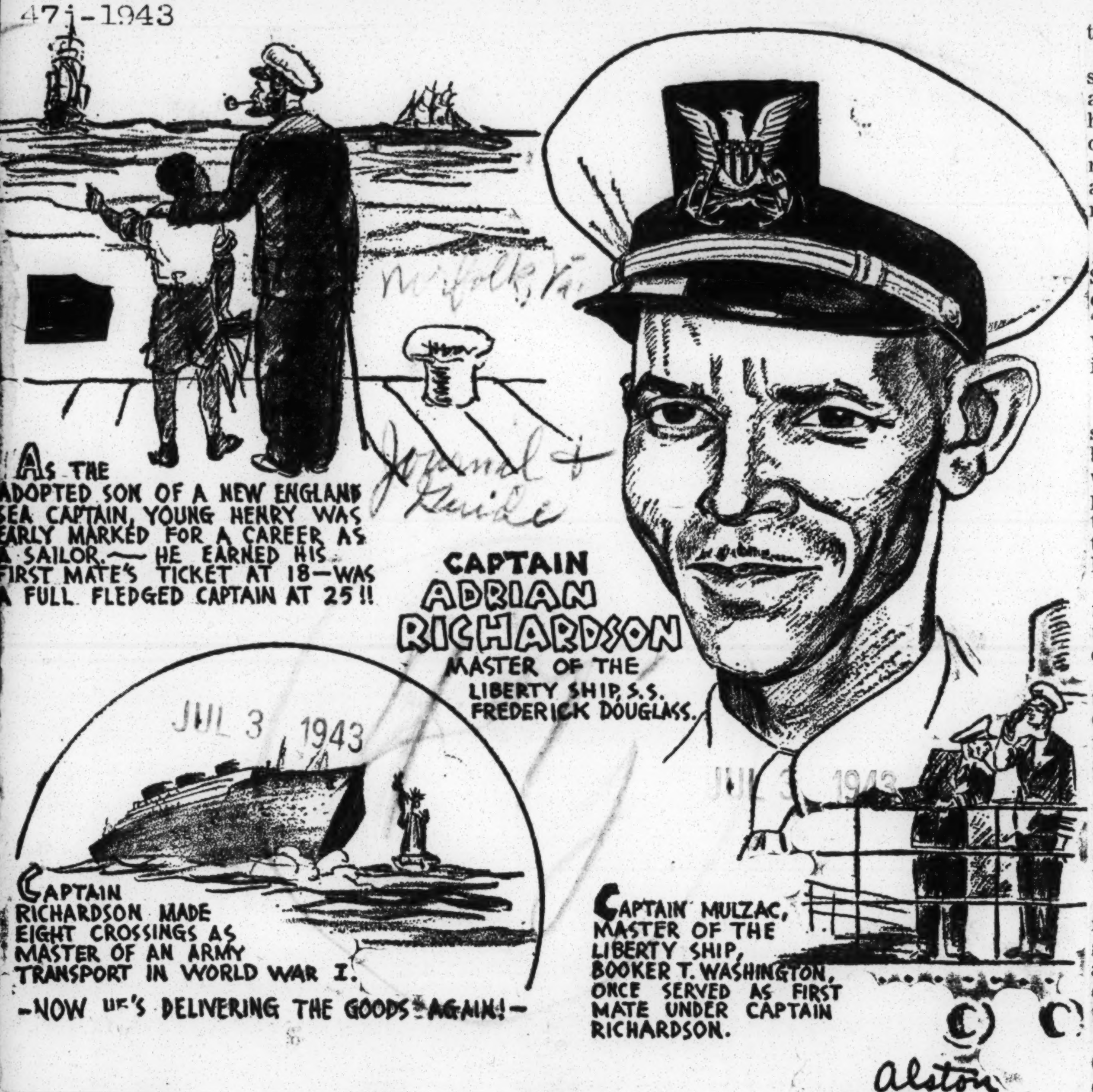
Norfolk, Va.

Journal & Guide


AS THE ADOPTED SON OF A NEW ENGLAND SEA CAPTAIN, YOUNG HENRY WAS EARLY MARKED FOR A CAREER AS A SAILOR.— HE EARNED HIS FIRST MATE'S TICKET AT 18—WAS A FULL FLEDGED CAPTAIN AT 25!!
CAPTAIN ADRIAN RICHARDSON
MASTER OF THE LIBERTY SHIP, S.S. FREDERICK DOUGLASS.
CAPTAIN RICHARDSON MADE EIGHT CROSSINGS AS MASTER OF AN ARMY TRANSPORT IN WORLD WAR I.
-NOW HE'S DELIVERING THE GOODS AGAIN!-
CAPTAIN MULZAC, MASTER OF THE LIBERTY SHIP, BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, ONCE SERVED AS FIRST MATE UNDER CAPTAIN RICHARDSON.
Alston

JUL 3 1943

All Races Eat, Sleep and Play Together at Training Station

JUL 31 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

White Texan Says "We Learn from Each Other"; However, No Colored at Coast Guard Academy or in Aviation Branch, and No SPARS Yet

By DOUGLASS HALL
Staff Correspondent

MANHATTAN BEACH, L.I. — Officers and enlisted personnel stationed at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Station here are not so much concerned with "preaching" the principles of democracy; they would much rather "practice" them, the AFRO was told and shown this week.

"We would rather not talk about democracy," stated Commander William H. Hogson, as I waited to be shown activities in the camp, "we want you to see it in action for yourself."

Presently Harold J. Halton (CSK), morale officer of the public relations department, Photographer's Mate Charles T. Reiche, and Chief Petty Officer Walter L. McCoy arrived on the scene and the tour was under way.

Jim Crow Not There

I immediately primed my eyes to get a glimpse of the old jim crow that had been reported flying around the base. But he was the bird that was not there.

Instead, there was a spirit of sincere, natural comradeship among the fellows. When asked how the races get along together one of the boys replied: "There's nothing to it. We don't even think about race. We are Coast Guardsmen and that's that."

Personnel at the base is a geographical combination of every State in the Union and some foreign countries. A white Texan "chows" with a colored lad from Washington and thinks nothing of it.

Learning from Each Other

"We get along fine," the Texan stated, "and there is no need of bringing up the race question if we wanted to. We know that the policy is that all share alike and that is what we are doing. Both the white and colored fellows are learning a lot from each other."

Colored and white Coast Guardsmen eat, play, and train daily under supervision of instructors of all races.

In the mess hall I was given typical Coast Guard chow in the Coast Guard manner: seven vegetables, meat, bread, butter, milk and dessert.

Draftees receive their basic training here and may also take advanced courses in several fields such as carpentry, radio, motor mechanics, etc.

Seamen are selected for different fields on the bases of their grades on an aptitude test given at the station. Personal preferences are also taken into consideration.

"Colored men who enter the Coast Guard can expect the same opportunities as any other men who are called into this branch of service," headquarters officials pointed out.

A statement issued by headquarters said:

"Regarding specific inquiries, there is a colored ensign among the Coast Guard officers and there is a colored warrant officer (the ensign is Joseph Jenkins, now on duty as an engineering officer in Boston, and the warrant officer is Boatswain Clarence Samuels, now in the Coast Guard Training Station here).

None at Academy

"The various branches of the Coast Guard are open to all personnel provided they fulfill established requirements for the particular branches. There are no colored students at the Coast Guard Academy, but one has completed a reserve course and has been commissioned.

"There are colored Coast Guardsmen stationed at the academy, however, as a part of the permanent enlisted complement there.

"Colored Coast Guardsmen are serving on cutters in various capacities, depending upon individual aptitudes and the vacancies that must be filled. The highest enlisted rank is that of chief petty officer.

None in Aviation

"At the present there are no colored men serving in the Coast Guard aviation branch, but all men who qualify are eligible for this branch of service whenever and wherever vacancies may occur.

"Colored men are stationed throughout nearly all the branches of the Coast Guard and are not used exclusively for any one branch."

Asked whether colored women are permitted to serve in the SPARS, headquarters replied:

" . . . Please be advised that to date there has been no need to enlist them to replace colored men."

Wages of Seamen on the S.S. Douglass

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

JUN 26 1943

Merchant Marine seamen on the S.S. Frederick Douglass, new 10,500-ton liberty ship now on the high seas under command of Capt. Adrian Richardson, receive monthly wages ranging from $165 to $900, due to a 100 per cent war bonus for all offshore shipping, which doubles the usual peace-time wages.

In addition, each seaman receives an extra bonus of $5 a day, or $150 monthly, should the ship enter a war zone, which automatically makes this wage scale range from $315 to $1,050 monthly.

Overtime Pay

Rates for all overtime pay are 85 cents an hour for unlicensed seamen and $1 to $1.25 per hour for licensed seamen.

The $125 bonus previously given each Merchant Marine seaman when his ship entered any port subject to bombing attacks has been discontinued.

Captain Gets $900

Highest wages paid monthly are $900 for the captain and $850 for the chief engineer. This includes the 100 per cent war bonus now in effect, but excludes the possibility of the $5 a day war zone bonus and overtime pay.

Lowest wages are $165 for ordinary seamen and $175 monthly for messmen.

Complete listing of monthly wages of all seamen on Merchant Marine ships during peace times, not counting the 100 per cent war bonus now in effect, follows:

DECK DEPARTMENT

Ordinary seaman, $82.50; able bodied seaman, $100; master at arms, $105; quartermaster, $105; storekeeper, $105; boatswain, $112; boatswain's mate, $110; carpenter, $112.50; carpenter's mate, $105; third mate, $195; second mate, $215; chief mate, $262; captain, $450;

STEWARD DEPARTMENT

Chief steward, $147.50; chief cook, $132.50; second cook and baker, $117.50; messmen, $87.50; utility men, $87.50;

RADIO DEPARTMENT

Chief radio operator, $172.50; second radio operator, $155; third radio operator, $135;

PURSER'S DEPARTMENT

Typist-clerk, $126.50;

ENGINE DEPARTMENT

Oiler, $110; watertender, $110; fireman (oil), $100; fireman (coal), $102.50; fireman-watertender (coal), $110; electrician, $150; assistant electrician, $135; storekeeper, $110 [illegible] $87.50; junior engineer, $150; third assistant engineer, $195; second assistant engineer, $215; first assistant engineer, $262; chief engineer, $425.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 30 1943

HAMPTON NAVAL SCHOOL COLOR GUARD—Navy enlisted men of the Hampton Naval Training School led by the Naval Training School band staged a dress parade on Armstrong Field prior to starting of the game between Hampton and Va. State on Saturday. This demonstration added a bit of color to the annual Hampton homecoming game which was loudly applauded by the spectators. The Naval Training School color guard is shown above.

Machinist's Mates School Opened At Naval Station

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—(S N S) — Establishment of a school for machinist's mates in Camp Robert Smalls has opened a new avenue in their Navy careers for Bluejackets at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Housed in a large wing of the Negro Regiments' $200,000 Service School building, the unit went into operation July 19 with 30 Bluejackets comprising the first class. With a new group scheduled to be formed each month, it is expected that nearly 100 men will be enrolled in the school before the initial class completes its 16-week course under the tutelage of veteran Naval officers and petty officers. The ultimate capacity of the school will be 500 students.

Designed to train the men thoroughly in the duties of machinist's mates with the fleet, the course includes instruction in mechanical drawing, shop mathematics and general machine shop practice, covering both bench work and the use of power-driven machine tools. The last four weeks are devoted largely to the study of boilers, engines, turbines, pumps, refrigerating systems, evaporating systems and other auxiliaries found in the engineering department aboard ship.

Negro Bluejackets selected to attend the school will spend many hours at the row upon row of lathes, drill presses, milling machines, shapers and grinders which line the machinist's mate wing.

The men do not spend their time making useless practice articles. Instead, under the guidance of their shop instructors, the sailor-students will turn out precision tools, convert scrap and stock metal into articles which are scarce, and made repair parts for their machines.

They will fashion surface guage, parallel strips, automatic center punches, lathe tapping attachments, welders' Chipping hammers, and a host of other machane shop "musts."

As is the case in all Service School groups throughout the Navy, men will be selected for machinist's mate school by a series of aptitude tests and a personal interview given to each sailor during his period in recruit training. Those named will finish the course a: qualified "specialists" in their trade and will be assigned to duty at sea, or at some Naval shore station.

Chief Machinist's Mate D. L. Synder, of 983 Edgewood Drive, Lakeland, Fla., a veteran of 16 years service in the Navy, is supervisor of the school. Among the instructors on his staff is Negro Bluejacket Robert Coles, 23, specialist, 2nd class, of 8808 Blain Ave., Cleveland, O. Coles was a machinist in his home city before coming in the Navy. Lt. K. C. Beckett, of Evanston, Ill., is the officer in charge.

A similar school has been in operation for sometime at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.

Norfolk Sailor Is Honor Man At Naval Graduation

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

OCT 23 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Bostick W. Williams, 20, son of Mrs. Hattie M. Williams, 1112 Transylvania avenue, South Norfolk, Va., has been graduated as honor man of his company on completion of "boot" training at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

WILLIAMS

Williams was employed at Colonna's shipyard prior to joining the Navy as an apprentice seaman. Having completed his basic training, he will be sent to a naval service school for instruction as a petty officer in one of 49 Navy trades, if not immediately assigned sea duty.

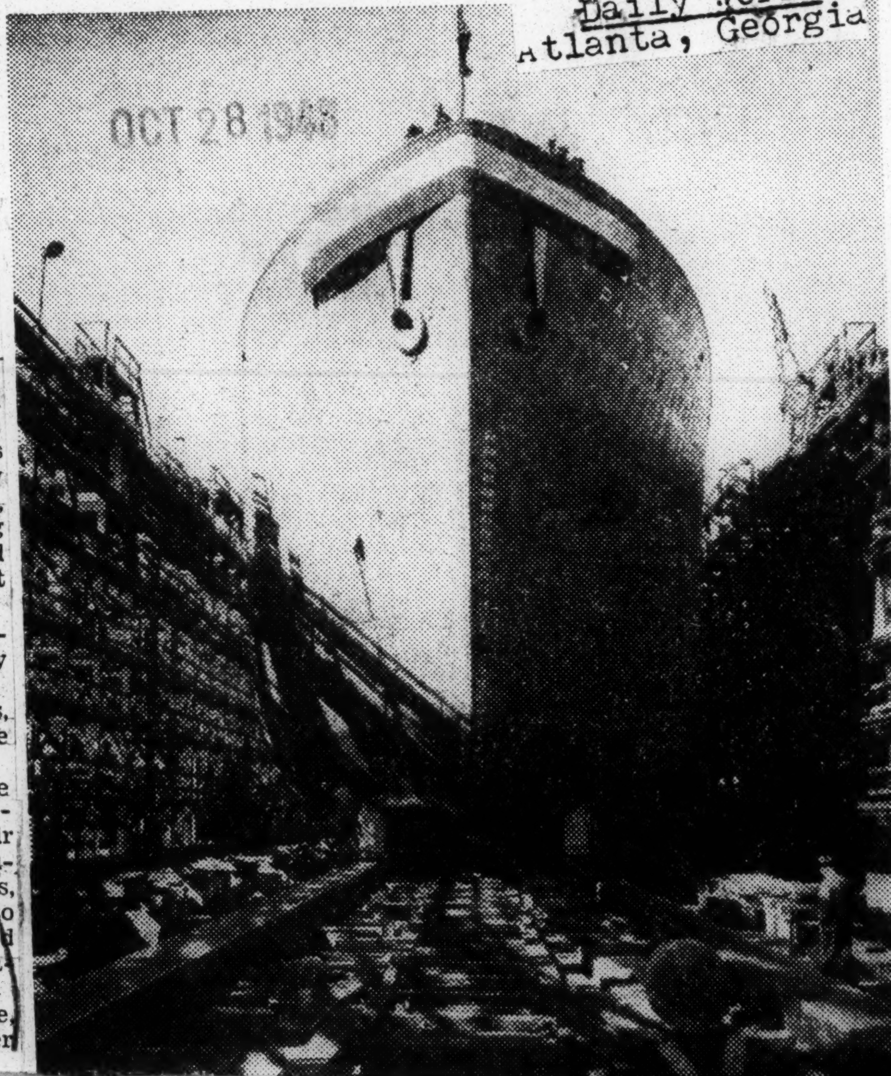
OCT 23 1943

The honor man has left the station for nine-day boot leave with his mother and friends in Norfolk. Williams is a graduate of St. Joseph High School, Norfolk, and attended Virginia State College.

S. S. Dunbar Slides To Sea

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

OCT 28 1943



WILMINGTON, Cal.—(SNS)—The sixth Liberty ship to be named after a Negro, the tanker, S. S. Paul Lawrence Dunbar, is pictured as it slides down the ways of the California Shipbuilding Corporation here, 31 days after its keel was laid. Mrs. Clarice Williams, senior Negro woman employee of Calship, served as sponsor, while Miss Eva Springer, sister of the sponsor, acted as maid of honor.

- 1943

MRS. ROBERT B. PARKER, WIFE OF WORKER WHO MADE ENVIABLE ATTENDANCE RECORD, CHRISTENS S.S. LA FARGE IN BALTIMORE

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

According to tradition, the sponsor received a gift from the builders. William Reynolds, shipyard representative, presented a watch, set with rubies and diamonds, to Mrs. Parker.

In the launching party were, left to right: Brooks Parker, who drew the lucky tag from those of all employees who scored against absenteeism, Mrs. Nimrod Dodson, Mrs. Julius Scott and Mrs. J. Nelson Fortune.

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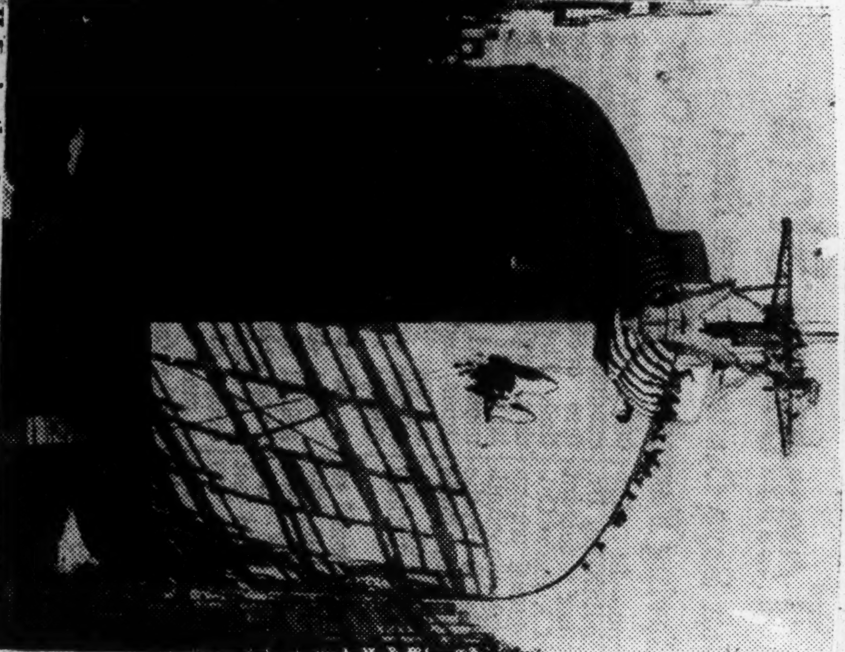
Champagne splattered as the bottle broke against the bow of the S.S. John La Farge as she broke away amid whistles and cheers. Mrs. Brooks Parker, wife of a shipyard work, was sponsor.



Here is the S.S. John La Farge, named for the famous American artist and sponsor of stained and mosaic glass making, photographed prior to the launching in Baltimore, Friday.

Press Pushes Navy on Colored Officers

NOV 20 1942

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Publishers' Group Takes Up Morale-Damaging Ills at D.C. Conferences

WASHINGTON

Representatives of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association meeting here Saturday took steps to increase their race's knowledge of "what we are fighting for" and to push their campaign to have the armed service liberalize policies controlling their utilization of colored men and women in uniform.

Toward this end the publishers on Friday and Saturday conferred with Navy and Office of War Information officials and later visited the White House with proposals designed to remove some of the causes of disaffection.

Navy Barriers Aattacked

A committee representing the newspapermen laid before Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of Navy personnel, reports of complaints against limited opportunities in the Navy.

Especially attacked were the color barrier against colored WAVES, chaplains, aviators and commissioned officers.

This committee also urged a broader program by the Navy public relations bureau in providing information about colored service men and their achievements and activities, even within the scope of their present opportunities.

Officers "Considered"

In reply to questions, Admiral Jacobs said that the Navy Department was considering the appointment of a few colored men as officers. Pressed to give a more definite reply as to the number, Admiral Jacobs refused further comment.

He also said that the Navy was considering the admission of colored women as WAVES, but, said that there was one hitch in that the Navy Department did not want to train them at he same places at which whites are being trained. White WAVES are now being trained at Hunter College in New York City, and at Smith College in Northhampton, Mass.

Concerning the appointment of colored men in the Navy Public Relations Department, Admiral Jacobs said that this matter was out of his hands.

Press Privileges Sought

At the White House, in a conference with Stephen Early, the President's press secretary, the publishers placed special emphasis on obstacles limiting them in keeping the Administration and their reading public fully advised on matters of vital public interest.

They later took action looking toward representation in White House press conferences and in the Senate and House press galleries.

In talks with OWI officials, proposals were offered for making more effective that agency's news, pictures, radio and movie presentations of the colored race's role in the war effort.

F.D. to Get Statement

The group authorized a formal statement to be laid before the President on certain conditions believed to be contributing to disunity and loss of productiveness in the drive for victory.

The publishers also discussed their participation in the War Advertising Council, the bill before Congress to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in Federal elections, the FEPC, and its forthcoming annual observance of Negro Newspaper Week.

In attendance were:

John Sengestake, NNPA president and publisher of the Chicago Defender; P. L. Prattis, and Mrs. Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh Courier; Carl, Howard and Arnett Murphy, Afri-American Newspapers; Charles Browning, Chicago Defender;

P. Bernard and Thomas W. Young, Norfolk Journal and Guide; Frank Stanley, Louisville Defender; Carter Wesley, Houston Informer; W. O. Walker, Cleveland Call-Post; Alexander Barnes, Washington Tribune;

C. F. Powell, New York Amsterdam News; Joseph Christian, New York Peoples' Voice; Mrs. Juanjta Goodman, Los Angeles Sentinel; Roy Garvin, Joe LaCour and Ralph Matthews, Washington Afro-American

Cook on Destroyer Borie Mans Guns in Battle with U-Boat

NOV 20 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Christopher Sheppard, Cook First Class, Serves as 1-Man Gun Crew as Submarine Is Sunk in Atlantic

NOV 20 1943

BALTIMORE

Dorie Miller, famed colored Bluejacket hero of the Pearl Harbor attack, had a new rival this week.

He is Christopher Columbus Sheppard, cook first class, USN, and a "one-man gun crew" on the Destroyer Borie which was part of a naval force reecntly awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for having sunk "more submarines than any team in naval history."

Sheppard's exploits, and those of another colored member of the Borie crew, Ernest Gardner, steward's mate second class, USNR, were revealed by their commander, Lieut. Charles H. Hutchins of Terre Haute, Ind., during a press conference at the Navy Department on November 10.

Commander Tells Story

According to Lieutenant Hutchins, Sheppard had a battle station as "first loader" on a 4-inch gun when the Borie, fighting alone many miles from her group, was engaged in a knock-down, drag-out battle with two U-boats—one of which was described by the Borie's commander as "the biggest one we'd ever seen."

While fighting the latter sub at ranges of 10 to 40 feet, the gun crew at Sheppard's station became blinded by smoke. The "first loader" immediately seized the gun and started firing away at the sub. Gardner rushed from another station and started passing the ammunition.

After a few minutes, however, Sheppard waved his assistant aside and became a "one-man gun crew," getting his own ammunition, loading the gun and firing continuously at the badly crippled submarine.

Gardner Talks for AFRO

Gardner, who told the AFRO that he has been in the navy only five-and-a-half months and experienced action in European and North African waters, related his version of the battle Monday at his home in Baltimore.

During the heat of the fight he singly manned a heavy weapon after having crawled and pushed ammunition to his battle station, he asserted.

He has five sisters and four brothers. One of the latter, Sgt. Thomas J. Gardner, is now stationed at Camp Croft, S.C. Gardner was formerly employed at the Holabird Signal Depot, in Baltimore, as a mechanic.

Gardner is the son of Mrs. Rose E. Gardner of Ware Neck, Va., and his wife, Mrs. Lucille Gardner, lives at 914

Unit [illegible] ub Group

The Borie was part of the USS Card anti-submarine group, which consisted of the aircraft carrier, USS Card, the Destroyers Borie, Barry and Goff and the Card's aviation units, Composite Squadrons 1 and 9.

In receiving the Presidential Unit Citation, this anti-submarine team was officially credited with being "largely responsible for the complete withdrawal of hostile U-boats" from the United States-North Africa convoy route.

The story of the death battle of the Borie against a pack of submarines and her fight for survival while wallowing in heavy seas in a badly damaged condition has been termed by the Navy Department as:

"An outstanding example of valor and seamanship," typical of "the teamwork of the unsung escort vessels that help make possible the more colorful exploits of the death-dealing, carrier-based planes which are carrying the fight to the U-boats in the mid-Atlantic."

Describes Battle with Sub

Describing the battle with the second sub, Lieutenant Hutchins said:

"We tried to ram the sub, but it submerged and we dropped all the depth charges in the racks. We must have scored because the U-boat came to the surface. Again we sped forward to ram, firing as we went. Our fire wiped the sub's deck clear of Germans and swept away their forward gun.

"Our bow struck the sub and rode over it. I stopped the engines and we held it fast. Then we let go with everything we had—4-inch guns, 20 mm. and machine guns—at ranges from 10 to 40 feet.

"Some men fired shotguns. The executive officer grabbed a tommy gun and started firing from the bridge. Others used pistols and one boy even took a signal pistol and fired at the sub.

The range was so short that one gun couldn't be brought to bear. So the gun captain started throwing empty shell cases and he knocked one man off the deck of sub.

One Man Throws Knife

"Another fellow threw his knife. He said later he'd never been able to stick a knife in the floor before, but this time he stuck it in the stomach of a German and he went overboard.

"After about 10 minutes of this inferno, the submarine got clear and attempted to flee. It went into a 'tight turn' in the pitch black darkness and for a time the Borie could not close in."

"Then he turned the tables and tried to ram us," Hutchins continued, "but we stopped him six feet short by dropping depth charges, set to the most shallow charge. It was like two tomcats in a room. We were [illegible] firing torpedoes at every chance."

Meanwhile, the Borie had been hurt, mainly from the ramming. The forward engine room was flooded, but the crew there kept the turbines operating—operating in water up to their necks.

Sub Explodes and Sinks

The blond young skipper, then told of the work of Sheppard, and Gardner.

Under the terrific fire, the submarine was battered by repeated hits and finally exploded and sank, Lieutenant Hutchins said.

Badly crippled, the 23-year-old Borie then started to limp back to its task force through the North Atlantic storm. All electric lights, however, were knocked out as well as the radio and heating plant.

There was no fresh water for the crew. Torpedoes, torpedo tubes, guns and other weight topside weer cut loose and thrown overboard in an effort to save the listing vessel.

"There was a small auxiliary radio aboard, but we had lost all the gasoline aboard," reported Hutchins. "So we collected all the cigarette-lighter fluid aboard, mixed the doctor's alcohol with kerosene and got enough fuel to use the generator for a short message."

NOV 26 1943

All but 27 of Crew Saved

The message was picked up and planes from the Card located the ship. Despite a 15 to 20-foot sea, all but 27 members of the Borie's crew were rescued by the task force destroyers. Then the hulk was sent to the bottom by bombs from the carrier's planes.

Dorie Miller, the first colored naval hero in this war, manned a machine gun during the sneak Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor and shot down four attacking planes. He was later awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt.

NOV 20 1943

Many other colored naval recruits have distinguished themselves in action since then and several have received awards.

VETERAN

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP 18 1943

Veteran of 15 Naval engagements in the Pacific zone, Byron B. Gray, cook s/c USN, enjoyed a furlough recently with his parents in Los Angeles, Calif. He is survivor of the [illegible] of the USS Helena, light cruiser. He expects to serve on a newly launched aircraft carrier.—George Cutler Photo.

Former Merchant Marine. Youthful Bluejacket Train

SEP 11 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—A veteran of 15 years' service in the merchant marine and a 17-year-old Bluejacket who was discharged from the Army when it was discovered he was underage are now in training in one of the regiments at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

The 5-foot 5-inch, 12[illegible]-pound ex-soldier is John Henry Pryor, son of Robert Pryor, of Abraham Lincoln Court, Paducah, Ky. The former merchant seaman is Frank Gaberial, 33, of 334 St. Nicholas Ave., New York City.

Pryor was 16 years old when he reported for his basic training at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., where, because of R. O. T. C. training in high school, he served as company clerk and acting drill sergeant. Later he served in the medical corps until his true age was discovered. He was a private first class, when he received his honorable discharge. He enlisted in the Navy July 14, soon after his 17th birthday. His brother, Robert is a corporal serving overseas.

Gaberial, a native of St. Thomas Virgin Islands, went to sea for the first time at Puerto Rico when he was 17 years old. He was shipwrecked several times, and last year was serving aboard a ship which was shelled by an enemy submarine. He was sworn into the Navy on July 3. His wife, Mrs. Mae Gaberial, lives at the St. Nicholas Avenue address in New York City.

Gets High Post On USMS Staff

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG

NEW YORK, Aug. 12—The appointment last week of Roy Ferguson, of Des Moines, Iowa, to the administrative staff in the personnel department at the United States Maritime Service station at Sheepshead Bay, N. Y., marks another first in the integration of Negroes into the war program. In his present capacity, Ferguson is responsible for the functioning of trainees at Sheepshead Bay, both white and colored. He is also connected with the legal department, having been a lawyer before he entered the service.

At the same time, Nathan Hill of Chicago was appointed to the administrative staff and is in charge of certain duties in the carpenter department.

J.C. Insignia for Seamen Protested

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

NEW YORK — The NAACP sent a letter recently to Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, protesting an order forbidding colored chief petty officers to wear regulation insignia.

Declaring that chief cooks and stewards at the Norfolk Naval Air Station were "wearing the wrong rating badge on their uniforms," Commander C. Adair, executive officer, signed an order which reads in part:

"The proper rating badge for these ratings is the crescent with four horizontal bars underneath, similar to first class rating with an additional horizontal bar. Non-regulation rating badges will be removed immediately."

Insignia Without Eagle

Complaints from San Francisco and Norfolk assert that colored chief petty officers have been ordered to wear a crescent above four straight bars instead of the regulation three red chevrons under an eagle.

The NAACP letter, which asked quick abolition of the discriminating rules, said in part:

"We are informed that within the limits of the Norfolk Naval Air Station colored seamen are segregated into rear seats of busses operated to carry personnel from one part of the station to another."

47j-1943

'Missing In Action' On Sunken Plane Carrier

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Dorie Miller, first Negro Bluejacket hero in this war, is "missing in action," the Navy Department officially confirmed this week.

The [illegible] youth who won the Navy Cross at Pearl Harbor was lost when the U.S. escort aircraft carrier Liscome Bay went down in flames off Makin Island on Nov. 24.

There was heavy loss of life in the sinking of the carrier by a Jap torpedo during the conquest of the Gilbert Islands and little hope is held out for Miller. Survivors of the sinking told of many crew members drowning in burning oil in the waters around the carrier.

Miller was known to be serving on the Liscome Bay at the time of her sinking.

His next of kin, Mr. and Mrs. Conery Miller, Waco, Texas, have been notified.

Miller, a strapping, 200-pound former fullback from Waco's Moore high school, was awarded the [illegible] Cross by President Roosevelt for "distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941."

Defender
Chicago, Ill

DORIE MILLER

At the same time, Miller received a letter of commendation from the secretary of the navy and was advanced in rating from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant first class. In addition, Bluejacket Miller has received the American Defense Service [illegible] the Fleet Clasp and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

While the navy withheld any details about Miller's loss, it was learned from survivors of the Liscome Bay that there is little chance that any crew members survived the ordeal of fire and water which began a split second after a look-out shouted "here comes a torpedo." The carrier's lights blinked out and flames leaped high above the flight deck.

About 200 survivors arriving in San Francisco said the casualties were heavy. Rear Adm. Henry M. Mullinix, task force commander, and Capt. Irving D. Wiltsie, the skipper, both were lost.

Some of the baby [illegible] planes were hurled into the sea. Bombs and ammunition were set off, but the officers and crew underwent their ordeal "with courage and gallantry that will long be remembered in the navy's traditions," the 12th Naval District announced.

Lt. Cmdr. M. U. Beebe, squadron commander, Anaheim, Calif., described the scene: "There was a terrific rumbling throughout the ship and an explosion that lifted me off the deck. The next thing I knew I was trying to get out the door in the darkness, but could find no passage. Fire started and I don't know how I got there, but I made the flight deck. It was ablaze and there was oil burning on the water."

There were more explosions before the Liscome Bay mae her final dive, bow out of the water until the last.

"Once in the water I tried to swim away but the current carried the ship toward me," Lt. Smith related. "Rounds of ammunition were going off in all directions. I picked up a seaman and we swam beyond the stern."

The U.S.S. Liscome Bay went down a flaming pyre and her last minutes were "like a Chinese New Year's, with explosions going off and tracers whizzing about," Capt. John Crommelin Jr., 41, of Montgomery, Ala., senior surviving officer, said.

Crommelin said he was naked, just coming out of a shower, when the first torpedo hit.

"There was a tremendous upheaval, one violent explosion setting off others on the hanger deck," he related. "Some debris hit me on the head as I stepped out of my cabin without my clothes."

"There were a couple of dead men in the passageway and I smelled burning flesh. As I opened the door, flames swept in, scorching my right side—my face, shoulders, legs and arms—and I thought I was done."

Crommelin **said he** finally climbed out through the catapult machinery room onto the flight deck. Devastation was everywhere. Planes were burning. Ammunition was exploding. Many d[illegible] crew members lay about.

A moment later he met Lt. Cmdr. Marshall Beebe, the squadron commander. He was carrying a badly hurt seaman "like a cat with a kitten," recalled Crommelin. He said they placed the seaman on the bow where he later would be able to float free.

Beebe slid down the ropes into the water, while Crommelin dove 45 feet into the fiery sea just as the Liscome Bay heeled over.

"The water felt very soothing," he said. "One kid joined me. He had nothing on but a tin hat. Flames were licking about us but none touched me as I swam from the ship. She obviously was doomed, but she stayed up for 10 minutes more—about 20 minutes in all after being hit. One magazine let go, and I felt eight or 10 other explosions. The ship settled by the stern and then began rolling slightly just before she went down."

Crommelin succeeded in making his way to a piece of cork, and while he clung to it, the Liscome Bay cracked and boomed. After a short time, he paddled his way to a life raft to where about 30 officers and men were hanging on.

Although the inferno they had just escaped had left its marks on many of them, everyone was cheerful and they soon were picked up by a destroyer almost within sight of Makin.

Miller, who was born October 12, 1919, left his father's small Waco, Texas, farm on September 16, 1939, to enlist in the navy as a mess attendant, third class, at Dallas, Texas. He was sent to the Naval Training Station at Norfolk, Va., and then was assigned to the U.S. Arizona on which he served until the morning of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Official reports reveal that he arose at 6 a.m., on the morning of December 7, and was collecting laundry when the alarm for General Quarters sounded. He headed for his battle station—the anti-aircraft battery magazine amidships—only to discover that torpedo damage already had rendered it untenable. So he went on deck where—because of his powerfu size—he was immediately assigned to the task of carrying wounded to places of greater safety. An officer ordered him to the bridge to aid the mortally wounded captain. Miller helped remove the dying officer and then returned to the machine gun.

Admiral Chester [illegible] Nimitz, commander-in-chief [illegible] Pacific Fleet, personally presented the Navy Cross [illegible] Miller in ceremonies aboard a United States warship in the Pacific on May 27, 1942. Pinning the bit or ribbon and cross of bronze on the sailor's breast, he described his act of heroism on the U.S.S. Arizona during the Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base, and complimented Miller on being the first representative of his race to be so honored in this war. He then read the citation which said:

"While at the side of his captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

Later, in January, [illegible] while visiting the U. S. [illegible] Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., Bluejacket Miller explained that the Pearl Harbor incident marked his first experience with a machine gun. Addressing hundreds of Negro Bluejackets who are now being taught at Great Lakes to handle such weapons, Miller said:

"It wasn't hard. I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine. I had watched the others with these guns. I guess I fired her for about 15 minutes at those Jap planes They were diving pretty close to us."

Poet's Corner

The following poem was written and sent to Mrs. Robbie Lynn Wallace, 101 Clark street, by Byran [illegible] Gray, now of Los Angeles, California. He was here a few days ago on a furlough and among other incidents he has experienced of his 3 years as a sailor, was the bombing and sinking of his ship, the "Helena" while he and other members of his crew were still on board.

"HELENA'S LAST STAND"

"Twas the fourth of July, old Independence Day,
The boys were sailing around, all happy and gay,
It wasn't till then, the word was passed around,
"The Tokie Express was on its way down,"
The captain then shouted "Every battle station to man,
It was in this great battle, that we made our last stand.
Targets bearing nine-eight zero, zero
Stand by, commence —firing.
After sixteen glorious minutes of continuous firing,
The Old Helena's frame began to groan and sigh,
It wasn't the first fish nor the second but the third,
That caused the mighty Helena, to settle to her berth.
The captain called down to the magazine store,
"The water has covered the boiler room floor,"
Old Gray, ~~old Gray~~, if you pump the water out
I will make you a hero without a doubt."
Now Gray answered back said, "Captain can't you see,
What good would a medal be to me?"
The sparks from his dog wench did fly
As he undogged the batcher on the fifth of July.

'Twas he who led his shipmates to safety above
And into the water, life rafts he did shove,
Then into the murky waters below he did dive,
To watch the gallant Helena, make her last drive.
Against the battle lit sky the Helena did silhoutte
It wasn't an easy sight [illegible] ever forget.
It wasn't till then I realized I was on my own,
With not even a life-raft to call my home.
It was in the early morning that I realized.

Informer

Houston

DEC 25 1943

OCT 30 1943

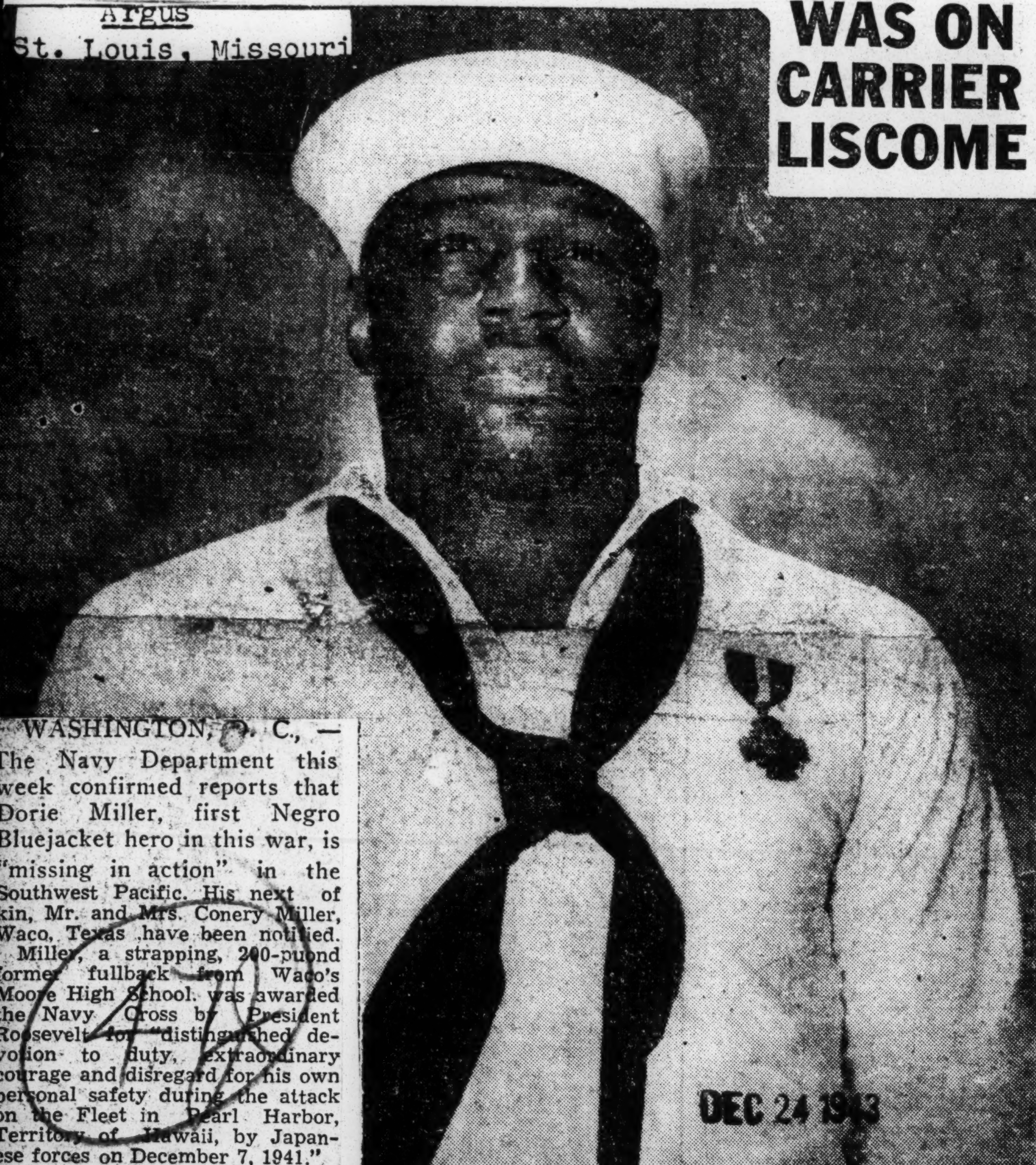
That the Navy would not leave me
in the water to die.
I've sailed the mighty ocean from
coast to coast,
And of many beautiful places I
can boast,
But the greatest day in the Navy,
'twill be,
Was the day, when they threw the
life line from the ship to me..

By BRYAN B. GRAY, New Port News, Va. —U. S. Receiving Station.

OCT 30 1943

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

WAS ON CARRIER LISCOME



WASHINGTON, D. C., — The Navy Department this week confirmed reports that Dorie Miller, first Negro Bluejacket hero in this war, is "missing in action" in the Southwest Pacific. His next of kin, Mr. and Mrs. Conery Miller, Waco, Texas have been notified.

Miller, a strapping, 200-puond former fullback from Waco's Moore High School, was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for "distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941."

"While at the side of his Captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his Captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge.

Later, in January, 1943, visited the U. S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill .

Since Pearl Harbor, Miller has been assigned to various other naval vessels. Shortly before he was reported missing in action, he was serving aboard the Aircraft Carrier Liscome Bay which was sunk by enemy action in the Southwest Pacific on November 24, 1943.

Miller's parents live at Route 1, Box 161, Waco, Texas. The missing hero has three brothers, one a private in the U. S. Army.

DEC 24 1943

S. S. James W. Johnson Launched By Mrs. Bass

Defender
Chicago, Ill

DEC 18 1943

WILMINGTON, Calif.—Named in honor of the Negro author, James W. Johnson, Calship's 301st vessel was launched Sunday at the California Shipbuilding Corporation yard on Terminal Island.

The 10,500-ton Liberty Ship was christened by Mrs. Charlotta A. Bass of Los Angeles, editor of the California Eagle. Miss Bernice Cook of Los Angeles, was maid of honor.

James Weldon Johnson (June 17, 1871-June 26, 1938) was an attorney, educator, social worker, and writer of music, poetry and prose. He was born in Jacksonville, Fla., where he first practiced law. In 1901 he went to New York, and spent later years in Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, and Carinto, Nicaragua, as U. S. Consul.

Johnson received the A.B. degree from Atlanta university, 1894. He attended Columbia university for three years, receiving the degree of doctor of literature. He studied at Talladega college, Alabama, 1917, and Howard university, 1923. For several years he was principal of a high school at Jacksonville. In 1897 he was admitted to the Florida bar.

He practiced at Jacksonville until 1901 and then joined his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, in New York to write for light opera and the stage.

In 1906 he was appointed as U. S. consul at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela. From 1909 to 1912 he served in a similar capacity at Carinto, Nicaragua, where he served through a difficult period of political turmoil.

He was secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1916-1930; professor of creative literature at Fisk university, 1930; and visiting professor of creative literature at New York university, 1934. He was a trustee of Atlanta university.

Johnson was the author of "Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man," 1912; "Fifty Years and Other Poems," 1917; "Self-Determining Haiti," 1920; "Book of American Negro Poetry," 1921; "Book of American Negro Spirituals," 1925; "Second Book of Spirituals," 1926; "God's Trombones," 1927; "Black Manhattan," 1930; "St. Peter Relates an Incident of the Resurrection Day," 1930; "Along This Way," 1933; "Negro Americans, What Now?" 1934; he was a contributor to Encyclopedia Brittanica. He wrote lyrics for several songs and wrote the English version of Libretto to Goyescas, produced at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, 1915.

DEC 18 1943

Navy Boss Knox Bars Mixed Crews In Navy

NOV 20 1943 Defender
Chicago, Ill

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — The Navy department definitely does not intend to mix the crews of its warships. Secretary Frank Knox, in no uncertain terms, told his press conference last Friday afternoon.

The subject was precipitated when the navy secretary announced that he had appointed a navy manpower survey board to examine the complements—officer, enlisted and civilian—of all naval shore establishments with an eye to "streamlining" them and achieving maximum efficiency. The initial phase of the navy's expanding shore organization and mobilization work, he said, is nearing completion.

Mr. Knox was then asked whether or not, in view of the stated probability that personnel at shore establishments would be reduced as a result of this study, it would follow that Negroes would be given different assignments since the bulk of those leaving such centers as the Great Lakes Naval Training station had been sent to such establishments.

"That will depend upon just what the men can do," he stated, "and whether we have places available to them."

"Are they not trained to be seamen?" was the next query.

The secretary sat upright in his spring-back chair and looked directly at his questioner and declared "Well, you know exactly what we are trying to do. We are trying to avoid mixing [illegible] on ships. That puts a limitation on where we can employ Negro seamen. Using them for crews of small shore and harbor craft, and things of that sort, and for shore duty. But we are not mixing crews."

All-Negro crews are now manning coast guard cutters, but there has been no announcement or indication that colored seamen are being used on any other ships outside of the rank of mess attendant.

There is ground now for some speculation that those few Negroes known to be enrolled in the Navy's V-12 program, if given commissions as has been hinted, will be assigned to those "small shore and harbor craft" on which they are not presently used and to which the secretary referred.

The only announcements that the department has been in the habit of making about Negroes in the navy have been with regard to those in construction battalions, popularly called "Seabees." Official navy photographs, however, have shown Negro inductees receiving training in radio and other types of specialized training, but nothing has yet been said as to their performance in the posts to which it would be expected they would be assigned.

NOV 20 1943

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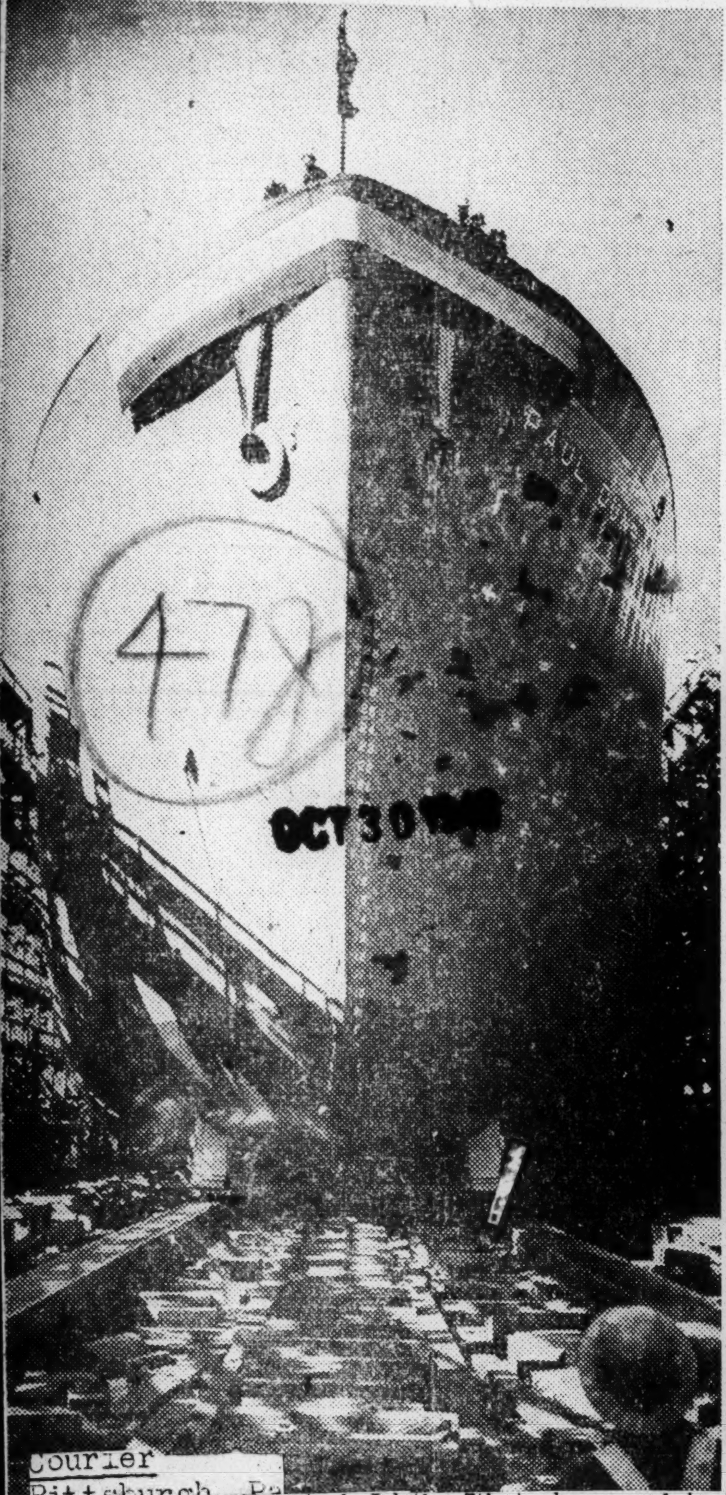
S.S. PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR BECOMES SEVENTH VESSEL TO BE NAMED FOR A NEGRO . . .



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Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Cal-Ship yard, Terminal Island, was the scene last Tuesday of the launching of the Liberty tanker, S.S. Paul Dunbar, left, named in honor of the world-famous poet, Paul Laurence Dunbar. The vessel was christened by Mrs. Clarice Williams, oldest Negro woman employee in point of service in the yard. Her sister, Mrs. Eva Stringer, acted as maid of honor. She too is a Cal-Ship employee.

The Paul Dunbar was the 15th of the Liberty ships to be launched at the yard to date. The 274th to be sent down the ways since Cal-Ship's building program got under way in 1941 and the 7th to be named in the nation for a Negro.

Upper right: On the launching platform just before the brief but colorful ceremony got under way are: Miss Eva Stringer, maid of honor; Mrs. Geneva Pope, Mrs. Sedonia Palmer and Mrs. Clarice Williams, sponsor. All four are sisters.

Lower right: Pictured on the steps of the yard's administration building are a group of honored guests and the sponsors. Left to right: Mrs. Herman Smith, New York; Miss Vaino Hasson, Mrs. Gladyce Hill, Sidney P. Dones, Mrs. Clarice Williams. Herman Smith of New York, Mrs. Geneva Pope and Miss Eva Stringer.—George Cutler, Clyde Woods and Cal-Ship Photos.

OCT 30 1943

'GOD BLESS THIS SHIP IN PEACE AND WAR'

Pittsburgh, Pa

PORTLAND, Maine — As snow-white sea gulls wheeled silently overhead, multicolored flags [illegible] masts of the [illegible] Robert [illegible] Vann, and a bareheaded multitude bowed its heads — Rev. C. E. Askew, pastor of the Third Baptist church, Detroit, Mich., prayed for "God's divine blessings on the ship, her captain and her crew."

"Upon this ship and her crew we implore thy divine benedictions in peace and in war," he declared.

"Be thou her guard in stormy waters . . . her guide on smiling seas, as Thou did'st stand upon the barque on Lake Galilee.

Courier

"When her voyage is ended and this war of blood and carnage is ended, may she be brought home victorious and moored in peaceful harbors.

"We come to thank Thee for this day, the occasion, and the life and [illegible] Robert L. Vann, in whose honor this ship, we are about to launch, is named.

"And now may the blessings of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be, and abide with all those who have contributed to this grand and historic occasion."

OCT 18 1943

74,000 Negroes Now Serving In Navy: 7,100 In "Seabees"

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — More than 74,000 Negroes are now serving in the U. S. Navy, Secretary [illegible] Knox announced at his press conference Friday, October 22. Approximately 7,100 of these recruits are members of the "Seabees," construction battalions organized within the bureau of yards and docks to build advance bases wherever needed and to fight whenever the occasion requires it.

Secretary Knox also said that 6,000 Negro enlisted men are now serving at 12 naval ordnance stations. These men, he said, have been detailed to duty at ordance stations since August, 1942, and have been organized since May, 1943, in Navy ordnance battalions. A special quota of the complements is being ordered to serve at advance bases in combat areas. Mr. Knox added, and these will be replaced at continental stations in the United States by new recruits as they become available.

The type of work being performed by men of the Negro ordnance battalions ranges from manual labor to hazardous and skillful work on ammunition, the norma l lot of all enlisted men.

PROMOTION INCENTIVE TO PERFORMANCE

NOV 6 1943

47

As an incentive to performance, the comamnding officer of each depot has authority to promote personnel showing the necessary qualifications of leadership to any rating up to and including that of chief petty officer, the Secretary stated. Recreational activities of these battalions have been completely organized.

NOV 6 - 1943

Secretary [illegible] explained that ammunition depots where Negro enlisted men are stationed are located at Fallbrook, Calif.; Hingham, Mass.; Charleston, S. C.; Puget Sound and Indian Island, Wash.; Mare Island, Calif.; Yorktown and St. Julien Creek, Va.; New Orleans, La.; Hasting, Neb.; and McAlister, Okla.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

'Damn Mad,' Says Boatswain of Ship Torpedoed, Sunk by Nazis

Baltimore Man Tells Story of Sinking of Capt. Richardson's Ship by Germans in N. Atlantic

By LEE PHELPS

BALTIMORE — Jerome Davis, boatswain of Captain Adrian Richardson's Liberty ship which was torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic by a German submarine, is "damn mad."

Davis's ship was launched at an Eastern shipyard in May. All of her crew was saved and landed in New York on Saturday.

In an exclusive interview with the AFRO at his Bennett Place home where he arrived early Sunday, Mr. Davis related how the ship and others in the convoy ran into a wolf pack of subs 500 miles East of Iceland.

Attacked at 5:30 A.M.

When the attack on his vessel came late last month in the early morning he had just gotten out of bed and started to get a cup of pre-breakfast coffee, Davis related.

The force of the torpedo which struck the stern of the ship threw him against her side, but he soon regained his composure and ran out on deck to see what damage had been done.

"I was so mad, I just cussed," he related.

At the time of the attack, Davis had on only his pants, shoes, and undershirt. He returned to his bunk, retrieved his coat and hat, the key to his [illegible] and a whistle and made for the boat deck because the ship was sinking fast.

No Confusion; Ship Abandoned

There was no confusion—everyone was calm and all the time the crew was preparing to abandon ship, escort vessels were fighting subs.

A few minutes after the attack on his ship, Davis said, another ship in the convoy immediately behind his was struck in the middle and sunk almost immediately. Only eleven members of this crew survived.

By this time his lifeboat was lowered and he and fourteen companions were safely seated, their vessel had disappeared from sight.

Because of the heavy seas and the danger of being struck by more torpedoes, members of his lifeboat crew worked frantically until they [illegible] least [illegible] or ten miles away from the scene of the tragedy.

"Surprised" by Rescue

For that reason, they drifted for three and a half hours before they were spotted by a British destroyer.

"We were really surprised," Boatswain Davis said, "when we were rescued so soon. We were prepared for a long trip in that lifeboat. But after the destroyer told us we would be picked up soon, the men spontaneously started singing."

Nevertheless, the danger was not over and all the while they were sailing into a Canadian port on the British rescue ship, Nazi subs were following. The escort vessels were continually letting down depth charges and fighting [illegible] the subs, Davis said.

OCT 9 1943

Sheltered by Canadians

The crew, all unharmed, reached port and were cared for by the Canadian Navy Merchan Association; given shelter, food and clothing.

When he reached home, Davis was wearing the uniform of the Canadian Merchant Marine which is similar to that of the U.S.

Several Ships Lost

Several ships were lost in the convoy.

One of the destroyers lost was the Canadian St. Croix, one of the fifty turned over to England before Pearl Harbor in exchange for naval bases.

The St. Croix, which lost all but one of its 147 crew members, was hit in her magazine just as she was picking up survivors, Davis related.

Davis has been sailing for twenty years and gave up a job in a Baltimore war plant to join the crew of this vessel. This was the first time he had been torpedoed despite his long sea service.

Nevertheless, he's ready to sail again. "There's no use giving up now. I'm going to stay in until we get them or they get us," he said.

Seaman Risks Life, Returning to Sinking Ship to Rescue Dog

BALTIMORE—Here is an ad for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: Fred[illegible] Douglass, canine mascot of the Liberty ship, torpedoed in the Atlantic two weeks ago and was saved along with members of the crew of Capt. Adrian Richardson's ship.

Doulass was rescued by one of the white members of the crew who remembered he was still abroad and returned to the sinking vessel to save him.

The dog's rescuer had use of only one arm, as the other was in a sling from an injury received while overseas; but, undaunted, he climbed the monkey lines to save the canine.

In appreciation, Capt. Richardson made him sole owner of the dog.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa,

'VANN WAS CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL'--WENDELL WILLKIE

OCT 16 1943

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK, Staff Correspondent

PORTLAND, Maine—In a telegram to Ira F. Lewis, president of this newspaper, at the launching of the S.S. Robert L. Vann here Sunday, Wen[illegible] L. Willkie declared:

"Mr. Vann would not, I think, take this as a personal tribute, even though it is just that, for the honor to the individual pales into insignificance compared to what this occasion represents.

"I believe that Mr. Vann, who fought so tenaciously for equality of opportunity for his people, would be the first to reject a mere token honor; he would have judged the calibre of the tribute by the proportion of equality his people receive as a matter of every day right."

NEEDED TO KNOW VANN

Mr. Willkie said, "Only those who knew Mr. Robert L. Vann personally during his life can truly appreciate the significance of the launching of the Liberty Ship S.S. Robert L. Vann." Mr. Willkie said further:

"That his memory is honored by his fellow citizens, is no surprise to me, for he was one of the outstanding Negro leaders of his generation . . . a man whose vision, resourcefulness and knowledge of men and affairs, set him apart in usefulness and service to his city, state and nation.

"In the hour of his people's rials, he was always to be found n the forefront, striving ceaselessy for their advancement, no matter what the cost to his family, s business, his health or his fortune. Indeed, at the time he died, was at the height of his usefulness; of activity and industry.

FEARLESS LEADER

"Robert L. Vann was a fearless editor, who championed human rights above all else. Nailed to the masthead of his newspaper were Truth, Tolerance and Freedom. He was the spokesman for 'the man farthest down.' He built The Pittsburgh Courier into a vocal and influential organ of Negro public opinion in the United States. So well did he build, and so well did he inspire his editorial associates that The Courier has gone on to even greater achievements in public service under the guidance of his lifelong friend, Ira F. Lewis.

HISTORY WILL TELL

"History will write in, the details of Mr. Vann's many contributions to our nation during the last 30 years of his life.

"The Robert L. Vann Memorial Tower which today stands on the Virginia Union university campus, is an enduring symbol of the tower of strength he was.

"And another memorial is created as today the S.S. Robert L. Vann sails forth on her mission of conquering tyranny and intolerance abroad. We here at home, by rededicating ourselves to continue the fight for the ideals he cherished, can likewise pay tribute to the memory of Robert L. Vann. We can help build the world for which he strived—a world with a better chance for a brighter future."

473-1943

First Colored Marine Unit Is Ready to Fight

NOV 27 1943

Afro-American

Men Not Clamoring for Combat Duty but Poised for Action

Baltimore, Md.

ALL THEY NEED IS CHANCE—LEADER

Unit, Formed Over Year Ago, in Process of Reorganization

NOV 27 1943

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — The 51st Defense Battalion is the first colored marine outfit organized for combat and now is poised for action.

You don't hear the men clamoring for combat duty, but it's evident that they are getting ready and when the time comes expect to shoulder their share of action.

The commanding officer, Lieut. Col. Floyd A. Stephenson says:

"I'm firmly convinced that these marines are combat soldiers. They can deliver if given the chance and are properly led."

Formed Over Year Ago

When the outfit was first established over a year ago, it was designated as a composite defense battalion and included tank, infantry and 75 mm. pack howitzer components.

The tank detachment has disappeared altogether. The infantry and howitzer units are now in a state of reorganization.

NOV 27 1943

Under its present composition, the defense battalion is constituted by four groups, Seacoast Artillery, Anti-Aircraft, Special Weapons and Headquarters and Service Battery.

The Seacoast Artillery Group, a coastal defense unit, mans the 155 mm., designed for defensive action against ships. Nicknamed the "Long Tom," this type of weapon was used extensively in the Tunisian and Sicilian campaigns and by the marines when they landed on Rendova Isle in the Solomons.

The AA group is training to handle the 90 mm. Attached to it are searchlight batteries.

Special Weapons Group

Medium artillery, like the 40 mm. and 20 mm., and the Thompson .50-calibre machine-gun, all employed for protection against low-flying aircraft, are manned by the special weapons group.

The H. and S. battery, aside from attending to administrative details and co-ordinating other groups, embraces smaller components like quartermaster, engineer, motor transports, communication and meteorology units.

NOV 27 1943

The most advanced in the training among this group is the seacoast unit. This outfit has already been on miniature maneuvers and fired the 155 mm., the heaviest mobile weapon in the marine corps.

Shatters 14-Year-Old Record

The men in the unit made a commendable showing, breaking a 14-year-old marine record in firing this piece.

To illustrate the accuracy of the unit in firing, this is the story told by its members:

The gun crew had shot the target towed by a coast guard barge to pieces and nothing was left but the sticks which held the target. They then shot down the sticks with deadly accuracy.

The men are trained in advanced electronics and meteorology to supplement the work done by the gun and searchlight battery crews.

The meteorology squad, composed of [illegible] four men, is handpicked and selected on the basis of native intelligence and mechanical aptitude.

NOV 27 1943

They operate a theodolite to determine the velocity and direction of the wind and transmit such information to AA gun batteries. This helps the gun crews to fire more accurately.

Some in Specialist Schools

Several of the men are now sent to army specialist schools, including ordnance at Aberdeen, Md., and range findings at Camp Davis, N.C.

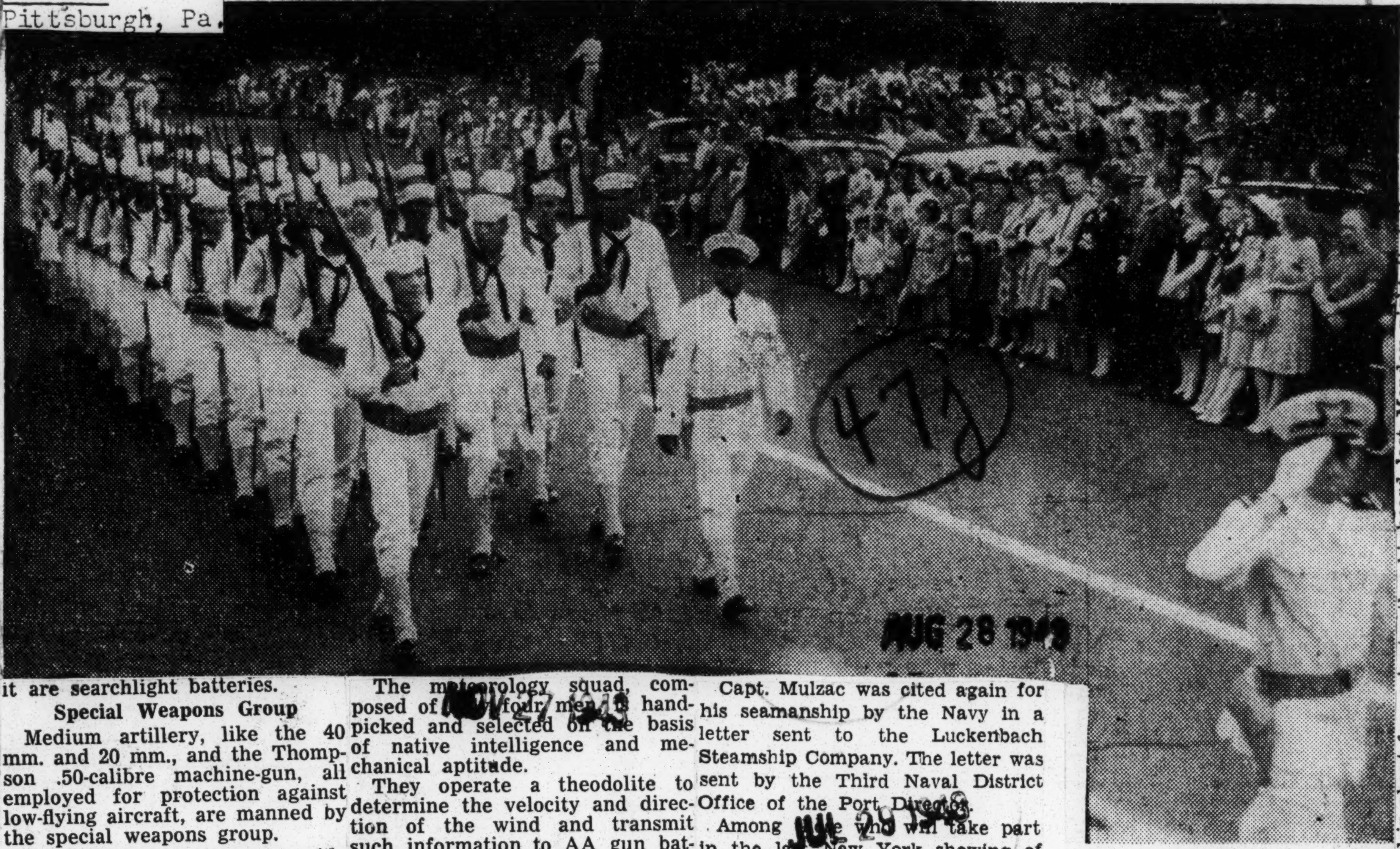
Attached to the defense battalion are thirty-two navy hospital corpsmen, the first colored men to be trained by the navy for medical service.

NOV 27 1943

The marine corps has neither medical units nor chaplains, the same being furnished by the navy.

COAST GUARD OBSERVES 153RD BIRTHDAY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



AUG 28 1943

A detachment of Coast Guardsmen participate in the observance of the Coast Guard's 153rd anniversary in Boston recently. Leading the marching unit is Ensign Joseph C. Jen[illegible] (right foreground), highest ranking colored Coast Guardsman, who was graduated from the Coast Guard academy in April, 1942.

Mulzac Backs Brooklyn Rally

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

JUL 29 1943

The Brooklyn and Long Island Negro Freedom Rally Committee announced that Captain Hugh Mulzac has wholeheartedly endorsed the rally to be held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on Aug. 5, 1943.

"We are delivering the goods, and you here on the home front must hold the line against those who would lose the war on the home front," Capt. Mulzac said.

Capt. Mulzac was cited again for his seamanship by the Navy in a letter sent to the Luckenbach Steamship Company. The letter was sent by the Third Naval District Office of the Port Director.

JUL 29 1943

Among those who will take part in the last New York showing of Langston Hughes' "For This We Fight," are Miss Muriel Rahn, nationally known soprano; Pearl Primus of Cafe Society, Lucky Roberts, and Mercedes Gilbert.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

'WE WERE LUCKY,' SAYS MIXED CREW

Ship Commanded by Colored Captain Sunk by Enemy U-Boat in North Atlantic; All Hands Saved

OCT 9 - 1943

OCT 9 - 1943

By EVELYN SHERRER, Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK CITY—(New York Bureau)—Something of the miracle that brought them home alive and little-injured was written in the faces of the crew of a Liberty ship, sunk on September 20 in the North Atlantic by a U-boat attack upon their convoy . . . something of unreality hovered about them as they walked slowly into Grand Central station Saturday afternoon . . . grimy, tired and grateful to a God that saw every man of them safely out of Atlantic waters to American shores.

"We were just plain lucky," man after man declared at the United Seamen Service club in the Hotel Wiltshire here, where a large group of the crew of 68 was taken upon arriving in New York. Captain Adrian Richardson, who, in losing his ship gained the eternal respect and loyalty of the entire crew, reiterated that sentiment. Sad, quiet, exhausted, Captain Richardson spent his first hour home taking up personal problems with individual men of the crew.

SAND PREVENTED AN EXPLOSION

The September 20 attack on the ship came swift and sudden. It was 5:36 a.m., and most of the crew were asleep. The ship was hit on the stern below the No. 5 cargo hole, which was filled with a 12-foot depth of sand. The sound of the torpodo in piercing through the sand was muffled so that the first impression, according to members of the crew, was that a huge wave had hit the side. It was generally agreed that the large quantity of sand in the cargo hole prevented an explosion that would have cost many lives. Four lifeboats were hoisted over the side and in about four minutes the ship was abandoned as the stern dropped slowly. It was hours, according to members of the rescue ship, before the ship disappeared entirely from view. The crew was adrift in the lifeboats between three and four hours.

Captain Richardson expressed pride in his crew before and after the attack, and repeated again how lucky they had been. "I'm glad to be home; glad to be home," he declared over and over again. Mrs. Richardson, who had heard last Monday night that the ship had been lost, and knew only on Saturday afternoon that her husband was safe, told tearfully of the five days during which she could get no word of her husband.

CREWMAN PRAISES SKIPPER

OCT 9 - 1943

"After I heard the ship had been lost, I went out to the Brooklyn Navy yard; they told me simply that the ship had been lost, but they could not let me know whether or not 'Cappie' was safe. It almost drove me crazy, not knowing

RACE CAPTAIN BRINGS CREW HOME SAFELY

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Happy over the safe arrival home of her husband following the sinking of his ship by an enemy submarine, Mrs. Adrian Richardson is shown greeting the skipper following his landing in New York Saturday. Captain Richardson did not lose a man of his crew and says, following a little rest, he is ready to return to sea.—Layne Photo.

where he was or how he was. You can imagine how I felt when this morning (Saturday) they called me from the Navy yard and asked me how would I like to have breakfast with my husband tomorrow morning.

"I'm so happy I could scream. But there's always that knowledge in the back of my mind that he won't be with me but so long. There will always be the day when he'll have to leave again and I'll have to go through it all over again."

Chief Steward Adam Van Landingham had nothing but praise for the skipper. "He's a fine gentleman and he knows how to handle men." Van Landingham has been on the sea for nine years, and this was his second encounter with the U-boats. "It's getting tougher each time. But we had Fame Fortune with us this trip. For about two or three minutes after we were hit we were all pretty much excited, and for a brief spell, we just couldn't get it clear what was happening. But it didn't take us any time at all getting organized, and every man was on the job."

NO OCCASION FOR HEROICS

Asked about any instances of outstanding heroism, Van Landingham said that each man's job was cut out for him and each was doing it. "There wasn't any occasion for heroics. We were fortunate that the torpedo hit the spot it did and that we all had time to get a few personals together and get off the ship. It was a pretty fine job."

Ensign William Barker, ship's purser, who was known on the West Coast as Billy Metcalf, the boxer, is reported to have actually jotted down notes as the ship was sinking and the lifeboats were being manned. Barker insists that he has a story to tell and a book to write after the war. In the meantime, he's rearing to get on another ship that will take him into action again.

A comical touch was added by the experiences related by Engineer Charles E. Hahn, Jr., and James Gregory, O.S., both white, who told of how Gregory, who seems in his teens, shot and captured a man-eating shark. The tall story and the attitude of the two seamen were typical of the easy-going aftermath apparent in all the others.

There are only a few—a very few—of the crew who have had the sea-edge knocked off them. The others are anxious to put out to sea again. They shrug their shoulders and say, "Well, it wasn't our time. Maybe next time they'll get us; maybe they won't." But one thing is certain: they're going to finish the job and they're going to SEE if anyone gets them or not. There is no fear in these fellows.

Marines Work, Eat and Sleep Together on Ships

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 7 1943

"Colored Brothers Are Good Shipmates, the Same as Any Others. There Is No Difference"—NMU's V.-President Myers

WASHINGTON

"I have sailed a number of years. I have been shipmates with a lot of colored brothers. Colored and white merchant marines work together, eat together and are housed in the same forecastle. They are good shipmates, the same as anybody else. There is no difference. A man is a sailor, regardless of color."

This statement was made by Frederick N. Myers, vice-president of the National Maritime Union, at the recent FEPC hearings on railroad discrimination here.

No Trouble in South

The position of the railroads was that this is a problem which should not be faced during the war, and which would require many years to solve. Testimony from the [illegible] official purported to show that in other branches of the transportation industry, non-discrimination furthers the war effort. Mr. Myers continued:

"Many vessels sail from Southern cities, including Baltimore, Wilmington, N.C., Charleston, S.C., Jacksonville and Tampa, Fla., Norfolk, Port Arthur, Tex., New Orleans, Houston, Galveston and Corpus Christi. We have contracts with all of the operators engaged in Southern transportation and we never have any problems. Colored and white join the vessel from the same union hall.

Foreigners Surprised

"We have statements from dockers in Australia, accepting the policy of no-discrimination in the Merchant Marine. They were surprised to find our vessels coming in with mixed crews. They are democratic and appreciated it. The most outstanding case is the S.S. Booker T. Washington when she sailed into Cardiff on her maiden voyage with her colored captain. The Welch miners were so happy that they gave them a big celebration.

"The Government has assisted the union in breaking down discrimination. On most of our vessels there are colored firemen, stewards and others who, because of the Government policy, have been upgraded from the rating of able seaman to third officer, and from fireman, boiler and water tender to second and third assistant engineers.

Training Schools

"And our Government sees that there is no discrimination. We find now men in our government schools who came out of the forecastle studying for jobs as designers, engineers and dock officers."

Mr. Myer's testimony further revealed that the union, whose members are engaged in waterborne transportation, has a record of no vessel missing, or convoy, because of disagreement between members of the crew on the question of color. Convoy movements, he said, are accelerated because of the non-discrimination policy.

Ship Torpedoed at Sea, Men Ready to Sail Again

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

OCT 6 1943

Members of Captain Richardson's Crew Reveal Meaning of Playing Tag with Subs

BALTIMORE—Despite the torpedoing of their ship, they are ready to return to sea again, two members of the crew of Captain Adrian Richardson's Liberty Ship told the AFRO this week.

The two seamen returned to their homes over the week end after their vessel, which was launched here last May, was hit by a Nazi torpedo and sunk in the North Atlantic last month.

One of the two, Chief Steward Adam V. Landingham, saw his two-week-old daughter. Dana for the first time when he reached home Friday.

Because he was expecting a son he nicknamed her 'Butch.'

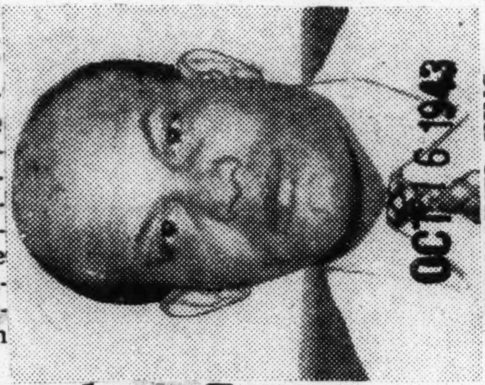
Invisible Torpedoes

Van Landingham has been sailing for nine years. He said that the enemy must now be using a new type of torpedo which is entirely invisible in the water.

He related that despite the force of the impact, some members of the crew did not awaken, thinking that the ship had merely hit an air pocket and lurched.

Hardest thing about abandoning ship w[illegible] they [illegible] to leave all the[illegible]uables and money behind, the chief steward related. But, nevertheless, he's happy to be home and ready and willing to go again as soon as possible.

The second seaman, Emmanuel King, fireman on the vessel, reached his home, 207 W. Biddle Street, Saturday.



EMMANUEL KING

Across Three Times

He has been sailing since 1917 and has made four crossings during the present war.

When the ship was hit he was on watch below and knew without asking questions that they had been attacked because the engines stopped abruptly.

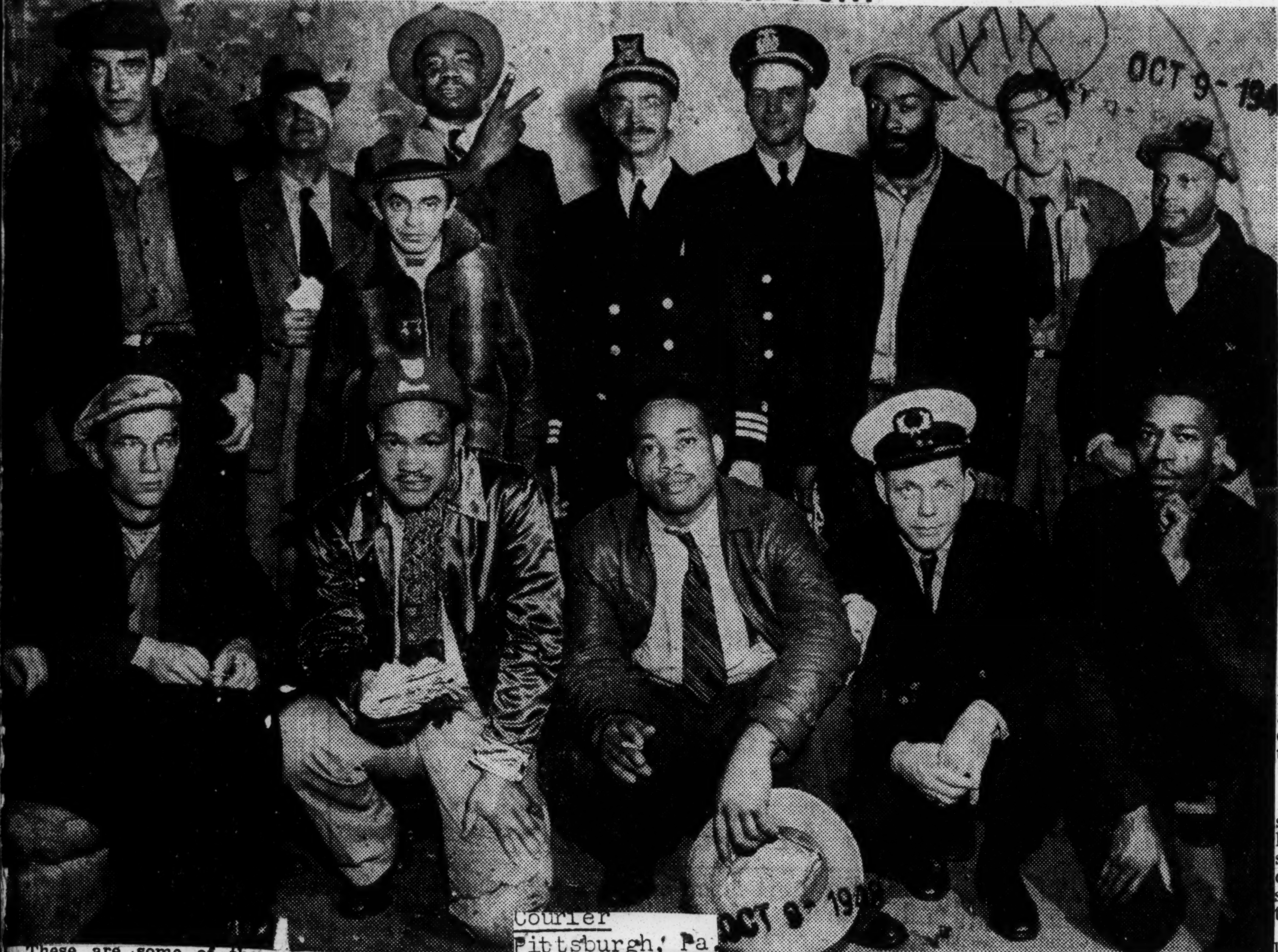
King said the most gruesome sight was when he reached deck and saw survivors from another ship in the convoy swimming around in pools of oil and screaming with fear.

King and Van Landingham both had nothing but praise for the treatment they received from the merchant seamen's club when they landed at a Canadian port, where "all our needs were taken care of and we were welcome with open arms."

King says he is "anxious and ready" to sail again. He resides at the Biddle Street address with his wife. Mrs. Beatrice King.

473-1943

SURVIVORS OF SUBMARINE ATTACK ARRIVE IN PORT



OCT 9 - 194

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 9 - 1943

These are some of the survivors of the Liberty Ship that went down on September 20 after it was hit by a torpedo in the North Atlantic. Captain Adrian Richardson and his crew are shown immediately after their arrival in New York from Halifax where they were taken by the rescue ship. Left to right, kneeling: Thomas Glenny, oiler; Ensign William Barker, purser; Lester Logan, second steward; Kenneth Watkins, messman; Adam Van Landingham, chief steward.

Second row: Allan McIntosh, oiler; Amaro Coelho, able seaman; Captain Richardson, Edgar Walker, second cook; Emanmanuel King, fireman, water attendant.

Last row: Carroll Ove Hertc, able seaman: James Gregory, wiper; Charles E. Hahn, engineer, and Henry C. Boyce, officers' steward.—Layne Photo.

Coast Guard Fights, Dies for, Lives Democracy on All Fronts

Afro-American
OCT 16 1943
Baltimore, Maryland

Officers, Men of All Colors, Racial Strains Eat, Sleep, Work, Play Together at Boston Headquarters

By **JOE SHEPHARD**

BOSTON, Mass. — They call it the United States Coast Guard, but afloat and ashore, at home and abroad, wherever and whenever American forces have joined in battle in this war, its members have played an important role, fighting and dying for democracy as well as practicing it.

In the Atlantic and the Pacific, in the Solomons and at Salerno, coast guardsmen have sailed with the convoys, gone ashore with the first waves of troops and marines and then returned to America to tackle the job all over again.

OCT 16 1943

But as dramatic as have been their jobs abroad and on the high seas, they have been effectively and quietly doing a job on the home front of vital importance to both the Allied and American forces on the far-flung battle fronts in all parts of the world.

Their Mission a Grave One

No better place to give one an idea of the magnitude and gravity of their job can be found than dreary, fog-shrouded Boston, headquarters of the First Naval Coast Guard District.

OCT 16 1943

Here Coast Guardsmen of all colors and racial stocks may be seen pouring into the U.S. Coast Guard receiving station at the old Hotel Brunswick, where they come in from God knows where, stay a while between ship assignments, then head out again, headed for God knows what.

The men who wear the shield of the coast guard don't talk much, but if they did they could tell of troops rushed to bolster a wavering attack upon a stubbornly held enemy position, of supplies and munitions delivered in the nick of time to a hard-pressed Allied force, of wounded men brought home and of hundreds of other equally perilous war-time assignments.

Lives Up to Its Motto

These assignments vary, but whatever the assignment, the coast guard is ready to carry it out. Since its organization in 1752, this, the oldest of American armed services has lived up to its motto — "Semper Paratus," always prepared.

A stone's throw from the Boston waterfront stands Constitution Base, a huge converted warehouse which houses the port guard detail, a mixed white and colored outfit composed of seamen, quartermasters, gunner's mates, machinists, radiomen, signalmen, yeomen, musicians, cooks and other specialists.

Here hundreds of coast guardsmen of both races eat together, share the same recreation rooms, work and sleep together and go out together into the fog, rain and darkness of the Boston waterfront to guard docks, bridges and other installations, to supervise the loading of transports with men and munitions, or to board the ships and cutters which will take them out on convoy duty, submarine patrol or to foreign battlefronts.

First Colored Ensign

The commanding officer of Constitution Base is Lieut. J. G. Ashley and his executive officer is Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins, the first colored commissioned officer to see active duty in any branch of the naval service during this war.

OCT 16 1943

A native of Detroit, Mr. Jenkins was a civil engineer and a bridge designer for the Michigan Highway Department. He entered the coast guard as an enlisted man, was assigned to the Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn., and was commissioned following his graduation in April of 1943.

Prior to his appointment to the staff of the port office, he served for a while as engineering officer for the First Naval Coast Guard District.

Trained for Sub Warfare

His engineering training at the University of Michigan, however, qualifies him also for service as either deck or engineering officer aboard the sleek and deadly cutters which have been used with telling effect in the coast guard's war against the submarine menace.

There are also a number of colored chief petty officers in the First District. Chief Herman Jackson, chief machinist's mate, a veteran of twenty years' service in the coast guard, is assigned to duty at the Hotel Brunswick receiving station.

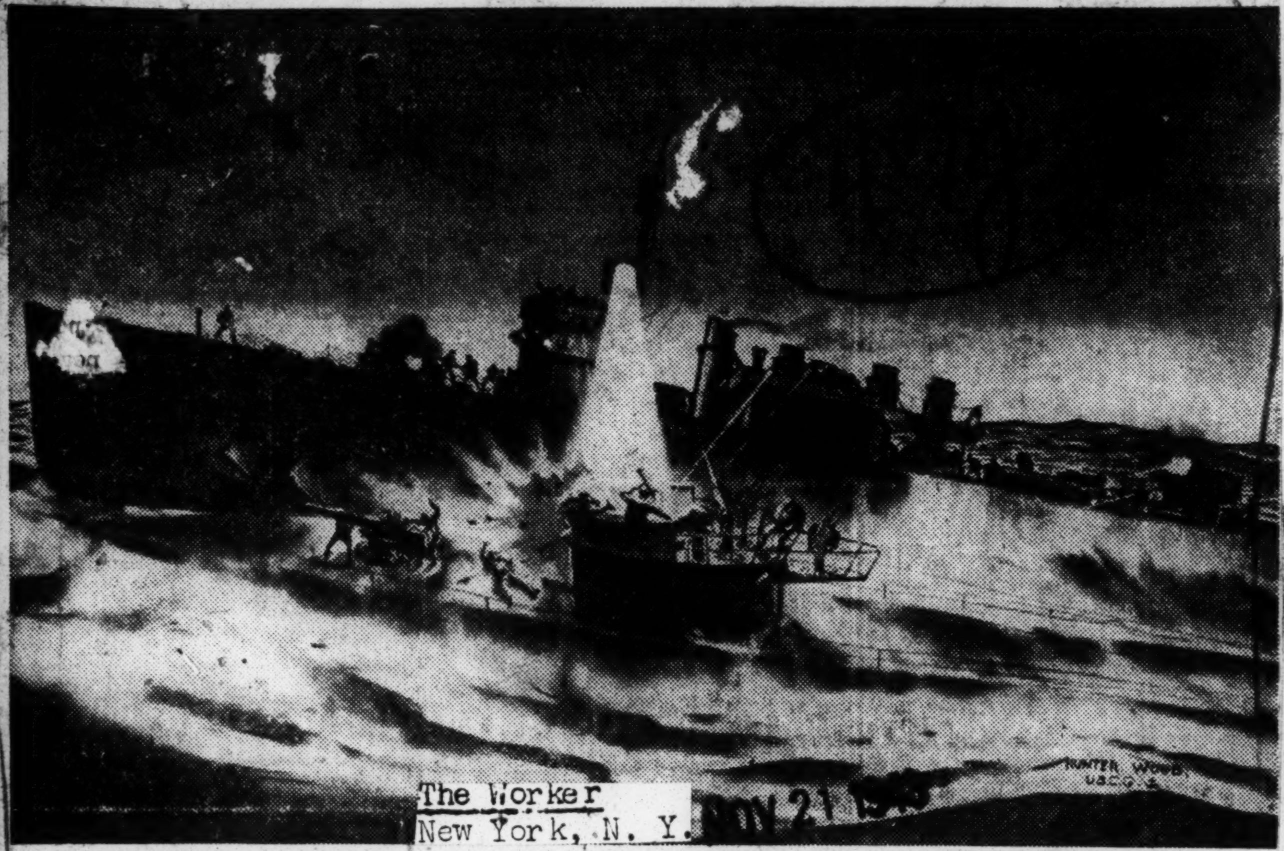
Chief Specialist Percy Richardson, a former lieutenant in the Boston Fire Department, is company commander for a company of coast guardsmen who, armed with guns, flashlights and fire extinguishers, maintain a twenty-four-hour watch of dock, bridge and waterfront facilities in and around Boston.

Richardson World War I Vet

A veteran of World War I, Chief Richardson was recently awarded the purple heart for gallantry in the last war at a special ceremony held at Boston Commons.

So in Boston, as everywhere that one finds the shield of the coast guard, men are showing that democracy can be made to work, that men of different races can serve together in defense of democracy and that they can practice democracy while fighting for it.

ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF U.S.S. BORIE BATTLING SUB



The Worker
New York, N. Y.
NOV 21 1943

Based on official reports and eyewitness accounts, this drawing was made by Official Coast Guard Combat Artist, Warrant Boatswain Hunter Wood, for the Navy Dept. It shows the U.S.S. Borie astride the enemy sub while our sailors fire through the spray shields of their machine guns when they were not able to get the guns low enough to fire.

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2 Negro Mess Attendants Among Heroes of USS Borie

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
NOV 21 1943

(Special to The Worker)

WASHINGTON. — Two Negro mess attendants together with their white shipmates and officers were named this week as heroes of the battle of the USS Borie in which the destroyer rammed, then fought a Nazi submarine. The action in the North Atlantic was fought at such close quarters that a fireman killed a Nazi with a bowie knife.

One of the Negro heroes is [illegible]-topher Columbus Shepard, cook, first class, of Norfolk, Va. The other, Ernest Gardner, stewardsmate, second class, was called a one-man gun-crew. Neither name appears on any casualty list.

The white fireman who buried his bowie knife in a Nazi in one of the most savage hand-to-hand naval engagements in the North Atlantic since the days of John Paul Jones, was David F. Southwick.

The tale of how the 24-year-old destroyer sank two German submarines and then had to be abandoned and sunk by gunfire from her own fleet was told by her commander, 31-year-old Lieut. Charles Hutchins. Navy spokesmen called it "one of the great stories of the war."

The USS Borie had already sunk one submarine when she sighted and rammed another. For ten minutes the battle continued with the destroyer perched atop the sub. The range was so close that sailors could not depress their guns. They knocked out Nazis with empty shell cases.

When the boats cleared each other, the Borie, blazing away with everything she had on board, finally made the kill.

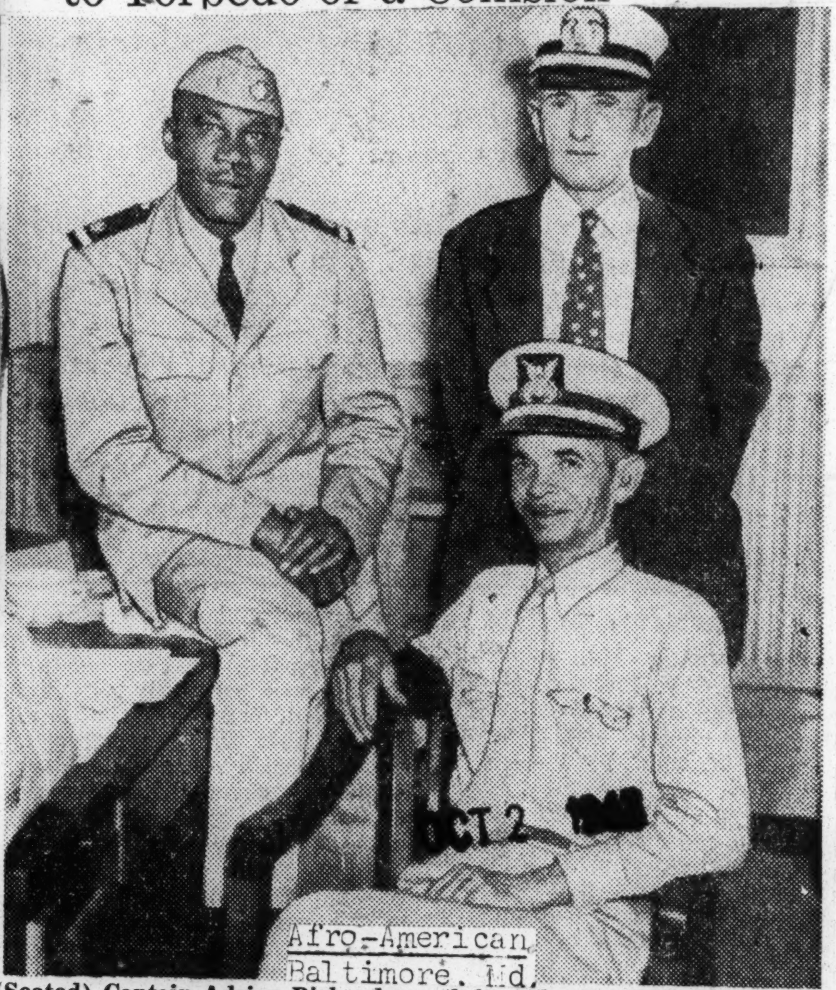
"One colored mess atendant — Shepard," said Lt. Hutchins, "was a gun-loader. He was supposed to put the shell in the gun as it was passed, but his assistants were too slow. 'Get out of my way,' he howled, ran to the ready chest himself and slammed the shells into the gun faster than they could be passed to him.

"Another colored boy, a new man on the ship—all I know off-hand is that his name's Gaidiner—was also a loader. The gun flashes were so intense that the other members of the crew, including the pointer, were blinded, so Gardiner loaded the gun, closed the breach, pointed it and fired it, all by himself. We called him the 'one man gun crew'."

When the Borie had to be abandoned and sunk after her great victory, all but 27 members of her crew were picked up. Along with the rest of the task force, she was awarded a Presidential unit citation. The force had destroyed more submarines than any team in naval history.

Mrs. Had Premonition Husband Needed Aid

Sinking May Have Been Due to Torpedo or a Collision



OCT 2 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

(Seated) Captain Adrian Richardson, (left) John B. Clark, third mate; (right) Kristian Kristianson, first mate.

Captain Adrian Richardson and his crew of a Liberty Ship are safe after a North Atlantic crossing in which his ship was reported lost, the AFRO learned Monday.

It is not known whether the vessel was a victim of a Nazi torpedo or a collision.

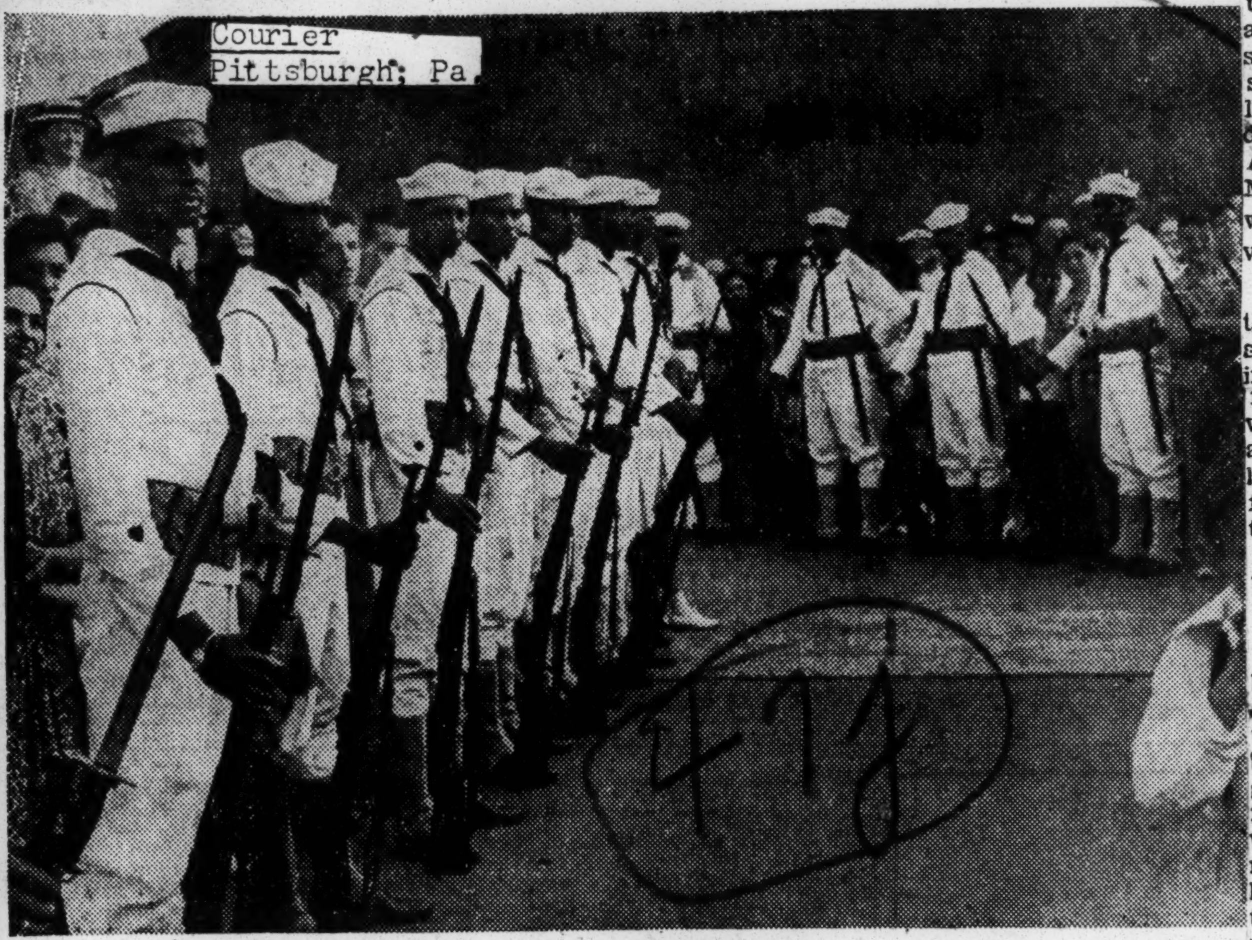
Mrs. Richardson, in her New York home, today, said she had a premonition about her husband and had been worried. She heard Prime Minister Winston Churchill's broadcast in which he said no ships had been lost in the Atlantic during the past two months but that before he went on the air he received information of an attack of an Atlantic convoy.

Mrs. Richardson said that she had not heard from her husband for some time but had received advice from other sources that he was on his way home.

The Navy Department in Washington said it had no statement to give out on Atlantic sinkings.

47j-1943

HONOR GUARD FOR THE ADMIRAL


Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

47j

Race Coast Guardsmen, standing at parade rest, form an honor guard for Rear Admiral L. T. Chalker, assistant commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, during the celebration in Boston of the Coast Guard's 153rd anniversary.—Official U.S. Navy Photo from OWI.

AUG 21 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Graduates of Seamen's School Protest Delay

OCT 2 1943

Men Who Finished Maritime School Held Five Weeks in Port

U.S. WANTED THEM TO GO AS MESSMEN

Men Refused Because They Are Trained As Seamen

NEW YORK—Ten graduates of the United States Maritime Service Training Station at Sheepshead Bay made charges of flagrant discrimination against the USMS, the War Shipping Administration and at least one maritime union in a signed letter to the NMU last week.

The seamen filing the charges which listed dates, names and circumstances, were:

Henry H. Williams, Lubin E. Spencer, Jr., James E. Bray, Wilton O. Cooper, Alvin A. Watson, Richard J. Stribling, Bryon R. Smith, Chester L. Edward, Sam A. McClellan; and Booker T. Brooks.

Enforced Idleness

The men charged that after graduation they remained idle while other classes were placed on Great Lake vessels and at other stations; that the Seamen's Pacific Union did not accept colored; that the names of colored and white graduates were kept on separate lists;

That there were efforts to get the colored men to ship out as messmen, despite their training for other duties; and that the USMS aided and [illegible] shipping companies in their refusal to use colored men.

Seek NMU Aid

In the letter to the NMU, the seamen stated: "We feel that this condition is none of your making and we appeal for your help in combatting this evil situation."

They further pointed out that it was one of the tenets of the organization not to tolerate discrimination on account of race or color.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Hero Arrives From Sicily

SEP 28 1943

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(SNS)—Winding up three years in the U. S. Navy, Steward's Mate James Sanders, son of Mrs. Eugenia Sanders of 918 Taylor Street arrived in Columbia last week on Mae James Sanders, son of Mrs. four week's [illegible], fresh from the Sicilian invasion and, after having seen duty in more than a score foreign places. Six months ago his father, John Sanders, passed away. That is his beggest regret.

Steward Sanders volunteered for service with the Navy three years ago and in typical Navy fashion; thinks the army is pretty fair but that the Navy tops all branches of service. Following his "boot" training at Norfolk, Va. He was assigned to Pacific duty but was transferred to the Atlantic fleet a little before war came He has seen, among many other theatres, service at: Britain, Belfast, Ireland. Iceland, Greenland, Bermuda West, East and South Africa, Arabia, New Foundland, Oran Malta, Casablanca, Tunisia and wound up at Sicily for that invasion.

The seaman spoke glowingly of the heroic role colored troops and seamen played with their comrades in the Sicilian invasion. "It made me proud," he said, "to belong with them Those fellows have guts and are plenty tough. They work hard and usually long hours and fight like the devil." He was in on the Casablanca invasion but said, "It was nothing compared with what we faced in Sicily."

SAW 99th IN ACTION

Steward Sanders said he got his biggest thrill seeing the famed 99th all-colord Pursuit squadron in action against the Germans in the Socilian invasion. "It did my heart good to see them hold their won. I felt like I was flying (course I wouldn't leave the Navy for nothing) but I knew how long and hard they waited for the chance to fly. And brother, I'd much rather be working with them than against them."

WHAT THE BOYS WANT

Asked what our boy wanted most from the folk back home Sanders grew stern and serious The boys didn't want many material things, he said, but they certainly did prize highly a letter from the folks. But he believed the boys wanted most of all that the folks back home work hard to make it a better place when the war is over. "Everywhere I've been," he said, "there is not much question as to race. It's 'American' and when the fight gets tough the white boys stick with us, and of course we always stick with them. but when the danger is over there is a difference in unexpressed words. You just feel its there.

"Since being back home I have been made to feel that I am not so much an American as a Negro. That's pretty bad for the boys who come home from a big fight but I can take it. We boys often talk about how nice it would be to come back home and find the friendliness we found in England, in Tunisia and the other places. Course we are still better off than most of the other colored peple I have seen but [illegible] can get a little better

"I think the best thing my people can do is to stop leading with their chins in so many instances . Take for example, the simple matter of public conduct A white Georgian came up to me and asked, apologetcially, why was it we raised the devil when a white man calls us 'n———r' but grin from ear to ear when one of our own people cal us the same name I couldn't answer him but he made sense."

And Steward's Mate Sanders made plenty sense in his story of what our men are going through for us and other peoples on our side.

SEP 28 1943

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19 Seabees Forced Out Of Navy, They Say

Daily World
1943

NAACP Makes Charge After Sailors Return

Atlanta, Georgia

NEW YORK — (Calvin's News Service)—After they had been invited to express their opinions of racial discriminations at a West Indian Base, by a commanding officer, 19 colored Seabees (Naval Construction Battalion) were discharged from the service, officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People charged here Tuesday. In a press conference at the offices of Thursgood Marshall, NAACP Counsel, nine of the discharger Seabees, several of them, college graduates, testified that they had been invited on October 3rd to express their views because the commanding officer felt they had unaired grievances.

The next day the regimental officer of the base called the men into his office and asked them if they had not formed a secret society, and told them that they had no right to attend any meeting, according to Arthur Segoins of Toledo, Ohio, none of the discharged men. Segoins quoted the regimental commander as saying, "You have really brought about a small state of munity." He told them they could be discharged for it, imprisoned or shot. Shortly thereafter, the men began to be sent back to the U. S. It was said, and 14 of them are now in New York. Five are still said to be held in Naval custody. Naval officials in New York said they knew nothing about the case and refused to comment on it.

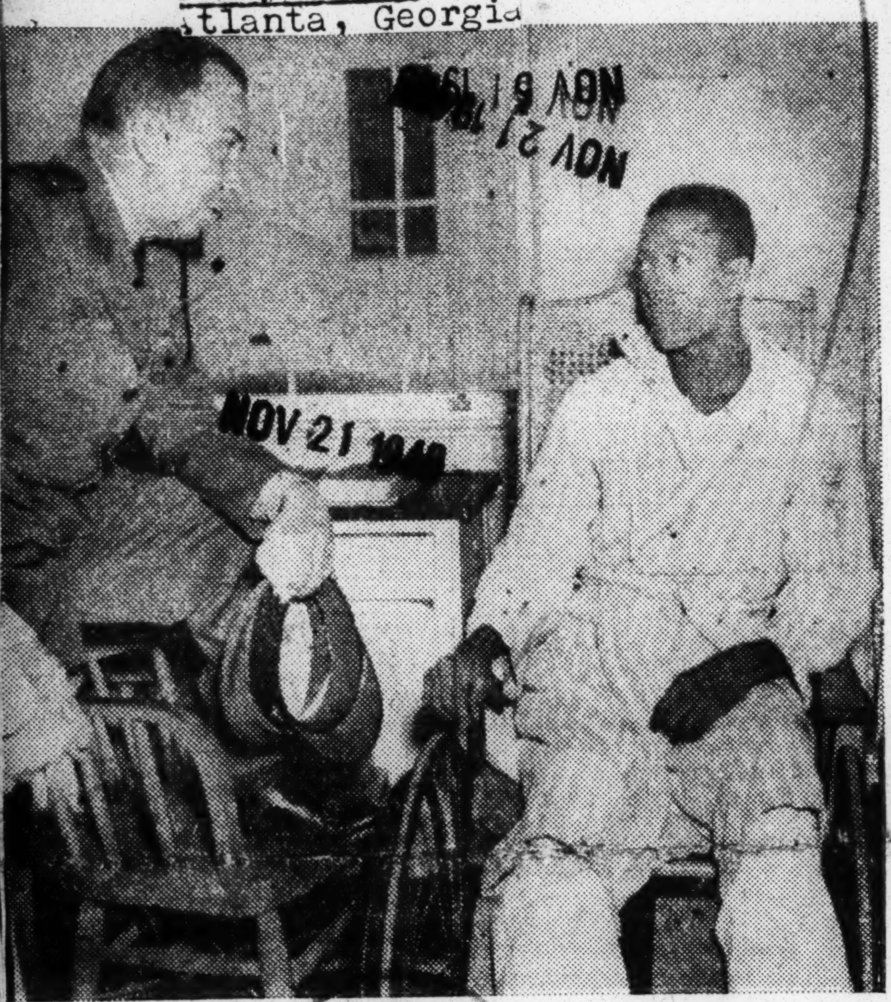
Marshall said that the NAACP would immediately take the case to Secretary Knox and ask immediate reinstatement. "So far as we know this is the first case of its kind since the beginning of the war," Marshall said. He also stated that most of the men had been in the Navy since December, 1942 as volunteers in an effort to help win the war. Almost from the time they entered and received their boot training at Camp Bradford, Va., they were subjected to discrimination it was said. They were prohibited from using the same toilet facilities as white men. They also disclosed that they had separate living quarters separate chow halls and were prevented from rising above second-class petty officers.

Following their training, the Negro Seabees were sent to a West Indies base which they completely built. One of the first difficulties they ran into was a demand by white Seabees that they take the brass buttons off their uniforms and replace them with plastic buttons. Filipinos, Chinese and other minorities were permitted to buy at the ship service store, but Negroes could not. At another time, a Negro guard, acting on order, tried to discipline a white chief petty officer and was "attacked for it." The Negro guard later was exonerated.

Morale among Negroes was said to be low, but none ever did anything serious.

Talking About The Invasion

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



Big moment in the naval career of Stewart First Class Eugene Bryant is shown here, as Rear Admiral Jules James, Commandant of the Sixth Naval District, stops by his bed in the U. S. Naval Hospital, Charleston Navy Yard, to chat a moment about the invasion of Sicily. One of a contingent of wounded brought home from Sicily and Italy, Bryant formerly lived at 1519 Central Avenue, Tampa, Fla.; Donaldsonville, Ga., and Atlanta, Ga.—(Official U. S. Navy Photo.)

TAN YANKS BUSY IN SICILIAN WATERS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. G 21 1943

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
(Courier War Correspondent)

FROM AN ALLIED MEDITERRANEAN NAVAL BASE, Aug. 19—(Censored)—Negro sailors are manning battle stations on scores of naval units operating in Sicilian waters. Drawn from the personnel of the ship steward's department, they have earned a large number of emergency berths as anti-aircraft gunners and as helmsmen and lookouts on navy invasion barges.

On [illegible] war vessel, Negro and white [illegible] crews alternate on anti-aircraft batteries, "because our colored boys a[illegible]ed for two or three enemy planes with which this ship was credited during the invasion in North Africa," according to a statement which comes from the ship's fire control officer. Lieutenant (Junior Grade) David W. Woods, Yonkers, New York.

"OUR BOYS" NUMEROUS

During the first three days of the Sicilian invasion, there were few troop transports, coast guard vessels and mine sweepers which did not draw on colored messmen for work gunners, gun loaders, fuse setters and for duty on LSVP invasion boats. Many gave their lives on these assignments.

Gu[illegible] several ships say [illegible] sailors participating in Sicilian action exhibited every quality indispensable in good ship gunners. They say the men observed closely for reaction fire none were jittery or afraid when bombs dropped uncomfortably close. They were mentally alert and responded quickly in situations requiring fast action. The boys were commended on all ships for their faithfulness as lookouts, for good teamwork and for remarkable accuracy as gunners.

LOVE TO SHOOT

The captain of a transport said, "Lord, yes, our colored boys love to shoot those guns. Biggest trouble is to stop them when they start blasting away." In a shipboard interview, the colored crew of a war vessel gave the following account of its experiences during the Sicilian invasion.

Joe Cunningham, 521 East Eighth avenue, Chattanooga, Tenn., related:

NAVAL EXPERIENCE

"We arri[illegible] the coast of Sicily arou[illegible] m. the invasion morning. All of us had been assigned to battle stations. I drew lookout post one of the invasion boats which ferried troops, ammunition, jeeps, gasoline and supplies shoreward. It was very foggy that morning and it was hard to see 50 yard ahead. I was manning a machine gun. We beached at a point near Gela. It was very quiet. We dropped the bridge and the soldiers moved off. I could make out against the skyline darker shapes of hundreds of other landing boats.

NAZIS WAKE UP

"Shortly afterwards, Jerry's Nazis woke up to what had happened and hell broke loose. We had no time to feel afraid, too much to do. We had to unload supplies, because the Army was yet in no position to do this. After unloading, I switched places with the helmsman and steered the boat back to its ship. It was hard to see and I narrowly missed colliding with several boats heading shoreward. The situation changed suddenly when the enemy began dropping flares to see targets for bombing. It was fireworks the rest of that night, our anti-aircraft fire being so thick that much shrapnel came down on my helmet, shoulders, and in the boat. I made 15 trips to shore, working straight through until 6 p. m., July 11. Boys in the other boats, white and colored, had the same long stretch. The only time I really was afraid was once when, unloading gasoline on the beach, some one hollered "planes." I could see myself being blown to bits if a bomb had hit the gasoline. I saw [illegible] white soldier race up the hi[illegible] lit out behind him and passed him. I never thought, at the time, that I might be running into the arms of Germans and Italians. The planes did not drop bombs, so I raced back to the boat and got the hell out of there."

Frederick A. Ford, steward's mate second class, 1902 Hollywood avenue, Shreveport, La., said:

OTHER GRAPHIC TALES

"My experiences in the North African invasion left me well prepared for this one. I was a stretcher bearer and found this nerve-racking, because I had to twiddle my fingers while the other boys carried on the show. I prefer being behind guns at any time. I feel safer.

"The [illegible] time I was afraid was when a fleet of Stukas came over strafing one night. Their bullets hitting the deck like hail and I couldn't see the planes. If you can see who is shooting and from what direction, it's not so bad, but when you can't see anything, you are bound to feel afraid."

Charles Sumner, a steward first class, Hoboken, N. J., who was a member of the gun crew, said:

"This invasion was child's play, though bombs dropped all around and we were under fire from shore or air at least 15 times in the first two days, but, in the North African invasion, the planes were plenty dangerous. We opened fire on several planes on numerous occasions, but they always flew out of range. We could tell by bursts of our fire. Anyway, we kept them way up high and they couldn't bomb accurately either."

BIGGEST EXPERIENCE

Sumner continued, "My biggest experience was when we had to move one night, because a nearby ship was on fire and had lighted up the entire scene. We were about 50 yards away when a bomb dropped near the spot where we had been sitting. Our ship had been really lucky."

Marion Washington, 433 Lenox avenue, New York City, tells of an experience in the North African invasion:

TEAMED TOGETHER

"Cunningham and I were teamed up on a gun one e[illegible]ening when I saw a [illegible] It was flying right on top of the water at a great distance. There were men on other guns. They were looking in the same direction, but couldn't see anything. I pointed to the spot where I could see a plane approaching. I told Cunningham to fire in that direction. Cunningham began blasting and a few seconds later, there was an explosion and a burst first. We soon learned that we had blown a plane out of the water." (It was one of two planes with which the colored battery was credited. Other was a Heinkel 111. Washington's story was confirmed by a gunnery officer who was present at the interview.)

MET ANOTHER PAL

On the same ship I had the pleasure of meeting Chief Steward Joseph A. Wilson, 634 Martin street, Elizabeth City, N. C., who has been in the Navy almost five years and supervises the work of 40 cooks, bakers, butchers, and pantrymen, some of whom are white.

Racial Harmony On Liberty Ship

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Pointing to their own crew as an example of true democracy, the Booker T. Washingt[illegible]ew, mix[illegible]ne, declared that the abolition of jim crow throughout the armed forces would build morale and strengthen the fighting qualities of our army. The statement was in answer to a letter from Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio of the war department, who defended the army's policy of segregation.

A letter from Navy Secretary Knox brought forth satisfaction from the Washington crew members. The letter was in answer to the crew's communication on the fine relations between gun and merchan[illegible]ship.

The policy of [illegible] department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organization, stated Ulio's letter.

NOV 13 1943

Pioneer Marines Honored

NOV 13 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa

Negroes Come in For Recognition as 168th Anniversary Is Observed In the United States

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Marine Corps observed its 168th anniversary November [illegible] and pioneer Negroes in this service [illegible] in for high honors.

Although Negroes were first admitted only 14 months ago, they are now serving in five of the seven branches of the service.

More than 8,500 colored youths have been enrolled since the Marine Corps began active training of Negro Marines in September, 1942.

The first group of 1,200 Negro volunteers began training at Camp LeJeune, New River, N. C., and six months later on March 1, the first colored Marines were on active duty in the Far Pacific.

HEROIC VALOR

Most of the Negro Marines are in either line duty or in the mess service.

Although many of the colored Marines are in kitchens, there have been times when cooks have been call[illegible] from behind their galley stove[illegible] prove [illegible] fighting heritage with cold [illegible] Corps history is filled with incidents of heroic valor where aproned mess sergeants have answered the challenge of enemy fire.

It is this fighting tradition to which the public paid homage Nov. 10, and the pioneer Negroes in the service shared with others this acclaim.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

2000 BLUE JACKETS SING!

OWI—Voices of 2,000 Negro Bluejackets went out over the airlanes recently [illegible]e second broadcast from the U. S. Nav[illegible]ning Station Great Lakes, Ill., of the Negro Regiments' Evening Hour.

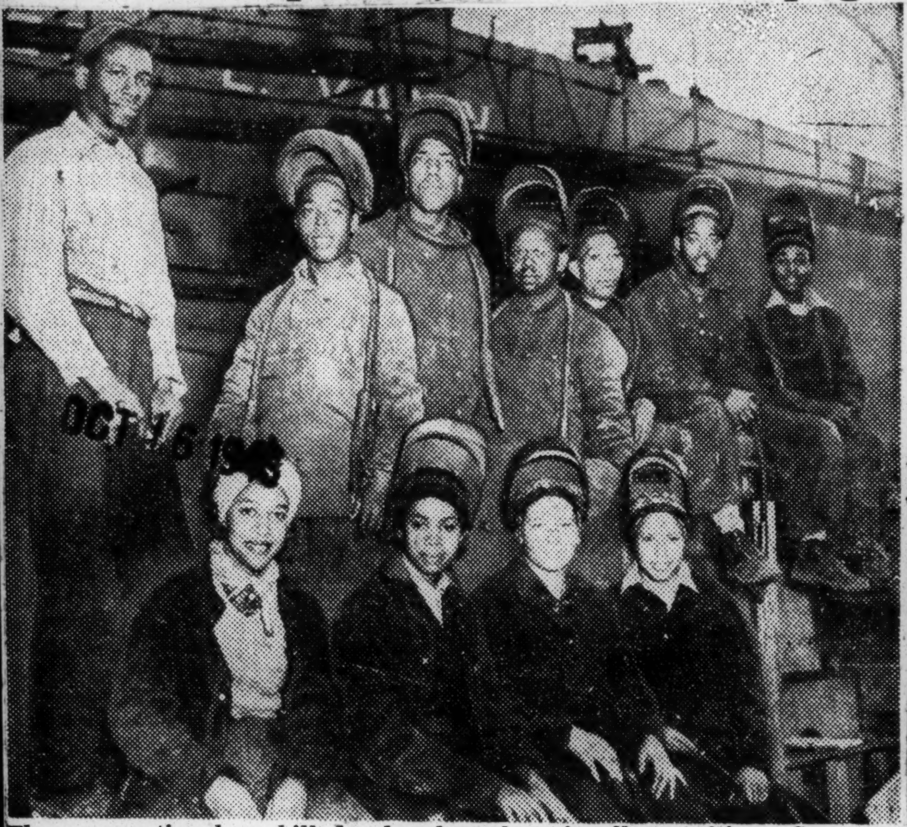
AUG 26 1943

The program originated in the drill hall of Camp Lawrence, one of three camps devoted to the training of men of the Negro race. It included, in addition to [illegible] mass singing, interviews with two sailors and selections by the Camp Lawrence choir.

47j-1943

5th Liberty Ship, Named for Late Robert L. Vann, Launched at Portland, Maine, Sunday; Mrs. Vann, Sponsor, Smashes Champagne Bottle on Second Try

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

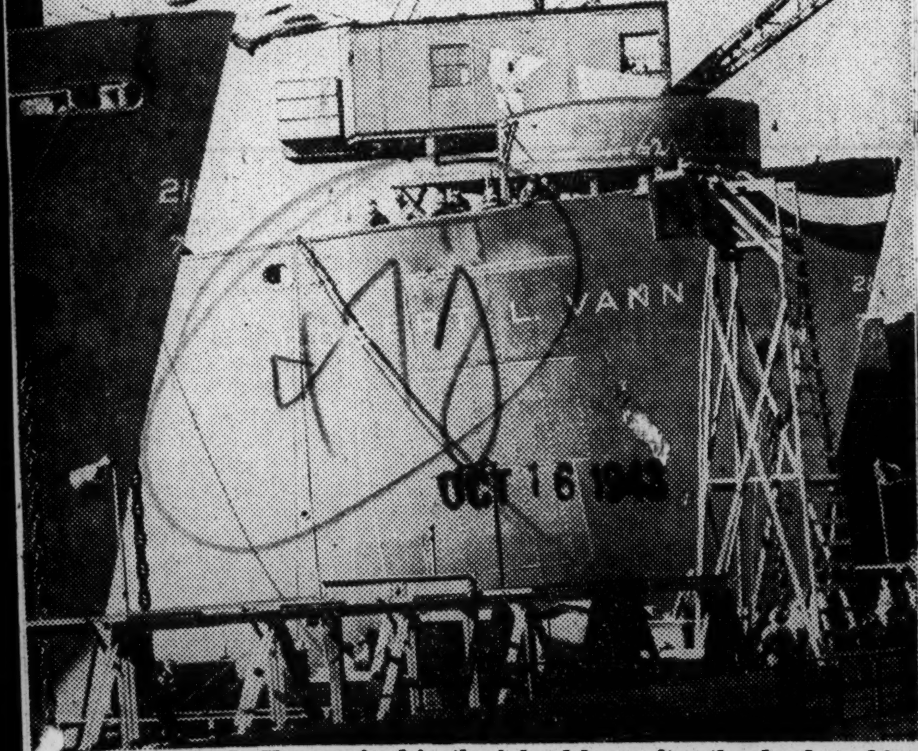


OCT 16 1943

The corporation has skilled colored workers in all capacities. Some are Emerson Commings, lead man in the pipe shop; Dudley A. Dickson, draftsman; Ronald Kenneth Sharpe, N.Y.C., specialist; Richard David, lead man of the welders. Workers shown above are: back row, [illegible] Singleton, John Dykes, James Fontaine, Charles Jones, Roy McKinney, James Meikle, Cornelius Welton; front row, Misses Alice Smith, Esther Dawkins, Ruby Hawkins. Susan Correy.

At the actual launching exercises are: (left to right): C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company, life long friend of Robert L. Vann for whom the ship was named; Mrs. Vann, dressed in a magnificient baum[illegible] coat; and Mrs. Mable Page Johnson of Johnstown, Pa., close friend of the Vann family.

Standing before the bow of the S.S. Robert L. Vann with a bottle of champagne in her hand ready for the christening exercise is Mrs. Robert L. Vann, wife of the late publisher of the Pittsburgh Courier. The two bouquets of flowers were presented by the New England Shipbuilding Company and employees. It took a second try for the sponsor to break the bottle.



OCT 16 1943

The S.S. Robert L. Vann poised in the inland base after the dry launching on Sunday noon. The Liberty Ship was floated out into the bay early Monday morning. It is now 85 per cent compl[illegible]eady for its trial run within 14 days. The crew has already been chosen and is under Captain John Godfrey, of New York City.

Marine Looter Saved From Jail By Sergeant

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

NEW YORK, Aug. 19—(ANP)—An unexp[illegible] flood of oratory by a marine [illegible] week in special sessions court was accredited with freeing a Negro marine being tried for tentative burglary and grand larceny as an outgrowth of the Harlem riots August 1.

The marine defendant was George Lee, 22, who also faces military trial for being AWOL from his outfit and shedding his uniform during the disturbances. He was taken into custody by Detective Terrance Rogers, who said he was caught in the act of looting a store in Lenox avenue.

Rogers was testifying against the prisoner when the marine sergeant Joseph F. Mullane, asked permission to address the bench. He declared:

"If you place him on trial, convict him and place him in prison, he automatically will become a deserter. Then, if he is found guilty by the marine corps on that charge, he will be liable to be sentenced to be shot by a firing squad, because our country is at war."

BREAD [illegible] WATER

Justices Frederick L. Hackenburg, Alfred J. Heffman, and George B. DeLucca conferred with Livingston Goddard, assistant prosecuting attorney, then asked the sergeant what punishment would be meted out to the marine if released.

"Well," replied Mullane, "he'll be placed on trial merely for being absent without leave, and if found guilty, is liable to be placed on bread and water for 15 days and lose a month's pay."

"Whew!", said Justice Hackenburg. "That's worse than giving him a three month workhouse term."

POLITE SENTENCED

After [illegible] with his colleagues, Hackenburg announced, "the court has reduced the charge to unlawful entry and petit larceny, but also has dismissed them."

In another action in felony court. Miss Margie Polite. 35, one of two women charged with creating a disturbance in the lobby of the notorious Braddock hotel that led to the altercation between MP Robert Bandy and a patrolman, was ordered committed to the medical institution for treatment. Miss Polite has been in the house of [illegible] since her arraignment with Mrs. [illegible] Roberts, 40, a registered nurse, who is the mother of Bandy. She was charged with aiding her son attack the officer, an act that resulted in Bandy being shot in the shoulder. He has since been turned over to military authorities.

AUG 21 1943

NAVY CLOSES ITS DOORS ON RACE WOMEN

Defender
Chicago, Ill. 1943

Wave Enlistees Make It 'Hot' For Washington Recruiting Office

AUG 21 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Navy shut the door—a real door at 1320 G street, N.W.—on Negro women last week!

"It's the heat," said Yeoman Smith, who stated he was following the orders of and quoting his commanding officer, Lt. L. A. King. Lt. Commdr. H. B. Atkinson, executive officer of the Office of Naval Procurement, who also said "the office folded because of the heat."

But the "heat wave" that descended on the navy's WAVEs last Friday was not one of atmospheric temperature or humidity. Last Friday, in Washington, was relatively cool. It was only 90.2 degrees at the hottest part of the day—at 3:30 p.m. By 4:35 p.m., when the recruiting office was closed, the temperature had dropped to a cool and breezy 87 degrees. And at 5 p.m., when the office reopened, it was still 87.

No, it wasn't the thermometer, which has topped 90 degrees in Washington on over 45 days this summer, and reached a season high of 98 one day last week—on which day the air-conditioned recruiting office remained open as usual.

The "heat wave" was six Negro "hopeful WAVES," all well-groomed, well-behaved, and comely. And all but one were college women, with skills and training the navy says it needs in women.

Try to Enlist

The first two who entered the recruiting office were Althea Jefferson and Hazel Lee. They expressed a patriotic desire to serve their country through enlistment in the WAVEs. A WAVE receptionist talked to them, took their names and addresses, but refused to give them application forms. In the interview, the receptionist told Misses Jefferson and Lee that "something is being planned for you-all."

When they came out, Velma Hammond and Bernice Jacobs were coming along the street. They had been thinking about the WAVES for some time. Seeing two Negro girls coming out of the recruiting office, they decided to go in. It was then 4:30 p.m. Though the temperature outside was an hour past its peak, and was steadily dropping, the "heat" in the recruiting office suddenly became stifling—but only in the WAVEs recruiting office. The enlisted men's recruiting office next door remained open.

Miss Hammond's name and address was taken by a yeoman, to whom the WAVE receptionist had turned over the job while she went in the back room for a conference. Before he could take Miss Jacobs' name and address, he was given orders to close the office. The door was locked, and Misses Hammond and Jacobs were invited to leave by the back door.

"But why are you closing now?" asked Miss Jacobs.

"It's the heat, it's very h[illegible]," said the yeoman. He gave the young ladies some application blanks and literature concerning the WAVEs, and asked them to please go.

When the girls insisted on leaving by the front door, the WAVEs gave in to their request.

By that time, Cora E. Wright and Cleomine Lewis arrived with intention of applying for admission in the WAVEs. "The door was closed in our faces," they said.

It was then 4:35 p.m. The temperature was 87.

Misses Wright and Lewis walked around the block. Miss Wright had a camera in a repair shop nearby. Returning, they had to pass the recruiting office again. The door was wide open—ready for business.

It was then 5 p.m. The temperature was 87.

Misses Wright and Lewis went in. A short conference ensued—in the back room. A yeoman, who had been stalling on the telephone, then went back and got his orders. He came out wreathed in smiles and steeped in courtesy. He took the names and addresses of Misses Wright and Lewis, and gave them application blanks and literature.

Voluntarily, he offered the explanation that the office had closed because of the heat, "but we noticed a little breeze came up and we reopened." He then instructed the girls to take the applications home and fill them out. He urged that they call up before returning to find out whether "the law has been passed for admission of colored."

The next day, Lt. King denied to the Defender that the office had been closed because of the influx of Negro applicants. "Here is what we are doing as far as they are concerned," he said. "We are going to take their names and addresses and give them all information they desire. We will give them applications to fill out down here or at their leisure at home; and then when some provision is made whereby we can enlist them, we will call them in and complete the applications." He indicated that he had received that morning a report from the Office of Procurement that there is something "in the mill for them."

Lt. Commander Atkinson told the Defender that it is the policy to interview Negro girls and treat them as anybody else. "But," he said, "there is nothing we can do but take names and addresses. We are told by the Bureau of Naval Personnel that a plan is under consideration now. In the meantime, any colored girls coming in we are to get names and addresses and hold them until the plans are effective."

In the meantime, the navy is crying—shedding tears—in an effort to get WAVEs. Various speakers, from Secretary of the Navy Knox, Admiral King and Lt. Commander McAfee, down to the recruiting ensigns, on the WAVEs' anniversary just three weesk ago, appealed for larger and larger enlistments.

But despite denials, for almost one-half hour last Friday, during the height of the passer-by parade, the Washington recruiting office of the WAVEs locked its doors to prevent any more Negro women entering to enlist.

Miss Jefferson is a high school graduate from Washington, Pa., now employed in the Bureau of Engraving, and active in community activities.

Miss Lee is from Cleveland, a dental hygiene graduate of Howard university, and employed at the Civil Service Commission.

Miss Hammond is a graduate of San Francisco State college, with an AB in biology and economics. She is employed at the Bureau of Engraving.

Miss Jacobs is an AB from the University of California, where she majored in Hispanic American History. She has credits toward a master's degree, and is employed at the Bureau of Engraving.

Miss Wright graduated from South Carolina State college, and has credits toward a master's degree. Miss Lewis is a graduate of Virginia Union university, and is a secretary.

AUG 27 1943

SURVIVOR

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Steward's Mate, Second Class, Albert E. Paul of Pittsburgh, is ready to return to action after a 30-day furlough. Paul was one of the 18 survivors from an American destroyer which sank on the fifth day of the invasion of Sicily. The sailor was in the battle torn waters four hours before being saved.—Sockwell Photo.

AUG 28 1943

Naval Photographer Back From Solomons

aug. 14, 1943 Courier Pittsburg, Pa

EDITOR'S NOTE: A vivid, startling account by George L. Bankston, Photographer's Mate 1/c U.S.N.R., of how brave, black defiant Americans face death at every instance—gamble recklessly with fate in order that democracy may survive. Mr. Bankston was a former news photographer in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Aug. 12—Those six months in Gaudalcanal area are the most memorable and exciting that I ever had, and six months of life that shall never be forgotten. As a photographer in the U. S. Navy my trip was filled with excitement and anticipation from the moment I embarked from the United States until I reached my point of destination. I shall never forget those days at sea when our group of men, inexperienced as they were in actual combat zones, were eager to reach their base and see just what it was like, and to do their part to get it over with.

MADE OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

They didn't have long to wait. It was ten days after arriving there that I got my first thrill as a photographer in the armed service. It was during a night air attack that I had occasion to make my first pictures of actual combat, the exploding of bombs, and the fire from our batteries. Those pictures gave me the experience of what real night photography is, and from that day on, every day was filled with excitement.

It was this experience that gave me my opportunity to be made the first official Negro photographer in the U.S. Navy, and which caused me to gain another stripe. This put me in direct charge of our department which then gave me an added duty and opportunity. Being a photographer first class, I was then supposed to do all of the aerial photographic work for our outfit, and in successfully doing this I was then given the official aerial work for the entire area.

MAKES FIRST AERIAL MISSION

I shall never forget that first flight over the Solomon Islands, and into enemy territory. There I was full of excitement and anticipation with the finest photographic equipment in the world in my hands and some of the finest machine guns at my side should I have to use them, and I don't know which I was anticipating more—the aerial observation photographic work, or the use of those guns if a Japanese should have poked his nose into our business. However, I felt fully capable of either, and was keyed up and ready for both, but as we went along on our mission I completed my photographic work and told my flight officer I was terribly disappointed in that I didn't have a chance to use those guns.

His reply was, "don't worry, if you stick by me you will have plenty chance." That chance came three days later. We were up 20,000 feet making a bomber's picture, when we sighted trouble. Being alone, we decided to come down. That trip down gave me the greatest thrill of my life when my pilot stuck the nose of his plane towards the earth and came down in a power drive from 20,000 feet to 2,000 feet before I could hardly catch my breath, or was there any breath there? However, I do know that the earth came up to meet me so fast that there couldn't have been much breath left.

FORMED MANY FRIENDSHIPS

Those experiences then made me a veteran of air and ground work, after which I was given the aerial duties of three different outfits, of which for military reasons I will not name, and the connections with these outfits qualified me as an ace aerial photographer in the combat zone. Memories are plentiful and many, of Air Force officers and I who worked together and will remain everlasting friends. They always sent for me when they thought they would run into something that would make good picture records or information for our forces.

One of the most exciting assignments that I have had to do was when our island was attacked by 150 Japanese dive bombers. When we knew they were coming in on us, my officer handed me an aerial camera and a 45 automatic, patted me on the back and said, "Good luck, Bankston." I knew what he meant, and good luck is what I needed. Not being able to give you a full account of this battle, nor of how I made out in it, I will tell you that I spent one hour and a half doing some of the most exciting work.

I will tell you this — those 150 Japanese planes did not get back home like they came, as a matter of fact only a few returned. One of the greatest little gunners who is giving those Japanese Zeroes all they want is a 19-year-old Negro boy who handles one of our big guns like a little boy handles his cap pistol playing cowboy.

When he lets it go, something is coming down, and you can bet your life it is a Japanese. That young fellow is known to me as Shields, the gunner, from New York. I mention him, because his job is one of the most dangerous and most outstanding in the defense of a base, but just like Shields there are hundreds of other boys with equally important jobs.

47j-1943

Every Mile of U.S. Coast Line is Protected By Coast Guardsmen Like This One

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OCT 16 1943

47j

Patrolling a four-mile stretch of the Cape Cod beach, Coast Guardsman Charles Stenhouse, seaman first class, has a lot of time to think about his home on the other side of the country at Los Angeles, Calif. His only friends on the beach, he says, are the seagulls. Whenever anything out of the ordinary turns up on the beach, the gulls, of which there are thousands, can be depended upon to raise a racket. (Shephard [illegible]o.)

Booker T.'s Skipper Evades Submarines, but Meets Jim Crow

Captain, Purser Ordered to Leave Richmond's Greyhound Bus Station Waiting Room at Midnight

OCT 2 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

CAPTAIN HUGH MULZAC

OCT 2 1943

By JOHN JASPER

(Passed for Publication)

BALTIMORE — Captain Hugh Mulzac, skipper of the Liberty Ship Booker T. Washington, was forced to leave the main waiting room of the Greyhound bus station at Richmond, Va., at midnight September 22.

The captain, who returned recently from a voyage to a war zone, was in uniform. His purser, John Beecher, white, accompanied him.

He spent several days in New York conferring with officials of the Luckenback Steamship Line and the War Shipping Administration and received orders to report in Norfolk early on the next morning. The only available train arrived in Richmond near midnight, from which he took the 1:30 bus for Norfolk.

Sitting in the Richmond bus station, reading and chatting with Mr. Beecher, Captain Mulzac first became aware of a group of hostile sailors. Later a policeman was summoned.

"You're colored, aren't you?" the cop asked. "You'll have to get over in that little waiting room over there."

"This is all right here," the captain said.

"I have got orders," the cop insisted. "You're colored, you'll have to go."

"I have orders, too," the captain said. "My Government has given me orders to fight for democracy. It seems your State Government has given you orders to fight against democracy. I'm over there fighting for you fellows over here. We are carrying stuff in the ships, day and night, watching for submarines for draft dodgers like you fellows over here who tell us where to sit."

The policeman said that the captain would have to leave or undergo arrest for a violation of the Virginia segregation laws.

"I'll not quarrel or fight with you," Captain Mulzac said finally and picking up his papers and brief case walked outside of the station with Mr. Beecher and waited until the bus left.

The two occupied the same seat in the bus to Norfolk and arrived without further mishap.

47j

Two New Officers

When the Booker T. makes another voyage it will have two new junior officers, replacing Clifton Lastic, a chief officer, who is on leave in order to take his examination for a second officer's ticket. He's successor to Captain M. O'Neal, who is a U.S. citizen holding a British master's license.

OCT 2 1943

Third Officer M. McGregor of the Booker T., is off to the hospital for an operation.

While in Baltimore, Captain Mulzac was the guest of his attorney, J. Howard Payne. He told of having tied up in a North African port by the side of a Liberty ship, named for the author of the song, "Home, Sweet Home."

The captain said momentarily he was stunned, thinking that the vessel was named for the local lawyer.

Gets Commander's Rating

Captain Mulzac now carries a card from the U.S. Maritime Service designating him as a "commander," having completed six months to a year in the service without mishap and with a good recommendation. He has made five round trips to various war theatres.

OCT 2 1943

"INTUITION" TOLD HER

CAPT. AND MRS. ADRIAN RICHARDSON.

She had a premonition that her husband was in trouble. (Story

OCT 2 1943

Liberty Ship, R. L. Vann, To Be Launched

Atlanta, Georgia

Named For Late Lawyer, Publisher

Daily World

AUG 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —The Maritime Commission announced Thursday that a Liberty Ship, assigned to a South Portland, Maine shipyard, will be named for the late Robert L. Vann, noted Negro lawyer, and founder of the Pittsburgh Courier, a weekly newspaper.

The ship, fifth in a series named for outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched in late September or early October in the South Portland yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation.

The first three ships of this series, the SS Booker T. Washington, the SS George Washingotn Carver, and the SS Frederick Douglass, are now in active service, two of them with Negro captains with mixed crews. The fourth, the SS John Merrick, was recently launched at Wilmington, N. C. A warship, the Destroyer Escort Leonard Roy Harmon, was launched last month by the Navy Department at Quincy, Mass.

AUG 20 1943

Robert Lee Vann was born at Ahoskie, N. C., August 27, 1879, and died in Pittsburgh, Pa., October 24, 1940. Educated at Virginia Union University, and the University of Pittsburgh, he was admitted to the bar in 1909 and practiced in Pennsylvania until 1936, when he decided to give his full time to his publishing business.

ONE OF FOUNDERS

He was one of the founders and incorporators of the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company in March, 1910, and served as editor of the paper and president and treasurer of the publishing company until his death.

Under Mr. Vann's direction, the Courier became one of the largest Negro newspapers in the world with an ABC circulation of over 200,000 and readers in most English-speaking countries.

Mr. Vann also enjoyed a distinguished career as a lawyer. In 1917-18, he served as assistant City Solicitor for Pittsburgh. In 1924, he was named by President Coolidge as a member of a five-man commission to investigate conditions in the Virgin Islands. In 1935, he served as a member of the Constitutional Convention of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to revise the state constitution.

Mr. Vann also was an ardent disciple of education, and aided many young people of his race to gain collegiate training. He also made several large contributions to Virginia Union University, where, after his death, the tower of the Belgian Pavillion of the New York World's Fair was renamed the Robert L. Vann Memorial Tower. This Pavilion was presented to Virginia Union by the Belgian Government and transported from New York to Richmond, Virginia.

Torture Victim Back From Sea

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEP

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 9—(ANP) —Sporting a mustache and a whiff of a goatee, and togged down in his snappy navy uniform, 19-year old Quintard South, who figured in Atlanta's sensational police torture case yast year, breezed in from the sea during the week-end to tell of his adventures in the South Pacifiic.

South was the government's principal witness against Detective M. F. Sutherland, charged with violation of federal civil liberties statutes, in the burning torture of the youth when he was being held at the city jail as a susnect in the theft of a basketball uniform. Two trials of the case ended in hung juries.

IN 3 BATTLES

A steward's mate, second class, South joined the navy a year ago and has seen seven months in the Pacific. He wears three small stars on the upper left of his jacket, a reminder that he has been in three sea battles. An enemy torpedo hit his ship in the third battle, South said.

Officer Sutherland was indicted by a federal grand jury after South displayed raw wounds about his breast and arms which he charged were inflicted by the detective with a photographer's iron in an effort to obtain a confession in the petty burglary case. The owner of the sweater South was charged with stealing later appeared and testified that he had given the garment to the youth.

The case attracted wide attention after white groups became interested in its outcome.

U. S. NAVY APOLOGIZES FOR JOKE

AUG 28 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28— The Navy Department, last week—in a letter to Congressman Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY) from Captain Leland P. Lovette, director of public relations — apologized for the appearance in one of its service publications, the Masthead, published at Treasure Island, Calif., of an anti-Negro joke.

"I have stated in previous letters," said Captain Lovette, "that the Navy objects to any expression of racial or religious intolerance by its personnel, and makes every effort to prevent any manifestations of intolerance."

AUG 28 1943

He continued, "Unfortunately, it is not possible, even in a military organization, to exercise airtight control over all the modes and details of expression of hundreds of thousands of men and women. This I repeat, is not a justification or excuse for any derogatory remarks made by persons in the naval service against any racial or religious group; it merely presumes to offer an explanation of the dfifiiculties which beset the Navy's conscientious attempts to deal with the problem."

STORY EXPOSED

A reproduction of the insulting anti-Negro story was published in The Pittsburgh Courier several weeks ago.

Commenting on Congressman Marcantonio's suggestion that stories of Negro naval heroes be published in Naval publications, Captain Lovette's letter said: "I wish to emphasize that the Navy welcomes your suggestion that the exploits of Negroes be publicised. Actually, we are following such a policy all the time. Navy crosses have been awarded three Negroes, Navy and Marine Corps medals have been given two Negroes, and many others have received letters of commendation. This, I am sure you will agree, is as it should be."

SEP 25 1943

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C.

HIGHEST HONORS

Allen D. Holland, 18, of 766 Columbia Road, Northwest, Washington, D. C., has graduted from recruit training, Great Lakes Illinois, with highest honors in his company at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

SEP 25 1943

Holland, formerly a junior clerk employed in the War Department, joined the Navy as an apprentice seaman in July. During the boot training period he led the 130 men of his company in drill an scholarship, and is now qualified for duty at sea with the fleet.

SEP 25 1943

The honor man, whose brothers, Roger and Luther, are serving with the Army, has returned to Washington for boot leave with his parents. Holland is a graduate of Armstrong High School

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Ask Women to Join WAVES by 'Mistake'

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

AUG 21 1943

BALTIMORE—The U.S. Navy is doing it again!

It is sending out applications to young colored women, by mistake, seeking their enlistment in the WAVES.

The letter accompanying the application is signed by Lieut. Commander W. C. Meyer, officer in charge, and calls to "all patriotic women to make a more direct contribution to the war effort and join the WAVES which is your privilege as an American woman."

AUG 21 1943

The letter neglects to specify that this privilege is for WHITE women only.

Lieut. Commander Meyer told the AFRO Monday that he has received numerous calls from colored young women who "inadvertently" received letters and applications.

"Something Pending"

The navy is not accepting colored women for enlistment now, he said, and explained that "there is something pending in Washington which may mean we will take them later."

AUG 21 1943

He stated that the navy is securing lists of names of colored young women to make up a waiting list, but that the letters were sent out in error.

News Briefs From Far and Near

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

ROOSEVELT'S VALET GRADUATES FROM NAVAL SCHOOL

Washington — The night before George C. Fields, 32, the nation's number one gentleman's gentleman, left the White House to enter the Navy, President Roosevelt grasped his hand and said:

"Good luck to you, George. I know you'll do just as good a job for the Navy as you've done for me."

That was last February. Recently, the Negro Bluejacket lived up to the President's expectation when he was graduated from the Navy's Service Schools at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., as honor man of his class group. He was advanced from seaman, second class, to storekeeper, third class.

Fields served as President Roosevelt's valet for four years, being advanced to the post after six years as a butler at the presidential residence. His brother, Alonzo Fields, has been head butler at the White House since the Hoover administration. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Clinton B. Fields, of 728 Columbia avenue, Indianapolis, Ind.

PM

New York, N. Y.

A Correction

Dorie Miller, Negro messman, was awarded the Navy Cross for manning a machine gun on a warship during the Pearl Harbor attack. PM cited Miller's heroism Friday in *Nailing the Hate Rumors* and erroneously stated that the Navy Cross had been awarded posthumously. Miller is not dead.

NOV 4 1943

47j-1943

1st Warship Named for Colored Hero Sets World's Record

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

$3,500,000 Vessel in Service in Three Months; Texas Mother Sees Navy Take It Over

QUINCY, Mass.—Fully manned by a complement of 200 men, its guns bristling, the USS Harmon, Destroyer Escort, first warship to be named for a colored hero, was ready to put out to sea for death-dealing action, Tuesday.

Named for Leonard Leroy Harmon, mess attendant, 1/c, Guadalcanal hero, the 1300-ton vessel, costing $3,500,000, was put in service only 92 days after her keel was laid, establishing a world's record for the construction of destroyer escorts. The previous record was 128 days. The Harmon was launched on July 25.

The commissioning ceremony lacked much of the gaiety that marked the Harmon's launching in July, but it took on added significance. Witnessing the closed ceremony was Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Texas, for whose late son the vessel was named, the Bethlehem Shipbuilding officials, and high-ranking navy officials.

Same Party Makes 2nd Trip

As on the trip to the launching, she was accompanied by her husband, William Donaldson Carroll, principal of Wilkins School at Port Lavoca, Texas, and her two daughters, Miss Pauline Harmon, mechanic at the San Antonio Air Field Command, Kelley Field, Texas, and Mrs. Constance Edwards, teacher in El Paso, Texas.

They made the 2,200 mile jaunt for the launching of the ship in July under the auspices of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Shipbuilding Division, while this special return trip for the commissioning of the Harmon was made under the auspicies of Texas officials who felt that her son had brought great honor upon the State.

After the few brief remarks and comments on the vessel, the navy officials were delivered the warship by the lehem Company officials.

Although it was a business-like ceremony in which the ship changed hands from its builders to the navy, a precedent was established in the exchange because it was the first navy warship named in honor of a colored person.

World Record Achieved

No one at the Fore River Yard of the Bethlehem Company, from W. H. Collins, general manager of the plant, on down even imagined that the company was on its way to a world's record until the Harmon was four weeks under construction.

Its launching in July, less than two months after the kee was laid, was a surprise to the navy. On August 11, Unde Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal visited Bethlehem and New England asking the shipbuilding industry to bea the record of 128 days then existing for destroyer escorts.

The Fore River plant, with 30,000 employees, two week later shattered its own 128-day mark by completing the Harmon in 92 days—a world's record. The company prides itsel in the fact that the ship was not rushed but built accordin to plans like other destroyer escorts are built.

The plant, with many colored employees in all phases o work, is on a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week shift, turning out a shi a day far ahead of schedule, including aircraft carriers, battleships, all types of cruisers and destroyers.

The Makeup of a Destroyer Escort

A destroyer escort is a fighting vessel designed to carry convoys to safety through submarine-infested seas. It is faster than the fastest ship in a convoy, much faster than a submarine, and yet slower than a destroyer. It is a cross between an American destroyer and the British corvette.

Its purpose, when mass forces of them are afloat, is to relieve destroyers, take them off convoy work and send them back to combat. Escorts are namesakes for navy heroes, just as destroyers are named.

The destroyer escort is 1300 tons of destruction, from stem to stern, and its stem is 300 feet from its stern. Carrying 200 men, it can drop depth charges, discharge torpedoes, send shells from deck pieces and send out a spray of projectiles that is bound to fall on some invading craft on the sea surface.

Rear Admiral Edward L. Cochrane, Chief of Shipbuilding for the navy, went to England before the war began and studied the British corvette, a pint-sized destroyer, returned and drew up the plans for the American destroyer escort.

K.P.'s Get a "Break"

In both the fore and aft section below the weather deck are compartments for showers; each man has his own bunk and locker in which to place his uniforms and valuables. In the galley are an automatic vegetable peeler and a dishwashing machine, eliminating over-exertion from K.P.

Also on the vessel can be found Radar—radio detecting and ranging—the world's most secret weapon based on electronics. The cost of the destroyer escort is $3,500,000, about half the price of a destroyer, and the building time is now just about 3 months compared with the destroyer's 9 months.

Harmon Now at Sea

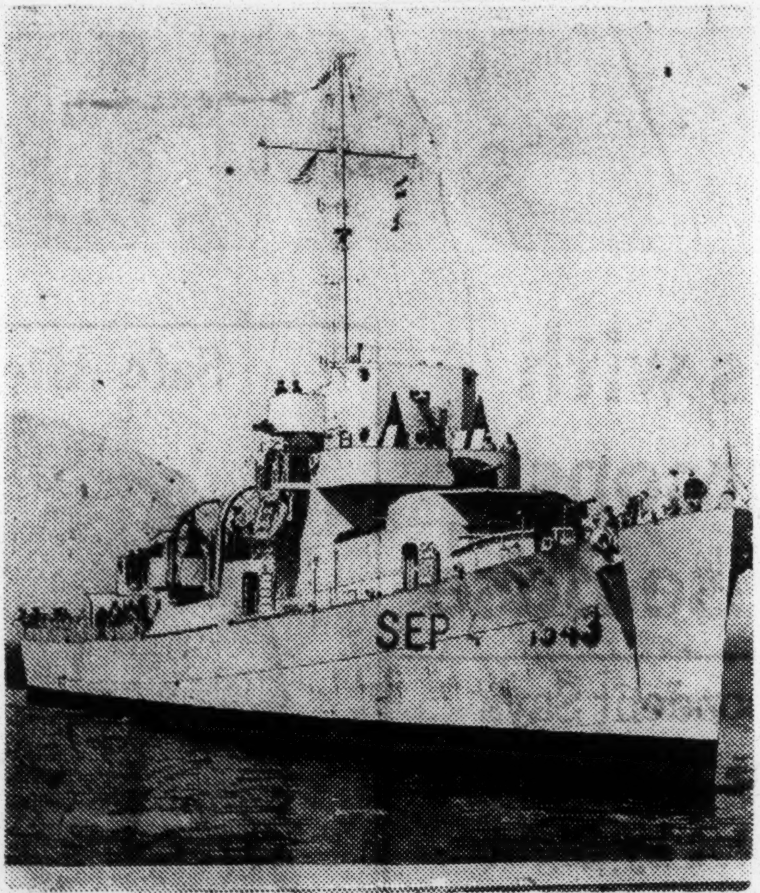
The Harmon is now at sea and may well be protecting a convoy that has within the group one of the Liberty ships that have been named for outstanding colored Americans.

The first three ships, the SS Booker T. Washington, the SS George W. Carver, and the SS Frederick Douglass, are now in active service, two of them with colored captains and mixed crews. The fourth, the SS John Merrick, was recently launched at Wilmington, N.C., and the fifth, will be launched in late September in Portland, Me., named for Robert L. Vann, newspaper publisher.

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox's approval of the assignment of the name USS Harmon to the warship late last May was well founded because Harmon, not only saved several of his shipmates on the night of November 13, 1942, in the Solomons, but also threw himself in front of a ship's officer and dragged him to safety before being mortally wounded himself by machine gun fire.

Harmon in Navy Four Years

Harmon had been in the navy for over four years and



Cost $3,500,000, crew of 200, carries 3 inch guns and 20 mm. AA guns. Launched July 25, Commissioned August 31. Time of building 92 days a world's record. Best previous time for a destroyer escort 128 days

James G. Tippin, Garfield P. White, Robert Fairhurst, welders at Bethlehem's Quincy, Mass.

SEP 4 1943

ad travelled all over the world, being at Pearl Harbor at the me of the Japanese attack. He was awarded the Navy Cross osthumously for extraordinary heroism while serving aboard he USS San Francisco during action against Japanese forces n November 12 and 13, 1942.

The text of the citation given with the award of the Navy Cross to Harmon was:

SEP 4 1943

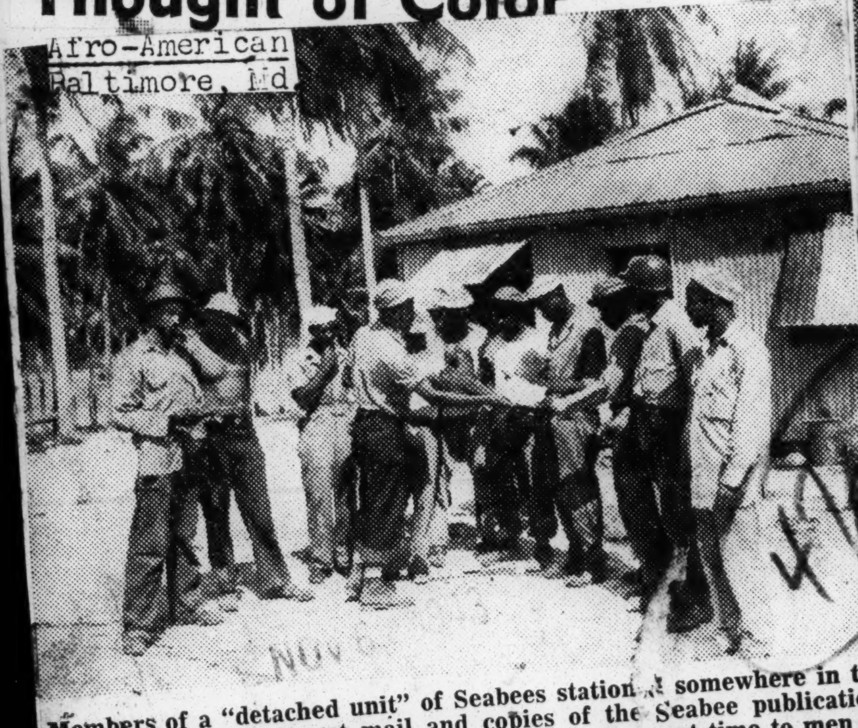
"For extraordinary heroism while serving aboard the USS San Francisco during action, against enemy Japanese forces in the Solomon Island area on November 12 and 13, 1942. With persistent disregard for his own personal safety, Harmon rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to a dressing station.

"In addition to displaying unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured executive officer, he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire in order to protect a shipmate and, as a result of this courageous deed, was killed in action.

"His heroic spirit of self-sacrifice, maintained above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave up his life in the defense of his country."

Seabees Grin at Danger, Do Their Work and Then Relax, Without Thought of Color

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md



NOV 6

Members of a "detached unit" of Seabees stationed somewhere in the Solomons line up to get mail and copies of the Seabee publication, "The Dixie Bee." Mail time can be a pretty important time to men on the other side of the world from their friends and families.

Not all Jap bombs land in open jungle areas, however, and here while smoke is still rising from the wreckage caused by a bombing attack, the Seabees have already gone back to work clearing away debris preparatory to rebuilding a warehouse burned during the raid

NOV 6

Some relaxation is needed by the men after they have worked night and day to complete needed advance naval bases. Here two battalions of Seabees, one white and one colored, working together, are taking time out to watch a show put on by an infantry group.

A Jap bomb dug the crater in which these six Seabees are standing, but it will take only a few minutes for them to fill it with their bulldozers. Such bombings were commonplace while the men were working at the construction of an advanced navy base in the Pacific.

Armstrong Says He's On Record For Such A Move

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

More Than 75 Per Cent Of Men From The South

NOV 19 1943

CHICAGO—(A N P)—In an address at the DuSable high school, Comdr. D. W. Armstrong, of the U. S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, said "I am personally on record with the secretary of the navy in recommending that Negroes be commissioned as officers in the U. S. navy, and I back up my recommendation." The commandant said he did not know when commissions will be authorized.

Armstrong, in reveiwing the Negro's difficult struggle for general service in the navy, indicated that Great Lakes gets about 25 per cent of its recruits from the north and the balance from the south.

He explained that it was necessary for the naval center to institute remedial schools to teach many of these men enough reading, writing and arithmetic so they could read the orders given them.

Comdr, Armstrong said that there would be no surer way for this program to have ended in disaster than by the commissioning of officers before either the prospective officers or the men whom they were to command were trained to discharge the duties and responsibilities incumbent upon them in a satisfactory manner.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Naval Training Station Marks First Anniversary

SEP 25 1943

HAMPTON, Va.—Marking the completion of one year since its establishment last September, the Hampton Institute Naval Training Station celebrated its first anniversary last Wednesday, in cooperation with the college committee of Freshman Week, then in progress at the Institute.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

New Liberty Ship Named For Vann

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON.—The U.S. Maritime Commission announced early this week that a fifth Liberty Ship will be named for an outstanding Negro when the S. S. Robert L. Vann is completed at the South Portland Shipyard of the New England Shipbuilding corporation, sometime in the near future.

Four previous ships already bear the names of leading colored figures. They are the Booker T. Washington, the George Washington Carver, the Frederick Douglass and the John S. Merrick.

Vann died in 1940, terminating 53 years of a colorful and busy life. Born in 1887, at Ahoskie, N. C., in humble surroundings, Vann gradually became a power in Pennsylvania politics, in which state he spent most of his adult life.

Following his achievement of the doctor of laws degree from the University of Pittsburgh, he became a co-founder of the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Co. He became editor of the paper in 1912, and served in that capacity until his death. After long years of allegiance to the Republican party, during which he saw service as a city solicitor, publicity director for the national committee, and publicity director for the Harding campaign, Vann soured on the GOP when he became dissatisfied with its treatment of the Negro people.

Lending his support to President Roosevelt, he was rewarded by being named a member of the Committee to Revise the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania in 1935. Following the election of Roosevelt, he was appointed assistant United States attorney general, being the first colored man to receive such an appointment from the Democratic Party.

47j-1943

Georgia Fugitive Now Fights Axis

Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 15 1943

Daily World

PHILADELPHIA—(A N P)—What happens to the scores of tragic fugitives from Dixie chaingangs after they have won freedom from compassionate northern jurists?

One answer was offered here last week by Seaman Second Class Thomas William Mattox, 18, in the city on furlough from Camp Smalls, Great Lakes, Ill., training station. He joined the navy!

Mattox, who just a year ago was trembling at the bar of Judge Clare G. Fenerty's courtroom because Sheriff Mark Cleveland of Elberton, Ga., was pressing extradition proceedings against him is exuberant today over his new found freedom and harbors ambitions of a petty officer's rating.

The youth was charged by Georgia authorities with slashing a motorist during a quarrel over "who passed whom" on a country highway. His able lawyer, Raymond Pace Alexander, won his release by presenting evidence to the court that Mattox's attack came only after he and his sister had been struck by the complainant, and that Georgia justice meant death for the boy.

Judge Fenerty in ordering Mattox released was influenced also by the knowledge that the prosecuting attorney in Elberton had accused him of being prejudiced when he supported the anti-lynching bill while serving in congress.

Young Mattox found work in a shipyard earning $40 per week, but he wanted to show his appreciation to a country that was big enough to smile with favor upon him after first slapping him in the face. He added last May that he would quit his job and join the navy.

"Pennsylvania had been so kind to me," Mattox explained, "I felt like returning the favor. That was the only way I could think to do it."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

B. T. Washington Crew Says Real Democracy On Ship

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(ANP) — Pointing to their own crew as an example of true democracy, the Booker T. Washington crew, mixed one, has declared that the abolition of jim crow throughout the armed forces would build morale and strengthen the fighting qualities of our Army. The statement was in answer to a letter from Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio of the War Department, who defended the Army's policy of segregation.

A letter from Navy Secretary Knox brought forth satisfaction from the Washington crew members. The letter was in answer to the crews' communication on the fine relations between gun and merchant crew aboard ship.

The policy of the War Department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations, stated ULio's letter.

"This policy has proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the war eff[illegible] the le[illegible]ontinued.

NOV 13 1943

CREW COMMENTS

The crew commented that ULio's answer was regarded as "the stock excuse of lazy or dishonest minds which refuse to recognize the true nature of this democratic war." They further stated:

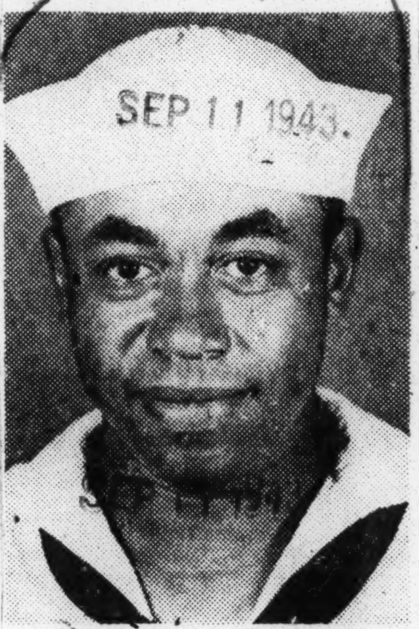
"We contend that abandonment of undemocratic racial segregation in our Army would vastly enhance that Army's effectiveness as a liberating force in foreign lands, for other races and peoples could see in the very composition of our troops the image of that freedom which we profess to bring.

"At the same time it would clear from the minds of our soldiers divisive doubts and questioning, releasing their full potential of devotion to the historic ideals of American democracy. Far from injuring morale and impeding the war effort, 'intermingling' of the races would, we are convinced, build up morale and strengthen the fighting qualities of the Army.

"We know what we are talking about, for the complete racial democracy which has been established on the SS. Booker T Washingt[illegible] embracing merchan and Navy crews alike, has buil an unshakable morale and wil fight fascism which would be har to surpass."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

No. 1 in Class



SEP 11 1943.

CHESTLEY A. COUSINS, JR., 31, of 1209 St. John Street, Richmond, who was graduated from recruit training with highest honors in his company at the U.S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill. Prior to joining the Navy, Cousins was for ten years a bell captain at the Hotel William Byrd. He has qualified for further specialized training at a Navy quartermaster school. The honor man, son of C. A. Cousins, returned to Richmond for boot leave with his wife and father. —Offical U.S. Navy Photo.

Cites Valor Of Negroes In All Nation's Wars

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily World

Indiana Solon Is Speaker At Great Lakes Base

NOV 6 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—(S N S)— The valor of Negroes in this nation's wars since the American Revolution was described recently at Negro Service School graduation exercises at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

"In suffering and sacrifice, Negroes will not be outdone," Indiana State Senator Robert Brokenbur declared before 1[illegible]9 Bluejackets who completed instruction in one or another of the Navy's various trades.

"The spirit of b[illegible]hood and of noble fellowship surges through them and impels them..to strike down any foe of any Americans," he asserted.

TRACE HEROISM

Quoting famous generals, beginning with George Washington. Senator Brokenbur chronologically traced the heroism of Negro soldiers in order to depict the contribution made by members of his race to "the general welfare and the honor and glory of the United States of America."

"Unlike any other, this is a total war, and the total Negro population, as an important part..is fighting all the foes of democracy with all their souls with all their hearts, with all the[illegible]minds," he continued.

"Members of the graduation class, your country has greater need for you. Into larger fields, harder tasks, and more severe tests it calls you. This call may take you over seas and mountains and deserts. Your ancestors, whose spirit still lives, join in your country's call."

PRESENTED DIPLOMAS

At the conclusion of Senator Brokenbur's address before an audience of the graduating Bluejackets' relatives, friends and shipmates, members of the class were presented Service School certificates by Capt. H. R. Harris, Service School Officer at the Great Lakes training station.

The men completed 16-week courses in one or another of the schools for gunner's [illegible]s, yeomen, storekeepers, quartermasters, signalmen, radiomen, aviation machinists' mates, aviation metalsmiths, and cooks and bakers.

Three men were singled out for special recognition, having been selected as honor men of their respective groups. They were Edward Blevins, of 128 South Bertrand Street, Knoxville, Tenn.; Royal A. Williams, of 240 West 116th Street, New York, N. Y., and Arsene J. Baquet, of 2202 St. Phillips Street, New Orleans, La.

Case Of 18 NMU Members To Be Heard

Norfolk, Virginia

Complaint [illegible] To Interstate C. Commission

NOV 13 1943

Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) —With promises to take the case to the "highest court in the land, if need be," NMU Attorney William Standard continued his fight on behalf of 18 Negro members of the NMU who were jim crowed on board a train last year after signing off the SS Seminole.

Standard will soon go before a hearing of the Interstate Commerce Commission where he will demand that the ICC order the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad to discontinue its practice of [illegible]gation and discrimination. The NMU lawyer is [illegible] the cooperation of all organized labor, AFL and CIO.

In June, 1942, 20 members of the crew of the SS Seminole were paid off in Tampa and given first class transportation and meals for a trip to their original shipping port. Eighteen of the 20 members were Negroes.

All had planned to make the trip together, but railroad company officials saw fit to spirit the two whites away from the 18 Negroes and thus present a case of segregation.

On the following morning the 18 seamen were refused dining car service as the diner was "for whites only," and were told that they could either be served privately or go without food. All agreed to go without breakfast.

Startled by the united refusal, the steward wired his boss for the next step; the boss in t[illegible]ld the steward to advise th[illegible] men that they would [illegible] served in the dining car, "a[illegible] completion of the regular meals."

At three o'clock the 18 brothers ate their breakfast in the diner. They were to be told concerning the next meal but that information was never received.

Battle-Scarred Hero

SEP 17 1943

Atlanta, Ga.

Home To Visit Parents

Daily World

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(SNS)— Sporting his campaign ribbon and four stars, representing four major battles, Officers' Steward Mate 3rd Class Alvesta Hart, the son of Mrs. Henrietta Hart-Reid, 1219 Calhoun St., arived in Columbia Tuesday morning for twelve days at home, the first since enlisting in the Navy October 15, 1941. The youth has seen action in the Marshall-Gilbert Islands, the Aleutians and in the Solomons, but is reluctant to tell about them.

JITTERY IN FIRST BATTLE

SEP 17 1943

Sailor Hart, said his shipmates were a little shaky when they had their [illegible] combat engagement, but this wore off, and now a tangle with the Japanese is just routine work. His ship was en route to Pearl Harbor when that port was attacked by the Japanese December 7, 1941. Changing their course, they reached another port and about the middle of January, were in the task force which made the first American attack on the Japanese, held at Marshall-Gilbert Islands. In the Aleutians, their force was attacked by Japanese aircraft, but, he added: "We got the best shots in the Navy on our ship and only a handful of the bombers got away." In the Solomons area, where he has had considerable experience, aircraft batteries on his ship one time knocked out four of seven attacking Japanese planes Fighters got the other three.

BOYS ALL RIGHT BUT MISS HOME

SEP 17 1943

The veteran said the boys liked their duties and [illegible] all right. "But [illegible] nothing like a letter from home," he said. He thinks that the folks ought to write frequently but write briefly, and that they ought to turn in magazines and periodicals for the boys who run for a three-month-old magazine as if it were hot off the press.

There is no color question on his ship, he said. All the men get along fine and they work like a great team, with little fellows offering opinions to higher-ups, who encourage and welcome them. Turning again to his shipmates, the lanky six-foot-two seaman said "all the boys hope the folks back home are keeping up their fight. If they don't fight," he said, "we can't do our best. We want to win this war quickly [illegible] want it over [illegible] do th[illegible] ought to do everything possible to help win the war first. One of the best things all of them can do it to save their money in War Bonds."

SEP 17 1943

Continuing, he said, "If we get the weapons, we'll win. We've come out on top in all our meetings with the Japs. I think we have the best men, the best ships and the best weapons. All we ask is to keep them and get even better ones."

When his leave is up, he will rejoin his ship in a California port. Although he has spent time in many Pacific ports, he swears by the "girls back home." "I'd rather have one of my own girls," he said, "than a million of those I've seen."

Began With Navy in 1893

Afro-American

Serving in His Fifth War

RICHMOND — Marion Robertson, ship's cook first class, who has served in the navy in five wars and campaigns, has just marked the fiftieth anniversary of his service in the navy.

Baltimore, Maryland

DEC 4 - 1943

MARION ROBERTSON
—Photo by the Browns, Richmond.

Mr. Robertson, who lives at 605 Corbin Street, is serving now at the Richmond Naval Training Station.

He has seen thirty years of active service. and returned to duty after the present war began following twenty years in retirement.

Mr. Robertson served in the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Boxer Rebellion in China, World War I and World War II.

He sailed on the gunboat Bennington, and the battleships Oregon, Kentucky, West Virginia and Virginia.

His medals are the Sampson, West India campaign, two for the Philippine campaign, the Boxer medal, World War I medal, and Virginia World War I medal.

Recently officers and enlisted men at his station honored him to mark his first enlistment on November 8, 1893, by giving him a new uniform with eight gold service stripes, eagle and chevrons for good conduct, eleven campaign bars, a wrist watch and a navy pin.

His son, Marion, Jr., is in the navy and is studying diesel engineering at Hampton, Va.

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Changes In Navy Training Provided

WASHINGTON—(SNS)—Sweeping changes in Negro training facilities, designed to centralize the regiments' recruit training program and to provide additional space for men of Outgoing Unit and Service School have been completed at the U S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois.

OCT 29 1943

Under the revisions, Camp Robert Smalls will no longer be used for recruit training, but instead becomes the home of OGU, Service School, Ship's Company, Music and Entertainment Department and Security Watch, while Camps Mofett and Lawrence are to be utilized solely for recruit training. The former camp had housed the outgoing unit in addition to recruits since July 3 when Camp Moffett became the third unit to be devoted to the training of Negroes at Great Lakes.

Of the companies in training in Camp Smalls all but a half-dozen have been moved to either of the other two training sites. These will remain in their original camp until completion of training, with the last company scheduled to be graduated October 18.

Recruit facilities of Camp Smalls, such as the rifle range, gas chamber and obstacle course, will continue to be used by recruits, Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, assistant recruit training officer in charge of Negro training, explained. Recreational and athletic equipment of the camp will be used by activities newly moved into the area.

The latest phase of the Negro expansion program is in line with the Navy Department's announcement in Washington a few months ago that an ever increasing number of Negroes were entering its ranks through Selective Service. The announcement estimated that 15 per cent of the men inducted into the Navy this year would be Negroes and pointed out that most of these would be assigned to Great Lakes.

The program got underway at Great Lakes on May 1, when Camp Lawrence was turned over to Negro sailors and continued with the construction of a $200,000 Service School building in Camp Smalls and the conversion of Camp Moffett to Negro training. Camp Smalls—parent Negro unit—was opened in June of last year.

Gets Honor Of Christening "John LaFarge"

Daily World

NOV 23 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

Marylander Chosen Under Employee Selective Plan

WASHINGTON — (SNS— Mrs. Robert B. Parkker of 2335 Madison avenue, Baltimore, Md., had the honor of being the first Negro woman chosen under the Employee Selective Sponsor Plan to christen a Liberty Ship at the Bethelehem-Shipyard in Baltimore the Maritime Commission announced this week.

NOV 23 1943

Mrs. Parker served as sponor of the SS JOHN LAFARGE, the 239th Liberty Ship built at this yard, which was launched Nov. 12. The LaFarge took the water after being on the way for 27 days. It was the sixth Liberty ship launched at Bethlehem-Fairfield this

Under the Employee Selective Sponsor Plan, the more than 20,000 mployees at the plant hold a drawing to see which department is to select the sponsor; then that department holds a drawing among the workers who have not missed a day's wrok within the last thirty days, and the winner may choose his wife, daughter, mother or sister as sponsor: The winner in this instance was Robert B Parker, a Negro in the Labor Department, and he chose his wife.

NOV 23 1943

John LaFarge, for whom the ship was named, was an outstanding American artist born in New York city on March 31, 1935 of French parentage. He received instructiosn in drawing from his grandfather, Binsse de St. Victor, pointer of miniatures and studied law and architecture. La Farge painted landscape, still, and figure alike in the early sixties. He later turned his attention to stained glass , and became president of the Society of Mural Painters. Some of his important commissions included windows of St. Thomas's St. Peter's tha Paulist Church, the Brick Presbyterian Church, the Church of the Incarnation, and the Church of the Ascension, all in New York City; Trinity Church, Buffalo, N. Y., and the "Battle Window" in Memorial Hall at Harvard University. He was also a prolific in oil and water color, as seen notably in some watercolor sketches, the result of a voyage in the South Seas, shown in 1895. He became president of the Society of American Artists,a member of the Academy of Design in 1869, and an officer of the Legion of Honor of France. He died in 1910.

The Empoyee Selective Sponsor Plan of the Bethlehem-Fairfield yard has done much to cut down absenteeism, the management reports.

47j-1943

Boston Port Captain Lauds His Lone Colored Officer

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Couldn't Ask for Finer Bunch Than 200 Colored Among His 600 Coast Guardsmen

By **JOE SHEPHARD**

BOSTON.—Sitting in a tiny office on the fourth floor of a waterfront building is the rugged and graying Capt. Frank M. Meals, captain of the Port of Boston and port security officer for the First Naval Coast Guard District.

OCT 23 1943

A veteran of thirty-seven years in the coast guard, Captain Meals came up through the ranks, learning about and handling men on the way up.

Asked what he thought about the colored coast guardsmen under his command, he said:

"For nearly a year now, I have have about 200 colored boys with me. They're a fine bunch of lads. You couldn't ask for better. We have one colored commissioned officer, one of the finest in my outfit and second in command of the port guard detail in which there are about 600 men of both races.

OCT 23 1943

Damned Well Pleased

"The co-operation is perfect. I'm damned well peased. There are few problems of discipline and few infractions of regulations. I couldn't want a better bunch of men."

Citing the spirit of co-operation between colored and white coast guardsmen, he related the following incident:

"Some weeks ago a group of colored girls planned a USO dance for the men. At the last minute the arrangements they had made with their orchestra fell through.

Musicians Come Through

"They called us to see whether the coast guard orchestra could play for them, but our orchestra had another engagement.

"However, there are a few musicians scattered through the port company who are not with the orchestra. Some of them are colored and some are white, but as soon as they heard of the fix the people were in they got together, applied for leave, and went out and played for the dance. I understand that everybody had a fine time."

OCT 23 1943

2nd Midshipman

OCT 23 1943

CYRIL J. JONES, of New York City, 1941 graduate of Tufts College and now a junior at the Harvard University Medical School, who was sworn in October [illegible] in Boston as a midshipman in the U.S. Navy Medical Reserve Corps. He thus becomes the second colored man to be given a ranking [illegible] navy [illegible]mount to a com[illegible]n, [illegible] being his classmate, B[illegible]ard W. Robinson of Boston College. Upon the completion of their medical course at Harvard they will be commissioned lieutenants, junior grade, in the Navy Med[illegible]orps. Both are st[illegible]erbilt Hall at the [illegible]d Medical School in Boston. Jones's twin brother, William J. Jones, also a 1941 Tufts graduate, is employed by the Signal Corps in New Jersey and is at present spending two weeks at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass., in the radiation laboratory.

OCT 23 1943

Chief Witness In Torture Case Sees Three Sea Battles

Atlanta. Georgia
Daily World

Sporting a mustache and a whiff of a goatee, and togged down in Navy uniform, 19-year-old Quinter South, who figured in Atlanta's sensational torture case several months back, breezed in from sea during the week-end to visit his mother, Mrs. Rosa South, 3[illegible] Thayer St., S. E.

AUG [illegible] 1943

A steward[illegible] class, South joined the Navy one year ago and has seen seven months in the South Pacific. He wears three small stars on the upper left side of his jacket, a reminder that he has been in three sea battles.

An enemy torpedo hit his ship in the third battle, South said.

The South Atlanta youth was chief witness in the "hot iron" case which resulted in an Atlanta policeman standing two trials in Federal court here. The first time the case came up, the jury was unable to reach a verdict. At the second trial, the officer was acquitted.

South claimed he was burned by the policeman with a photographer's iron at the City Jail while officers were making an effort to obtain a confession from him in connection with a petty burglary.

The case attracted wide attention after white groups demanded a thorough investigation. — R. M. R.

Leathernecks Celebrate 1st Anniversary

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Marines Advance Rapidly At New River, N. C.

AUG 30 1943

NEW RIVER, N. C. — (ANP) — Appropriate ceremonies were held last week at the training center in Camp Lejeune, celebrating the first anniversary of the induction of Howard P. Perry, of Charlotte, the first Negro admitted into the Marine corps.

Since their enrollment a year ago the "Leathernecks" have advanced rapidly in the service reporting today several corporals and sergeants. Many have been assigned to battle areas overseas, while others have demonstrated an uncanny knowledge of amphibious tactics. The marines have also organized athletic clubs, an orchestra and a glee club as extra-curricular activities.

Originally the camp site for the 1,200 men expected to be enlisted was a small plot of ground, but has been expanded into seven different camps because of increase and enrollments. Montford Point Camp No. 1, although in process of construction is being partially used for the training of new recruits. It is larger than all the other camps put together. Additional Negroes are planned for the corps in the future and these likewise will reveive their basic training here.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Liberty Ship Named for Negro Editor

AUG 26 1943

(Sp[illegible] to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. — The fifth United States Liberty ship in a series to be named for a Negro has been given the name of Robert Lee Vann, late editor and publisher of the weekly "Pittsburgh Courier." The ship, a 11,500-ton freighter, is under construction at the South Portland (Me.) yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corp. and will be launched late in September or early in October.

Vann was born at Ahoskie, N. C., Aug. 27, 1879, and died Oct. 24, 1940, having been educated at Virginia Union University and the University of Pittsburgh. He was for 30 years a practicing lawyer in Pittsburgh, closely associated with those who founded the Courier in 1910. Among other political offices he held was that of special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General.

AUG 26 1943

Ships [illegible] named for Neg[illegible] the Liberty series are the Booker T. Washington, the Frederick Douglass, the George Washington, Carver and the John Merrick. The Washington and the Carver, now engaged in war service, are manned by mixed crews, captained respectively by Hugh Mulzac and Adrian Richardson, both Negroes.

NMU Wants Richardson to Have Another Ship

New York, N. Y
Daily Worker

OCT 30 1943

Seniority Rights of Torpedoed Skipper Urged in spite of Criticisms

NEW YORK—The assignment of Captain Adrian Richardson

the National Maritime Union, the AFRO learned Monday.

When he returned from his maiden voyage, some members of the crew are said to have refused to stay on. New members were assigned for the second and ill-fated voyage.

Upon their return to the States, after being picked up by a British rescue vessel, five hours after their ship had been torpedoed by a Nazi U-boat, some of the crew expressed dissatisfaction.

Torpedoed Skippers

The union holds that skippers on torpedoed ships have preference over the assignments of other captains

The record of Captain Hugh Mulzac, skipper on the Booker T. Washington, was praised by union and maritime officials this week.

Captain Mulzac is not only a master mariner, but he is a leader of men, the officials told the AFRO. War Shipping Administration officials regard him as one of the ablest skippers plying the sea lanes.

OCT 30 1943

Mulzac Commodore Captain

It was revealed this week for the first time that when the large convoys arive at their destinations in the war zones, if Captain Mulzac is in the convoy, he becomes Commodore Captain and directs.

It was also pointed out that when the Booker T. arrived at Casablanca and at the Strait of Gilbraltar, Captain Mulzac demonstrated outstanding ability in the handling of his ship.

His calculations are accurate. He maneuvers his ship to a 45-degree angle with the greatest of ease. Both union and maritime officials had nothing but praise for the way he handles his men. When he enters a union meeting held by his crew members, he enters as a fellow union member, and not as their skipper, they said.

Navy Blasted For Bias In Jobs At Washington

SEP 19 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Ample public attention has been focused on private industry as the chief offender against Negroes in the matter of employment, the government itself, particularly the navy department, has been getting away with "murder" in the matter of Negroes working that "democratic" department.

Always a sore spot and always aloof and holding itself apart from public criticism, the navy got its first boost toward jim-crowism under Woodrow Wilson when Franklin Delano Roosevelt was assistant secretary to Josephus Daniels, the North Carolina politician who held down the secretaryship. The 'muster roll" division was then set up up John Risher. This was an all-Negro unit, with colored men and women employed as clerks. It still exists and is still an all-Negro segregated unit, according to workers reports.

PROMOTIONS SLOW

Over 15,000 whites are employed. Expanding to include 10 or 12 temporary buildings, many Negroes have been employed, but few composed to the white mostly as messengers, clerk-typists with a salary of $1,440 a sthe maximum for most Negroes. There are few who reach the pay bracket of $1,800. One woman in a division who has been there since World War One now receives $1620 per year.

In the cafeteria whites do not permit Negroes to sit beside them, nor at the same tables, declare girls who have worked in the department for almost two years.

Another statement by these girls is that Negro stenographers do not take dictation from white officers. They work chiefly in pools and do routine work, with the brass hats fram Dixie, who appear to be in the majority, bringing their traditions into the department with them.

IDEA IS SCORNED

One officer, whose brother taught at a noted Negro university in Pennsylvania, boasted that he knew Negroes and they should be 'kept in their place." These complaints have frequently been brought to light, but no one can tell the navy department where to head in.

It was suggested nearly two years ago that the navy, in its expansion program, employ a Negro in the public relations division and set up a better relationship with the Negro press. The navy scorned this idea and pua all matters relating to Negroes in the hands of a white man, who later was transferred out of the office to sea duty. Rumors had it he was too friendly to the Negro problem.

Only after a near revolution in the department did Negro enlisted personnel get consideration, with such persons as Comdr. Armstrong and Assistant Secretary Ralph Bard leading the fight. Any peron who showed any signs of friendship to the Negro cause was immediately branded by his associates and almost became an outcast.

CIVILIANS WORSE

This, however, was in the enlisted division. The civilian personnel division is even worse and in the quarter of a century since World War 1, conditions have grown worse until now when Franklin Delano Roosevelt is President and preaches about freedoms, the navy department is the worst government department employing large numbers of civilian personnel and is ready for a thorough housecleaning in the matter of discriminations against Negroes.

"HE'S A GOOD MACHINE GUNNER"

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

OCT 10 1943

Walter Davis, Negro messman in the U. S. Navy on the USS South Dakota, who stuck by his machine gun last October firing at attacking Japanese planes though riddled with bullets. Davis, still convalescing, is making the rounds of Philadelphia's war plants selling war bonds to the worker.

Would-be WAVE Recruits Bring on D.C. Heat Wave

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

AUG 21 1943

By JOSEPH SHEPHARD
WASHINGTON

The D.C. WAVE recruiting office closed for half an hour, Friday, and members of its personnel said that it was because of the heat.

But since Friday's highest temperatures fell eleven degrees short of the 98 degrees of a few days earlier, throughout which the air-conditioned office stayed open, it must have been the humidity.

Maybe Just Hot Time

Or perhaps, the fact that six colored girls went to the office to try to join had something to do with it.

Normally the WAVE recruiting office opens at nine in the morning and stays open until nine at night. But Friday wasn't normal.

Enlistment Attempted

Well Friday started becoming abnormal at the WAVE recruiting office around 4 p.m. when two young women, Miss Hazel Lee and Miss Althea Jefferson, went into the office to attempt to enlist.

A male navy recruit who was standing outside of the recruiting office gave the low whistle and decided that he had picked the right branch of the service.

He went into a drugstore and called the AFRO with the suggestion that a reporter be sent down. He gave such an enthusiastic description of the two grls that the paper decided to send a photographer.

In the meantime the two young women were being told about the WAVES by a WAVE ensign.

Photog Arrives

The photographer looked into the door, gave a whistle and wished that he wasn't 4-F so that he could join the navy too.

After telling the WAVE ensign that he would like to make a picture of the two young women, he hotfooted it upstairs to see the public relations officer and get permission.

When permission was not forthcoming the photographer left the building and waited outside to meet Miss Lee and Miss Jefferson. In the meantime two other colored young women came down the street, saw Misses Lee and Jefferson coming out and went inside.

The WAVE ensign had left the office, so Yeoman Smith began interviewing the two newcomers, Miss Velma Hammond and Miss Bernice Jacobs.

Office Closed

In the midst of the filling out of their cards he was called from the room. Upon returning he, obviously flustered and embarrassed, told them that it was very hot and that he had been ordered to close office.

He requested them to leave by a rear door, but Miss Jacobs insisted that she had left her car in front of the building and that leaving by a rear door would cause her to have to walk all of the way around the block.

Outside, several reporters had assembled by this time and were talking to Misses Jefferson and Lee.

Continue to Arrive

As Misses Jacobs and Hammond left the recruiting station, two more girls, Misses Cleomine Lewis and Cora E. Wright attempted to enter. They were told that Yeoman Smith was sorry, but that he had been ordered to close the office because of the heat.

The young women left, went around the corner to a store, and came back past the recruiting station just 25 minutes later, found it open and went inside.

Given Applications

Yeoman Smith was still on duty. "Whew, isn't it hot," he greeted them. "We closed up for a while, but felt a breeze and decided to reopen."

The young women received application blanks and literature about the WAVES and were told that there was no place in the service just then, but that they would be notified as soon as action had been taken which would permit enrollment of colored women.

On Saturday, when 97 degree temperature forced the closing of many federal buildings and the sending home of 30,000 workers, the WAVE recruiting office stayed open.

But then, Saturday was a normal day.
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47J- 1943

All-Colored Gun Crew on Coast Guard Ship Praised by Officer

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
OCT 16 1943

Lt. Clarence Samuels Heads Mixed Deck Crew; Says Youngsters Did Swell Job on "General Duty Cruise."

By JOE SHEPHARD
(Approved f[illegible]lication)

WASHINGTON

Clad in the steel gray battle dress of the United States Coast Guard, a patrol craft sailed into an Eastern port recently following a "general duty" cruise.

Bristling with armament, her once canopied decks packed with "Y" guns and their deadly depth charges, the ship moved into the harbor with an attitude of being ready for anything.

The alert young crew of coast-Gardsmen who manned her decks, guns, and engine rooms gave the same impression.

Young Crew Praised

Shortly after she tied up at the dock two members of her crew swung aloft in Bos'n's chairs to begin swabbing down the "mainstick." Other members of the crew began swarming up and down the gangplank in a steady stream as they started provisioning her for another voyage.

Queries of where she had been brought only the terse answer of "g[illegible] duty."

The deck offic[illegible]t. (j.g.) Clarence Samuels, highest ranking colored officer in naval services, spoke glowingly of the work of the youngsters in the crew.

"One-third of the deck crew is colored," he said, "and the boys really did a swell job."

Gunners in Action

He then introduced Chief Petty Officer Frank Batha, commander and instructor of the ship's gun crew, all of whom are colored and the majority of whom are from Washington, D.C.

Chief Batha, hardly more than a youngster himself, and obviously proud of his crew, smiled and said: "They're a swell bunch of kids."

It was then explained that the gun crew had been organized slightly more than a month, and that its members had already seen action in battle.

Too B[illegible] Chang[illegible]form

Lieutenant Samuels then came back on deck. He was still wearing a warrant officer's uniform. Asked why he hadn't had his insignia changed, he said, "I just haven't had time."

His promotion to lieutenant (j.g.) from the rank of warrant officer came through three weeks ago.

Navy to Get Most of Men Called in '44

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

Army Almost Has Its Quota, Needs Replacements Mainly

COMPLAINTS MOUNT AGAINST NAVY J.C.

Seamen Learn Trades, but Are Assigned as Laborers

OCT 16 1943

By JOHN JASPER

WASHINGTON.

Some half a million colored men who will be called to the colors next year will be assigned to the Navy.

Nobody here has issued such a statement, but that is the way the signs point and it isn't promising.

The facts are that the Army has some 750,000 colored men now, roughly 10 per cent of the Army's personnel.

No New Army Units

All new Army selectees will be utilized for replacement, as no new units are contemplated.

To get 12 million in the armed services, five more million must be called, which means roughly a half million colored and the Navy is the spot that will get them.

The reaso[illegible]e pros[illegible]s disheartening [illegible]three-fold.

1. The Navy has made little use of colored seamen save as stewards on seagoing ships. Draftees trained in Hampton's trade school are assigned to laboring jobs as munitions handlers in shore depots, in some cases under civilian direction.

No Commissioned Officers

2. There isn't a single commissioned officer in the Navy. In fact, the boast has been made that the Navy is no place for educated colored draftees. Petty officers' ratings comparable to corporal and sergeant in the army are likewise withheld.

3. The Coast Guard is a branch of the Navy. It has one commissioned o[illegible] colored coast gua[illegible]n ar[illegible] ships, guarding convoys and transporting troops or landing supplies.

Coast guardsmen can get promotions. This is the only decent department of the Navy, but its liberal treatment of colored men has been frowned upon by the Navy, which feels that large Coast Guard use of colored men on seagoing ships is too much of a contrast to the Navy, which uses colored men as waiters and lackeys.

In Seattle, Washington

On ships everybody, colored and white, must live together. The U.S. Naval Air Station at Seattle, Washington, has separate barracks and mess halls for trained seamen. Forty per cent of the sailors at this station are to be colored.

In New England

Skilled seamen, trained in Hampton's n[illegible]e school, are in a New En[illegible]depot, handling shells, mines and explosives.

They supplant civilian stevedores who were formerly paid up to $80 a week for this work. These men complain that they are not permitted to work at their trade, are denied promotion, and take orders from civilians.

At Great Lakes

The largest naval training school is at Great Lakes, Ill. From there this letter came this week:

"You who are in civilian life gather your forces and help the colored sailor, who is suffering a living death. Distrust your Congressmen. The organization to concentrate upon is the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

"The problem of the colored man in the Navy has been left alone long enough.

Thousands Trained

"There is not a single colored commissioned officer in the whole of Great Lakes and literally thousands of colored men have been trained here.

"Not a single colored chief petty officer leads a colored company, yet third class petty officers are doing the work but are denied the rank because of their color.

"D. O. Van Ness, a white man, was sent to Washington to head up 'colored' personnel. Every intelligent colored man of leadership quality is wasted in the Navy.

No Colored Doctors

"Recruits go to a hospital and they are impressed that colored doc[illegible]urses and dentists do not exis[illegible] (Edit[illegible]ote: Applicants for the post [illegible]urgeon have been refused.)

"They go out on the drill field and there stands a white company commander, usually from Texas.

"They go to church on Sunday and they must conclude that a colored minister is not good enough for the Navy, for there is a white chaplain only to tell them of Christianity, faith, and democracy.

Even Swimming Teacher Is White

"Most recently a white swimming instructor was named chief petty officer in charge of three colored Navy camps here. A colored man cannot even teach swimming.

"Up here in Illinois, the Navy has introduced segregation, refusal to serve colored seamen in certain centers, segregation of white and colored sailors at camp movies by compulsion."

Conditions in the Navy can be changed for colored draftees, but not until far more pressure is exerted upon the White House than is being used at present."

Knox, King Inactive

From where I sit, it now appears that neither the President, Secretary Knox nor Admiral King proposes to bring back the good old days of 1776 to 1870 when colored men se[illegible] as seamen and g[illegible]ners, and, as Commodore Chauncey declared in 1814, "They are among the best men on my ship, the Pike."

Their attitude apparently is that they will sit tight until public opinion compels them to act, and to date that public opinion hasn't expressed itself forcibly enough. With 500,000 men going into the Navy next year, it might.

Knox Asked If WAVES Will Admit Colored

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO, Ill. — Pointing out that w[illegible] the question of admitting [illegible]ored women to the WAVES has [illegible]hey have been referred to various departments for answers, the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, this week, took the question directly to Secretary of the Navy Knox, asking that he advise them if and when such enlistments will begin.

The communication, sent over the signature of Miss Olive M. Diggs, chairman of the committee on naval policy, said that the controversy on the policy of the WAVES can only be cleared by a statement directly from the secretary.

Public Should Know

Other questions posed by the committee included:

Does the Navy Department intend to open the program V-12 to colored persons? If this is true, when will the Bureau of Public Relations release a story to the press?

Do[illegible] Navy Department intend [illegible]employ [illegible]ored person in its Bureau of Public Relations?

While we recognize the necessity for reduction in personnel and other activities of this nature, at the same time we feel that the Navy Department will receive better response from its expanding program if a public relations program is instituted.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

GRADUATE FIRST HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS

CAMP ROBERT SMALLS, Great Lakes, Ill. — (ANP) — The Navy took another step toward higher ratings for Negro sailors Wednesday when the first group of hospital assistants, first class, was graduated. There were 7[illegible] boys in the class drawn from all over the United States. Some were seamen on active duty, others were scattered among stations before becoming part of this specially selected group. They were taught in a mixed group, some 300 of the class being white. After graduation they will serve a period in hospital laboratories somewhere, later acquiring the title of Pharmacists' Mate.

Steamer Crew Was Reported Lost in 1942

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Families Were Notified and $5,000 in Insurance Paid

JAPANESE REPORT RESCUE OF 23 MEN

Husband of New Yorker Not Among Those Listed

By DAVIS LEE
(Editor, N.J. AFRO-AMERICAN)

NEW YORK. — Twenty-three crew members of an Export Lines freighter (name censored) which was torpedoed and reported lost in the South Pacific in December, are being held as prisoners by the Japanese, the AFRO-AMERICAN learned Monday.

The freighter, which was used in the Far East as a trader before the war, was assigned to the Export Lines of New York last fall, and when she sailed from her home port she carried a crew of 41, over half of whom were colored.

The ship sailed from an East Indian Port the last of December, and when she was reported overdue at her next destination, efforts to locate her failed.

$5,000 Insurance Paid

In January the vessel was given up as lost. Relatives of the crew members were notified and after the elapse of several more weeks each beneficiary was paid $5,000 under the Government's War Risk Insurance regulation.

Last week twenty-three beneficiaries [illegible] said to have been notified by the government that the men are being [illegible] in a Japanese prison camp.

Among those reported to be held are two well known in union circles, they are Henry Bowen and Clarence Wedell of New York City.

Husband Not Listed

Mrs. Arthur Floyd, 109 W. 112th Street, told the AFRO-AMERICAN Monday that her husband was a crew member on the lost freighter, and that she received a letter from naval authorities last week stating that her husband is not listed among the 23 being held by the Japs.

Liberty Ship Crew Takes Rap at Army Jim Crow

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

Booker T's Example Cited as Proof that Democracy Boosts Morale and Strength

NEW YORK — (ANP)—Pointing to their own crew as an example of true democracy, the Booker T. Washington mixed crew declared that the abo[illegible] of jim crow throughout the armed forces would build morale and strengthen the fighting qualities of our army.

The statement was made in answer to a letter from Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio of the War Department, who defended the army's policy of segregation.

A letter from Navy Secretary Knox brought forth satisfaction from the Washington crew members. The letter was in answer to the crew's communication on the fine relations between gun and merchant crew aboard ship.

Ulio's Letter Quoted

The policy of the War Department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations, stated Ulio's letter.

"This policy has proven satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the war effort," the letter continued.

The crew regarded Ulio's answer as "the stock excuse of lazy or dish[illegible] minds which refuse to recog[illegible] the tr[illegible]ure of this democratic war."

They further stated:

Example for the World

"We contend that abandonment of undemocratic racial segregation in our army would vastly enhance that army's effectiveness as a liberating force in foreign lands, for other races and peoples could see in the very composition of our troops the image of that freedom which we profess to bring.

"At the same time, it would clear from the minds of our soldiers divisive doubts and questioning, releasing their full potential of devotion to the historic ideals of American democracy.

"Far from injuring morale and impeding the war effort, 'intermingling' of the races would, we are c[illegible]ed, build up morale and st[illegible]en the f[illegible]g qualities of the army.

"We know what we are talking about, for the complete racial democracy which has been established on the S.S. Booker T. Washington, embracing merchant and navy crews alike, has built an unshakable morale and will to fight fascism which would be hard to surpass."

NOV 3 1943

NOV 13 1943

Missing In Action

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

BEN CUTHBERT, JR. —Steward's Mate, second class of the United States Navy, whose parents were notified that he is missing in action at their residence, 326 Lemon Street, Marietta, last week. Marietta's first colored casualty, Cuthbert was a former student of Perkinson High School and volunteered for naval service a few months before his 18th birthday in June, 1943. He had one furlough home and wrote to his parents often, the last letter being received by them about two weeks ago dated November 15. He had asked his mother's prayers, as if he had learned that life was uncertain. He was the oldest of six children. His parents, brothers and sisters are anxiously waiting another message as to his whereabouts.

Baltimore. Md
Afro-American

B. T. Washington Crew Says Real Democracy On Ship

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(ANP) — Pointing to their own crew as an example of true democracy, the Booker T. Washington crew, mixed one, has declared that the abolition of jim crow throughout the armed forces would build morale and strengthen th[illegible]hting qualities of our Army. The statement was in answer to a letter from Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio of the War Department, who defended the Army's policy of segregation.

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NOV 3 1943

Daily World Atlanta. Ga.

Volunteers Negro Navy Continue To Increase

During the month of August, tne largest number of 17-year-old South Carolina Negroes volunteered for the Navy tha[illegible] any single month, and are now bluejackets in the U. S. Navy. Of the 63 volunteers, 32 enlitsed as apprentice seamen, and were sent to Great Lakes for their basic training. During their training period, all of the enlistees will be given a series of intelligence tests to determine their fitness for the Navy's Service School where they will receive special training in a particular skill. More than 18,000 Negroes will receive this specialized training by July 1st of 1944.

Local officials point out that more interest is being shown by Negroes in this state in the SEABEES — the Navy's Construction Battalions. Many Negroes who are skilled in some construction or mechanical trade have already been given ratings as high as Petty Officers second class and sent to Camp Peary Magruder, Virginia, for their basic training. A total of 45 Negroes entered this branch of the service during August. There appear still many good openings for skilled or semi-skilled Negroes between the age of 18 and 50. Upon the completion of their basic training the SEABEES [illegible]e sent to a Naval base outside th[illegible]tinenta[illegible]s of the United States.

A total of 278 Negroes enterec the Navy through the channels of Selective Service during August 204 qualified as apprentice seamen and 74 were accepted as Steward's Mates, third class.

Chief Specialist John F. Potts stated that the increased interest shown by Negroes in the Navy is due to three factors: (1) The good reports now being made by eNgro youths returning home on leave; (2) Most of the trainees not only are well pleased with the physical fitness and recreational activities, but are also greatly impressed with the thoroughness of the Navy training program; (3) They are taking advan[illegible] of their opportunity to become a specialist [illegible] a particular skill which will no[illegible]ly increase their rate and pay while in the Naval Service, but to help provide a maens of earning a livelihood when they return to civilian life.

SEP 10 1943

5th Liberty Ship, the Vann, Goes Down the Ways

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

Publishers Wife Smashes Bottle on Second Trial

OCT 16 1943

C. C. SPAULDING IS SPEAKER AT YARDS

Ceremony Called Largest for Portland's 114 Launchings

By PAUL D. DAVIS

PORTLAND, Maine.—The fifth ship to be named for a distinguished colored person, launched here Sunday, was the SS Robert L. Vann, named for the late Pittsburgh publisher.

The 10,500 ton Liberty freighter, launched in dry dock just a few weeks after its keel was laid, was christened by Mrs. Vann, who, on the second attempt, crashed the bottle of champagne against the ship's side and uttered the traditional words of "I christen thee the SS Robert L. Vann."

Prattis O[illegible]s Ce[illegible]

The launching prog[illegible] was opened by P. L. Prattis of the Pittsburgh Courier, who introduced C. C. Spaulding of Durham, N.C., who had spoken at the launching of the SS John Merrick, named for his business partner, a few months ago at Wilmington, N.C.

Mr. Spaulding said, "This could not happen in any other country." The Rev. C. E. Askew, 77-year-old minister of Detroit, gave the launching prayer.

Following the brief exercise, the launching party [illegible]ned to the general offices [illegible] the compan[illegible] where the vice president, Andrew B. Sides, presented an engraved silver plate bearing a picture of the SS Robert L. Vann, with the time and place of launching and the sponsor inscribed thereon, to Mrs. Vann.

Mrs. Vann Responds

Mrs. Vann responded, saying "this is the happiest moment in my life, and it is a thrill that is indescribable."

Although there were two other launchings at the yard on Sunday, this was the most important and company officials admitted that it was the largest of 114 launching parties and preparations that they had ever had.

The New England Ship Building Company, with all types of merit flags, has over 33,000 employees, over 500 of them colored. This has caused the colored population in the City of Portland to increase many fold and doubled the town's 70,000 population.

Most of the 500 colored women and men employed are in skilled capacities and all are working on the Liberty ships in which the yard specializes.

Other Notables Present

Included in the group of launching visitors were:

Homer S. Brown, Thomas E. Kilgallen, president of the Pittsburgh City Council; Ward Freeman, Maritime Commission; Edward O. Tabor, president of the Interracial Committee of Allegheny County; Assistant City Solicitor Wilbur C. Douglass;

Emmett J. Scott, Congressman William Dawson, Chicago; Julian Black, F. Smith, Maritime U.; Bishop C. J. Walls, Robert Brown, Detroit, Mich.

Two Pullman cars that left Pittsburgh at 8:23 Saturday morning reached Portland at 8 on Sunday morning.

Following luncheon at the Hotel Lafayette and the cutting of the huge cake with a picture of the SS Robert L. Vann, R. L. Prattis presided as master of ceremonies while the following persons spoke:

Company Officials Speak

Officials of the New England Ship Building Corporation: Chester Ch[illegible], president; Andrew B. Sides, executive officer; Walter Greene, vice president, and Mrs. Herrick, labor relations expert for New England yards.

A message was read from Wendell Willkie; a white employee, Andy Pattus; and a colored employee, Kenneth Sharpe, spoke; Ward Freeman of the Maritime Commission; Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union.

Mrs. Ira F. Lewis, on behalf of her husband, presented a picture of Mr. Vann to the ship's master, and Mrs. Vann gave books to the crew.

Mercury Hard on Visitors

From a mercury of 79 degrees on Saturday afternoon in Portland, the temperature dropped to the lower 30's on Sunday morning at the time of the launching exercise, making it very uncomfortable for those who had arrived expecting the New England Indian summer.

Capt. John Godfrey, U.S. Maritime Service, of New York City, has been named to command the SS Robert L. Vann. Besides having had twenty-five years of maritime experience, he has been an employee of the New York Post Office for the past fourteen years.

Chief officer of the ship will be Lieut. Commander Adolphus Folkes, a native of New York, who served as chief officer on the first Liberty ship, the Booker T. Washington, commanded by Capt. Hugh Mulzac.

Other [illegible]ers [illegible]ew ship, which w[illegible] have a[illegible]rew, are Walter E. Harris, Jr., Pittsburgh, junior engineer, and William H. Simmons, E. Providence, R.I., deck carpenter and draftsman.

OCT 16 1943

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College Graduates Are 'Discouraged' By Recruiting Officer

AUG 28 1943

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 26—(ANP)—Six girls were rebuffe when they sought vainly to join the WAVES at a recruiting offic Friday afternoon. Although two were able to wangle application out of the recruiting officer, every means of discouraging them wa made, even to closing down the office because "it was too hot."

Two of the girls entered the office first. They were Hazel Lee of Cleveland, graduate of the New York Secretarial school, and of the Howard School of Dentistry as a hygienist; and Althea Jefferson of Washington, Pa., a stenographer and Howard student. Their names and addresses were taken, they were given literature and told that "no plans" had yet been made for them.

SHOWN THROUGH DOOR

As they left, Zelma Hammond of San Francisco and Bernice Jacobs of Los Angeles entered the office. Miss Hammond received her bachelor's degree in biology and economics at San Francisco State college, while Miss Jacobs, a graduate of the University of California, has taught school in Texas and is now engaged on her master's in American history. The yeoman was taking the name of Miss Hammond when a superior officer summoned him. Another carried on and got as far as the name of Miss Jacobs when an unidentified officer came through and told them they were closing for the day since the heat was terrific. The yeoman never finished taking the address, and the front door was closed. They were given literature and asked to leave by the rear, refused, and were finally shown through the front door.

About a half hour later Cleomine D. Lewis of Tulsa, Okla., and Cora E. Wright, Lancaster, S. C., sought to apply. Miss Lewis has her degree in English from Virginia Union university and is a stenographer, while Miss Wright is a graduate of South Carolina State college, has taught two years, and now attends Howard. Upon entering they were told that the office really was closed but that "a little breeze" came along and so they opened for a few minutes.

WERE DISCOURAGED

They approached the desk and immediately the recruiting officer busied himself at the telephone, although he had said nothing into it for five minutes when a superior officer called for him. Upon returning, the girls explained, he was cordial and appeared to want to be helpful. They were given applications, paraphernalia and literature, and told to fill them out at home. They wanted to do it there but were discouraged since the office couldn't permit it after five o'clock.

AUG 28 1943

No explanation, official or otherwise, has been forthcoming. The Navy department refuses to say what is the status of its consideration of plans to accept Negro women into the WAVES. Meanwhile, the AKA Non-aPrtisan Council on Public Affairs continues to press its campaign to force the issue with the Navy department, insisting that it be done too on a non-segregated basis.

Gets New Ship

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

CAPT. ADRIAN RICHARDSON,

(Exclusive to the AFRO)

NOV 13 1943

NEW YORK—Capt. Adrian Richardson, master of the S.S. Frederick Douglass which was torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic two months ago, has been assigned to another Liberty ship, the S.S. Lowery, it was learned here Monday.

The Lowery, owned by the Standard Fruit Co., recently was refitted here after torpedoing.

Capt. Richardson has not yet finished selecting the crew, but the AFRO has been informed that, like the Douglass, it will have a mixed crew.

It is understood that the chief and third engineers will be colored and that the first and second will be white.

Survey Reveals Navy Is Not Nearing Pledged Quota

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 26 1943

Sea Forces At Present Are Short Of About 180,958, Johnson Asserts

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP) —Unless the navy department make a substantial increase in its call for Negroes, it will not reach the level promised during conversations with War Manpower commission officials last spring, in line with the policy worked out with the approval of the White House whereby Negroes would account for 10 per cent of all branches of the armed forces.

The upward adjustment in total personnel announced two weeks ago by Rean Adm. Randall Jacobs chief of navy personnel, testifying before the senate military committee, makes even more unlikely the attainment of the goal.

NEED ANOTHER YEAR

From an unquestioned source it was learned recently that the navy had requested an additional year in which to achieve what it had promised to do by the end of 1943 in the matter of Negro inductions. Questioned shortly after during his press conference, Sec. Knox declared that the navy is adhering to the program greed to, and that it has been taking all the eligible men selective program had been sending them. He pointed out, however, that rejections were rather high owing to the higher physical requirements for the navy

There are now about 2,609,581 men in the navy. Adm. Jacobs testified that an adjustment of figures, the department has estimated that it will need about 400,000 by the year end, thus giving them a total presonnel of approximately 3,009,581 men.

NOW BELOW QUOTA

Based upon the 10 per cent agreement, the navy should have now about 260,958 Negroes. The additional requirements to which Adm. Jacobs referred would mean that some 40,000 more Negroes would be required, giving the department a total Negro personnel of roughly 300,918 men.

There are today about 80,000 Negroes in the Navy department which includes the coast guard and the marines. This represents a difference of about 180,98 men which it should have had it observed the 10 per cent formula from the outset. It was to make up this difference that the navy announced following the agreement with WMCA that 15 per cent of its calls would be for Negroes. With the changes in personnel estimates advanced by the admiral, this deficiency could amount to 220,958 men unless there is a pickup in inductions.

In spite of Sec. Kox's denial, the acceleration is not taking place in any appreciable degree. Since April, the navy's calls for Negroes have been greater than 10 per cent, but not nearly approaching the 15 per cent it promised to make. Induction figures which are invariably less than those for calls, for the first three months of the year below 10 per cent, and for the next six months, slightly above.

NUMBERS ARE SMALL

Calls for the coast guard and the marines have been much higher than for the navy itself. but the actual numbers of men involved are small, and therefore would make no noticeable dent in the overall figures.

It becomes increasingly apparent therefore that if the navy intends to accept Negroes to the extent of 10 per cent of total personnel the percentage of calls agreed to will have to be made, and if the rate of rejections cut too heavily into the population available for induction, then the percentage of calls will have to be increased above the 15 per cent level.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Coast Artillery Unit Goes North

CAMP EDWARDS, Mass., Aug. 26—An overnight hop from the 100-degree heat of Camp Forrest, Tennessee, to the cool sea breezes of Cape Cod provided a new experience for a Coast Artillery battalion which recently arrived at the Antiaircraft Artillery Training Center, Camp Edwards, Mass.

The battalion is bivouaced in a tent city spreading out over a quarter mile area and which has all the conveniences of modern sanitation, field kitchens and sleeping quarters. The battalion's firing range, established on the granite cliffs of New England, is a source of wonderment to most of the men who never before have seen the Atlantic ocean.

The hospitality displayed by residents of the area is "something to write home about," according to the soldiers of the battalion.

Included in the battalion membership are the following men:

AUG 28 1943

FROM GEORGIA: Pvts. Adolph Aikens, Savannah, Ga.; Florinza Atkins, Atlanta; Johnny Bellamy, Albany; Coleman Doyle, Jr., Wadley and Henry M. Grier, Macon.

FROM TEXAS: Sgt. E. Chevis, Woodville; Cpl. Bennie Collier, Fort Worth; Pfcs. Frank Harden, Tyler; Wesley Davis, Pennington; Calvin C. Doddy, Cason and Willie H. Green, Manor; Pvts. William Cawthorne, Jacksonville; Rusaw Clark, Winchester, and Booker T. Duncan, Fort Worth.

FROM LOUISIANA: S/Sgt. Daniel Kelly, New Orleans; Pvts. Charlie Cooper and Henry Brown, Sicily Island; Usbua Cross, Olla; Zebebe Davis, Shreveport; Willie Harvey, Hasston; Clifton Jackson, Jr., Bethany, and Allen Jefferson, Lake Providence.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA: Pfcs. McDonald Murray, Elliott; Charles Merrit, Wilcons Mills; Marshall Harrington, Rockingham; Pvts. James Fuller, Sanford; Jerry Craine, Winston-Salem, and Clifton Deberry, Apex.

AUG 28 1943

FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.: T/5 John D. Pressley, Pvts. Frederick Carrol, Bernard J. Hall and Iverson O. Mitchell.

FROM OKLAHOMA: Sgt. Alvin Ward, Pvts. Robert Chatman and Wesley Colbert, Jr., Okmulgee, and Cpl. Barnamon T. Bryant, Sans Springs.

FROM TENNESSEE: Cpl. Chany B. Cumming, Knoxville; Pvts. James T. Alexander, Ellendale; Omenys Arnold and Alton E. Brown, Chattanooga, and Raleigh Inman, Nashville.

The battalion's first sergeants are:

Forgan S. Berry, Enfield, N.C.; Newton T. Lewis, New York, N.Y.; Walter L. Robinson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Leon C. Smith, Greenville, Miss., and Curtis H. Twine, Newark, N.J.

Colonel Colman Is A Lucky Man

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal

SEP 16 1943

The methods and decisions of courts-martial have on occasion seemed harsh and unreasonable to civilians uninformed as to Army codes and customs. But not the rankest sentimentalist could make that objection to the court which heard the charges against Col. WILLIAM T. COLMAN, former commander of Selfridge Field.

To an impartial witness, knowing only the newspaper accounts of the nine-day hearing, Colonel COLMAN emerged as singularly unpromising officer material. It is true that the court dismissed twenty-five of the charges and punished him only for four on which he was judged guilty. But those four, three of them for drunken and disorderly conduct, the other the shooting "through carelessness" of a Negro private, indicate a personality quite unfitted for exercising command over other human beings.

But Colonel COLMAN's punishment is merely a demotion to the rank of captain, a rank which still places him in technical superiority over enlisted men and junior officers. Added to the rather peremptory dismissal of other serious charges, the verdict on the face of it seems one of extraordinary leniency on the part of brother-colonels of the demoted commandant. There are, fortunately, few civil courts in the land which would so lightly dismiss the shooting of a subordinate by a superior, whether that shooting was felonious as first charged, or merely "careless," as the military court decided. And there are likewise few courts, or businesses, in which three separate charges of drunkenness on duty would be reprimanded merely by a mild demotion. Colonel COLMAN is probably a lucky man in that his conduct was reviewed only by the gentle Army and not by cold civilian judges and juries.

SEP 9 1943

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

World War I Navy Man Now Steward in Coast Guard

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Johnny Johnston, steward first class, quit the Navy Yard at Pensacola, Fla., back in 1917 to enlist in the U.S. Navy, served through World War I and until 1927, then entered the coast guard where he has served since that time and is now stationed at the Port Richmond Base.

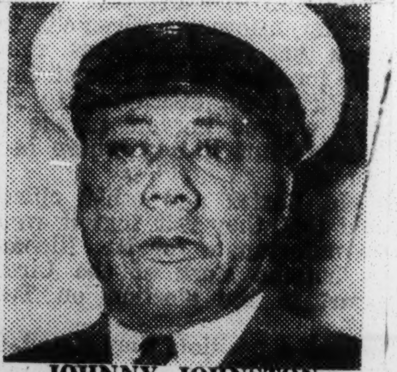
During his twenty-six years in the service, having served through one war and now serving in another, he has visited fourteen Central and South American countries, Canada, the British Isles, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and other European countries, Asia, Africa and Iceland.

In addition to wearing on his breast a variety of ribbons, the army and navy Good Conduct Medals and the coast guard Good Conduct Medal and the World War I Victory Medal, his uniform is adorned with stripes for service in the European and Asiatic theatres in the present war.

Bombed at Singapore

He was aboard the transport Wakefield when it was bombed at Singapore and was at one time stationed aboard the famous coast guard cutter Campbell, the fighting craft that attacked six Nazi subs within a period of twenty-four hours.

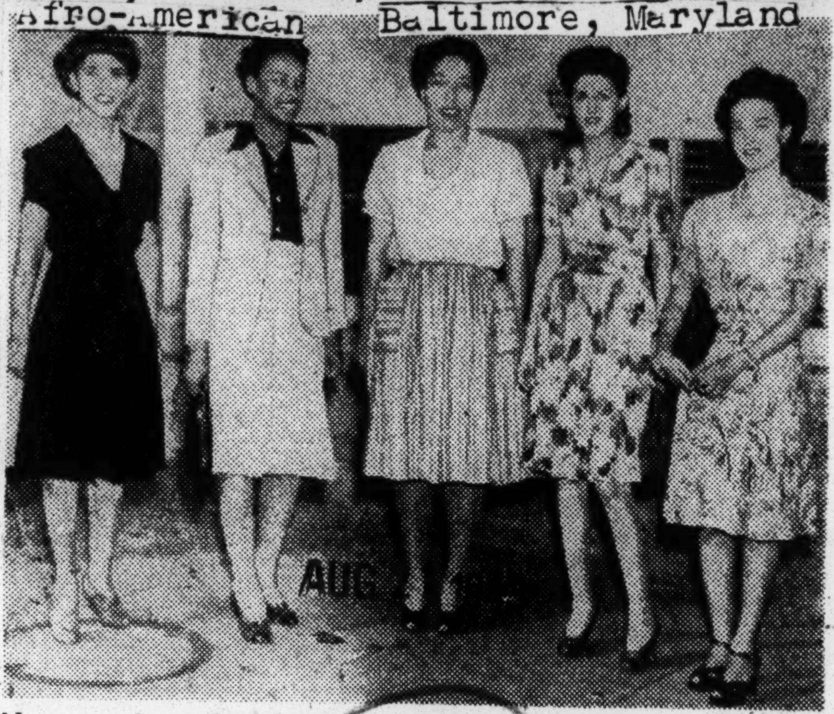
In addition to high officials of his own government, including Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Admiral R. R. Waesche, he has delighted the palates of many foreign dignitaries, including royal personages.



JOHNNY JOHNSTON

Pretty and Smart, but Can't Join WAVES

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland



Above are shown five of the six Washington young women who started a heat wave at the D.C. WAVE recruiting office Friday by applying for enlistment. Two of the young women arrived, were told courteously that enlistments of colored women were not yet being taken although "a plan" was being worked out for their utilization. Their names addresses and telephone numbers were taken. Those shown are, left to right: Miss Bernice Jacobs, Miss Cleomine Lewis, Miss Velma Hammond, Miss Althea Jefferson and Miss Hazel Lee.

AUG 7 1943

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

In Invasion Of Sicily Georgian Plays Big Role

WITH U. S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES—(SNS) —Arthur James Goodwin, of 206 East Branch St., Valdosta, played a big role in the invasion of Sicily, it was revealed Wednesday.

He used his training at the Dasher High School, in Valdosta, to advantage. The story is that he used to spend his spare time pouring over books on military aviation.

With a few pennies he saved from working for a dry cleaner, Goodwin, bought plane parts and built models. Little did this slightly-built boy realize then that some day, off the embattled shores of Sicily, what he was learning would help protect Uncle Sam's Navy from furious assaults by Axis planes.

A year ago when he joined the Navy, they put him aboard an assault transport as a messboy in the officer's wardroom. Life went along quietly until the transport sailed for an unknown destination —the invasion of Sicily.

AIDS GUN CREW

On the way across the Atlantic he was made a member of a gun crew and attended classes in plane identification. His knowledge of planes caught the attention of instructors who were impressed also with his excellent sight. As a result he was moved from an aft gun to a gun on the bridge.

When the ship started in for the Sicily beaches Steward's Mate Second Class Arthur James Goodwin, 17, dropped his plates and silver and took his place on the bridge. It was 11 o'clock Friday night.

He proved so valuable in identifying both enemy and friendly planes that he never left the bridge until Monday night. Some sandwiches and coffee and a few catnaps between air attacks kept him going.

His was a difficult job, because enemy planes often became mixed up with friendly planes. Transport planes that carried paratroopers inland returned during the middle of an attack. Spitfire and Beaufighters often dove on enemy bombers and fighters and this made it almost impossible for the ship to keep from shooting down some of its own planes.

At times the night sky would be full of planes and about the only thing the American gunners would do was to shoot at the ones that dropped flares and bombs. It was tough going.

CALM DURING BATTLES

Goodwin went through these battles calmly. He correctly called the first Focke-Wulf 190s that bombed our landing beaches. When Spitfires attacked these enemy craft, the Georgian identified them and prevented his ship from shooting at them.

He was the first man aboard to identify three German JU 88s that roared in to attack the convoy. They got a warm reception. On another occasion he prevented fire at some Mustangs.

"I knew them by their square wingtips," Goodwin said.

Through it all this little country boy said the only time he was really afraid was when Nazi planes dropped three bombs into the water 100 feet from his ship. The ship quivered and reeled but escaped damage.

The Georgian's only plane ride to date was in a barnstorming plane at the county fair at Valdosta. Strangely enough he does not remember what type it was.

He desires to keep on spotting planes for the Navy while serving food on the vital American transport.

AUG 12 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

Lookout for Subs, Saboteurs All Colored Unit Keeps Coastal

By JOE SHEPHARD

"Watching the ships go by" might easily be the theme song of the scattered groups of men of the U.S. Coast Guard beach patrols who maintain their lonely 24-hour vigils along America's endless miles of coastline.

Denied the glory and action of their brothers-at-arms on sea duty or at the far-flung battle fronts, these men are doing their bit to hasten an Allied victory by guarding the nation's blacked-out shores against the landing of saboteurs and by insuring safe passage for the big ships that beat their way along the coast.

Some of these ships are inward bound, bearing cargoes of wounded and prisoners from the battle areas. Others, freighted with men, munitions, and material for the Allied forces, are outward bound, headed for rendezvous with convoys in the Atlantic or the Pacific.

On Lookout for Subs

But whatever the ship, whatever its mission, it is kept under the careful scrutiny of the men of the Coast Guard Beach Patrols as long as it is in sight of land.

No small part of their responsibility is the maintaining of a keen and unceasing watch for venturesome enemy sub which might sneak sufficiently close to our shores to prey upon these ships, or to disgorge trained saboteurs intent upon wrecking vital war installations.

Members of Patrol

One such patrol on the Eastern seaboard is manned by an all-colored group of coast guardsmen under the comand of Chief Machinists' Mate Rothall Gardner, a veteran of twenty-six years of navy and coast guard duty in all parts of the world.

Included in the patrol are:

Coxwain Edward Christian, Chicago, Ill., second in command to Chief Gardner; Joseph Stenhouse, s 1/c, Los Angeles, Calif; James H. Brown, s 1/s, Jersey City; Joseph Noel, s 2/c, Washington, D.C.; Clarence Whitehurst, s 2/c, Norfolk, Va.; Leo Plummer, s 2/c, Washington, D.C.; Floyd Jackson, s 2/c, New York; Robert Pearson, s 2/c, Cleveland, Ohio; Anthony Cooke, s 2/c, Norfolk, Va.; Coxwain Leon Gadsen, Detroit; Samuel Davenport, s 2/c, Norfolk, Va.; Nathaniel Anderson, s 1/c, Montclair, N.J.; Paul McClendon, s 2/c, and Ellsworth Blumberg, s 2/c, Detroit, and Philip McKinnon, Miami, Fla.

Miles from Civilization

These men's station is located on a particularly lonely and desolate stretch of beach which juts out into the Atlantic, miles from the nearest human habitation, and which can be reached by land only when the ebbing tide has uncovered the packed sand of the beach.

Transportation to and from the station is by jeep, for no other type of vehicle could traverse the hilly, sandy wastes which begin only a few yards about the high water mark.

But even the jeep needs help in the loose, shifting sands which might easily be mistaken for those of the California or North African desert, so iron mats have been placed at critical spots so that the wheels of the vehicle may gain purchase.

A couple of shovels and a roll of canvas are also an important part of the jeep's equipment so that the men may dig their vehicle out if its spinning wheels bury themselves in the loose sand.

Boats Used in Winter

During the winter months the picture changes, and instead of calling their particular stretch of beach "the Sahara," the coast guardsmen call it "Little Siberia."

At that time of the year the station cannot be reached by land, and as a result all provisions are brought in by boat which is also used for traveling to the mainland.

During the daylight hours one coast guardsman mans the lookout shack located on a high spot above the beach while another walks back and forth along the four-mile stretch which they guard.

OCT 23 1943

47j-1943

He's Missing In Action

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DEC 16 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

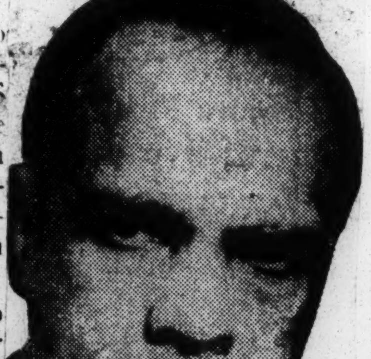
DORIE MILLER, the first Negro bluejacket to distinguish himself in World War II, is evidently lost in the Southwest Pacific, the Navy Department in Washington confirmed Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Conery Miller, of W[illegible] Texas, [illegible] of kin, have been notified. The stalwart messman who distinguished himself at Pearl Harbor, was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt after public clamor had forced the Navy to identify him.

DEC 18 1943

7th Liberty Ship Named James Weldon Johnson

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

DEC 11 1943



James Weldon Johnson

The seventh Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding colored American, the SS JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, will be launched at the Wilmington yards of the California Shipbuilding Corporation in December, the Maritime Commission announced this week.

The vessel will pay tribute to the noted poet, essayist, lawyer and diplomat who was killed in an automobile collision near his summer home at Dark Harbor, Me., on June 26, 1938.

Johnson, who also achieved note as a song writer and a professor of literature at Fisk and New York universities, was born in Jacksonville, Florida, on June 17, 1871. Completing public school study in his native city, he later received B. A. and M. A. degrees from Atlanta university and did graduate study at Columbia university, New York City.

DEC 11 1943

His career began as a teacher in the Jacksonville public school, which was elevated to high school grade during his tenure as principal. During this period he studied law at night, and, in 1897, was admitted to the Florida Bar, the first of his race to achieve this honor since the Civil War.

In 1901 he went to New York City with his brother J. Rosemond Johnson, and Bob Cole, collaborated in the successful writing of popular songs and light operas. Later he was appointed U. S. Consul, first to Venezuela and later to Nicaragua. Returning to New York in 1910, he married Grace Nail and two years later his first book, the fictional "Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man," appeared annoymously. Its authorship was not acknowledged by him until 1927.

He edited a book of American Negro poetry and two of Negro spirituals; and also wrote the English libretto for the opera "Goyescas," which was produced by the Metropolitan Opera Company in 1915. As a New York resident, he became contributing editor for The New York Age, and later executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This organization awarded him the Spingarn Medal in 1925.

DEC 11 1943

Finally, without ceasing to write, he returned to teaching in 1930, to become professor of Creative Literature at Fisk university, Nashville, Tennessee and from 1934 until his death visiting professor of Literature at New York university.

Among his best known books were: "Fifty Years and Other Poems," "Self-Determining Haiti," "Black Manhattan," "St. Peter Relates an Incident of the Resurrection Day," "Negro America, What Now?" and "Along This Way."

Six other Liberty ships have been named for colored men: the SS Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Frederick Douglass, John Merrick, and Robert L. Vann.

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Dec. 11, 1943

The Navy Department has named a naval vessel, the destroyer escort Leonard Roy Harmon, in honor of a colored messman who received the Navy Cross posthumously for heroic conduct at Guadalcanal.

WAVE HEAD, RACE WOMEN HOLD CONFAB

JUL 31 1943

Chicago, Ill.

Plan To Admit Negroes Discussed With Lt. Comm. McAffee

JUL 3 1943

Defender
(~~Defender~~ Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The Defender's expose of the navy's jim-crow plan for admitting Negro women in the WAVEs, which was immediately put in the hands of Navy officials, and a letter attacking the plan written to the White House by the AKA Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, were credited by sources close to the problem with obtaining the conference last week with Lt. Commander McAffee, head of the WAVEs, and several outstanding Negro women.

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News that such a conference was held leaked out, although it was being held in the strictest confidence. All of the persons who are presumed to have attended the conference have been observing their pledge of silence as to what occurred there. It is believed, however, that the conference hinged around a discussion of ways and means of integrating Negro women into the present structure of the WAVEs without setting up separate facilities and separate units.

It is believed that the women took steps to protect themselves by submitting in writing their position on the question of a segregated WAVEs set-up for Negroes, in event the Navy officials fail to abide by their recommendations. This would forestall any intimation that any plan other than a completely democratic one was endorsed by the group called to the meeting.

The holding of the meeting, however, is no guarantee that the Navy has retreated from its established jim-crow policy. Individuals and organizations were urged to continue to send protests to the President and to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox against the establishment of separate training facilities or separate units for Negro women. Such action should be taken immediately before a plan is publicly announced.

Wins Highest Honors At Great Lakes Class

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 21 1943

GREAT LAKES, [illegible] Aug. 19—Samuel Edward W[illegible], 23, of 53 Hamilton Terrace, New York City, has graduated from recruit training with highest honors in his company at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

South Sets Pattern For Navy Treatment Of Negro Sailors

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 23 1943

OCT 30 1943

(Review of Courier Fight on Navy Policy — Page 13)

Remember Dorie Miller, Charles French, Leonard Harmon? They were Negro messmen serving their country in the present war. But they were "Messmen Heroes," too. Next Wednesday . . . October 27 . . . America will celebrate Navy Day, traditional observance in honor of Theodore Roosevelt. Next Wednesday . . . October 27 . . . The Pittsburgh Courier is asking America to remember the men mentioned above. The Pittsburgh Courier is also asking that this day be set aside to pay fitting and silent tribute to 13 unsung naval heroes of the USS Philadelphia. It was their courage in writing a letter to this newspaper five years ago, which served to spark a campaign against the Navy's discrimination policy, which today envelopes the entire nation.

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NO DAY FOR FINE SPEECHMAKING

Navy Day, this year, is deeply significant. In the second year of the war and the sixth year of The Courier campaign for the full and complete integration of Negroes into every branch of the armed services, it is time that we once again open the books and balance the ledger sheets. This Navy Day is not . . . for us . . . a day of fine speechmaking, bugle blowing, band playing or precision drilling. Rather, it is a day of solemn purpose and high intent . . . a day to rededicate ourselves to the fight for real democracy in the Navy.

The Navy must be divorced from the unregenerate South. Our boys who toil and sweat on the seven seas must be given due recognition. The entire pattern of Navy policy must be thoroughly checked and exposed. A race which can produce naval heroes must be given its place in the sun. But the record so far reveals that Dixie still rules the U.S. Navy. Here are some incontrovertible facts to support this statement:

HERE IS THE RECORD

TODAY . . . there is not a Negro commissioned officer serving in the Navy. There is not even a colored physician or minister.

TODAY . . . no Negro attends the Naval Academy at Annapolis, although the cadet enrollment at this institution has been doubled.

TODAY . . . no Negro college has been accepted under the Navy V-12 program.

TODAY . . . with but one exception, no Negro has been accepted for the Navy Reserve training program at a white college.

TODAY . . . not a single Negro has been admitted to Naval aviation. All a colored youth can do is play "nursemaid" to a Navy plane engine at some shore installation.

Trained seamen, graduates of the naval school at Hampton institute, are assigned to ammunition depots as stevedores.

Graduates of Great Lakes Training school are not permitted to serve on seagoing vessels except as stewards or sculliions.

Many inductees, sworn in as apprentice seamen, are forced into the messman branch or into construction labor battalions.

Discrimination runs riot at every naval establishment.

Sailors who protest the treatment accorded them are charged with mutiny . . . a serious offense during wartime. This follows the pattern set five years ago when the 13 sailors who wrote The Courier were DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.

NAMES SHIP FOR NAVAL HERO

On the other side of the ledger, and showing that some progress has been made, we review the following gains:

Two schools, Great Lakes and Hampton, train Negro sailors for duties in the deck or engineer departments of the Navy.

One camp at Great Lakes was named in honor of Captain Robert Smalls colored naval Civil War hero.

A destroyer-escort vessell, the USS Harmon, was named posthumously in honor of Leonard Harmon, a Texas youth, and a mess attendant who distinguished himself in the battle of Santa Cruz.

Seven mess attendants have been honored by the Navy for bravery during the present war.

Bernard Whitfield Robinson, a medical student at Harvard university, was commissioned an ensign in the naval medical reserve on June 27, 1942, and will be called to active duty when he graduates on 1944.

Colored seabees . . . naval construction battalion . . . were recently praised by five U.S. Senators upon their return from the Pacific war zone.

This is the picture . . . NOW!

COAST GUARD BEST SERVICE BRANCH

Brightest spot in the Navy picture focuses on the U.S. Coast Guard, a branch of the Navy during wartime. The Coast Guard has two colored commissioned officers holding the rank of ensign. There is no discrimination in the training or assignment of Negro and white sailors in this branch of the service. The men are promoted according to their abilities, and are serving on combat vessels guarding convoys, transporting troops to war areas and serve as crew members of the shore patrol.

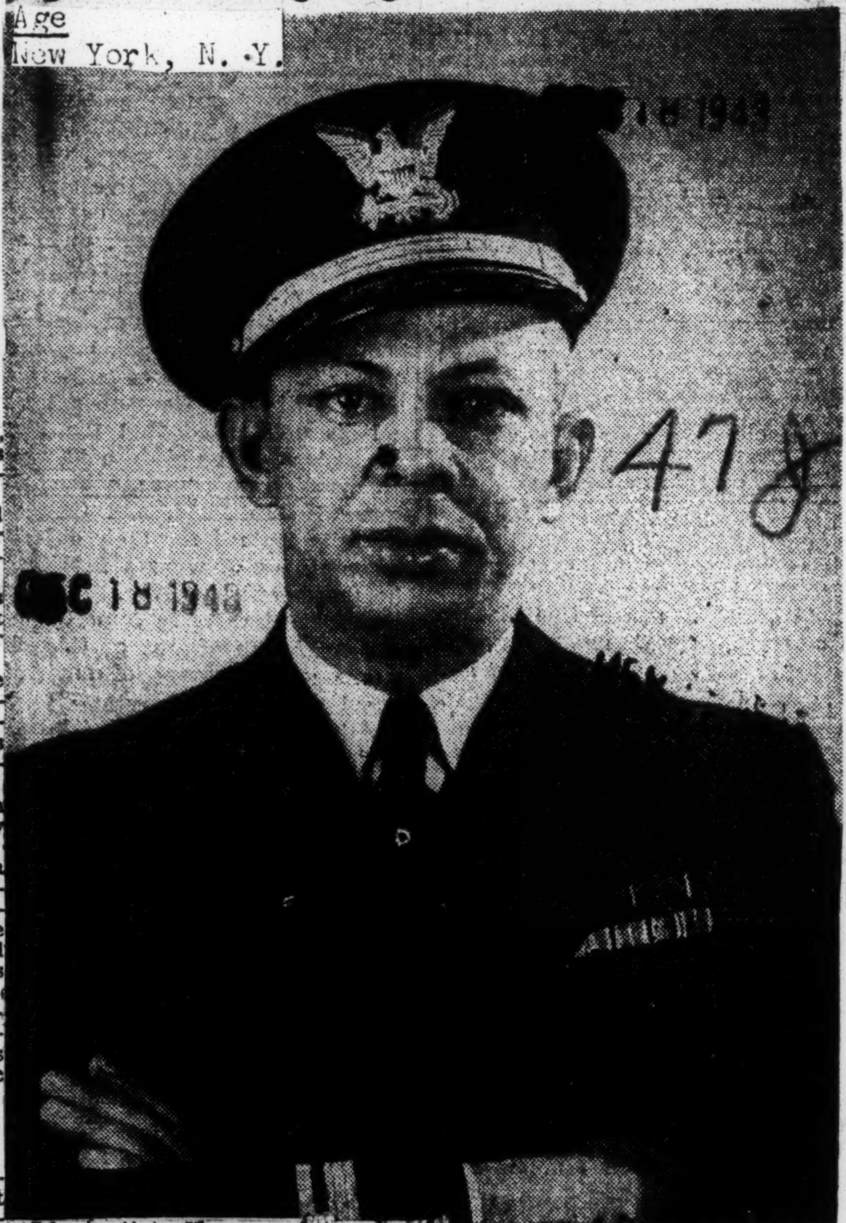
This picture contrasts sharply with that of the U.S. Marines, who opened their doors to Negroes for the first time on May 30, 1942. Colored marines train in a separate camp at New River, N. C. The marines have consistently refused to commission a Negro . . . the highest rank now held by a colored marine being that of a buck sergeant.

Yet today, fighting combat units of the Marines are serving in the Pacific area and are standing guard in Philadelphia and on the West Coast.

A Congressional investigation is needed. Write your congressman or senator on NAVY DAY . . . October 27 . . . and give him the facts. Demand action. The Army and its policy is bad enough . . . but something must be done . . . at once . . . about the Navy.

Highest Ranking Negro Officer In U. S. Navy

Age
New York, N. Y.



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Lieut. (jg) Clarence Samuels of the United States Coast Guard, is now the highest ranking Negro in the Navy. A native of Panama, Lieut. Samuels has spent 23 years in the Coast Guard, during which time he has served in charge of a cutter in Savannah, Ga., harbor; in charge of the Coast Guard unit at Pea Island, near Manteo-Roanoke, N. C., and at the U. S. Coast Guard Training Station, Manhattan Beach, N. U. He is known through the service for his excellence as a signalman and marksman. His ribbons indicate pre-Pearl Harbor service, Pearl Harbor action, American Theatre of War action, African mid-eastern campaign, expert pistol shot and his good conduct ribbon has four bars.

—U. S. Navy photo from OWI

Navy's Prejudice Doesn't Please All White Officers

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

(Excerpts from an Officer's letter home)

I recently saw the Life Magazine story of the disgraceful Detroit episode and I can't tell you how much it angered me. I felt like writing an article in the biggest magazine in the U.S.A., and expressing my views.

However, it would only get me in trouble as I would have to step on the toes of the navy, even if I wanted to be honest. Nevertheless, I have started one and I'm about half through.

Present Position Hurts

I don't know why, but towards the colored man I have always had the greatest liking and his present position hurts me. Yet there is so much prejudice. It's all around me and it chokes me. I would like to "crusade" against this intolerance, but the opposing forces are so strong that I feel I would break myself if I attempted it.

We have (among ourselves) fought a whole Civil War over certain points, one of which was the race problem, and we have not actually progressed a bit toward a just solution.

On the other hand, I feel yellow if I sit by and watch it operate. I have a feeling that this question will dominate my life and so I am a bit cautious.

These Marines Visited Our Boro

New York, N. Y.
Amsterdam Star-News

FOUR FIGHTING MARINES—Here's four U. S. Marines who are doing a good job for Uncle Sam at Camp Le Juene, New River, N. C. The quartet visited Brooklyn on Sunday and a Brooklyn Amsterdam News photographer was on hand to snap their pictures. They are (left to right): Pvt. Thomas Henderson, Sgt. Kermit White, Pvt. William "Bill" Jones and Pvt. Frank Jackson.

47j-1943

Navy Officials Praise Work At Hampton Naval Training

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

SEP 11 1943

By S. A. HAYNES

HAMPTON—On September 12, the U. S. Naval Training School for Negroes at Hampton Institute will observe its first year of activities, and, on the basis of the seasoned judgment of high ranking naval officers who have inspected the school, Commander Edwin H. Downes and his staff of able instructors have done and are doing a commendable job in training and developing "good men" for the Navy.

Since classes started on September 12, 1942, the school has sent out to various operating naval bases over 1,000 graduates representing nine graduating classes, each of approximately 120 men, the majority of whom came here direct from the Great Lakes, Ill., Naval Training Center, and are representative of nearly every state in the union.

SCHOOL'S OBJECTIVES

Commander Downes took charge of the school on July 18, 1942. What he has endeavored to do at Hampton is best summarized in the stated purpose of the school which hangs prominently in his office, and is imparted daily to the trainees in the classrooms, in the shops, on boats at sea, on the parade ground, and in the recreational activities.

This is to teach trainees to do better those things they are likely to be required to do afterwards."

Great emphasis is placed upon morale, which is defined by the commander and his staff thus: "Morale is that something that makes people eager to do and to do well those things required of them."

We were not long in conversation with Commander Downes before we were made aware of the fact that, true to the proudest tradition of the Navy, he puts the interest and integrity of this great and glorious arm of our national defense FIRST.

MAKE MEN COMPETENT

"We are not trying to solve the race problem here at our school," he told us: "we are simply trying to make a constructive contribution to its ultimate solution . . . We are making men competent so that they can be in demand wherever they are in the post-war world."

The present class of trainees has 43 per cent who are graduates or students of high schools, and 17 per cent who possess college training. Other classes have averaged as high as 35 per cent in college experience. The men are rated according to intelligence, judgment, initiative, leadership, cooperation, neatness, conduct, and manual skill.

A most recent example of the quality of rating at the Hampton naval school was revealed when, of 28 men sent to the Naval Section Base at Portland, Me., only three were rated poor.

COMMENDATIONS

The following tributes received by Commander Downes speak for themselves: From Captain E. C. Raguet, chief of staff, 5th Naval District, in a memorandum to the district commandant, dated May 10, 1943, following an inspection of the Hampton Naval Training School by Captain Raguet and Commander R. G. Pennoyer, acting director of training:

"Excellent morale, military bearing, and courtesy exhibited by enlisted personnel. Officers had a cordial and cooperative attitude, as well as a personal interest in the trainees. Practical instruction is given in phases of work to be done on future assignments, and good utilization is made of salvaged material. Practical and purposeful work is provided on boats and job orders for N. O. B., Norfolk Navy Yard, and the Amphibious Force. Training Aids are well used, and effective cut-away and operational models have been developed for efficient demonstration purposes.

"Courses of study are being revised as information is received from graduates and officers under whom former graduates are serving. Facilities are well organized and efficiently used. A newly constructed recreation building and worthwhile recreational activities are used to care for leisure time activities. The plant and quarters are well kept in military order. There was concrete evidence of actual learning, and of effective leadership in the development of the school.

"There were no apparent deficiencies or irregularities noted during the inspection.

"The training activities, utilization of materials and equipment, recreational program, and the leadership displayed are worthy of commendation."

GRADUATES PRAISED

From Lieutenant B. C. Gifford, education officer, Naval Local Defense Force, Portland, Maine, July 29, memorandum to Commander Downes:

"In regard to the colored personnel who have come from Hampton to this Base, they are in general a fine lot of men. Southall, EM3c, and Penny, CM3c, are two exceptional men. We could not afford to lose either one without feeling it . . . These men are willing and good leaders, and in general fine characters, great additions to any naval establishment."

From Captain John M. Gill, commanding officer of the U. S. Navy Section Base, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y., where 2,500 white and colored sailors are stationed. Letters to Commander Downes, April 7, 1943:

"It is a pleasure to report every man from Hampton who is serving afloat or ashore from this Base, has in every way reflected highest credit on your system of training and indoctrination. They have been examples for all, regardless of race, and only favorable reports come to me on their progress in advancing themselves and contributing to the war effort.

MET THE TEST

SEP 11 1943

"There has been, by order, no coddling, and they have met the test. On shore, in our shops, your former students have been equally proficient, equally capable, willing, and earnest in all their undertakings . . . Their discipline is excellent, and by their behavior, they have influenced mess attendants, who, brought into the service without indoctrniation had to learn Navy ways and life the hard way."

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

Officers Praise Negro Marines

SEP 16 1943

NEW RIVER, N. C.—One year after the first Negro was enrolled in the Marine Corps marine officers announced today they were well pleased with the excellent record achieved by Negroes during the first year in the corps.

Col. S. A. Woods, Jr., Commanding officer of the Negro Marine quarters at Camp Lejeune, declared the Negroes have made an excellent showing.

Dorie Miller Has Rival In Sheppard

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
NOV 10 1943

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Dorie Miller, famed Negro Bluejacket hero of the Pearl Harbor attack, had a new rival this week.

He is Christopher Columbus Sheppard, cook first class, USN, and a "one-man gun crew" on the Destroyer Borie. This destroyer was part of a Naval force recently awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for having sunk "more submarines than any team in Naval history."

Sheppard's exploits, and those of another Negro member of the Borie crew, Ernest Gardner, steward's mate second class, USN, were revealed by their commander, Lieut. Charles H. Hutchins of Terre Haute, Ind., during a press conference at the Navy Department on November 10.

According to Lieutenant Hutchins, Sheppard had a battle station as "first loader," on a 4-inch gun, when the Borie, fighting alone many miles from her group, was engaged in a knock-down, drag out battle with two U-boats one of which was described by the Borie's commander as "the biggest one we'd ever seen."

BLINDED BY SMOKE

While fighting the latter sub at ranges of 10 to 40 feet, the gun crew at Sheppard's station became bilnded by smoke. The "first loader" immediately seized the gun and started passing the ammunition. After a few minutes, however, Sheppard waved his assistant aside and became a "one-man gun crew", getting his own ammunition,, loading the gun and firing continuously at the badly crippled submarine.

The Borie was part of the USS Card anti-submarine group, which consisted of the aircraft carrier, U SS Card, the Destroyers Borie ,Barry and Goff, and the Card's aviation units, Composite Squadrons 1 and 9. In receiving the Presidential Unit Citation, this anti-submarine team was officially credited with being largely responsible for the complete withdrawal of hostile U-boats" from the United States North Africa convoy route.

The story of the death battle of the Borie against a pack of submarines and her fight for survival while wallowing in heavy seas in a badly damaged condition has been termed by the Navy Department as "an outstanding example of valor and seamanship," typical of "the teamwork of the unsung escort vessels that help make possible the more colorful expolits of the death-dealing, carrier-based planes which are carrying the fight to the U-boats in the mid-Atlantic."

BATTLE IS DESCRIBED

Describing the battle with the second sub, lieutenant Hutchins said:

"We tried to ram the sub but it submerged and we dropped all the the depth charges in the racks. We must have scored because the U-boat came to the surface. Again we sped forth to ram, firing as we went. Our fire wiped the sub's deck clear of Germans and swept away their forward gun.

"Our bow struck the sub and rode over it. I stopped the engines and we held it fast. Then we let go with everything we had—4 inch guns, 20mm. and machine guns at ranges from 10 to 40 feet.

"Some men fired shotguns. The executive officer grabbed a tommy gun and started firing from the bridge. Others used pistols and one boy even took a signal pistol and fired at the sub. The range was so short that one gun couldn't be brought to bear. So the gun captain started throwing empty shell cases, and he knocked one man off the deck of the sub.

"Another fellow threw his knife. He said later he'd never been able to stick a knife in the floor before, but this time he stuck it in the stomach of a German and he went overboard.

"After about 10 minutes of this inferno, the submarine got clear and attempted to flee. It went into a "tight turn" in the pitch black darkness and for a time the Borie could not close in."

STOPPED SIX FEET SHORT

"Then he turned the tables and tried to ram us," Hutchins continue, 'But we stopped him six feet short by dropping depth charges, set to the most shallow charge. It was like two tomcats in a room. We were firing torpedoes at every chance."

Meanwhile, the Borie had been hurt, mainly from the ramming The forward engine room was flooded, but the crew there kept the turbines operating-operating in watr up to their necks.

The blond young skipper, then told of the work of Sheppard, and Gardner.

Under the terrific fire, the submarine was battered by repeated hits, and finally exploded and sank, Lieutenant Hutchins said.

Badly crippled, the 23-year old Borie then started to limp back to its task force through the North Atlantic storm. All electric lights however, were knocked out, as well as the radio and heating plant. There was no fresh water for the crew. Torpedoes, torpedo tubes, guns and other weight topsides were cut loose and thrown overboard in an effort to save the listing vessel.

'There was "small auxiliary radio aboard, but we had lost all the gasoline aboard," reported Hutchins. "So we collected all the cigarette-lighter fluid aboard, mixed the doctor's alchohol with kerosene and got enough fuel to use the generator for a short message."

FINALLY LOCATED

The message was picked up and planes from the Card located the ship. Despite a 15 to 20-foot sea, all but 27 members of the Borie's crew were rescued by the task force destroyers. Then the hulk was sent to the bottom by bombs from the carrier's planes.

Navy records reveal that Sheppard is a native of Norfolk, Va., and that he enlisted there. Gardner, son of Mrs. Rose E. Gardner of Ware Neck, Va., is a resident of Baltimore, Md., where his wife Mrs. Lucille Gardner, lives at 911 Warner St.

[illegible] Miller, [illegible] Negro naval [illegible] this war, manned a machine gun during the sneak

Japaneses attack at Pearl Harbor and shot down four attacking planes. He was later awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt. Many other Negro naval recruits have distinguished themselves in action since then and several have received awards.

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editorial

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.

Navy Discrimination

In April, 1942, when Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced that the policy of the Navy department had been relaxed and that United States citizens who happened to have been black would, in the future, be given the opportunity for service in the Marine corps and for more extended service in the Navy, The Courier, which had waged an unrelenting campaign against the Navy's practice of discrimination and exclusion, announced that Negro citizens had expected more and deserved more.

* * *

The Courier did not delude itself into believing that the Navy department had decided to observe to the full the mandate of Abraham Lincoln, the federal constitution and the laws of the nation and treat all citizens in the service of their country alike.

* * *

The caste of high officers in the Navy had too long cultivated a tradition of regarding the Navy as a sort of separate sovereignty to change overnight.

* * *

Secretary Knox bluntly intimated that Negroes were to be recruited for the expanded messman class, for construction battalions and for coast guard duty.

* * *

Nothing has happened since April, 1942, to change this conviction.

* * *

The Navy department still treats Negroes as though they were second-class American citizens to be disposed of as suits the prejudices of the Navy high command which, to be truthful, does not include Secretary Knox and President Roosevelt.

* * *

We believe reports that the word has gone out from the board of admirals in the Navy department to both Secretary Knox and the President that this equal rights stuff for all citizens is not to be considered in the Navy.

* * *

As the nation prepares to celebrate Navy Day and to pay deserved tribute to the fighting prowess of our Navy, The Courier submits that the United States Navy, in policy and practice, is one of the chief violators of the principles of democracy for which we say we are fighting. We make the following charges, supported by abundant evidence:

1. The Navy makes a rigid distinction between American citizens, based on the color of their skins.

2. Certain ratings in the Navy are given to white Americans only.

3. The messman class is recruited principally from black Americans.

4. That no attempt has been made to classify thousands of messmen to discover their fitness for other types of service.

5. That hundreds of Negroes have been kept in the messman class, regardless of their demonstrated ability to perform other types of service, as demonstrated by Dorie Miller and others who, when occasion demanded, have quit their servile jobs to man the guns and defend their ships.

6. That the Navy stubbornly refuses to commission any Negro.

7. That the Navy stubbornly sticks to segregation in its training program.

8. That the Navy draws a rigid color line against Negro women.

9. That the Navy has broken the hearts of thousands of black boys who have wanted to serve their country.

10. That the Navy maintains a strict system of segregation on all its ships.

11. That the example of the [illegible] undermines faith in the professed ideals of the nation.

* * *

What can be done about the Navy, The Courier does not know. We are at war and all Americans, regardless of personal interests, seek victory.

* * *

There is certainly reason to fear, however, that the victories which the Navy wins with its guns may be dissipated by its undemocratic practices.

* * *

Maybe the Congress can find some way to inform the admirals in the Navy that the department they are running still belongs to the American people, all of them, black and white.

* * *

The Negro Press and the Negro people have done their utmost. In their contacts with the Navy department, they have met with polite but firm run-arounds and evasion.

* * *

Since Admiral Chester Nimitz left for Hawaii, not one responsible, policy-making officer in the Navy department has been willing to talk with any representatives of the Negro people. Secretary Knox, who can't do much anyway, has ducked them. Assistant Secretary Ralph Bard, who carries even less weight with the Navy admirals, has funneled into practice some of the policies of the admirals.

* * *

But not a single admiral has given an ear to the Negro's plea that the Navy practice democracy. Each Negro delegation to the Navy department has been met by a commander, a captain or someone of lesser stature. These men can hear complaints. They have no power to act. For two years, Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs has been too busy to see any Negro or delegation of them. He is chief of the Bureau of Naval Personnel and in the responsible position affecting Negroes in the Navy. He does as he pleases and keeps his door closed.

* * *

Frequent complaints are lodged against the Army. But the high command of the Army, from General Marshall down, have listened to Negroes and have attempted to improve conditions in the Army. A Negro delegation might as well attempt to see Hirohito as to try to have a conference with either Admiral Ernest King or Admiral Jacobs. They are not concerned with those whom they regard as second-class citizens.

* * *

The situation in the Navy, for the sake of the nation in its future relations with other peoples, demands a congressional investigation. The Courier has already asked for that investigation and will press its request.

OCT 23 1943

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Former Blind Youth Now

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

Member of United States Navy

Robert Morine, of Philadelphia, Pa., was seven years old when the sight in his left eye began to fail. The other eye became affected soon after he entered the hospital and within two months the curtain fell—total darkness in the summer of 1932.

Today that boy, fully recovered from his affliction, as a Bluejacket in the Navy, undergoing recruit training at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. He wears strong glasses, for his eyes are still weak, but his vision rating when he entered service was 10-20, minimum standard for a recruit to be placed on general service.

The youth, who was sightless for four years, told shipmates of his life in a world of night:

"It might have been easier if it had struck suddenly, instead of coming in an increasing haze until finally . . .nothing but darkness. But, I was fortunate, being only seven years old. I was too young to fully realize my loss.

"I was confined to a hospital for the entire time, being under constant medical care. Several doctors gave up all hope for recovery. The first sign that I was getting well came early in the summer of 1926 when I was 11 years old. I was able to determine night from day, and then, as if through a heavy, black screen, objects and persons. A month or so later my sight was almost back to normal."

He was kept in a darkened room while on the road to recovery, Morine said, and when he was sent home he was permitted to be in a lighted room only a short period of each day until recovery was complete.

In September of that year Morine entered elementary school, being placed in the fifth grade. He was graduated in 1940 and went to work as a clerk in a grocery store. For six months prior to entering the service he worked at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

NOV 27 1943

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'General Alarm'-- Seagoing Paper on a Union Ship

The Worker

New York, N.Y.

4/19

AUG 29 1943

By ART SHIELDS

CAPTAIN HUGH MULZAC or Harry Alexander or some other member of the crew of the S. S. Booker T. Washington should give a file of the ship's newspaper, the "General Alarm," to the National Museum.

For here in this ocean-going paper, that the seamen edit themselves, you get the human side of the job of "keeping 'em sailing."

Tragedy and humor are mixed together in the "General Alarm" as you find them in life.

Sad but inspiring is the story of the passing of the chief steward, Walter S. Bradshaw, a Negro.

"We shall all remember the steward," says a recent issue of the "General Alarm," "as a man who did his best—and it was a good best—to keep the merchant and Naval crew aboard in good working and fighting shape through sound and plentiful food.

"Bradshaw was a fighter for human freedom. He was in the beginning of the National Maritime Union with [illegible] Curran and Fred Reed ([illegible]ker T's carpenter), when [illegible] going was plenty rough and such conditions as [illegible] know today on the BTW were only a pipe-dream."

The story goes on to tell how the friend they had lost used to run munitions to Spain from France and the Soviet Union during the civil war. It tells of his escapes from the sea after a recent torpedoing, and it concludes on this note:

"One good thing to think about is that Bradshaw lived to see the turning of the tide. . . . What's more, when the tide turned he was riding on the crest of it, riding eastward with the stuff to blow fascism clean off the face of the earth."

In lighter vein [illegible] story, which says:

"First mate F----, this newspaper has learned on good authority, was really taken to the cleaners in a messroom poker game last night. Observed at breakfast. . . he appeared to be suffering deeply. Sol bowed down

sume but a single hot cake. The 'General Alarm' extends its condolences to Mr. F---, and congratulations to B---, et al. You see this is one paper that can't afford to make enemies. This ship is a mighty small place."

But five days later comes this postscript: "F--- has since recouped his losses, plus untold sums to boot."

News has to be cut to the marrow in this 11-by-8 inch paper, but the flavor is rich, whatever Dodger fans may say as they read bulletins like this: **"Slipping Bums and Giants Tied 5-5 end of 8th."**

Pungent is this report on a ship's meeting at sea:

"John L. Lewis is a phony, the guys concluded at the educational session following the union meeting last night, after they thought over how the coal miners' strike would mean this convoy wouldn't have sailed. . . . or wouldn't be followed by other convoys to put the heat on Hitler. . . .

"Now that the Mediterranean is open, John L. Lewis would like to close the Atlantic Ocean."

At that meeting were men like Antonio P. Blanco, an oiler, who fought three years in Spain, was wounded, captured, behind barbed wire near Seville, escaped in a hail of bullets down the Guadalquiver River and finally got to the coast after the war. to ship out against Hitler.

Blanco comes into the columns of the "General Alarm" when his hand was crushed in a bearing on the Booker T. Washington and Captain Mulzac skillfully applied the dressings.

The Negro skipper's surgical skill was matched [illegible]sical ability. The [illegible] tells how the c[illegible], "who hitherto had been hiding his light under a bushel," entertained the crew with a guitar.

You meet Captain Mulzac again leading classes that make men better seamen and you appreciate the remark Larry Burke, the wiper, that "the guys here don't hog their knowledge—they pass it on to you."

Larry is an ex-Boston longshoreman. In a spicy interview with a reporter for the "General Alarm," Larry compares the "Booker T." with his last ship, "The Blankety-Blank," where a ship's officer was considered a "good fellow," if he just said "hello."

Here's a nice news beat in the "General Alarm" that appeared shortly before the release of the Spanish Republican prisoners in Africa.

". . . . a committee from the Booker T. Washington," writ[illegible]he "General Alarm's" [illegible]st Friday visite[illegible]pal penitentiary of [illegible]ench Morocco at Fort Lyautey and delivered the cigarettes and clothes collected on the ship to 79 Loyalist prisoners. . .

"The entire prison was inspected, the Spanish prisoners addressed in a body and the collection distributed under the eye of the ship's committee, consisting of Alexander, Reed and Beecher.

"Included in the collection were 80 cartons of cigarettes, several cartons of soap, pipe tobacco and clothing.

"The anti-fascist prisoners expressed great appreciation and a strong desire to regain their liberty so that they might join again in the world fight against fascism."

It's too bad there isn't space to introduce the reader to the "Blue-jacket Scuttlebutt," the Navy gunners corner of the paper: to the lively gossip tit-bits in the column, "Glancing 'Round," to the story of John Carapiet, the oiler, who ran a barber's chair on the hatch on th[illegible] and donated his tonsorial earnings to the Red Cross—$50 on the trip.

Well, there's just too much to tell. Captain Mulzac or Alexander will just have to donate those files to National Museum or the NMU library.

CAPT. HUGH MULZAC on the bridge of his ship, the SS Booker T. Washington

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Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

NOV 13 1943

Negro Marines Share In Service's 168th Year

WASHINGTON, D. C.—When the 168th anniversary of the U. S. Marine Corps is observed on November 10, tribute will be paid for the second time to Negro recruits in this branch of the service.

Although the Marine Corps only began active training of Negro Marines on September 1, 1942 more than 8,500 of these recruits are now enrolled in the service.

The first group of 1,200 Negro volunteers began training at Camp LeJeune, New River, N. C., and six months later on March 1, the first Negro Marines were on active duty in the Far Pacific.

Since 1921, November 10, has been observed as the birthday of the Marine Corps. Each year on that date, detachments of Marines all over the world have been assembled by their commanding officers for a formal reading of the official birthday message.

In 1942 the Corps announced an expansion program which would include the recruitment of 10,000 Negroes into the service. Today, though the Corps is still expanding, its ranks are being filled through the mechanism of Selective Service.

Began In 1775

In 1775 when "two battalions of Marines" were recruited in a Philadelphia tavern to form the nucleus of the Continental Corps, prospective recruits had little choice in the type of duty which they were to perform. But as the Marine Corps celebrates the 168th Anniversary this year, modern Leathernecks have opportunity to serve in numerous highly specialized branches.

These include Aviation, Line, Mess, Musician, Paymaster, Quartermaster, and Communication.

But regardless of his specialized training, every Marine is potentially a fighting man—a Marine first, a specialist later.

Although Negroes were first admitted only 14 months ago, they are serving in five of the seven branches of the service.

Most of the Negro Marines, however, are in either Line duty or in the Mess service. Line duty is sub-divided into [illegible] elements, [illegible] as infantry, artillery, anti-aircraft, air ground units, tank units, engineering, chemical warfare and the new Paramarines.

The Mess Service

The Mess Service includes the Cooks and Bakers School. Picked for natural aptitude rather than arbitrarily, Marines fresh from rigorous "boot camp" training are sent to cooking schools where they learn how to satisfy divergent tastes with appetizing menus.

Leatherneck cooks have frequently been called from behind their galley stoves to prove their fighting heritage with cold steel.

Corps history is fi[illegible]ith incidents [illegible] heroic valor where aproned mess sergeants have answered the challenge of enemy fire, to return casually to the work of preparing belated chow.

It is this fighting tradition to which the public pays homage on November 10, and the pioneer Negroes in the service share with others this acclaim.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

GREAT LAKES MIRROR STRIDES OF RACE MEN SERVING IN UNCLE SAM'S NAVY

As the day of doom draws nearer for the Axis, Negro soldiers are learning the art of marine service, which will stand them in good stead for the remainder of their lives. These scenes are typical of what sepia sailors learn in the Navy.

Left: Trainees stand at attention on the campus of Hampton Institute as Capt. Edward C. Raguet, U.S.N., chief of staff inspects them for the commandant of the Fifth Naval district, Admiral Hanley H. Simons, U.S.N.; Capt. Raguet is in the foreground. The three-striper facing the trainees is Commander R. C. Pennoyer, U.S.N., executive officer Fleet Service schools.

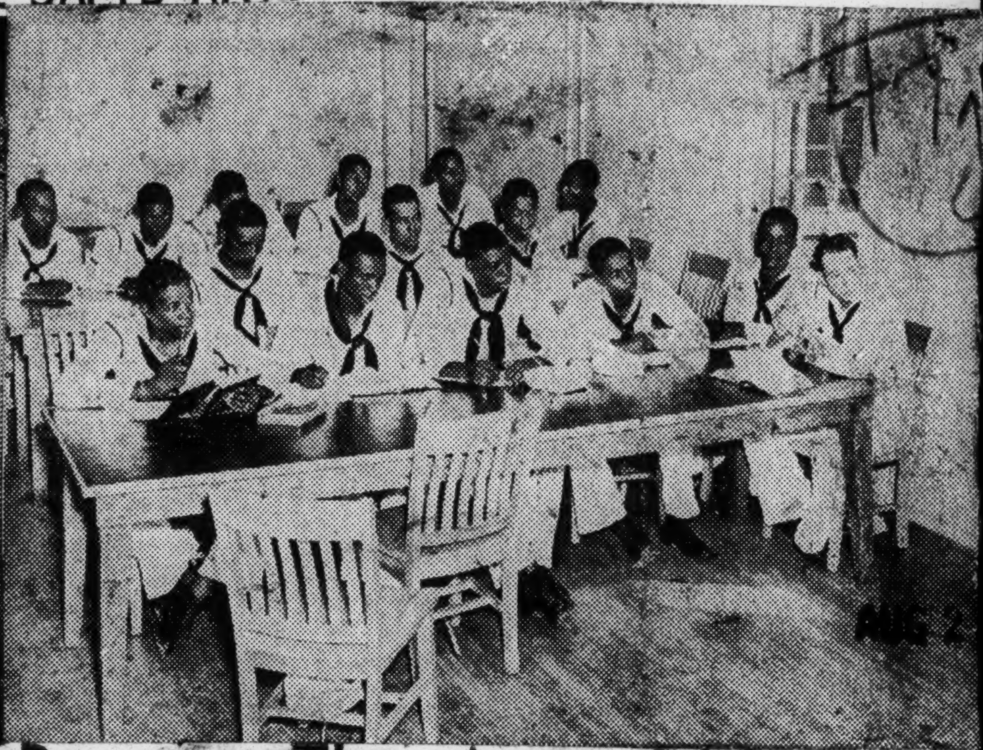
Center: The first class of Negro cooks and bakers to report at the Charleston Navy Yard Cooks and Bakers' school are shown receiving their first lesson in how to cook "chow" for the Navy's fighting men. All are rated seaman second-class, and they will be promoted to seamen first-class upon completion of the 16-weeks' course. Top ranking men of the school will be graduated as ships' cook third-class.

They are, left to right: M. Whisenant, seaman second-class Birmingham, Ala.; A. Barnwell, seaman second-class, St. George, S. C.; C. Barnet, seaman second-class, Winston Salem, N. C.; T. Oates, seaman second-class, Charlotte, N. C.; J. Winstead, seaman second-class, Roxboro, N. C.; S. Williams, seaman second-class Kansas City, Kan.; W. Young seaman second-class, Bessemer Ala.; E. Roan, seaman second-class, Washington, D. C.; G. J. Bell, seaman second-class, High Point, N. C.; J. Williams, seaman second-class, Brooklyn, N. Y.; S. Anderson, seaman second-class, Birmingham, Ala.; L. Lomax, seaman second-class, Washington, D. C.; J. A. Benton, seaman second-class, Greensboro N. C.; J. R. Morton, seaman second-class, Shreveport, La.; A. Young, seaman second-class, Birmingham, Ala. The instructor is S. P. White, yeoman first-class.

Right: Chosen as honor men of their respective school groups four Negro Bluejackets receive honor man certificates from Commander D. W. Armstrong at graduation exercises for the eighth Negro class to complete Service school instruction at the U. S. Naval Training station, Great Lakes, Ill. Left to right, they are: Charles Lindsay Stoudenmire, 30, of 169 Ninth street N., Birmingham, Ala.; Vernon Dunbar Bailey, 23, of 14 Brown street, Beulah Park, Cleveland, Ohio; John Edward Scott, 22, of 220 Pope street, Washington, Ga.; and John Louis Watkins, 18, of 1302 Wentworth avenue, Chicago Heights, Ill.—U. S. Navy photos from OWI.

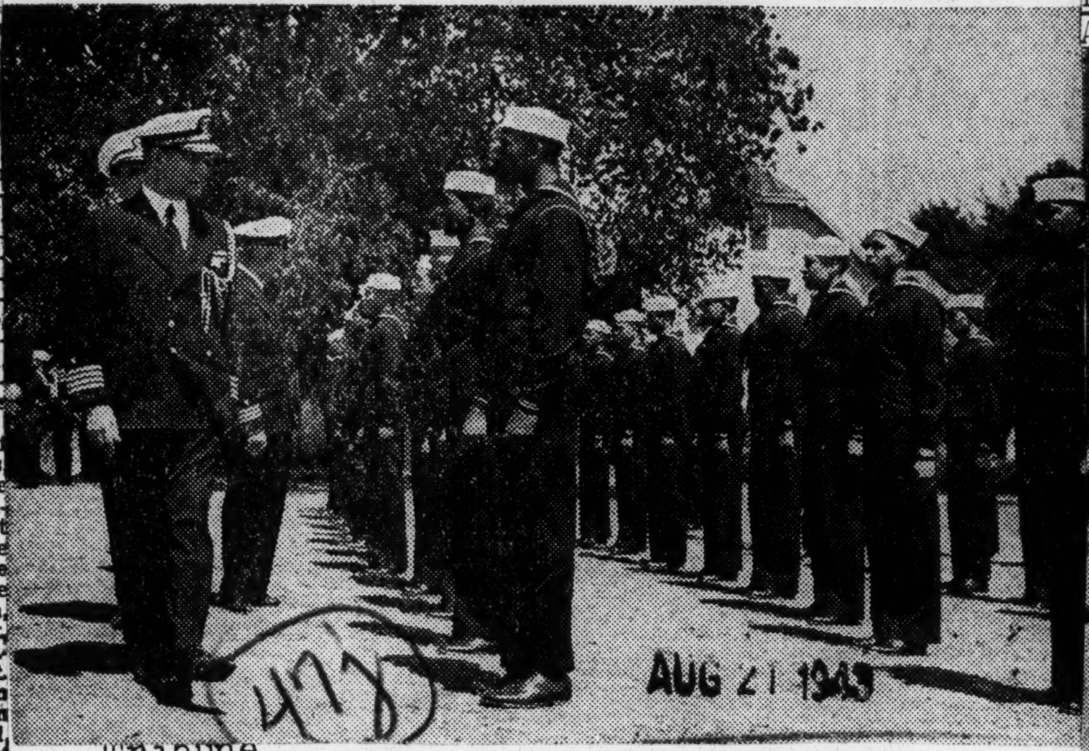
Aug 21 1943

AUG 21 1943



AUG 2

CHARLESTON NAVY YARD ... HAMPTON INSTITU



AUG 21 1943

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Passing The Ammunition

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 24 1943

NOV 24 1943

Somewhere in the Pacific — (Special) — Aboard a U. S. Navy Warship in the Pacific, here you see a Commander inspecting a group of fighting Negroes before the battle begun. In the lower photo Monroe J. Johnson, Jr., M. (left) of Jonesboro, Tennessee, and Leslie Wilson, Steward 3-c, of Elgin, Texas, are passing the ammunition' in effort to Hitler and Hirohito. The picture is proof that Negroes are serving in this capacity, despite the rumors to the contrary. — PRESS PHOTO SERVICE.

Nov 24 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

85,628 Colored In Navy

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ANP) — Functioning with the navy department are 85,628 colored men. These men are distributed among the three branches in the following proportions:

Navy	74,013
Coast Guard	3,115
Marines	8,500

NOV 20 1943

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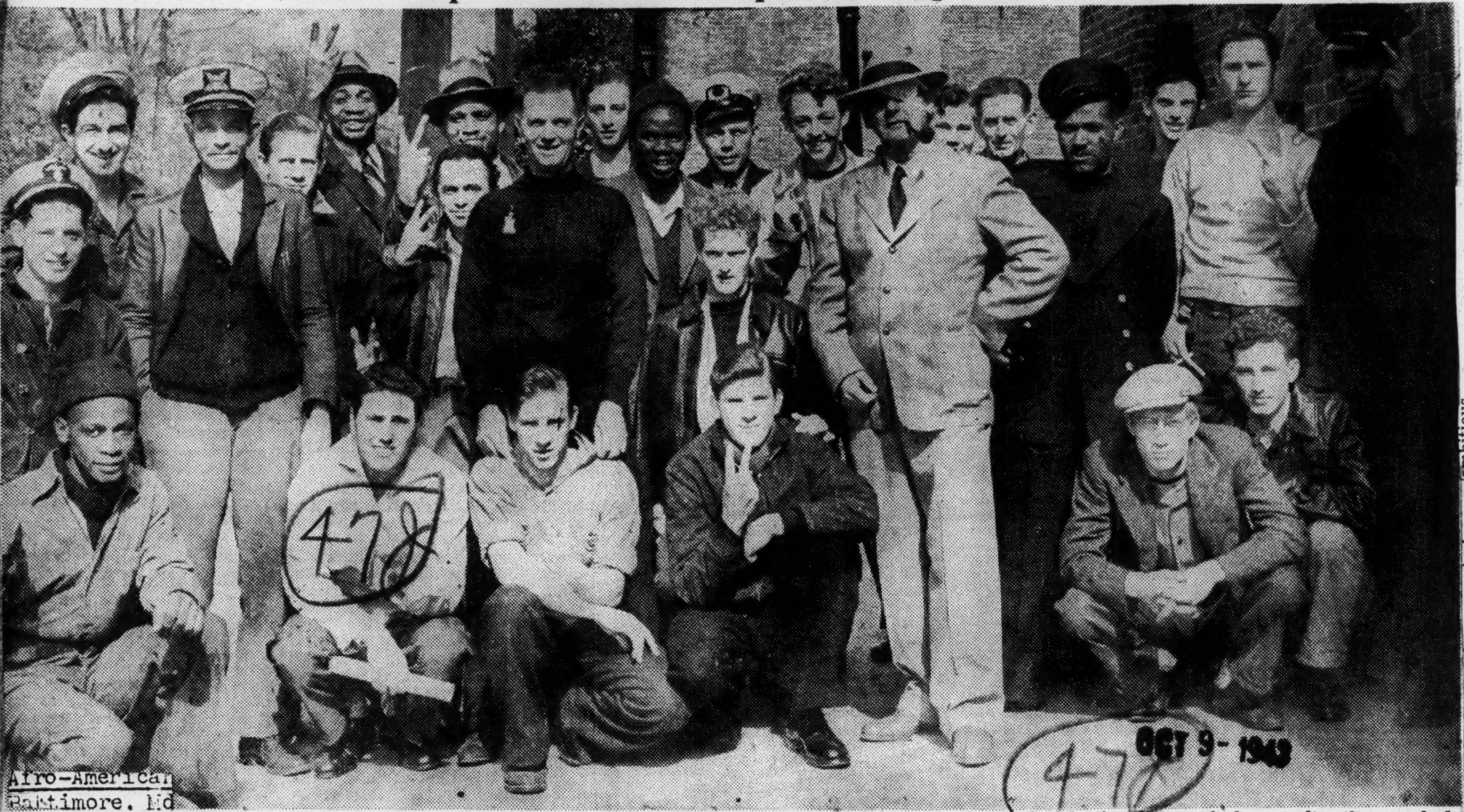
47j-1943

Crew of Capt. Richardson's Torpedoed Ship Safe in U.S.



Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Mixed crew of Captain Adrian Richardson's Liberty ship which was torpedoed and sunk by a Nazi submarine in the North Atlantic, photographed soon after they reached a Canadian port last month. Second from left in second row, standing, is Captain Richardson. Extreme right, standing is Adam Van Landingham of Baltimore, chief steward; Back row left, making V for victory sign is James Gregory, oiler, Baltimore.

OCT 9-1943

Sees Negro Marines in Action in South Pacific

Kansas City, Mo
Kansas City Call

BY FLETCHER P. MARTIN

War Correspondent For Combined Negro Press.

DEC 31 1943

HEADQUARTERS, SOUTH PACIFIC COMMAND — (Via Air mail) — Negro Marines are here and after watching them under fire it is the spoken opinion of commanding officers that they have "proven an important addition to the finest body of fighting men in the world."

Side by side with other American units in the South Pacific, the first contingents of Negro Marines to reach this advance base in the combat zone are helping build it into a key supply and defense front from which the putsch can continue Northward. Stationed at Russell Islands, in the Solomons group, they represent the first Negroes to join the Corps, and the first to see services overseas.

Louisianans In Command

There are two groups, sections of a base depot unit, commanded by Captain Edward C. Apperson, of Monroe. La., and Lieutenant Cade Strickland, of Kentwood, La. The latter recently replaced Captain Jason M. Austin, of Baltimore, as commanding officer of one of the units. These two officers agree that their men are "good Marines" who have proven themselves regardless of hazard or fatigue while subject to almost unrelenting enemy bombing attacks.

Trained as infantrymen, specializing in sea coast and antiaircraft artillery, automatic weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. The majority, including one whole unit, volunteered for their present assignments.

Former clerks and cooks, teachers and mechanics, carpenters and farmers, and the "kid" who used to play around the corner in Michigan and Mississippi, New York and Alabama, Ohio and Pennsylvania, Illinois and Arkansas, Virginia and California, they now operate as a potent unit and are unanimous in wanting to get to Tokyo first, and fast. Then home and back to civilian pursuits.

In Good Spirit

Retaining marked good humor and spirit under trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they soldier hard, taking the good with the bad—like Marines.

Humorously they refer to themselves as "material maneuvers."

The baptism of fire came early. Following "boot camp" training at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina, they headed West across the vast Pacific. The ship docked at Guadal Canal enroute to where Admiral William Halsey, United States Navy, rules and reigns.

On arrival at "the 'canal" they witnessed and felt the first thrill of raiding enemy planes while still aboard ship. It was a new experience, deadly and exciting.

Once ashore they became accustomed to the regular nightly rounds of Japanese bombardments. Finding the need of fox holes urgent, each man dug his own or participated in digging a group haven from aerial attacks. They found that this was an essential MUST on the "We hope to stay alive" list.

Enroute to this new defense post, the new Marines first stopped at New Caledonia, a quaint little French island in the South Pacific. Picturesque with its French-flavored buildings, missions, beautiful dull blue-topped mountains, winding streets, and hospitable people who knew how to speak very little English.

The men felt the acute need of learning French. Pocket-size grammars helped eliminate the language problem. It was interesting to watch facial expressions as the French poured forth from these towering husky Marines.

Trade With French

Trade started immediately, once the international language of commerce was used as a basis, the relations between the French and these Americans became more heated at each transaction. Sent home were grass skirts, sea shells, war clubs and canes, and other indiginous curious which fetch for the natives, money (first), cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, soap, jewelry, etc. The visionary brought along ample supplies of the latter from dime stores at home.

Once settled on Russell Islands, promotions came fast and furious as the men kept the standards of the Marine Corps flying high. Fully realizing that they were the first in the service, and would have to set the pace for others who would follow, and the men set out to do the job the hard way.

Several rose quickly to the coveted rank of sergeant in very short time. The sergeants and corporals, in the words of commanding officers "have demonstrated themselves to be competent men."

The camp sight is impressive Clean and well hidden in the bowels of jungular terrain, concealed by towering palms, the tents are expertly put up, having palm plank flooring, built-up sides, etc., have been completed by the extra ambitious.

Heat The Only Complaint

Plain but nourishingly wholesome food keeps them fit. Everyone does his own laundry, cleans his own living quarters and area. Four men usually live in a tent. There is a barber, cobbler and tailor available, themselves Marines too.

The only general complaint is

the torrid sun, but once in a while there are kegs of cold beer and soft drinks. (That's more than can be said for many outfits this correspondent has visited in the Southwest Pacific.) Life here is "rugged but righteous" as one New Orleans man expressed it.

One of the str[illegible], and yet not so strange, contributions of Negroes [illegible] this war is music. No matter where the camp, the music closest to our hearts can be heard coming from the strangest places, and at the oddest times. At this camp amidst the palm grove of a former coconut plantation can be heard spirituals such as "Join the Band," and "Father Prepare Me," mingled with livelier tunes of nostalgic melodies.

This comes when work i[illegible] through as do boxing, basketbal[illegible] volleyball, and softball. They hav[illegible] set up their own rings and court just as they built their own cam[illegible] and mess hall, and organized thei[illegible] own teams and musical units.

A Rhythm Quartet

One unit, the Rhythm Kings who double on spirituals an[illegible] swing, is composed of Sergeant James Harper, Philadelphia; Corporal James E. Masters, Crockett Texas; Corporal Earnest H. Lyons Atlanta, former photographer fo[illegible] the Atlanta Daily World; and Corporal Ira L. Blackwell, Vaux Hall N. J.

Birmingham is represented by 17 men, the largest number from any one city. Detroit and Atlanta rank next in number, but hardly a corner of the country is absen[illegible] Little towns in Texas and California, and representatives to rank alongside the "big city" men from Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and New Orleans.

In the social arguments and athletic contests the So[illegible] industrial city representatives usually win out through force of numbers. But never far behind are the Marines from the Mid-West. The 'zoot-suiters' are here, and there is very little that can be done about it. Work dungarees have been zooted, and is legal. Pants must be rolled in such a fashion to keep them clear of mud and dust. The men simply had them pegged, Marine tailor being in the camp. But when they gave a new zip to the campaign hat giving it a "sharp" effect, that definitely was not in the regulations.

New to the Marine corps, but excellently carrying out their duties with the Seabees, on the docks with soldiers and other Marines, doing guard duties and making regular watches, again in the words of a commanding officer they have proved "an important addition to the finest bo[illegible] fighting men in the world".

(The first day this correspondent arrived in the South Pacific, where there are a tremendous number of Negro combat units, after a hurried flight from General MacArthur's Southwest Pacific Command, Naval Public Relations Officer, Commander Bassett gave me the notes of Sergeant John R. Hurley, USMC, Marine Corps Combat Correspondent. Sergeant Hurley, a New Yorker, had gathered these on his trip North, and they have made this story possible. This correspondent is enroute to the Solomons to join the outfit and other known Negro combat units).

Commander Armstrong On Navy Officers

Journal and Guide

A SOUND vote of thanks is in order for Commander Daniel W. Armstrong, the officer in charge of training colored recruits at Great Lakes, (Ill.) Naval Training Station. In a formal address in Chicago he declared:

> I cannot tell you when commissions will be authorized. But this I can say—I am personally on record with the Secretary of the Navy in recommending that Negroes be commissioned as officers in the United States Navy, and I back up my recommendations.

Norfolk, Virginia

Commander Armstrong is an influential man; he was in civilian life and he is still as a key man in the Navy's training program. He comes from a family with a distinguished record of service on behalf of the Negro. His own record of achievement in this field is noteworthy. Among other things, Commander Armstrong is a trustee of Hampton Institute. All Negroes entering the Navy receive their basic training under his supervision. The Navy cannot but give weight to his recommendation that Negroes be commissioned.

Commander Armstrong says further that he wishes to see every man "advance in keeping with his respective abilities." In this connection there is apparently a considerable gap between his own expressed policy and the actual practice of the Navy. Scores of cases have come to this newspaper's attention where men clearly capable of other duties have been assigned to "General Detail" or essentially labor units—men with college degrees and civilian backgrounds of accomplishment and proved ability.

Now, obviously, no screening of men, no selective system will, in a wartime program, precisely put every Navy trainee exactly where he is of greatest service. Moreover, it is fair to point out that a mere scholastic or collegiate certificate or degree is not per se evidence of a man's military usefulness in a specialized category. That calls for qualities of leadership and initiative, and for personality traits that may be missing in otherwise technically qualified persons. But the conclusion is inescapable that too many qualified men are shunted into muscle jobs in the Navy.

Is it that a quota system prevails and is too inelastic to permit all qualified men to go to advanced training schools? This seems a likely cause, since the Navy's total admissions are based on racial and geographical percentages.

COMMANDER Armstrong cites a criticism frequently heard from white Navy and Army men, some of them friendly to the use of Negro officers in either service. It is that "Negroes fail to respect the authority of men of their own race" assigned to lead them as petty and non-commissioned or commissioned officers.

It is difficult to accept this as a generally true condition. Moreover, assuming its limited accuracy, the policy and practices of the armed services themselves, with respect to Negro leadership, contributes to the reported condition in several ways.

There is a widespread attitude of grudging tolerance of Negroes, even as non-commissioned officers. When white officers fail to respect Negro men with leadership responsibility, the men in the ranks have their own respect undermined. The same thing would happen to white officers similarly treated.

The absence of Negro officers at all in the Navy inevitably plants in the minds of Negro enlisted men a doubt of the capacity of Negroes to lead them. To whatever extent the complaint is true, it's a vicious circle of the Navy's own making.

IN ANOTHER connection, but on the subject of Negro commissioned Navy officers, Commander Armstrong points out that the Negro—

> had been excluded from general service (in the Navy) for twenty years (until June, 1942) and has thus been deprived of whatever knowledge he might have acquired of the Navy from friends and other associations.
>
> To make it possible for the Negro to take his place beside the white man in the Naval service, ways and means had of necessity to be developed and put into effect so that he might undertake his duties on an equal footing with his white compatriot.
>
> But for him to assume undue responsibilities of rank before he was properly trained would have been a grave injustice to him. And yet there are those who clamoured for this very thing . . . .
>
> My own opinion is that there would have been no surer way for this program to have ended in disaster than by the commissioning of officers before either the prospective officers or men whom they were to command were trained to discharge the duties and responsibility incumbent upon them in a satisfactory manner. It was not like the Army, where there were already well-trained regiments with tradition behind them that could quickly be expended.

COMMANDER Armstrong's thesis here is unassailable. Unprepared and untrained officers are walking death warrants for themselves and their men under combat conditions. We hold, however, that the Navy Department has had eighteen months under its present revised policy to do something tangible—but has not. We hold, further, that it could, two years ago, have begun the pioneering steps in the commissioning of Negroes.

It could, for instance, have done with Negroes exactly what it did with white athletes, coaches, and trained physical education specialists. That is, select them from civilian life, give them a short but adequate indoctrination course, and rate them at least as chief specialists, or as officers, to conduct body-building programs, athletics, and recreation. But it did not.

It could long ago have seen to it that Negroes were accepted into the Naval Academy at Annapolis. If the Navy plans to have any officers from our group during this war, relaxing the Annapolis barriers will create no problem, since even with the speeded up wartime curriculum it takes three years to graduate a cadet as an officer.

Similarly, it could have commissioned Negroes in the dental and medical corps, as chaplains, as morale officers. It could at least have tried the Army's now-proved experiment of an all-Negro aviation squadron.

In these steps neither the Navy nor Negro advocates of commissioning Negroes would have risked the dangers of immaturity alluded to by Commander Armstrong, and which might conceivably apply to some phases of Navy service. We had, and now have, capable men—or men ready for training as officers.

Finally, Commander Armstrong remarked emphatically that "there is far more intergration going on in the Naval service and equality of opportunities than either you believe or have been led to believe." That is a fine argument for the commissioning of Negroes as public relations (news) officers at the major Navy installations and in the Navy Department itself. The light of that good news is certainly being hidden under a bushel at present.

Commander Armstrong suggests strongly that commissioning of Negroes in the Navy will become an actuality, although he cannot say when. His support of such a step will hasten the day. By officially recording that support he has done the Negro a great service and served his country well—since any contribution to national unity and heightened morale is as important to victory as a military success on the field or at sea.

47j-1943

Navy Cook, Single Handed, Mans Gun Against U-Boat

Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.
NOV 20 1943

Dorie Miller, famed Bluejacket hero of the Pearl Harbor attack, had a new rival this week.

He is Christopher Columbu[illegible] Sheppa[illegible] class, USN, and a "one-man gun crew" on the Destroyer Borie. This destroyer was part of a Naval force recently awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for having sunk "more submarines than any team in Naval history."

Sheppard's exploits, and those of another colored member of the Borie crew, Ernest Gardner, steward's mate second class, USNR, were revealed by their commander, Lieut. Charles H. Hutchins of Terre Haute, Ind., during a press conference at the Navy [illegible] last Wednesday.

NOV 20 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Woman Editor Christens Liberty Ship SS Johnson

One of the most talented of American Negroes was honored recently when the Liberty Ship, S.S. James Weldon Johnson, was launched at the Wilmington (Calif.) yards of the California Shipbuilding Corporation. It was the 301st Calship built for the U. S. Maritime Commission and the seventh of a series that the Commission has named for outstanding Negro Americans.

DEC 18 1943

Mrs. Charlotte A. Bass, editor of The California Eagle, of Los Angeles, christened the vessel, and her secretary, Miss Bernice Cook, served as maid of honor.

James Weldon Johnson was noted as a teacher, song writer, poet, essayist, lawyer and diplomat, but he was best bnown as a publicist and executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for more than a decade.

Born in Jacksonville, Fla., on June 17, 1871, he was killed in an automobile-train collision near his summer home at Dark Harbor, Me., on June 26, 1938. He was a graduate of Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga., and did graduate work at Columbia University in New York City.

DEC 18 1943

At Soviet Festival

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ambassador Gromyko, who represents the Soviet Union in the U. S., is greeting Paul Robeson, curre[illegible] Othello. The occasion is the 26th anniversary of the October Revolution. The affair was held at the Soviet Embassy.

NOV 20 1943

First Anniversary Of Negro Marines Staged

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
SEP 4

NEW RIVER, N. C., Sept. 2—(ANP) — Appropriate ceremonies were held last week at the training center in Camp Lejeune celebrating the first anniversary of the induction of Howard P. Perry of Charlotte, the first Negro admitted into the Marine corps.

Since their enrollment a year ago the "Leathernecks" have advanced rapidly in the service, reporting today several corporals and sergeants. Many have been assigned to battle areas overseas, while others have demonstrated an uncanny knowledge of amphibious tactics. The marines have also organized athletic clubs, an orchestra and a glee club as extra-curricular activities.

Thousands Of Race Seabees Prepare For Action Abroad

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
DEC 24

Work of Men in South Pacific

Is Praised by Base Commander

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—It's a long jump from Camp Peary, Va., to the Solomons, Guadacanal, Florida, Tulagi and other South Pacific slands, but thousands of Negro Seabees have made it in recent months. And there are thousands more where they came from.

While Negro members of the Navy's famed Construction Battalions have been building seaplane bases and shore installations in the far Pacific despite enemy air action and adverse weather conditions—fellow recruits at the basic training camp near Williamsburg, Va., are preparing daily to make their contribution to the growing offensive against the enemy on all fronts.

DEC 24

MAKE FINE RECORD

These Negro recruits are following in the footsteps of the charter group of 80 Negro Seabees who reported to Camp Peary on the James river during February, 1943. And they hope to perpetuate the tradition of the first Negro Seabee Battalion, of whose work in the South Pacific the Navy Base Commander said:

"You pursued your duties with perseverance and attention to the objective of doing a fast, workman-like job. Your devotion to duty under adverse weather conditions and enemy air action has the deepest admiration of the Commander, Base X."

The training of Negro Seabees has been stepped up considerably since the 80 original recruits started building "cat walks," fences, and landscapes, and transforming mosquito-infested swamps and forests into a picturesque site among the Virginia pines. By October, 1943 more than 7,000 Negroes had been enrolled in the corps and at least 2,000 were already on active duty in the South Pacific and South Atlantic.

DEC 24

HAUSER DIRECTS WORK

In the intervening period, also, Negroes have been given greater responsibility in the training program of the camp. When recruits arrive at Camp Peary they are interviewed and classified for their Seabee assignments on the basis of previous training and experience.

This work is directed by John W. Hauser, of Winston-Salem, N. C., a graduate of Talladega College and former hear of a divisional office of the United States Employment Service in Winston-Salem.

DEC 24 1943

There are now 28 specially trained Negro instructors who undertake the task of whipping the recruits into military shape, and of teaching them the "Navy- way" of living and acting. Already some of their platoons have won the enviable record of "Top Platoon" in more than one competitive drill contest. The very best platoons, both white and Negro, are jicked for these competitive drills, and the winning platoons must be strictly "on the ball" in every sense.

MANY ACTIVITIES

But not all the time at this "boot camp" is spent in learning to drill. There is a swimming pool and an "orientation assembly" directed every Thursday night by Charles Flax, of Hampton, former soloist with the famous Hampton chorus. Well-planned athletic contests are promoted by the Athletic Department on Sunday afternoons, where everything from softball to horseshoes and sack races are indulged in. There are frequent smokers, with bouts by professional boxers now in the "Seabee hive." The Commando Run includes the performance of difficult feats over muddy pools of water where the slightest mistake will result in a very unpleasant "ducking."

DEC 24 1943

The work of the Seabees includes the building of modern roads through swamps and jungles; construction of airports for heavy bombers and fighters in strategic areas near the fighting fronts. These fighting sailors also build docks all over the globe to facilitate shipment of cargo and weapons of war. Like the Marines, the Seabees are often the first ashore and must be prepared to fight to hold the ground on which they are soon to start construction work.

DEC 24 1943

Capt. James C. Ware is commanding officer of Camp Peary. Until recently, Lt. Com. J. P. Falconer was regimental commander for the Negro units, but he left that station recently with an overseas battalion. Other officers engaged in the training of Negro Seabees include: Lt. (u. g.) Robert E. Gitler, Lt. John A. Volpe, Lt. H. T. Bradstreet and Ensign E. E. Kenney.

800 Negro Sailors Win Training Honors

The Worker
New York. N. Y

CHICAGO.—Eight hundred members of the champion 16th Regiment at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Negro graduates of eight weeks "boot" training, were scattering to all parts of the world today on new assignments in United States naval service.

Four honor men of the regiment were singled out for special citations, and the entire 16th Regiment was recognized officially at its graduation exercises Oct. 28 as the champion unit in the station's war bond drive.

The regiment, commanded by Lieut. Commander Edward [illegible] McGinnis of Chicago, recorded the highest percentage of participation ever to be attained at the station by any recruit organization. More than 93 percent of the regiment's members made war bond allotments, Lieut. D. W. Davis announced in extending official congratulations.

Lieut. Commander McGinnis, a reserve officer formerly well known in American Legion activities, sent the members of the regiment off to their new assignments with the statement:

"Your boots are off now. You are no longer recruits but real sailors. You have qualities of capability and leadership which should carry you far in your country's service."

Another honor accorded the 16th Regiment was the presentation of "the rooster," or "E" award flag, by Commander D. W. Armstrong, chief of Negro recruit training at Great Lakes who witnessed the final review of the graduates which was marked by a high standard of military precision.

This award goes each month to the regiment scoring the highest average in military, disciplinary and technical excellence at Camp Lawrence.

NOV 7 1943

Peoples Voice
New York. N. Y.

NAACP Probes Failure To Promote Officers

COLUMBUS, Ga. ([illegible]P)—Names of 11 Negro army officers are scheduled to be filed by the local branch of the NAACP with the War Department as a protest to the War Department's attitude of curtailing thte advancement of Negro officers, it was learned this week.

Negro officers above first and second lieutenants in the fourth corps area are not favored for promotion by tthe War Department, the NAACP charged. A protest will be filed with the department demanding an investigation of such practices along with a prepared list of Negro first and second lieutenants on duty in this vicinity and around the Fort Benning area, NAACP officials said.

DEC 18 1943

Noted Poet And Career Man To Be Given Honor

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Vessel Slated To Be Launched At Wilmington Yards

WASHINGTON — (SNS) —The seventh Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, the SS JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, will be launched at the Wilmington yards of the California Shipbuilding Corporation in December, the Maritime Commission announced this week.

The vessel will pay tribute to the noted poet, essayist, lawyer and diplomat who was killed in an automobile-train collision near his summer home at Dark Harbor, Me., on June 26, 1938.

Mr. Johnson, who also achieved note as a song-writer and a professor of literature at Fisk and New York universities, was born in Jacksonville, Fla., on June 17, 1871. Completing public school study in his native city he later received B. A. and M. A. degrees from Atlanta University and did graduate study at Columbia University in New York City.

FLORIDA TEACHER

His career began as a teacher in the Jacksonville public school, which was elevated to high school grade during his tenure as principal. During this period he studied law at night and, in 1897, was admitted to the Florida Bar, the first of his race to achieve this honor since tthe Civil War.

In 1901 he went to New York City and with his brother, J. Rosamund Johnson, and Bob Cole, collaborated in the successful writing of popular songs and [illegible] operas. [illegible] he was appointed U. S. Consul first to Venezuela and later to [illegible]aragua.

Returning to New York in 1910, he married Grace Nail and two years later his first book, the fictional "Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man," appeared ananymously. Its authorship was not acknowledged by Mr. Johnson until 1927.

He edited a book of American Negro poetry and two of Negro Spirituals; and also wrote the English libretto for the opera "Goyescas." which was produced by the Metropolitan Opera Company in 1915. As a New York resident, he became contributing editor for The New York Age, and later executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This organization awarded him the Spingarn Medal in 1925 for his work in behalf of the Negro.

FISK U. PROFESSOR

Finally, without ceasing to write, he returned to teaching in 1930, to become professor of Creative Literature at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, and from 1934 until his death, visiting professor of Literature at New York University.

Among his best known books were: "Fifty Years and Other Poems," "Self-Determining Haiti," "Black Manhattan," "St. Peter Relates an Incident of the Resurrection Day," "Negro America, What Now?" and "Along This Way."

Other Liberty ships that have been named for Negroes are the SS Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Frederick Dauglass, John Merrick and Robert L. Vann.

The Navy Department has named a naval vessel, the Destroyer Escort Leonard Roy Harmon, in honor of a Negro messman who received the Navy Cross posthumously for heroic conduct at Gaudalcanal.

DEC 5 1943

Pearl Harbor

Norfolk. Va

Hero Lost

Journal & Guide

Was Reported On Aircraft Carrier Lost, In November

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Navy Department this week confirmed reports that Dorie Miller, first Negro Bluejacket hero in this war, is "missing in action" in the Southwest Pacific. His next of kin, Mr. and Mrs. Corney Miller, Waco, Texas, have been notified.

Miller, a strapping, 200-pound former fullback from Waco's Moore High School, was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for "distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941."

At the same time, Miller received a letter of commendation from the Secretary of the Navy and was advanced in rating from mess attendant, third class, to mess attendant, first class. In addition, Bluejacket Miller has received the American Defense Service Medal, the Fleet Clasp and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

ADMIRAL NIMITZ DOES HONORS

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, personally presented the Navy Cross to Miller in ceremonies aboard a United States warship in the Pacific on May 27, 1942.

Pinning the bit of ribbon and cross of bronze on the sailor's breast, he described his act of heroism on the U. S. S. Arizona during the Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base, and complimented Miller on being the first representative of his race to be so honored in this war. He then read the citation which said:

"While at the side of his Captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his Captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

Later in January, 1943, while visiting the U. S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., Bluejacket Miller explained that the Pearl Harbor incident marked his first experience with a machine gun. Addressing hundreds of Negro Bluejackets who are now being taught at Great Lakes to handle such weapons, Miller said:

TALKS TO FELLOW SAILORS

"It wasn't hard. I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine. I had watched the others with these guns. I guess I fired her for about fifteen minutes at those Jap planes. They were diving pretty close to us."

Miller, who was born October 12, 1919, left his father's small Waco, Texas, farm on September 16, 1939, to enlist in the Navy as a mess attendant, third class, at Dallas, Texas. He was sent to the Naval Training Station at Norfolk, Va., and then was assigned to the U. S. Arizona on which he served until the morning of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

THE FATEFUL MORNING

Official reports reveal that he rose at 6 a. m. the morning of December 7, and was collecting laundry when the alarm for General Quarters sounded. He headed for his battle station—the anti-aircraft battery magazine amidship—only to discover that torpedo damage already had rendered it untenable.

So he went on deck where —because of his powerful size he was immediately assigned to the task of carrying wounded to places of greater safety. An officer ordered him to the bridge to aid the mortally wounded captain. Miller helped remove the dying officer and then returned to the machine gun.

Since Pearl Harbor, Miller has been assigned to various other naval vessels. Shortly before he was reported missing in action, he was serving aboard the Aircraft Carrier Liscome Bay which was sung by enemy action in the Southwest Pacific on November 24, 1943.

Miller's parents live at Route 1, Box 161, Waco Texas. The missing hero has three brothers, one a private in the U. S. Army.

DEC 25 1943

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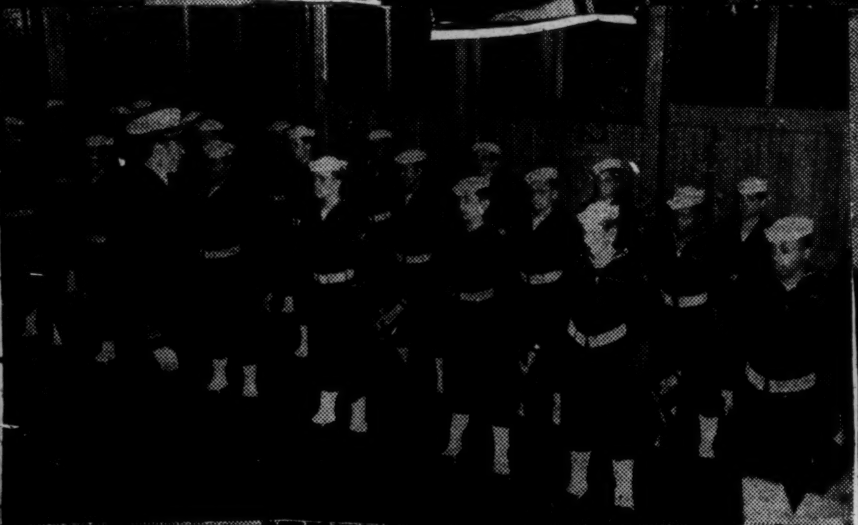
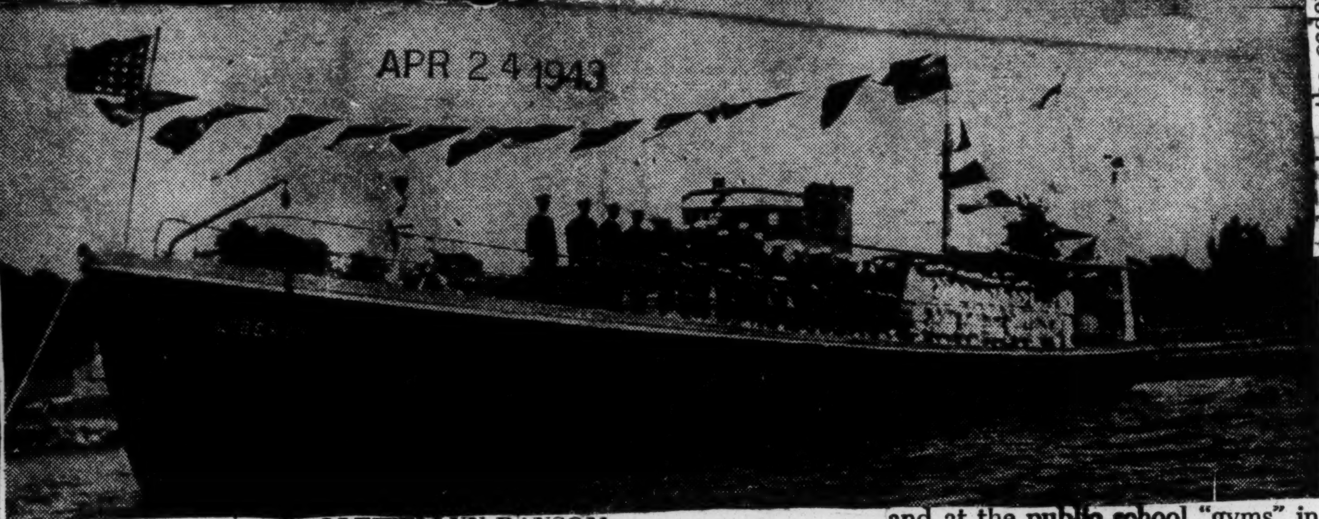
Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

APR 2 4 1943





DEMOCRACY IN ACTION!

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

PV's Crusade for a CRISPUS ATTUCKS BRIGADE of mixed Americans finds an embryonic example in the AMERICAN NAUTICAL CADETS, and the question arises: if these boys from 12 to 18 can train and grow together, why can't they fight together for their country? There is no Boy Scout segregation here at PS 169, as the Washington Heights Battalion learns the latest infantry tactics under expert guidance of former service members.

This non-racial, non-sectarian, non-political, non-profit-making boys' organization, in addition to drill tactics, teachers the cadets the fundamentals of seamanship, navigation, communications, junior aviation, marine engineering, lifeboat drill, first aid, and military physical exercise.

Original and democratic in its ideas, the American Nautical Cadets began April 10, 1909, at 47 University Place in New York City. During the past 32 years it has spread into five states without any publicity. Thousands of boys have been trained in military and nautical procedure. The training ship *Liberty* is at present in Bishop's Shipyard, Patchogue, LI, for repair and a new engine. The ANC has faith that patriotic friends will help to bring it back.

At headquarters, 225 W 25 st, and at the public school "gyms" in the various district areas, each boy begins his character-building with the following pledge: "I solemnly promise to give true allegiance to the United States of America—to be faithful and loyal to the American Nautical Cadets—to be loyal to my officers and fellow cadets, regardless of their RACE or RELIGION. I promise to do my duty to God and my country—to honor my parents—to respect all civil authorities—to live honestly—to be clean, manly, upright and truthful . . ."

Pictures show:

- Lt. Donald Halbedl takes the cadets through a simulated bayonet drill.
- *Liberty* submarine chaser used as a training ship for the cadets.
- Washington Heights Battalion going through platoon at close order drill.
- Cadets, Negro and white, eagerly watch during class instruction.
- Evening parade. A Negro cadet proudly bears the colors.—All Morgan Smith photos.

Services of instructors are voluntary. The organization depends upon donations and the bi-annual review and exhibition given each year for equipment and the summer camp up in the Catskills, near Kingston.

Major General William Ottmann of the New York Guard will inspect and review the cadets at their big affair this June 26.

Anne Brown Christens S. S. Douglass with Characteristic Thoroughness

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

MAY 29 1943

BALTIMORE

It took the aid of a crew member for Mrs. Adolph Berle to get the U.S.S. Ashtabula properly launched, Saturday, but when Singer Anne Wiggins Brown tucked the tip, of her silver fox scarves carefully out of the way, handed her immense armful of American beauty roses to her sister standing close by, and swung that champagne bottle, the S. S. Frederick Douglass was rightfully christened.

It was rather significant of the way in which the namesake went about clearing away obstacles in his path and the way in which the singer herself has gone about carving a niche for herself.

Miss Brown looked especially swank in a frock of black crepe, a wide-brimmed malline-edged hat and double fox scarves. Her accessories were patent leather. She brought along her small daughter, who had no end of fun watching the procedings and posing with her famous mother. She is an expert at posing, too.

Ship Model Pleases

Anne accepted with proper enthusiasm the lapel pin, gift from the ship builders. But she glowed with the receipt of a model of the Frederick Douglass which came from one of the welders who had worked on the ship. The donor was Charles Mayfield. His hobby is buliding model airplanes, but he made the ship model in three weeks, after he learned that the sponsor would be Miss Brown.

The sponsor gift was a lapel pin of white and red gold made in the shape of a bow-knot, with two center twos of stones, one diamonds, the other sapphires.

Paul Robeson, also scheduled to be a guest, was absent, having contracted a cold while on the West Coast. By doctor's orders he is resting at his place, The Beeches, at Infield, Conn.

Sings Request Number

Miss Brown, who at first declined to sing, upon persuasion did the spiritual "Walk Together Children," following the ceremonies, and when Rivers Chambers and his musical aggregation swung into "Summer Time" at the luncheon, she heeded the requests of the guests and sang that.

I Christen Thee—

MAY 29 1943

MISS ANNE WIGGINS BROWN christens the S.S. Frederick Douglass at ceremonies at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards, Baltimore Saturday.

It was probably that everyone welcomed an opportunity to spruce a bit that the women turned out in really gala bibs and tuckers. The wife of the captain wore an off-the face hat with black ensemble, and Mrs. Douglass wore a suit whose black coat topped a gray skirt. He daughter was smart in black with white at the neck and sleeves. Mrs. George McMechen, who presented flowers to th esponsor, was also in an ensemble of black. But Mrs. L. G. Hyman who came over from Washington, topped her cocoa coat with a soft rose hat and wore shoes in a matching shade. The scheme was very colorful.

Luncheon Follows

Luncheon as the York Hotel followed the ceremonies. Some clergyman guests blandly ignored the popping champagne bottles during the hour when cocktails preceded the serving of luncheon, and stayed right through the entire affair. Father Cedric Mills of St. James gave the meal invocation.

Miss Brown left Sunday evening at six for California. Those who wondered whether she is divorcing her N.Y.C. mate, are still wondering. At any rate she is no longer wearing her wedding ring and she is taking her daughter along on this engagement tour.

Luncheon at York

MAY 29 1943

Miss Brown and seventy guests dined at the York Hotel following the christening ceremonies of the ship Frederick Douglass. Seen above are the sponsor, and Melvin G. Hodgkinson, white, personnel manager of the Bethlehem Fairfield Co., who presided at the luncheon.

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
July 8, 1943

Maritime Union Pays Tribute to Negro Shipmaster

NEW YORK, July 7.—(AP)—The National Maritime union today adopted a resolution of tribute to the captain and crew of the Booker T. Washington, a merchant ship operated by Negro and white personnel working together as "a symbol of democracy."

Another resolution demanded that women be permitted to return to sea in United States ships.

Capt. Hugh Mulzac, master of the Booker T. Washington, told the union's 300 delegates at the annual convention that the ship "is giving a demonstration today that the entire world is watching."

The resolution stated that "the Booker T. Washington has become a symbol of democracy the world over. It is proof conclusive that the principle upon which this union is founded—that there shall be no discrimination because of race, creed or color—is a correct one."

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Mess Attendant Wins Commendation For Heroism On Destroyer

MAY 22 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A commendation has been awarded Charles Jackson French, a Negro mess attendant, for his courage in attempting to save a group of his shipmates on the U.S.S. GREGORY from shelling by Japanese naval forces following the sinking of that ship.

French's citation, from Admiral William. F. Halsey, Jr., U.S.N. Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force, reads:

"For meritorious conduct in action while serving on board a destroyer transport which was badly damaged during the engagement with Japanese forces in the British Solomon Islands on September 5, 1942. After the engagement, a group of about fifteen men were adrift on a raft which was being deliberately shelled by Japaneses naval forces. French tied a line to himself and swam for more than two hours without rest, thus attempting to tow the raft. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

French, who carries the rating or Mess Attendant, Second Class, U.S.N., is 23 years old. He makes his home in Foreman, Arkansas, where his sister, Mrs. Viney Harris also lives.

Georgetown, S. C. Times
June 25, 1943

Immediate Need For Young Negroes

The Navy Recruiting headquarter has announced an immediate nee for unlimited numbers of young 1 year old negroes to volunteer for se vice with the United States Nav while unlimited openings prevail, an opportunities are greater than ever

Chief Specialist John F. Potts, ne gro Navy recruiter, asserted tha those who meet the physical an mental qualifications may now b placed in one of three qualification either apprentice seaman, gener service, apprentice seaman in the Navy's SEABEES, or as steward mate third class.

It was pointed out that many negroes have recently taken advantage of this opportunity to get excellent trade training, the valuable experience, the well rounded physical training and the other numerous advantages now offered by the Navy.

Reports indicate that a great many young South Carolina negroes are already making excellent records in the Radio, Metalsmith, Gunnery, Electrician, Motor Machinist, Diesel Engine and Carpenters Service Schools.

Seventeen year old negroes who feel that they might qualify, must make application before they reach their 18th birthday, and they may fill out application papers at their Navy recruiting station in Georgetown on Mondays.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Warship Honors Negro Sea Hero

By the Associated Press

BOSTON, July [illegible].—The first United States warship named in honor of a Negro, the destroyer escort Harmon, will be launched next Sunday, July 25, at the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Steel Co., Quincy.

Secretary of the Navy Knox assigned the name to honor the late Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first class, USN, who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism" while serving aboard the USS San Francisco.

JUL 21 1943

47j-1943

BOOKER T. ENDS SECOND VOYAGE TOTALS 15,000 MILES OF TRAVEL

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

MAY 8 1943

By PETE RICHARDSON
(Photo on Page 11)

Captain Hugh Mulzac, master of the steamship Booker T. Washington, brought his vessel safely to port on Wednesday after completing 15,000 miles of ocean travel, marking the successful completion of his second trip.

Following his arrival, the mild-mannered skipper, dressed in the official uniform of his rank, and appearing in the pink of condition, visited the offices of the Negro Labor Victory Committee of Greater New York where he was interviewed at a press conference summoned by that organization.

While observing rules of censorship, Capt. Mulzac painted a word picture of scenes he visited in such ports as England, Africa and Ireland. He visited more than two dozen camps in Africa and conversed with a number of the men there. He said they were engaged in various occupations building roads, discharging ships, and making preparations to go to the front for combat duty, and that although they lived in camps separate and apart from white soldiers, he had noticed no dissimilarity in their occupations.

No astonishment was displayed in Africa by the natives because the ship happened to be piloted by a Negro, he said, but interest was displayed in the ship itself.

Speaking of England, he declared that he received a great welcome there, and was entertained at a luncheon by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Wales. It was at this place, he said, that a moving picture of the arrival of his ship was shown. The theatre was packed to capacity, and the applause thunderous, he added. The admiral of a British warship sent him felicitations and offered him his services in making his visit a pleasant one.

Captain Mulzac praised his crew, composed of white and Negro seamen, and asserted that they worked harmoniously together. Those of the white crew who are giving a farewell party in his honor, he said, expressing regret at having to leave his command.

In both Africa and England, his ship was visited by hundreds of white as well as Negro persons who, he said, had heard much about it.

His particular reason for visiting the Negro Labor Victory Committee and its officers, he declared, was to give endorsement to its "Negro Freedom Rally" to be held at Madison Square Garden on June 7.

As a parting word, Captain Mulzac said that his ship was an example of democracy at work, and that the Negro people in America should not become disheartened at certain deprivations here, and should do everything to back the men at the Front.

Inspector Praises Navy Program Here

Columbia, S. C. Record
May 27, 1943

The Inspector of Navy recruiting and induction of the Fourth Joint Service Induction area, Commander J. E. Meredith of Atlanta, visited Columbia this week on an official inspection tour of navy recruiting activities in South Carolina, operating under the State Naval headquarters in this city.

Commander Dan Henry's office was complimented on having a most excellent set-up at the new semi-main station in Spartanburg, and the inspector expressed the belief that the lay-out at the Armed Forces Induction Center, Camp Croft, is the best he has seen in the entire Fourth Area, which embodies a number of states. He said that the Armed Forces Induction Center at Fort Jackson, under Captain Grissom, is most efficiently and effectively operated.

Commander Meredith informed local officials, that the main station' in Columbia is still holding the lead in keeping of records and reports by an almost perfect score, also in the recruiting of Negroes. He added, however, that the WAVES-SPARS program was doing very poorly throughout the entire area, and that South Carolina was about average.

The inspector pointed out that in the recruiting of 17 year olds, South Carolina is also around average, but the Fourth Area is doing better than other sections of the country. It was noted that North Carolina in the last three weeks has had a great increase. Formerly, that state could get only an average of half as many as South Carolina, and now today, they are getting five times as many.

Pearl Harbor Victim Back from the Dead

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By DOUGLASS HALL
(Passed by Censor)

NEW YORK—Navy Messman Lloyd K. Winston of Baltimore, who recently returned to this country from Pearl Harbor, emphatically denied to the AFRO this week that he had been "killed in action."

Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Winston was reported dead by the Navy Department.

"Since that time," he stated, "I have spent much of my time trying to convince folk that I am still alive. People meet me on the street and say, 'Hello there, fellow, where did you come from? I thought you were dead.'

Survives 3 Sinkings

"Frankly, I have had some narrow escapes," Winston confessed, "but I am still very much alive. Three ships that I have been attached to have been sunk, but I managed to be saved somehow. Now don't get me wrong. I am no hero. I am just a sailor who is doing his duty."

Visiting the States for the first time in four years, he stated that "being a sailor in these days is hell and a full man-size job. Being a colored messman—well, all I can say is that those Jap bullets don't segregate. No, sir, they don't draw a color line."

Winston has spent more than four years in the navy and has been in the leading ports throughout the world. Since the war began he has been in the midst of the fighting in the South Pacific.

On Pearl Harbor Victim

He was attached to the Cassin, when it was sunk at Pearl Harbor, December 7, and since then has been attached to two other ships.

"I cannot give you any detailed information," he stated, "other than to say that I hope the newspapers keep up the fight to win the war on the home front while we win the one abroad."

Wearing three bars on his chest to denote his actual combat service, and a star for good conduct, the sailor stated that he was leaving for the West Coast early this month, at which time he will take up the rugged life of a seaman.

Talked at Alma Mater

A graduate of Douglass High School, Baltimore, Winston spoke there last week and gave the pupils the benefit of his experiences at sea.

He also visited Washington, where he had a conference with Captain Leeland Lovett, director of public relations, Navy Department. Captain Lovett was his immediate superior when he was at Pearl Harbor.

Winston is living at the YMCA in Baltimore.

Orangeburg S.C. Dem

New Navy Opening For Negro Youths

The Navy Recruiting Headquarters has announced an immediate need for unlimited numbers of young 17 year old negroes to volunteer for service with the United States Navy while unlimited openings prevail and opportunities are greater than ever.

Chief Specialist John F. Potts, negro navy recruiter, asserted that those who meet the physical and mental qualifications may now be placed in one of three qualifications, either Apprentice seaman, general service, Apprentice seaman in the Navy's Seabees, or as Steward's Mate third class.

It was pointed out that many negroes have recently taken advantage of this opportunity to get excellent trade training, the valuable experience, the well rounded physical training, and the other numerous advantages now offered by the Navy.

Reports indicate that a great many young South Carolina negroes are already making excellent records in the Radio, Metalsmith, Gunnery, Electrician, Motor Machinist, Deisel Engine and Carpenters Service Schools.

17 year old negroes who feel that they might qualify, must make application before they reach their 18th birthday, and they may fill out application papers at their nearest navy recruiting station in Columbia, Charleston, Conway, Florence, Greenwood, Greenville, Spartanburg or Rock Hill.

Negro, White Workers Hail 'Douglass' Ship

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, May 26.—The finest traditions of Americanism merged this week end with the stern necessities of a people's war, when the "Frederick Douglass" Liberty ship, slid down the ways of the Bethlehem-Fairfield launching dock and settled into the water ready to take up her duties in the fight against the slavery of fascism. The 140th Liberty ship completed at that yard, the "Frederick Douglass" is the third to be named for famous Negro Americans and the second to be captained by a Negro, Captain Adrian Richardson.

The colorful ceremonies arranged by a committee headed by Thomas Aydlett, Negro organizer for Local 43, International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, which holds a contract with the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipbuilding Company, were attended by a long list of notables. Among them were newly-elected Mayor T. K. McKeldin, Representatives Thomas D'Alesandro and Daniel Ellison of the third and fourth congressional districts respectively, Dr. Camper, chairman of the Total War Employment Committee, A. J. Allen, secretary of the Baltimore Urban League, Mr. Tyus of the NAACP, and Mrs. Betty Phillips of the Afro-American.

MAY 27 1943

Anne Wiggins Brown, famed concert singer and star of "Porgy and Bess," christened the "Frederick Douglass." She was also presented with a small perfect scale model of the ship made by one of the Negro shipyard workers.

GETS SCROLL

Local 42 presented Captain Richardson with a scroll, which hailed the fact that the "Frederick Douglass" had been built by Negro and white workers, and pointed out that Frederick Douglass himself, in his struggles to free his people so many years ago, stood today as a symbol of that unity between the Negro and white people which was necessary for the defeat of fascism.

An additional speaker was Ferdinand Smith, vice-president of the National Maritime Union. Present also at the ceremonies was a grandson of Frederick Douglass, himself the bearer of that distinguished name. Paul Robeson, great Negro baritone, sent a message of greeting.

President Patterson Wires Greetings Of Foundation

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAY 3 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(ANP) Sen. William Langer, of South Dakota, vigorously told the senate Thursday that he could see no reason why Negro women should be barred from the WAVES, and called upon Congress to adopt his bill which would amend the act establishing the women's branch of the navy to permit their enlistment.

Specifically, his bill calls for the insertion of these words in the proper place. "In the selection of persons to be commissioned or enlisted pursuant to this section there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race of color."

"I feel very strongly about this" Sen. Langer declared on the floor. "Here we are fighting for the freedom of people all over the world and we refuse to permit a part of our people to participate in the fight.

'If congress had intended to keep Negro women out of the WAVES it would have written this provision into the bill. Therefore, if the administration won't see that they are admitted, congress should do it."

MAY 3 1943

Sen. Langer is responsible for the fight to insert a non-discrimination clause in the overtime pay bill the conference report on which is now awaiting adoption by the house. In this fight he has been ably supported by Senator James Mead of New York.

MAY 3 1943

The George Washington Carver Foundation and the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company both paid tribute to the celebrated Negro scientist following the launching of a Liberty Ship named in his honor at the Richmond Yard No. [illegible] Richmond, California, Sunday.

Miss Lena Horne, Singer and actress, served as sponsor.

In a wire made public by the company, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, Tus- Alabama, stated:

"Deeply appreciate the great tribute being paid to our late distinguished scientist, Christian and friend, George Washington Carver, in the launching of a Liberty Ship bearing his name. Deeply regret that we were unable to have a representative present on the occasion. I express to you the profound appreciation of the George Washington Carver Foundation and of the students, faculty and trustees of Tuskegee Institute for making this occasion a reality, in making the Tuskegee statement public, Clay Bedford, representing the Kaiser Company, declared:

"A floating, fighting monument to a great American scientist has gone down the way--the SS George Washington Carver. This 10,500--ton Liberty Ship was constructed by skilled Negro workers both men and women, working side by side with their fellow Americans—all doing their best to supply the best in cargo ships for our fighting forces overseas.

"The spirit of George Washington Carver will live on in this modern steel monument whereever it goes to bring to our soldiers just as this great man brought and left with the world of science lasting contributions for all people, races and creeds."

Conway, S. C., Field
April 29, 1943

NEW OPENINGS FOR 17 YEAR OLD NEGROES

Columbia, S. C., April 19.---The navy recruiting headquarters has announced an immediate need for unlimited numbers of young 17 year old negroes to volunteer for service with the United States Navy while unlimited openings prevail, and opprotunities are greater than ever.

Chief Specialist John F. Potts, negro navy recruiter, asserted that those who meet the physical and mental qualifications, may now be placed in one of three qualifications, either Apprentice Seaman, general service, Apprentice Seaman in the Navy's Seabees, or as Steward's Mate third class.

4/19

It was pointed out that many negroes have recently taken advantage of this opportunity to get excellent trade training, the valuable experience, the well rounded physical training, and the other numerous advantages now offered by the Navy.

Reports indicate that a great many young South Carolina negroes are already making excellent records in the radio, metalsmith, gunnery, electrician, motor machinist, Deisel engine and carpenters service schools.

Seventeen year old negroes who feel that they may qualify, must make application before they reach their 18th birthday, and they may fill out application papers at their nearest navy recruiting station in Conway any day; Georgetown on Mondays; Kingstree on Tuesdays; Hemingway on Wednesdays; Marion on Thursdays Dillon on Fridays, and Mullins on Saturdays.

Teachers Seeking Commissions For Negroes In American Navy

Newport News, Va. Press
April 17, 1943

Training programs proposed to Hampton institute by the army and navy have been approved by the Virginia Peninsula Teachers union (local 607), but with certain provisions which, if accepted, would establish precedents regarding the Negro in both branches of the service.

The navy, which is providing living, recreational and training facilities for 550 trainees, sought to expand the existing contract to accommodate 1,500, while the army proposed to give basic college training to 250 soldiers under the army specialized training program beginning on or about May 15, which number shall be increased to 450 by September.

Lists Provisions

The navy plan was sanctioned by the union, provided:

1—That it include Negro commissioned officers in its administrative personnel.

2—That in addition to the vocational training program, a program for training Negro candidates for navy commissions be instituted at Hampton institute.

4/17

3—That expansion of the navy program shall not preclude the establishment of the army specialized training program.

4—That expansion of the navy program in no way contribute toward the abandonment of the regular civil educational program at the institute.

The union recommended that the army proposal to offer specialized training be accepted and initiated at the earliest possible date, provided:

1—That such program be administered by a bi-racial staff of officers.

2—That the character of the program be commensurate with the training offered in other collegiate institutions in the country.

3—That the present college saff be utilized as far as possible in its execution.

Presidents Get Copy

The action taken by the union was compiled in an open letter to the President of the United States, secretaries of war and navy, the board of trustees of the institute, the president of the institute, and the chairmen of congressional committees on army and naval affairs.

Approximately 1,000 persons signed the letter, including R. D. Kidd, president of the union, and other officers.

The signers of the letter "support under protest any statute or regulation of our federal and state governments or any of their several branches which provides for legalized discrimination on the basis of race, religion or national origin."

Opposition in the letter is expressed to the navy policy of excluding Negroes from its commissioned service. It points out further that "we deplore an existing navy administration which completely excludes Negroes from participation as commissioned officers and from training for commissions," and suggests that the statement of Secretary Knox "that friction would result from the commissioning of Negro officers in the naval service should be challenged and refuted at Hampton institute."

Explains Army Policy

"While we do not, under any circumstances, condone the army's policy of segregated service," the letter went on, "under protest we accept as an improvement over the navy the army's policy of integrating Negroes as commissioned officers into its various branches of service."

The letter reviews events from Pearl Harbor to the present, taking "stock of our accomplishments. . . ." It suggested that the fact we found ourselves woefully lacking "was borne out by the rising tide of democratic thinking as evidenced in the outspoken words of people in all walks of life, in the new treatment of Negro problems in the press and periodicals, and in the attempt of government to alleviate some of the conditions attendant to the prewar stagnation of democratic principles in this country."

4/17

The union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL), said in its letter that it had hoped "for some token representation of commissioned officers in the naval staff administering the program at Hampton institute. . . ." At the time the letter was written, there were three Negro chief petty oficers at the school in an officer complement of 30 or more persons administering the program, it pointed out.

Expressing its desire to serve the nation, the union protests "all bigoted attempts to by-pass the tenets of democracy, and in justice to ourselves as teachers, students, and citizens—all wishful participants of democracy—we have no choice but to insist upon the full and unequivocal role that Negro Americans have to play in the fight for its ultimate attainments."

Letters Reveal Navy Spars Still Have No Place For Race

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Secretary Knox Scored By Harlem Group of Citizens

June 4, 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Letters between the secretary of the navy and the Citizens Committee on Harlem, showing the failure of Waves and Spars to admit Negroes, were made public last week.

The exchange of letters began last February when the group, interested in anti-racial discrimination steps, wrote to Frank Knox, secretary of the navy, asking for a statement of policy in view of the fact that the Hunter college campus, property of the city, was being used for training purposes although no Negroes were taken on.

NEGROES NOT AT SEA?

Sec. Knox explained that Waves and Spars were being recruited to replace men for active service, and that the navy does not have "any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea."

Another letter to the mayor stated, "We fail to see why Negro women cannot enlist in the council; set up two years ago to combat racial discrimination in war industries.

The governor informed the group that all of the Citizens' committees working under the war council were being examined by the council, and that he expected that an adequate appropriation would be granted the committee, and its work continued.

women's reserve to be trained for duty in the shore estabiishment to release male personnel for duty at sea, irrespective of whether the male personnel is Negro or white.'

In reply Knox stated that "the changes which the Navy has effected in recognition of the Negro's steady progress have been wholly consistent with democratic principles. All theoretically possible steps that are not taken at once cannot reasonably be condemned as undemocratic."

LETTER SENT TO DEWEY

June 4, 1943

The organization also sent a committee to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey last week to insure the continuance and expansion of the committee on discrimination in employment of the state war

47j-1943

The Informer

First Negro Unit Of Marines Lauded By Commanding Officer

Feb. 6, 1943

By ALVIN E. WHITE

Feb. 6, 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—The 51st Defense battalion, U. S. Marine corps, 1,200 strong, now in training at the 200 square mile reservation at New River, N. C., is winning the praise of the commanding officers and of fellow marines by virtue of its excellent record and conduct.

The 51st is the first Negro unit ever trained in this branch of the armed forces. But it is making such progrescs it will be the basis, it is believed, for a fuller use of Negroes in this hitherto closed branch of the services.

According to officials in the marine corps, a defense battalion is one similar to the unit glorified in recent film, "Wake Island." In other words, it is a unit fitted to hold captured spots, once the landing units have gained a foothold. Many of these units are operating in the West Indies and where the United States has obtained concessions for air bases. There is no difference between the Negro unit and the others in the service.

Starting from scratch, the men receive eight weeks basic training, similar to that received by army men in 13 weeks. From here the training continues, becoming increasingly more difficult and technical.

Because there have been no Negroes in the marine corps previously, all of the training is carried on by white officers and non-coms.

Drill masters in training cadre are toughened through years of experience. As soon as Negroes qualify in the manifold duties of the marine corps they will be promoted to the ratings and ranks they are entitled to.

No Friction in Camp

The commanding general of the area has expressed a desire for the mutual respect by both colored and white marines. No friction has developed in the camp and there has been no more than the usual run of military infractions and violations.

Edeson E. Blackman Jr., private 1st class, has written excellently of the work accomplished. His story follows:

"Since June when Negroes were first accepted for enlistment for the fleet marines force of the U. S. Marine corps, and since the latter part of August, when the first recruits arrived at the marine barracks, New River, N. C., definite progress has been made. Recruits have been arriving here at our Montford Point base at the rate of approximately 200 each month since the latter part of August.

"Recruits are first assigned to Battery "A," the recruit depot, for six weeks basic training in military courtesy and discipline, basic infantry drills, musketry, rifle and hand gernades, small bore firearms, bayonets, ju jitsu and jude. Upon completion of this basic training course, men are assigned to the various batteries of this battalion. Some of the machine gun battery, some to the rifle company (reinforced), communications, heavy artillery, anti-aircraft, tanks, quartermaster, commissary, headquarters and service battery, and others to the pack howitzer battery. Every effort is being made to place the men in the units for which, by aptitude test, they are best suited.

Trained to Action

"It is interesting to note that in the marine corps, both technically and practically speaking, one's basic training never ends. Each and every day you are constantly training to be a first class fighter.

"As you may know, the marine corps is definitely a combat organization and it believes, more or less, in action and not in telling of what it is going to do. We who are here realize this and as a result work hard toward this end. Our days are long, our days are hard, but in the final analysis if, and when we reach the combat zone, our efforts will not have been in vain.

"However, one must not think that all of our time is spent training. Our extra curricular activities are more than interesting and entertaining and provide much recreation and diversification for the men who are stationed here. Movies, dances, smokers, and shows are put on regularly for the men of the 51st Composite Defense battalion, plus the fact that we have our own choir, glee club, band, orchestra, athletics of all kinds, and the 'compositor,' the official news organ of the battalion.

"At present, most of the instructor's personnel is entirely white, but as soon as Negroes are trained and qualified, they will replace the white personnel. Schools for the training of Negroes in the various branches have already begun and are now in progress from which our specialists and technicians will come.

"The 51st will be a highly trained and specialized force, due to the fact that it is a defense battalion. It must be capable of moving to the various combat zones at a moment's notice, which requires thorough training, which we are receiving."

The men in the unit are housed in small houses accomodating 10 men each. One hundred and twenty of these line the military street. They have their own laundry, hospital facilities, although all of the attending doctors are naval men as the marines do not have a medical detachment. Quite a little city houses the first first Negro unit in the marine corps.

While the men in the detachment are preferred with training along technical lines, engineering and such, the lack of this training has been overcome, according to offficers by the men's willingness and that spirit to learn and to do.

After six months of training, this detachment compares as favorably with any similar group that can be found. Officers themselves are very proud of the work they have accomplished.

The Informer

First Bluejackets Finish; Addressed By Doris Miller

Informer Houston Texas

Great Lakes, Ill.—Ninety-seven Negro Bluejackets, the first of their race to complete instructions in various trades offered by the Navy, were graduated recently from the Service School in ceremonies at the United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. 1-30-43

In the presence of two outstanding Negro heroes of the last war and this conflict, the graduates filed to the speaker's platform where they received their Service School certificates—the final step of an intensive training period. 1-30-43

Taking part in the ceremonies were Capt. Frank J. Lowry, commanding officer of the training station; Capt. H. R. Harris, service school officer; Lieut. Cmdr. D. W. Armstrong, commanding officer of the 18th Regiment; Doris Miller and Brigadier General Spencer C. Dickerson, U. S. Army retired.

Add[illegible] made by Capt. Lowry, Capt. Harris, and the young Negro hero of this war, Doris Miller, mess attendant, first class, of Waco, Texas. Immediately after the exercises, friends, and relatives of the graduates witnessed a regimental review by men of the Negro race now in training here.

These graduates completed 16-week courses in one or another of the Navy's service schools for radiomen, quartermaster, signalmen, gunner's mates, yeomen, bakers and c[illegible]. Three of their number were graduated as honor men of their respective branches.

Texan Leads

They were Isaac C. Dugas, Jr., 1025 Braut street, Beaumont, Texas, of gunner's mate school; Aaron A. Bromley, 10850 Pasadena avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, yeoman school; and Bernard B. Young, 118 Hamilton street, East Orange, N. J., who attained the highest marks among the cooks and bakers. 1-30-43

New classes in the Negro service schools are formed each month, with an average of 460 men attending at all times.

In his address to the graduating class, Capt. Lowry spoke briefly of the heroism of Bluejacket Miller, describing him as a credit to the navy, then continued:

"Every one of you men graduating has the opportunity to be singled out for some similar hon[or] or during your life in the navy. All the luck in the world to you, but remember, luck is a thing you make yourself.

"This first service school class must set the standard for all others that will follow. Godspeed to all of you."

His Navy Cross and service ribbons pinned to his uniform, Mess Attendant Miller was then introduced by Lieut. Cmdr. Armstrong. Later, at the regimental review, he took to the microphone to tell his fellow bluejackets:

Have the Stuff

"I'm sure you men have the stuff to make your way in the navy. Take advantage of every opportunity while in training and I'm sure you will accomplish something later on for which you will be proud the rest of your lives,"

Capt. Harris told the graduates that they should feel proud to have been selected for the first Negro service school class at Great Lakes and added:

"Your success or failure prior to the war was your own affair, but now, in time of war, it is of special interest and concern to the country." Jan. 30, 1943

The 23-year-old Miller, now on leave from duty with the Pacific Fleet, was awarded the Navy Cross last May 28 for heroism at Pearl Harbor. The presentation was made by Admiral Chester Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the fleet.

During an attack by Jap bombers and Zeroes, the captain of the ship on which Miller was stationed was critically wounded. The Negro bluejacket carried his skipper to a place of safety and then, for the first time in his life, manned a machine gun and brought down four Jap planes before he was bombed and burned out. When his ship turned on her side, Miller swam to shore and helped in a job at a flying field.

In recognition of his valor he was advanced from mess attendant, third class, to his present rating. Son of a Waco, Texas, farmer, Miller enlisted in the navy three and a half years ago at Little Rock, Arkansas. Most of his service has been at sea.

At the graduation was Brigadier General Dickerson, retired army officer who served as a lieutenant with the Medical Corps detachment of the 370th Infantry, USA, for 18 months in 1917-18.

Toward the close of the war, Gen. Dickerson, a practicing physician in Chicago, Ill., for more than 25 years, was advanced to the rank of captain. He resumed his practice after the Armistice, but remained a member of the 8th Infantry Regiment, Illinois National Guard, until 1935 when he was retired with the rank of Brigadier-General. He had been advanced to major in 1922 and colonel ten years later.

General Dickerson is attached to the eye, ear and nose clinic of Provident Hospital, Chicago.

Negro WAVES Approved.

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 25 1943

THE APPROVAL of plans for the enlistment of Negro women into the Navy Women's Auxiliary Corps has been confirmed by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. This fight for admission into the WAVES has been in progress for quite some time, seemingly without success.

The A.K.A. sorority, principally through the efforts of Tomasina Johnson allied with the NAACP and other pressure groups have led the lobbyists in the fight for inclusion of Negro women into all of the armed forces auxiliary services.

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The plan, however, for the admission of Negro WAVES is not satisfactory and should not be countenanced as it is now set forth. No provision for Negro officers has been provided. Moreover, a separate training school is to be created.

Merely the mentioning of such a plan is to suggest its utter unwisdom. Why go to added expense, saddling additional debt on the taxpayers to provide separate training quarters? More important, why continue the stupid practice of separatism invoked by the dominant southern congressional members on naval affairs, when through integration and unity alone can we achieve maximum results with an economy of time? Time is a powerful ally of the wise.

JUL 25 1943

Heroic Messman Relates Rescue Of 3 On Flat-Top

APR 10 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

By ALFRED DUCKETT
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK.—A brave 19-year-old navy messman who defied roaring flame and choking smoke to go down into the depths of a wounded aircraft carrier and save the lives of three white sailors, told me his story this week with a hesitant modesty.

His name is Elvin Bell and his heroism took place during the raging battle of the Coral Sea last May. Serving on the aircraft carrier Lexington, he defied death to offer to his country the greatest sacrifice which a man can give—the risk of his life. His story was first told in the Chicago Defender's Victory Edition by the Chicago Tribune's Stanley Johnston, who witnessed his heroism.

Already Bell has been decorated by the navy for his courage and the newspapers the country over have chronicled the bravery which brought him a citation and the navy and marine corps medals. But this week, for the first time, in his own modest way, he told the story which will go down in the annals of maritime dauntlessness as one of the most thrilling sagas of the sea.

ELVIN BELL

It was on May 7 that the Lexington rose out of the waters struck by the impact of an Axis torpedo. A raid from the air continued for 20 minutes and then the planes winged away beyond the clouds.

The next morning at 12 o'clock the planes and submarines again attacked the wounded ship with a fury that was unabated for two hours.

Through it all, Elvin Bell was at his post.

When the raid began, Elvin was in the ship's print shop, "fooling around" with one of the machines. A flying piece of metal hit his leg and almost paralyzed it. He made his way painfully below to take his post. A terrific explosion rocked the room in which he was posted.

Feeling his way in the shadowy room, Bell came across a gas mask after 15 or 20 minutes during which he tried hard not to breathe. With a white fellow-seaman, he carried the wounded to the sick bay. The sick bay, however, had been rendered useless by the enemy assault and they had no recourse but to carry the wounded men to the top side.

Goes Below Again

The enemy planes and submarines had spent their fury and the fight was over, but for Bell, it had just begun.

Wounded, exhausted, and weary, he made his way to top deck.

He passed a little knot of men. They were being addressed by Commander Mort Seligman. Listen to the story in Elvin's own words:

"The commander was telling the men that three of our buddies were below, seven decks below, trapped in the flames of the ship's interior.

"He was asking for volunteers to get the men to safety. No one seemed willing to make a move, so I said to him:

"'I'd like to try, Sir.'

"He couldn't see my face because I had my mask on, but he said to me:

"'Are you sure you know how to reach them?'

"I said, 'Yes Sir, I know the way.'

"The Commander asked me, 'Do you realize that you might never come back?'

"I told him that I did but that I'd like to try just the same. He agreed and wished me good luck.

"'We'll be waiting for you,' he said.'

Brings Men Back

"I went through some long passageways and down several flights of steel steps. The men lowered me down with a line. Between two decks the line broke and I had to make the rest of the way on my own. I don't know how I did it or how I came back. But I brought those three men back to safety.

"They thought I was dead up above where they were waiting for me. When I came back up I heard the commander talking. One of the men had told him I had been hurt in the leg and he said that if he had know that he wouldn't have let me volunteer to rescue the men. He said that I was probably dead. Just as he said that I tapped him on the shoulder and said:

"'Oh, no I'm not. Here I am and the three men are safe.'

"I really can't remember how I did it, but I just did.

"I don't remember the trip back but I could not have gone back the same way because the ladder was broken, so I must have taken another way. I know I figured it was all over when I heard a third explosion, but I must have kept my head because I found myself coming up out of the ventilator with the three men behind me.

Teamwork Important

"There must be something that makes you think and do the right thing. If you train yourself to keep your head, you have to have faith in yourself. I mean, for instance, everyone of us was frightened, but we knew we had a better chance of winning than those fellows who had come all the way over to attack us. If they thought they could win, our faith in ourselves told us we could win. The navy is all teamwork to a man, and the morale is very high."

Born in Harlem, Bell became an orphan when an infant. At the age of four he was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Lofton of 139-08 114th avenue, South Ozone Park, where I interviewed him. He attened Jamaica high school and went to CCC camp for one year and a half.

The navy citation says of him "He rescued injured sailors trapped in the blazing interior of the stricken aircraft carrier, Lexington, which was sunk in the battle of the Coral Sea." It cites that the awards were made him for "distinguished heroism in an area fraught by violent explodings and gasoline vapors."

The citation continues:

Honored At Rally

"Bell, although emerging in an exhausted condition, unhesitatingly entered the most dangerous section of the stricken carrier and assisted in removing injured personnel who had been trapped below decks. His courageous initiative and utter disregard for his own safety were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

Citizens of Queens honored the young messman at a meeting Sunday at the Allen African Methodist Episcopal church, South Jamaica, where he was presented with a watch and an offering. Commander R. C. Sutliff of the United States Navy said in a letter to the citizens committee and the Lambda Mu Kappa sorority, sponsors of the affair, that they would be glad to grant leave to the heroic messman so that he might appear on Sunday. The navy official added that the navy appreciated the "patriotic motives" of the Jamaica citizens in holding such a celebration and "appreciated the honor tendered Bell."

The youthful hero was to leave on Tuesday to return to the new Lexington to which he is assigned as a first class mess attendant. (He was third class on the old ship.) He is looking forward to more service under the United States flag, but is quite interested in informing a certain young lady—Florence Powers of Cambridge, Mass.—that he's "still thinking about her."

As for his heroism, he doesn't think so much of that, but he's awfully proud of that new watch and he's ready to risk his life again if it will shorten the war against the Axis.

Navy Cites Negro Messman Who Towed Raft to Safety

MAY 21 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eugene Gordon

It was last Oct. 22 when the world first heard of "Frenchy." Over the radio, in every paper in the land came the story:

First a blinding explosion from a Japanese fired torpedo. Then a raging hell of men dying, men drowning, men trying desperately to escape the oil-soaked waters, the sharks of the Pacific, to find a raft, a log, a stick of debris. A half-dead band of American seamen from the sunken destroyer managed to get to a raft—only to find it drifting helplessly out to sea.

A young giant of a Negro called by his shipmates "Frenchy" told the survivors: "I'm strong and I'm a good swimmer. Tie this rope around me and I'll slip overboard and tow this old raft in." And Frenchy did.

FRENCHY 'DISCOVERED'

This week the Navy Department cited Frenchy for his conduct "in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service."

A young ensign, Robert N. Adrian, of Ontario, Ore., ordinary seamen on the raft told the first new of Frenchy's heroism over a national NBC hookup.

The National Broadcasting Co. and the Negro press led the field among those who tried to identify "Frenchy." On Oct. 31 the NBC announced that he was Charles Jackson French, of Little Rock, Ark. Some days later the episode was dramatized in a radio broadcast. More recently a weekly "comic" picture magazine carried a "true story" account of French's adventure in colored pictures.

Yesterday's citation was issued by Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr., commanding in the South Pacific. He is the officer who stopped the slanders on the National Maritime Union, when union-haters were repeating the tale that NMU members had refused to unload a ship at Guadalcanal. He said it was a lie. Halsey's citation of French was released throught the Navy Department.

The citation, its account of French's exploit differing only slightly from other accounts, reads in part:

"After the engagement a group of about 15 men were adrift on a raft, which had been deliberately shelled by Japanese naval forces French tied a line to himself and swam more than two hours, without rest, thus attempting to tow the raft. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service."

The citation says that French is from Foreman, Ark., where his sister, Mrs. Viney Harris, lives.

It seems, from latest information, that the incident occurred in the vicinity of the Solomon Islands Sept. 5. French and the other men on the raft were survivors of the destroyer transport Gregory.

The Negro people, through numerous organizations and their press, have been appealing to the Navy Department to award French a medal. They succeeded, after much agitation, in winning that kind of recognition for Dorie Miller. Miller also was a messman.

Thus the list of Negro naval heroes in the anti-fascist war is extended. The latest to be made public is the Negro gun crew of the Coast Guard cutter Campbell, which, last February, battled a German submarine for 12 hours in the North Atlantic, finally sinking it. Commander James A. Hirshfield, of the Campbell, told newspapermen that the cutter depth-bombed five Nazi subs and sank the sixth by ramming.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

JUL 18 1943

West Coast Freighter

In mentioning the other day a few Liberty and Victory ships called George M. Cohan and Billy Sunday and Booker T. Washington, as representative of our total democracy, we said that no doubt many such names have escaped our attention. Thereupon one reader hastens to remind us of the good ship Fremont Older launched the other day at San Francisco.

And a good name this is, too, for a ship destined to brave storm and shell and mine and torpedo in the defense of democracy. The name Fremont Older spells physical and moral oak in our public life. It was borne by a fearless fighting editor and a passionate lover of justice and truth who gave California its most distinguished name in the history of American journalism.

47j-1943

NEGRO SEABEES CHARGE—Negro Seabees charge across a swamp in a Virginia training center. They're taught by U. S. Marines.

—U. S. Navy Photo

Negro Seabees Had a Job to Do

The Worker, New York.

JUL 11 1943

In a driving tropical rainstorm they built a military road. When lumber ran short they logged their own. And they helped the island's defenses by building breastworks in case of attack.

WHEN it comes to getting things done, a battalion of Negro Seabees in the Solomon Islands area takes its hat off to no one.

Recruited from the [illegible] of the AFL and CIO in civilian life, these working-fighting Navy men know their job and they get it done—come what may.

From the South Seas comes the story that this battalion landed on a jungle-covered island and began a few weeks of furious construction work by choosing the site for a prospective airfield, surveying and mapping it, and getting their selection approved—all between sunrise and sunset. Then they were really ready to go to work!

Built Road During Rain

Among other things these same Seabees—who build a wide variety of works, and when necessary defend themselves against attack—built a road despite heavy rainfall and installed essential utilities.

The battalion worked in cooperation with a second Seabee detachment which landed shortly afterward. The members got the airfield well on its way to completion before giving way to another battalion and moving on to a new job where they created more facilities with which to fight the enemy from advanced bases.

Members of the Negro battalion had worked at almost every trade before they joined the [illegible] and they are carving for themselves a real reputation at the same time they hew and hack the jungle into efficient bases.

Logged Lumber On the Spot

The imported stock of lumber allotted them was used up quickly so they logged and milled their own lumber from native trees. Fourteen inches of rain fell the first month and nine the second, but the Negro Seabees went ahead with the construction of a road, moving all sorts of heavy and light motorized equipment over the [illegible]ery clay. [illegible] a time it was a question of whether they were building a road or maintaining one, but they pushed it through to completion.

They installed lights and telephones. They provided a water supply by damming mountain streams, treating the water, piped it as far as possible with available material and then built wood storage reservoirs in which to keep the water. They installed an air raid warning system.

While all this work was in progress the Negro Seabees also dug fox holes and set up defenses throughout the area in order to defend themselves in case of an enemy attack.

The battalion overcame a major obstacle in obtaining sand for use in building a landing strip for fighter planes. Through hard work and American ingenuity they smashed the barrier, got the necessary sand with the help of another battalion which had landed with 500 tons of equipment, completed 50 per cent of the fighter plane strip in two weeks. The men worked in two shifts, from early morning until late at night, under lights after dark.

In addition to its regular construction work the Negro Seabee battalion aided a vessel which was hit in a bombing attack, dispatching pumps and hose to the scene and later caring for some of the casualties of the engagement.

NO OFFICERS

Chicago, Ill. Defender

PLANNED IN NEW SETUP

Women's Groups Protest Plan To Discriminate Against Race Women

JUL 17 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — The Defender has learned from a reliable source that the navy has completed a plan for admitting Negro women into the WAVES.

The plan has received the stamp of approval from Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, but has not yet been made public.

According to the Defender's informant, the plan makes no provision for Negro women to become officers in the WAVES. The official announcement of the plan is being withheld while efforts are being conducted to obtain a Negro college for the training of the new WAVES.

Thomasina Johnson of the AKA Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, who has worked continuously since the organization of the WAVES in an effort to open its doors to Negro women, when told of the navy's plan for Negro women, was bitter in her denunciation of it.

"We would rather not have Negro women in the WAVES than have them taken in on such conditions as this plan proposes," she said. "There is no excuse for setting up a separate Negro WAVES unit, nor for planning any separate training facilities for them," she declared.

"Such a plan will do more harm to the morale of Negro women than their exclusion. The charges of discrimination and segregation which fell upon the WAACs when they were first organized were bad enough, but this seems to indicate that the navy learned nothing from the army's experience. The idea of making no provision for officers and seeking a Negro school for the separate training of the Negro women is unwarranted, unsatisfactory, and unwanted," Mrs. Johnson stated.

She urged Negro women as individuals, and Negro organizations, particularly women's organizations, to immediately write their protests against any such plan to Secretary Frank Knox at the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., before the plan is officially announced.

NAVY RECRUITER HERE THIS WEEK

Negroes 17-38 May

Qualify And Receive Rating In Seabees

Rock Hill, S. C. Herald

September 8, 1943

Chief Specialist John F. Potts, U. S. N. R., who has been prominent in negro education in the southeast is recruiting negroes, age 17-50, at the Naval Recruiting Station at the local post office today through Saturday.

Men 17 years of age have the opportunity of attending any one of the Navy's trade schools; those 17-38 who are qualified in a skill or trade may receive a rating in the Seabees; and those 38-50 may enter any branch of the service for which they are qualified by voluntary enlistment.

Any man interested in joining the Navy should get in touch with the recruiting office before receiving induction notice.

NAME LIBERTY SHIP FOR LATE BUSINESS GIANT

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 10 1943

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 8—The U. S. Maritime Commission has assigned the name 'S. S. John

Merrick," to its 114th Liberty Ship to be launched at the Wilmington, N. C., shipyard July 11.

In making this announcement officials of the shipyard expressed their pleasure in honor being done another outstanding Negro and in the recognition being accorded its colored workers.

ORGANIZED FOUR OTHER BUSINESSES

JUL 10 1943

Merrick was one of the founders, organizers and first president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company. At his death in 1919 he was rated as one of the most astute businessmen ever produced by the race.

JUL 10 194

Merrick, born a slave in North Carolina, September 7, 1859, began his career as a bricklayer. Among the Durham businesses which he helped organize were the Bankers Fire Insurance company, Mechanics and Farmers bank, Southern Fidelity and Bonding company, and the Mutual Building and Loan association, all successfully operating today.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Coast Guard Names Negro Naval Ensign

By JIM HEWLETT

BOSTON, (ANP)—Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins of Detroit has the distinction of being the first colored naval officer to be assigned to active duty. He is attached to the coast guard shore patrol of the 1st Naval district with headquarters at the former exclusive Hotel Brunswick and has under his command a mixed personnel of white and colored seamen.

JUL 24 1943

He was inducted as a chief petty officer on presenting his qualifications about a year ago and after attending the coast guard academy at New London, Conn., was commissioned an ensign on April 19.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of civil engineering degree, class of 1937, and from that time up to the time of his enlistment was connected with the Michigan state highway.

Ensign Jenkins, who is a light-brownskinned chap, stated he has been treated fairly and squarely and believes there is an ever-widening opportunity for colored boys in the coast guard. Incidentally his friends in Detroit ridiculed his move in leaving the Michigan state highway saying, "It couldn't be done."

JUL 24 1943

Ensign "Whit" Robinson, the only other colored naval ensign, is still in inactive status awaiting the completion of his medical studios at Harvard University in 1944.

Pittsburgh Pa.
Courier

COURIER CHARGE DENIED BY NAVY

By SIDNEY WALKER
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18—Sharp denial that the program for Negroes in the United States Navy is discriminatory was made Saturday by Lt. Commander P. B. Brannen, director of Public Relations for the chief of naval personnel, Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, in an interview granted representatives of The Pittsburgh Courier.

MAR 20 1943

"The Navy's program is in some respects experimental, but it is not discriminatory," stated Commander Brannen.

Against Commander Brannen's blunt denial stands the fact that there are no Negro officers in the Navy and that there are no plans for training Negro officers or aviators in the Navy's V-1, V-5 or V-7 programs. Against it also stands the fact that no Negro women have been accepted by the Navy Women's auxiliary, known as the WAVES.

ADMITS BAN IN SOME RATINGS

Commander Brannen insisted that, so far as the Navy proper—as distinguished from the Coast Guard and the Marine corps—is concerned, there are no specific limitations on the acceptance or advancement of Negroes who enlist or are inducted into the Navy through Selective Service. He did admit that Negroes are not enlisted in a few ratings such as hospital corpsmen.

MAR 20 1943

To prove his point, Commander Brannen described the training given Negro recruits at Great Lakes and at Hampton.

"They undergo the same training given white recruits at the same station and for the same period," he stated.

"At the Training station, they are given the opportunity of qualifying for selection to the Navy's service schools.

TWO SCHOOLS GIVE SPECIAL TRAINING

"Qualified applicants undergo specialized training at these schools over a period of 16 to 26 weeks. Attendance at the service schools serves to qualify the men for promotion to higher ratings.

"The Navy has established service schools at Hampton institute for machinist's mates, motor machinist's mates, electrician's mates, shipfitters, metalfitters, metalsmiths and carpenters.

"The instruction, curricula and length of courses are the same as those prescribed for all service schools established by the Navy department."

PRAISE TRAINEES

In his defense of the Navy's training program, Commander Brannen took occasion to emphasize that every report received from Great Lakes and Hampton has attested to the excellence of the Negro trainees.

He also informed The Courier that the Messman rating has been abolished by the Navy and that hereafter messmen are to be known as stewards, first, second and third class.

He branded as untrue the charge made that, during the period, June 1 to December 5, 1942, Negroes had been herded into the messman branch and the construction battalions. He stated that Negroes placed in the messman branch during that period had volunteered for it.

MAR 20 1943

NO PLANS TO TRAIN NEGRO OFFICERS

Commander Brannen could give The Courier no assurance that any Negroes will be given commissions in the Navy. The problem there, he confessed, was not the fitness of Negroes, but the fact that, in line with Navy policy, there were no billets or posts to which to assign Negro officers.

The Navy's policy is to train Negroes separately and not to place Negroes in command of whites. It does place whites in command of Negroes.

Thus there are no plans for Negro officers because there is no way to assign them without putting them over some whites.

Negroes can't be placed in command of ships with all-Negro crews, according to Commander Brannen, because it takes from four to seven years to train a man to boss a ship.

This policy of not placing Negroes in positions to give orders to whites is expected to operate effectually to lock Negroes out of the Navy's V training programs. These are for officers. No Negro schools have been slected for such training. If Negroes attending white schools where the Navy has installed its training programs apply for training, they will be turned down until the Navy policy on the use of Negro officers is changed.

EXPECTATION ON WAVES

A board, consisting of representatives from the Army, Navy and War Manpower commission, selects the schools for training.

When it was suggested that Negro ensigns be commissioned and placed on duty in the Navy department at Washington, Commander Brannen asserted that such a step was not practicable because all officers in the Navy department were required to do a tour of duty on ships.

One bright possibility came out of the interview. Commander Brannen indicated that the line against Negro WAVES had not been drawn as rigidly and as indefinitely as against Negro officers.

He declared that the possibility of enlisting Negro WAVES is being considered and indicated that action may be expected soon.

Birmingham, Ala.

United Seaman Service Heaven To 9000 Negroes

Weekly Review

JUL 24 1943

More than 9,000 Negroes sailed the seas on the ships of the United States Merchant Marine, carrying supplies to the war fronts of the United Nations, it was revealed in a survey made by the War Shipping Administration. This number constituted one-tenth of the entire merchant marine force.

Our merchant seamen are at work on the most grueling front of the war. The ratio of their losses is 400 per cent higher than for our combined armed forces.

They wear no uniforms, march in no parades, take no bows; but they are braving torpedoes, aerial bombs, seas of flaming oil, machine-gun fire and cunningly-placed mines, days and weeks in flimsy life rafts—racked with hunger, cold and maddening thirst.

Realizing that these men, indespensable to victory, must be accorded recognition and benefits equal to those in uniform, the War Shipping Administration took **the lead in the launching of the United Seaman's Service in 1942** to administer to the needs and morale of marine workers.

The USS provides for American merchant seaman, both in home and foreign ports, medical service, rest and recuperation centers, and recreation clubs. It is the one agency born of the war which does not countenance discrimination in any form. It is generally conceded that the merchant marine service is one of the most democratic institutions now taking part in the war.

JUL 24 1943

In every seaman's center whereever possible, democracy is practiced and officials go as far as they can in their attempts to see to it that all merchant seaman, regardless of color, enjoy the same benefits of the service. Even in the South where segregation is a part of the constituted law, it is not without reluctance and protest that the USS permits its men to be separated.

The United Seaman's Service is one of the agencies composing the National War Fund, which will soon launch its nation-wide drive in co-operation with local War Fund campaigns. The fund consists of 15 other war relief and service agencies. Among other agencies included in the drive are the USO, War Prisoners Aid, United China Relief, Russian War Relief and others.

JUL 24 1943

The National War Fund was conceived to economize time and **overhead expenses in the collection of funds for the various war agencies which have heretofore been conducting their individual** fund raising campaigns. Winthrop W. Aldrich is the president of the board of directors and Dr. Channing H. Tobias is a member of the board.

ENSIGN

JUN 12 1943

After carving out a splendid record for himself as a member of the crew of the Liberty ship Booker T. Washington, Ensign William Metcalfe Barker, former Los Angeles middleweight boxing protege of Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, has been transferred to the recently launched SS Frederick Douglass. He joined the Booker T. as a member of the original crew shortly after its much publicized launching.

Argus
St. Louis, Missour

The S.S. Merrick Joins Fleet

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 20—The S. S. JOHN MERRICK, fourth Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding American Negro, was launched Sunday afternoon, July 11, at the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company of Wilmington, N. C.

The vessel was sponsored by Mrs. Martha Merrick Donnell, of Durham, daughter of John Merrick, who was one of the founders of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, one of the countries largest Negro financial institutions. The MERRICK is the first Liberty ship built in North Carolina to be named for a Negro. Mrs. Donnel's attendants were: Mrs. Martha Williams Wheeler, of Durham, matron of honor; Mrs. Hazel Scott of Washington, D. C., matron of honor, and the wives of four shipyard employees, James Gordon, Jerry McGhee, Charles Sparrow and George Judge, all of Wilmington,

JUL 23 1943

Governor J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina and C. C. Spaulding, president of the N. Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, were the princpial speakers at the launching. Dr. Spaulding declared that the launching was 'one of the highlights of my life" and lauded the accomplishment of his former coworker in the insurance firm. Mr. Merrick, a bricklayer, started the insurance company in 1898 along with the late Dr. A. M. Moore and Mr. Spaulding. The company now has assests of over six million dollars.

JUL 23 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Secretary Knox Approves WAVES Enlistment Plan

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Naval Secretary Knox has approved a plan for the enlistment of Negro women into the Waves, according to Tomasina Johnson, legislative representative of the A. K. A. Non-Partisan Council on Public affairs. However, the plan omits Negro officers and the department is said to be currently looking for a school to train them separately.

In a letter written Saturday to President Roosevelt, the council stated:

"We are unalterably opposed to Negro women being trained in separate or segregated schools and we are unalterably opposed to any plan that would be different in any way from that now in effert for white women in the Waves, Spars or marine corps auxiliary." The council also asked an immediate conference with President Roosevelt or Secretary Knox in regard to these objections.

JUL 23 1943

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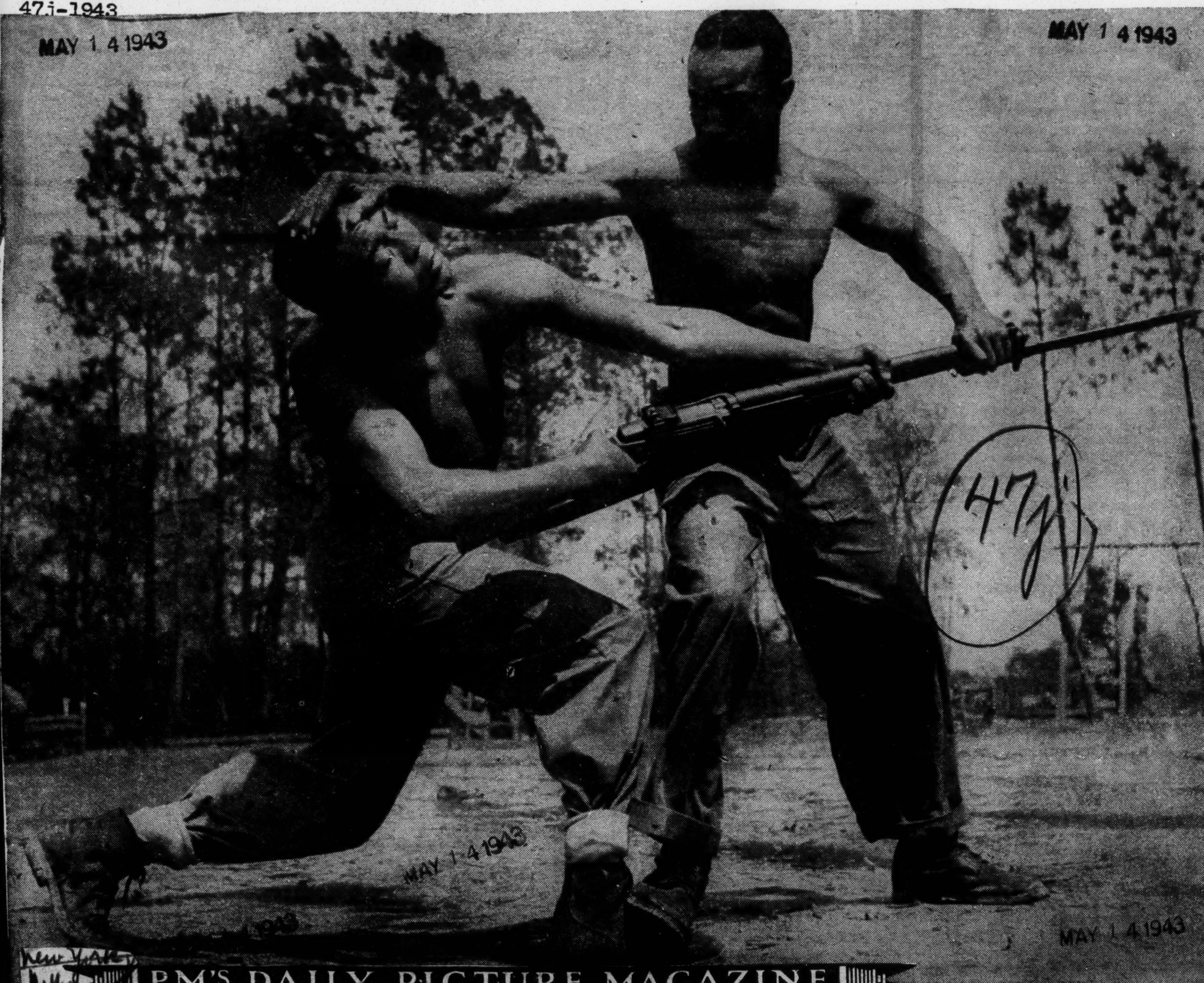
MAY 1 4 1943



New York N.Y.

PM'S DAILY PICTURE MAGAZINE

First Photos Of Negro Marines

MAY 1 4 1943

With a fighting pride that upholds the Leatherneck tradition, Negroes now are training → in the U. S. Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, New River, N. C. One unit has already been assigned to overseas duty. One of the first set of official photos of the Negro Marines, this picture shows a recruit training his eye on the firing line's target.

47j

The art of Judo is the latest addition to the Marines' training. An instructor (right) shows a recruit how to make an enemy's bayonet useless—at the same time giving him a headache and crushing his foot. *Marine Corps Photos from Harris & Ewing.*

Durham, N. C. Herald
August 18, 1943

Ship To Be Named For North Carolina Negro

Washington, Aug. 17.—(AP)—A liberty ship will be named for the late Robert L. Vann, Negro lawyer who was founder and editor of The Pittsburgh Courier, the Maritime Commission announced today.

The ship, fifth in a series named for outstanding Negro Americans, will be launched in late September or early October in the South Portland, Me., yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation.

Vann was born at Ahoskie, N. C., educated at Virginia Union University and the University of Pittsburgh and lived for many years in Pittsburgh, where he died in 1940.

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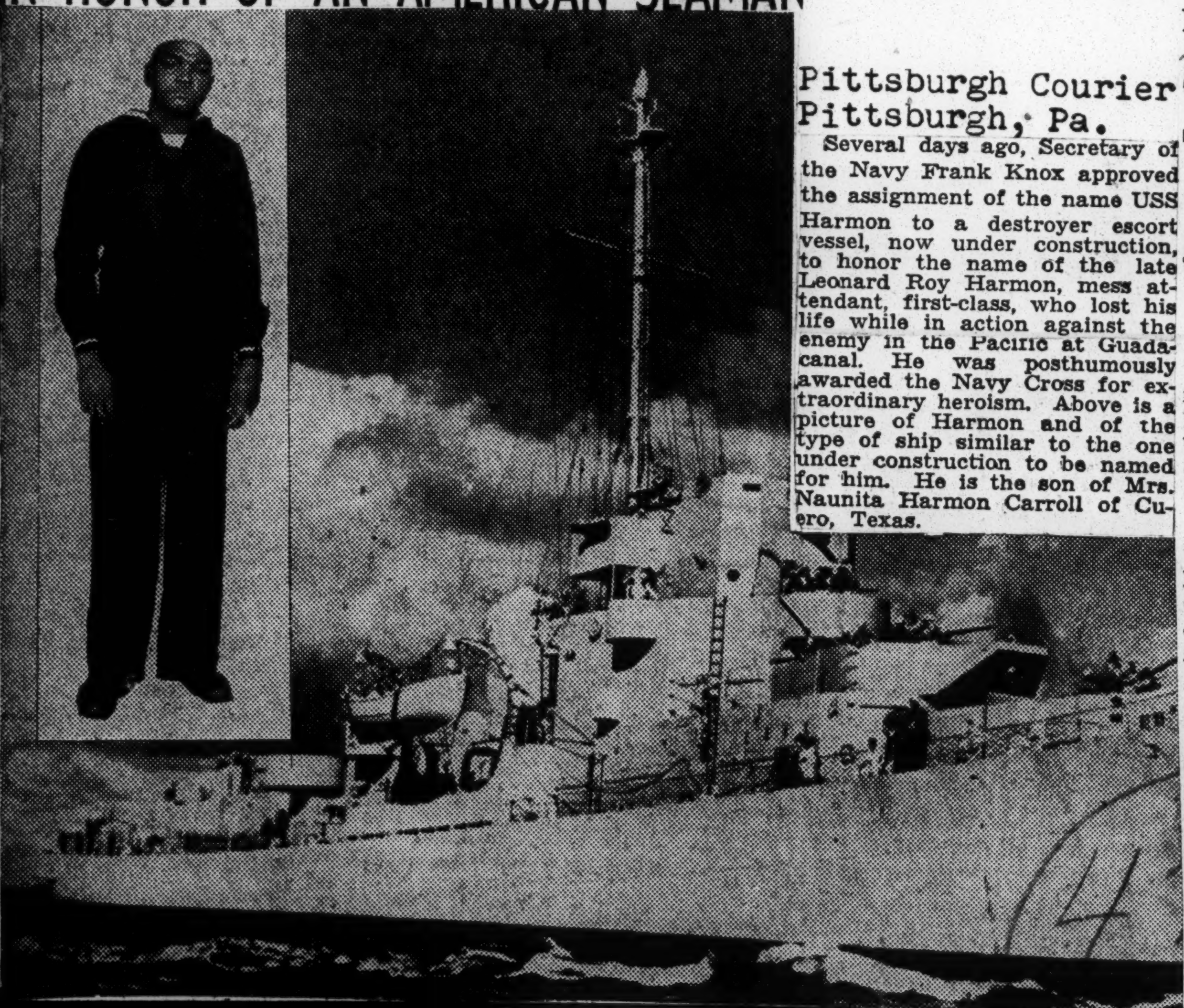
MAY 14 194

Picture Magazine

New York

N HONOR OF AN AMERICAN SEAMAN



Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Several days ago, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox approved the assignment of the name USS Harmon to a destroyer escort vessel, now under construction, to honor the name of the late Leonard Roy Harmon, mess attendant, first-class, who lost his life while in action against the enemy in the Pacific at Guadacanal. He was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism. Above is a picture of Harmon and of the type of ship similar to the one under construction to be named for him. He is the son of Mrs. Naunita Harmon Carroll of Cuero, Texas.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

4 Marines Promoted To Rank Of Sergeant At Camp Lejuene, N. C.

MAY 22 1943

MAY 22 1943

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C.—Four Negro Marines have been promoted to sergeants in the Marine Corps at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, N. C., Col. Samuel A. Woods, jr, commander of the 51st Composite Defense Battalion, announced this week

The first two Negroes to receive this ranking were Corporal Edson E. Blackman, jr., of Charlotte, N. C. and Corporal Charles F. Anderson of Birmingham, Ala. Both are in the Headquarters Company and were among the first 1,200 Negro enlistees in the Marines.

Son of Dr. Edson E. Blackman, Charlotte physician, Sergt. Blackman holds the degree of Master of Arts in Business Administration from the University of Michigan.

Sergeant Anderson, a graduate of Atlanta University, formerly was co-publisher of Pic Magazine He recently represented the Marines in the Negro Newspaper Week radio broadcast which originated at Hampton Institute, Va.

Shortly afterwards, Corporal Gilbert H. Johnson and Corporal John T. Pridgen of the Recruit Depot Battalion were promoted to the rank, of sergeant. Sergeant Johnson came to the Marines after serving a term as a messman in the U. S. Navy. Sergeant Pridgen had served a term of enlistment in the Army. Their commanding officer, Lt. Col. T A Holdal, praised them for exceptional ability and stated that they would be placed in charge of "boot" training—the seven weeks' training program given recruits.

MAY 22 1943

Other promotions announced included Privates First Class Eddie B. Butler, Curtis J. Gilliam, T. Gourdine, Warren N Morton, Ermer L Neil, jr., and Powell E. Woodberry to the rank of Corporal and Privates Hiner Thomas, Charles R. Davenport, Bedford Kincey, William A. Whitney, Harry J. Carson, James Colson, jr., James Givens, Harold E Coombs, Arthur V. Holmes, Richard Jones, Preston M. Gazaway, and Johnnie Bobo to Privates First Class.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
July 1, 1943

SHIP TO BE NAMED FOR NEGRO LEADER

SS John Merrick Will Be Launched at Wilmington; Tribute Paid To Negroes

Wilmington, June 30.—The North Carolina Shipbuilding Company announced today that the United States Maritime Commission has assigned the name SS John Merrick to its 114th Liberty ship, which will be launched within the near future.

John Merrick was the founder of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company of Durham, which is the largest Negro institution of its kind in the world.

The company stated that it was pleased that one of its vessels had been named for an outstanding North Carolina Negro for it had been anxious to give recognition to its Negro workers who have done their full share in the yard's good production record. Nearly 7,000 of the yard's approximately 20,000 employes are Negroes.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Navy Yard Paper Features Negroes

CHARLESTON, S. C. (ANP)—Attention to the great contribution Negro men were making in the war effort was hailed this week in the newspaper, "Ahoy" printed for the Navy and Marine personnel and civilian workers employed at the Charleston Navy yard.

JUN 10 1943

The article entitled, "On Thing In Mind" read as follows:

"The Nazis reported they had sunk a certain American cargo ship. In fact, says Merchant Seaman Makhan Kitchens of Oklahom, 'The Makhan Kitchens of Oklahoma, "The German newspapers and radio said our ship was sunk by torpedoes on three voyages, and that all hands were lost.'

'Dead Man' Alive

"The ship wasn't sunk. Kitchens isn't dead. He was in Charleston this week awaiting sailing orders. He told reporters, however, that he had a close call last time his ship put into port on the African front loaded with 10,000 tons of ammunition. Negro soldiers had started unloading the deadly cargo when Nazi bombers attacked. The ship's gun crews fought them off and the Hitlerites missed their target.

JUN 10 1943

"What impressed Kitchens most, though, was the way the soldiers worked. 'In less than 60 hours,' he said, 'they had unloaded 10,000 tons of ammunition. Many of them worked 24 to 26 hours without stopping. There were a few white men in the crowd, but it made no difference to anyone. They had a job to do and believe me they did it.

"I asked one of those Negro fellows why he worked so hard. He said: "We just got one thing on our minds—win the war so we can go back to America."

JUN 10 1943

"There was no holding those fellows back. The minute the enemy planes left, they burst out of the ship and went back to work, rolling out ammunition. I wish everybody in America could have seen what I saw that day. Maybe there wouldn't be any more race trouble if they did."

47j-1943
Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO CAPTAIN TO PILOT SS DOUGLASS, NEW CARGO SHIP

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27.—A Negro captain and a colored and white crew were awaiting completion of the SS Frederick Douglass at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyards in Baltimore, Md., this week, following the launching of the third Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro on May 22, 1943.

The vessel was christened Saturday afternoon by Anne Wiggins Brown, Baltimore-born concert singer and original star of "Porgy and Bess," as the Negro master, 51-year-old Captain Adrian Richardson, and three members of his crew witnessed the ceremony.

Grandson at Ceremonies.

Also present at the launching was Frederick Douglass III, grandson of the former slave who once worked as a ship caulker in the Baltimore area and who escaped from there in 1938 to become an internationally famous abolitionist, orator and editor. The grandson is now a public school teacher at Dunbar High school in Washington, D. C.

MAY 30 1943

Several thousand shipyard workers, including many of the 7,500 Negroes employed in the yard, witnessed the program which included the presentation of a plaque to Captain Richardson by Ferdinand Smith, national secretary of the National Maritime union. In his presentation, Mr. Smith said:

"It is fitting and proper that in a war for freedom and liberation, the vessel called 'Frederick Douglas' should sail the seas. During another war of the same aims, this good abolitionist, orator and journalist was in the forefront of the fight against slavery. His ideals have lived and this ship delivering vital materials of war production symbolizes the ideals for which Frederick Douglass fought in his lifetime."

Completed in 29 Days.

Miss Brown, who was presented with a sponsor's gift by J. M. Willis, vice-president and general manager of the company, broke the bottle of champagne across the prow of the vessel just 29 days after its keel was laid. Included among the 50 special guests at the ceremony was the sponsor's father, Dr. Harry Brown, and Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin of Baltimore.

The launching program, for which Martin Zech, a shipyard engineer, served as master of ceremonies, began at 11:30 a.m. with a recorded playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner." This was followed by several recordings of songs by Paul Robeson and vocal selections from the "Victory Four," a quartet of Negro shipyard workers, Allen Z. Currin, Charles Jackson, Thomas Turner and and Julius Rayne.

The recording system broadcast "God Bless America," as the ship slid down the way.

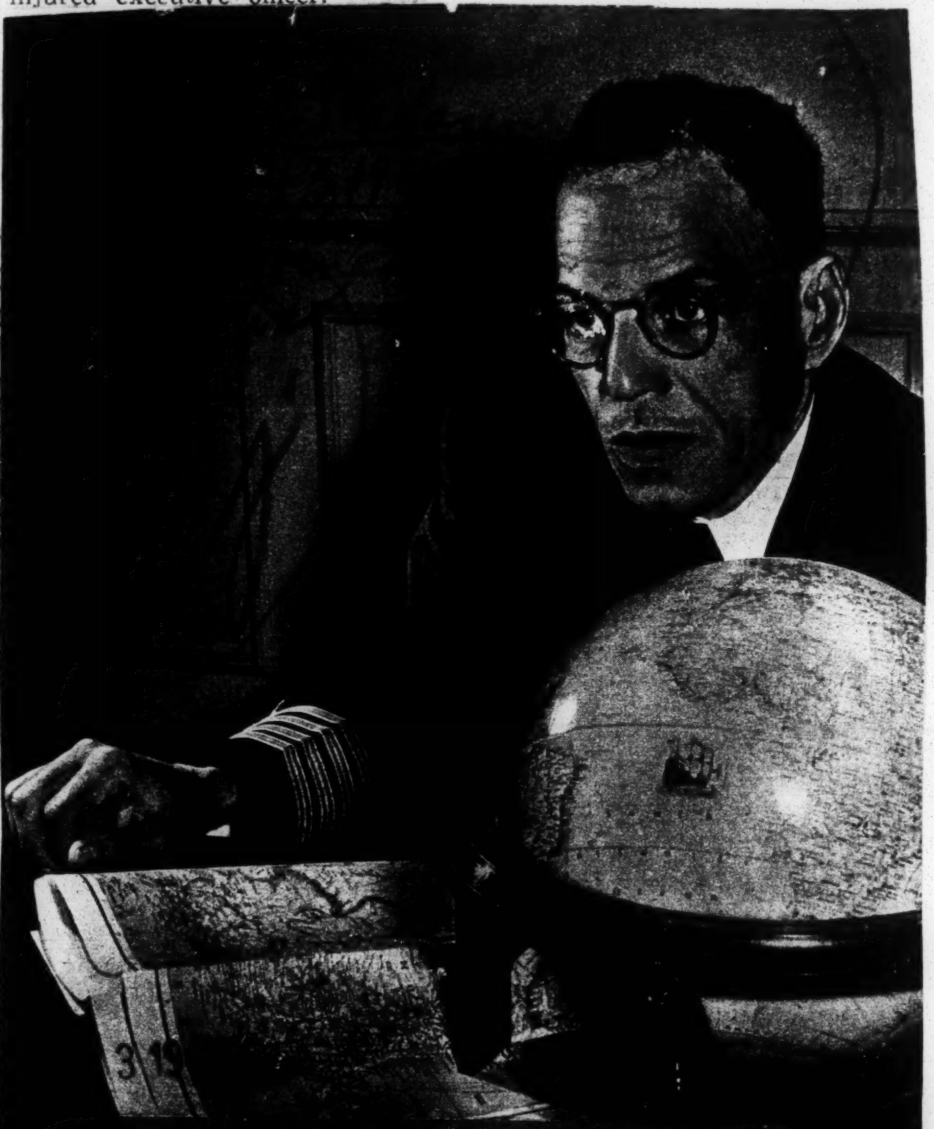
In accepting the plaque at the ceremony, as three of his aides stood by, Captain Richardson expressed gratification at the opportunity of becoming the second Negro master of a Victory ship and pledged himself and his crew to an all-out effort in the delivery of war goods to the battle fronts

Captain Richardson, a native of Phillipsburg, St. Martin, Dutch West Indies, is now a resident of New York City. He received his master's license in 1916 and was captain of an army transport in the last war. Prior to his assignment to the SS Frederick Douglass, he has commanded two vessels on trips to the war zones during this war.

MAY 30 1943

The first Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, the SS Booker T. Washington, is already in active service under a Negro master, Capt. Hugh Mulzac. The second, the SS George Washington Carver, was recently launched at the Kaiser shipyards, in Richmond, Cal.

Twenty-four hours before the Frederick Douglass was launched, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced that he had approved the assignment of the name USS Harmon to a Destroyer Escort vessel now under construction, to honor the name of the late Leonard Roy Harmon, Negro mess attendant, first class who was killed when he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gun fire to protect his shipmates on a naval vessel at Guadalcanal. Harmon was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism," and "unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured executive officer."



NEGRO SKIPPER

Capt. Hugh Mulzac is the first and only member of his race to command a ship of the U. S. Merchant Marine

Seagoing blood has never been limited to the white race, but it took a global war to put a Negro in charge of a big American merchant vessel.

JUL 13 1943

His name is Hugh N. Mulzac; his title, master of the 10,500-ton Liberty ship *Booker T. Washington.* Launched in California last fall, the *Booker T.* has since seen action aplenty carrying supplies for the Allies. She has crossed and recrossed the Atlantic, visited North Africa, survived gales, ice, tropic heat, enemy dive bombers.

Also, she has shattered the theory that a man's worth somehow depends on the color of his skin. Month after month without cargo loss, or trouble among his predominantly white crew, has proved the 57-year-old skipper of the *Booker T.* a highly capable mariner, a respected leader.

Look Magazine

He Stresses Study

Yet this proof waited 22 years for realization: Hugh Mulzac got his master's ticket back in 1920. Then, because of his race, he had to be content with lesser posts: steward, deck hand, purser, cook.

Until his chance came, he held his peace—and studied. To correspondence courses in navigation and radio operation he credits much of his readiness for command of the *Booker T.*

Look

Today his crew of 42 (representing 17 nationalities) has the unusual chance to attend regular shipboard classes in navigation, engineering, mathematics. It also puts out a daily one-page newspaper, *The General Alarm,* holds weekly discussion groups.

To Capt. Mulzac his men's welfare is all-important. He gives them what he rarely got from others: genuine friendship.

The Road Up

He was born on the small British West Indian island of St. Vincent, left home at 21 aboard a Norwegian bark. Soon he learned what it meant to be black: in North Carolina, a white man's church refused to let him in.

"I hated America then," he says. "It was hard for the grandson of a minister to be barred from the church of his own God."

But, through the years, he developed an inner strength. Now he hates no man, accepts life as it comes from day to day.

Ashore, Capt. Mulzac lives with his wife and five children in a Brooklyn, N. Y., apartment. Once a crack cricket player, he now roots hard for the Dodgers.

An American citizen since 1918, he hopes to retire after the war. But first? "I've got a job to do," he says quietly, with an accent that is still faintly British.

That job is fighting Fascism—and the prejudice that holds b... many men like Hugh Mulzac.

JUL 13 1943

GUN CREW HELPS SINK NAZI U-BOAT

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Coast Guard Craft Rams, Shells Germans —Unit Scores Several Hits

WASHINGTON. — A crew of 11 Negro enlisted men of the United States Coast Guard participated in the attack on the German submarine which was rammed and sunk by the cutter Campbell.

APR 24 1943

Reports received at Coast Guard headquarters reveal that the Negro gun crew fired several rounds at the U-boat and scored telling hits which aided in the destruction of the submarine.

The crew was in charge of Louis C. Etheridge Jr., Officers' Steward, 1st class, of 327 Putnam avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

Other members of the crew were: Raymond L. Knott, officers' steward, 2nd class, Atlanta, Ga.; Lester E. Carr, mess attendant, 1st class, 3634 South State street, Chicago, Ill.; Johnnie R. Elliott, mess attendant, 1st class, Monroe, La.; Arthur F. Galloway, mess attendant, 1st class, New York N.Y.; Cleveland Powell mess attendant, 1st class, New Orleans, La.; James W. Spence, mess attendant, 1st class, Norfolk, Va.; Coy W. Allen, mess attendant, 2nd class, Miami, Fla.; William F. Fitzpatrick, mess attendant, 2nd class, Detroit, Mich.; Earl W. Phillips, mess attendant, 2nd class, Miami, Fla.; Willie J. Samuel mess attendant, 2nd class, Miami, Fla.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

JUL 1 1943

AP Wirephoto.

AN INVITATION FROM THE NATIONAL MARITIME UNION to address its annual convention is declined, with a smile of regret, by President Roosevelt. It was presented by Joseph Curran, union president, fourth from right, and six seamen who have been on torpedoed boats. Two Maritime Commissioners accompanied the group.

JUL 1 1943

Pyle Commends Negroes on Ship

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

By ERNIE PYLE,
World-Telegram War Correspondent.

AUG 5 1943

SOMEWHERE IN SICILY (By Wireless).—A few more sketches of men on our ship:

Dick Minogue. He has been in the navy six years and intends to stay. He is a bosun's mate, first class, and may be a chief before long. He comes from White Bear Lake, Minn., and they call him Minny aboard ship.

It is men like Minogue who form the backbone of the present-day navy. He is young and intelligent, yet strong and salty enough for any job. He definitely has the sea about him, but it is modern sea. He wears his bosun's pipe from a cord around his neck, and a white hat cocked 'way down over one eye. He says the worst moment he ever had in the navy was while piping a British admiral over the side. Dick had a chew of tobacco in his mouth, and right in the middle of his refrain the whistle got full of tobacco juice and went gurgly.

Ernie Pyle.

Arch Fulton. He is an electrician's mate, second class, from Cleveland. Before the war he was a lineman for the Cleveland Illuminating Co. He is married and has two children.

Came to U. S. 20 Years Ago.

Fulton is 37—much older than most of the crew. He is a Scotsman. He went to America 20 years ago. His parents are still living at Kilmarnock, Scotland. He has a brother who is a sergeant-major in the British army and a sister who is a British Wren.

AUG 5 1943

Arch has a short pompadour that slants forward, giving him the effect of standing with his back to the wind. He has a dry Scottish humor and he takes the navy in his stride. He used to read this column back in Cleveland, so you can see he's a smart man.

We have 11 Negro boys aboard, all in the stewards' department. They wait table in the officers' mess, and run the wardroom pantry that keeps hot coffee going 24 hours a day. They have a separate compartment of their own for quarters, but otherwise they live just as the white sailors do.

All Quiet Boys.

They are all quiet, nice boys and a credit to the ship. Three of them are exceedingly tall and three exceedingly short. They all have music in their souls. Sometimes I have to laugh; when the wardroom radio happens to be playing a hot tune during meals I've noticed them grinning to themselves and dancing ever so slightly as they go about their serving.

I haven't room to give more than a couple of their names. One is George Edward Mallory of Orange, Va. He is 32, and before the war worked as an unloader at a chain grocery store in Orange. He has been in the navy for a year and has been operated on for appendicitis since coming to the Mediterranean. He got seasick once, but it doesn't bother him any more. He is tall, quiet and serious. He had never waited tables before, but he's an expert now.

AUG 5 1943

Another one is Fred Moore, who is the littlest, meekest and blackest one on ship. He has a tiny mustache that you can't even see, and a perpetually startled look on his good-natured face. He is very quiet and shy.

May Stay in Navy.

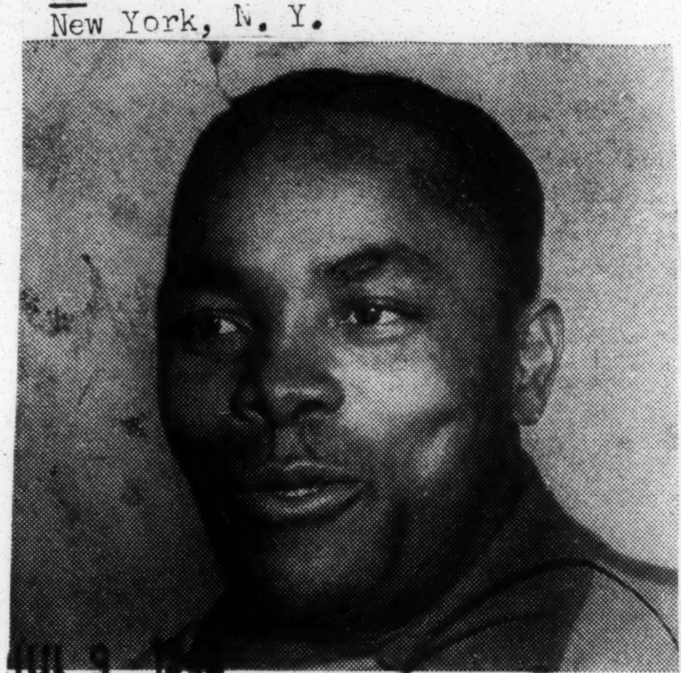
His home is South Birmingham, Ala. He is just 21 and has been in the navy only since March. He likes it fine, and thinks he may stay in after the war. Before joining up he did common labor at army camps and fruit farms.

Fred has a gift. He is a wizard at baking delicate and beautiful pastries. He makes all the pastry desserts for the officers' mess. He had never done any cooking before joining the navy, except to fry a few hamburgers at a short-order joint. He can't explain his knack for pastry-baking. It's just like somebody who can play the piano beautifully without

taking lessons. The whole ship pays tribute to his little streak of genius.

Fred says he has never been seasick nor very homesick, but during some of our close shaves in action he says he sure was scared.

PM
New York, N. Y.


JUL 9 1943

Leonard R. McIntosh, 34, lives in New York, married, one kid. He's a chief cook—"and boy if your shipmates elect a cook to anything, he's a good cook." His ship was smacked by three torpedoes, sunk in three minutes. And then, five days and five nights, tossing on the Caribbean with 49 men in one boat.

War Or No War, Navy Bars Negro Athletic Director

Chicago, Ill. Defender

JUN 12 1943

WASHINGTON—War or no war, the United States navy continues its discrimination against Negroes because of race.

Wendall A. Parris, a Negro with long experience in physical education, applied last fall, for a commission in the physical education specialists corps, where commissions were being given to many football coaches and others with similar experience.

JUN 12 1943

He received the following reply from Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel:

"With the exception of specialists to assist in the recruiting effort, all Negroes who desire to enlist in general service are enlisted as apprentice seamen. The Navy does not enlist Negro specialists in connection with physical education and instruction."

Parris recently appealed his case to Sen. James J. Davis (R., Pa.), pointing out that he had had three years experience in the physical education department of Howard university, the largest Negro college; four years as athletic director and physical education instructor in a big junior high school, and other similar experience.

Sen. Davis wrote:

"My main interest in this situation is that the new Army and Navy physical training schools expanded programs are being conducted which will be used in civilian life after the war, but since the policies of the Army and Navy exclude Negroes from such schools by refusing them commissions, then the Negro race, which has a low physical fitness index and a record of 44 per cent rejection of all selectees examined in the draft, will not be improved because our teachers cannot get this training."

Davis appealed to the Navy and got the following reply from Adm Jacobs:

"At the present time the Navy's policy with respect to the induction or enlistment of Negroes in connection with physical education is unchanged from the time of this bureau's letter dated October 19, 1942, to Mr. Parris."

47j-1943

Sec. Knox Silent On Women In Navy; 2000 Seabees Across; More To Go

Philadelphia Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

NOV 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Nov., (ANP)—Navy Secretary Frank Knox could give no report of progress being made, if any, with regard to the acceptance of colored women into the WAVES, SPARS or Women's Marine corps, nor did he have any idea when a decision would be made, it was learned through questioning at his Friday press conference.

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The navy department disclosed on the same day that two Negro battalions of Seabees—construction battalions are ready to move to undisclosed bases overseas. At present they are receiving their final training at the advanced base depot, Gulfport,, Miss. It was revealed also that there are now approximately 2,000 Negro seabees, part of the 7,100 in the navy, who are serving overseas and who comprise the predominant personnel of two construction battalions. One is in the South Pacific and one in the South Atlantic.

Three other battalions of Negro seabee specials — freight handlers and dock-wallopers in ordinary language—are training at the naval construction training center, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va., while at the same camp a fifth regular construction battalion is learning to fight preparatory to joining the other four battalions in constructing the naval shore stations which support the offensive.

The navy announcement, recalling its [illegible] review in [illegible] of the work performed, under fire, by the first construction battalion made up of colored personnel, in the Solomon Islands, found occasion to draw attention now to the praise given the men by Commander J. P. MacBean Jr., civil engineer corps, U. S. N. R., the officer in charge of the battalion.

"You pursue your duties with perseverance and attention to the objective of doing a fast, workmanlike [illegible] Commander MacBean. "Your devotion to duty under adverse weather conditions and enemy air action has the deepest admiration of the commander."

Specifically, this unit had built a seaplane base, and so worked it that the base was in operation during the entire time of construction. The battalion constructed large storage facilities for fuel for aircraft and ships. It built storehouses of all kinds, barracks for officers and men, shops of all kinds, two airplane landing strips, camp quarters, [illegible] systems, power plants and electric distribution lines, telephone lines, and a public address system especially useful in warning of the raids.

— A Colored Judge

Navy Falls Short Of 'Negro Quota;' More Time Needed To Meet Need

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

OCT 2 1943

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Unless the navy department makes a substantial increase in its calll for Negroes, it will not reach the level promised during conversations with War Manpower commission officials last spring, in line with the policy worked out with the approval of the White House whereby Negroes would acount for 10 per cent of all branches of the armed forces.

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The upward adjustment in total personnel announced two weeks ago by Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of navy personnel, testifying before the Senate military committee, makes even more unlikely to attainment of the goal.

Waited Another Year

From an unquestioned source it was learned recently that the navy had requested an additional year in which to achieve what it had promised to do by the end of 1943 in the matter of Negro inductions. Questioned shortly after during his press conference, Sec. Knox declared that the navy is adhering to the program agreed to, and that it has been taking all the eligible men selective service had been sending them. He pointed out, however, that rejections were rather high owing to the higher physical requirements for the navy.

There are now about 2,609,581 men in the navy. Adm. Jacobs testified that in an adjustment of figures, the department has estimated that it will need about 400,000 by the year end, thus giving them a total personnel of approximately 3,009,581 men.

Based upon the 10 percent agreement, the navy should have now about 260,958 Negroes. The additional requirements to which Adm. Jacobs referred would mean that some 40,000 more Negroes would be required, giving the department a total Negro personnel of roughly 300,918 men.

80,000 in Service

There are today about 80,000 Negroes in the navy department, which includes the coast guard and the marines. This represents a difference of about 180,958 men which it should have had it observed the 10 per cent formula from the outset. It was to make up this difference that the navy announced following the agreement with WMC that 15 per cent of its calls would be for Negroes. With the changes in personnel estimates advanced by the admiral, this deficiency could amount to 220,958 men unless there is a pick-up in inductions.

In spite of Sec. Knox's denial, this acceleration is not taking place in any appreciable degree. Since April, the navy's calls for Negroes have been greater than 10 per cent, but not nearly approaching the 15 per cent it promised to make. Induction figures, which are invariably less than those for calls, for the first three months of the year were below 10 per cent, and for the next six months, slightly above.

More For Coast Guard and Marines

Calls for the coast guard and the marines have been much higher than for the navy itself, but the actual numbers of men involved are small, and therefore would make no noticeable dent in the overall figures.

It becomes increasingly apparent therefore that if the navy intends to accept Negroes to the extent of 10 per cent of total personnel, the percentage of calls agreed to will have to be made, and if the rate of rejections cut too heavily into the proportion available for induction, then the percentage of calls will have to be increased above the 15 per cent level.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

"One-Man" Gun Crew In Rout Of Sub Pack

NOV 19 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. Nov. 15—Dorie Miller, famed Negro Bluejacket hero of the Pearl Harbor attack, had a new rival this week.

He is Christopher Columbus Sheppard, cook first class, USN, and a "one-man gun crew" on the Destroyer Borie. This destroyer was part of a Naval force recently awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for having sunk "more submarines than any team in Naval history."

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Sheppard's exploits, and those of another Negro member of the Borie crew, Ernest Gardner, steward's mate second class, USNR, were revealed by their commander, Lieut. Charles H. Hutchins of Terre Haute, Ind., during a press conference at the Navy Department on November 1[illegible].

Man Guns

According to Lieutenant Hutchins, Sheppard had a battle station as "first loader," on a 4-inch gun, drag-out battle with two U-boats—one of which was described by the Borie's commander as "the biggest one we'd ever seen."

While fighting the latter sub at ranges of 10 to 40 feet, the gun crew at Sheppard's station became blinded by smoke. The "first loader" immediately seized the gun and started firing away at the sub. Gardner rushed from another station and started passing the ammunition. Afer a few minutes, however, Sheppard waved his assistant aside and became a "one-man gun crew," getting his own ammunation, loading the gun and firing continuously at the badly crippled submarine.

The story of the death battle of the Borie against a pack of submarines and her fight for survival while wallowing in heavy seas in a badly damaged condition has been termed by the Navy Department as "an outstanding example of valor and seamanship," typical of "the teamwok of the unsung escort vessels that help make possible the more colorful exploits of the death-dealing, carrier-based planes which are carrying the fight to the U-boats in the mid-Atlantic."

Navy records reveal that Sheppard is a native of Norfolk. Va., and that he enlisted there. Gardner, son of Mrs. Rose E. Gardner lives at 914 Warner street.

Navy Ceramics Laboratory Supervised by Negro

People's Voice New York, N. Y.

AUG 14 1943

HAMPTON, Va.—Models that serve as training aids throughout the schools of the Navy are being produced in the ceramics laboratory at the Naval Training School here, and a Negro is in charge of the laboratory.

He is Joseph W. Gilliard, former Hampton Institute professor of ceramics who is now in Navy uniform.

DEFINITE RESPONSIBILITIES

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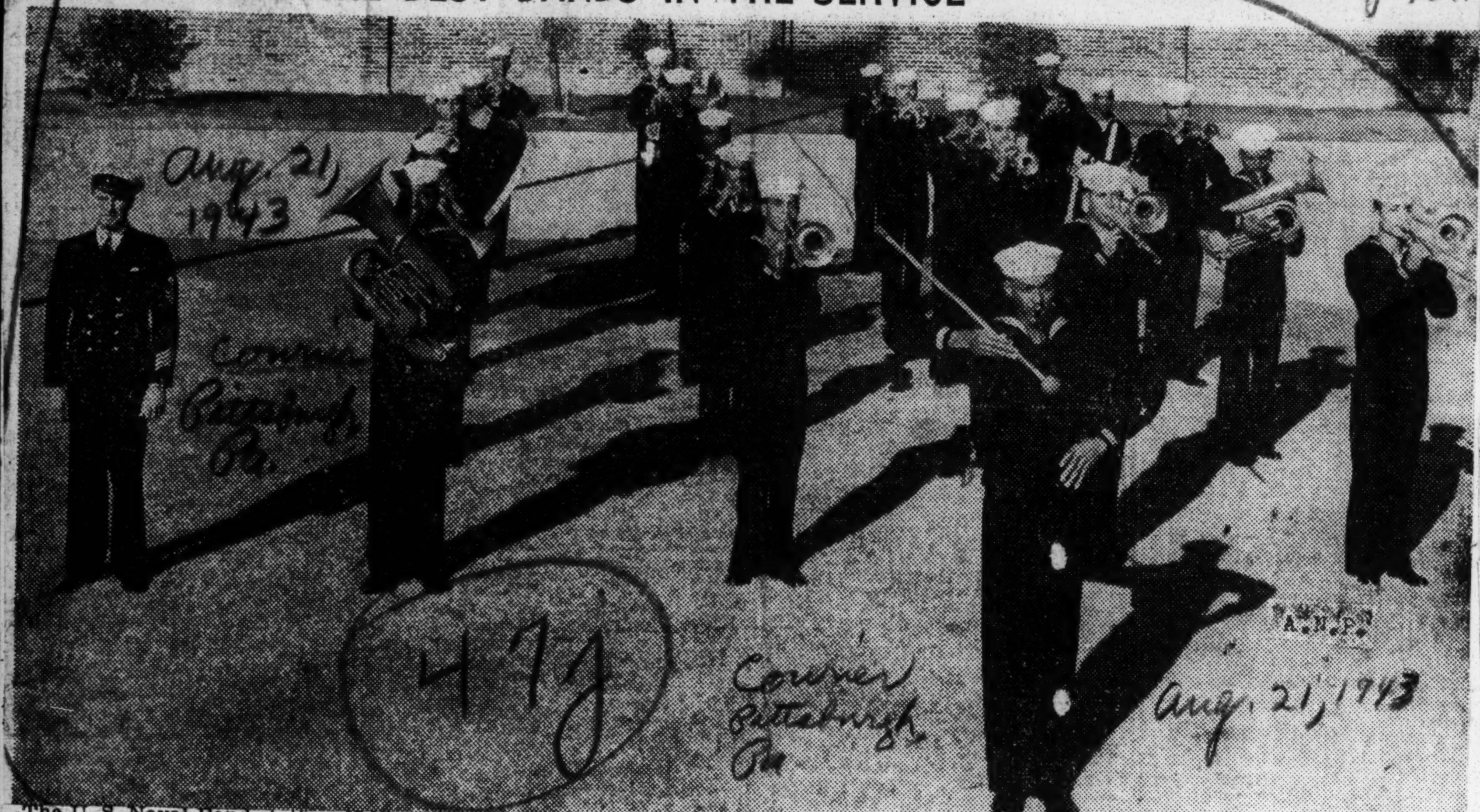
There is no Navy rating for the art of pottery so Gilliard is carried on the rolls as a metalsmith. Under his supervision, pottery models of great tensile strength and beautiful finish have been turned out.

Gilliard, a native of Taylor, S. C., studied at the New York State College of Ceramics, Alfred University, Alfred, N. Y.

RATED ONE OF THE BEST BANDS IN THE SERVICE

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.



Aug. 21, 1943

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

The U. S. Naval Band stationed at the U. S. Naval Air station on the shores of Lake Pontchartrain at New Orleans, is rated as one of the best musical organizations in the country. Chief Petty Officer Walter Knight is bandmaster; Clyde Kerr being director of the orchestra formed within the unit.

Other members are, Louis Barbarin, McNeil Breaux, Manuel Causta, Fred Darnes, Wendell Eugene, Raymond Glapion, Wille Humphrey, Earl Joseph, Eli Johnson, Michael Lavigne, Eddie Pierson, Theodore Purnell, James Brown, Robert Johnson, Frabel Brigham and William Drake.—ANP photo.

Aug. 21, 1943

Knox Still Silent On Women In WAVES, SPARS, Marines

Amsterdam Star-News, New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Navy Secretary Frank Knox could give no report of progress being made, if any, with regard to the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES, SPARS or Women's Marine Corps, nor did he have any idea when a decision would be made, it was learned through questioning at his Friday press conference.

'Under Discussion'?

NOV 20 1943

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Send Seabees Abroad

The Navy Department disclosed on the same day that two Negro battalions of Seabees—construction battalions are ready to move to undisclosed bases overseas. At present they are receiving their final training at the advance base depot, Gulfport, Miss. It was revealed also that there are now approximately 2,000 Negro Seabees, part of the 7,100 in the Navy, who are serving overseas and who comprise the predominant personnel of two construction battalions. One is in the South Pacific and one in the South Atlantic.

In Choppy Waters 4 Hours

Swims To Safety In Sicily Invasion

AUG 28 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By AL DUNMORE
(Courier Staff Reporter)

"I can thank the ability to swim, developed here in Pittsburgh rivers, for saving my life during the invasion of Sicily," Albert E. Paul, steward's mate, 2nd class, confessed [illegible]. Visiting his father, Torrence K Paul of 5348 Hillcrest street, Garfield Hills, Paul is ready to return to action after a brief furlough following his awesome experiences as one of 18 survivors from a destroyer sunk on the fifth day of the successful Allied Nations' landing on the shores of Sicily.

"We had seen four days of action serving as a cover for the landing parties, and shelling the enemy from about a half mile off shore," Paul related. "It was about dawn of the fifth day that the end came for our ship. I was one of the loaders on a 20-mm gun on the aft of the ship when the German Focke-Wulf swooped over scoring a direct hit on the starboard side and splitting the ship in two.

CAUGHT IN SUCTION

"It sank so fast that there was little chance to do anything but jump overboard. I was caught in the suction created by the sinking boat and only my ability to swim enabled me to escape the strong undertow.

"I swam about for a while by myself and then began to pick up the other survivors. There were 18 in all. Some of us had life belts which were difficult to expand, so we decided to make a raft of the ones which worked more easily.

"There we were, afloat in the choppy waters of the Mediterranean, with the battle raging, enemy firing and the stormy weather the transports couldn't unload. The enemy kept the water between the convoy and the shoreline plenty hot. Our destroyers and the British battle wagons shelled the beach down. After two days of continuous firing, there was a respite on the third day."

As we talked of the shelling, a flash of pain came over Paul's face as if he recalled the awesome sounds of this continuous pounding.

"Were you frightened throughout all this," he was asked.

"NOTHING ELSE TO DO"

"Well, I'll have to admit I was pretty shaky when I knew the battle was to come off, but after the preliminary firing, I just went about my duties as I was instructed. There was nothing else to do."

He told of how he saw a cruiser scout plane, a "Kingfish Fighter," shot down by two Italian fighters. "The 'Kingfish' put up a good fight, but it was too slow."

He also saw a transport set afire by enemy fire, but this was put under control by the crew. Gunners from his own ship on the 6" anti-aircraft and the 40mm. pom-poms's brought down two of the heavy enemy aircraft. Paul also saw two other big enemy planes brought down.

We asked him if his gun made any hits, but he shook his head. "The smaller guns are used only for planes diving in, and there was very little of that except at night, then they came so fast we couldn't see them. We could only fire at sounds, hoping we hit something."

The sailor was impressed with the speed of the aircraft. "They were just blurs when they swooped over."

Ready to return to action now, Paul spent several days with his wife, a New Yorker, here with his father and younger brother. "It has been like a second honeymoon for us," he said.

As a member of the destroyer crew, he saw little of the Negro units. He said he had heard no eyewitness accounts of the deeds of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, but said that some of the wounded white soldiers he met on his return trip told him that a colored regiment was being used in the front lines in the Sicilian action and was making a remarkable record.

"I only had one opportunity to go ashore in North Africa," Paul revealed. "Then I didn't see any of our boys. I saw some British and French colonials, but I couldn't talk to them. The only English they knew was how to ask for a cigarette.

"The Arabian children loved American tobacco, too. I saw one little three-year-old boy smoking a cigarette. All of them called Americans 'Joe.' They were very friendly."

Thus one of our many heroes told of his experiences. Like so many others, he has seen action, wants more, realizing that there is a job to be done, and doesn't feel that he has done too much

about us. We could hear aircraft zooming overhead, but could see little because there was a heavy mist.

"We could feel the repercussions of death charges in the water. They gave you a numbing effect, made you feel as if you were falling asleep.

"After about four hours of this we sighted a seagoing tug breaking through the mist. Some of us saw a big white 'I' on the nose. We thought it stood for Italian, we all let go of the raft and started to swim. We didn't know where, we just started to swim away from the tug. But the crew on board saw us and signalled that she was a friendly craft and pulled us all on board.

THEN I PASSED OUT

"I guess I was in a sort of daze. I remembered being taken to one of our transports and being put in bed. Then I passed out."

Thus, Paul described but part of his experiences in one of the most historic battles of all times. One of the 18 survivors of his destroyer's crew, the 29-year-old sailor made no pretense at having performed any heroic deed.

He told how after a day's rest he was assigned to a battle station on the transport, and then saw three more days of action, before returning to North Africa and then back to this country with the crew of his ship and a cargo of 900 German prisoners and an unrevealed number of wounded Americans.

47j-1943

WAVES Seek Recruits, ---But Not Negroes!

SEP 10 1943

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Eva Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—"Take a step you'll be proud of all your life—volunteer for the WAVES or SPARS today!"

Six patriotic young women in Washington decided to respond to that stirring slogan. But the WAVES wouldn't have them although they met all requirements.

The reason—they were Negroes.

And the WAVES have not accepted one single Negro women despite their energetic calls for more and more recruits. And the WAVES is an organization that deserves the wholehearted support of the nation.

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The snappy blue and white WAVE recruiting bulletin says nothing about "whites only." The only requirements it lists are that an applicant must be a citizen, between 21 and 36 years of age, no children under 18, two years high school education and in good physical condition.

MEET REQUIREMENTS

And these six Negro girls met every single requirement. But here's the story of what happened when they decided to test the qualifications for admission into the WAVES.

They caused such consternation in the Navy [illegible] here that officials in charge closed the door four and one-half hours ahead of schedule.

This was the first time these officials had to explain away their Jim-Crow policy and admit that it existed. Negro girls haven't applied to the WAVES except in rare cases—they know the Navy's undemocratic policy won't admit them.

It was late afternoon on that hot Friday when Althea Jefferson, Washington, Penna, high school graduate, and Hazel Lee, a qualified dental hygienist and stenographer, entered the WAVE recruiting office in the heart of downtown Washington. Both girls are employed by the government.

STALLED ON APPLICATION

At the recruiting desk sat a snappy little WAVE who greeted them pleasantly in a thick southern accent. But when the girls asked for application blanks, she blithely replied:

"Oh, [illegible] applications [illegible] now, but [illegible] take your names and addresses and telephone numbers. As soon as we begin taking them we'll let you know."

With application blanks scattered all over the place and recruits more than welcome, this was just a nice little stall.

The Kentucky WAVE admitted when pressed that she gave out some applications, but added quite firmly:

"We are making some plans for you'all now."

You-all meant Negroes. It was apparent that the WAVE had decided not to hand out applications on her own initiative from what later happened.

When the next two Negro girls sauntered in—Bernice Jacobs and Velma Hammond, both college graduates, highly trained . . . the Kentucky WAVE was called into another office wanted "by the commanding officer," according to the Navy yeoman who replaced her.

The sailor handed the girls application blanks upon request but while they were engaged in filling them out, a Navy officer walked to the front door, locked it, saying "We're closing up, Smith, it's too hot."

There's a big sign outside which says "[illegible] A. M. to 9 P.M." It was only [illegible].45 P. M. The girls were told the usual hours were from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. and to finish filling their applications out at home. The yeoman told them to go out through a rear exit —but they insisted on the front door and the front door was opened for them.

Outside, the other two girls waiting to go in, hearing the tale that the office was closing, decided to wait and see. They calmly sauntered around the block to see if the gesture of closing up shop had been a little trick to get rid of them.

And it was! Fifteen minutes later they returned to find the recruiting office doing business as usual.

The same sailor was seated at the desk when Cleomine Lewis, Virginia Union University graduate, and Cora E. Wright, South Carolina State College graduate, entered.

Receiving them politely, the sailor took their names, addresses, and telephone numbers and gave them application blanks.

Quite obviously, it had been decided by now that even Negro girls could be given application blanks. It wasn't committing the WAVES to anything.

But the girls weren't allowed to fill out their ampplications, since none were filled out after five o'clock, according to the very harassed yeoman by now. Pressed as to when [illegible] stated confusely, the closing [illegible] was 9 P.M., but:

"Today there was a heatwave and we decided to close early but a little breeze sprang up so we decided to open again."

And he further went on to explain, very much flustered:

"We have no provisions for accepting colored applicants as yet. But I understand some plans are being made."

Undoubtedly the plans he was referring to are the rumors around town that the Navy is going to set up Jim-Crow training schools and facilities for Negro girls when they accept them into the WAVES.

The WAVE pamphlet is addressed "to every woman who wants a part in winning this war." And certainly Negro women want to do every bit as much as white women. It is up to every American citizen to demand that the WAVES accept Negro women on an equal, non-segregated basis and give them an opportunity to serve their country.

Five Graduate As Shore Patrolmen

Age
New York, N. Y
DEC 18 1943

[illegible] LAKES, Ill.—Five New York men were members of the second class of Negro Shore Patrolmen who graduated here yesterday at the U.S. Naval Training Station's Service School.

The newly graduated Bluejackets, promoted to seamen first class, completed an eight-week course of Naval law and customs, uniform regulations, boxing wrestling, judo, drilling, small arms and first aid.

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The Shore Patrolmen, now awaiting active duty orders to a Naval station within their home district, are: Lester Dalbert Cummings, 30, husband of Gwen Cummings, 340 Grand avenue Brooklyn, N.Y.; Charles Mc Clendon, 32, husband of Beatrice Mc Clendon, from 252 Adams street, Buffalo, N.Y.; Charles Mumford Elam, 32, husband of Mrs. Eddie Mae Elam, [illegible]-160—105th street, Corona, N.Y.; Carl Raymond Vincent, 36, husband of Jennett Vincent, 101 West 114th street; and Herbert Augustus Gordon, 23, 305 West 112th street, [illegible] last two men [illegible] from New York City.

Marine Group Wins Praise Of Officers

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By ALVIN E. WHITE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4—(ANP)—The 51st Defense battalion, U.S. Marine corps, 1,200 strong, now in training at the 200 square mile reservation at New River, N. C., is winning the praise of the commanding officers and of fellow marines by virtue of its excellent record and conduct.

FEB 6 1943

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The 51st is the first Negro unit ever trained in this branch of the armed forces. But it is making such progress it will be the basis, it is believed, for a fuller use of Negroes in this hitherto closed branch of the services.

NO DIFFERENCE IN SERVICE

According to officials in the marine corps, a defense battalion is one similar to the unit glorified in recent film, "Wake Island." In other words, it is a unit fitted to hold captured spots, once the landing units have gained a foothold. Many of these units are operating in the West Indies and where the United States has obtained concessions for air bases. There is no difference between the Negro unit and the others in the service.

Starting from scratch, the men receive eight weeks basic training, similar to that received by army men in 13 weeks. From here the training continues, becoming increasingly more difficult and technical.

PROMOTION POSSIBLE

Because there have been no Negroes in the marine corps previously, all of the training is carried on by white officers and non-coms. Drill masters in the training cadre are toughened through years of experience. As soon as Negroes qualify in the manifold duties of the marine corps they will be promoted to the ratings and ranks they are entitled to.

The commanding general of the area has expressed a desire for the mutual respect by both colored and white marines. No friction has developed in the camp and there has been no more than the usual run of military infractions and violations.

FEB 6 1943

S.S. Robert L. Vann

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
1943

The United States honored another great American last Sunday when the S.S. ROBERT L. VANN went down the ways at the South Portland, Maine, shipyard.

It paid tribute not only to a man, who, through his career, strengthened the American ideal of opportunity, but to the people whom he so ably championed during his lifetime.

It is eminently fitting that great ships carrying the weapons of war and liberation should be named for men and women, who, in their lives, exemplified those qualities which the whole world has come to identify with the United States.

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The United States is far from being a perfect country as everybody with the slightest acquaintance with its history and customs knows full well, but, for all its faults, the fact remains that it is as yet the only country in the world where people of humble origin like Dr. Carver, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, John Merrick and Robert L. Vann could rise to the heights.

When the happily-named Liberty ships bearing their names brave the submarine-infested seas and reach unfortunate and beleaguered lands laden with the fruits of this civilization, they bring home to those people in the most effective manner the real meaning of America.

And too, it makes all those in this land who appreciate the deeper meaning of this gesture, doubly resolve to break down those barriers which prevent America from reaching its full stature and promise.

WIDOW CHRISTENS NEW LIBERTY SHIP

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 6 1943

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[illegible] oh Ship of State,
Sail on, [illegible] strong and great . . .”
—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

By WILLIAM G. NUNN, Managing Editor

PORTLAND, Maine—America immortalized a great American here today . . . immortalized him on sea as well as on land. As white sea gulls sailed lazily overhead in a cloud-flecked sky, and a brisk New England breeze unfurled U.S. flags fluttering from the masthead; a slender, charming, cultured woman, with tears in her eyes but with a throb of pride ringing in her voice, echoed the historic words:

“I Christen Thee, ROBERT L. VANN.”

The woman was Mrs. Robert L. Vann, widow of the late Robert L. Vann, statesman, humanitarian, lawyer and editor of The Courier until his passing in 1940.

(Other Pictures, Stories, Pages 4, 5, 11, 20)

The occasion was the launching of the 10,500-ton Liberty Ship, ROBERT L. VANN, first vessel of its kind to be named for a Negro publisher.

SHIP LAUNCHING WAS SYMBOLIC

It seemed highly fitting and proper that the SS ROBERT L. VANN should be launched in the basin of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation. Because the [illegible]ged structure of this Northern [illegible]ilding town, steeped in the traditions of Americanism, symbolizes the things for which the great edito[illegible]ught for so courageously and so fearlessly during his colorful career.

It seemed highly fitting and proper that the town which gave birth to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose POEMS OF SLAVERY in 1842 created widespread comment, should 101 years later, be the scene of the launching of a ship in honor of a great American, of slave background.

HISTORIC EVENT

Today in a setting dramatic and yet highly simple, those people who knew “The Chief” so well, joined with dignitaries of city, county, state and government, to witness the tribute being paid. The huge caravan and the highlights and shadows of the launching combined to produce a never-to-be-forgotten picture.

SPAULDING DELIVERED PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

As the great grey hulk of the ship towered high above the heads of the spectators, Mrs. Vann, Mrs. Mabel Page Johnson, Andrew B. Sides, executive vice president of the company; Rev. C. E. Askew and C. C. Spaulding moved into the bay, a narrow platform extending from the cat-walk to the prow of the ship.

Along the cat-walk, scores of people slipped into advantageous positions, while along the gaping frame-work of another Liberty ship, hundreds of workers gathered.

Mr. Sides, in charge of the launching ceremonies, spoke briefly, followed by P. L. Prattis, executive editor of The Courier, who introduced C. C. Spaulding, the speaker, and Rev. C. E. Askew of Detroit, who blessed the ship.

Then came the christening. As Mrs. Vann's voice rang out . . . “I Christen Thee” . . . an intense hush settled over the assemblage.

With the words, ‘ROBERT L. VANN’ the silence gave way to a cheering refrain, which mounted to a rising crescendo of applause.

Hands reached furtively for handkerchiefs. Mrs. Vann was weeping quietly. Tears were in the eyes of many. But they were tears of joy . . . tears of humble pride . . . tears which recognized this honor which had been bestowed to one of their own.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS WELL REPRESENTED

It was a great moment . . . a moment which will forever live in the minds of those who witnessed the af[illegible] including the faithful and loyal employees who represented every department of the paper, and who ha[illegible]elled from Pittsburgh to be a p[illegible] of the occasion.

Representing President Roosevelt and the Federal Government was Ward Freeman of the National Maritime Commission. Representing the Congress of the United States was William L. Dawson of Illinois' First Congressional District.

Representing the State of Pennsylvania was the Hon. Homer S. Brown, member of the legislature. Representing the Chamber of Commerce and the Interracial Commission of Allegheny count[illegible]as Edward O. Ta[illegible] Representing the city of Pittsburgh was Hon. Thomas E. Kilgallen, president of City Council and former state senator.

MANY PROMINENT LEADERS ATTEND

Representing Allegheny county was Attorney Wilbur C. Douglass, while Dr. W. Roderick Brown represented the Office of Civilian Defense and the National Tuberculosis League.

Others of national prominence who attended were Bishop W. J. Walls, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Hobson Reynolds of Philadelphia (he is a candidate for city magistrate there) Mr. and Mrs. Julian Black, Ferdinand Q. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union; A. N. Fields, John R. Williams, Walter C. Ra[illegible] W[illegible]is, compensation [illegible]eree; Dr. Donald Jefferson, Dr. Emmett J. Scott, representing the Sun Shipbuilding Corp., Louis W. Wilgrade of the U. S. Maritime Commission, John W. Davis, Washington; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Dana, Portland.

Also present were Rose Wilder Lane, noted writer and novelist, and Mrs. Marjorie McKenzie Lawson.

MRS. VANN GETS SILVER PLATE

Preceding the launching, the entire party was presented to officials of the company, including Chester Churchill, president; Walter L. Green, vice president, and Mr. Sides.

Following the launching, Mrs. Vann was escorted on a sight-seeing trip to a sister-ship of the ROBERT L. VANN by Mr. Sides and John Baker, assistant to the president.

Presented with an engraved silver plate, gift of the company to her, Mrs. Vann said:

“You must know that this is the happiest moment of my life, except that memorable day when I said ‘I will’ to my beloved husband, who is honored here today.

“Because this gallant ship will roam the ocean highways, the occasion has international significance.

“I don't know what to say to you because I am not a speech maker, except to tell you that this gives me an indescribable thrill.”

Then she added, simply, as her voice lowered on a soft sob:

“I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

Mr. Churchill told a coterie of reporters:

“This is the most impressive launching we have held here [illegible] the New England Shipbuilding Company.

“Because of its simplicity, the fine spirit of the people and their understanding of what the ceremony means, it has taken on added significance. It is practically prepared to move soon now as another ship to go out in the war effort to strike one more blow for victory.”

He admitted it was the first ship sponsored by a colored person and added: “Mrs. Vann is the most charming sponsor we have ever had.”

SPECIAL CREW TO HANDLE SHIP

Ferdinand Smith, who is actively engaged now with the NMU, revealed in an exclusive statement that a crew of veteran seamen will be especially selected by the union to man the ship.

The ship, although the sixth to be named for a Negro, is the first to be named for a Negro editor. Other ships launched include the Booker T. Washington, the George W. Carver, the Frederick Douglass, the John Merrick and the U.S.S. Harmon, an escort-destroyer.

Two Negro commanders—Captain Hugh Mulzac and Captain Adrian Richardson—have been in command of some of the ships. Mixed crews have operated on all of them.

Captain Richardson's ship was recently sunk in the North Atlantic, but all the members of the crew were saved.

The SS VANN will be completed in less than a week, officials at the shipyards stated, and will be ready for active duty. Name of the commander has not been announced.

Thus [illegible] the name of Robert L. Vann, [illegible] rose from the obscurity of a backwoods North Carolina cabin to become a fearless champion of his people, roam the seven seas to demonstrate once again the things for which he stood . . . equality, opportunity, full democracy.

Highest Rank

DEC 18 1943

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

47

Lieut. (jg) Clarence Samuels of the United States Coast Guard is now the highest ranking Negro American in the U. S. Navy. A native of Panama, Lieut. Samuels has spent 23 years in the Coast Guard, during which tim[illegible] has served in charge [illegible]utter in Savannah, Ga., harbor; in charge of the Coast Guard unit at Pea Island, near Manteo-Roanoke, N. C., and at the U. S. Coast Guard Training Station, Manhattan Beach, N. Y.

47-J -- 1943

They Watch for Saboteurs and Subs

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

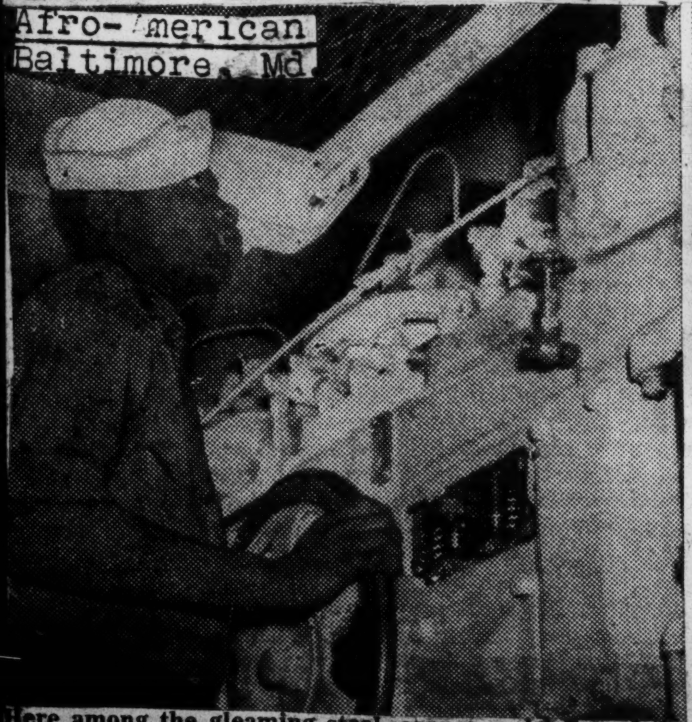
OCT 23 1943

Above are shown members of an all-colored U.S. Coast Guard beach patrol whose duty it is to guard America's shoreline against saboteurs and submarines. At the left and right of the picture are "Fritz" and "Johnny" two particularly useful members of the patrol by virtue of their ability to smell strangers and to hear sounds too slight for the hearing of the patrolmen. Shown in the picture are Chief M. M. Rothall Gardner, formerly of Baltimore commander of the outfit and a veteran of 26 years service in both the Navy and Coast Guard, who has seen service in all parts of the world, and Coxswain Edward Christian, Chicago, second in command to Chief Gardner; Joseph Stenhouse, Los Angeles, Seaman first class; James H. Brown, seaman first class, Jersey City, N.J.; Joseph Noel, seaman second class, Washington; Clarence Whitehurst, seaman second class, Norfolk; Lee Plummer, seaman second class, Washington; Floyd Jackson, seaman second class, New York; Robert Pearson, seaman second class, Cleveland, O.; Anthony Cooke, seaman second class, Norfolk, Va.; Coxswain [illegible] Gadson, [illegible]t, Mich.; Samuel Davenport, seaman second class, Norfolk, Va.; Nathaniel Anderson, seaman first class, Montclair, N.J.; Paul McClendon, seaman second class, Detroit, and Philip McKinnon, Miami, Fla.

OCT 23 1943

They're Doing Important Work With the Coast Guard Harbor Patrol

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

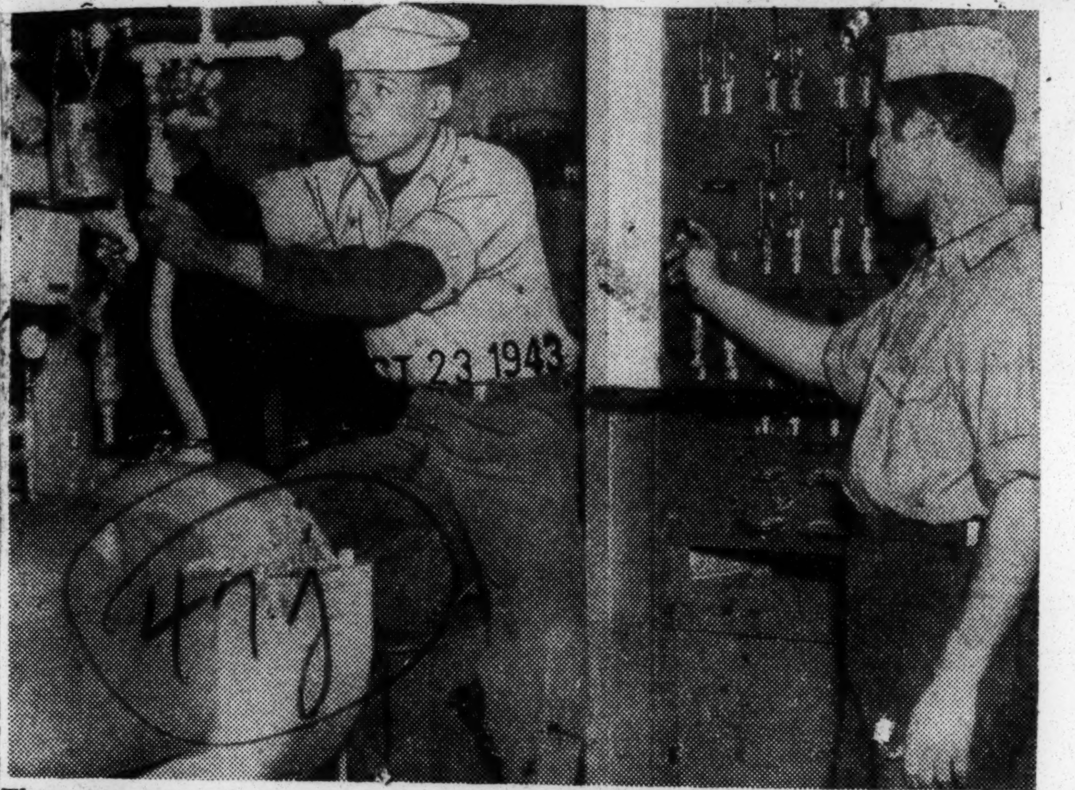


Here among the gleaming steel, copper and brass of the Coast Guard tug Beverly's motors, Motor Mechanic 2/c Clarence L. Arno of Brooklyn, N.Y., does his bit in the U.S. Coast Guard. Arno has served two years in the U.S. [illegible] Marine.

OCT 23 1943

OCT 23 1943

James A. Lopes, b.m.1/c, stands his watch at the helm of the Beverly as the boat makes its [illegible] down Boston Harbor. Lopes, who hails from New Bedford, Mass., has nearly ten years of seamanship under his belt.



OCT 23 1943

477

These two youngsters, one a former musician, the other a former mill worker, are shown in the engine room of the Beverly.—At the left is Harold Cuffe, fireman 1/c, a 22-year-old musician and former resident of Middletown, N.Y. At right is William Goldsby, fireman 2/c, also 22 years old and a former Gary, Indiana, mill worker.—

OCT 23 1943

MEMPHIS GIRLS AT NAVY DANCE

Defender
Chicago, Ill

AUG 14 1943

Portion of a group of more than 50 young Memphis women, members of the Junior and Senior hostess clubs of the Memphis USO lounge, who sparked the entertainment of the colored sailors at the huge U. S. Naval Technical Air Training school, located at Millington, Tenn.—just north of Memphis. The entertainment, consisting of a buffet summer, dancing and a floor show in the large gymnasium and recreation hall of the Training school, marked the first time such an affair was ever held at the establishment for the benefit of the colored trainees. Mrs. Marion Simpkins, head of the USO lounge organization in Memphis, organized the group of young women who attended and accompanied them to the base. Transportation was furnished by the Naval authorities.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Wins Highest Honors In Naval Training

AUG 21 1943

GRE[illegible] LAKES, [illegible]L.—Samuel Edward Waters, 23, [illegible] Hamilton Terrace, New York, N. Y., has graduated from recruit training with highest honors in his company at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

Waters, employed in a Chester, Pa., shipyard, joined the navy in May as an apprentice seaman. Now that he has completed his basic training in Negro boot camp, he will attend a navy school for ye[illegible]men. He qualified for this service school through his high averages on [illegible]titude tests given all recruits to [illegible] intelligence and basic kno[illegible]e.

The honor man, son of Mrs. Sylvia Waters, has returned home for boot leave. He is a graduate of South Bend, Ind., Senior High School and attended Talladega College, Ala.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Negro Cook Who Saved Captain Missing

DEC 24 1943

Washington, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—The Navy said today that Doris Miller, Negro, cook third class, who was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, is missing in action in the Gilbert Islands. He was aboard the escort aircraft carrier [illegible] which was sunk d[illegible] the Gilberts campaign.

Miller, 24, lived near Waco, Texas. He was a mess attendant aboard a warship in Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked. Despite enemy strafing, he assiste[illegible] moving his wounded captain from the bridge to a place of greater safety and later manned and operated a machine gun.

Age
New York. N. Y.

Knox Reveals 74,000 Negroes Serving In Navy; 7,100 Seabees

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 74,000 Negroes are now serving in the U. S. Navy, Secretary Frank Knox announced at his press conference Friday. Approximately 7,100 of these Negro recruits are members of [illegible] "Seabees," construction batta[illegible] organized within the Bureau of Yards and Docks to build advance bases wherever needed and to fight whenever the occasion requires it.

Secretary Knox also said that 6,000 Negro enlisted men are now serving at 12 Naval Ordnance Stations. These men, he said, have been detailed to duty at Ordnance Stations since August, 1942, and have been organized since May 1943, in Naval ordnance battalions. A special quota of the complements is being ordered to serve at advance bases in combat areas, Mr. Knox added, and these will be replaced at continental stations in the United States by new recruits as they become available.

The type of work being performed by men of the Negro Ordnance Battalions ranges from manual labor to hazardous and skillful work on ammunition, the normal lot of all enlisted men. Specific duties perform[illegible] by these men include preparation of ammunition components prior to loading and filling operations; actual ammunition filling and assembling, handling and stowage of inert and loaded ammunition, handling of stowage of bulk ammunition components, including high explosive elements, yeoman (clerical) work in connection with ammunition records, loading and unloading ammunition from and on board ships and lighters directly servicing the Fleet and directing the work of others engaged in such activities.

As an incentive to performance, the Commanding Officer of each depot has authority to promote personnel showing the necessary qualifications of leadership to any rating up to and including tha[illegible] Chief Petty Office[illegible] Secretary stated. Recreational activities of these battalions have been completely organized.

Secretary Knox explained that ammunition depots where Negro enlisted men are stationed, are located at Fallbrook, Calif.; Hingham, Mass.; Charleston, S. C.; Puget Sound and Indian Island, Wash.; Mare Island, Calif.; Yorktown and St. Juliens Creek, Va.; New Orleans, La.; Hasting, Neb.; and McAlester, Okla.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham. Alabama

NAVY NEGRO HERO WILL SPEAK HERE

A Navy Negro hero of Birmingham, wounded in action in the Battle of the Coral Sea, will speak at the War Bond and Stamps rally and show to be staged at the Auditorium here Saturday, Sept. 4, by Negro members of American Federation of Labor unions, it was announced today. The heroic Magic City Negro is James D. Long, of 1608 Avenue E, Ensley, now at home on leave. He is a shipfitter, second-class.

Some of the [illegible] Negro entertainers of the nation will take part in the show.

Secretary Knox Says 'No Mixed Crews on Warships; Negro Seamen Limited'

NOV 18 1943

Washington (ANP)—The navy department definitely does not intend to mix the crews of its warships. Sec. Frank Knox, in no uncertain terms, told his press conference last Friday afternoon, in answer to the inquiry of the Associated Negro Press, that the policy of the department, is consciously one in jim-crow.

The subject wa[illegible]cipitated when the na[illegible] announced that he ha[illegible]pointed a navy manpower survey board to examine the complements—officer, enlisted and civilian—of all naval shore establishments with an eye to "streamlining" them and achieving maximum efficiency. The initial phase of the navy's expanding shore organization and mobilization work, he said, is nearing completion.

Mr. Knox was then asked whether or not, in view of the stated probability that personnel at shore establishment would be given different assignments since the bulk of those leaving such centers as the Great Lakes Naval Training station had been sent to such establishments.

What Men Can Do

"That will depend upon just what the men can do," he stated, "and whether we have places [illegible] to them."

"Are they not trained to be seamen?" was the next query.

The secretary sat upright in his spring-back chair and looked directly at his questioner and declared: "Well, you know exactly what we are trying to do. We are trying to avoid mixing crews on ships. That puts a limitation on where we can employ Nego seamen. Using them for crews of small shore and harbor craft and things of that sort, and for shore duty. But we are not mixing crews."

Mr. Knox's statement came about 48 hours after Lt. Charles H. Hutchins, commander of the destroyer Borie, describing for newsmen the manner in which his ship had knocked out two enemy submarines in fierce combat., told of the exploit of a Negro cook who became a "one-man gun crew" when both the ammunition unpacker, the loader and the pointer all became blinded, by [illegible] flash of the firing gu[illegible].

All-Negro crews are now manning coast guard cutters, but there has been no announcement of indication that colored seamen are being used on any other ships outside of the rank of mess attendant. There is ground now for some speculation that those few Negroes known to be enrolled in the Navy's V-12 program, if given commissions as has been hinted, will be assigned to those "small sh[illegible]raft" on which they are not presently used and to which the secretary referred.

The only announcements that the department has been in the habit of making about Negroes in the navy have been with regard to those in construction battalions, popularly called "Seabees." Official navy photographs, however, have shown Negro inductees receiving training in radio and other types of specialized training, but nothing has yet been said as to their performance in the posts to which it would be expected they would be assigned.

First Negro Shore Patrolmen Graduate

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

DEC 4-1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Graduation exercises for the first class to complete instruction in the Navy's Service School for Negro Shore Patrolmen were held recently at the U.S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. The 45 members of the class will leave the Training Station within the next few days to take over posts throughout the country where they are most needed, where their special abilities can be best utilized. Seventeen will go on duty in the Ninth Naval Di[illegible] 10 in the Fourth District, 7 [illegible] the Fifth District, 2 in the 12th District a[illegible] in the USS Reina Mercedes, rece[illegible]ng ship at the United States Naval Academy.

MORE CLASSES LOOM

Behind them they leave 150 SP's hard at work in various stages of an eight-week course that includes Naval Law and customs, uniform regulations, boxing, wrestling, judo, drilling, small arms and first aid. Additional classes of 50 men will be enrolled every two weeks, until eventually, every city in the country housing Naval establishments or entertaining large numbers of sailors on liberty will have its own permanent Shore Patrol.

Lt. Abraham Zitenfield presented an honor man certificate to Morris C. Macer, 19, of 817 South Polk avenue, Mason City, Iowa, who was selected as the outstanding member of the class. All the graduates were advanced in rating from seaman, secon[illegible]lass, to seaman, first class.

Eight Negr[illegible] Bluejackets who completed a 16-week [illegible] in the Service School for ra[illegible]men also were graduated. Honor man of the radio class was William D. Williams, 20, of 5046 Just street, N.E., Washington, D. C.

47i-1943

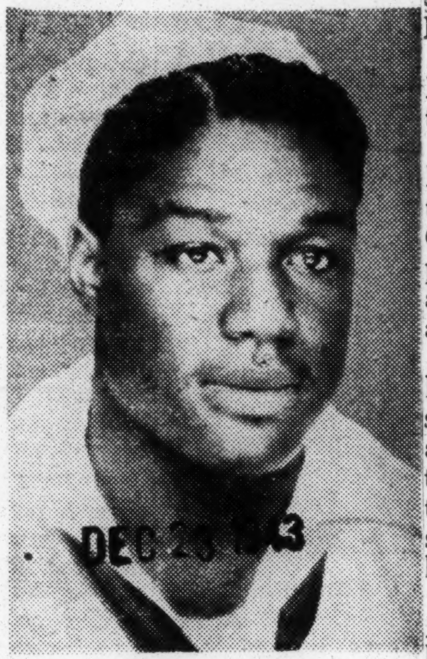
Negro Hero Dies With Officer Hailed by Rankin

PM
New York, N. Y.

DEC 23 1943

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) is a chain-speaker; almost any time you wander into the House he may be on his feet, roaring his anger, and no newspaper could possibly report all the wild words he recites during a normal work-week. So one of Rankin's briefer orations, delivered on the afternoon of Dec. 14, went unnoticed until a tragic coincidence recalled those remarks today.



Dorie Miller

On that Tuesday Rankin sang a short hymn of hate, a repetitious denunciation of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) "that is harassing the white people of the Southern states, if not of the whole country, whose sons are fighting and dying in this war." Then he cited a case history. He said he had just received news "of a young man I appointed to the Naval Academy who went down on the Liscome Bay."

Well, said Rankin with a tear in his throat and a mist in his eyes, he was "tired of a little group of radicals in New York and elsewhere" who were "maligning the white people of the South when they are doing everything they can to help win this war."

He didn't say much more than that, perhaps feeling that the story of the young man who lost his life when the Liscome Bay was sunk was enough to prove his point. And nobody in the House challenged John Rankin that afternoon, because nobody wanted to cast any shadow over the [illegible] of a gallant Naval officer.

Today the Navy Dept. confirmed reports that another young man who had been aboard the Liscome Bay was "missing in action." He wasn't a protege of Rankin's; he never went to the Naval Academy. But his name meant a lot to thousands of Americans who remembered his Pearl Harbor heroism. He was a Negro mess attendant named Dorie Miller.

When Rankin orated last week, he had no way of knowing that Dorie Miller was on the Liscome Bay; no way of knowing that the nameless youth he sent to the Naval Academy had shared the perils of the Pacific and found equality in death with a Negro from Waco, Tex. They had gone down together Nov. 24 — 20 days before Rankin used the fate of the Liscome Bay as the text for his "white supremacy" sermon.

Probably Rankin never heard of Dorie Miller anyway. But the Miller story is one of the rich sagas of this war. A hulking, 24-year-old, 200-pound ex-fullback, Miller left his father's Waco farm to enlist in the Navy as a mess attendant on September, 1939. He was sent to the Naval Training Station at Norfolk, Va., then assigned to the USS Arizona. He was serving on the Arizona when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

Miller was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for his conduct during the Japanese attack. The citation told the story:

"While at the side of his Captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his Captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

Official reports disclosed that Miller was collecting laundry when the alarm for General Quarters sounded. He headed for his battle station—the antiaircraft battery magazine amidships—but discovered that torpedo damage had already rendered it untenable. So he went on deck where the events described in the citation took place. He had never handled a machine gun before.

There isn't a great deal more. The Office of War Information issued full-page poster-pictures of Miller, carrying the inscription: "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty." First Negro to receive the Navy Cross in World War II, he was advanced from mess attendant third class to mess attendant first class. After Pearl Harbor Miller served on several Naval vessels, finally was assigned to the aircraft carrier Liscome Bay.

DEC 23 1943

Then the Japs struck, and a new nightmare was added to the tortured mind of John Rankin: His Mississippi friend and a Texas Negro vanished into the same ocean, victims of the same torpedo, servants of the same cause. The same grim notifications went to a home in Mississippi and to one in Texas. There isn't much that even a Congressman can do about that kind of equality.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Liberty Ship Split In Two By Submarine

OCT 9 1943

Only Minor Injuries to Two of Crew Listed; No Fatalities Reported

By CARL D. LAWRENCE

Capt. Adrian Richardson, first skipper to lose a ship named for a famous American Negro, arrived at Grand Central Station with the 67 members of his crew last Saturday following their dramatic rescue in the North Atlantic.

"We are happy to be back," Capt. Richardson said, "but we'll be ready to sail again as soon as we get another Frederick Douglass."

The famed Liberty ship, launched only a few months ago in Baltimore, was sunk on the morning of Sept. 20. Ten other vessels in the convoy went down during the sudden German U-boat attack, which was the first since last June.

Rescues Mascot

One member of the crew, Clyde (Red) Allen, suffered a broken arm while rescuing the ship's mascot, a dog called Jerry Junior. Allen leaped from a life boat, crewmen revealed, and held on to the animal until others pulled him back to safety.

The only other mishap was the lacerated eye wound suffered by a white member of the crew.

Among those on hand to greet the survivors was Capt. John Godfrey, who is scheduled to become head man on the S. S. Robert L. Vann when that vessel is completed.

Happiest of all, though, was Mrs. Octavia Richardson, wife of the veteran skipper. At the sight of her husband, Mrs. Richardson burst into tears. "I knew you were all right," she told him, "but I just wanted to see for myself."

After accompanying her husband and members of the crew to the Wiltshire House, where official reports of the U-boat attack were made, the Richardsons went to their apartment at 1800 Seventh Ave.

Once Piloted Transport

There, Mrs. Richardson revealed that "I knew something had happened, even before I got the official report. 'Cap' has seen several of his boats go down and, for the past fifteen years, I seem to get a certain sort of feeling when something is wrong. In the last war he was in command of a transport but luckily nothing happened with thousands of soldiers aboard."

Among [illegible] survivors was Paul Slade, a slender young man of 22, who appeared quite calm. He refused, however, to pose for pictures. "I'm just an oiler," Slade said, "so I'd rather not get into all this publicity. Just say we'll keep our new Frederick Douglass sailing."

Another was William (Billy Metcalfe) Barker, who was once a promising prizefighter managed by the radio and screen star Rochester. "If there are any doubts about the Negro's ability to handle a boat on the high seas," he said, "the cynics should have seen our crew in action."

Describes U-boat Attack

Adam Van Landingham, chief steward, who has been on three torpedoed ships since the start of this war, took "this little incident," as he described it, in stride. "I believe the Germans fired that one ten miles away, which indicates something new in U-boat warfare. But we'll beat them at their own game before Christmas. The boat just behind us went down in thirty seconds, the quickest sinking I've ever witnessed. I don't believe a man was saved."

Other members of the crew fixed the time of the attack as 5:30 in the morning. "The darned thing hit us in the rear, near the propeller, causing our ship to sink much slower than the one behind us," one of them said. "We had five minutes to launch our boats and shove off in the midst of that mess. Every man was at his station on time, however—and that was our secret weapon."

After three hours in their life boats, the survivors were picked up by a destroyer and landed at a Canadian port. From there they came by train to New York.

Navy Opens School For Uneducated

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 25 1943

GREAT LAKES, Ill —A school, founded to aid the uneducated in their Navy careers, is one of the most interesting phases of training offered at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes.

Combining instruction in Navy fields with that of the rudiments of general education, the school has three branches— one in each of the three camps devoted to the training of Negroes. Termed the Remedial School, it has on its faculty a score of colored Bluejackets, most of whom are college graduates, with experience in education and social work.

With students assigned to class on the basis of literacy tests given them during their first week of training, the sailor-teachers conduct a seven-week course which includes reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling grammar, and the study of the Bluejackets' Manual—the enlisted man's "bible." The pupils attend classes for an hour and a half four nights a week and Saturday and Sunday mornings.

— A Colored Judg

NAVY PROMOTIONS LAG

NOV 19 1942

Argus

St. Louis. Missouri

REVEALS LACK OF OFFICERS

"Open Door" Policy Falling Short

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 16 — (Special to the St. Louis Argus)—It was revealed in a letter received by Dr. J. B. Martin, President of the Negro American League, from David Albritton, former high jump champion now stationed at Great Lakes, that Negroes are not being advanced in the U. S. navy as promised in the "opened" door policy announced early in 1942. The letter from Seaman Albritton reads as folsows:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Below you will find the pertinent facts on the U. S. Navy and its program concerning Negroes.

NOV 19 1942

Early in 1942. the Navy supposedly "opened" its doors to the Negro in the General Service branch and said in part that Negroes were to be admitted to the Navy and given the same opportunities that were enjoyed by the white sailors. These opportuinites included choice of Service School (the Navy operates 59 of these special school for the training of its men and to date there are 19 open to Negroes). and opportunity to work in the field of the man's own choice and proficiency with the rating and pay commensurate with the man's ability.

NOV 19 1942

Within a period of a year Navy has accepted some very highly qualified men—men who, if they had been of a different texture in skin coloration, would have been commissioned officers right off the bat. But what has been the case? We all know that there are no commissioned officers (there are promises of one or two); to date these are two Negroes in the entire set-up at Great Lakes Illinois who are rated as high as Petty Officer Second Class. All the rest are Petty Officers, third class, or Seaman, Second Seaman, First Class. There are a few chiefs or so (Chief Petty Officers) but their ratings were secured from the outside and those in power at Great Lakes had nothing to do with those men and their ratings.

NOV 19 1942

Let us take an outstanding example of the work. The Negro Selection Office has more college trained and professional men on its staff than any other office on the base. The Negro Selection office presents quite a contrast to the white Selection office doing the same work. The white Selection Office has 16 commissioned officers. The Negro Selection Office has one officer only he is white.

Where is this blame to be placed? Some say with Secretary Knox, others say The Navy Bureau of Personnel but has anyone ever questioned Commander D. W. Armstrong and his attitude toward rating Negro sailors?

NOV 19 1942

Commander Armstrong, whose father was the founder of Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, is Assistant Recruit Training Officer in charge of Negroes at Great Lakes. Every Negro who goes through That station must pass through Cdr. Armstrong's hands. He goes about and preaches what a friend he is to the Negro and show how hard he is working for their advancement—yet his hard efforts have borne no fruit other than two Petty Officers, Second Class. Surely the Commander can do better than that or else keep still!

It might be a good idea to question Cdr. Armstrong and pin him down to some tangible evidence that he is a true friend and is working honesty and sincerely for rapid advancement of Negro Sailors.

Respectfully yours,

David Albritton AIS. Co. 1472

Dorie Miller's Case Proof Of Navy Injustice

DEC 25 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

DEC 25 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Dorie Miller, the hero of Pearl Harbor, is missing in action.

This startling fact has been confirmed by the U.S. Navy Department—and the case of Dorie Miller, first of his race to distinguish himself with this jim-crow branch of the armed forces in World War II, vividly accentuates the fact that, not a visible iota since that infamous day of Japanese aggression, has the United States Navy altered its profound policy of racial discrimination.

MESSMAN STI

DEC 25 1943

For Dorie Miller distinguished himself and won his hero's medals while bearing the rating of messman. Now the famous hero of Pearl Harbor is missing in action—and when he was last heard of he still bore the rating of messman!

DEC 25 1943

True, Dorie Miller received the Navy Cross, a slight advancement from Messman Third Class to Messman First Class, and some attendant press notices. But, through his complete rise from obscurity to heroism in the service, he still did not transcend a messman's rating. There, the Navy stopped!

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

No matter how outstanding the service rendered by Negroes for the United States Navy, they have not been allowed to stand in line for commissions. The Department has steadfastly refused Negro women the opportunity to enlist in the WAVES, SPARS and women Marines. Few harbor crafts are being manned by Negroes. Colored seamen, being trained according to accepted standards, are landing at shore establishments at a time when the Department has a manpower commission at work, seeking ways and means of streamlining the shore organizations.

The Navy has accelerated its acceptance of Negroes to the extent that colored men represent about 15 per cent of all calls by the service, but the big question, through it all, is to what use all this manpower will be put once it is trained? The Navy has already indicated boldly that it needs manpower—but that it doesn't particularly care for Negro manpower if it is the type of manpower which will aspire for and work toward commissions with the same zeal as white sailors.

DEC 25 1943

NAVY PLANS TO COMMISSION RACE OFFICERS

Defender

V-12 Graduates Will Get Promotions After Graduation

Chicago. Ill

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Navy Department told the Defender last week that the commissioning of Negroes as officers in the Navy is in prospect.

They will come from those Negro cadets who successfully complete the Navy's V-12 college program. Several Negroes are enrolled in the program.

OCT 16 1943

The V-12 program leads to commissions in the Naval reserve, a spokesman for the Navy said. "That is the whole purpose of the course." he declared. It is not possible to predict, however, who will pass the course, he indicated, but those who do pass will be commissioned.

The Negroes now receiving this training entered the program as result of the qualifying tests given last April 2. New tests were announced last week for both the Army and Navy college programs, (A-12 and V-12) to be held November 9 in high schools and colleges throughout the nation.

There will be no limiting quotas on the number of Negroes the Navy said. Those selected for the Navy program may express a preference for colleges on the Navy list of contract institutions and the course of study they would like to pursue. Assignment to college and course of study, however, ultimately will be determined by the needs of the service.

OCT 16 1943

All students in the Navy college program will be on active duty in uniform with pay under military discipline. The Navy pays all expenses, including tuition, housing, food — everything but personal items.

Information on the tests may be obtained from school and college administrative officers, who have been furnished copies of the pamphlet, "Qualifying Test for Civilians," distributed by the U. S. Office of Education.

OCT 16 1943

The tests are open to male high school seniors in their last semester and graduates, who will reach their 17th birthday but not their 22nd birthday by March 1, 1944.

Memphis, Tenn., Review

December 24, 1943

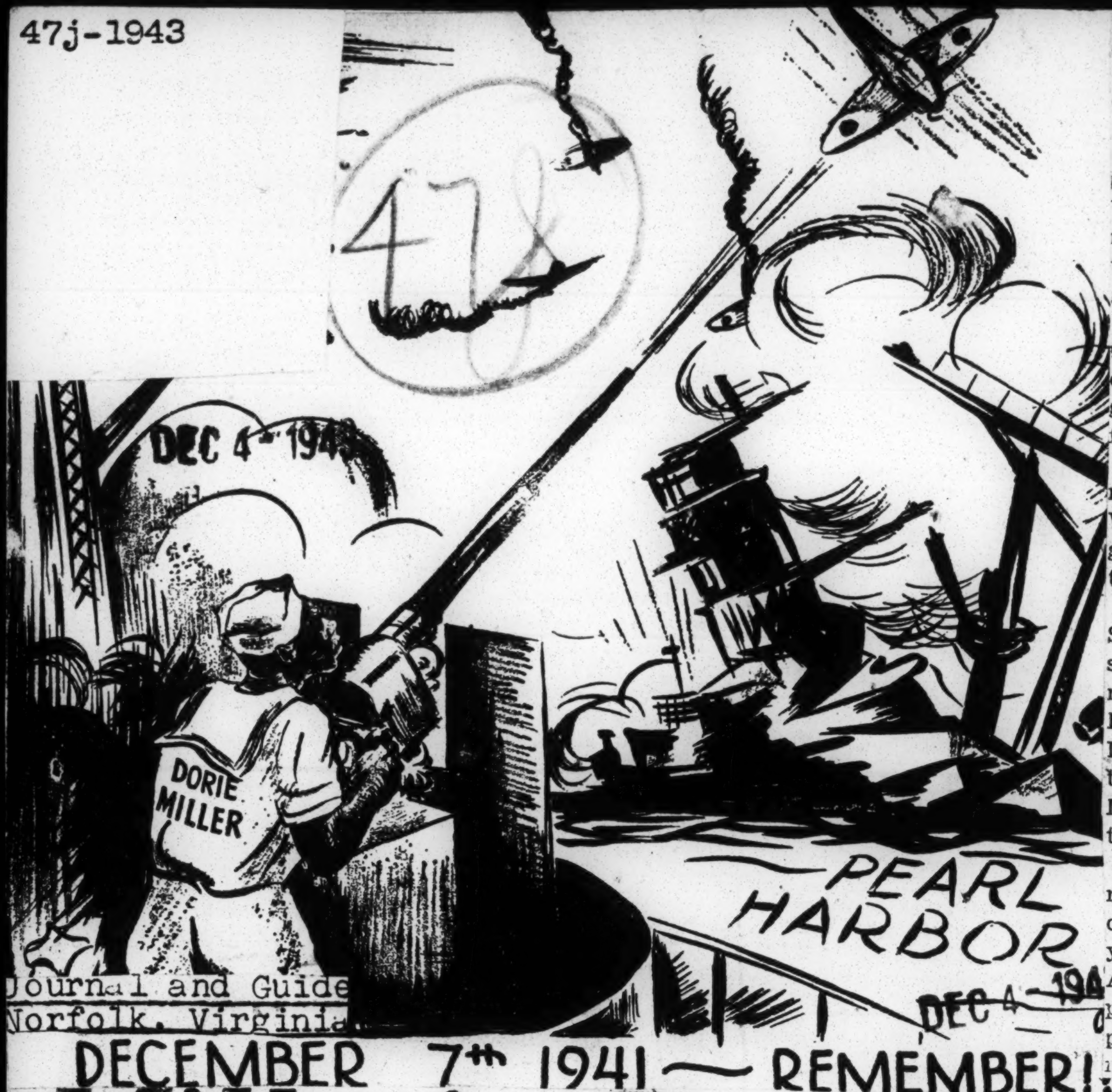
Negro Personnel In Navy Now 74,000 Men

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ILNS)—Negro personnel in the Navy now numbers over 74,000, and of that number almost 10 per cent, or 7,100, are in the famous Seabees, the Navy Department has announced.

Most of those in the Seabees are busy building advanced bases wherever needed, and fight whenever the occasion requires. Of the others, approximately 8,000 Negro enlisted men are serving at 12 Naval Ordnance Stations. They have been detailed to duty at the ordnance stations since August, 1942, and since May, 1943, they have been organized in Naval Ordnance battalions.

The Navy said a specific quota of the ordnance battalion complements is being ordered to serve at advanced bases in combat areas and such personnel is being replaced at continental stations by new recruits as they become available.

47j-1943



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DEC 4 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

SS James Weldon Johnson

Bee (Magazine Section)
Chicago, Ill
DEC 19 1943

SOON a cargo ship will be named after another famous Negro, the late James Weldon Johnson. Few gestures have been more stimulating during the present war than the honoring of distinguished Negroes by naming cargo ships after them.

These gestures have generated a great reservoir of pride and stimulated a great deal of research both by whites and Negroes in learning more about the persons for whom these ships have been named.

Hardly any American of his time was more distinguished than the late James Weldon Johnson. He was above all a great man, serving his nation, race, education and learning, greatly.

Whether at Puerto Cabello, in Venezuela, South America and Nicaragua, where he served with distinction in America's diplomatic service, or lobbying in the House of Representatives, as he did in 1922 for the Dyer anti-lynching bill, or teaching literature at Fisk and New York universities, Dr. Johnson always generated light for those in search of it.

His once stirring inquiry was never more apropos than now: "We (Negroes) can be sinews in your wings or chains about your feet . . . . how will you have us, America?" The SS J. W Johnson is a potent, even if partial answer. We applaud wholeheartedly all who have encouraged this trend.

DEC 19 1943

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Miller's Death Brings Navy Policy Into Focus

DEC 22 1943

Little Change In Attitude Toward Negroes

Messman Hero Gave His L[illegible] A [illegible]man

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
DEC 22 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) Dorie Miller is missing in action!

This terse announcement by the navy department last week that the messman who at Pearl Harbor was the first of his race to distinguish himself, served but to focus more concern among Negroes upon the contention that the navy department's policies of discrimination have not altered much since that infamous day, and even before for that matter.

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Dorie Miller distinguished himself while wearing the rating of messman.

He died a messman.

Public clamor had demanded that the department find and identify the man who had been referred to in a lone news dispatch telling of the Pearl Harbor attack, and described only as a Negro messman. Having gone this far, the navy then yielded on the point of recognition, and the 200-pound former fullback from Waco, Tex., was awarded the Navy cross by President Roosevelt.

READ CITATION

When Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, pinned the medal upon Miller's chest, he read this citation:

"While at the side of his captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

DEC 22 1943

The navy did a little more. Miller was advanced from mess attendant third class to mess attendant first class. There the matter stopped.

A casual appraisal of the navy department's policies with regard to Negroes will still show that to all intents and purposes, it does not intend to accord to them a chance to fight according to their abilities.

BEING TRAINED

Seamen are being trained and according to the best knowledge are going to shore establishments at a time when the department has a manpower commission at work seeking ways and means of streamlining the shore organizations.

Few harbor craft are being manned with Negroes.

In spite of the one Negro who has seemingly defied navy dictum, commissions are closed.

DEC 22 1943

The department is obdurate in refusing Negro women to enlist in the WAVES, SPARS and women marines.

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And these elements in the coast guard and the marine corps, under navy jurisdiction, who would improve the lot of Negro enlisted personnel are throttled.

More than one source has pointed to Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel, as the main obstructionist in the department.

PROGRAM ACCELERATED

The navy is now accepting Negroes at the rate of about 15 percent of all calls, which is an acceleration of the earlier program of inductions, This is no doubt but that this trend will continue through 1944. Question being pressed then is to what use is this manpower going to be put after it has been trained.

DEC 22 1943

Speaking of the manner in which he acted in handling the machine gun, Dorie Miller said simply: "It wasn't hard. I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine. I had watched the others with these guns.

Would not training as a gunner have given Miller the desired accuracy which would have permitted him to bring down some of these planes which, he said, 'were diving pretty close to me?"

8,500 Negroes Now In Five Branches Of Marine Corps

Defender Chicago, Ill
NOV 13 1943

WASHINGTON — When the 168th anniversary of the U. S. Marine Corps is observed on November 10, tribute will be paid for the second time to Negro recruits in this branch of service.

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Although the Marine Corps only began active training of Negro Marines on September 1, 1942, more than 8,500 of these recruits are now enrolled in the service. The first group of 1,200 Negro volunteers began training at Camp LeJeune, New River, N. C., and six months later on March 1, the first Negro Marines were on active duty in the Far Pacific.

Although Negroes were first admitted only 14 months ago, they are serving in five of the seven branches of the service.

Most of the Negro Marines, however, are on either line duty or in the mess service. Line duty is subdivided into specific elements, such as infantry, artillery, anti-aircraft, air ground units, tank units, engineering, chemical warfare and the new Paramarines.

NOV 13 1943

WAR TIME LIVING

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SHIPS Named-after-Negro ships, Booker T. Washington, George W. Carver, Fred Douglass, John Merrick, Robert Vann, Leonard Harmon, will be joined soon by James Weldon Johnson.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
DEC 18 1943

First Navy Shore Patrolmen To Duty

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Graduation exercises for the first class to complete instruction in the Navy's Service School for Negro Shore Patrolmen were held recently at the U. S. Naval Training station here.

Shore Patrolmen Graduated

The 45 members of the class will leave the training station within the next few days to take over posts throughout the country where they are most needed, where their special abilities can be best suited.

Seventeen will go on duty in the Ninth Naval district, 10 in the Fourth district, 7 in the Fifth district, 2 in the 12th district, and 9 on the USS Reina Mercedes, receiving ship at the United States Naval Academy.

Behind them they leave 150 SP's hard at work in various stages of an eight-week course that includes Naval Law and customs, uniform regulations, boxing, judo, wrestling, drilling, small arms and first aid. Additional classes of 50 men will be enrolled every two weeks, until, eventually, every city in the country housing naval establishments or entertaining large numbers of sailors on liberty will have its own permanent shore patrol.

Captain Harris Address

Principal speaker at the graduation exercises was Capt. H. R. Harris, Service School officer who told the new SP's, "You men will have a great deal to do with the formation of public opinion of the navy.

"The people on the home front don't see our navy at sea," he said. "All they know is what they see on the streets or in the theaters and cafes of their cities or towns. The public bases its opinion of the navy on how sailors act ashore.

"It will be up to you men to see that this opinion is a good one. You don't have to be tough and hard-boiled, but be firm and military. Make certain that the sailor ashore lives up to the navy's good name."

Following Captain Harris' address, Lt. Abraham Zitenfield presented an honor man certificate to Morris C. Macer, 19, of 317 S. Polk Ave., Mason City, Iowa, who was selected as the outstanding member of the class. All the graduates were advanced in rating from seaman, second class, to seaman, first class.

Eight Negro Bluejackets who completed a 16-week course in the Service School for radiomen also were graduated. Honor man of the radio class was William D. Williams, 20, of 5046 Just St., N. E., Washington, D. C. He was advanced from seaman, second class. His classmates were advanced to the rating of seaman, first class.

REVEAL RUSE TO BALK NEGRO WOMEN IN WAVEs

Chicago, Illinois Chicago Bee

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Using every possible means to discourage six Negro women who were determined to join the WAVEs, the Navy finally closed its office last Friday afternoon because "of the heat."

The heat-wave was not occasioned by atmospheric temperature or humidity, but by the appearance of six well-groomed Negro women who sought to apply and become WAVEs.

The first to enter recruiting office were Hazel Lee of Cleveland, graduate of the New York Secretarial school, and of the Howard School of Dentistry as a hygienist, and Althea Jefferson of Washington, Pa., a stenographer and [illegible] student.

As they left Zelma Hammond of San Francisco and Bernice Jacobs of Los Angeles entered the office. Miss Hammond is a graduate of San Francisco State college, with majors in biology and economics. Miss Jacobs received her degree from the University of California, with majors in American history. She has taught school in Texas for two years, and has done work toward her master's degree.

As they were giving their names to a yeoman, an unidentified officer entered the office and told them they were closing because of the terriffic heat.

About a half an hour after this incident, two more young women happened by the recruiting office. They, too, felt the urge to join, but were greeted with "the office is closed." A short time later, they again passed, and found it open. Again they entered. This time they were told that "a little breeze" came along and so the office was opened again for a few minutes. These young women were Cleomine B. Lewis of Tulsa, Okla., and Cora E. Wright, Lancaster, S.C. Both are college graduates.

As they approached the desk the recruiting officer immediately busied himself at the telephone, although he had said nothing into it for five minutes when a superior officer called for him. When he returned, the girls explained, he was cordial and appeared to want to be helpful. He gave them application, paraphernalia and literature, and told them to fill them out at home. The girls were told that it was not permissable to fill applications in the office after five o'clock, when they expressed the desire to fill them there.

The Navy department has given no explanation, official or otherwise. It has refused to say that the incident reflects the status of its consideration of plans to accept Negro women into the WAVEs.

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Navy Getting 90% Of Negro Draftees

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Some 90 per cent of all future Negro draftees will be inducted into the Navy, the Defender learned this week.

Ordered to bring its quota up to ten per cent of its total manpower, the Navy is taking virtually all Negro selectees but still has no program for sea service for any colored sailors.

Some 70,000 Negroes are now in training in the Navy.

Despite the total failure to plan for integration of colored sailors, Secretary of Navy Frank Knox has been boasting approval of his discriminatory policy by Negro groups.

Correspondence over the signature of Secretary Knox has been uncovered by the Defender in which the secretary last spring claimed his Navy policy of discrimination had the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press.

Tells Limitations

The letters, written to Algernon Black, co-chairman of the City Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem in New York City, set forth the limitations on the service of Negroes in the Navy, and said no Negro WAVES were accepted because the Congressional law says WAVES "shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the Navy to release made officers and enlisted men of the Naval Service for duty at sea.

"At this time," declared the Secretary, "the Navy does not have any substantial body of Negro men available or qualified for general service at sea. There is no occasion to replace Negro enlisted personnel by Negro women enlisted in the Women's Reserve."

He did not indicate where in the law there was any statement that only white women could relieve white sailors and officers for service at sea, or where it said that Negro women must relieve only Negro men for such service.

Defends Policy

Knox denied his policy is discriminatory. "This program," he declared, "is necessarily experimental, but it is not discriminatory and it has received the approval of Negro organizations and the Negro press generally."

In another letter to Mr. Black, he said, "In my opinion, it is false and not in the best interests of the Negro race for leaders to charge that the policies of the Navy in this emergency are not consistent with democratic principles and that they do not represent the view of the American people. The Negro people in this country, in their steady gain in recognition and assumption of more and more responsibility, have been widely praised in the present emergency, and justly so, by their fellow citizens of all races.

"The changes which the Navy has effected in recognition of the Negro's steady progress have been wholly consistent with democratic principles. That all theoretically possible steps are not taken at once cannot reasonably be condemned as undemocratic. The American people of all races will be quick to notice unfair criticism."

Leaders Comment

These letters, the Defender learned, were shown to a number of leaders in New York. Channing Tobias of the National YMCA described them as "a classic illustration of subterfuge and evasion." Lester Granger said "the masses of American citizens are far ahead of our military and naval leadership in their attitudes regarding the place of Negroes in this war."

A. Philip Randolph declared: "His (Knox's) statement that this program of accepting Negroes in the Navy in positions other than messmen as being experimental is a disgrace to the Navy. . . It is untrue that the Negro press or organizations approved the program.

Ludlow W. Werner expressed himself: "When there is so much talk of democracy, it is ironic that the Secretary of the Navy should see fit to make such a damnable statement of policy."

In his press conference Friday, Knox declared Negro seamen are manning "a majority of some harbor craft," but just how extensive their use is outside of shore establishments the secretary of the navy would not say.

In the course of his regular press conference he took occasion to deny that the expanded program of Negro recruiting, announced more than a year ago, was ever experimental.

Questions put to the secretary sought to determine just how Negro seamen [illegible] in view of the stepped-up program of inductions. The effort was not entirely successful. "They are being distributed to various training stations wherever they fit in, and are being sent to ships," Knox declared.

He was asked whether any of the harbor craft to which he has previously referred are now being manned by Negroes. "I don't know," he said, "that is, not exclusively. But a majority of some craft are."

Capt. Lovett, chief, bureau of public relations, interrupted there to help the secretary's thinking.

DEC 3 1943
AUG 22 1943
DEC 18 1943
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NAVY 'FIRES' 15 PETTY OFFICERS: MEN APPEAL

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

OCT 30 1943

Seabees Discharged From Service for Protesting Segregation Signs at Overseas Base—NAACP to Carry Case for R[illegible] to Washington

NEW YORK—Fifteen former U.S. Navy Petty Officer Seabees Monday sought the aid of the NAACP here to secure their reinstatement in the Navy with full ratings. The young men, most of whom are college graduates, were recently tossed out of the Navy variously discharged for "unfitness," "undesirability" and "ineptitude."

At a conference with Thurgood Marshall, counsel for the NAACP, they told a long and lurid tale of indignities, segregation and discrimination suffered during their naval service and insisted that "We were let out because we lawfully complained to our battalion commander at his request concerning the despicable conditions under which we were being forced to serve our country."

JUST RETURNED TO UNITED STATES

"We were wrongfully discharged from the service for which we all volunteered in the hour of our country's need," a spokesman declared.

The men have just returned to the United States from Island "X."

Marshall told The Courier:

"This is one of the most disgraceful cases I have ever dealt with. We will take this case direct to the Navy department with a request that a complete and impartial investigation be immediately made.

The incidents which led up to the Seabees discharge follow:

COMPLAINED ABOUT SEGREGATION SIGNS

"On October 3, they called in 12 of us for a round table 'off the record' conference to discuss our plight and conditions of service. Four company officers were present. We were told it was their purpose to try to iron out the tension which existed between our white shipmates and ourselves. Each of us was told to speak his piece.

"We complained about the segregation signs which directed our every step in the base. We pointed to whites without our qualifications and service who were promoted to first class ratings over our head while we were forbidden promotions above petty officer 2nd class. We mentioned the separate Liberty buses and the generally indifferent treatment we received. We told them about the Negro Master at Arms not being permitted to place white sailors on report, having to refer them to the white Master at Arms. We told of repeated instances where Negroes were more severely punished for minor infractions of regulations.

"At the conclusion of this meeting it was decided to form an interracial committee, headed by the chaplain, to bring about better relationships between white and colored personnel.

CHARGED WITH MUTINY

"The next day we were brought before the regimental commander, who told us that our previous meeting was in effect a form of mutiny, and said a court martial might order us shot, or convicted to 15 to 20 years imprisonment. He also accused us of forming a secret organization, which we all denied.

"Some days later we were called to headquarters to sign discharge recommendations. We were given a form on which to make a statement, but were told to sign the discharge papers immediately."

The boys seeking to serve their country again are: Orea Meeks, CM 2C, 1064 Kansas avenue, S. E., Huron, S. D.; Joseph B. Hammond, EM 2C, 1326 Cherokee road, Louisville, Ky.; Thirkield Montgomery, OS 1C, 1814 Benning road, N. E., Washington, D. C.; [illegible]ward Woods, S 2C, 3631 H[illegible] street, Detroit, Mich.; Art[illegible] Monroe, Segoins, CC CM 2[illegible]7 Woodland avenue, Toledo, Ohio; Robert L. Mims, COV, [illegible] West 118th street, New York City; J. L. Donaldson, 1123 E. Adams street, Springfield, Ill.; Henry Thomas Christian, CK 2C, 764 Pine Haven, Daytona Beach, Fla.; James S. Thompson, CM 2C, 400 Second South street, Morristown, Tenn.; Wesley A. Logan, MS 2C, 1723 Market avenue, E. St. Louis, Ill.; Theodore W. Lange S 1C, 844 35th street, Oakland Calif.; Clifford F. Smith, EM 2C 1608 Luzon street, Houston, Texas; Paul L. Belcher, MM 2C, 2371 E. 93rd street, Cleveland, Ohio; W. C. Belcher, Cox, 2177 E. 43rd street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Ensign Assigned To Patrol Duty

JUL 10 1943 Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Detroiter Graduates from New London Academy with Commission — History Of West Point and Annapolis Reviewed

By PAUL D. DAVIS
(Howard University Law Student)

NEW LONDON, Conn., July 8—Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins, of Detroit, Mich., first Negro to receive an active commission in the Coast Guard or the Navy, following the Navy's new policy in regards to Negroes, was graduated from the United States Coast Guard academy here two months ago. The academy is an accredited educational institution, authorized to award bachelor of science degrees and is maintained for the professional training of men who are candidates for commissions in the service.

Commissioned as ensign in the Coast Guard with the same rank and rate of pay as ensigns in the Navy, Jenkins is attached to the Coast Guard Shore Patrol of the First Naval district, with headquarters in Boston. Under him is a mixed personnel of white and colored enlisted men.

UNSUNG BRANCH OF SERVICE

By executive order, the Coast Guard is under the Navy for the duration of the emergency. Its history dates back to the commissioning of 10 cutters authorized by the first United States Congress in 1790 for the purpose of securing collection of the revenue. Since that time it has performed valiant duty for the nation, although it has been one of the most unsung branches of the service.

Today the Coast Guard performs many vital services. It maintains all Federal aids to navigation, charts and warns mariners of icebergs and derelicts, destroying these hazards whenever possible. It guards the shores against smuggling and under-cover entrance. It was the Coast Guard that initiated the capture of four of the eight Nazi saboteurs seeking admission to the country by way of deserted beaches.

On the high seas the Coast Guard patrols the sea lanes for submarines; convoy merchant shipping and huge troop ships, and in addition to supplies crews for transports.

DETAILED KNOWLEDGE

In the operation of the abovementioned service, Coast Guard officers, like Ensign Jenkins, must be trained seamen and navigators capable of carrying out their duties at sea, under the most severe conditions, and in addition must have had a detailed knowledge of marine engineering, naval architecture, hydrography, meterology, gunnery, radio and maritime law.

Ensign Jenkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Jenkins, of Detroit, Mich., graduated from the Eastern High school in Detroit and attended the University of Ann Arbor, obtaining the bachelor of science degree in civil engineering in 1937. Prior to entering the service he was employed as highway design engineer by the Michigan State Highway department. He volunteered for the Coast Guard on June 15, 1942, when it was evident that the Navy and Coast Guard were changing their policy. He was inducted as a chief specialist and attached to the Detroit Coast Guard recruiting office. After six months he was transferred to the officer training course here in New London.

HAS COMMANDED VESSELS

After taking a four months' course in engineering he was commissioned with two-thirds of the members of his original class in April; one-third had failed to pass the course.

Because this is a very limited branch of the service, Jenkins as an ensign is qualified and has commanded a vessel. On all of the smaller vessels of the Coast Guard an ensign is in command and on the larger vessels, the cutters and tenders, an ensign is usually the executive officer and in battle often becomes the commanding officer.

POLICY DIFFERENT

The policy of the United States Navy has been different from that of the Army and Coast Guard. Although Bernard Whitfield Robinson, of Boston, and class of 1941, Boston college, and now in his third year at the Harvard Medical school, holds a commission as a Navy ensign on inactive status pending graduation from the Harvard Medical school in 1944, no one has been on active duty as a Naval officer. Further, all Naval ensign reserve medical students are to revert to apprentice seamen next term until the completion of their medical work, the same as all Army medical school reserve officers are reverting to basic privates for the same period.

Differing from West Point, the Naval Academy at Annapolis has never graduated a Negro from its courses. Five Negroes have attended Annapolis. John Henry Conyers, of South Carolina, was the first and attended from September 21, 1872, to November 11, 1873, when he resigned because of scholastic deficiency. Alonzo C. McClellan, South Carolina, was admitted on September 27, 1874. Henry E. Baker, Jr., of Mississippi, was admitted on September 27, 1874, and dismissed on November 4, 1875.

ASKED TO RESIGN

Nominated by Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, of Illinois, James L. Johnson, of Washington, D. C., and former student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, entered the Academy in June, 1935, and was asked to resign with another large group that was deficient. On March 10, 1937, Congressman Mitchell nominated two other men to the school: James J. Minor and George J. Trivers, of Washington, D. C. Minor did not pass the entrance examination and Trivers resigned after eight days due to ill health.

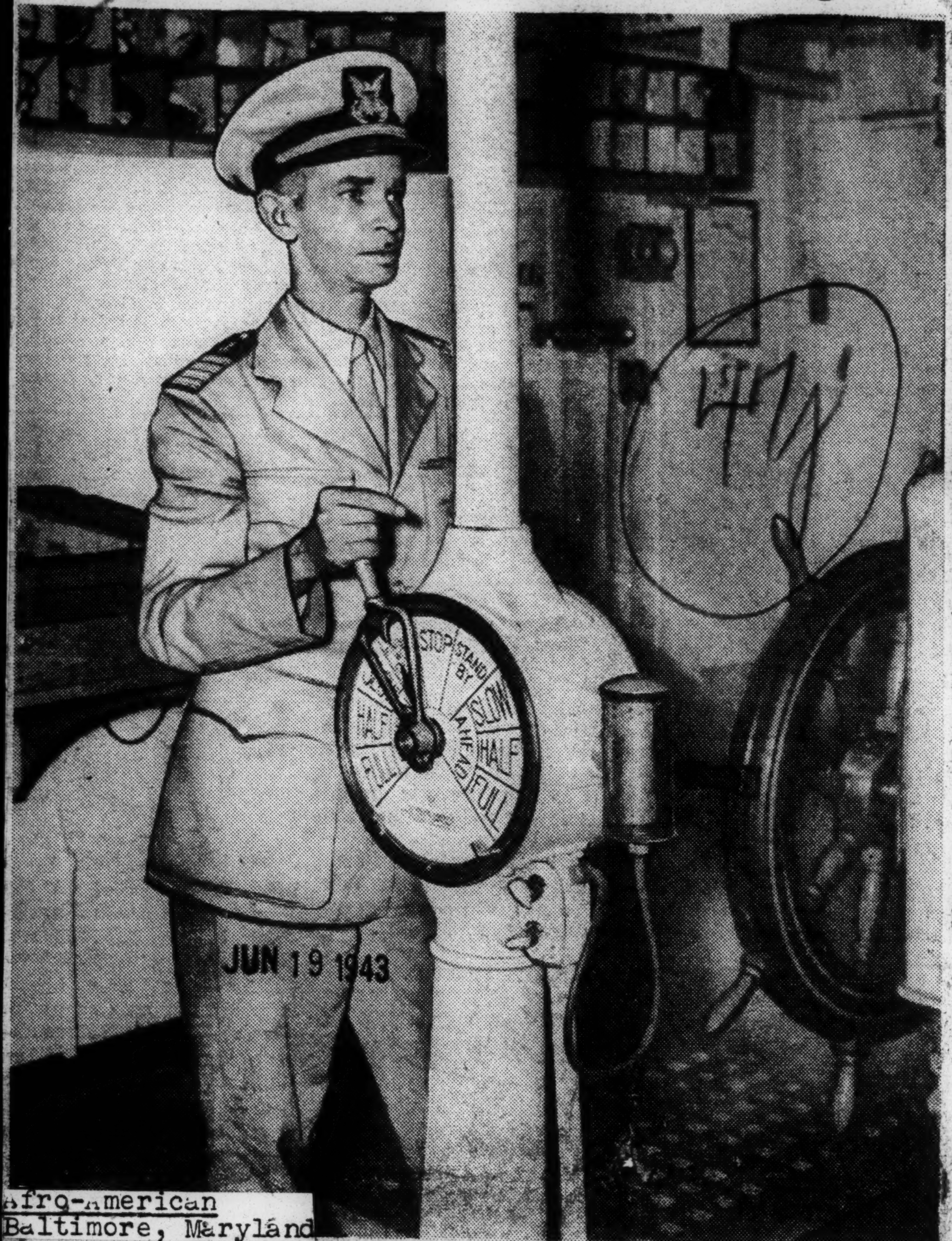
U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY

At the West Point Military Academy, 24 colored students have been admitted and seven graduated since its founding in 1802. Those who have graduated are: Henry O. Flipper, Georgia, class of 1877, who died May, 1940; John H. Alexander, of Ohio, class of 1883, who died in 1894; Charles Young, class of 1889, who became a high ranking colonel in the United States Army; retired in June, 1917, for disability contracted in the line of duty and died January 8, 1922; Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., of Washington, D. C., graduated June 12, 1936, and is now a lieutenant colonel commanding the 99th Pursuit Squadron in North Africa. His father is Brigadier General B. O. Davis, Sr.

James D. Fowler, Washington, D. C., finished June 12, 1941, and is now a first lieutenant and the commanding officer of the Anti-Tank Company of the 366th Infantry at Fort Devens, Mass. In January, 1943, two officers graduated from West Point at the same time: Clarence M. Davenport, of Detroit, Mich., who went to the Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) at Camp Davis, N. C.; and Robert Bernard Tresville II., of Fort Benning, Ga., who was the first to graduate as an officer in the Army Air Force and is now stationed at Selfridge Field, Mich. His father, Chief Warrant Officer Robert B. Tresville, recently returned from over a year in the Pacific war zone, is the leader of the 435th Army Air Force band, at Fort MacDill, Fla.

There are four cadets now at West Point: H. M. Francis, of Washington, D. C.; Mark E. Rivers, Flushing, L. I.; Ernest Davis, Jr., Washington, D. C., and Andrew H. McCoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McCoy, Sr., of Pittsburgh, Pa., who last week became the twenty-fourth cadet to enter the academy. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and member of the ROTC at that institution, McCoy is the first cadet to be appointed by a Pennsylvania Senator.

Skipper at the Wheel of S.S. Frederick Douglass



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JUN 19 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

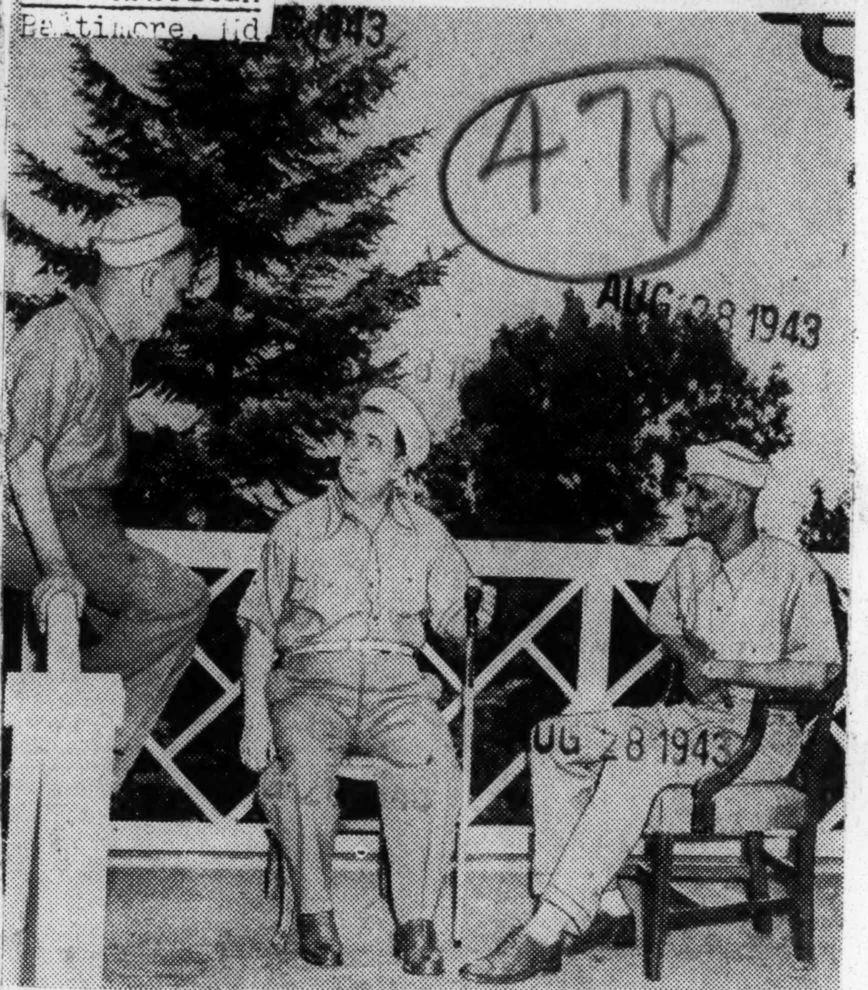
Captain Adrian Richardson, skipper of the newly-launched 10,500-ton Liberty ship, S.S. Frederick Douglass, is shown, above, at the controls of his ship. The new skipper, who has held a master's license since 1916, is the second of his race to command one of the current Liberty ships. Captain Hugh Mulzac chief of the S.S. Booker T. Washington, is the first. Captain Richardson, whose home is in New York City, is a native of Phillipsburg, St. Martin, Dutch West Indies, and made his first trip to sea when he was nine years old. Since then he has traveled to every port in the world. He was captain of an army transport during World War I. The Douglass, as well as other ships that have been under his command, carries a mixed crew.—(Other photos on page 11).

JUN 19 1943

JUN 19 1943

They Sailed, Now Live Together

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. 1943



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AUG 28 1943

AUG 28 1943

American merchant seamen, regardless of race or color (above) occupy the former home of Kermit Roosevelt at Oyster Bay, Long Island, as a rest center for rehabilitation. The home is operated by the United Seamen's Service, a member of the National War Fund, which is seeking funds for war-related agencies in co-operation with united community campaigns.

OUR DEMOCRATIC NAVY

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

PAGE TWO THE MAS

THE MASTHEAD ⚓ ⚓ ⚓ ⚓ ⚓ ⚓

Official Treasure Island publication distributed every Saturday without cost to the officers, enlisted men and employees of Treasure Island. All communications and contributions should be directed to The Editor, Welfare and Recreation Department, Treasure Island, San Francisco, California. Phone: EXbrook 3931, Extension 267.

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Station Printer

TREASURE ISLAND, S. F., CALIF., JULY 17, 1943

EDITORIAL . . . .

The new Treasure Island Ch [illegible] dedicated Sun- morning July 18th at the ten-th [illegible]

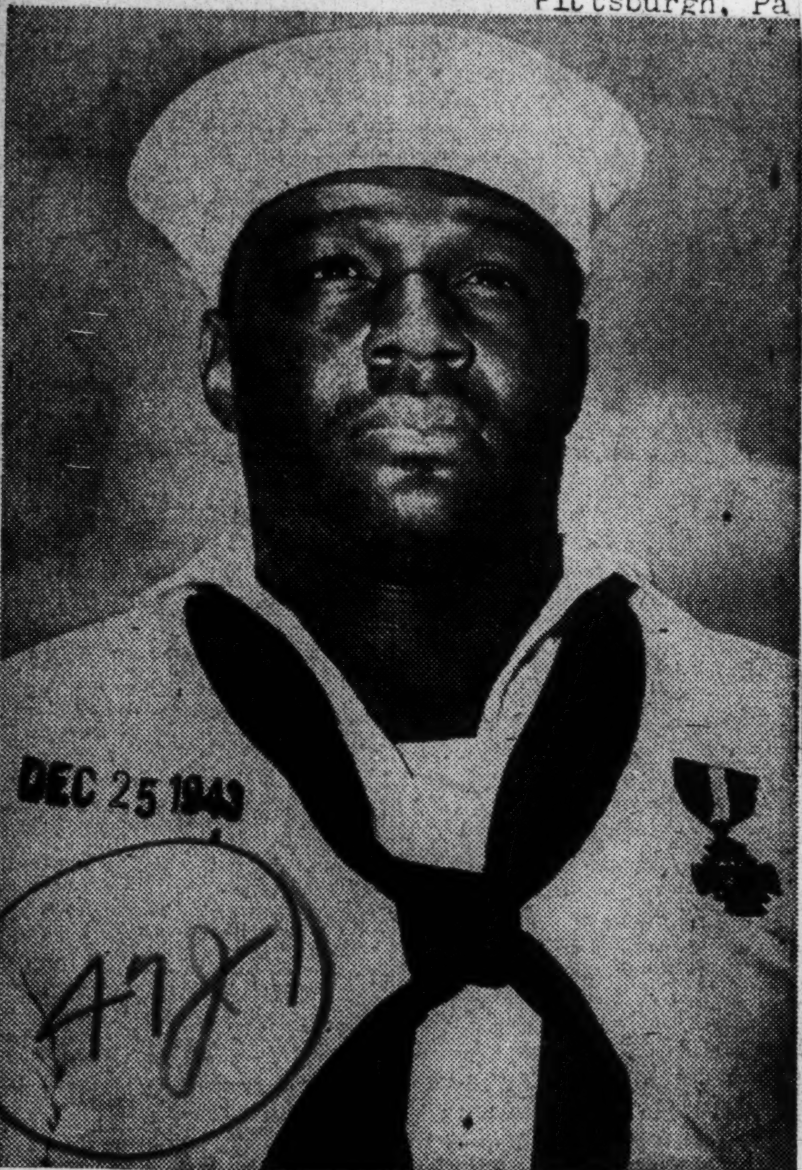
"Niggah, if you don't. scatter yo'self away from here, I'se gwine knock you so cold a glass of ice water will scald you."

The Navy not only sponsors the vilest forms of racial discrimination but it is also guilty of spreading racial antagonism through the columns of its publications. Here is a reproduction from "The Masthead," an official Navy newspaper, published at the Treasure Island, Cal., Naval Base, that is definitely unfavorable to the Negroes. The Courier has lodged a protest with the Secretary of Navy over this publication.

47j-1943

HERO MISSING IN PACIFIC

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa


DEC 25 1943

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Dorie Miller, first Negro in the U.S. Navy to win acclaim for his heroic deeds in this war, is "missing in action" in the Southwest Pacific, the Navy Department declared this week. A former football star on the Moore high school team in Waco, Texas, Mess Attendant First Class Miller was awarded the Navy Cross as a result of extraordinary courage during the attack on Pearl Harbor by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941.

Dorie Miller! . . . A Courier 'First'

~~DEC 25 1943~~

The shocking news that Dorie Miller of Texas, "Messman Hero" of Pearl Harbor, has been missing in action, recalls once again that The Pittsburgh Courier scored another "first" in flashing to the world the identity of the unnamed mess attendant who became the first Negro hero of World War II.

The Courier revealed Dorie's name four months after Pearl Harbor . . . and the radio and daily press confirmed the "scoop" story. The story of those four months of work on the part of The Courier organization is a symbol of the spirit which refuses to be denied.

The name now universally attached to the youth, DORIE, shows how the country accepted the story. Miller's correct first name is DORIS.

NAVY DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS REPORT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Navy Department this week confirmed reports that Dorie Miller, first Negro Bluejacket hero in this war, is "missing in action" in the Southwest Pacific. His next of kin, Mr. and Mrs. Conery Miller, Waco, Tex., have been notified.

Miller, a strapping 200-pound former fullback from Waco's Moore High school, was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for "distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941."

DEC 25 1943

GETS MEDAL FROM ADMIRAL NIMITZ

At the same time, Miller received a letter of commendation from the Secretary of the Navy, and was advanced in rating from Mess Attendant, Third Class, to Mess Attendant, First Class. In addition, Bluejacket Miller has received the American Defense Service Medal, the Fleet Clasp, and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, personally presented the Navy Cross to Miller in ceremonies aboard a United States warship in the Pacific on May 27, 1942. Pinning the bit of ribbon and cross of bronze on the sailor's breast, he described his act of heroism on the U.S.S. Arizona during the Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base, and complimented Miller on being the first representative of his race to be so honored in this war. He then read the citation, which said:

"While at the side of his captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing, and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

DEC 25 1943

AIDED WOUNDED IN "SNEAK ATTACK"

Later, in January, 1943, while visiting the U.S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., Bluejacket Miller explained that the Pearl Harbor incident marked his first experience with a machine gun. Addressing hundreds of Negro Bluejackets who are now being taught at Great Lakes to handle such weapons, Miller said:

"It wasn't hard. I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine. I had watched the others with these guns. I guess I fired her for about 15 minutes at those Japanese planes. They were diving pretty close to us."

DEC 25 1943

Official reports reveal that he arose at 6 o'clock on the morning of December 7, and was collecting laundry when the alarm for General Quarters sounded. He headed for his battle station—the anti-aircraft battery magazine amidships—only to discover that torpedo damage already had rendered it untenable. So he went on deck, where—because of his powerful size—he was immediately assigned to the task of carrying wounded to places of greater safety. An officer ordered him to the bridge to aid the mortally wounded captain. Miller helped remove the dying officer and then returned to the machine gun.

DEC 25 1943

47j

Since Pearl Harbor, Miller has been assigned to various other naval vessels. Shortly before he was reported missing in action, he was serving aboard the Aircraft Carrier Liscome Bay, which was sunk by enemy action in the Southwest Pacific on November 24, 1943.

FATE OF DORIE MILLER FOCUSES ATTENTION ON NAVY JIM-CROWISM

DEC 24 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Dorie Miller is missing in action!

This terse announcement by the navy department last week that the messman who at Pearl Harbor was the first of his race to distinguish himself, served but to focus more concern among Negroes upon the contention that the navy department's policies of discrimination have not altered much since that infamous day, and even before for that matter.

Dorie Miller distinguished himself while wearing the rating of messman. He died a messman.

DEC 24 1943

47

Navy Yields to Pressure

Public clamor had demanded that the department find and identify the man who had been referred to in a lone news dispatch telling of the Pearl Harbor attack, and described only as a Negro messman. Having gone this far, the navy then yielded on the point of recognition, and the 200-pound former fullback from Waco, Texas, was awarded the Navy cross by President Roosevelt.

When Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, pinned the medal upon Miller's chest, he read this citation:

"While at the side of his captain on the bride, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge."

DEC 24 1943

A Mess Attendant Still

The navy did a little more. Miller was advanced from mess attendant third class to mess attendant first class. There the navy stopped.

DEC 24 1943

A casual appraisal of the navy department's policies with regard to Negroes will still show that to all intents and purposes, it does not intend to accord to them a chance to fight according to their abilities.

Seamen are being trained and according to the best knowledge are going to shore establishments at a time when the department has a manpower commission at work seeking ways and means of streamlining the shore organizations.

Few harbor craft are being manned with Negroes.

In spite of the one Negro who has seemingly defied navy dictum, commissions are denied.

No Waves Or Spars

DEC 24 1943

The department is obdurate in refusing Negro women to enlist in the WAVES, SPARS and women marines.

DEC 24 1943

And these elements in the coast guard and the marine corps, under navy jurisdiction, who would improve the lot of Negro enlisted personnel are throttled.

More than one source has pointed to Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel, as the main obstructionist in the department.

DEC 24 1943

The navy is now accepting Negroes at the rate of about 15% of all calls, which is an acceleration of the earlier program of inductions. This is no doubt but that this trend will continue through 1944. Question being pressed then is to what use is this manpower going to be put after it has been trained.

Speaking of the manner in which he acted in handling the machine gun, Dorie Miller said simply: "It wasn't hard. I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine. I had watched the others with these guns."

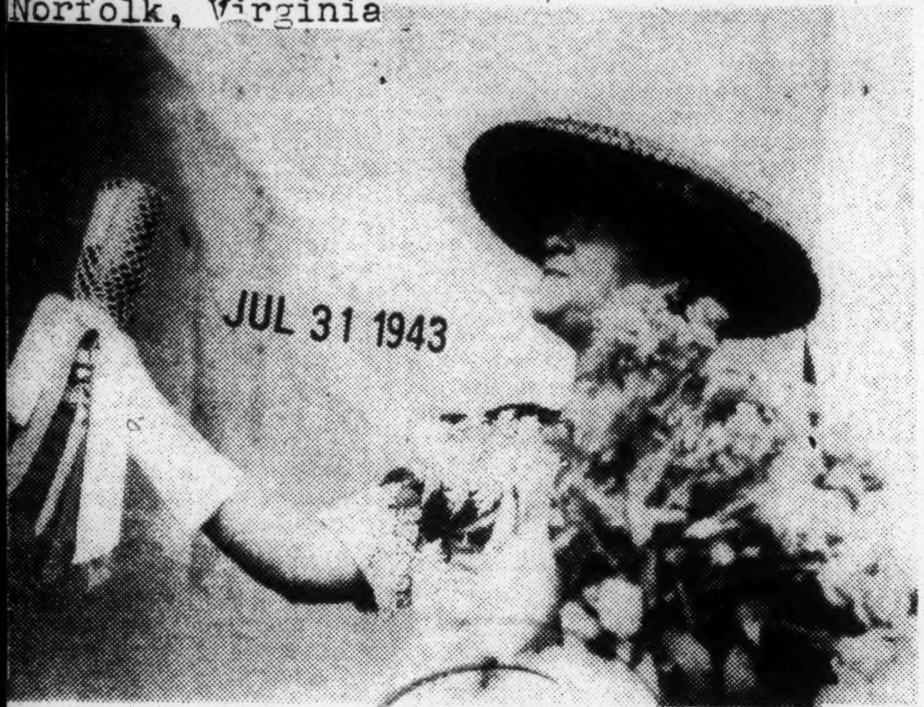
DEC 24 1943

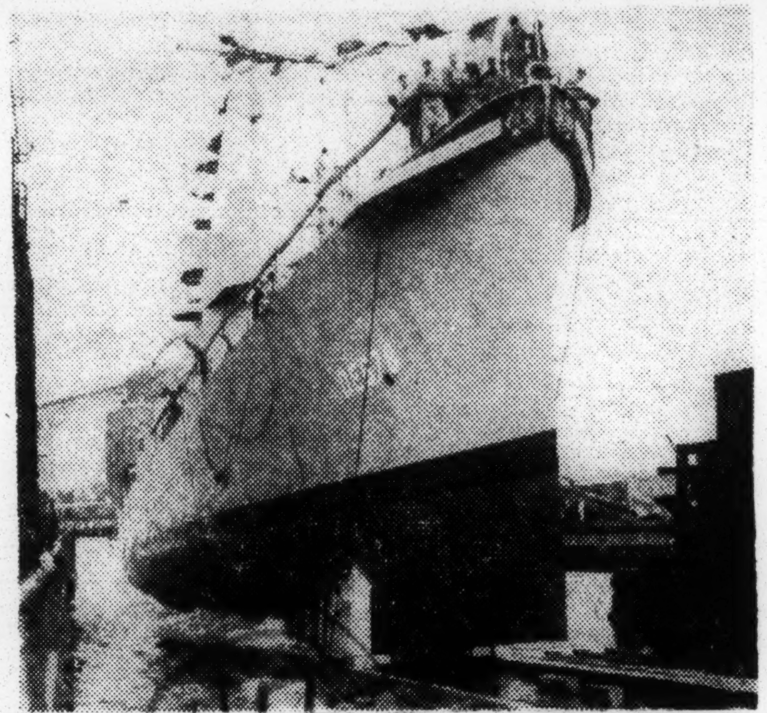
Would not training as a gunner have given Miller the desired accuracy which would have permitted him to bring down some of those planes, which, he said, "were diving pretty close to me?"

Destroyer-Escort Warship Harmon First Named For Negro, Slides Down Ways

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JUL 31 1943



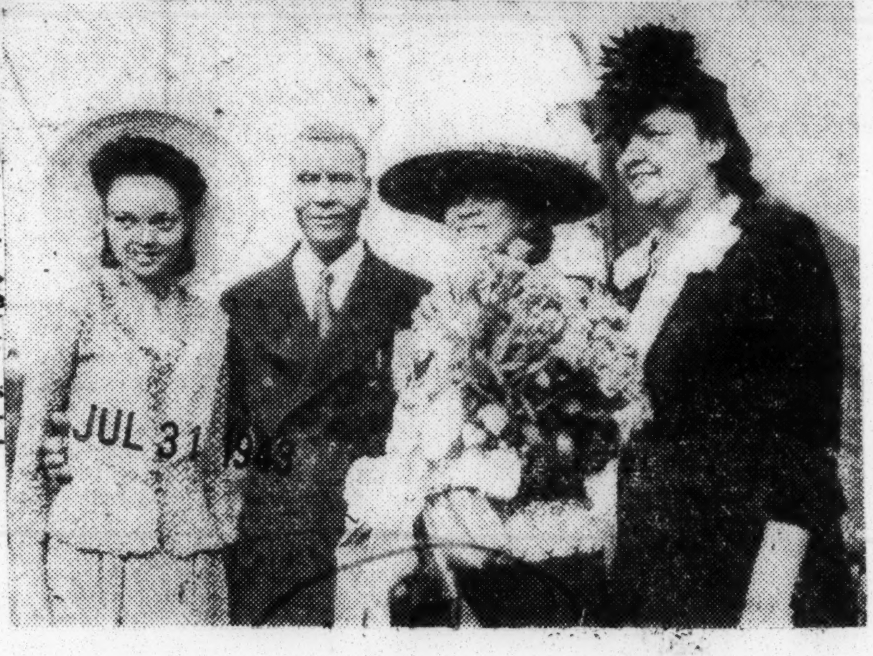


The first warship of the United States Navy bearing the name of a Negro was launched on Sunday in Quincy, Mass. Sponsor of the ship was Mrs. Nuanita Harmon, mother of Leonard Roy Harmon, the first class mess attendant who died aboard the USS San Francisco during a naval battle in the waters off the Solomon Islands—in whose honor the destroyer escort was named "USS Harmon."

No. 1—Mrs. Harmon is caught in the actual launching performance. Her words are: "I Christen Thee—USS Harmon."

No. 2—The trim, fighting craft is shown, sliding down the ways of the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company.

No. 3—Family of the Navy hero include, left to right, Miss Pauline Harmon, a sister; W. B. Carrol, stepfather, Mrs. Harmon Carrol, the mother, and Mrs. Cranston E. Edwards, a second sister.



47k-1943

IOWAN RECEIVING COMMISSION

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Capt. E. B. Lowe, first Negro officer to graduate from Officer Candidate school in the Southwest Pacific area, pins insignia of rank on Second Lt. James B. Morris of Des Moines, Ia., at recent OCS exercises at Camp Columbia, Brisbane, Australia. Lt. Morris, son of Atty. and Mrs. James B. Morris, 955 Seventeenth street, has been in the army over two years.

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s Commended

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

LT. JAMES A. McLENDON

Recent recipient of an official commendation for his work in connection with the preparation and restatement of Army regulations, whose assignment to the Judge Advocate General's Department on September 9 has been announced by the War Department, Lieutenant McLendon, a graduate of Fisk and Northwestern universities, practiced law in Chicago for several years.

Carlisle Has 7 Graduates

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa., Sept. 2—The graduation of seven physicians from the Army's Medical Field Service school, Carlisle Barracks, brought to a total of 174 the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center which is the American Army's only military school for training Medical Department officers for field duty.

The seven officers, six of them first lieutenants and one a captain, were part of the 33rd Officers Class graduated Thursday at exercises in Tugo hall, after completing six weeks of rigorous training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

All experienced physicians, the seven officers left immediately after graduation for their respective units.

The seven officers are: Capt. Robert S. Wilkinson, 43, New York City; First Lt. Lucius S. Davis, 34, St. Louis, Mo.; First Lt. Neville A. Griffith, [illegible] New York City; First Lt. Clar[illegible] S. Murray, 30, Corona, N. Y.; First Lt. Barnett M. Rhetta, Jr., 27, Baltimore, Md.; First Lt. Alvin V. Thomas, 34, Philadelphia, and First Lt. William T. Yates, 25, Baton Rouge, La.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

ORDNANCE OFFICERS—An unusual team was that of Lt. Charles W. Palmer, 26, left, 511 North Ohio avenue, Atlantic City, N. J., and Lt. Robert F. Zwinak, 24, white, of Cincinnati, Ohio, right, two officers of an ordnance company composed of colored enlisted men.

When this photo was made these officers were on detached service supervising the unloading and storing of ammunition at a port in Sicily.

Single, Lt. Palmer was drafted in August, 1941, and mustered into an ordnance company training at Aberdeen, Md. After training in Mississippi, he returned to officer candidate school at Aberdeen, and was commissioned on September 19, 1942. He came to Africa on the day after Christmas last year and his company began servicing airfields—supplying and delivering ammunition.

A graduate of Atlantic City High School, he attended Westchester State Teachers College, but left for the Army in his sophomore year. For a few days Lts. Palmer and Zwinak bivouaced with the 99th Fighter Squadron and took meals with its officers. (Exclusive photo by Journal and Guide War Correspondent)

Squadron Commander Now In States; Tells of Work Of Flyers in North Africa

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

Washington (ANP) — A hero, proudest of the lot, returned home from the war to receive the plaudits of an admiring people, both for himself and for his fighting men.

He is Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., until recently commander of the famous 99th Pursuit squadron, the first unit of Negro fliers to be trained by the army air forces, and the only one to see action in the fighting in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Col. Davis is here to take up a new but undisclosed assignment with the 332nd Fighter group at Selfridge Field, Mich.

Tanned and toughened from exposure to heat, sun and unrelenting enemy, Col. Davis stood beside his equally famous father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., and told a press conference last Thursday of the war experiences he and the squadron that comprised 27 pilots and 250 enlisted men have had up to his departure from the front.

He had praise for officers who completed their instruction in combat for the comradeship that has been established with white airmen, for the courage and eagerness of his buddies, the fighting ability of the P-40 Warhawks which they piloted, and finally the skill and prowess of British fliers.

Step Dramatic

From the time the squadron left continental United States- on April 15, Col. Davis declared in measured tone, "every step of the way was dramatic." Further, "there has not been a single circumstance or incident which could be regarded as discriminatory by the most rabid race leader." By implication, the experience here at home was not quite so qualified.

The 30-year-old West Pointer was the senior line officer on the transport that carried he and his men across to North Africa although the squadron and their complement of ground crew were only 15% of the total passenger list of 4,000 men.

Everything proceeded smoothly and without incident throughout the eight-day voyage. They landed at Casablanca and were greeted by Col. Allison of the army air force who in turn presented Gen. Campbell. The latter explained to Col. Davis that the 99th would not go into combat until he, Davis, considered that they had been adequately schooled in combat training.

The colonel toll something of the type of "post-graduate" training they were given in several stations in North Africa, and at all of which they met with a friendly reception both by white officers, and enlisted personnel. At one time they were based near the town of Fez, which he described as a "delightful" spot, visited almost nightly for a month, and at no time was there friction with the white soldiers they met. "A considerable bond exists between those who fly," Col. Davis asserted, "regardless of color or race."

"No unit in this war has gone into combat better trained or better equipped than the 99th squadron," the colonel declared. "We were weak in one respect only, and that was the squadron commander and the flight commander. Neither of us had had any combat experience. It is this quality that gives confidence to those who are led that the men in charge of the formation know what they are doing. Frankly, I didn't know."

SEP 16 1943

He judged, however, that this deficiency was adequately counter-balanced by the fact that his pilots ha had an average of 250 hours in the P-40s. There are not a lot of pilots around who can point to such flying time before entering combat.

SEP 16 1943

Went as Wingmen

The fliers went as wingmen over Pantelleria on their first mission, about the first of June, and returned every day until June 7 to dive bomb enemy positions until the island fell. It was during this "show" that six of the squadron had the first real brush with the enemy, while the others merely encountered the flock of anti-aircraft.

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About the first of July they began escorting bombers to Sicily, and every day they were attacked by enemy fighter craft, the purpose of the latter apparently being to draw off the escort the better to reach the fortresses.

Soon after this engagement the squadron was visited by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of all allied forces in the North African Theatre of Operations. Others who visited the unit on various occasions were Air Marshal Cunningham, and Lord Trenchard, both of the Royal Air Force and among the best air tacticians in the world. Gen. Spotts commanding general for the North African Air force, also made calls on the squadron.

SEP 16 1943

July 10 was "D Day" for the Sicilian invasion. The squadron gave cover for mombing attacks, itself dive bombed installations and strafed retreating axis forces that ultimately succeeded in breaking down resistance to the drive. The unit was later based on the southern coast of the island.

Training replacements began to come in about this time, new combat crews, new responsibilities, he said. The new men had to be shown the ropes, and they were. On Sept. 7, Col. Davis was ordered to report for assignment to the 332nd fighter group and so picked up his hat and was homeward bound.

SEP 16 1943

"The men I left behind," he declared, "instead of being the fledglings we were on June 1, are now seasoned veterans of a combat experience of which all of us may well be proud."

Col. Davis' next move will be to Mitchell Field, New York, headquarters for the First Army Air force of which the 332nd fighter group is a part. His stay there will be temporary. He is expected to convey fund of battle experience to the three squadrons that comprise a group. The group has been in training for some time, and there is speculation that Davis will ultimately be their commander with the rank of full colonel.

FORT JACKSON GETS CHAPLAIN

Pittsburgh Pa.

FORT JACKSON, S. C., Sept. 16—(ANP)—For the first time in many months, Negro troops at Fort Jackson will have the services of a chaplain of their own race. Maj. Wiley R. Deal, chief of the Fort Jackson Chaplains' branch, revealed that 1st Lt. Llewellyn T. Thornhill has been assigned to this post for duty with the 274th Quartermaster battalion. A Methodist, Chaplain Thornhill is a native of Charlestotn, W. Va., and held pastorates in that city and in Steubenville, Ohio, Springfield, Ohio, and San Francisco before entering active duty on July

SEP 18 1943

47K

You have a personal stake in the Third War Loan. Every dollar you invest in a bond will return to you in full, with interest.

First Negro Chaplain Named At S. C. Fort

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 18 1943

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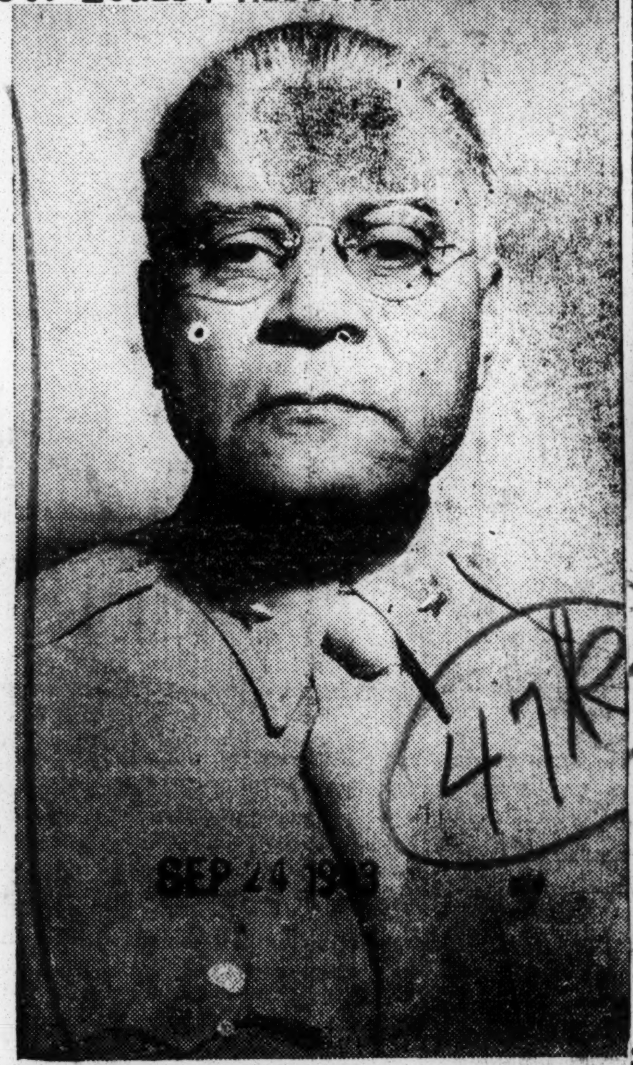
Chaplain Thornhill was educated at Wilberforce university and Payne Theological seminary

SEP 18 1943

Father And Son Are High Army Officers

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri



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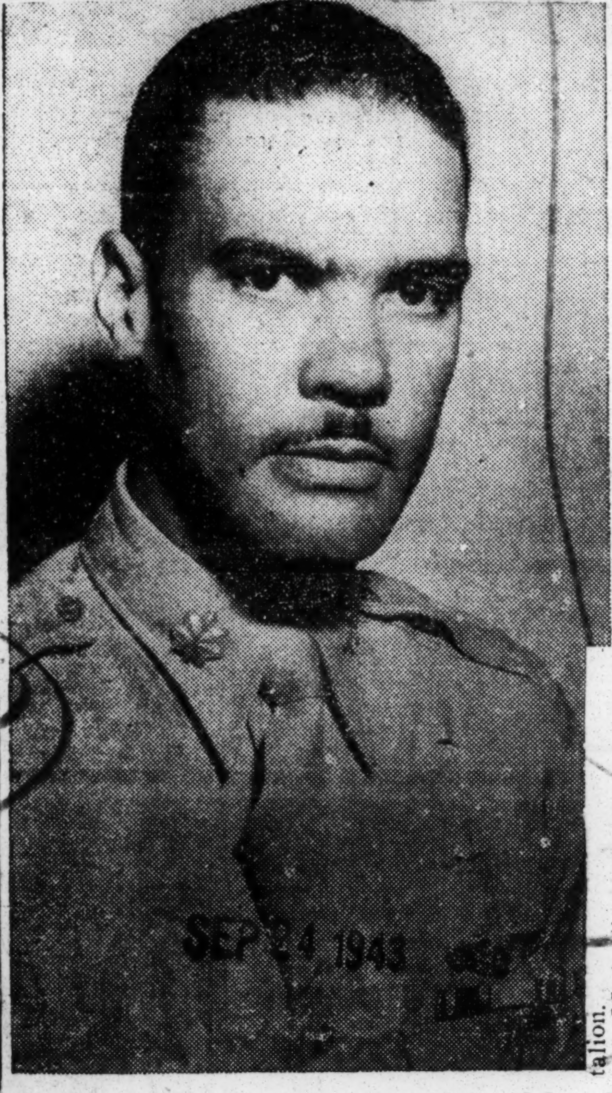

SEP 24 1943

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One of the most famous family pairs in American military history is that of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, and his son, Lt. Col. Davis, Jr. The son recently thrilled the country with a report of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Air Squadron which he led in the Sicily drive. Lt. Colonel Davis is now in command of 332nd Air group in training at Selfrige field, Mich. Brig. Gen. Davis is the highest ranking army officer of the race.

SEP 24 1943

New Yorker Is Lone Negro Line Officer Of Unit

Courier Pittsburgh

SEP 18 1943

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU

FROM ALLIED MEDITERRANEAN BASE, Sept. 16—Second Lt Cornelius D. Scott has the distinction of being the lone Negro line officer in a large port battalion outfit. He serves as assistant port operations officer. His home is at 453 West 140th street, New York City.

SEP 18 1943

While visiting Lieutenant Cooper I made the acquaintance of S/Sgt. George W. Winston, Montgomery, Ala.; Sgts. Marion Saunders, Jacksonville, Fla.; John B. Spears, Meridian, Miss., and Maceo Whissendon, Vaughan, Miss.; Cpls. Ben Yearby, Athens, Ga.; John Smith, Mangham, La.; [illegible] Blair, Birmingham, Ala., and Harding Pruett, Tampa, Fla.; Pvts. Rudolph S. Grant, Alexandria, La.; Augusta Wells, Memphis, Tenn., and John Derr, Gastonia, N. C.

SEP 18 1943

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Former Howard U Star Is Promoted to Major

SEP 17 1943

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—As a result of the recent announcement by the War Department, Captain George W. Webb, provost and fire marshal at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was promoted to the rank of major.

47K

The Tuskegee provost marshal, who, incidentally, has held the position since the beginning of the flying program at the field, has just completed an intensive course at the Provost Marshal General School, Ft. Custer, Mich. The 38-year-old major is married and the father of three daughters and one son. His family lives at Gettysburg, Pa.

SEP 17 1943

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Negro Troops At Ft. Jackson To Have Chaplain

FORT JACKSON, S. C., Sept. 16—(ANP)—For the first time in many months, Negro troops at Ft. Jackson will have the services of a chaplain of their own race.

SEP 17 1943

Maj. Wiley R. Deal, chief of the Fort Jackson Chaplains branch, revealed that 1st Lt. Llewellyn T. Thornhill has been assigned to this post for duty in the 274th Quartermaster battalion.

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SEP 17 1943

Chaplain Thornhill was educated at Wilberforce University and Payne Theological Seminary.

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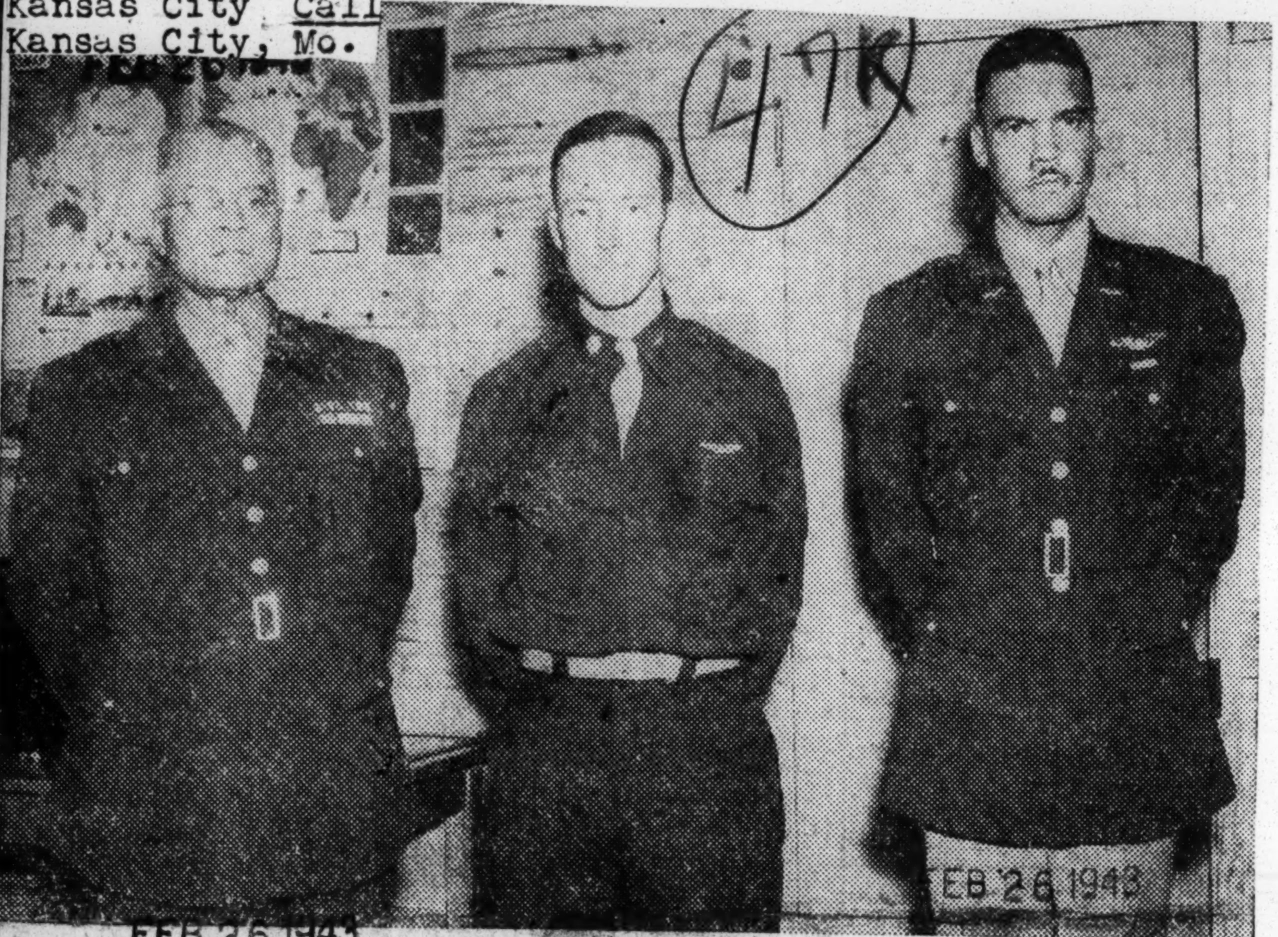
Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.


FEB 26 1943

FEB 26 1943

GEN. DAVIS INSPECTS ARMY FLYING SCHOOL AND VISITS HIS SON—

When Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the army, made a tour of inspection of the Tuskegee army flying school recently, his visit had a double meaning as his son, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. is in command of the 99th pursuit squadron there. The 99th is one of the two squadrons of Negro flyers in training at Tuskegee, the other being the 100th. Pictured left to right, General Davis, Lt. Col. Noel F. Parrish, flying school head, and Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Lt. Col. Davis is a West Point graduate. His father attained the generalship from the ranks.

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Geo. S. Roberts Made Captain in Air Corps

APR 24 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—First Lieut. George S. Roberts, a flight officer at Tuskegee Army Flying School, recently, was promoted to the rank of captain. He received his wings and commission as a second lieutenant in March, 1942. Prior to his enlistment as an aviation cadet in 1941, he was a technician at West Virginia State College, where he had received his B.S. degree in mechanical arts in 1938.

APR 24 1943

Capt. Roberts

Captain Roberts is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer R. Roberts, 317 Quarry Avenue, Fairmont, W.Va. APR 24 1943

Highest Ranking Colored Airman

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

MAR 6 1943

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., holds the highest rank among Negroes in the United States Air Force. The War Department this week announced that a colored air unit will soon be in action on one of the battle fronts.

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

14 Get Bars at Army School in England

FEB 13 1943

LONDON — Fourteen colored soldiers were among the fifty-seven who received commissions on February 3 as officers of the U.S. Army and won the plaudits of Maj. Gen. Russell P. Hartle, deputy commander of the American Forces in the United Kingdom.

FEB 13 1943

They were the first group of colored men to pass through the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School in this country.

Addressing the colored group, General Hartle said: "You are a credit to that great section of our nation which is making an ever-increasing contribution to the war."

FEB 13 1943

Veteran in Group

Among the men commissioned was William P. Murphy, 45, of Valdosta, Ga., who has been in the army for twenty-five years and was a master sergeant. The others were: FEB 13 1943

Technical Sgt. Samuel L. Coleman, N.Y.C.; Technician 4th Class Richard W. Davis, Washington; 1st Sgt. William A. Dyson, N.Y.C.; 1st Sgt. Lucins Gibson, Americus, Ga.; Technical Sgt. James P. Rux, Bloomsburg, Pa.; Cpl. Richard C. Wells, Washington;

FEB 13 1943

Master Sgt. William H. Cox, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Cpl. William F. Duckery, Phila.; Staff Sgt. Lester W. Gordon, Brooklyn, N.Y.; 1st Sgt. Ernest J. Harris, Neptune, N.J.; 1st Sgt. Carl W. Pope, Columbus, Ohio; Technical Sgt. Robert L. Terrell, Houston, Tex., and Cpl. Kenneth E. Wilson Brooklyn, N.Y. FEB 13 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Two Negro Officers Get Army Press Jobs

Washington, Aug. 5 (AP)—Assignment of two Negro officers to the press branch, Bureau of Public Relations, was announcel today by the War Department.

They are Capt. Homer B. Roberts and First Lieut. Daniel E. Day, both of Chicago. Robert has been assistant public relations officer at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and Day formerly was employed by the Robert S. Abbott Publishing Company, Chicago.

AUG 6 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia. Pa.

Promoted To Captain

MAY 22 1943

MAY 22 1943

Chaplain DOUG[illegible] L. T. ROBINSON, son of Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Robinson, of 235 north Farson street, West Philadelphia, attached to the Tuskegee Army Flying School, has been promoted to Captain.

Why Doesn't Col. Davis Command Flying School

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md.

FEB 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— (ANP) — Why is it that Lt. Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr., is not commanding officer of the army air school located here near Tuskegee?

That question is being asked by colored soldiers attached to this base which has recently been receiving considerable unfavorable publicity because of the strict policy of segregation inaugurated by Col. Kimble.

FEB 20 1943

Whites in Top Jobs

These soldiers point out that a squadron consists of 13 to 28 planes, a group from 61 to 121 planes and a wing from 125 to 250 planes. Lt. Col. Davis is in command of only a squadron, the 99th, while Maj. Sam Westbrook, white, has charge of a group and Lt. Col. Noel Parrish, white, of the same rank as Davis, heads the Tuskegee Army Flying school.

"Four years at West Point plus months of training a squadron should be enough to qualify Lt. Col. Davis for the post of commanding officer of the 322d fighter group or post commander of the Tuskegee Army Flying school," these soldiers point out. "Why isn't Davis getting what is due him?"

Capt. Harold D. Martin Heads First All-Colored Army PX at Tuskegee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

FEB 13 1943

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FEB 13 1943
FEB 13 1943

CAPT. HAROLD D. MARTIN

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Capt. Harold D. Martin, former CIAA commissioner of football officials and physical education director at Miner Teachers' College, now directs the first all-colored operated Post Exchange in the United States Army.

The Tuskegee Army Flying School Post Exchange, first of its kind, is sure to go down in history as another milestone in the military progress of the colored man.

Captain Martin, as post exchange officer, with seventy-three employees, civilian and army, supplies the thousands on this field with everything in merchandise from soap to officers' uniforms.

Giving dictation to a private secretary and running a $50,000 army business, however, was not the foremost desire of this former all-round athlete, health education director and teacher from Washington, D.C. His life had been a field day, with him the star performer in a host of athletic endeavors; from college football captain to commissioner of athletic officials for both the CIAA and EIAC. For the past eight years, prior to his signing with Uncle Sam, he had been public health director at Miner.

Norwich Grad

Captain Martin was the first colored man to graduate from Norwich University, receiving his B.S. degree in engineering. While there he captained the varsity football team, and earned letters in baseball, track and hockey. Upon graduating, he took on the job of coaching which led him to Virginia Union, Shaw University and Virginia State College.

During these thirteen years, this health education specialist had received his master's degree from New York University. He had played professional football and declined an appointment as a West Point cadet. In 1934, he transferred his activities to college where he remained until 1942. The ex-professor, a member of Washington's Bachelor Benedict Club, spent his vacation as director of summer camps. He was a first lieutenant in the first colored auxiliary police in Washington.

Captain Martin shared 15 years of his busy field life with his charming wife, the former Miss Beatrice C. Boyd of Boston. They are the parents of two handsome sons.

His wife exhibits the same delight in physical education work. She has done professional dancing and, at present, is assisting the physical education director, while taking special courses at Tuskegee Institute. Their home is at 1804 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest, in Washington.

Hard Tasks

"I don't have a minute to spare." These words, spoken by the perpetually active captain, indicate that his army job is a taxing one. Maintaining a proficient personnel to operate the restaurant, soda fountain and various departments of an army department store is no bench-warming job.

The captain's blood still sings, however, with hope for the chance at body building. When big things in athletics appear on this flying school horizon, they march them to Captain Martin's office. Recently he drew up the plans for the 99th Field Day program presented on this field.

Last week, February 1, he drew closer to the things he loves. After selling the idea of a bowling alley for this field, he saw one of his dreams come true in the opening of a modern alley.

It rates high as a morale builder and recreational center. As general manager of this new bowling alley, the 42-year-old officer has plenty of ideas in store, concerning plans for teams and other recreational facilities for this field.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
October 26, 1943

Eugene Pierre White Now 1st Lieutenant

First. Lt. Eugene Pierre White Negro, son of Mrs. Jennie White of 1610 Fourteenth Avenue, North was promoted to his present rank recently at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, where he is an instructor in the Air Forces. He was commissioned about six months ago upon completion of officers training at Miami Beach, Fla.

Upon enlisting while a student at A&I College here in 1940, Lieutenant White received basic training at Fort Bragg, N. C., and was later sent to Tuskegee for a period of training before he went to Florida. Upon being commissioned he was returned to Tuskegee.

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AMERICAN OFFICERS VISIT EMPEROR

MAR 6 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAR 6
MAR 6 1943
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Allied with the United Nations in their drive against the Axis is historic Ethiopia, which was overrun by Italy in the infamous invasion of 1937, today Ethiopia's Emperor, Haile Selassie, since his restoration to the throne, is an important figure in military planning in the Middle East.

Above are pictures of the Emperor in conference with American Airmen. At the left of the Emperor is Colonel Bishop. Standing is Colonel Clark. They are looking over official papers.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 16 1943

CAPT. CAMPBELL CHEMICAL WARFARE SCHOOL GRAD.

EDGEWOOD ARSENAL, Md.—Capt. Thomas Campbell was the only colored officer among the Chemical Warfare graduates here last week. Assigned to North Camp Hood, Tex., he is now visiting his parents at Tuskegee.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MacArthur Gives Command Of New Unit To Race Officer

MAY 22 1943

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA (ANP)—Setting up of an all-colored unit by General Douglas MacArthur, with 1st Lt. Edward H. Lowe, of Muskogee, Okla., in command, has established a new precedent in the South Pacific area.

This unit is an independent quartermaster railhead company, charged with the responsibility of handling the vitally important subsistence supplies.

Lt. Lowe has been under Gen. MacArthur's command since November, 1941. In that period he has established an enviable record. Coming to the Southwest Pacific area as a second lieutenant, he was first attached to an all-white signal corps unit at Port Darwin, Australia, acting in the capacity of supply officer.

Later he was transferred to the special service division of the army, where he did remarkable work. He was then promoted to first lieutenant.

Although the outfit he has been assigned to is comparatively a small unit, it still marks advancement for Negro officers in this theatre. Then, too, until the latter part of last year there were only two Negro line officers (both infantry) besides chaplains over here.

Two terms of officer's candidate schools have been held in this area. The first, which was an experimental school, graduated two out of four Negroes in attendance.

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Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Campbell Johnson Made A Colonel

WASHINGTON. — (ANP)—Promoted to a full colonelcy, Campbell Johnson, executive assistant to Maj. Gen. Hershey of the selective service system, assumed his new rank last week with no other changes in his duties noted. Col Johnson, long known for his splendid record in civic work and in social work in this city, was appointed to his post early in the war and retained his title of major

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47k-1943

Negro Officers To Be Promoted On Ability; Block System Eliminated

April 17, 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — Almost simultaneonsly with the announcement of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson that his department will promote Negro officers according to their ability, it was learned in another quarter that the block system of promotions has been eliminated and that colored commissioned personnel will be raised in rank as the individuals qualify.

Announced in Press Conference

The secretary's reply came in answer to a question at his Thursday morning press conference as to whether the policy stated by Under Secretary William Patterson recently in a letter to the Washington Federation of Churches, would be followed throughout the army wherever command of Negro troops is involved. Patterson had said that Negro officers would be advanced according to their ability as they qualify.

"Yes, that is our intention," was the Stimson answer.

The block system is the method whereby Negroes could not be commissioned as lieutenants until an equal number could be elevated to the rank of captaincy, and this latter would not be done until there was an organized unit of sufficient Negro personnel to require the particular number of captains.

It was this limitation on advancement that was lifted out of a speech of Major General Frederick Miller, commanding general for the 93rd Division stationed at Fort Huachuca, a few months ago and highlighted in the Negro press. It was not generally known, however, that even at that time, General Miller had submitted to his superior officers the recommendations for the promotion of several qualified officers at his base.

The probability is that these and possibly other names will be acted upon for promotion at an early date, although no specific promise was available.

Secretary Stimson also declared that "the policy of the war department is to utilize trained Negro troops whenever they can be used to further the war effort." He disclosed that there are now more than 75,000 Negroes in the various overseas theaters of operations. This number includes not only service troops, he said, but combat troops as well, such as coast artillery in infantry.

(Negro tank units are reported to be engaged in action now going on at the Tunisian front where they are credited with having taken an important sector from the axis.)

"Negro troops of all the principal arms are now under training," Stimson said. "Typical of these are the following: two infantry divisions, one cavalry division, and a number of infantry regiments and field artillery battalions.

"The 93rd division is now undergoing maneuvers as a division. This is an advanced stage of training for this unit. I think that these evidences give clearer indication of our policy to utilize the Negro soldier in combat as well as in active theaters of war."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Commissioned in Medical Administration

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

(SPECIAL) — George W. Kimble, 22, Kansas City, youth on June 9 commissioned a second lieutenant at the medical administrative corps officer candidate school graduation here.

An optician before he entered the army, Kimble attended the University of Kansas in 1938 and the University of Nebraska in 1939. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Kimble, 1604 Benton Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.

The medical administrative corps, into whose ranks the graduates have just been officially welcomed, is taking over most of the non-medical jobs in the medical department.

Gen. Davis at Ky. Camp

FEB 13 1943

Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis (rear seat, in cap) of the Inspector General's office. looks over the 370th Combat Team, 92nd Division, at Camp Breckinridge, Ky., during a recent inspection tour of units in training throughout the country.

16th Negro In ETO Wins Commission

Pittsburgh Courier

JUL 10 1943

LONDON, July 8—Henry Wynn, Jr., of 812 Kirkham Street, Oakland, Calif., is the lone colored graduate among 71 officers from "European West Point" last week. He becomes the sixteenth colored second lieutenant receiving his gold bars by way of graduation.

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nicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

NEW OFFICERS AT TUSKEGEE AIRFIELD

LIEUT BLAIR · **LIEUT. GREEN** · **LIEUT. WILLIAMS** · **LIEUT. ROHLSEN**

MAY 10 1943

Left to right, Lieut. Omar D. Blair, Albuquerque, N. Mex., recently graduated from the Air Corps Administration Officers Candidate school, Miami Beach, Fla., and assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying school, Second Lieut. Alpheus M. Green of Philadelphia, recently transferred to the Tuskegee Army Flying school from Langley Field, Va., Lieutenant Green was commissioned at the Signal Corps Officers Candidate school, Fort Monmouth on February 3, 1943, Second Lieut. John H. Williams of Pasadena, Calif., recently graduated from the Air Corps Administration Officers' Candidate school, Miami, Beach, Fla., and was assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying school. Second Lieut. Henry E. Rohlsen, a native of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, recently graduated from the Air Corps Administration Officers' Candidate school, Miami Beach, Fla., and was assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying school.—Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Information.

FIVE RETURN AS OFFICERS

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

By "SCOOP" JONES

JUN 12 1943

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, June 10—(ANP)—Graduating from one of the toughest U. S. Army Officers Candidate schools, five colored officers, who left here as enlisted men, have just returned for their first line of duty since being commissioned and to renew their activities in the campaign against the Japanese. They came from Gen. MacArthur's O. C. School in Australia, which has a reputation of only graduating leaders.

Out of a class of 477 men to enter in January the second officer's training school to be held in this theater, 11 to attend were colored. These five officers who have just reported here were the only ones out of this group to graduate. They are: 2nd Lts. James H. Hopkins, Kan.; Elisha Burno, Hartsville, S. C., Frank J. Corbett, Rocky Mount, N. C.; Hampson H. Fields, Cleveland, and Joe R. Burns, Tulsa, Okla.

Detroiter Is First Colored Navy Officer Put On Duty

Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

JUN 19 1943

BOSTON. — (ANP) — Ensign Joseph C. Jenkins of Detroit has the distinction of being the first colored naval officer to be assigned to active duty.

He is attached to the coast guard shore patrol of the First Naval district with headquarters at the former exclusive Hotel Brunswick and has under his command a mixed personnel of white and colored seamen.

He was inducted as a chief petty officer on presenting his qualifications about a year ago and after attending the coast guard academy at New London, Conn., was commissioned an ensign on April 19.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of civil engineering degree, class of 1937, and from that time up to the time of his enlistment was connected with the Michigan state highway.

Ensign Jenkins stated that he has been treated fairly and believes there is an ever-widening opportunity for colored boys in the coast guard. Incidentally his friends in Detroit scoffed at his move in leaving the Michigan state highway saying, "It couldn't be done."

Ensign "Whit" Robinson, the only other colored naval ensign, is still on inactive status awaiting the completion of his medical studies at Harvard university in 1944.

Winston Salem N. C. Sentinel
September 5, 1943

N. C. Chaplain Is Promoted

Chaplain John H. Clanton, of Eglin Field, Fla., has been promoted to captaincy, it was announced recently. Captain Clanton is a North Carolinian where he completed his high school, college and seminary work and taught school three years.

He served as principal of an mentary public school for two and as assistant principal of the State School for Deaf, Dumb and Blind Children of North Carolina.

Later he became pastor of the St. James Baptist Church of Rocky Mount. This church has a three-story Sunday school building where the most modern methods of training and teaching are carried on.

From this church the Baptist State Convention (Negro) and the Baptist State Convention (white) jointly secured the full-time services of Captain Clanton as director of religious education and training for the Negro constituency of North Carolina. He held this position for five years prior to receiving his commission in the United States Army as first lieutenant in the chaplain corps. He also pursued further study in religious education at Howard University at Howard University.

Trio Graduated From Medical Service School

Pittsburgh Pa

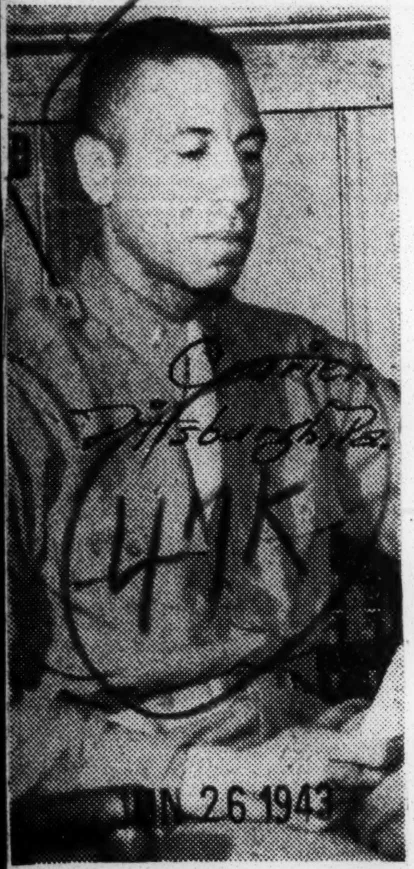
Courier

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa., Aug. 5—The graduation Thursday of three physicians from the Army's Medical Service School, Carlisle Barracks, brought to a total of 144 the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center, the only military school for training medical department officers for field duty.

The three officers are Capt. George W. Hill, 38, of 30 State stret, Ossining, New York; Capt. William F. Fonville, 44, of 5623 Indiana avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and First Lieut. Harold L. Edgehill, 37, of 417 West 146th street, New York City, New York. Captain Fonville and Lieutenant Edgehill received their M.D. degrees from Howard university and Captain Hill graduated from Indiana university with an M.D. degree.

AUG 7 1943

TO HARVARD



Courier

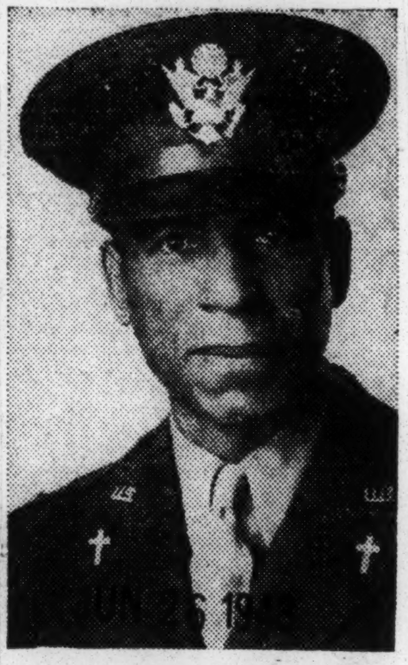
Pittsburgh Pa.

JUN 26 1943

Captain Douglas L. T. Robinson, Post Chaplain at Tuskegee Aair Field, was recently assigned to Harvard University's Chaplain school, Cambridge, Mass. Captain Robinson, who saw service overseas in World War I with the 372nd Infantry, is an experienced soldier and religious leader. He was pastor of the Steward Chapel AME church of Macon, Ga., prior to receiving his commission and being assigned to Fort McClellan, Ala. He was assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field on May 20, 1942, where his duties have grown with the field.

JUN 26 1943

At Chaplain's School



JUN 26 1943

...TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., June —Captain Douglas L. T. Robinson, Post Chaplain was recently assigned to Harvard University's Chaplain School, Cambridge, Mass., where he will further his knowledge in Army ministry. Captain Robinson, who saw service over seas in World War 1 with the 372nd Infantry is an experienced soldier and religious leader.

Captain Robinson's father Rev. J. C. Robinson, is a retired General Officer of the A. M. E. Church. He and his wife, Mrs. Robinson, reside at 235 N. Darson St., Philadelphia, Pa.

JUN 26 1943

5 PHYSICIANS RECEIVE ARMY COMMISSIONS

JUN 1943

Chicago, Ill. Defender

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. — Five more Negro physicians were graduated from the Medical Field Service school, Carlisle Barracks, on June 3, making a total of 128 Negro medical, dental, and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from the Army's only school for training medical department officers for field duty.

The five Negro officers, four of them first lieutenants, and one a captain, were members of the 27th Officers' class after completing a six weeks of rigorous training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

JUN 12 1943

The five officers are Capt. Webster Sewell, 41, of Norbeck Road, Rockville, Md.; First Lt. Henry C. Irving, 30, of 13 Warner avenue, Jersey City, N.J.; First Lt. Morris S. Young, 29, of Anderson, S.C.; First Lt. William O. Harris, 34, of 32 N. New Jersey avenue, Atlantic City, N.J.; and First Lt. Seaton J. Jackson, 29, of 700 S. Virginia avenue, Terrell, Texas.

Both Captain Sewell and Lieutenant Irving received their M.D. degrees from Howard university. Lieutenant Jackson and Lieutenant Young were graduated from Meharry Medical college, and Lieutenant Harris was awarded his degree from Western Reserve Medical college.

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

Captain Martin

JUN 5 1943

This is the most recent photograph of Captain Harold D. Martin, former CIAA and EIAC commissioner of officials and former coach at Shaw, Virginia Union, Virginia State and Miner Teachers College, now director of the ground forces at the Tuskegee Army Flying School. This exclusive shot, which shows the well known official and sports figure to be "in the pink" was taken by Guide Photographer J. Andrew Bowler during the Tuskegee Institute commencement exercises, at which Captain Martin's wife received her bachelor of science degree.

Disappointment has been expressed in some quarters over the fact that Captain Martin's exceptional qualifications have been overlooked in the selection of a director for the athletic and physical education program for soldiers at the base.

JUN 5 1943

NINE RECEIVE COMMISSIONS AT CAMP LEE

Chicago, Ill. Defender

June 12, 1943-

CAMP LEE, Va.—Lt. Bertram C. Bland and Lt. William A. Roberts of Newark, Lt. Joseph E. Hall and Lt. John L. Watkins of Philadelphia, Lt. Robert B. Morrisey of Chattanooga, Lt. Matthew Clifford Newman of Summerville, S. C., Lt. Israel Ishmael Sylvan of Tulsa, Lt. Eugene A. Taylor of Columbus, and Lt. Charles R. Whatley of Atlanta are the colored officers most recently commissioned at Camp Lee's Quartermaster school Friday, May 28.

JUN 12 1943

Lt. Bland and Lt. Roberts are citizens of Newark. Lt. Bland is the son of Mrs. Mary A. Anderson, 315 Halsey street. He attended Harvard university and New Jersey Law school.

Lt. Roberts is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Roberts, 204 Orange street, Newark. He attended St. Paul's school at Lawrenceville, Va.

Lt. Morrisey is the son of H. B. Morrisey of Chattanooga. He attended Livingstone college at Salisbury, N. C. Lt. Newman's home is Summerville, S. C.

Lt. Sylvan lived at 531 E. Reading street, Tulsa, Okla. He is the son of Forris Sylvan of Beggs, Okla. He attended Langston university. Lt. Eugene A. Taylor lives in Columbus.

JUN 12 1943

From Philadelphia are Lt. Joseph E. Hall and Lt. John L. Watkins. Lt Hall lives at 1827 Wharton street. Lt. Watkins is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Glasco, 1924 S. College avenue, Philadelphia. He is a graduate of Wilberforce university.

JUN 12 1943

Lt. Whatley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Whatley, 942 Ashby Grove S.W., Atlanta. He was graduated from Morehouse college in 1941. While in college he played center for the Morehouse football team.

10 PHYSICIANS GRADUATE AS ARMY OFFICERS

Defender

Chicago Ill.

Commission One Captain At Carlisle, Penn., Medical School

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. — Ten Negro physicians were recently graduated from the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, bringing to a total of 123 the number of Negro medical, dental, and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this "West Point" of the Medical Department.

JUN 5 1943

In addition thirty-one Negroes had been commissioned as Second Lieutenants, here, following their graduation from the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School which was in operation at this post until two months ago. They with enlisted men who completed a sanitary technicians course increased to 165 the total number of Negro graduates of the medical field service school.

The four Negro officers, all of them first lieutenants, were part of the twenty-sixth Officers' class graduated May 20 at exercises in Tugo hall after completing six weeks of rigorous training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

All experienced physicians, the four officers left immediately after graduation for their respective units. The training course in medical field work at this school prepared them to be efficient Medical Department officers, capable of carrying on their professional work under war conditions.

JUN 5 1943

The four officers are First Lieut. Dwight O. W. Holmes, Jr., 34, Newark, N. J.; First Lieut. William A. Burton, 37, New Rochelle, N. Y.; First Lieut. John C. Lorde, Jr., 30, Bronx, N. Y., and First Lieut. Gage C. Moore, 37, Ottumwa, Iowa.

Both Lieutenant Holmes and Lieutenant Burton received their M. D. degrees from Howard university. Lieut Lord was awarded his degree from New York Medical Flower hospital and Lieutenant Moore was graduated from Iowa University Medical school.

Six officers, five of them first lieutenants, and one a captain, were part of the 25th Officers' Class graduated on May 6.

The six officers are Captain James R. Granger, 38, Brooklyn, N. Y.; First Lieut. William E. Crawford, 32, Tucson, Ariz.; First Lieut. Herbert B. Henderson, 31, New York city; First Lieut. Israel E. Elliott, Jr., N. W. Washington, D. C.; First Lieut. Leonard Z. Johnson, 34, St. Louis; and First Lieut. William S. Sims, Frederick, Md.

JUN 5 1943

Captain Granger, Lieut. Crawford, Lieut. Henderson and Lieut. Johnson received their M. D. degrees from Howard university medical school, Washington, and Lieut. Elliott and Lieut. Sims are graduates of Meharry medical college, Nashville.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

St. Louis Is Among Army Medical School Graduates

SEP 24 1943

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pennsylvania—The graduation, last week, of seven physicians from the Army's Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, brought to a total of 174, the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center, the Army's only military school for training Medical Depatrment officers for field duty.

Thirty-one others have been commissioned as second lieutenants, following their graduation from the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School, which had functioned at this post until last spring. They, with enlisted men who completed a Sanitary Technician's Course, increased to 216, the total number of Negro graduates of the Medical Field Service School.

The seven officers are: Captain Robert S. Wilkinson, New York City; First Lieutenant Lucius S. Davis, St. Louis, Missouri; First Lieutenant Neville A. Griffith, New York City; First Lieutenant Clarence A. Murray, Corona, N. Y.; First Lieutenant Barnett M. Rhetta ,Jr. Baltimore, Maryland; First Lieutenant Alvin V. Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and First Lieutenant William T. Yates, Baton Rouge, La.

47k-1943

NINE WARRANT OFFICERS NAMED AT TUSKEGEE

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

FEB 6 - 1943

Nine experienced enlisted men of the Tuskegee Army Flying School personnel succeeded in passing rigid examinations and qualified to become warrant officers, the first to be selected direct from the ranks at this station.

Wearing bronze shoulder bars and addressed as "mister" are, left to right: Tech. Sgt. Edward Edgehill, Brooklyn; Tech. Sgt. Hollis T. Arnold, Muskogee, Okla.; Corp. Glen L. Head, Madison, Ga.; Master Sgt. William Johnson, North Woodbury, N. J.; Staff Sgt. Richard Rutledge, Kingsboro Project, Brooklyn; Staff Sgt. Robert R. Snead, Cleveland, O.; Sgt. Burks Esaw, Detroit, Mich.; Master Sgt. Timothy Calder, Waterville, Maine and Master Sgt. Chalmers P. Smith Bentonia, Miss.

First Time Two Colored Officers Finish Together

JAN 30 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By BILLY ROWE

WEST POINT, N. Y., Jan. 28—Traditionally beafutiful in all seasons, the United States Military Academy here was enhanced last Tuesday by a frost that nipped the ears of those great generals immortalized in bronze on its parade grounds. Under a grim winter sky that cast a warlike mantle over the valley in which this fortress-like school sits, the first speed-up wartime graduation in its 141 years existence was brought nearer to the impending combat that is the lot of men in uniform.

However the new speed-up graduation wasn't the only item for history written as 409 future generals were let out into the world to be added to the battle-front and face to face with the destiny of their chosen profession. Among that impressive number, for the first time, in the same class two colored cadets received from the hands of Under-Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, the encased parchments that commissioned them second lieutenants in the United States Army, graduates of West Point.

The cadets were Robert Bernard Tresville Jr., of Texas and Clarence Maude Davenport Jr., of Detroit. Davenport who was the first to receive his commission, was the sixth Negro to come out of West Point and Tresville who was second to him, was the seventh out of twenty-three who have entered the Academy since its addition to the military scene many decades ago.

JAN 30 1943

TRESVILLE A MILITARY SON

Tresville who is the son of Warrant Officer Robert Tresville, now somewhere on the fighting front abroad, is truly a miltary son. With his father he has harried many army camps throughout the country. In graduating from West Point, Tresville Jr. realized a lifelong ambition. He was appointed to the military school by Representative Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois' First District. Tresville added another distinguished first to his achievement at the Point as he graduated as the only Negro among a corps of 164 who had already completed the air cadet course and received their commissions with shining silver wings directly over their hearts. Now a second lieutenant, he will join the 99th at Tuskegee after a 20 days' leave.

Clarence M. Davenport of Detroit was the first Negro in this class and the sixth graduating from West Point, to receive the ovation of the gathered throngs. His ovation was greater than any of the cadets, excluding the football famous and Tresville. He was appointed to the Academy by Representative George O'Brien of Michigan's 13th District. He will be attached to the Coast Artillery (AA) at Camp Davis, N. C., after a ten-day leave given all newly commissioned second lieutenants with the exception of those who graduated as air force officers. Directly after the ceremonies, Lieut. Davenport left for Detroit where he was married to Yolande E. Bradfield the following night.

THREE CADETS REMAIN

JAN 30 1943

With Lieutenants Davenport and Thesville gone, three colored cadets still remain at the Academy, the largest number ever to attend the military school at one time. Each of them is scheduled to graduate under the new sped-up system in 1944 unless the time is cut further. Members of the fourth class, United States Corps of Cadets are H. M. Francis, Ernest J. Davis Jr., and Mark E. Rivers. Francis was appointed to the Academy by Representative Arthur Mitchell and is from Washington. Davis is also from Washington and also an appointe of Mitchell. Rivers is from Flushing, L. I., N. Y. He was appointed by Representative Gavagan.

Leven C. Weiss of Detroit who was appointed by John Dingell of Michigan was separated from the Academy just before the present graduating class came through. His failure was due to deficiency in mathematics.

FIRST WEST POINTER STARTED IN 1870

JAN 30 1943

James W. Smith of South Carolina was the first Negro to enter West Point. He was appointed from the third district and came to the Academy July 1, 1870. He remained until June 26, 1874, at which time he was dropped for deficiency in Philosophy. Each year from then on from many sections of the country Negores were appointed to West Point. In July 1871 Henry A. Napier came from Tennessee's fifth district. He was separated in June 1872 for deficiency in mathematics and French. Thomas V. R. Gibbs was appointed from Florida in 1872, but failed in mathematics and left in January of 1873.

In 1873, Henry Flipper, entered the Academy from Georgia and in June 1877 became the first Negro to graduate from the historic institution. He died in May 1940. During his life he wrote the only book about the Negro at West Point. It was ten years before another colored cadet successfully completed the course offered by the military academy. Entering the school in July 1883 John A. Alexander was commissioned June 12, 1887. He died in March 1894. Charles Young who entered the Academy during the time of Alexander, was the next to graduate. He entered in June 1884 and was commissioned August 31, 1889. He became a high ranking coolnel in the United States Army, but was retired in June 1917 for disability contracted in the line of duty. He died January 8, 1922.

Following the graduation of Col. Young William T. Andrews was admitted in 1885 but was separated in 1886 for deficiency in mathematics. William A. Hare came in 1885 and left in 1886 because of marks in mathmeatics, English and discipline. Mathematics tricked Henry A. Holloway who entered in 1886 and he was separated in 1887. John B. Alexander left after a stay from June 14, 1918, to December 26 of the same year. It was eleven years before the next Negro, Alonzo S. Parham was appointed to the Academy. Because of difficulty in mathematics he was forced out in 1930.

Two years later, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., a child of the Army, his father at that time being a coolnel in the regular Army, was given the go sign from Illinois' First District. He graduated in 1936 and is now a Lieut.-Colonel commanding the 99th Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee. His father is General Davis, the highest ranking Negro officer in the United States Army.

After Davis came F. J. Kirkpatrick Jr., in 1035. but because of marks in conduct he was separated from the Academy five months after entering. James D. Fowler entered in July 1937 and sucessfully completed the course in 1941. He's now in the Army and attached to the 366th at Fort Devens, Mass.

JAN 30 1943

His graduation led right into the present cycle which for the first time in the history of West Point found two Negroes graduating at the same time, leaving three behind to come out second lieutenants in '44 just in time to greet two new wouldbe generals who have already been appointed and are set to enter in June.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

16 NEGRO CHAPLAINS AMONG HARVARD CHAPLAIN'S SCHOOL GRADUATES

APR 15 1943

Cambridge, Mass. (ANP)—Sixteen Negro chaplains, commissioned 1st lieutenants and captains, were among the approximately 400 student chaplain graduates of Harvard university on April 3.

It is estimated that more than 235 Negro chaplains will be needed by 1944. Thus it is seen that the army policy for commissioning chaplains is far different from that of the navy where there are no chaplains.

To qualify for admission in the chaplain's corps, the only completely volunteer group connected with the armed forces, one must have a college degree, advanced ministerial training at a college, and have served as a pastor. However, the army has waived certain qualifications for Negro chaplains as the demand is so great.

APR 15 1943

PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN IN ARMY AIR FORCE

4-3-43

Peoples Voice

TUSKEGEE, ALA.-----George Spencer Roberts of Fairmount, West Virginia, has recently been promoted to the rank of Captain in the 99th Fighter Squadron here. He was among the first civilian pilots trained at the West Virginia State College for subsequent transfer to the army training base here.

4-3-43

Captain Roberts is the first Negro, with the exception of Lieut. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., a West Pointer.

to reach the rank of Captain
in the US Army Air Forces.

Advanced In Rank

"Pittsburgh Courier"

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., May 13—Recently promoted from second lieutenant is First Lieutenant Douglas Jones, mess officer, General Mess Number Two, Tuskegee Army Air Field. Lt. Jones, a former student of Houston college, is a native of Shreveport, La. At Tuskegee, the new silver bar wearer is responsible for the feeding of hundreds of soldiers each day.

MAY 15 1943

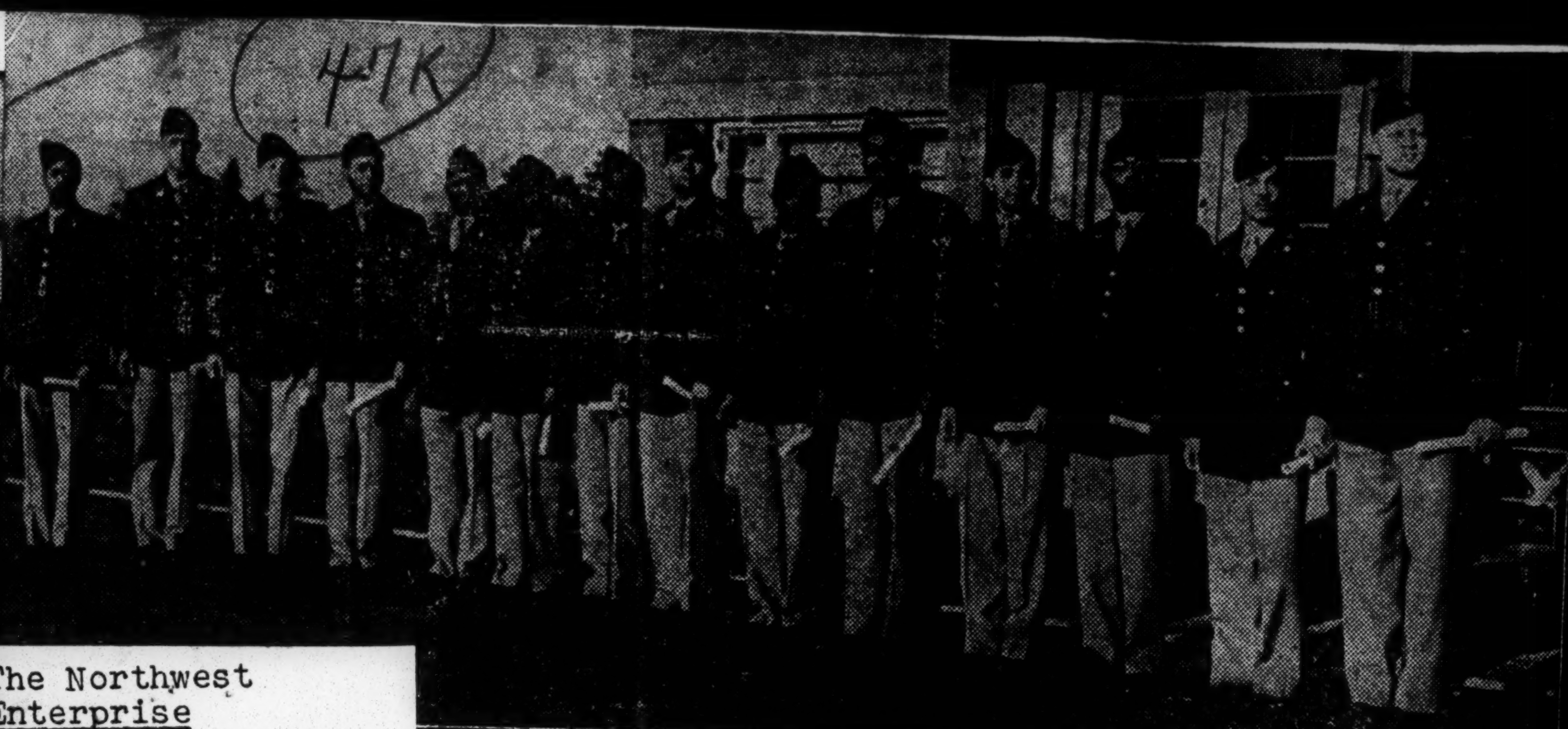
INSPECTS 365TH COMBAT TEAM

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEB 6 1943

Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis Sr., (left) is shown with Colonel Walter E. Elliott, commander of the 365th Combat Team, shortly after inspecting the unit. General Davis, the highest ranking Negro officer in the United States Army, had nothing but praise for the unit and especially for its band which has been organized only a short while.

47K



The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

By Bureau of Public Relations. U. S. War Dept., Wash., D. C.

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND—Negro graduates of Officer Candidate School in England. (Left to right) Samuel L. Coleman, New York, N. Y.; William H. Cox, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Richard W. Davis, Washington, D. C.; William F. Duckery, Philadelphia, Pa.; William A Dyson, New York, N. Y.; Lestor W. Gordon, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lucius Gibson, Americus, Ga.; Earnest J. Harris, Neptune, N. J.; William Murphy, Valdosta, Ga.; Carl W. Pope, Columbus, Ohio; James P. Rux, Bloomsburg, Pa.; Robert L. Terrell, Houston, Tex.; Richard C Wells, Washington, D. C.; Kenneth E. Wilson, Brooklyn, N. Y. These Officers have received their commissions as second lieutenants

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First Race Officers Commissioned Abroad

By RANDY DIXON
(Pittsburgh Courier War Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 11 (Censored)—Fourteen Negro graduates of the U. S. Officers' Candidate School "somewhere in England" were monopolized by Great Britain's press, radio, newsreel and photo services and were paid unstinted tribute by officers of America's High Command last week as 55 U. S. soldiers were commissioned second lieutenants at the "European West Point," first American officer school in history outside the states.

Besieged was William E. Murphy, 45, oldest graduate of the class who boasts 25 consecutive years of army service, as well as Ernest J. Harris of Neptune, N. J., who broke all records for the spectacular formal drill known as the "obstacle course."

RECOMMENDED BY GENERAL DAVIS

The graduating fourteen were survivors of seventy colored applicants interviewed for the rigid course by Brigadier-General Benjamin O. Davis. Every colored boy selected passed with flying colors.

Addressing the entire class, Major-General Russell P. Hartle, Deputy Commander of Operations in the European Theatre, said:

"I wish especially, today, to congratulate the fourteen Negro candidates who have successfully completed this course and who are the first of their race to graduate from this school. We look to them as newly acquired leaders who will be a credit not only to our Army but to that great section of our population which is making an ever-increasing contribution to American life. I commend you upon your entrance into the ranks of the commissioned officers of the United States Army—with the profound conviction that we will soon lead our men to victory.

FEB 13 1943

PROUD OF ENTIRE GROUP

Colonel Walter G. Layman, Commandant of the European West Point," said: "I would be glad to have any of you serving in my command."

Coincidentally, Murphy did serve under Colonel Layman 23 years ago at Fort Benning, Georgia. After that, Murphy saw service at St. Mihiel and with the Marines. A native of Valdosta, Ga., he new considers St. Louis, Mo., as his home. He married seven years ago and his wife is in Georgia at the present time.

RECORD-SMASHER

Harris, a perfect specimen of young manhood, reduced the criterion for the obstacle course from one minute, forty-one seconds, to one minute, twenty-eight seconds. He was graduated from Neptune high school but did not compete in sports at the New Jersey prep institution.

47K

Practically all of the fourteen "European West Point" graduates are college men.

Lucius Gibson of Americus, Ga., a student of Georgia State college who married last August, said: "I am proud to represent my state at this graduation. Rest assured that we Negro candidates will let no one down."

ROMANTIC EPISODE

William Cox, alumnus of Bluefield State Teachers college, W. Va., said: "Please tell my wife I wish she could have been here today. I love her so much."

Cox made the statement as the charming Red Cross worker, Miss Henrine Ward, Chicago, bestowed a graduation kiss on him. Amid the "kidding" that followed, she explained that she and Mrs. Cox were lifelong friends.

OVERCOME WITH EMOTION

Richard Davis of Washington, D. C., is a Prairie View (Texas) college graduate. He specialized in Political Science. He said he was too overburdened with emotion to make a statement.

Kenneth Wilson of Brooklyn, a liberal arts student at St. Augustine's college, Raleigh, N. C., was a basketball and track star. He married two hours before embarking for Europe and he considered his lieutenant's bars a belated wedding gift for his wife, the former Doris Frazier of New York City.

FEB 13 1943 Pittsburgh Courier

SCION OF WELL KNOWN FAMILY

William Duckery, member of the well known Philadelphia family of educators, is a former school teacher. Richard Wells of Washington, D. C., was graduated from Howard university, there, and Atlanta university, Atlanta, Ga., specializing in dramatics. Lester Gordon, another Brooklynite, was graduated from Brooklyn college with a science major.

Samuel Coleman of New York City was graduated in Engineering from City College of New York in 1932.

FEB 13 19

GAVE UP MEDICAL CAREER

Robert Terrell of Houston, Tex., was graduated from Houston Junior college and Prairie View State. He was taking up medicine at Meharry Medical college, Nashville, Tenn., when he entered the armed services. He said he was anxious to get back to Prairie View where a senior Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) has just started.

James Rux of Broomsburg, Pa., who finished high school just last August, commented: "And to think that I am a commissioned officer within one year!"

The "European West oPint" was first opened last September. The first graduation took place December 9, 1942, when 43 enlisted soldiers, none of which was Negroes, were commissioned. Only one Negro will be in the next class. He is Wilfred Jones of New York City.

Soldiers are selected on the basis of meritorious, exceptional or conspicuous service and must be recommended by a U. S. Army general officer. In the three months' training period the candidates are instructed in practically all of the modern military tactics, in which they participate as instructors as well as students to master the difficult techniques of signal communications, field fortifications, fire-fighting, military sketching, map and aerial photograph reading and mine-laying. They study the fundamentals of physical training, military history, current events, arms and services, administration command and leadership. Emphasis is out in the field, where candidates engage in rigorous field work, including bayonet drills, cross-country marches, incendiary fire control demonstrations, map reading and tactical problems at night.

The school is ideally situated in a region which offers a wide variety of terrain and much attention is given to attack and defense of river lines, village fighting and commando operations. All graduates are assigned to United States Army Forces in the European Theatre of Operations, where their schooling is of great assistance in helping them to instruct others in military tactics.

47k-1943

As One Captain To Another

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Pictured from left to right are Captains Vance H. Marchbanks Sr., and Vance H. Marchbanks Jr., both of Los Angeles. Captain Marchbanks was the guest of his son recently, who is the medical examiner at the primary detachment of the Tuskegee Army Flying School. A veteran of many wars ,the father has seen 43 years of service with the United States Army.

Father, Son, Both U. S. Army Captains, Meet At Tuskegee

MAR 20 1943

MAR 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—It was a case of Captain Marchbanks meeting Captain Marchbanks when father visited son here for four days recently.

MAR 20 1943

Captain Vance H. Marchbanks of Los Angeles, United States Army, retired, and now adjutant of the 7th Regiment in the California State Guard, surprised his son, Captain Vance H. Marchbanks Jr., when he arrived in Tuskegee for a short stay.

Although Captain Marchbanks Jr., also of Los Angeles, who is medical examiner at the Tuskegee Army Flying School primary training detachment, has a very militaristic bearing himself, few men in the armed services can look upon their fathers as such an excellent model of the army veteran.

MAR 20 1943

Captain Marchbanks Sr., who is 66 years old, can remember back on forty-three years and ten months of active duty with the United States Army, dating from August 2, 1895, his first enlistment, to his retirement, December 31, 1939. During that period, he was awarded four service ribbons for serving in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican border incident of 1916-17, and the World War. Three campaign medals adorn his World War ribbon. He also wears the Verdun medal.

MAR 20 1943

SERVED IN ENLISTED RANKS

Until the entrance of the United States into the first World War, Captain Marchbanks Sr., served in the enlisted ranks in every position from private to first sergeant. During the war he was awarded a temporary commission as a captain and commanded D Company of the 368th Infantry. After the war, he reverted to the rank of first sergeant until he was appointed as a warrant officer on December 31, 1920.

During the next twelve years he worked in the Quartermaster Corps. In 1932 he went to Washington, D. C., and served as an instructor in the Reserve Officers Training Corps system in the city's high schools until his retirement.

MAR 20 1943

Captain Marchbanks' present regiment in the California State Guard is doing guard duty on vital defense installations from the Nevada state line to the Mexican border.

Given Commission

MAR 21 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Second Lieutenant Sheppard D. O'Neal recently received his commission at the Air Corps Administration Officers' Candidate School, Miami Beach. He has been assigned to the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

MAR 21 1943

Lt. O'Neal, a resident of Atlanta, Ga., enlisted in the army on March 22, 1941, and was assigned to Chanute Field, Rantoul, Ill., to attend the Air Corps Technical School. He was then sent to the Tuskegee Army Flying School, where he received his appointment to the Officers' Candidate School.

First Lieutenants Cowan, Ward With Engineering Units

MAY 15 1943

MAY 15 1943

Pittsburg Curier

MAY 15 1943

By "SCOOP" JONES

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, May 13—(ANP)—Increasing the number of Negro officers in this vicinity, two more chaplains have recently arrived. They are: First Lts. Jason M. Cowan, Edwards, Miss., and Henry W. B. Ward Lynchburg, Va. Both are assigned to engineer units.

MAY 15 1943

The two chaplains come to New Guinea with a wealth of religious experience and training and seem to understand the problems that confront them in the army. Lt. Cowan is formerly dean of Southern Christian institute, Edwards, Miss. He received his theological training at Butler university, Indianapolis, graduating with the degrees of A.B. and M.S. A Disciples of Christ minister he took an active part in both national and international youth religious council movements and was a principal figure in the Interracial Council of College Students, which meets in Jackson, Miss. Although he was born in Strawplanes, Tenn., he has spent most of his life in Mississippi where he is known in religious and educational circles. He entered the armed services in May, 1941 and foreign service, September, 1942, arriving in Australia.

MAY 15 1943

Lt. Ward holds an A.B. and B.D. degree from Virginia Theological seminary and college, Lynchburg. Has pastored several churches throughout Virginia namely Piedmont Baptist, Yancey Mills, Va.; Mt. Zion Baptist, Appomattox, Va.; Brookville Baptist, Lynchburg, Va., and Blue Ridge Baptist, Blue Ridge, Va. Entered foreign service, December 1942. Prior to coming overseas Chaplain Ward was formerly with the famed 93rd division, Fort Hauchuca, Ariz.

COL. PITTS GIVEN KEY ARMY POST

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Former 184th Commander Becomes Inspector In 2nd Army

MAR 24 1943

47K

In probably the most important post to which he could be assigned, Col. Anderson Pitts, former regimental commander of the 184th Field Artillery, has been ordered to duty with the Inspector General's Department, Second Army, Memphis, Tenn., it was announced this week.

In an interview with the Chicago Defender, prior to leaving for Fort McClellan, Ala., he said, "I realize the importance of this new assignment. It is the most important one I could receive. Of course I would have liked to be assigned to combat troops, but as it relates to the welfare of Negro troops, this work is more important."

Col. Pitts will have the same position in the Second Army as Gen. Davis has in the War Department in Washington. His job will be to inspect Negro troops under direction of the Second Army Command and report on their morale and their fitness for overseas duty.

Col. Pitts was an officer in the Illinois National Guard for 25 years, after participation in World War I.

He was considered a machine gun expert during the time he served with infantry regiments. He was an officer with a machine gun company during the first World War and commanded this same type of unit for years with the old 8th.

FEB 27 1943

He was plans and training officer with the grade of major at the time the 8th was transformed into an artillery regiment. At that time he was promoted to a lieutenant colonel.

Col. Pitts was promoted to his present grade and placed in command of the 184th on April 3, 1941. He served with this unit until it was broken up by an army reorganization order on January 20, 1943.

Most of the officers of the former 184th Field Artillery were Chicagoans, and it was recalled that under the reorganization order two battalions were formed—one under command of Lt. Marcus Ray, the other headed by Lt. Col. Wendell Derricks—both Chicagoans.

At the time of the reorganization Col. Pitts and seven other officers, including Lt. Col. Benote Lee and Major Orion Page, were affected. These men became known as surplus officers until they were reassigned.

FEB 27 1943

The announcement concerning Col. Pitts is the first assignment affecting these men. In view of this order the others no doubt will shortly get new posts.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

Graduate From Army Medical Field

MAY 29 1943

47K

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. — Four Negro physicians were graduated Thursday, May 20, from the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, bringing to a total of 123 the number of Negro medical, dental, and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this "West Point" of the Medical Department.

The four officers are First Lieutenant Dwight O. H. Holmes Jr., 34, of 109 Sherman avenue, Newark, N. J.; First Lieutenant William A. Burton, 37, of 37 Morin street, New Rochelle, N. Y.; First Lieutenant John C. Lord Jr., 30, of 301 East 158th street, Bronx, N. Y.; and First Lieutenant Gage C. Moore, 37, of 114 South Jefferson street, Ottumwa, Iowa.

Christian Index
Jackson, Tennessee

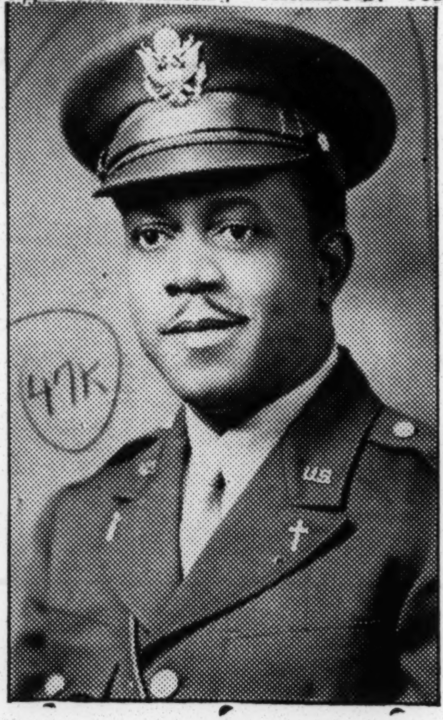
NEGRO CHAPLAIN INVADES TOWN

MAY 20 1943

Which Up to One Year Ago Prohibited Negroes from Entering Its Confines

MAY 20 1943

Chaplain Lorenzo Q. Brown of the 374th Engineer Battalion (SEP) (-Co. B) Camp Hood, Texas, scored another smashing victory over "Old Man Race Prejudice." Chaplain Brown will be remembered for quelling the members of the 374th Engineer Batallion (SEP) (-Co. B) in a near riot at Augusta, Georgia, last July 11th. The War Department, through its military channels, commended Chaplain Brown in his heroic stand, in preventing needless bloodshed, and division of purpose and sabotage to the unity of purpose and spirit needed to win the war.



CHAPLAIN LORENZO Q. BROWN
of the 374th Engineer Battalion (SEP) (-Co. B) Camp Hood, Texas.

MAY 20 1943

Since coming to Camp Hood, Texas, last August, the town of Killeen has been "off limits" to colored troops. This is the nearest town to Camp Hood and colored soldiers must travel to Belton, Texas and Temple, Texas which are quite a distance from the camp for outside recreational activities. With a large number of colored troops already stationed at Camp Hood the facilities of these towns will be inadequate. Chaplain Brown has always thought in terms of the morale and problems of not only his men but of all the men on the post. It is doubtful whether there has been in the history of the army a chaplain who has so completely captivated his men by his personality and leadership as Chaplain Brown. The men look upon him as father, mother, sweetheart, wife, brother, and sister in the light of the principles and teachings of Jesus. No matter what the problems, the men feel that Chaplain Brown will solve them. Chaplain Brown met to some degree these problems of wholesome recreation by organizing a Glee Club. The effects of his eloquence as a prophetic preacher and the sweetness of the music of his Glee Club have opened the way for invitations from the white and colored churches. His Glee Club, with him as announcer broadcasted for three months over Station KTEM in Temple, Texas. The appearance of Chaplain Brown with his famed Glee Club in many of the white churches is unprecedented.

Last week Chaplain Brown received a request for his Glee Club to sing in Killeen, Texas at the First Methodist Church white. He graciously accepted this invitation without hesitation. Some of the men thought he was doing wrong to accept the invitation since the town was "off limits" to colored soldiers. Chaplain Brown said, "This is the time to break down the barrier" and hence we will fill the engagement.

MAY 20 1943

At 8:15 p. m. Sunday night, April 18, 1943 the story and history began. The minister of the church, the Reverend C. Ellis, opened with a beautiful prayer and intoned, "God bless all of us regardless of race, color or creed." A noticeable feature in this audience was the seating of the colored citizens with the whites. In all the other white churches the colored citizens were seated in the balcony. The Glee Club rendered a number of selections and then Chaplain Brown who had charge of the program delivered the address.

MAY 20 1943

The high points of the address were: "To win this war we need racial co-operation and co-ordination to speed up a vital unity of purpose. This can be secured through the method of tolerance. This was the method Jesus used as he met the opposition of his day. It is necessary for us to remember that we come from different sections of the country where the traditions, mores, and customs are different. It is expedient that all should have respect for these concepts. Do not expect us to adapt ourselves over night to your traditions, mores and customs any more than we would expect you to do this in our section. We have a war to win and this is paramount. Racial prejudice and discrimination have no place in the Four Freedoms for which we are fighting. Without the shedding of blood there can be no sacrifice. These men will shed their blood for your safety and the safety of your children and your children's children. If the shedding of blood will to a large measure guarantee the recognition of and the sacredness of human personality regardless of race, color or creed then we can gladly say with Jesus, not our will but thine be done."

MAY 20 1943

At the conclusion of the address, a male parishioner, having been deeply touched, by the eloquence and appeal of Chaplain Brown, jumped to his feet and shouted, let us join in singing the "Old Time Religion." The minister in his comment said to the colored citizens, you are welcome to worship with us at any time and if any one of the white people do not want to sit by you I will have you to come to the pulpit and sit by me. Would that we had more Americans with the courage and conviction of the Reverend C. Ellis.

MAY 20 1943

Amsterdam Star-News
New York. N. Y.

LIMIT NEGRO ADVANCES TO 1st LIEUTENANT

Jan. 27, 1943

Consternation Thrown In Soldiers' Ranks By Arizona Announcement

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—(ANP)—If the word of the commanding officer of 93rd Division stationed here is authentic. The War Department is determined to choke off advancement for Negro officers to ranks higher than of first lieutenant.

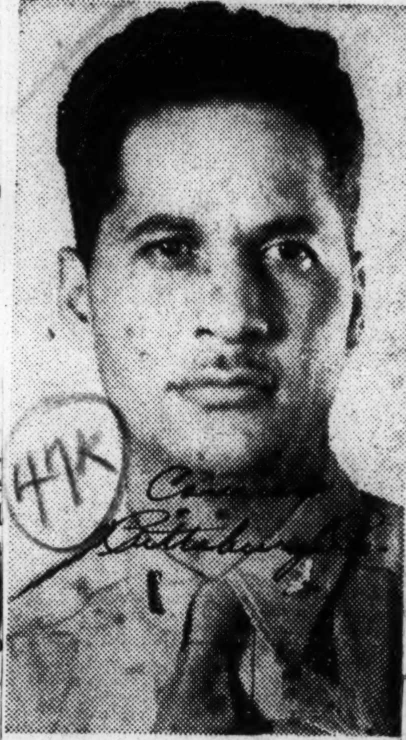
For most part that policy has already obtained here. Outside the Medical Corps with its hospital manned by Negro staff, only one in the army, and where rank had to be given the commanding officers, Negro commissioner officers here have been held down to barest minimum in rank.

Every line officer above the rank of first lieutenant in this division is white, except one colored major and one captain, both special service officers.

Many of these white officers are young chaps just out of school whom older and more experienced colored officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, could give cards and spades and still excell. The order has thrown consternation in the ranks of Negro soldiers here.

Major General Miller, commanding officer of 93rd, called his Negro officers together here Saturday and told them flatly that War Department orders had come limiting promotion of Negro officers to first lieutenants and that in 93rd, no Negro officer would be promoted beyond that rank.

TRANSFERRED



Warrant Officer, (Jr. Grade) Victor A. Nickerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Nickerson of Los Angeles, Calif., was recently transferred from Langley Field, Virginia, to Tuskegee Army Air Base at Alabama.

JUN 26 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk. Virginia

Tuskegee Chaplain Promoted To Captain

FEB 20 1943

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—It was announced at headquarters here last week that the Tuskegee Army Flying School's base chaplain Lt. Douglas L. T. Robinson has been promoted to captain.

FEB 20 1943

Capt. Robinson is a veteran of World War I. He served overseas with the 372nd Infantry of the 93rd Division as a second lieutenant in Co. K at the age of 20. He attended both Howard University and Wilberforce University before taking up his life work as a minister during which he served as pastor of various churches in New England.

FEB 20 1943

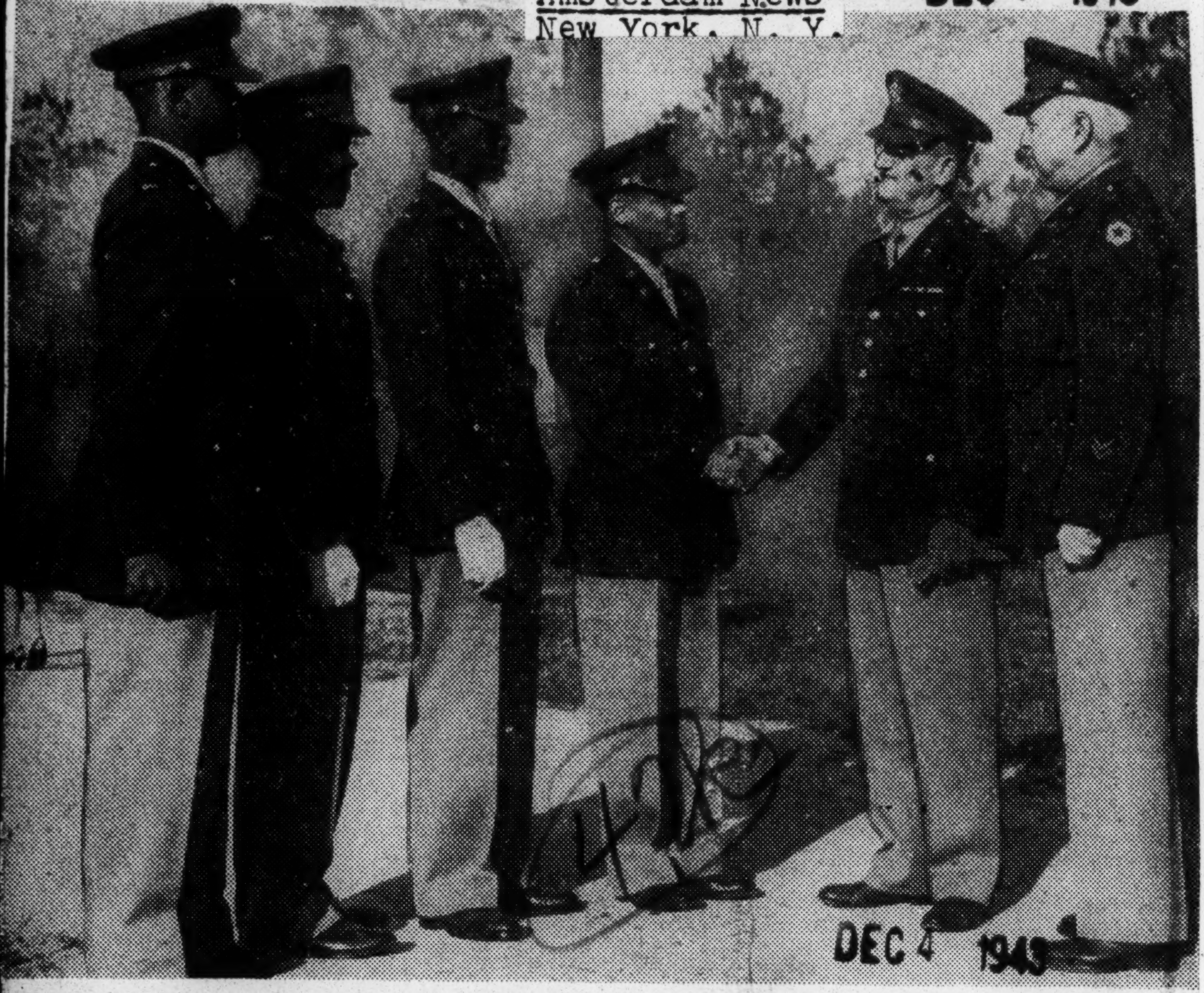
In 1937, he moved to Macon, Ga., where he served as pastor of Steward Chapel AME Church until he returned to service in the Army on April 27, 1942 at Fort McClellan, Ala. He was transferred to the Tuskegee Army Flying School on May 20, 1942.

47k-1943

Newly Commissioned Officers

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

DEC 4 1943



NEWLY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS graduating from The Quartermaster School at Camp Lee, Va., recently, are seen being congratulated by Brigadier General Harold A. Barnes, Deputy Quartermaster General, and Brigadier General George A. Horkan, Commandant of The Quartermaster School. The officers are, right to left: General Horkan, General Barnes, 2nd Lieutenants Harrison G. Smalley, 108-23 172nd St., Jamaica, N. Y.; Harr [illegible] Cross, Jr., 202 Church St., Camden, Arkansas; Timothy D. Weston, 871 Home St., Bronx, N. Y., and William Knox, 5131 Call Place, SE, Washington, D. C. These newly commissioned officers of The Quartermaster Corps left immediately to assume new duties wherever the Quartermaster fights.

Even Most Liberal Resent 'Agitation'

'White Officers Fairer Than They Receive Credit For Being'-Rouzeau

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU

FROM ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, N. A., Sept. 16—Looking back over 16 months of first-hand observation as a war correspondent, I can honestly say that no white officer of my acquaintance has ever objected to exposure of military racial policies which run counter to the expressed policies of our government and the War Department.

I concede at the outset, that one or [illegible] made wholesale concessions in argument but could not bring themselves in practice to change their hereditary ways.

OBJECTIONABLE STORIES

Even those who were friendliest and most liberal, however, objected strenuously to publication of Negro stories which were viciously antagonistic without seldom, if ever being justified by a rational citation of facts.

I can truthfully say that about 95 per cent of the grievances of Negro soldiers can be put in the same class with the everyday grouches of white soldiers. Conditions which are really ugly may not truthfully be characterized as general.

SCOTT SATISFIED

Sometimes, I find a lone Negro officer serving with white officers who feels unhappy about his situation. And sometimes I find a lone Negro officer serving with white officers who is perfectly happy with his lot. One such officer is Second Lt. Cornelius J. Scott, of New York City.

Sometimes there are too many court-martials in some Negro outfits over trifling misdemeanors for which the penalty in other outfits, colored as well as white, would not exceed so-called company punishment or confinement to quarters.

PUNISHMENT TOO SEVERE

Many of these court-martials are accompanied by heavy fines for periods which are unnecessarily long. This, of course, is unjust, but the policy does not prevail in all commands. In one instance that I know about, a Negro chaplain brought about the elimination of these petty court-martials by going through military channels over the heads of individual commanders to higher-ups.

I honestly feel that the Army is becoming increasingly democratic, although the progress may be annoyingly slow for us. I have seen Negro officers, serving under a Southern general, sleeping and eating with white officers. I have seen Negro soldiers messing together many times and enjoying entertainment side by side on government premises.

There are countless Negro officers in North Africa, but so far I have found only three (they were of warrant officer grade) who ate by themselves.

BOYS GET THEIR RIGHTS

I can assure every mother of a Negro soldier that her son is not discriminated against in his basic soldier rights.

In military hospitals, many of which I have visited, I have seen no sign of discriminatioin.

SOME ATTITUDES BAD

There are a few complaints of white physicians and dentists with colored outfits. They allegedly give scant regard to soldier indispositions until a serious case develops. The attitude of one or two of them was highly disappointing to Negro soldiers of the same command. What's more, I heard the same gripe against white doctors from a white enlistee who occupied the same ward in which I was hospitalized for my fifth attack of malaria.

MAKING FRIENDS, RACE'S WAY OUT

I am not so starry-eyed as to believe that the world will, someday, be perfect for everyone. But I believe, from the depths of my soul, that the American Negro will make continued progress only in proportion to the number of friends he is able to redeem in the majority American Race.

This must continue to be true as long as we remain beyond the pale of policy-making for the American organic structure, incapable of exercising control over the great channels for moulding public opinion — channels such as the radio, motion pictures, and universally read literature.

School Reorganized; Colored In Present Class

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Sept. 16 — (ANP)—In line with other officer candidate and officer schools having their schedules extended, with the beginning of the present courses of the army chaplain school at Harvard university last Monday, in which over 12 colored chaplains are enrolled, Chaplain (Col.) William D. Cleary, commandant, announced a complete reorganization of the school's program and the extension of the training period. Over 200 colored chaplains attended the school since it was moved to Harvard in August, 1942.

According to orders from the war department, the school term has been extended from four to five weeks with the next graduation scheduled for September 25. Other schedule changes, directed by the department of training headed by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ralph C. Deibert includes the extension of the school week from five and a half to six days and lengthening of the daily period scheduled activities from 4 to 5 o'clock.

Four Graduate From Medical Field School

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh. Pa.

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa., Sept. 16—Four Negro physicians were graduated here last week from the Army's Medical Field Service School, bringing to a total of 179 the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center which is the Army's only military school for training medical department officers for field duty.

All experienced physicians, the four officers left immediately after graduation for their respective units.

The four officers are Capt. Lorenzo R. Berry, 34, Washington, D. C.; First Lieutenant James E. Hines, Jr., 26, Alexandria, La.; First Lieutenant Arthur H. Wilson, 27, Hartford, Conn., and First Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, 28, Washington, D. C.

ELEVEN COLORED MINISTERS FINISH CHAPLAINS SCHOOL

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., July 29 (ANP)—In the 10th graduating class of the Harvard University Army Chaplain's school the past week were 11 Negro chaplains, bringing the total in the first 19 classes up to 186 Negro chaplains to graduate.

The 11 chaplains are as follows, with home cities and denominations: David C. Blue, Warsaw, N. C., Methodist; Jackson B. Dove, Mayfield, Ky., A. M. E.; James T. Heggie Yakima, Wash., Baptist; George W. Jefferson, Waco, Tex., A. M. E.; Douglas M. Ray, Anniston, Ala, Methodist; Hughes L. T. Robinson, Macon, Ga., A. M. E.; George D. Robinson, Washington, D. C. A. M. E.; Hughes A. Robinson, Gettysburg, Va., Congregational; Paul G. Ross, Barbourville, Ky., A. M. E.; Robert J. Saunders, Los Angeles, Baptist; Otis J. Wynne North Fork, Va. Baptist.

AUG 5 1943

Command Assignment Remains 'Unsolved'

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

OCT 16 1943

WASHINGTON, (Special) — Speculation was rife here this week over the prospects of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis being elevated to the rank of full colonel and put in command of the 332 Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich. Shortly after his return from North Africa where he commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron. Colonel Davis announced that his new assignment was to the Michigan post. He was asked at the time if he would be promoted. His reply was that the table of organization called for a full colonel to head a group, which in the Air Corps is made up of three squadrons. The colonel didn't say at the time what his position would be at Selfridge Field

Named Commander

Up to the time it was announced that Davis had taken up his duties at the field, it was believed he would be put in command. In fact initial releases sent out by the War Department referred to him as being in command, but these were subsequently corrected to list him as the executive officer.

Meanwhile, the movement continues to have Colonel Davis' father, Brigadier General B. O. Davis, advanced to the rank of major general and assigned to command the 93rd Division, now stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

SPECIAL TRAINEE

SEP 18 1943

Courier Pittsburgh Pa

Pausing at Tuskegee institute for a few hours with his family, Capt. Thomas M. Campbell, M. C., 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion, [illegible] Hood, Texas, was en route [illegible] Edgewood Arsenal when this photo was snapped to take special training in chemical warfare. He was recently promoted to the rank of captain.

SEP 18 1943

Journal and Guide

Advocates Women Army Chaplains

Norfolk, Virginia

BROOKLYN, N. Y. — Mrs. Henrietta M. Davis, of St. Louis, Mo., of the AME Zion Home and Foreign Missionary Society, in addressing the quadrennial convention of the organization here recently, advocated uniformed women chaplains for the women's auxiliaries of the armed forces.

"Even if the world is still ruled by men, give women a chance to serve as chaplains to all female units," she pleaded.

AUG 21 1943

CAMP LEE OCS GRADUATES

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

More and more race soldiers are taking advantage of officers' candidate training and coming through with flying colors. Among the recent graduates from Camp Lee, Virginia, were (top row going down) left to right: Lieut. Samuel O'Tanner Cohen, Miami, Fla.; Lieut. James M. Cobb, Haverford, Pa.; Lieut. [illegible]ck S. Harvey, West Philadelphia, Pa.; Lieut. LaFayette Parker, Richlands, N. C., and Lieut. Eddie Diamond, Jacksonville, Fla.

SEP 18 1943

SETS RECORD

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mark Edmond Rivers, Jr., 21-year-old New Yorker, is the first colored youth in history to achieve the rank of corporal at West Point Military academy. Son of Dr. and Mrs. Mark Rivers and nephew of Judge Francis Rivers, the young West Pointer prefers mathematics [illegible] other subjects. He entered the academy in [illegible], 1942.

DEC 4 1943

FIVE ATLANTANS JOIN ARMY MEDICAL STAFF

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

AUG 14 1943

-- CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. — (SNS) — Twenty-three physicians have been graduated from the Army's Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, in the largest class of colored officers ever to receive diplomas from this Army post. This brings to a total of one hundred and sixty-seven, the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center, the only military school for training Medical Department officers for field duty.

In addition, thirty-one Negroes had been commissioned as second lieutenants, following their gradution from the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School which had functioned at this post until five months ago. They, with enlisted men who completed a Sanitary Technicians Course, increased to 209, the total number of Negro graduates of the Medical Field Service School.

The twenty-three Negro officers, all of them first lieutenants, were part of the thirty-second Officers' Class graduated at exercises in Tugo Hall after completing six weeks of rigorous training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

All experiences physicians, the twenty-three Negro officers left immediately after the graduation for their respective units. The training course in medical field work at this school prepared them to be efficient Medical Department officers, capable of carrying on their professional work under war conditions.

AUG 14 1943

The twenty-three officers are:

1st Lt. William L. Anderson, 87 W. 16th St., Bayonne, N. J.; 1st Lt. George C. Corbin, 34 William St., Roxbury, Mass.; 1st Lt. Earland Cyrus, 25 W. 127th St., New York City; 1st Lt. Albert M. Davis, 969 Fair St., S. W., Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Eugene C. Dempsey, 156 Sayswar St., Mullins, S. C.; 1st Lt. Washington E. Garner, 621 W. 2nd St., Paris, Ky.; ~~1st Lt.~~ John T. Gill, Jr., 956 Palmetto Avenue, S. W., Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Clarke [illegible] Smith, Orange, N. [illegible]; 1st Lt. [illegible] Gleason, 803 Greensferry Avenue, S. W., Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Donarell R. Green, 1193 Hunter Rd., Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Clarence D. Hinton, 5318 S. Parkway, Chicago, Ill.; 1st Lt. Leonidas F. Livisay, 456 W. 148th St., New York City; 1st Lt. James L. Lowry, Jr., 1500 4th St., Gulfport, Miss.; 1st Lt. Waldense C. Nixon, Jr., 621 S. Kendrick Ave., Orlando, Fla.; 1st Lt. Richard L. Perkins, Wilmat, [illegible]; 1st Lt. Samuel [illegible] Rodgers, [illegible] Hooper Avenue, Ann[illegible], Ala.; 1st Lt. Henry F. Shorter, 1329 Mozley Drive, Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Hallye B. Taylor, Jr., 1715 First St., N. W., Washington, D. C.; 1st Lt. George W. Thompson, 2100 West Eighth St., Texarkana, Texas; 1st Lt. Andre R. Tweed, 970 Prospect Avenue, New York City; 1st Lt. Herbert H. Whigham, 192 Amherst St., East Orange, N. J.; 1st Lt. George M. Sealey, Jr., 629 Third Avenue, Columbus, Ga.; 1st Lt. Cecil C. Gloster, 1 Vernon Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

AUG 14 1943

Lieutenants Corbin, Cyrus, Davis, Taylor, Gill, Hinton, L[illegible], Roggers, Smith, Tweed and Sealy received their M. D. degrees from Howard Medical School, while Lts. Dempsey, Garner, Lowry, Perkins, Thompson, Anderson, Whigham, Shorter, Gleason and Green graduated from Meharry Medical Col-Taylor, Gill, Hinton, Livisay, Rodlege. Lieutenant Gloster reecived his M. D. degree from New York University.

AUG 14 1943

47k-1943

REV. WILLIAMS OF "ICE SHOWS" FAME, BECAME A CHAPLAIN JUST THE SAME, NOW THE NEWS SEEMS BAD, HIS FRIENDS ARE BLUE, AND ARE HOPING, PRAYING, IT IS NOT TRUE.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio
2 1943

Rev. Arthur D. Williams, who was pastor of Mt. Zion M. E. Church here, is said to be the one who became Chaplain in the Army and is now under fire, for violation of military regulations. If it is the same Williams he was famous while here for giving "Ice Shows" and preaching of the heat of hell.

The following article is from the Afro-American of Baltimore, "The Carl Murphy Column":

1943

CHAPLAIN ARTHUR D. WILLIAMS OF A S. W. PACIFIC COAST ARTILLERY OUTFIT, LIKE CHAPLAIN FULLER, WILL UNDERGO A TRIAL TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE IS TO BE RECLASSIFIED.

THE TWO MEN WERE NOT BUDDIES ALTHOUGH THEY SERVED IN THE SAME OUTFIT. WILLIAMS WASN'T PARTICULARLY HELPFUL [illegible] THE FU[illegible] CASE. NOW HE IS IN THE SAME MESS.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST CHAPLAIN WILLIAMS IS VIOLATION OF ARMY REGULATIONS BY HAVING IN HIS POSSESSION NEARLY $4,000. THE ARMY HAS RULES AGAINST CHAPLAINS' HOLDING SOLDIERS' FUNDS."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryla

7 More Medics Finish Army Course at Carlisle

OCT 2

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa.—Seven physicians were graduated Thursday from the Army's Medical Field Service School here, making a total of 186 colored medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this center after completing six weeks' training fo[illegible]y with troops in combat.

They are:

Capt. Lawrence W. Greene, Annapolis, Md.; First Lieuts. Lloyd T. Barnes, Norristown, Pa;. Richard H. Hunt, 1607 W. Mulberry Street, Baltimore; William H. Kearney, Bridgeport, Conn.; John C. Starling, Charlestown, W.Va.; Huerta C. Neals, Jacksonville, Fla., and Philip C. Williams, Chicago.

2 Are Howard U. Grads

Captain Greene and Lieutenant Kearney received their M.D. degrees from Howard U[illegible]sity and Lieutenants Hunt and Starling are graduates of Meharry Medical School.

Lieutenant Barnes is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Lieutenant Neals graduated from Harvard Medical School and Lieutenant Williams from the University of Illinois.

Two Are Elevated To Rank Of Major At Tuskegee Field

AUG 30 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD — (SNS) — Captain Fleetwood M. McCoy, formerly an outstanding member of the legal profession in Chicago, removed the silver captain's bars from his collar and pinned on the gold leaf of a major as result of a recent promotion at the Tuskegee Air Field.

As a result of the recent announcement by the War Department, Captain George W. Webb, provost and fire marshal at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was promoted to the rank of major.

Major Webb, a graduate of Dunbar High School, received his B. S degree at Howard University, Class of 1928. Upon being awarded his degree, he was commissioned second lieutenant in the Reserve, having completed the ROTC course at Howard.

Prior to entering his tour of active duty in the present war, the new Tuskegee Major, who is a native Washingtonia, served as company commander in the CCC at Gettysburg, Pa., for five years. Before that time, he was boys' supervisor at the Industrial Home School of Blue Plains, D. C.

The Tuskegee provost marshal General School, Ft. Custer, Mich. The course, of six weeks duration, lasted from July 3 until August 13th

ARDENT SPORTS FAN

An aedent sports fan, Maj. Webb played on Howard University's baseball and basketball teams between 1923 and 1928. He was also captain of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity basketball team. Among his athletic achievements was the championship servicemen's basketball team which he coached at Tuskegee last winter.

AUG 30 1943

The 38-year-old major is married and the father of three daughters and one son. His family lives at Gettysburg, Pa.

Major McCoy serves as post trial judge advocate at Tuskegee, and since reporting to this position in January, 1942, he had the pleasure of seeing the delinquency rate among enlisted men reduced to the point where it compares favorably with that of any air base in the country.

The new major, a native of Richmond, Va., while still a young man, left home to acquire an education and make his way in the world, and like many other ambitious young men he decided to get his start in New York City. While in New York, young McCoy attended City College, Columbia University and the New York Law School. It is of interest to note that at the same time the Tuskegee trial judge advocate was attending college and law school, he was also carrying a full time schedule as clerg in the Post Office Department in New York .

LEGAL DEGREE IN 1927

Receiving his legal degree in 1927 Attorney McCoy began practice in Chicago, where he became one of the foremost men in his profession in the Mid-west. For fourteen years the unassuming though thoroughly competent lawyer worked at his profession until called to active duty with the 184th Field Artillery at Ft. Custer, Mich.

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AUG 30 1943

Major McCoy has a[illegible]pressive military background dating back to the last war when he served as a cabin steward in the United States Navy for fourteen months during the years of 1917-18. His service also includes three years in the New York National Guard and several years with the National Guard of Illinois. While serving in the latter, he received his commission on May 19, 1936 and remained on an inactive status until the present war when he was called to active duty in January, 1941.

AUG 30 1943

Major McCoy, whose home address is 10844 Glenroy Avenue, Chicago, is 46 years old, married and has one son, Fleetwood Jr., who is a Quartermaster 2nd Class in the Navy.

Grid Star Gets Wings

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

47k

SEP 11 1943

Ex-Northwestern grid star Bernard Jefferson became a full-fledged single engine fighter pilot at the Tuskegee Army Air Field last Monday, when he was awarded his wings and commission at the graduation exercises. Lt. Jefferson was one of the greatest halfbacks to perform in the Big Ten while playing for Northwestern between 1936-'38

SEP 11 1943

Guardian
Boston. Mass.

MORE DOCTORS NEEDED

SEP 11 1943

The United States armed forces are in need of 6,000 more doctors. In explanation of the demand for more doctors the American Medical Journal says: "As the war continues and intensifies, new needs for the services of the medical profession become apparent. An army in motion and one engaged in the kind of aggressive combat that now concerns our armed forces needs physicians in even greater numbers than have heretofore been demanded. Many thousands of interned aliens and prisoners are now the burden of the United States and must be given medical care."

47k

SEP 11 1943

Despite the pressing need for more doctors for the Army, Navy and Air Corps, the old policy of segregation and color discrimination remains in force. It seems that the Government would rather let men die than enlist the services of colored physicians. The Navy is known to have rejected medical applicants solely on the ground of color. The attitude of the Government toward colored medical men is difficult to defend in view of the widely known fact that in civilian life many colored physicians have a large percentage of white patients.

Patriotic colored men continue to join the army medical force although they are well aware of the Government's pattern of segregation. This week four graduated from the Army's Medical Field Service School at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, thus bringing to a total of 179 the number of colored medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this training center which is the Army's only military school for training medical department officers for field duty. Thirty-one others have been commissioned as Second Lieutenants after graduating from the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School which functioned at Carlisle Barracks until last spring. With the enlisted men who completed a Sanitary Technicians course, they increased to 221 the total number of colored graduates of the Medical Field Service School.

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13 Chaplains Complete Harvard Univ. Courses

Baltimore, Maryland
OCT 2 1943
Afro-American

47k

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Thirteen colored chaplain were included in the group of 375 students of the seventeenth class which was graduated after six weeks from the Army Chaplain School last week at Harvard University.

It was the thirteenth graduation since the school has been located at Harvard, where it moved in August, 1942, from Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. During this period approximately 215 colored chaplains have been graduated.

The subjects taught included: practical duties of the chaplain, army administration, army organization, military customs and courtesies, chemical defens[illegible]ave registration, [illegible]ale, counseling, military discipline and law.

OCT 2 1943

List of Graduates

The thirteen graduates, most of whom left immediately on assignment, included: 5 Methodists, 5 Baptists, 2 Presbyterians and 1 Congregationalist. They are:

Theodore R. Albert, New Orleans, La., Methodist; Robert S. Anderson, Richmond, Va., Baptist; Joseph R. Cole, Water Valley, Miss., AME; Booker T. Davis, Bristol, Tenn., Presbyterian; Carranza A. Holliday, Marshall, Texas, Baptist; Matthew A. Lowe, Kokomo, Ind., AME; Philip R. M[illegible]dy, Monroe, N.C., AMEZ.

OCT 2 1943

Ernest N. Mattison, Mount Holly, N.C., Methodist; Joseph D. Pruden, Norfolk, Va., Baptist; Spencer L. Scott, Jr., Portsmouth, Va., Baptist; James H. Stokes, Harrisburg, N.C., Presbyterian; Albert J. Tibbs, East Orange, N.J., Baptist; Arthur Washington, Lake Charles, La., Congregational. The next session of the new five-week chaplain school will begin on Monday, October 4.

Promoted to Lieut. Colonel

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

47k

NOV 6 1943

Major George McDonald

MAJOR GEORGE McDONALD, chief of medical service at the station hospital, Tuskegee Army Flying School, Tuskegee, Ala., whose promotion to lieutenant colonel was announced by the War Department this week. Lieut. Col. McDonald, a former Baltimore health officer has been on duty with the U.S. Army Medical Corps at Tuskegee since February, 1942. He was formerly stationed at Camp Livingston, La. At Tuskegee he is venereal disease control officer. The new lieutenant colonel is a graduate of Virginia Union University and Howard University Medical School. He was commissioned a lieutenant in February, 1931, became a captain four years later and was made major in 1941. His wife, Mrs. Xavier F. McDonald, resides at 844 N. Carey Street, and is a Baltimore teacher.

47K-1943

400 CHAPLAINS GRADUATE FROM HARVARD; 16 ARE NEGROES

APR 17 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., April 15—Approximately 400 student chaplains were graduated from the Harvard Chaplain's school here April 3, with the seventh graduating class. Chaplain (Colonel) William D. Cleary, commandant of the school, addressed the graduates and delivered the diplomas. After a review on the historic Cambridge Common, the student body, including sixteen Negro chaplains (first lieutenants and captains) marched to the Sanders theatre for the remainder of the ceremony.

STIFF COURSE

The Army chaplains had completed a rigorous four-week program, which prepared them for their varied duties with the troops. All the men who qualify for admission in the Chaplain's Corps, which is the only completely volunteer group connected with the armed forces, must have obtained a college degree, advanced ministerial training at a college, and served as a pastor. For Negro chaplains, however, certain waivers have been allowed because of the great demand for them. It is estimated that over 235 Negro chaplains will be needed by 1944. Thus it can be seen that the Army policy for commissioning chaplains is far different from the Navy, which has no Negro chaplains so far. Each of the graduating classes at the Harvard Chaplain's school has averaged ten Negro chaplains.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The group of 421 student chaplains in the March 3, 1943, class marked the 25th anniversary of the Chaplain's school, which was begun in February, 1918. Originally started as a school for chaplain candidates on February 9, 1918, at Fort Monroe, Va., it was moved two months later to Camp Taylor, Kentucky, where it functioned until the end of World War I.

In 1929 it was re-activated as a school for occasional chaplains at Camp Grant, Illinois, from where it was transferred to Fort Knox, Kentucky, then to Fort Wayne, Michigan, and finally, in 1934, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. On February 2, 1942, within two months of America's entry into World War II, the Chaplain school was re-activated at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, as a school for commissioned chaplains of the Army. Its removal to Harvard university, Cambridge, Mass., took place early in August, 1942, and the first classes were held on August 10 of that year.

SPECIALLY HOUSED

The eighth class commenced on Wednesday, April 7, 1943. The chaplains are housed in Conant and Perkins Halls, formerly dormitories for Harvard university graduate students.

MORE SERVICE SCHOOLS AT HARVARD

Eight additional service schools have been scheduled to open at Harvard by July, swelling the total number of service schools at the university to well over twenty and the number of men in these schools to well over 6,000. The new schools will probably include one more Navy group and seven additional military detachments. One Negro (Emmett J. Rice, of New York City and City college; Lt. Rice is now stationed with the Tuskegee Flying school.) has graduated from the famed Harvard Air Corps Statistical school, which has as a prerequisite high achievement at the Air Corps Administrative Officer Candidate school, at Miami Beach, Fla. Negro college students, who have left Harvard and other schools may be among those fortunate in being selected to return to Harvard for additional training.

The Harvard Commencement ceremonies are scheduled for May 27 with members of the armed forces at Harvard participating. President James B. Conant will be the principal speaker at the military ceremonies, much on the Oxford style.

NEGRO STUDENTS IN HARVARD

Of the original Negro members of the Class of 1943, which will graduate on May 27, John Daniel Cotman Jr., of Cambridge, Mass., brilliant chemistry student, is the only one left. Other members of the class of 1943 are: Ray W. Guild II, of Cambridge, Mass., brilliant romance language student and varsity football player, now private at the 366th Infantry, Fort Devens, Massachusetts, as of March 1943; Drue King Jr., a bio-chemistry major, of Tuskegee, Ala., and Boston, Mass., private with the medical detachment of a quartermaster unit in California, as of October, 1942, and Rev. Marcus G. James, sociology major of Jamaica, B.W.I., who accelerated his program and graduated in August, 1942, and is now the assistant rector at a New York Episcopal church.

As to other Harvard college students the following is pertinent. Class of 1946, George Prescott Guild and Edward Randall of Cambridge, Mass., are pre-medical majors. Class of 1945: John Hamilton Hewitt, a pre-medical student of New York City; Samuel A. Stuart, a pre-medical student of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Samuel Perry, a language major, of Boston, Mass., now a private in an air base unit in Ohio, as of February, 1943. Class of 1944: Montgomery Gregory, a chemical major of Atlantic City, N. J.; Alexander Jackson III, a sociology major of Chicago, Ill.; Hallowell Bowser, English major of Brooklyn, N. Y., now a private in the 366th Infantry, Fort Devens, Massachusetts, as of March, 1943; William Ellis, a science major of Boston, Mass., now a private in the 372nd Infantry, New York City, as of February, 1943; William Kydd, a physics major of New Bedford, Mass., now a private with a quartermaster unit in Texas, as of October, 1942. Class of 1942: Lucien V. Alexis, gradauted in June, 1942, of New Orleans, La., is now a student in the Harvard Business school, and will be a private as of June, 1943; Blair T. Hunt Jr., of Boston, Mass., and Memphis, Tenn., is a first year student in the Howard Medical school, Washington, D. C., and a lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps Reserve (until July 1 when all medical reservists in school revert to seventh grade soldiers—privates—and then receive commissions as officers upon entrance into the service). Class of 1941: Thomas Watkins Jr. of Charlotte, N. C., a second year student at the University of Pennsylvania Dental school. Received a commission in the Dental Corps upon graduation.

FEW REMARKS

Thus it can be noted that of the present classes now in Harvard college, 1943-1946, there are seven men left out of the original fourteen. It is also interesting to note that none of the seven men in the armed services (Army) went in with commissions or into special training leading to the same, as many of their classmates have. They are all privates hoping for a chance at officer candidate schools or reurning to colleges for additional training. At the latter their chances are much better than at the former, since all officer candidate school quotas have been reduced. The other students still in college, either pre-medical or scientific students, hope to serve their country as additions to the greatly undertsaffed medical and dental corps, where they will be officers, or as much needed scientists or technicians in indusrial plants.

The ranks of the students in the many graduate schools have been just as completely decimated by the draft, leaving only two in the law school, seven in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (two of whom are now in the Signal Corps' civilian program), and two in the business school. The medical school has two students (one an ensign in the Naval Medical Corps Reserve, the only Negro officer in the Navy), and the Divinity school has two students. Thus making a total of twenty students for 1943 as compared to 33 in 1942.

47k-1943

VISITS CAMP ATTERBURY

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

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FEB 6 1943

Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis Sr. (left) meets the 365th Combat Team Commander, Colonel Walter E. Elliott. General Davis, the highest ranking Negro officer in the United States Army, inspected the 365th Combat Team at Camp Atterbury, Ind., observing their training and work. After completing his inspection, the general said "The 365th Band amazes me by his marvelous progress in lieu of the fact that they have been organized such a short time. It pleases me to meet such a large number of promising young officers who, with attention to duty, no doubt will handle any task assigned to them. The appearance of the entire Combat Team is most gratifying."

MacArthur Gives Command Of New Unit To Race Officer

Chicago Illinois Defender

MAY 22 1943

47k

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA (ANP)—Setting up of an all-colored unit by General Douglas MacArthur, with 1st Lt. Edward H. Lowe, of Muskogee, Okla., in command, has established a new precedent in the South Pacific area.

"This unit is an independent quartermaster railhead company, charged with the responsibility of handling the vitally important subsistence supplies.

Lt. Lowe has been under Gen. MacArthur's command since November, 1941. In that period he has established an enviable record. Coming to the Southwest Pacific area as a second lieutenant, he was first attached to an all-white signal corps unit at Port Darwin, Australia, acting in the capacity of supply officer.

Later he was transferred to the special service division of the army, where he did remarkable work. He was then promoted to first lieutenant.

MAY 22 1943

Although the outfit he has been assigned to is comparatively a small unit, it still marks advancement for Negro officers in this theatre. Then, too, until the latter part of last year there were only two Negro line officers (both infantry) besides chaplains over here.

Two terms of officer's candidate schools have been held in this area. The first, which was an experimental school, graduated two out of four Negroes in attendance.

New Guinea Gets Its First Colored Unit Commander

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

By SCOOP JONES

JUN 12 1943

47k

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—(ANP) — The recent assignment of 1st Lieut. Edmund H. Lowe, commanding officer of a quartermaster railhead company, which "established" the organization as an all-colored outfit, the first in this area, may mean the assignment of more colored officers to smaller units.

Such units are being used mainly to maintain supply depots. The eventual assignment of colored commanders to larger organizations might follow.

If such a policy should be adopted, it would undoubtedly lead to an increase in the quota of colored soldiers that enter officer candidate schools over here.

Tough But Welcome

From a series of interviews it was ascertained that Lieut. Loew was wholeheartedly and jubilantly received by his organization, despite the fact that, within a few hours after assuming command, many changes took place in the set-up of the outfit.

One soldier told of how men "fell into a pay formation with mixed uniforms. They were ordered to "fall out" and return in a more soldierly fashion and all uniformly attired.

JUN 12 1943

This and numerous other little incidents took place under the new C.O.'s orders for absolute military procedure and discipline, but as a whole the soldiers seem very pleased and proud of having a colored officer in command. Another remarked: "He's tough, but a square shooter."

Outfit Has Competent Men

Afro-American

First sergeant of the outfit is Kenneth C. McNeil, former New York salesman. He is well supported by competent non-commissioned officers, among whom are Staff Sgt. Edwin W. Stokes, Ubana, O., and Ernest V. Gregware, Chicago; and Sgt. A. T. Black, Atlantic City, N.J.

JUN 12 1943

Among others in the company are T. 3rd Richard Scott, Chicago; Cpl. Robert G. Branson, Jersey City, N.J.; T. 5th Edward M. Lewis, Indianapolis; Pvts. Albrecht Ingram, Detroit; John A. Smith, Newark; James M. Richardson, New York City; Irvin Gray, Brooklyn; Alton Reed, Little Rock, and Ernest C. Toomer. Atlanta.

Lt. Colonel B.O. Davis Honored At Reception

Tribune Washington, D.C.

47k

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. David, Jr., the first colored officer ever to command an air force combat unit, was honored at a reception which was held in the Post Officer's Club here, last Tuesday.

Colonel Davis, former commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron now in Italy, has assumed command of the 332nd Fighter Group stationed here the War Department announced.

He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Among high ranking Army officers at the reception were Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, father of the new group commander; and Major J. P. Ramsey, of Philadelphia, flight surgeon, who was chairman of the program committee.

Lt. Col. Queen Made Full Colonel in 366th

Regiment's Acting Commander

Become Corporal 30 Years Ago

FORT DEVENS, Mass.—Lieut. Col. Howard D. Queen, since January 30 acting commanding officer of the 366th Infantry Regiment here, was promoted to full colonelcy Saturday.

JUL 31 1943

The promotion came thirty years to the day after he was made a corporal while stationed with the Tenth Cavalry in Winchester, Va., in 1913.

Lieut. Col. Queen assumed command of the 366th in January when Col. Joseph S. Leonard, white, was transferred to Washington. He had served previously as executive officer since March, 1942.

JUL 31 1943

Made Captain at 22

The new colonel is a native of Washington and is 48 years old. He enlisted in the D.C. National Guard in 1910, served in the Cavalry from 1911 to 1917, attaining the rank of captain during World War I, at the age of 22.

He was made major in 1929 and promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1935, after graduation from the U.S. Command and General Staff Extension School.

Lieut. Col. Queen is also a graduate of the First Corps School at Gondrecourt, France, where he finished in 1918, and the Fort Benning (Ga.) Infantry School, which he finished in 1941.

In 5 Major Battles

The colonel has participated in the following battles:

El Carrozal, Mexico, June 21, 1916; Punitive Expedition into Mexico with the Tenth Cavalry, March, 1916, to April, 1917;

Vosges Sector (France) with the 368th Infantry; Meuse-Argonne Offensive and the Metz Sector in France, 1918 to 1919.

Army in His System

Asked to what he attributed his rise in the army, Lieut. Col. Queen said, "It is in my system." He comes from three generations of sailors and soldiers.

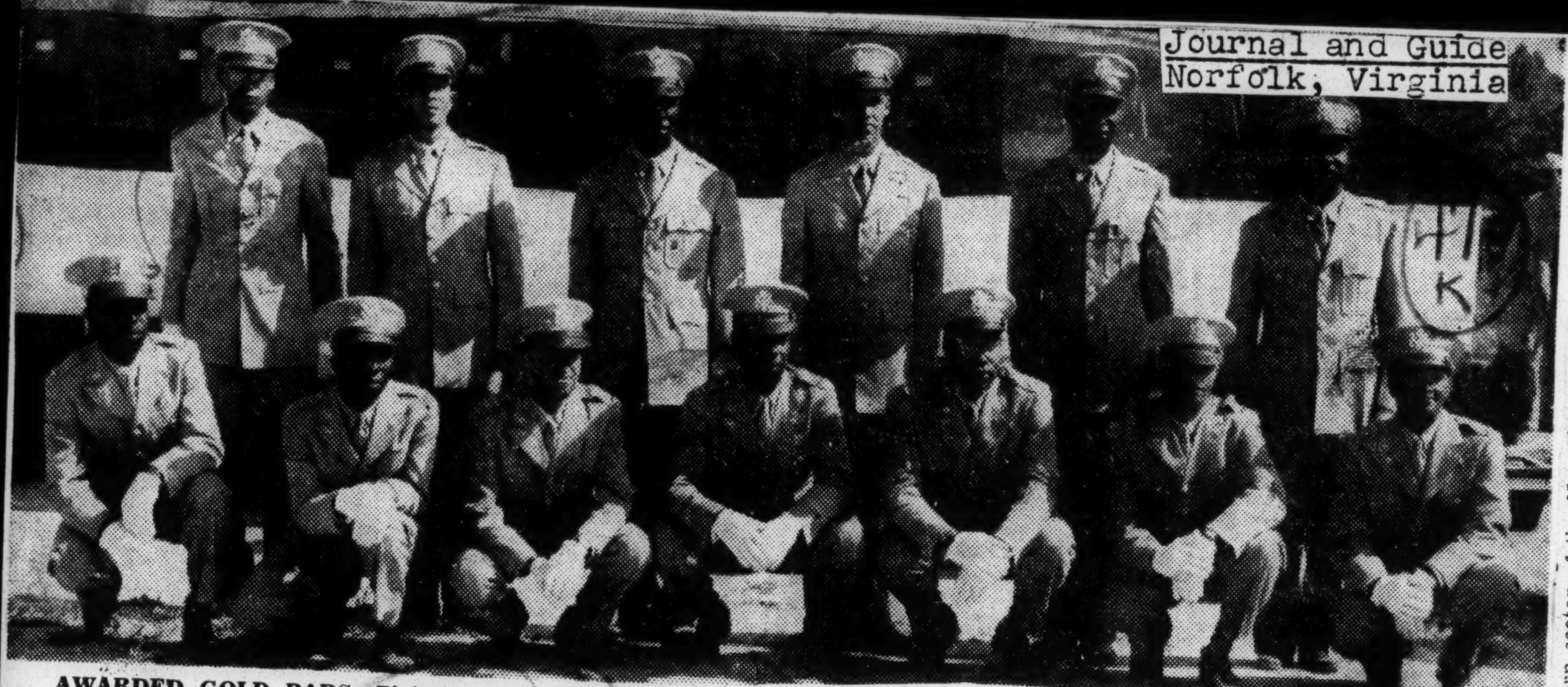
JUL 31 1943

His great-grandfather participated in the battle of Boston Common, a grandfather and three uncles fought with the Union Army during the Civil War, and his father served fifteen years in the Twenty-fourth Infantry and the Tenth Cavalry.

A cousin lost his life aboard the USS Maine in Havana Harbor, prior to the Spanish-American War, and a brother, Richard R. Queen, served as lieutenant with the 368th Infantry in the Argonne Offensive.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HOWARD D. QUEEN

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia



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AWARDED GOLD BARS—Pictured above immediately after graduating from the Officer Candidate School, Camp Lee, Va., are [illegible] second lieutenants who hail from many sections of the country. Left to right, front row: Lts. Alvin W. Scott, Boston, Mass.; Shular A. Barksdale, Omaha, Neb.; Isaac R. Bryant, Lawnside, N. J.; Louis T. Evans, Richmond, Va.; James P. Cornett, Indianapolis, Ind.; Harrison P. Rochon, Ryne, La.; James R. Dorry, Bryn Mawr, Pa. Back row: Walter R. Johnson, Anderson, S. C.; John R. Powell, Cincinnati, Ohio; Alfred C. Darby, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roger A. Clay, Baxter Spring, Kan.; Owen H. Cameron, Alexander, Va., and Douglas L. Bascome.

JUL 10 1943

Alcan Highway Chaplain Back In D.C.

Chicago Defender

Tells Of Work In Wilds Of Frozen North

Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON.—Capt. Edward G. Carroll, popular chaplain of one of the Negro regiments of the U. S. Army Engineer corps, who since last May has been with his troops in the frozen wastes of the Yukon and Alaska, during construction of the now famous, 1,800 mile Alcan highway, has returned to Washington to enjoy his first leave of absence with his wife and his four-year-old son.

It's a far cry from the torrid temperature of tropical India, where Capt. Carroll was in 1935, to the long and frigid nights of the Arctic, but the chaplain "took it in stride." Speaking of the colored soldiers assigned to construction of the Alcan highway, and of his efforts to relieve the monotony and loneliness of the men in the barren wastes of the far North, Chaplain Carroll said:

"My idea was to develop recreational programs and show the men how to be good in their every day life, not just preach a lot of sermons and hold church services on Sunday.

"When I first arrived, there was little to work with. Regimental headquarters had a recreation hall but no furniture, no recreation facilities and worst of all, no writing paper. The men had to use birchbark for letter paper. I got things as well as I could from people and organizations I knew about and that knew me back home.

"It takes about one month to receive 2nd class mail up there and so deliveries were slow and far between. When I arrived I had one film with me, a religious film called the "Power of God," which had been lent to me by the Lutheran Missouri Synod. With this film I travelled over 800 miles, showing it sometimes twice a day. It was the first movie to be seen up there and in the case of one Canadian civilian, it was the first movie he'd ever seen.

"Now the entertainment problem is much improved. Special Services has sent out their recreation kits of games, amateur theatrical equipment, records, and short wave radio programs. The recreation hall—a double tent—now has furniture and writing facilities and a library of 500 volumes collected by me. And so with games to keep the men occupied when they have leisure time, and with more records and movies the long winter nights will pass."

The chaplain also organized a 20 piece band from which a smaller swing band has been formed. He bought a sound system with two speakers which he hung up in the trees at camp clearings on his tours and with his generator and a phonograph, he gave camp concerts. At first he had only swing records but soon he got recordings of one opera—"Carmen," besides other classical pieces. He read the story of the opera to the men, explained it and then played the score. It was extremely popular.

FEB 6 1943

BACK FROM FAR NORTH

FEB 6 1943

CAPTAIN EDWARD G. CARROLL

Chaplain for Negro troops in Alaska, who has just returned from a long stay in the Far North ministering to the troops building the Alcan highway.

Chaplain Carroll make a regular circuit with six stops and it took him about one week to complete the rounds. He and his assistant traveled in a half--ton pick up trailer truck which carried all his recreational and religious equipment besides his musical support—"The Brass Quintet." He usually arrived during duty hours and set up his equipment for the evening's entertainment. If it was a week-day, he held a brief religious service, after which he brought news from other parts of the regiment and interpreted news from the outside world for the eager men. On Sunday, he brought out his Brass Quintet whose singing and playing augmented the music from the field organ and he held church services in the thick of the woods. Usually the entire personnel attended

At the present time his assistant, Cpl. Womack, from Americus, Ga., a graduate of Morris Brown college, Atlanta, Ga., is pinch hitting for Chaplain Carroll until his return.

The chaplain has two specially prized possessions, one is a piece of the ceremonial ribbon which was cut by representatives of the U.S and Canada at the opening ceremonies of the Alcan highway.

The others is a letter of commendation, for the chaplain's weekly sermonettes currently printed in the camp paper, and which circulate more rapidly than can the chaplain himself.

FEB 6 1943

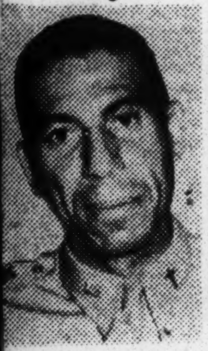
The letter was written by the commanding officer of the Southern sector of the Northwest service command and in it the officer said "Therein is expressed that which I would like to say to all the troops in the sector every day. If all the officers and soldiers had the spirit of Chaplain Carroll, nothing could stop us."

A native of Wheeling, W. Va., Chaplain Carroll completed his primary and secondary education in Washington, his college training at Morgan State college, Baltimore. He took his theological course at Yale University Divinity school, subsequently held pastorates in Salem, Va., and Grafton, W. Va. In 1935, he was one of four chosen to visit the college and university centers of India, Burma and Ceylon, spending nearly five months in those countries.

47k-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

144 Colored Chaplains Are Now in U.S. Army

Every Tenth Man in Army Is Colored; Only Every Twentieth Chaplain Is


Lieut. Douglas Robinson

Capt. Robert Smith

Lieut. H. A. Robinson

Chap. John Bowman

JAN 2 - 1943

WASHINGTON

One soldier in every ten is colored, but only one chaplain in every twenty is colored, or 144 of more than 3,000, according to figures released by the Office of War Information last week.

Of this number, only one, Chaplain John W. Bowman, formerly of Washington, now stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala., is of the Roman Catholic Faith.

The story of army chaplains goes back to Revolutionary War, when ministers were called to the Colors by General Washington. During the last World War, there were 2,364 chaplains, of which 57 were colored.

JAN 2 - 1943

Requirements

Chaplains must be citizens of the United States, be between 24 and 50 years old, have endorsement from their church bodies, and be graduates of an accredited college and seminary. When appointed, they study army procedures at a chaplains' school at Harvard University for one month.

Forbidden to carry arms, chaplains carry only gas masks. They go along with their unit, distributing magazines and testaments, holding services and conferences. They sleep on the bedroll with the soldiers they serve, and must take the same physical examination as their men.

Two War I Chaplains

Two soldiers who served in World War I, Lieut. Douglas Robinson and Lieut. Skelton. are serving as chaplains at Tuskegee and Fort Knox respectively.

Chaplain S. F. Guilbeau of Camp Wolters is usually accompanied on church visits by the camp choir, the Guardians of American. Another famous singing group is the Quin Knights at Camp Knight, Calif.

JAN 2 - 1943

Fourteen at Huachuca

At Fort Huachuca, the staff of fourteen chaplains is headed by Major John A. DeVeaux of Jacksonville, Fla. Others are Chaplains E. A. Freeman of Atlanta, Ga., now with the 25th Infantry; David Moore of College Hill, O.; E. B. Hicks of Duluth, Minn.; Robert J. Smith of Chicago, one of the youngest in the army; and Nimrod Calhoun of the 368th Infantry, who distributed 3.000 Mother's Day letters last May.

Chaplain J. C. Calvin is with the Fourth Service Command at Fort McClellan. Others with the 92nd division are F. N. Marshburn, Edward W. Jones and J. E. Foster, serfing with the 365th Combat unit at Camp Robinson.

Watts at Custer

JAN 2 - 1943

Now with the 184th Field Artillery at Fort Custer is Chaplain A. A. Watts, formerly of the Illinois National Guard. Chaplain William O. Jones is stationed at Fort Benning.

At Fort Bragg, one of four chaplains is H. Y. Sideboard of Cordele, Ga., of the 384th Battalion of Engineers. Lieut. H. A. Robinson, who has written a series of articles for the AFRO, is stationed with the 24th Infantry in San Francisco, Calif.

To Be Continued

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

D. C. Youth, One of 5 West Point Graduates

JAN 9 - 1943

By PVT. BILL DORMAN

Of the five Negroes ever to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point two are living. One is a lieutenant colonel; the other, handsome, genial, First Lieutenant James Daniel Fowler of the 366th Infantry, stationed at Fort Devens.

At 26 he holds four vital positions in the 366th which to him mark the real beginning of a military career that began as a cadet lieutenant in Junior High School.

Following his graduation from West Point he spent three months at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga., where he brushed up on heavy weapons. Last October he reported for duty with the 366th and in quick succession became Executive Officer of the 366th Anti-Tank Co., Commanding Officer of the Regimental Training Center (training recruits), Assistant Plans and Training Officer and Officer in Charge of the N.C.O. School.

Instructs Non-Coms

Today behind his desk at Regimental Headquarters he applies with unconscious assurance the exact training he received at West Point. To the enlisted man it has been a boon. For it is under Fowler that the non-commisisoned officers of the regiment receive their instruction, and to them he imparts the firm discipline he believes so essential to a soldier's training.

"Most men want discipline," he declared. "They realize it is discipline that will later preserve their lives under fire."

Of West Point he said proudly, 'It is an education you can't get in any six colleges in the country. The Academy qualifies you for any job there is. It is the best example of discipline you will find in the Army itself."

JAN 9 - 1943

Based on the idea that the non-commissioned officer is the backbone of the Army, Col. J. S. Leonard, Commanding Officer of the 366th, and Lt. Fowler, only two regular Army officers in the regiment, worked out plans for an N.C.O. School of which the lieutenant is in charge. A comprehensive program comparable to a regular officer candidate school was organized.

A multitude of subjects were crowded into the course which lasts a month. Fowler, who spends considerable time helping the students outside of school, insisted that the lectures be slanted so that the N.C.O. candidates would be able to command and teach as well. Few organizations have such schools.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., Fowler lived there but a few years before he moved to Washington, D.C. At the age of nine, while attending Junior High School, he had two ambitions, to become a great surgeon or a great general. Appointment to cadet lieutenant in a junior ROTC unit started him thinking of West Point. He decided to enter if he could.

In high school he was a cadet major, president of the National Honor Society, manager of the him with a four-year scholarship swimming team and graduated to Howard University.

His record at Howard was a distinguished one. He was appointed a major and commanding officer of a senior ROTC battalion, was vice president of the Kappa Mu, National Honor Society; president of the student council and member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He also found time to play left halfback on the varsity. Before college ended in June of '37, he had been appointed to West Point, an honor that took his breath away. In something of an anti-climax, he was graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor of arts degree.

JAN 9 - 1943

In July he reported to the Academy. His college grades had been so high he didn't have to take the usual entrance examination. For four years he devoted himself to discipline, mathematics and won the Academy Monogram in intra-mural track and, in his own words, received average grades. June, 1941, he graduated with an Engineering Degree and was commisisoned a second lieutenant. Three days later he was married.

That he was destined to be a scholar was a certainty. His father graduated from Atlanta University, his sister from a teachers' college and Mrs. Fowler, a classmate of his sister's, also from a teachers' college.

Beneath his genial countenance is the firmness of a well-rounded soldier. Outside the Army his great interest is his three-weeks-old daughter, Dianne. And his hope, the ambition of every West Point man, to some day be a general.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

4 Promoted To Captain At Devens

FORT DEVENS, Mass.—Four first lieutenants of the 366th Infantry were promoted to the rank of captain, it was announced by Regimental Headquarters this week.

JAN 9 - 1943

The four new captains include Harold J. Barnett, Clarence Buchanan Wheat, Osceola T. Thornton and William A. Pierce.

Captain Barnett is a native of Washington, D. C., where he attended public schools. After graduation from high school he enrolled in Wilberforce University, where he earned the degree of B. S. in education. He was a member of the University's R. O. T. C. unit and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1933. He was ordered to active duty in May, 1941, and promoted to first lieutenant. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha College fraternity.

Captain Barnett married the former Miss Hazel A. Murray, of Cleveland. They have an 18-months-old daughter, Carolyn Elise. In civilian life he lived in Cleveland where he was employed by the city in the Division of Relief.

JAN 9 - 1943

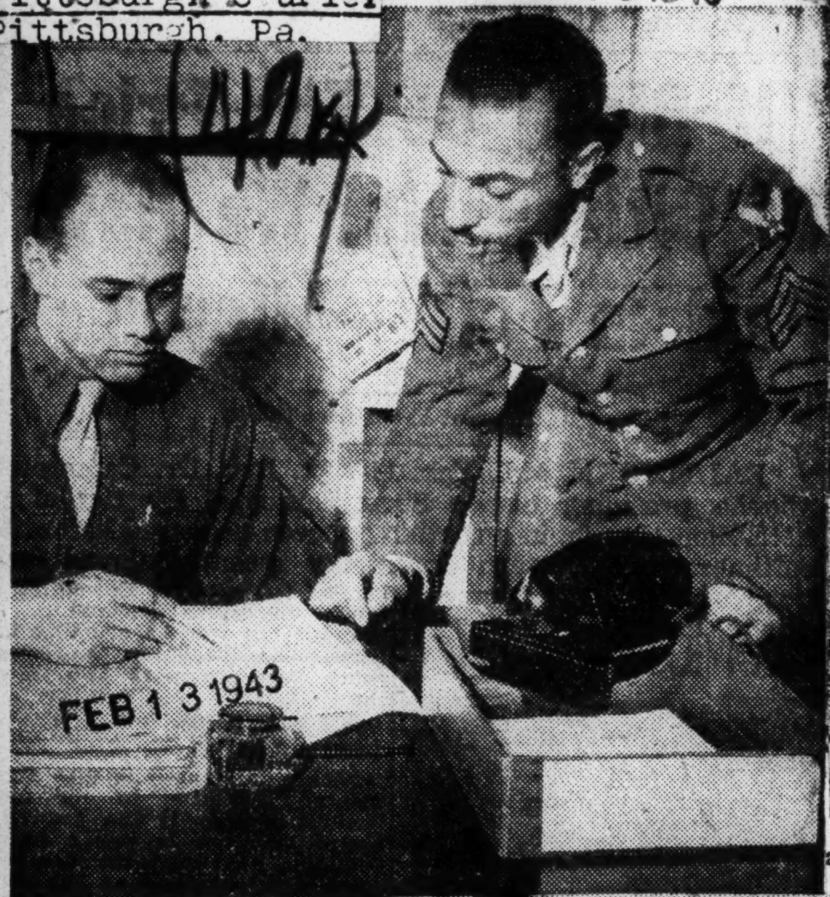
Captain Wheat was born in Montgomery, Ala., and attended public schools in Ohio. He was graduated from Howard University, Washington, D. C., in 1932, with a degree of B. S. in Architecture. He was an R. O. T. C. graduate and was commissioned second lieutenant in

47k-1943

ONE OF THE YOUNGEST

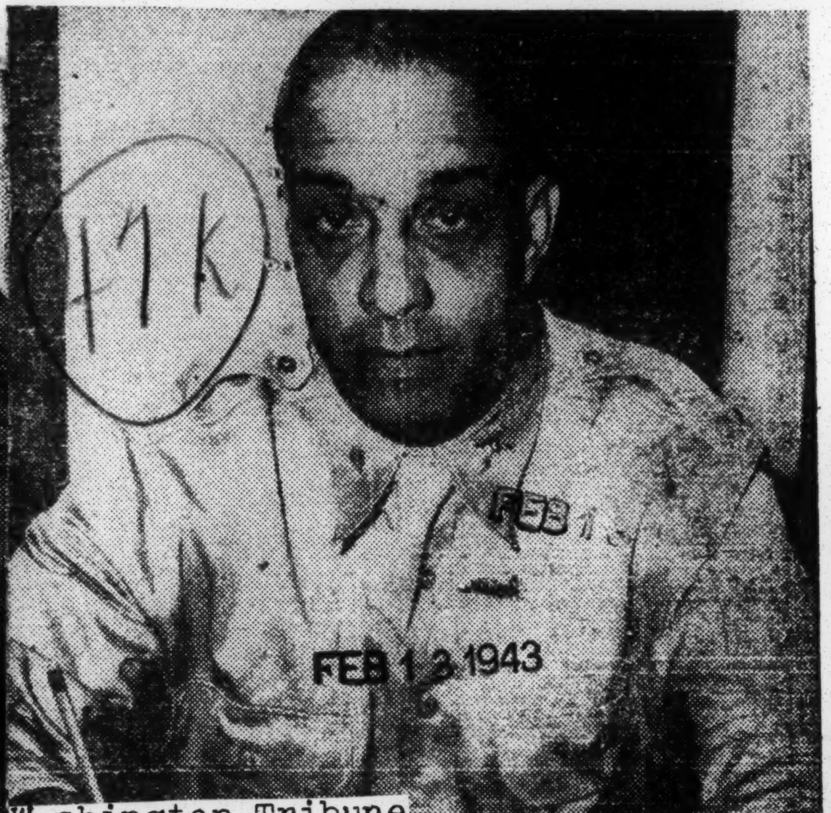
FEB 1 3 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



FEB 1 3 1943

A pioneer at the Tuskegee Army Flying School is a modest, tan-faced, captain only 24 years of age. His attachment to machines, electricity and radio was evident in his boyhood days. At the age of 21, Capt. Elmer D. Jones Jr. owned and operated his own amateur radio station in Washington, D. C. At that time, a recent graduate of Howard university, where he was awarded the honor of Magna Cum Laude of his class, his major study had been engineering. Recently promoted to the rank of captain, he is commanding officer of the Army Air Force Service Detachment No. 99, attached to the 99th Pursuit Squadron.



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FEB 1 3 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Col. Chauncey M. Hooper, commanding officer of all-Negro anti-aircraft regiment now on duty in the Hawaiian Islands.

Photo by Signal Corps, U. S. Army

Chaplain Robinson Upped To Captaincy At Tuskegee

Peoples Voice N.Y. N.Y.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—It was announced at Headquarters this week that the Tuskegee Army Flying School's base chaplain, Lieutenant Douglas L. T. Robinson, has been promoted to captain.

Capt. Robinson is a veteran of World War I. He served overseas with the 372nd Infantry of the 93rd Division as a second lieutenant in Co. K at the age of 20.

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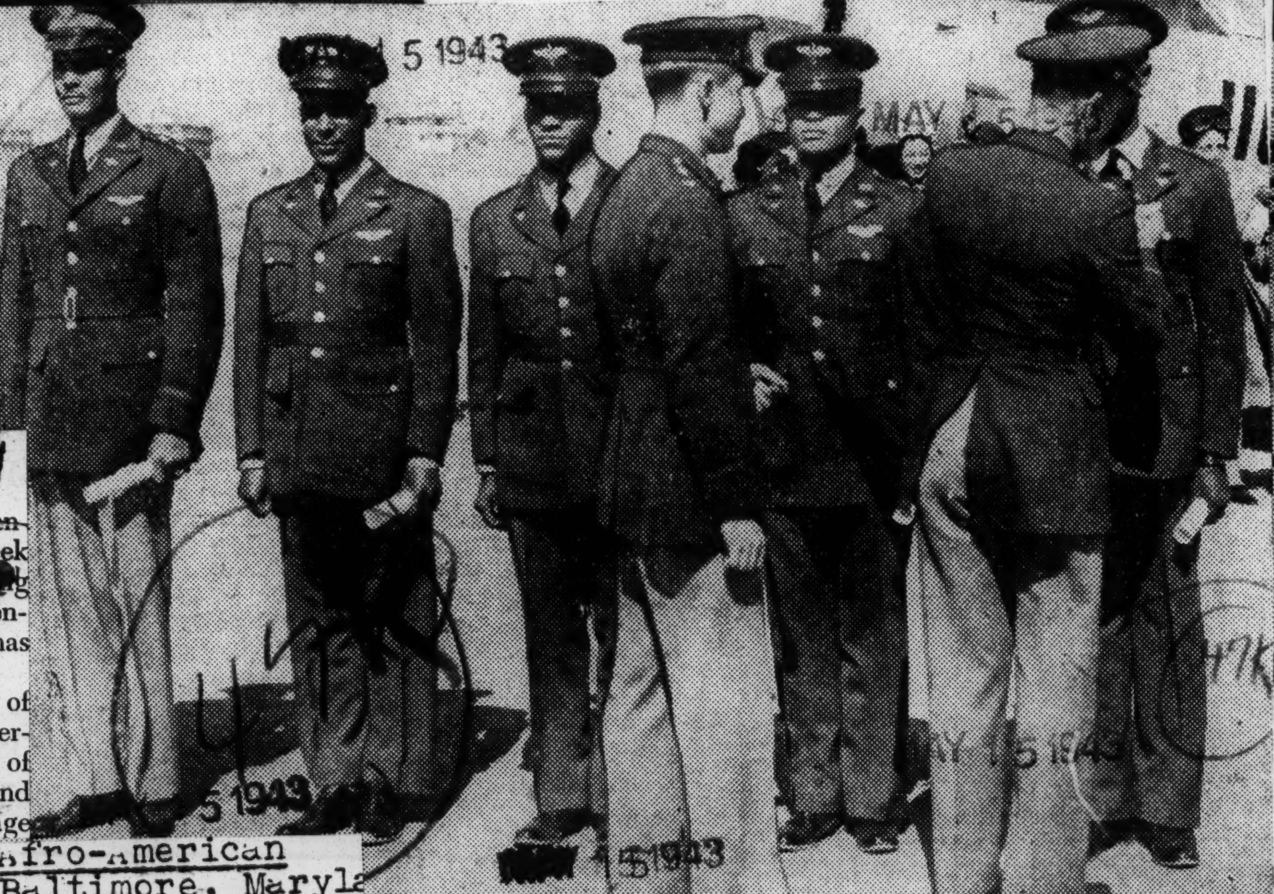
FEB 20 1943



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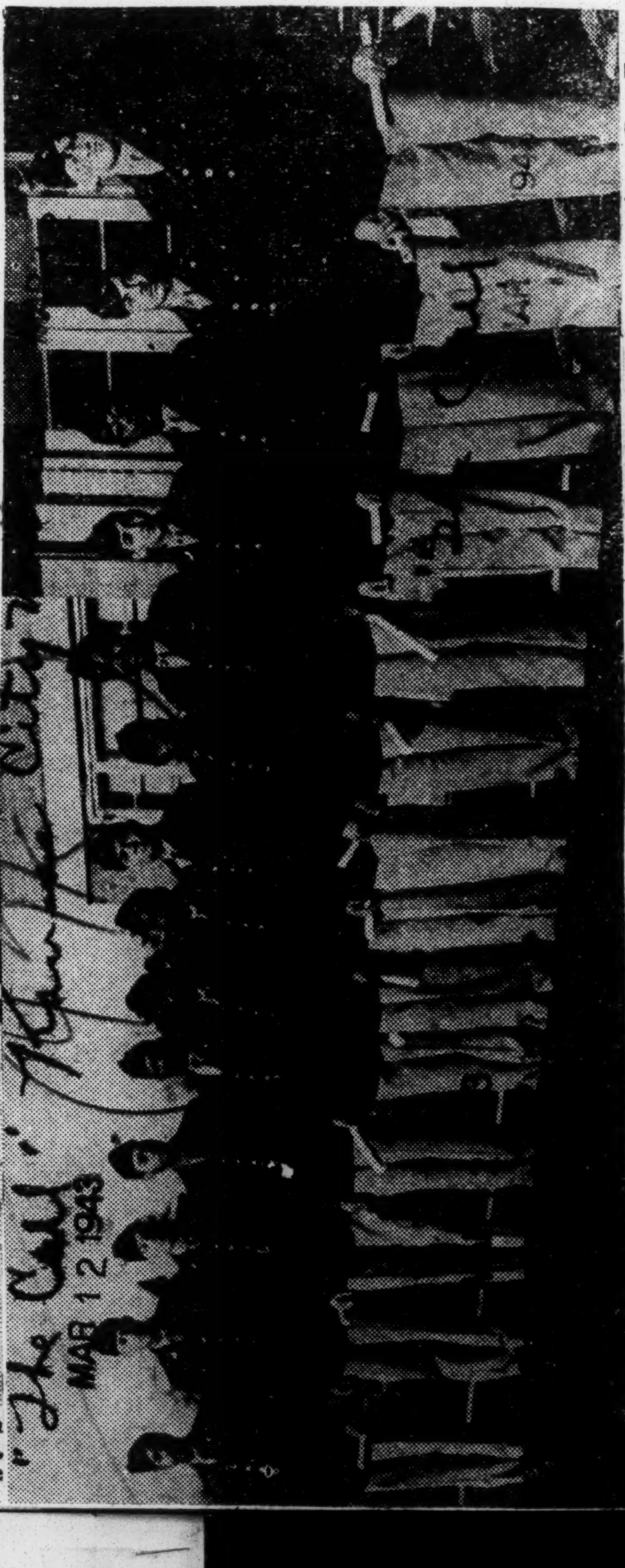
MAY 1 5 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryla

Photo taken when Col. Frederick V. H. Kimble presented wings to (left to right) then Capt. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Washington, D.C.; Second Lieuts. Lemuel R. Custis, Hartford, Conn.; Charles H. DeBow, Indianapolis, Ind.; George S. Roberts, Fairmont, W.Va., and Mac Ross of Dayton, Ohio. Col. Kimble was assisted by Major N. F. Parrish, director of flight training.



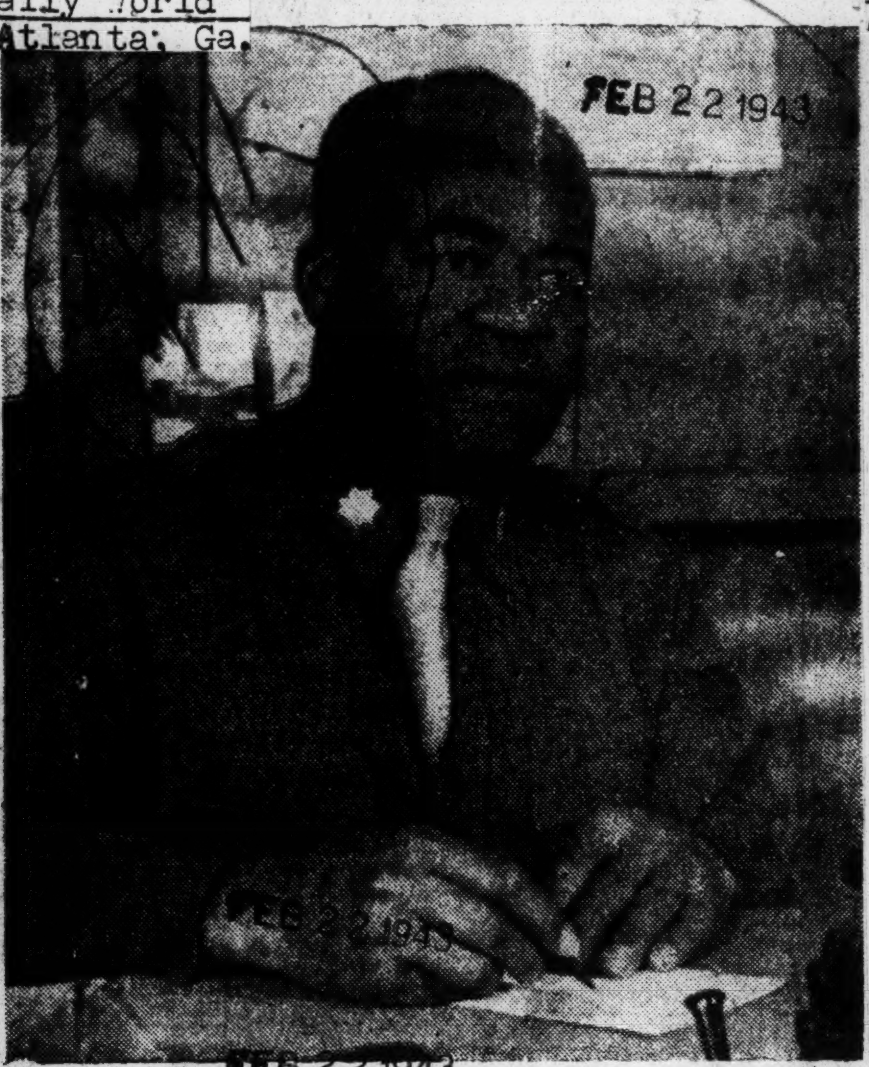
"The Call" Kansas City Mo.

MAR 1 2 1943

OFFICERS IN ENGLAND.—Negro graduates of Officer Candidate School in England. (Left to right) Samuel L. Coleman, New York, N. Y.; William H. Cox, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Richard W. Davis, Washington, D. C.; William F. Duckery, Philadelphia, Pa.; William A. Dyson, New York, N. Y.; Lestor W. Gordon, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lucius Gibson, Americus, Ga.; Earnest J. Harris, Neptune, N. J.; William Murphy, Valdosta, Ga.; Carl W. Pope, Columbus, Ohio; James P. Rux, Bloomsburg, Pa.; Robert L. Terrell, Houston, Texas; Richard C. Wells, Washington, D. C.; Kenneth E. Wilson, Brooklyn, N. Y. These officers have received their commissions as second lieutenants.

In Charge Of Special Service

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.



FEB 22 1943

FEB 22 1943

FEB 22 1943

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—Important indeed is the announcement that Major Charles J. Blackwood, highest ranking Negro Line Officer in the 93rd Division, has been put in charge of the Special Service of his Division. Major Blackwood who succeeds Major Homer F. Browning, who has been assigned to special duty with the G-3 Section of the 93d Division, is an officer with a great military background extending back to his days with the 365th Infantry (92d Infantry Division) on the battlefields of France. He was a First Lieutenant in those days of terrific struggle in the Muese Argonne-Forest and the St. Die Sector.

FEB 22 1943

Gen'l Davis Inspects Artillery Kitchen

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 28 1943

CAMP J. T. ROBINSON, Ark.—Brigadier General B. O. Davis of the Inspector General's staff, Washington, is pictured as he paid a visit to kitchen of Battery C, 599th Field Artillery Battalion of the 92nd Division which is in training here. L to r, T-4th Dudley McEwen of Chicago displays his culinary art in preparing savory food which is common with the men of his outfit, while General Davis and Major W. R. Gunby, commander of the 599th look on.

MAR 28 1943

Fourteen Graduated From Harvard 'Chaplains' School

MAY 15 1943

MAY 15 1943 Pittsburg Courier

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., May ~~13~~—Approximately 300 officers said goodbye to the Harvard Chaplain School May 5, at graduation exercises which included a review by Chaplaing (Colonel) William D. Cleary, commandant of the school, and his staff. Following the review on Andover Field, Harvard university, the student chaplains paraded to Sanders theatre for the remainder of the graduation exercises. In this group to receive diplomas were 14 Negro chaplains.

These Army chaplains had a rigorous four-week program, which prepared them for duty with troops. A chaplain is assigned to every 1200 men in the Army. The Army Chaplain school was originally started Fefruary 9, 1918; it was again reactivated and moved to Harvard university, Cambridge, Mass., from Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., in August, 1942.

SMALEST CLASS

The class was the eighth and also the smallest. The chaplains are housed in Conant and Perkins Hall, formerly dormitories for Harvard university graduate students.

The colored chaplains in the eighth graduating class, their home state, and religion are:

Roosevelt A. Baker, Illinois, Baptist

Frank A. Blackwell, Mississippi Methodist.

Emanuel L. Briggs, Illinois Methodist.

Sylvester R. Bright, Florida, Missionary Baptist.

Herman B. Chapman, West Virginia, Baptist.

Harold E. Charles, Rhode Island AME.

Warren J. Jenkins, Georgia AME.

Elisha B. McNair, Georgia Methodist.

Walter A. Miller, Tennessee CME.

St. Julian A. Simpkins Jr., New York, Episcopal.

James H. Smith, Pennsylvania Baptist.

George R. Yancey, New York, Baptist.

Robert B. Powell, West Virginia, Baptist.

MAY 15 1943

MAY 15 1943

MAY 15 1943

MAY 15 1943

About half of the chaplains were sent to the Chaplain's school from duty with troops, while the other half were getting their first taste of Army life and left with the other officers for their first military assignment on Wednesday afternoon. The largest class so far, the ninth, commences on Monday, May 10, 1943. Each of the graduating classes at the Harvard Chaplain's school has averaged ten Negro chaplains.

May 6, 1943

PROMOTIONS GIVEN TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., May 5—As a result of recent promotions at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, there are two new majors, two more men to wear the double bars of captains, and two new first lieutenants.

Capt. John G. Cooke, Jr., and Capt. Warren Crump were advanced to the rank of major. Maj. Cooke, a native of Gainesville, Ala., is commandant of aviation cadets at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, while Maj. Crump, whose home is Richmond, Va., is post quartermaster. Maj. Crump, a veteran in the service, has been in the Army for 16 years.

New wearers of the double bars are Capt. James L. Wrathall, advanced flight instructor from Grantsville, Utah, and Capt. Philip L. Tate, finance officer. Both were promoted from first lieutenant to captain. Capt. Tate, a native of Fairfield, Ala., was employed as branch manager of the Mack Motor Truck Corporation of Birmingham, Ala., prior to entering the service.

Second Lts. Douglas Jones, mess officer, general mess No. 2, and Weldon O. Yeager, personnel officer, were advanced to first lieutenants. Lt. Yeager comes from Greenville, Ala., and Lt. Jones comes from Shreveport, La.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Officers Measure Up To Standard, Says Pitts

June 5, 1943

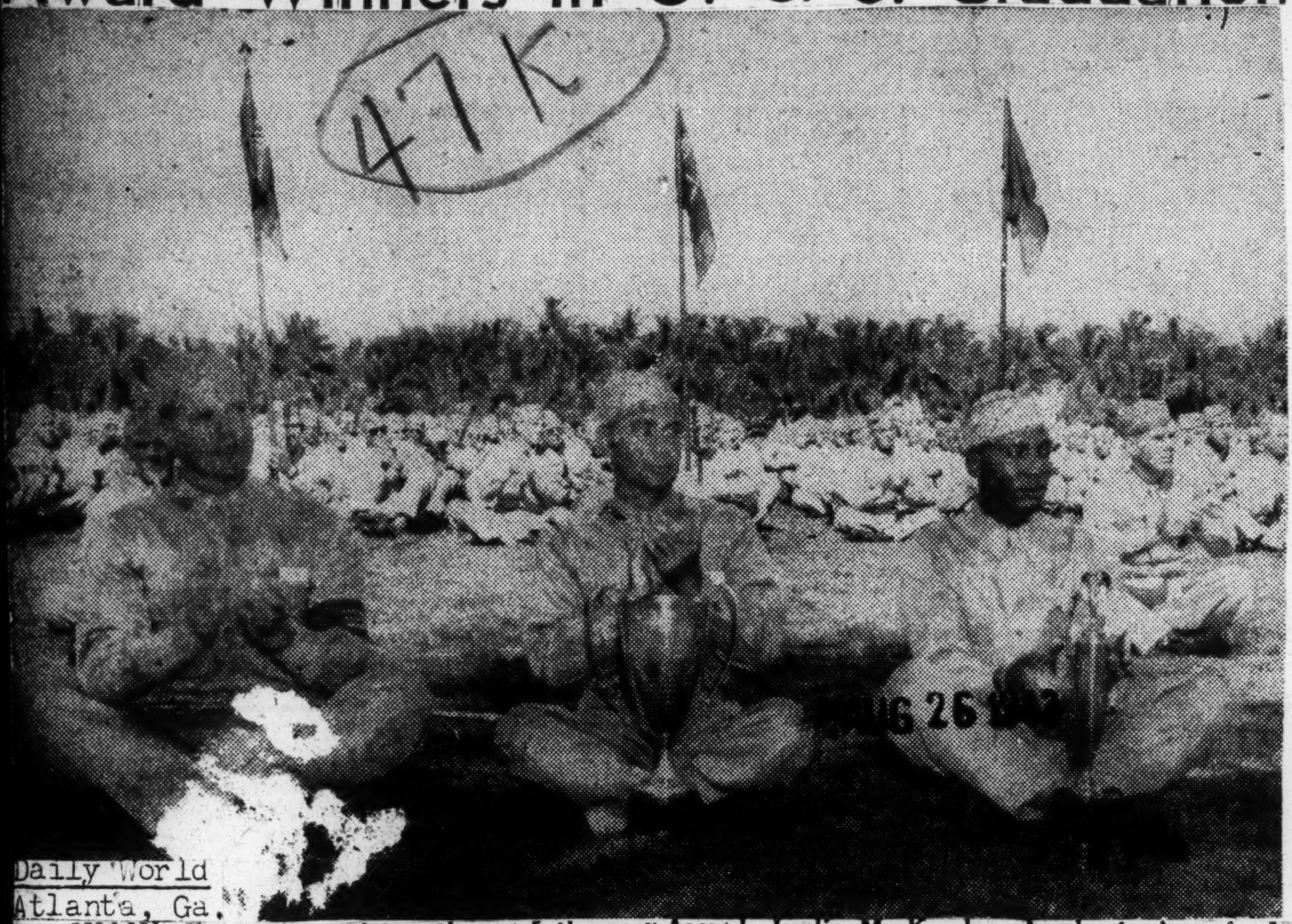
CAMP McCLELLAN, Ala., July 3—(ANP)—Negro officers are measuring up to the standard to everyone's satisfaction, reports Col. Anderson F. Pitts, now on an inspection tour through the Carolinas, Florida, Georgia and Virginia.

Colonel Pitts reports his recent assignment to the Inspector General's department most interesting, that he is being well received wherever he goes, and that he has had no unpleasant experiences thus far.

"It is interesting to see the great progress being made by our troops," he said. "Our officers are measuring up to the standard to everyone's satisfaction."

47k-1943

Award Winners In O. C. S. Graduation



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AUG 26 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

MIAMI, Fla. [illegible]ed are three of the men who won awards upon their graduation from the Army Air Forces Officer Candidate School in Miami Beach. L. to R., Ralph D. Young, Military Award; Leslie M. Kessler, Academic Award; Joseph G. Echols, Athletic Award. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black addressed the graduating class—(International News Photo.)

AUG 26 1943

Eleven Graduated as Officers from U.S. Army Pacific School

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 2 1943

New Quartermaster Lieutenants Include a Graduate Physician; Outfit to Have Colonel

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in S.W. Pacific

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AUSTRALIA—(By Cable, Censored)—The U.S. Army Officer Candidate School on Tuesday graduated 636 successful candidates for commissions as second lieutenants, eleven of whom are former members of crack colored quartermaster and port battalion units.

Lieut. [illegible] Freeman, 2109 Masters Street, Phila., former instructor at Sultzberger Junior High School, was graduated from the school's administration section. He is the first colored candidate to complete this course.

Lieuts. Howard Williams and Walter B. Seagrave, both of Los Angeles, completed transportation corps courses. Williams was attending Los Angeles City College when inducted. Seagraves was at Wiley when he decided to volunteer.

8 Quartermasters

Members of the class graduated from the Quartermaster section are:

Lieuts. Eugene Love, St. Louis, a former hotel headwaiter; John L. Turner, Dallas, Tex., who had just set up medical practice when inducted; Edward H. Henderson, Emporia, Kans., former salesman; James R. Grimm[illegible], Keokuk, Iowa, former chauffeur and night school student;

Lieuts. Melvin M. Hatcher, Seattle, Wash., who was attending U. of Washington when inducted; Welton Biggs, Suffolk, Va.; Frank Marshall, Butte, Mont., and Maurice Burke, Baltimore.

Battle Veterans Included

The latter two this correspondent has never seen. They vamoosed so quickly after the ceremony and their names had to be obtained from official sources.

Many of the class have seen service in some forward area as enlisted men. Three members of the class, white, were decorated prior to graduation.

Most speculation on where our new officers will be assigned points to a port battalion on duty in New Guinea. This outfit will reportedly soon have all colored officers. Its table of organization calls for a lieutenant colonel.

Brothers Meet

Among the hundreds of persons attending the graduation exercises was Officer's Steward 2C George W. Seagrave, whose brother was among the graduates. They had not seen each other since they both decided to become charges of their Uncle Sam three years ago.

Steward Seagrave's ship docked in Australia the day before graduation. When they met in a service club recognition took several minutes. The sea-going Seagrave has grown a beard.

Warrant Officer Appointed

Another of our boys recently added to the officers' ranks is Lovar P[illegible], 763 W. 31st Street, NYC, who was appointed warrant officer in the special services branch last week. He will serve in a forward area.

Recently arrived from the States is 1st Lieut. William S. Brinkley, Chicago, chaplain of an aviation engineer outfit.

Easterners Seen

Two Washingtonains in the outfit are T/Sgt. Theodore Lacy, 1840 Biltmore Street, who attended Howard University and Miner Teachers' College, and Sgt. Elias Howard, 1046 Forty-eighth Street, Northeast, a graduate of Dunbar High School; Master Sergeant in the unit is Robert N. Smith of Philadelphia.

Another officer recently arrived from the States is 1st Lieut. J. T. Brown, chaplain, whose father heads Nashville's Baptist publishing house. His job is a very interesting one.

OCT 2 1943

List Other Promotions

Other promotions were:

James E. Smith, Phoebus, Va., to corporal; Andrew S. Byrd, Freedricksburg, Va., to staff sergeant; John Neil, Houston, Texas, to technician fifth grade; Lorenzo Mendie, Baltimore, to technician fourth grade;

Charles E. Hopkins, Sandy Springs, Md., to technician fifth grade; Charles F. Williams, Los Angeles, to staff sergeant; Robert E. Newsome, Norfolk, Va., to first sergeant and Adler J. Houston, Los Angeles, to sergeant.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

2 Colored Officers in Trinidad BWI

DEC 4 1943

By ARTHUR RYAN

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, BWI. — Highest ranking officer of the colored troops here is Captain Arthur R. Howard of Minneapolis, senior chaplain.

When I reached Captain Howard I found a dozen persons waiting. Captain Howard said that there were many difficult problems which usually arose between the soldiers and members of the public, particularly women. Chaplain Howard, who has been here seventeen months, was formerly pastor of the Methodist Church in Minneapolis. He has been in the army four years.

He is a graduate of Boston University. Mrs. Howard, his wife, is now residing with her parents in Mississippi.

Lieutenant from Newark

Another colored officer is Lieutenant Leo J. Guy of Newark, N.J. He joined the army as a private three years ago. After four months, he was made a corporal and one month later was raised to sergeant. At the end of fifteen months' service he went to the Adjutant General School in Washington where he was graduated and commissioned a second lieutenant.

Lieutenant Guy, who arrived in the colony a year ago, was a postal clerk in Newark before he went into the service. He has a sister, Lieut. Dorothy Guy of the WAC, at Fort Bragg, N.C. His mother and father are residing in Newark, N.J.

Promoted To Major

DEC 8 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Major William E. Allen, Jr., who is situated at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He was recently promoted from captain.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Leader of Negro Air Squad Back

PM's Bureau

SEP 12 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., 30, who led the first Negro air force unit to see combat action, is back home from the Mediterranean to take on a bigger job of preparing a larger Negro unit for battle.

Davis, one of the Army's youngest colonels, led the 99th Fighter Squadron in daily dive-bombing missions over Pantelleria and Sicily. For its activities the squadron officers, including Davis, were awarded a number of distinctions.

At a press conference, Davis disclosed [illegible] he has been assigned to the [illegible] Fighter Group, consisting of three squadrons, now stationed at Selfridge Field, Mich.

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4 Graduated from Army Med. Schol

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. — Four officers, two of them captains, were part of the thirty-eighth officers' class graduated Thursday from the Medical Field Service School after completing six weeks' training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

They are: Capts. Clifton B. Cooper, dental corps, of Roxbury, Mass., and Emanuel R. Ferguson, medical corps, of Philadelphia; Carl S. Jenkins of Wilberforce, Ohio, and Stephen B. Stanford of Norristo[illegible], medical corps.

Capt. Cooper received his D.D.S. from Harvard dental school; Capt. Ferguson and Lieut. Jenkins are Meharry medical grads, and Lieut. Standford is a Howard medical grad.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

TWO NEGRO PRESS OFFICERS NAMED

WASHINGTON. Aug. 12—The

[illegible] of Captain Homer B. Roberts, Signal Corps, and First Lieut. Daniel E. Day, Field Artillery, [illegible] the press branch, War Department [illegible] Bureau of Public Relations, [illegible] announced by the War Department. They are the first Negro officers [illegible] assigned to the bureau.

Gets Commission

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 16 [illegible]

Mildred Turk of Atlanta was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Women's Army Corps on Dec. 11 upon completion of the eight weeks officer training course at the Third WAC Training C[illegible] Fort Oglethorpe, G[illegible] She is the daughter of Mrs. A[illegible] Janie Turk, of 86 Pratt Street, Atlanta.

DEC 16 [illegible]

4 15

'Top' in U. S. Navy

THE HIGHEST RANKING Negro in the U. S. Navy is Lieut. (jg) Clarence Samuels of the U. S. Coast Guard. A native of Panama, Lieut. Samuels has spent 23 years in the Coast Guard, during which time he has served in charge of a cutter in Savannah, Ga. harbor, in charge of the CG unit at Pea Island, near Manteo-Roanoke, N. C., and at the CG Training Station, Manhattan Beach, N. Y. He is known throughout the service for his excellence as a signalman and marksman. His ribbons indicate p[illegible]rl Harbor Service, Pea[illegible] action, Amer[illegible] Theatre of War action, [illegible]ean mid-eastern campaign, expert pistol shot and his good conduct ribbon has four bars.—U. S. Navy Photo via OWI.

DEC 16 [illegible]

47k

OCT 6 [illegible]

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

SELECTIVE SERVICE ASSISTANT MADE COLONEL—Colonel Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to Major General Lewis P. Hershey, head of Selective Service, was recently promoted from lieutenant colonel, to his present rank. Col. Johnson is shown with his aide, Captain Benson D. Mitchell. (War Department Photo from OWI)

Selective Service Aide Now Colonel

Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Back at his desk in the headquarters of the Selective Service System after 32 days abs[illegible] Colonel Campbe[illegible] Johns[illegible] executive assistant to Selective Service Director Major General Lewis B. Hershey, had completed a 3,400-mile tour of Army induction stations from North Carolina to Louisiana, and had been promoted from lieutenant-colonel to colonel.

OCT 6 [illegible]

4

On his tour of induction stations, Colonel Johnson sought answers to these questions: Why the high rate of Negro rejections for failure to pass the Army's minimum intelligence standards and the low percentage of those meeting the Army's physical requirement standards?

"I concluded my tour with the conviction that the root of the trouble lies in the inadequate educational facilities available to Negro youth, which result not only in lower intelligence but also in lower standards of health as a direct consequence," he said in an interview.

MUST HAVE CHANCE

"Negro youth must be given a chance. Because they have not been given equal opportunities for learning, the Army is paying the penalty. However, the Selective Service has managed, despite these handi[illegible] to recruit eligible youths to [illegible] extent that today Negroes comprise above 10 per cent of the men inducted into the armed forces through the Selective Service System.

OCT 6 [illegible]

Colonel Johnson, a graduate of Howard University, is a member of the board of parole on the District of Co-

Norfolk, Virginia

lumbia and of the bar of the District of Columbia and of North Carolina.

His rise in rank began in 1917 when he was promoted to first lieutenant of Infant[illegible] October, 1918, he had risen to the rank of captain, becoming a major in September, 1929. Promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1942, he received his latest elevation on September 21.

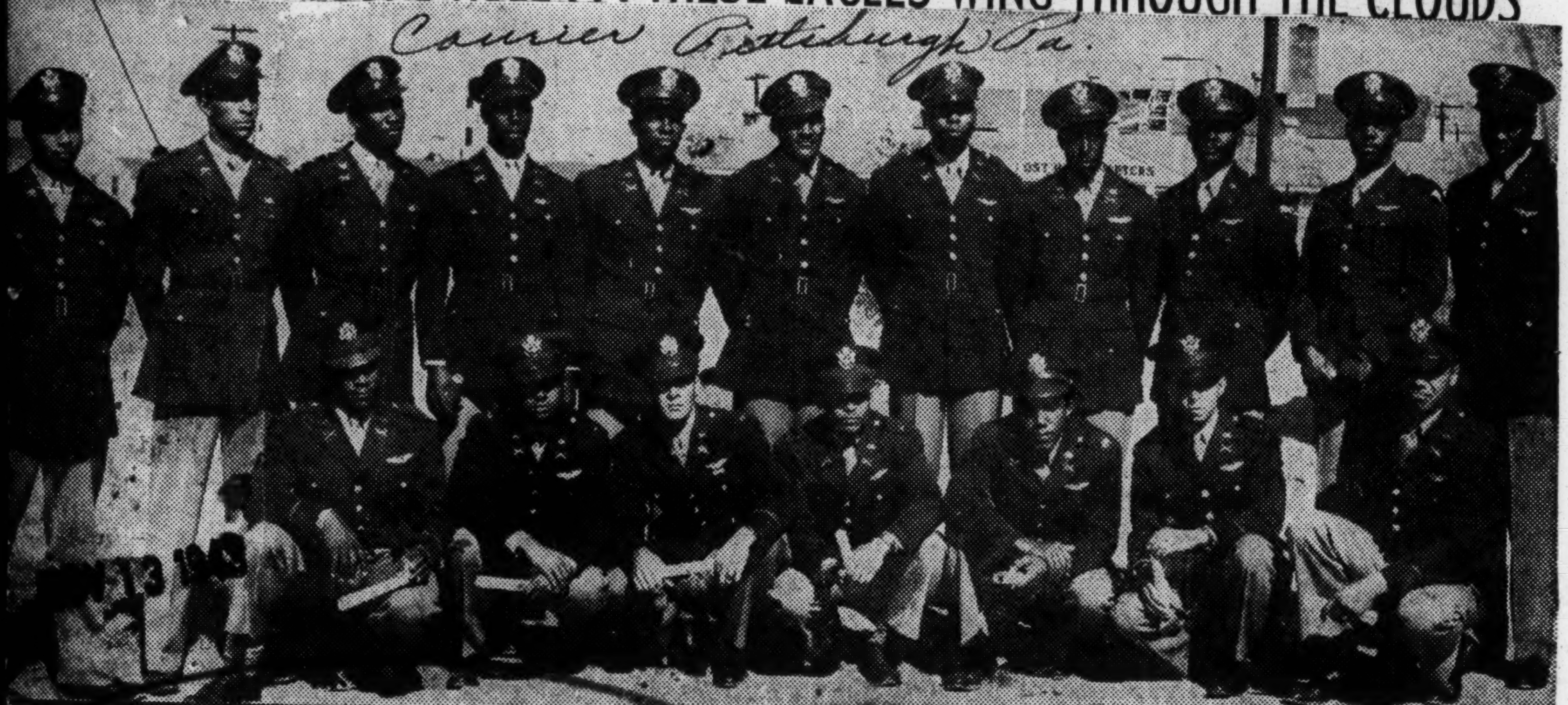
OCT 6 [illegible]

Captain Benson D. Mitchell is assistant to Colonel Johnson. He is a graduate of Howard University and was assigned to the Selective Service System in June, 1942.

47k-1943

WHILE THE CAISSONS ROLL . . . THESE EAGLES WING THROUGH THE CLOUDS

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.


NOV 13 1943

Pictured above is the most recent class of liaison pilots from the Field Artillery to complete their training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Shown from left to right (kneeling) are: 2nd Lieut. John [illegible] Code, Houston, Texas; 1st Lieut. John B. L[illegible]dey, B[illegible]lyn, N. Y.; 2nd Lieut. George F. Bizzell, Lancaster, Ohio; 2nd Lieut. John O. Cunningham, Kokomo, Ind.; 2nd Lieut. William J. Cleveland, Warren, Ohio; 1st Lieut. R[illegible] L. Wr[illegible], Cincinnati, Ohio; [illegible] 2nd Lieut. John [illegible], Toledo, Ohio.

Standing: 2nd Lieut. Louis K. [illegible]nks, Toledo, Ohio; 1st Lieut. [illegible]ines C. Farley, Paducah, Ky.; 1st Lieut. Terry H. Brooks, Houston, Texas; 2nd Lieut. Richard C. Chatman, Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lieut. Henry Bennett, New Orleans, La.; 1st Lt. Fred E. [illegible]ward, Chicago, Ill.; 1st Lieut. Leroy Stephens, Jr., Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lieut. Daniel C. Thomas, Akron, Ohio; 2nd Lieut. Thurston Mason, Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lieut. Paul Weathersby, Chicago, and 2nd Lieut. William M. Jordan of Chicago, Ill.—Photo by TAAF.

TWO NAMED TO PRESS SECTION IN WAR DEPT.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Chicagoans Assigned To D. C. Posts In Public Relations Office

44K

WASHINGTON — The assignment of Captain Homer B. Roberts, signal corps, and First Lt. Daniel E. Day, field artillery, to the Press Branch, War Department Bureau of Public Relations here was announced last week by the War Department.

Numerous requests for such assignments have been made, the latest of which was voiced by the National Negro Publishers Association to Assistant Secretary of War McCloy a few weeks ago.

They are the first Negro officers assigned to the bureau. Both have had considerable experience in public relations work. Captain Roberts has been assistant public relations officer at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., since assignment to that post in 1942, and Lieutenant Day was associated with the Chicago Defender for four years as picture editor.

Captain Roberts is a resident of Chicago, and has seen service in the last war with the 325th Field Signal Battalion, having enlisted as a private in 1917. He received his commission as a first lieutenant in 1918, being the first Negro to receive an appointment in signal corps. Just before the Armistice he was recommended for captaincy but was discharged before it could be put into effect.

Advertising Man

His present service began in 1942 when he was commissioned a captain and assigned as commanding officer of the military police detachment at Fort Huachuca. Captain Roberts studied engineering at Kansas State Agriculture College, after which he entered advertising field.

Lieutenant Day, also a resident of Chicago, Ill., entered the United States army in 1941 when the 8th Infantry Regiment of Illinois National Guard was federalized and became the 184th Field Artillery. He had been a member of the National Guard since 1928, and was commissioned a second lieutenant, Field Artillery in 1941 and in 1942 was promoted to first lieutenant.

His present assignment is with the 931st Field Artillery Battalion at Camp Forrest, Tenn., as battery executive officer. Lieutenant Day attended Crane Junior college, the Lewis Institute and the Chicago Art Institute.

Both officers have been on temporay duty in Washington for three days and will proceed back to their statons after which they will report to the bureau for permanent duty.

It is reported Capt. Roberts will be in charge of the Negro Press branch of the bureau.

'NOT INACTIVE', SAYS FULLER

NOV 13 1943

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

PHILADELPHIA — In a statement from the Tilton General hospital, Fort Dix, N. J., Chaplain Luther M. Fuller denied a claim made by the Rev. W. H. Jernagin, in a letter to Secretary of War Henry Stimson, that he (Fuller) had been placed on the inactive list.

"That is just one hundred per cent untrue," declared Chaplain Fuller. "I received my monthly check today and I certainly would not have received it if I had lost my active status."

Chaplain Fuller also informed The Courier that he had telephoned Dr. Jernagin, informing him of the error.

NOV 13 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore. Maryland

Lieutenant Promoted at Tuskegee Field

DEC 4 - 1943

Lieut. White

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Second Lt. Frederick E. White, Jr., of Jamaica, N.Y., was recently promoted to first lieutenant at the army air field. Lt. White, who is the communication officer at this station, is married to the former Miss Bertha Oden of Beaufort, N.C. He attended City College, NYC, from 1930 to 1934.

Ben Johnson, ex-Sprint Ace, Now Officer

OCT 16 1943

NEWARK, N.J. — Benjamin Johnson, former track star at Columbia University and co-holder of world sprint marks, entered the army as a private December 5, 1942, and advanced to second lieutenant by September, 1943.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

LT. BENJAMIN JOHNSON

Ben graduated from Columbia and was captain of the track team. He toured Europe in 1937-38 with an American team.

During this time he was national champion, inter-collegiate champion and national collegiate champion, and also undefeated in European competition.

OCT 6 1943

He was a teacher at Bordentown before entering the army. He graduated from an anti-aircraft artillery school with the rank of second lieutenant, and is now stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga., as instructor in target recognition.

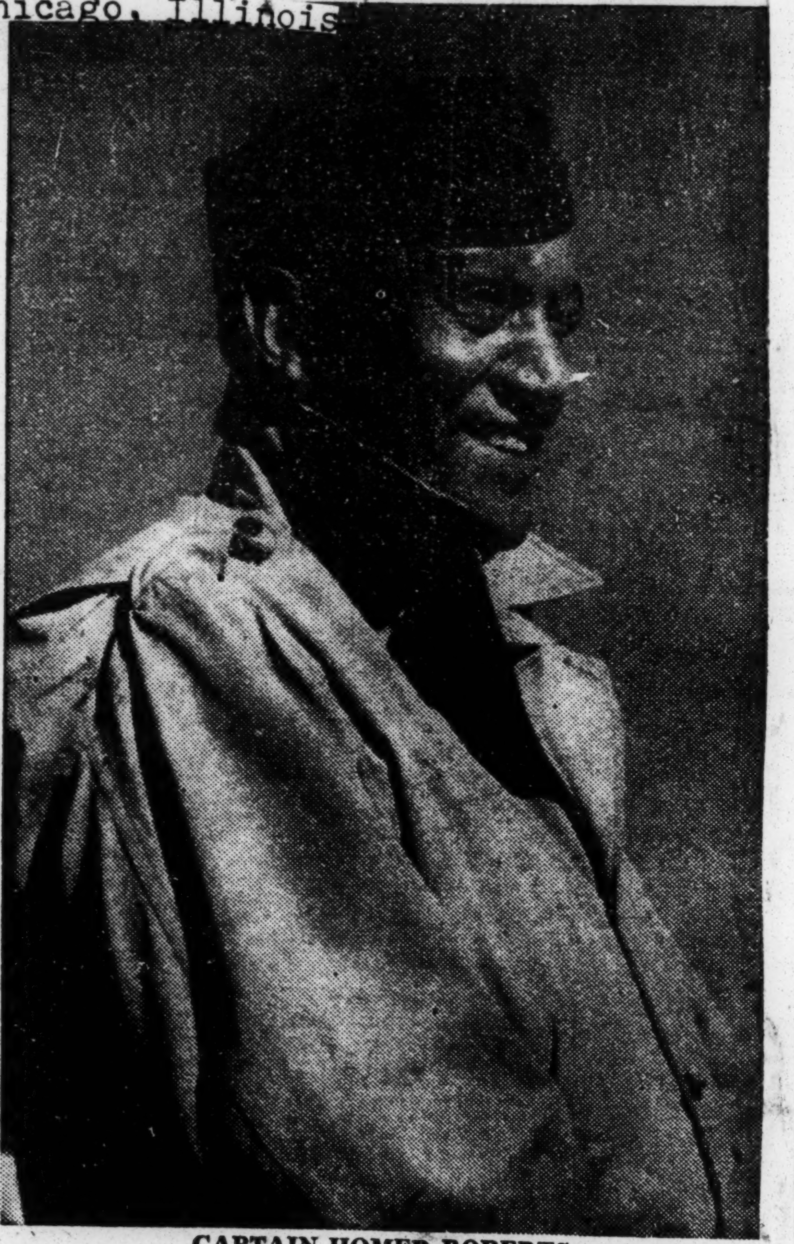
Gets Bars at Yale

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

LT. EVERETT JOHNSON, JR., son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Johnson, Sr., of Master Street, Philadelphia, who was commissioned last month after taking a special course in bombardment and armament at Yale University. Lieutenant Johnson, home on a ten-day leave to visit his mother, is stationed at Selfridge Field, Mich., as a gunner in the Air Corps. He holds a B.S. degree in physical education from Xavier College, New Orleans. His father is a Red Cross field director at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

CAPT. HOMER ROBERTS GETS POST WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois



CAPTAIN HOMER ROBERTS

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz., Aug 19—The assignment which Capt. Homer B. Roberts, commanding officer of the Military Police Detachment at Fort Huachuca, will soon take over in Washington, D. C., is another milestone in the career of a man who knows no course of action except to succeed, according to those who know him best and have followed his colorful life, both as a civilian and as a soldier in World Wars I and II.

41

It has been announced from the War Department Bureau of Public Relations that Capt. Roberts is assigned to a section of the Public Relations Office in Washington.

Trite but true is the fact that Washington's gain will be Fort Hachuca's loss. During the past nine months that Capt. Roberts has been in command of the Corps of Military Police he has made it second to none in efficiency and law enforcement on the Post. Moreover, action in the capacity of press relations laison officer he has made marked progress in the Post's relations with the press throughout the United States. This has been done through weekly releases prepared under his supervision and often pers[illegible] prepared and [illegible]buted to the Negro press.

Capt. Roberts' experience in World War I began in December 12, 1917, when he enlisted as a private. He was promoted to sergeant in February, 1918 and commissioned a first lieutenant in the Signal Corps April 1, 1918. He was recommended for promotion to captain September 27, 1918. Last October 3, he was recommissioned captain and served as assistant Provost Marshal until February 13, when he became commanding officer of the Corps of Military Police.

45

The success of Captain Roberts in military life is faithfully paralleled by his record as a civilian in the years between 1919 and 1942. Energetic and actful, he can be best described as a "go-getter," from the point of view of his civilian career. As an early day automobile salesman in Kansas City, he placed second in a national sales contest, and was actually declared the winner on the basis of money volume.

The Roberts Building, an imposing structure at 1826 Vine street was built by Capt. Roberts in 1923 at a cost of some $70,000—a feat even in those predepression days for a Negro motorcar dealer. At the height of his business career in Middlewest Capt. Roberts' company handled ten lines of cars and employed 54 workers, all Negroes. He was engaged in a similar capacity in Chicago, where he went into business after leaving Kansas City, Mo.

Being called back to the army ended for "the duration" his long and successful career in the automobile business; and being in the Army seems to have started Capt. Roberts off on another equally as successful career—that of public relations.

He tak[illegible]tion not only years of experience in dealing with personalities but an excellent point of view as to what is needed to give credit where credit is due for the job that the Negro is doing in World War II. His superiors at Fort Huachuca have found him helpful, loyal and faithful to duty and they agree unanimously that he deserves his new post as well as "commendation for excellent performance of duty beyond that which he has been normally expected to perform."

AUG 22 1943

First Colored Doctors Arrive in Australia

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

D.C. Physician Heads Station Hospital Unit Which Includes 15 Nurses and 100 Enlisted Men

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA (By Cable) — Major Arthur Simmons of Washington and a station hospital unit formerly at Fort Huachuca, have arrived in the Southwest Pacific area. They are the first colored doctors and nurses in this theatre of war.

The unit is made up of fifteen nurses, thirteen doctors, and nearly 100 enlisted men who serve as surgical, laboratory, or X-ray technicians, cooks, supply men, orderlies, and ambulance drivers.

47

Heading the nurses is six-foot, 200-pound soldierly First Lieut. Birdie Brown of New York City. Her assistant is Second Lieut. Louise Miller, Atlantan, who studied at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.

Morale High

The unit is now split up with nurses in one city and doctors and enlisted men in another. The morale among the nurses is high, although all except two say they were seasick coming over.

Lieut. Elena Townsend, baby of the outfit, is the only member of the contingent who is married.

Paper Misquotes Nurse

Australian papers heralding their arrival quoted one member of the group as saying, "I'm gonna get me a husband."

The nurse to whom the statement is attributed says it's a lie—most of the group have wind in their jaws and insist they "came over here to do a job: the sooner we get to it the better, and when it's finished we are going home."

Members of the Nurses' Detail, beside those mentioned, are: Second Lieuts. Marjorie Mayers, NYC; Prudence Burns, Mounds, Ill;, Claudia Matthews, Dallas, Tex.; Thelma Fisher, Boston; Beulah Baldwin, Cleveland; Dorothy Branker, Nashville, Tenn.; Joan Hamilton, Kansas City, Mo.; Bessie Parkr Evans, St. Louis, Albert L. Smith, Kansas City, Mo.; Elnora Jones, Rahway, N.J.; Inez Holmes, Norfolk, and Geneva Culpepper.

Lieut. Townsend comes from Glen Cove, La., is married to Lieut. James Gleason, and hopes to see him over here soon.

Doctors in Group

Medics in the unit include Capts. Arthur Thomas, Philadelphia; Joseph Mitchell, Kenneth Fletcher, and Rotan Lee, Philadelphia; First Lieuts. Robert Randolph, Charles Joseph, John Skinner, William Rogers, Jacob Frye, William Hendrix; Second Lieuts. Edward Booker and Lowell Burrell.

DEC 11 1943

Enlisted Men

The enlisted men are:

First Sgt. Watt Sanders, T-Sgt. Willie Yeldell, S-Sgt. Ernest Rose, T-3rd Wilbert Chatfield, Lucius Thomas; Sgts. John Meade, John Winslow, T-4th Arthur Blackstone;

Sgts. Eugene Champion, Richard Coates, Thomas Davison, Robert Falson, Billie Gavins, Chatham Horton, Warren Humphrey, Tommie McNorris, Andrew Minor, Charles Moss;

Cpls. Harry Anderson, Farris Barnes, James Bazemore, Thurman Gross, David Rogers, William Savage, James Smith, T-5th Eddie Bradford, Louie Brown, Charles Bullitt, George Burnett, Gilbert Chestnut;

Cpls. Rafael Fortier, Waldo Gaffney, Londus Garrott, Jessie Glass, Lewis Graham, George Groves, Eugene Harden, Wallace Johnson, Thurman Mathes, Harold McClain, Lawrence McKever, Lewis Merchant, Jesse Wright;

Pfcs. Saui Anderson, Jesse Brinesfield, George Edmonds, Guston McLaughlin, Swindel Pemberton, Joseph Poweil, Roscoe Rectar, Perry Simpson, Daniel Smith, Milton Smith, Ralph Turner;

Pvts. David Barnes, Orlean Berry, Willie Bledsoe, Neil Blue, Perry Boone, Marvey Boulton, Leroy Boykin, Paul Brooks, Noble Buchanan, Granville Carter, General W. Clark, Jr., Edward Culler;

Pvts. LaMorris Davis, Willie Davis, Claude Dragten, Lewis Estus, Welton Foster, Charles Frue, James Gravley, Ike Green, Walter Handy, Willie Hill, Richard Jackson, Frederick Jacobucci;

Pvts. Delbert Jones, Charles Jules, Ray Kemp, Edward Littlejohn, Ed Lang, Alonzo Malone, Howard McEachern, Henry McNeil, William Moore, Robert Montgomery;

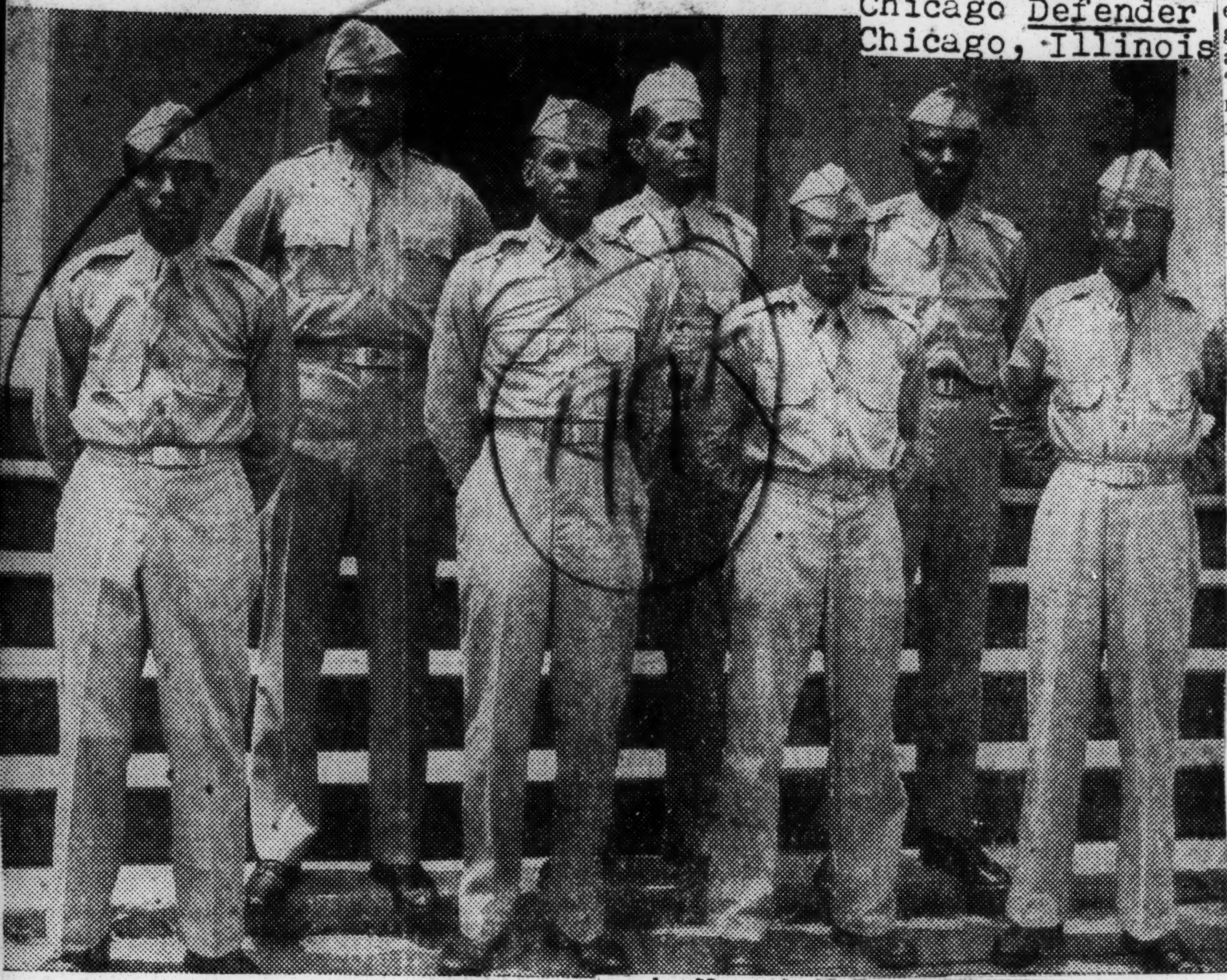
Pvts. Daniel Owens, David Pitts, Nathoniel Purifoy, Willie Simm[illegible]rry Simpson, Cleveland Ware, Eug[illegible]ls, and Jeff Wright.

Also recently arrived here are many quartermaster replacements, quartermaster truck companies, more anti-aircraft artillery troops, and aviation engineers.

47k-1943

NEW CHEMICAL WARFARE OFFICERS

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois



Among those who were commissioned second lieutenants in the Chemical Warfare school, Edgewood Arsenal, Md., at the graduation exercises of the Officer Candidate school, are these seven men. In front, reading from left to right, are Second Lieutenants Jesse L. Johnson, 1409 West Dallas street, Houston, Texas; James T. Ellerbe, 511 Pine street, Hamlet, N. C.; Siroucho Howard, 85 Benefit street, Providence, R. I., and George A. Straight, 123 Howell street, Providence, R. I. Back row, left to right, are: Second Lieutenants Harry M. Hodges, 808 Fondulac street, Muskogee, Okla.; William A. Williams, 5328 North Capitol avenue, Indianapolis; Modesto Luzanaris, 31 Pomarrosa street, Santurce, Puerto Rico.

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3 Physicians Graduate From Carlisle Barracks

AUG 7 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa.—The graduation of three Negro physicians from the Army's Medical Field Service school, Carlisle Barracks, brought to a total of 144 the number of Negro medical, dental and veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this national training center, the only military school for training Medical Department officers for field duty.

In addition 31 Negroes had been commissioned as second lieutenants here, following their graduation from the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate school which had functioned at this post until four months ago. They, with enlisted men who completed a Sanitary Technicians Course, increased to 186 the total number of Negro graduates of the Medical Field Service school.

The three Negro officers, two of them captains and one a first lieutenant, were part of the 31st officers' class graduated recently at exercises in Tugo Hall after completing six weeks of rigorous training for duty as medical officers with troops in combat.

All experienced physicians, the three Negro officers left immediately after the graduation for their respective units. The training course in medical field work at this school prepared them to be efficient Medical Department officers, capable of carrying on their professional work under war conditions.

The three officers are Capt. George W. Hill, 38, of 30 State street, Ossinning, N. Y.; Capt. William B. Fonvielle, 44, of [illegible] Indiana avenue, Chicago, Ill.; and First Lieut. Harold L. Edgehill, 37, of 417 W. 146th street, New York City, N. Y. Capt. Fonvielle and Lieut. Edgehill received their M.D. degrees from Howard university and Capt. Hill graduated from Indiana university with an M.D. degree.

AUG 7 1943

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Augusta Negro Newsman Volunteers as Chaplain

DEC 21 1943

AUGUSTA, Ga., Dec. 20.—(AP)—Douglass Hall, former associate editor of the Augusta Herald's Negro news service, has volunteered as a chaplain in the Army because "I believe t[illegible] need my service[illegible] the folks back [illegible]."

Hall has been sworn in the chaplaincy and will report at Harvard University for training January 2.

He asserted that so many people had asked why he, with his 4-D (minister's) draft classification, should give up a good job and the number of pastorless churches who are bidding for his services to become an Army chaplain.

Hall says: "Frankly, I think the American colored minister has failed in his duty to the soldier. Many are draft dodgers in every sense of the word. They are afraid to join the Army—afraid that it will cut down on their 'easy living.'

"I made my choice not because I now believe in war. I hate war. I know that it will mean weary days on m[illegible]ers, in[illegible]n foxholes, field [illegible] and long hikes. . . . But i[illegible] ever a man needed a 'sky pilot' it is on a lonely island in the Pacific, on the desert of North Africa. . . ."

DEC 21 1943

Only 2 Colored Officers in Vet QM Unit in N. Africa

Afro-American Baltimore. Md

DEC 25 1943

Lieut. Simms Says Stewart "Went Through Hell With Us"; Fulcher Misses Newspapers

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in North Africa

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS—(By Cable)—Recently promoted from the rank of second lieutenant, First Lt. Robert H. Simms is one of only two colored officers in his veteran quartermaster regiment.

The other is Chaplain William Muldrow, formerly pastor at Warrenton, N.C., and professor at Kittrell College. He is assisted by Cpl. Richard M. Marshall, Newport News, Va.

DEC 25 1943

Praises Stewart

Simms, who is from Indianapolis, Ind., was with the outfit in the thick of the North African campaign last winter serving troops under fire, but currently has a behind-the-lines assignment. He has unstinting praise for Ollie Stewart who, he says, went through "hell up there with us."

He is 28 and a Lane College graduate.

DEC 25 1943

Chaplain Muldrow, a n[illegible] of Sumter, S.C., is a graduate of Morris College and Gammon Theological Seminary. Both have been overseas over a year, having come to North Africa with the invasion forces from England.

Duke Woods Has Band

Another interesting personality I met recently was Sgt. Duke Woods of Berkley, Calif., whose 14-piece band plays regularly for the Red Cross Club dances in Oran. Significantly, he bears a striking resemblance to Duke Ellington.

Workers at the club include Millard T. Woods, Lincoln, Neb., director; Raymond E. Miller, Philadelphia, and Geneva Howard of Washington, D.C.

Willie M. Moore of Washington, D.C., also is employed by the Red Cross in Oran but at another club.

Sees Donald Wyatt

Donald W. Wyatt, Red Cross field director, of Baltimore, visited the club the same day I did. He is mapping an extension of facilities for soldiers in Italy.

Duke's music was a source of joy to the soldiers who had put in long hours of work. Many of them did jitterbug steps with French, Arab, and Spanish girls who were guests. Others just sat on the balcony and soothed their souls with the old home songs, humming them to themselves.

Fulcher Misses Papers

Sgt. Malcolm Fulcher, ex-AFRO writer, barged in to complain about the lack of newspaper delivery over here. He is with a QM outfit that came over here one year ago and has been through many bombings.

DEC 25 1943

Others I met were four members of a crack coast artillery unit which has the important task of guarding the coastal region. They are Cpl. Isaac Swanson, Yonkers, N.Y.; Pvt. Woodward Miller, Philadelphia; Cpl. Ernest Johnson, Red Bank, N.J., and Sgt. Ansley Lamar, Newark, N.J.

W. S. M. Banks Is 1st Negro Captain For 92nd Division

Defender Chicago. Ill

By SAM LACY

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

OCT 30 1943

FT. H[illegible]ACHUC[illegible], Ariz. — The 92nd Division was given its first Negro infantry captain here last week.

He is Capt. William S. M. Banks, 27-year-old graduate of Dillard university and a native of New Orleans, La. Capt. Banks is a product of the Officers' Candidate school, Ft. Benning, Ga., and his promotion to captaincy last week was his second elevation in little more than a year.

Commissioned a second lieutenant on October 10, 1942, Capt. Banks received his first promotion, to the rank of first lieutenant, on January 28, 1943. On last Wednesday, he received notice from the War Department of his promotion to captaincy.

An unassuming youth with a pleasant manner of approach, the new company commander is regarded by his superiors as "a splendid soldier." Following his graduation from Dillard, Capt. Banks had his master's degree in agricultural economics conferred on him at Fisk university. Post-graduate work was also taken at the University of Iowa.

Asked how he felt about the

OCT 30 1943

honor bestowed upon him. Capt. Banks told the Defender he felt his success was due to the cooperation he had gotten from his men.

"I feel that for anything I have achieved I am indebted to the officers and men in my company. Every man gave me, and is giving me, all that he has in him. There is no doubt in my mind that each man realizes he has a just claim to a share in the honor that has come to me and my command," the new captain declared.

Although there are high-ranking Negro officers in other branches of the 92nd, Capt. Banks is the first colored man to hold rank higher than first lieutenant in infantry in that command. Eleven others are now serving as company commanders and, according to Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond, will be promoted to captaincies upon satisfactory completion of their periods of probation.

These men are: First Lts. Ezekiel C. Smith, New Orleans, La.; Maxwell W. Vails, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Clarence H. Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.; Augustus W. Hamilton, Indianapolis, Ind.; Julian E. Miles, New York City; Charles F Gandy, Washington, D. C.; James D. McLish, Ft. Smith, Ark.; Andrew W. Walker, Tuskegee, Ala.; William E. Cooke, Cambridge, Mass.; Robert N. Hough, Washington, D. C., and Raymond F. Coles, Bronx, N. Y.

Gen. Almond told the Defender he was highly pleased with the efforts of these men and assured the writer that Negro officers will be promoted to commands "as fast as they show capacity for leadership."

OCT 30 1943

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27 Chaplains Commissioned at Harvard U.

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

12 Methodists, 12 Baptists, 1 Holiness and 2 Presbyterian

3 OF 12 SECTION LEADERS COLORED

DEC 25 1943

Class of 260, One of Smallest, Had Largest Non-White Enrollment

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Twenty-seven of the 260 men in the nineteenth class of the U.S. Army Chaplains' School at Harvard University here Tuesday at formal exercises held in Sanders Theatre were colored.

47K

Token diplomas were delivered to the twelve section leaders, three of them colored, by Chaplain (Colonel) William D. Cleary, commandant of the school. Although the class was one of the smallest, it had the largest colored enrollment of any previous class.

DEC 25 1943

All of the chaplains commissioned directly from civilian life assume their assignments as first lieutenants. The next class, the training period lengthened by one week, will open January 6 and continue for five weeks.

12 Methodists, 12 Baptists

Among the 27 graduates were 12 Methodists, 12 Baptists, 2 Presbyterians, and 1 of the Church of God. Their names, place last served as civilian clergyman and denominations are as follows:

Lorenzo D Bennett, Tampa, Fla., AME; Charles C. Blake, Dalton, Ga., AME; Charles W. Blalock, Mumford, N.Y., Baptist; William M. Conyers, Rock Hill, S.C., Methodist; William J. Colvin, Gadsden, Ala., CME; Rufus A. Cooper, Oakland, Cal., AMEZ;

Lee A. Cousin, Tampa, Fla., AMEZ; Robert Crawford, Jr., Nashville, Tenn., Baptist; Alfred G. Dunston, Jr., Atlantic City, N.J., AMEZ; Lewis Z. Eichelberger, Irmo, S.C., Baptist; Edward W. Gantt, Pittsburgh, Pa., Methodist; Chalmers F. Gaithers, Los Angeles, Cal., Baptist;

DEC 25 1943

Rufus L. [illegible], Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Baptist; John J. Jenkins, Milton, Pa., AME; Nathaniel S. Jones, Stillwater, Okla., Baptist; William L. Jones, Macon, Ga., Baptist; Clifton M. Morgan, Tampa, Fla., Church of God; Sanford N. Peak, Kimball, W.Va., Baptist;

James R. C. Pinn, Pittsburgh, Pa., Baptist; King D. S. Pogue, Anderson, S.C., Presbyterian; William A. Scott, Kansas City, Mo., Baptist; Albert L. Smith, Louisville, Ky., Presbyterian;

James F. W. Stewart, Amherst, Mass., AMEZ; Melvin C. Swann, Coffeyville, Kan., AME; Marion P. Swisher, Flagstaff, Ariz., Baptist; William T. Watts, Palestine, Texas, Baptist; Arthur D. Williams, Columbus, Ohio, Methodist.

New Haven Minister Now Army Chaplain

Afro-American

DEC 18 1943

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — The Rev. John H. Edwards, rector of St. Luke Episcopal Church and a State Guard officer, was recently granted a leave from his parish to enter the chaplains' school at Harvard University, Boston.

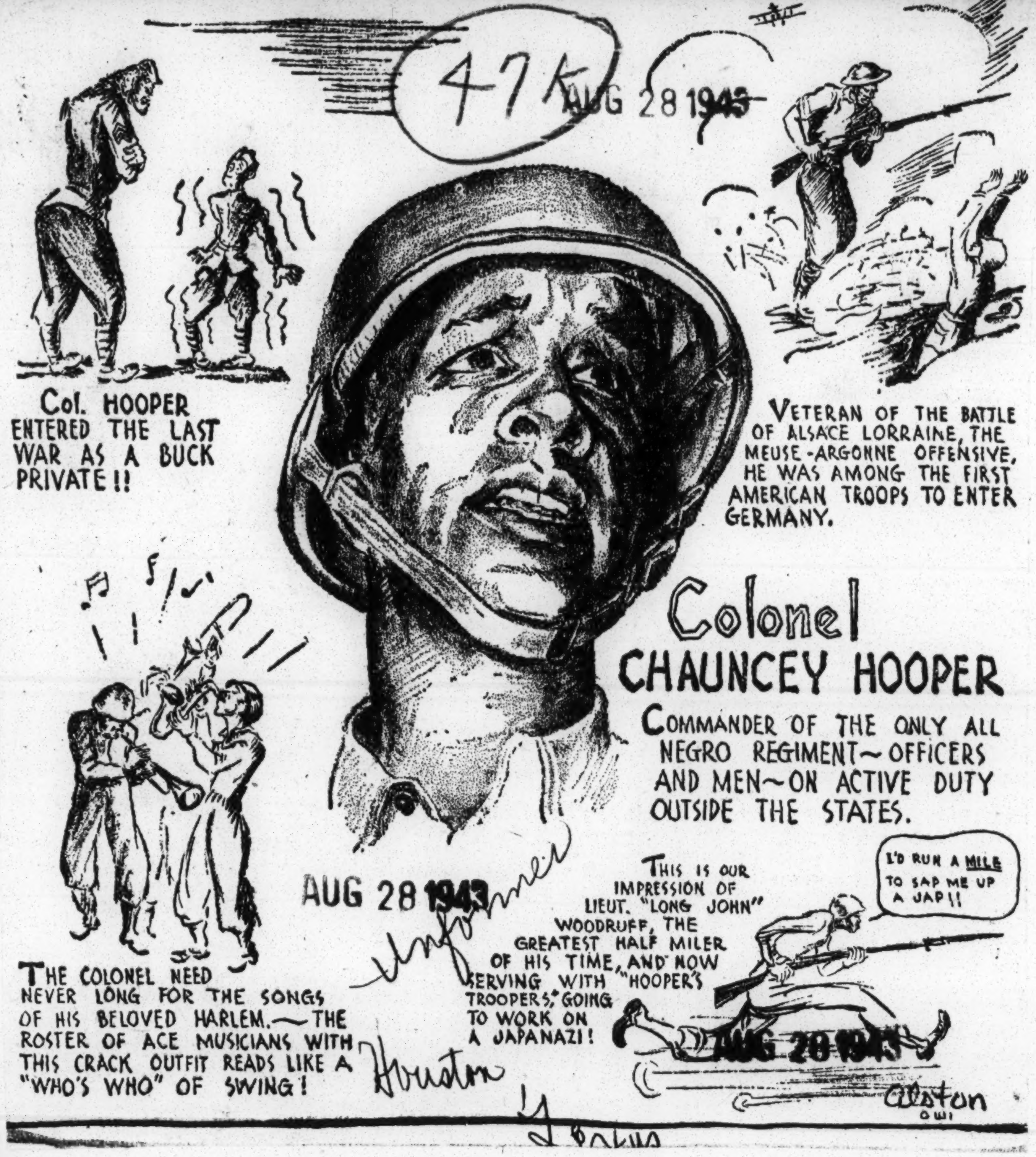
Rev. Edwards

47K

Baltimore, Md.

The Rev. Mr. Edwards, who was appointed second lieutenant of infantry by Former Governor [illegible], is camouflage officer of the Second Battalion (white) of the Second Military District of Connecticut.

DEC 18 1943


Col. HOOPER ENTERED THE LAST WAR AS A BUCK PRIVATE!!
VETERAN OF THE BATTLE OF ALSACE LORRAINE, THE MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE, HE WAS AMONG THE FIRST AMERICAN TROOPS TO ENTER GERMANY.
Colonel CHAUNCEY HOOPER
COMMANDER OF THE ONLY ALL NEGRO REGIMENT ~ OFFICERS AND MEN ~ ON ACTIVE DUTY OUTSIDE THE STATES.
THE COLONEL NEED NEVER LONG FOR THE SONGS OF HIS BELOVED HARLEM.—THE ROSTER OF ACE MUSICIANS WITH THIS CRACK OUTFIT READS LIKE A "WHO'S WHO" OF SWING!
THIS IS OUR IMPRESSION OF LIEUT. "LONG JOHN" WOODRUFF, THE GREATEST HALF MILER OF HIS TIME, AND NOW SERVING WITH "HOOPER'S TROOPERS," GOING TO WORK ON A JAPANAZI!
I'D RUN A MILE TO SAP ME UP A JAP!!
Alston OWI

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AUG 28 1943

AUG 28 1943

AUG 28 1943

Informer

Houston

Texas

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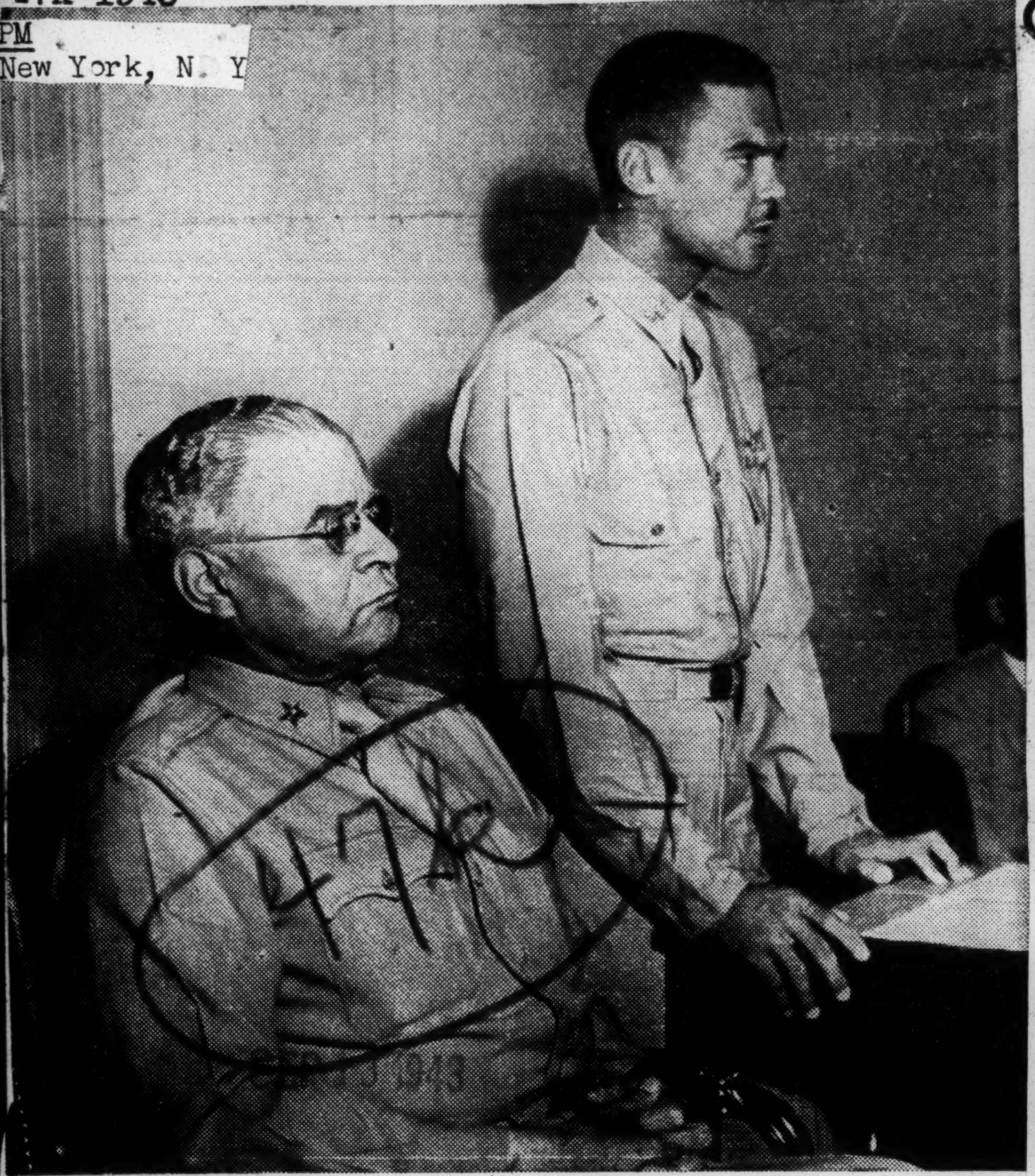
PM
New York, N. Y



SEP 3 1943

Negro Hero Home From Sicily

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., just back from Sicily, where he commanded an all-Negro fighter squadron, stands beside his father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., of the Inspector General's Office, at a War Dept. press conference in Washington. Lt. Col. Davis now goes to Selfridge Field, Mich., to train three more all-Negro squadrons for the 33d Fighter Group. *U. S. Army Photo*

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23 Chaplains End Course at Harvard's Army School

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

12 Methodists, 7 Baptists and 4 Presbyterians, Included; 2 Marylanders in List

NOV 13 1943

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Twenty-three of the 329 chaplains who left Cambridge Friday for fighting fronts and base camps all over the world after the eighteenth commencement at the U.S. Army Chaplain School at Harvard were colored.

The graduation was held in Sanders Theatre and a graduation review on the Washington Elm Common, with music by the 241st Coast Artillery Band. Chaplain Edmond J. Griffin of the Air Service Command, Patterson Field, Ohio, delivered the graduation address. [illegible] diplomas were delivered to the twelve section leaders, two of whom were colored, by Col. William D. Cleary, commandant of the school.

240 Have Finished

Since August, 1942, approximately 240 colored chaplains have attended the Harvard Chaplain School with the present class having one of the largest colored enrollments. To the chaplains, their assignments will be their first taste of army life, as they were civilian clergymen six weeks ago.

Graduates

Among the twenty-three colored graduates were 12 Methodists, 7 Baptists, and 4 Presbyterians. They are:

Lorenzo A. Alexander, Knoxville, Tenn., Baptist; George E. Allen, Philadelphia, Pa., Baptist; William C. Bouchelion, Frierson, La., Presbyterian; James Clement, Cambridge, Mass., AME Zio[illegible] William [illegible] Dandridge, Greenwoo[illegible] AME; M[illegible] L. Darnell, Dallas, Tex., AME; Nelson H. Dixon, San Antonio, Tex., AME; Clarence Guthrie, Paris, Tenn., Methodist; William R. Gray, Charleston, Miss., Baptist;

John W. Handy, Oriole, Md., Methodist; Thomas J. B. Harris, New York City and New Jersey, Presbyterian; Gerald L. Hayden, South Bend, Ind., AME; Marlin J. Hendrieth, Jefferson, Ind., AME; William H. Hightower, Canton, Miss., Methodist; Van J. Malone, Chambers, Ga., Baptist; Carlos M. May, Atlanta, Ga., AME;

Edmund J. O'Neal, Ramer, Ala., AME Zion; Clarence H. Richmond, Savannah, Ga., Presbyterian; King D. Reddick, Bradenton, Fla. (Washington, D.C.), Baptist; Levi L. Stanmore, Washington, D[illegible] Baptist; Charles L. Tarter, Paterso[illegible] [Mary[illegible] Presbyterian; Henry E. Thornton, [illegible]lanta, Ga., AME; Frank L. White, Manassas, Va. (Washington, D.C.), Baptist.

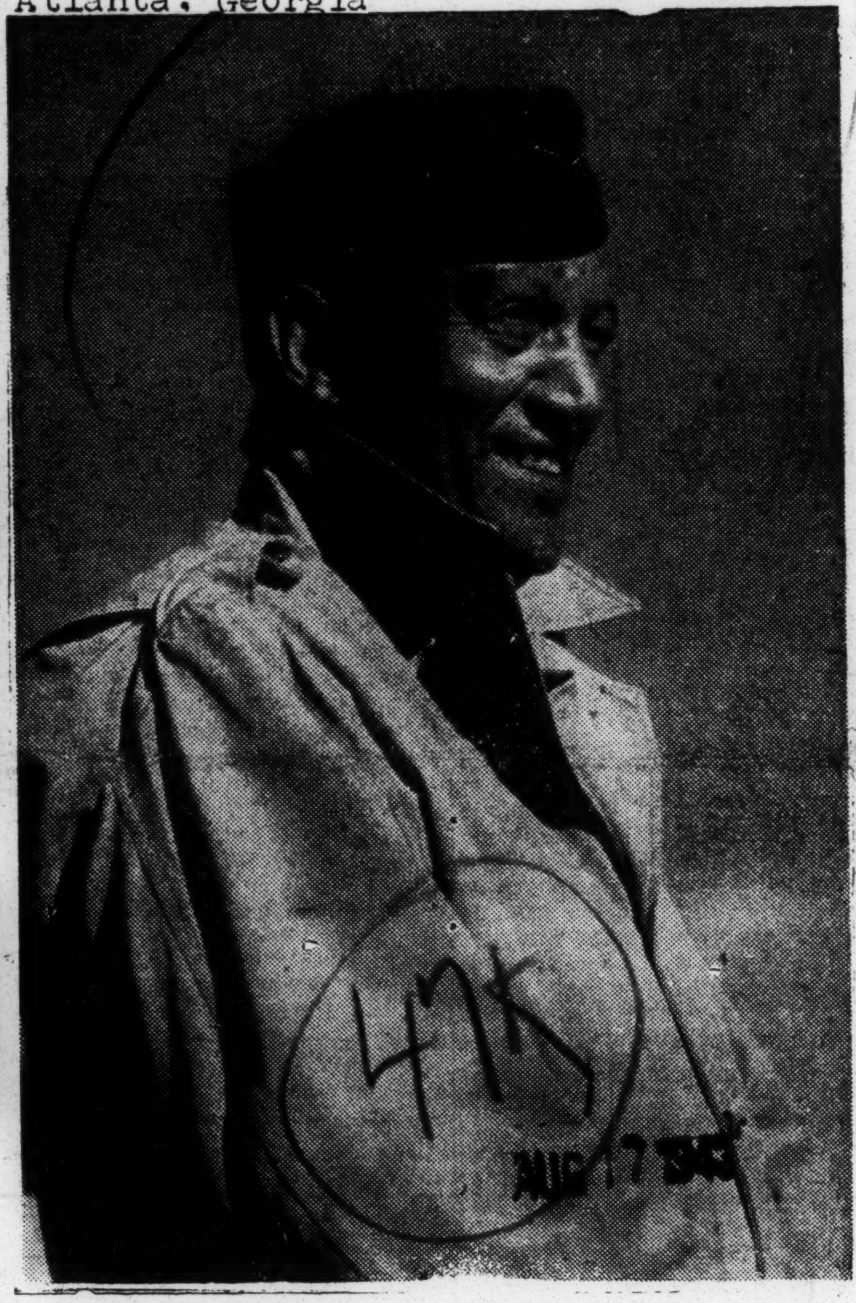
Course Extended

The school term has been extended f[illegible] weeks, the school week from five days to six days, and the daily period lengthened from 4 to 5 o'clock. The academic subjects are divided into three groups. The new sequences are "Practical Duties of the Chaplain and Army Administration"; "Army Organization, Customs and Courtesies of the Services," "Defense against Chemicals, and Graves Registration," "Army Morale, Counselling, Military Discipline and Military Law."

The new class for the five-week chaplain school began October 10.

Going To Public Relations

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



AUG 17 1943

CAPTAIN HOMER ROBERTS

—Commanding Officer of the Fort Huachuca Military Police Detachment, who will soon take over a new assignment with a section of the War Department Public Relations [illegible]ce in Washington. He began his military career in [illegible]mber, 1917, was commissioned a first lieutenant April, 1918 and was promoted to a captain on September 27, 1918. He was recommissioned a captain last October 3. Before returning to th army, he was an automobile dealer in Chicago.

AUG 17 1943

CAMP HOOD OFFICERS RECEIVE PROMOTIONS

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

AUG 2 1943

CAMP HOOD, Texas — (ANP)— While the pioneer platoon of the reconnaissance company broke a post record for putting a three-quarter ton jeep across an unfordable stream, it was disclosed that three enlisted men attached to the 795th Tank Destroyer battalion had been promoted.

The soldiers winning promotions are:

First Lieutenant Thomas Monroe Campbell, assigned to the medical corps, who was made a captain.

First Lieut. Rudolph Raymond Billups, assigned to the dental corps who also won a captaincy.

Second Lieut. Walker Mifflin Blake, who was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

Capt. Campbell, whose home is in Tuskegee, Alabama, is a graduate of the Meharry Medical School and Carlisle Barracks, where he pursued military field medicine. He is married to Mrs. Helen Campbell.

Capt. Billups is from San Antonio, Tex., where his wife, Priscilla, resides. He was graduated from Meharry's dental school.

First Lieut. Blake of Danby, Pa., is an alumnus of Wilberforce University. He has a mother, Mrs. Margaret Blake.

The new jeep-moving record of nine minutes, 19 seconds abolished the old-time of 10 minutes, 30 seconds. Capt. George Rose of Chicago commands the title holding company.

Capt. Roberts New Commander Of 99th

Defender
Chicago, Ill

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Capt. George S. Roberts, of Fairmont, W. Va., was named last week as the new commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, succeeding Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who a few days after the announcement of Roberts' promotion was back in the United States.

CAPT. GEORGE S. ROBERTS

Lt. Col Davis is believed to have been recalled to this country for the purpose of heading up the 332nd Fighter Group, soon to be graduated from training at Selfridge Field, Mich., air base. The 332nd, it is assumed, will soon be ready for overseas duty.

Captain Roberts was formerly operations officer and second in command of the 99th. He is regarded as one of the most capable airmen in the North African theatre and is considered a wise choice for the job of leading the unit in the coming stages of the fast-developing action on the continent

Almost simultaneous with the announcement of the change in command came word that Gen. Dwight Eisenhower has approved decorations for 26 pilots of the 99th, all of whom are slated to receive the air medal, coveted army award for meritorious achievement against the enemy. Cited were:

Davis Among Group

Lt. Col. Davis and Capts. Lemuel Custis, Hartford, Conn.; Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind.; and George S. Roberts, the new commander.

First Lts. Willie Ashley Jr., Sumter, S. C.; George R. Bolling, Phoebus, Va.; Sidney P. Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio; Samuel R. Bruce, Seattle, Wash.; William A. Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala.; Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss.; Herbert Clark, Cleveland, Ohio; Charles W. Dryden, New York City; Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C.; Clarence C. Jamison, Cleveland, Ohio.

First Lts. James B. Knighten, Tulsa, Okla.; Allen G. Lane, Demopolis, Ala.; Walter I. Lawson, Newton, Va.; Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, Ohio; Paul G. Mitchell, Washington, D. C. (reported killed in action); Lewis R. Purnell, Germantown, Pa.; Lee Rayford, Washington, D. C.; Graham Smith, Ahoskie, N. C., and James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Bids Flyers Farewell

Second Lts. Leon C. Roberts, Pritchard, Ala.; John W. Rogers, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J.

Summoned on September 1 to North African Air Force headquarters in Sicily, Lt. Col. Davis flew his own plane there and received the orders which sent him back to Washington. Returning to his own headquarters, he told the men of the transfer and shook each of them by hand. In simple words he expressed regret at having to leave and assured them, 'It has been a great honor to have commanded such a unit."

A week before Lt. Col. Davis' switch, eight replacements arrived at the 99th base, having been flown there across the Atlantic. It was the first time in history that Negro army pilots have flown the Atlantic. While it is not generally known how they came, it is assumed the men ferried across by the Army Transport Command.

New Men Number 12

The new men to join the 99th are all second lieutenants. They are: Robert W. Deiz, 24, Portland, Ore.; Edward Driver, 21, Trenton, N. J.; Herman A. Lawson, 25, Marysville, Cal.; George T. McCrumby, 25, Fort Worth, Texas; Clarence B. Mills, 23, Durham, N. C.; Henry B. Perry, 23, Thomasville, Ga.; Price D. Rice, 22, Montclair, N. J., and William H. Walker, 28, Carbondale, Ill.

The eight new arrivals bring the total of replacements to 12 for the outfit. Previously, four additions had been made, but these had arrived by water. They were: 2nd Lts. John A. Gibson, 23, of 3105 S. Parkway, Chicago; Howard L. Baugh, 23, Petersburg, Va.; Edward Toppins, 28, San Francisco, Cal., and John S. Morgan, Cartersville, Ga.

Official War Department announcement of the death in action of Lt. Paul G. Mitchell, of Washington, D. C., was couched in a terse communication, addressed to Mrs. Pauline G. Mitchell, his mother, at her home, 908 Howard Road, Southeast. The statement said that Lt. Mitchell died on August 11.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Gets Army Promotion

KENNETH L. HARDY, of the 93rd Division, who was promoted to First Lt. this week. Lieut. Hardy, a native of Washington, is now stationed with special Army Training School at Howard University.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

47K

SEP 26 1943

International photo

FATHER AND SON—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's department, U. S. army, and Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., back from command of an all-Negro air fighter squadron in Sicily.

332nd Flight Surgeon Called Man of Action

NOV 27 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore. Md

Major James Ramsey Flies With Men, Is Doctor, Psychologist. and Father Confessor

By DOUGLASS HALL
Staff Correspondent

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich.—Major James P. Ramsey, group flight surgeon for the 332nd Fighter Group, watches over the physical and mental condition of his aircrew with the solicitude of a

The duties of Major Ramsey, a graduate of Howard cine include a whole catalogue of functions. He is a man of action. He goes with the troops

Major Ramsey and flies on an an occasional mission.

There is little doubt that the role of flight surgeon is different and new. Such a person must be skilled in surgery. He must be a psychologist and father confessor, too.

He must have the intuition to know the airmen's problems and what to do about them. Medicine bottles will do nothing for a pilot whose nerves are jittery from the strain of too much flying. No surgery will help flyers whose temperaments explode.

Well Qualified for Job

He must know when to encourage, when to be blunt, when to joke and when to advise. He has to understand his men and what each one can take. He has the obligation to forbid any man to fly if he is not fit.

NOV 27 1943

Major Ramsey has made himself fit for the important task of group flight surgeon by graduating from the following American Air Force courses:

Field medicine, at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., December, 1941; aviation medicine, Randolph Field, Texas, September, 1942, and altitude physiology, McDill Field, Fla., March, 1943.

NOV 27 1943

Five Assistants

He is assisted in his duties by the following staff: Capt. Vance Matchbanks, Capt. H. B. Anderson, Lt. Bascom S. Waugh, Lt. Frank Jordan, all of the medical corps, and Capt. Franklin Beck of the dental corps. All are flight surgeons except Captain Beck.

Formerly commanding officer of the 701st Sanitary Company, Fort Bragg, N.C., Major Ramsey was assigned to Tuskegee Army Flying School in August, 1941, where he was assistant to the surgeon officer in charge of the flight examining unit and commanding officer of the Medical Detachment. He was assigned to the 332nd in January, 1943.

NOV 27 1943

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Major Ramsey interned at Mercy Hospital at Philadelphia and was later a resident surgeon under Dr. Frederick D. Stubbs at the Douglass Hospital of that city.

His wife, the former Miss Ruth Lovett, of Augusta, Ga., is with him, living in nearby Detroit.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 29 1943

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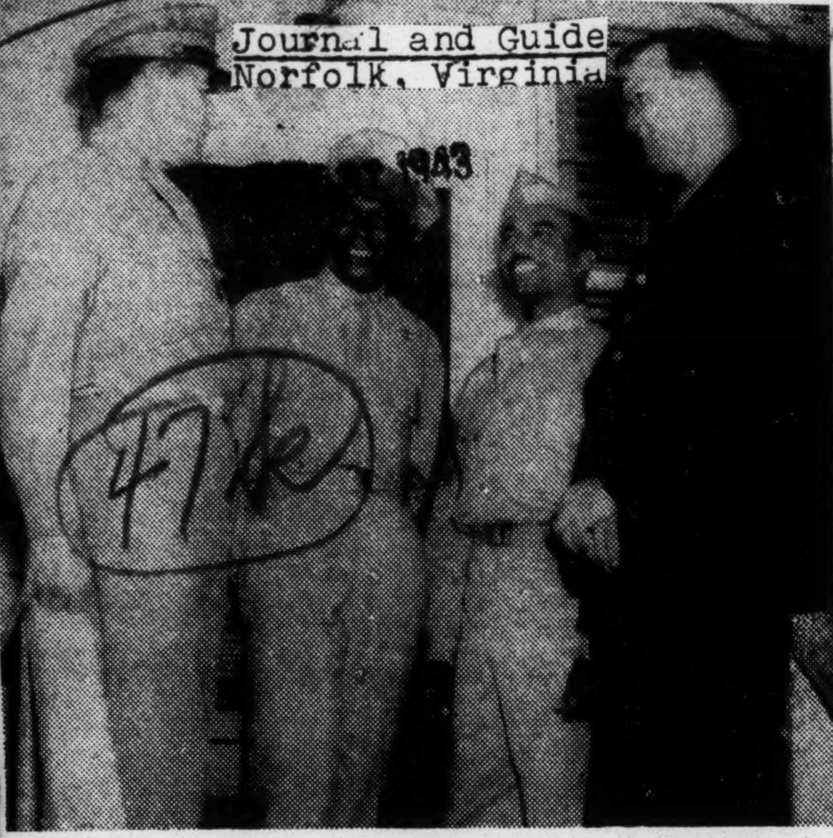

MAYBE IT WAS A GOOD JOKE—Whatever Lt. Col. Paul Giegerich, at left, chief of chaplains of the Army Air Forces Eastern Flying Training Command, from Maxwell Field, Alabama, had to say must have been in a humorous vein judging from the expressions on the faces of Lt. Stanley J. Williams, assistant post chaplain of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, second from left; Staff Sgt. Allen W. Walton, second from right; and Lt. Col. Charles I. Carpenter, right, chaplain of the Army Air Forces, of Washington, D. C. The group was snapped on the steps of the Special Service building at TAAF during one of the stops made by the visiting chaplains on a tour of the post. Photo by TAAF

Happy Moment for a Proud Dad

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

OCT 2 1943

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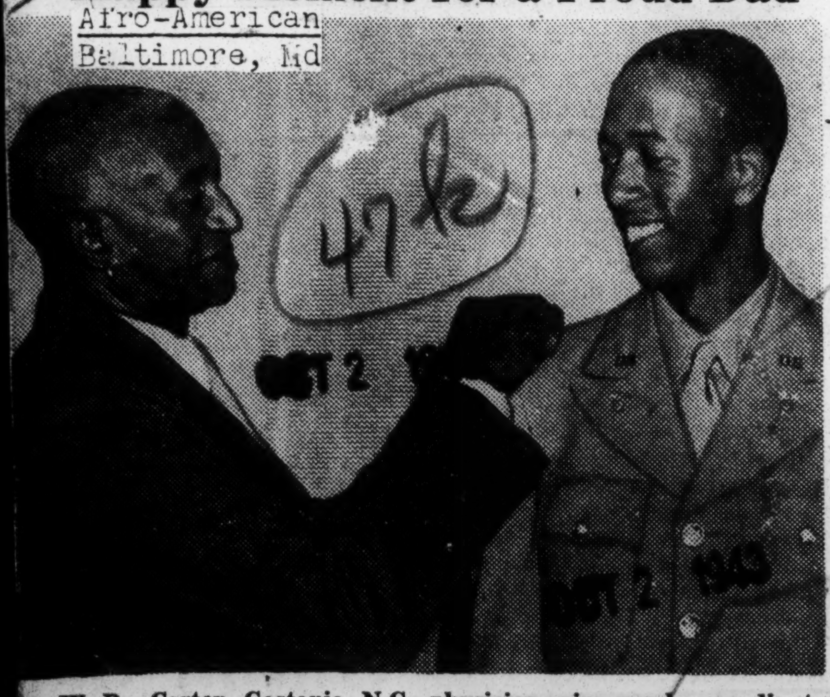

Dr. W. P. Carter, Gastonia, N.C., physician, pins newly won lieutenant's bars on the shoulders of his son, William P., Jr. Lieutenant Carter's sister, Miss Wilmuth Carter, was also present. He graduated last week at the quartermaster school. The Carters live at 218 W. Walnut Street, Gastonia.

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2 Finish MIT Army Unit as Weather Men

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

SEP 11 1943

End of 11 Months' Course Brings Air Corps Commissions

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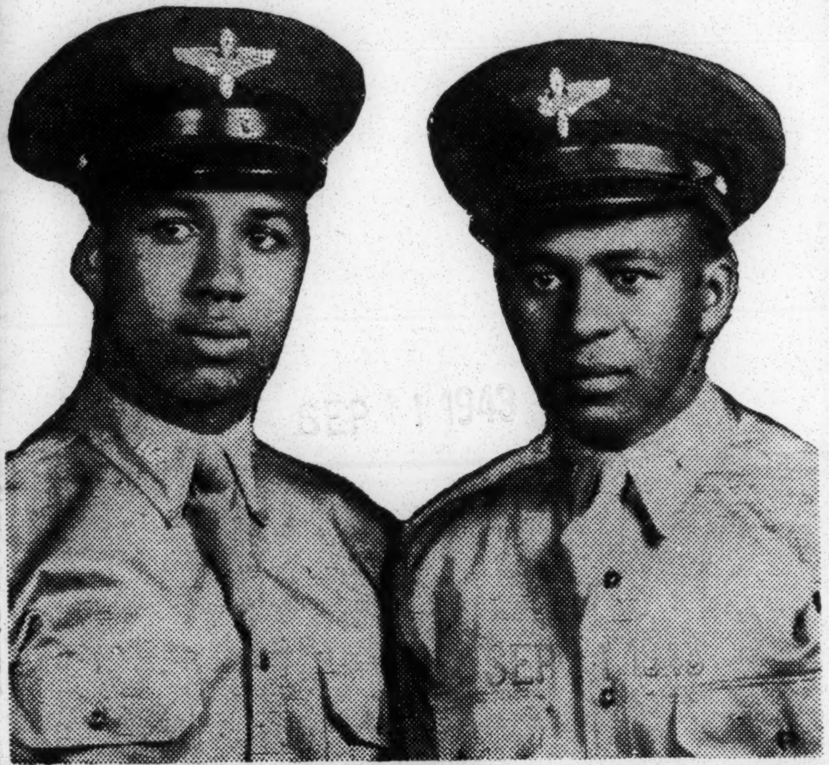

2nd Lieutenants John T. Willis of Riverton, N.J., and Robert M. Preer of Atlanta, who were commissioned in Army Air Corps Monday as weather forecasters.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — On Labor Day in this city, while Harvard University was conferring an honorary degree upon Prime Minister Winston Churchill, two colored aviation cadets were graduated from the United States Army Air Corps Meteorology School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and were commissioned lieutenants in the army air corps as weather forecasters.

They are John Thomas Willis of Riverton, N.J., and Robert Maurice Preer of St. Louis, Mo., and Atlanta, Ga. For the past eleven months they have been taking the difficult meteorology courses at MIT in Cambridge, and now as finished products will be stationed in strategic positions to aid in air combat by their ability to predict and chart weather conditions accurately.

Willis's Record

Lieutenant Willis, son of Mrs. Eleanor J. Young of Riverton, attended the Palmyra, N.J., High School and was graduated in 1942 from the Trenton, N.J., Highers' College, where he was on the track and soccer teams and in the glee club.

At the meteorology school he was a member of the Weatherman's Chorus, which broadcast frequently over Boston stations.

He was also a member of Kappa Delta Pi, national honor society for teachers, and treasurer of his college's chapter. Willis has also studied photogrammetry at Princeton University and worked in the geological survey division of the Department of the Interior for six months while continuing his studies at Howard University.

He became a member of the Enlisted Reserve on August 24, 1942, and reported to MIT as a cadet on November 7, 1942.

Preer a Chemist

Lieutenant Preer, the son of Mrs. Rose Preer Brown of Atlanta, was graduated from the Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta and from Morehouse College, with the class of 1941, obtaining a B.S. in chemistry.

He was a member of the Science and Math Club, the M Club, and one of the national directors of Delta Phi Delta, journalistic society. He later worked as postmaster at Atlanta University, and in the registrar's office there.

He volunteered in June, 1942, for meteorology training, and was called to active duty last November 9. In September, 1942, Preer married Miss Bette Banner of Boston, and on June 10, became the father of a son.

Others in Training

At present five universities — MIT, New York University, the University of Chicago, California Institute of Technology at Pasedena and the University of California at Los Angeles—are offering this highly technical training in co-operation with the army.

Five men are now in the advanced phases of meteorology in the air corps. One of the other two commissioned officers besides Willis and Preer is Lieut. Benjamin Bullock, stationed at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, and one aviation cadet is now in training in California.

Outline of the Work

Although under strict military discipline, the weatherman cadets are accorded the greatest privileges and comforts. They live in the dormitory suites once occupied by the undergraduate students at MIT, which overlooks the Charles River.

They also have the privilege of keeping up to date their highly personal "201 file," which is ordinarily kept under lock and key in personnel offices. Although they are free from Saturday at 6 p.m. until Sunday at 11 p.m., they have a full schedule throughout the week from 6:15 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Reveille at 6:15 a.m., breakfast at 6:40, police barracks, classes from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., dinner from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m., classes and laboratory periods in the afternoon and also one hour of supervised calisthenics. The essential studying is done between 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. when the lights are put out.

Get Broad Training

SEP 11 1943

Under highly trained army and civilian instructors, they study many subjects, over three semesters of eleven weeks each, that are broken by an eight-day furlough period, and with the original eight weeks' basic training, an eleven-month period is completed.

Recently the new pre-meteorology course was extended to twenty-one months. Courses covered are on the college and graduate level and include dynamic, synoptic and descriptive meteorology; climatology, oceanography, physics of the air, thermodynamics, long-range forecasting, station operation and instrumentation.

Costs $600 Per Semester

Because of the $600 per semester that the government pays MIT for the training that these men receive and the graduate level of the courses taught, MIT has agreed to grant master's degrees in meteorology to all the aviation cadets who return after the war and meet certain basic prescribed requirements.

Immediately following the graduation exercises on Monday morning, Lieutenants Preer and Willis left for their new stations.

Public Relations Men Take Posts in War Department

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

WASHINGTON

Faced with the task of assisting in gathering news about colored troops at home and abroad, Capt. Homer Roberts, Press Section, War Department, is already on the job with Lt. Daniel Day as his assistant.

1943

The first colored officers to be given official status in the Public Relations Branch, the men

SEP 4 1943

SEP 4 1943

Capt. Homer Roberts (left) and Lt. Daniel Day are shown on the job in the Public Relations Branch, War Department. They are the first colored officers to be included in the department.

lost no time in making contacts, submitting suggestions, and going about the job of getting scripts out of the department to the press.

No "Colored Section"

Strictly speaking, there is no special colored section. All reporters have the run of the department and access to unrestricted files, libraries, maps, and contact with hundreds of officers, enlisted men and civilians. However, the new officers will handle colored news exclusively.

The Pentegon Building, the War Department's city, with more than 30,000 workers, where their offices are located, is in the heart of the nervous system of the world and "hot" stories are as plentiful as feathers on a bird's back. But it will be years before many of them can be published.

"You may rest assured that we will do all we can to get all we can," Capt. Roberts told the AFRO, Monday.

Let us take a general view at the job these men are expected to put over.

General View of Job

In every theatre of war, thou- they are usually there.

They write letters back home about their activities and colored war correspondents vividly tell of their exploits, but the War Department is very often mum.

If the stories do leak out, it has often been history when it reaches the waiting friends and relatives of the fighting men. So the first task that they face is getting out more news items about colored troops abroad.

Second Part of Task

The second is to get colored troops included in War Department's pictures, specifically, those taken by the signal corps. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack trying to find pictures of colored troops even when one knows they are in a certain area. There are white pictures, but no colored included.

The writer has put this question to a number of photographers returning to this country and here is the answer that one gave:

"We have no objection to taking pictures of colored troops, but we just don't think about them. Not that they are not doing a good job, but our biggest circulation is among white papers and many of them don't use the pictures so we just don't bother.

"Perhaps we should get a few more of them, and if I return to the front, I will."

From all indications officials in the Public Relations Department are anxious to see the new officers succeed. And they will.

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SEP 4 1943

Father, Son Meet The Press

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

47k

WASHINGTON, D. C. — This father and son are pictured at a War Department press conference in Washington, D. C., reunited after the son, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., returned from Sicily, where he commanded an all-Negro air fighter squadron. The father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., seated, is of the Inspector General's department. The Lieutenant Colonel will go to Selfridge Field, Mich., to train the 332nd fighter group, another all-Negro outfit.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

World Record Holder Now Weather Officer at TAAF

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Archie Williams, former star 440 man at the University of California and a member of the 1936 Olympic track team, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field, where he will serve as a weather officer.

Lieutenant Williams received his commession upon the completion of his aviation cadet training in meteorology at the University of California at Los Angeles, on September 6.

While a cadet at [illegible]CLA, the erstwhile Californ[illegible]ddle distance sen[illegible] was awarded the coveted [illegible]sical Fitness Award for outstanding excellence in physical training activities.

A graduate of the University of California with a bachelor of science degree, Lieutenant Williams is widely known for his exploits on the cinderpath. He holds the world's record for the 400-meter dash, 46.1 seconds, made on June 19, 1936, in Chicago.

LT. ARCHIE WILLIAMS

Olympic Champion

At the Berlin Olympic Games the same year, the University of California speed merchant slowed down a bit as he copped the 400-meter Olympics crown in 46.5 seconds. Following his success at the Olympics Williams toured Norway, Sweden and Finland for exhibitions.

The former West Coast speedster was a civilian flight instructor at the 66th AAFFTD Primary Field at Tuskegee prior to his appointment as aviation cadet.

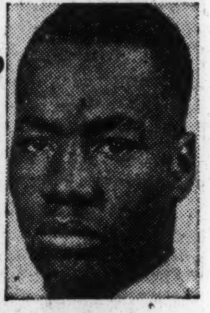
Lieutenant Williams is married to the former Miss Vesta A. Young, a University of Illinois graduate from Cairo, Ill. Lieutenant and Mrs. Williams reside at Tuskegee.

OCT 2

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

With AMERICA'S FIGHTERS

Now on duty at the Tuskegee army air field, Tuskegee, Ala., are Lt. William M. Jordan, son of Robert Jordan, 6230 Rhodes avenue, and Lt. Thurston Mason, son of Mrs. Effie Mason of 4730 Langley avenue.



Lt. Jordan.

Lt. Mason.

Lt. Jordan, a former Northwestern railroad employe, entered the army on Jan. 6, 1941, and was commissioned at Fort Sill, Okla., Jan. 7, 1943. Lt. Mason, who formerly worked for the Atlantic and Pacific Tea company, enlisted in the army Dec. 12, 1940, and also was commissioned at Fort Sill last Jan. 7.

SEP 6 1943

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SEP 11 1943

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

CAMP LEE, Va.—Among the recent graduates of Class 28, Officer Candidate School, here were (top row going down), left to right: Lts. Samuel O'Tanner Cohen, Miami, Fla.; James Maurice Cobb, Haverford, Pa.; JACK SHELTON HARVEY, West Philadelphia, Pa.; Lafayette Parker, Richlands, N. C.; and Eddie Diamond, Jacksonville, Fla.

I WRITE AS I SEE

Philadelphia Tribune

OCT 9 1943

By ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET

SWORD OF DAMOCLES

Philadelphia, Pa.

TWO months have passed since the trial of Chaplain Luther M. Fuller and still no decision has been reached. The case is shrouded in mystery and secrecy. The facts, however, are as clear as the sunlight. The Army simply has no case against the Chaplain for his brave action in exposing brutalities and atrocities to colored soldiers in the southwest Pacific.

FAUSET

The trial, for all its secret trappings and trimmings, vindicated Chaplain Fuller and condemned the Army officials involved, including the Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Army. While the officials hesitate and delay, hoping on the one hand to hold this case over the Chaplain's head like the sword of Damocles and on the other hand to save its own face, citizens all over the United States are praising the intrepid chaplain and demanding that the Army clear his name and restore him to duty.

AN ATTACK ON ALL NEGRO SOLDIERS

It is my considered judgment, after surveying such evidence as has been permitted to trickle out from the chaplain's trial, that an attempt is being made to crucify a man because he tried to make Americans practice democracy as well as preach it. But it is more than that. The action against Chaplain Fuller has as its prime motive the further suppression of the Negro people in the armed forces. God knows Negro soldiers have difficulties enough both inside and out of the Army barracks. Witness, for example, the recent indignities poured on Captain Hugh Mulzac in a railroad waiting room in Richmond, Virginia.

But certain forces in our country are determined that not only will Negroes be tormented, persecuted and short-changed even when they are giving their blood and lives in order that all people may be free, but that if they raise a voice against indignity and brutality they are to be made to pay double. The slogan for Negroes is to be, "Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to do and die."

Here is the crux of the case against Chaplain Fuller. Much as we are anxious to see the personal vindication of this brave hero, it is even more important for the hundreds of thousands of Negro boys and girls in the armed forces that the Army be compelled to establish the only fair verdict in this case, namely, the innocence of Chaplain Fuller.

ACT NOW!

If Chaplain Fuller can be wrongly convicted and cheated out of a just verdict, the future of our boys and girls in the Armed Forces is hardly worth more than the whim of any commanding officer. Under any circumstances, we will fight against Fascism; but it hardly can be claimed that fighting for the right of southern demagogues to persecute us in the Armed Forces is included in the bargain.

The Baptist Convention, under the leadership of Dr. W. H. Jernagin and his Ecclesiastical Indorsement Committee, is to be congratulated for refusing to withdraw its indorsement of Chaplain Fuller. The major church denominations would do well to follow up with setting aside a Sunday to be known as Chaplain Fuller Day on which protests from all over the nation might be forwarded to the President of the United States, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and the Chief of Chaplains, William R. Arnold. Meantime each reader can aid the cause by sending his individual protest to these sources as well as urging other citizens to do likewise.

CHAPLAIN FULLER MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEARED!

Captain Harriet M. West Promoted To WAC Major

Age New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Department announced the promotion of 18 officers in the Women's Army Corps to the grade of Field Director (corresponding to the grade of Major in the Army).

Among those promoted is Harriet M. West, 924 M street, N.W., Washington, D.C. A member of the first class of officer candidates, she was commisioned a third officer (second lieutenant) last August and promoted to first officer (captain) in December. She was in the first group of officers to be assigned to WAC Headquarters in Washington, D. C.

SEP 4 1943

She attended Kansas State College and was formerly employed by Provident Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, as private secretary to Admiral Blackwood, executive director.

First Colored Officers at Camp Sutton

AUG 28 1943

Afro-American

WACs Also Arrive; Duties Have Not Yet Been Assigned

LIMITED SERVICE MEN RECLASSIFIED

Baltimore, Maryland

200 Men Applaud Miss Anderson's Singing

AUG 28 1943

CAMP SUTTON, N.C.—Some two hundred soldiers opened their eyes Sunday afternoon as Gertrude Anderson, Charlotte, N.C., appeared on the stage of service club, number 3, here and sang two selections, accompanied by Miss Louis E. Brooks.

Mrs. Anderson sang "The Lord's Prayer" and "Somebody's Knocking at Your Door." One soldier remarked "She's not pretty, she's glamorous."

Engineer Group Arrives

The 1315th and 1316th Regiments of Engineers have arrived here bringing with them the first colored commissioned officers this post has seen. The group will be stationed here for basic field training.

AUG 28 1943

Sgt. John W. Summerford, from N.C.O., in charge of recreation for colored troops and formerly of the Special Service Staff, gave up his office last week to be personel sergeant major with a regiment of engineers recently attached here.

AUG 28 1943

WAC's Arrive

Reclassification of all limited service men began here recently. According to reports such men must be placed in general service or discharged from the army.

Members of the WAC's arrived here Friday evening. No information as to their duties or purpose have been released as yet. However, it was officially reported that the shipment does include a number of colored WAC's.

Discharge For Chaplain Fuller Recommended By U.S. Army Board

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

NOV 20 1943

Chaplain Luther M. Fuller is believed to have lost his fight for acquittal with the Reclassification Board, which heard charges against him last July.

The TRIBUNE was informed this week that the Board had recommended his discharge from the Army. A letter of inquiry directed to the War Department as to whether the Board's recommendation had been approved was unanswered as we went to press.

Whether the discharge is to be a "dishonorable" one, or whether the Chaplain will be put on inactive st[illegible] Army authorities technical co

trol over him, was not clear.
However, the Board conclud

NOV 20 1943

Lieut. Luther M. Fuller

ed, among other things.

"That Chaplain, Luther M. Fuller surreptitiously persuaded enlisted men of the 76th CA (AA) Regiment to sign complaints alleging that bad conditions existed in the regiment and aided and abetted the writing of the exaggerated or unjustified complaints which formed the basis of this investigation.

"That Chaplain Fuller has abused his position as a chaplain and further continuation of his service as a chaplain of troops would be detrimental to the service."

"The board unanimously concluded that Chaplain Fuller's overall performance of duty was unsatisfactory, that he was lacking in cooperation and leadership, exercised poor judgment, has distorted viewpoints concerning the unfairness of his associates and the continual discrimination against colored soldiers, personal integrity is questionable as demonstrated by apparent untruths and contradictory statements made before the board."

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Second To Gain Rank

NOV 13 1942

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., Nov. —In recognition of his splendid record in the control and suppression of venereal diseases among Negro troops throughout the United States, Lt. Col. George McDonald, Medical Corps, Tuskegee Army Air Field venereal disease control officer, was recently promoted to his present rank from that of major. Lt. Col. McDonald, formerly a well known Baltimore physician, has, since entering the Army, been instrumental in the development of the present system of venereal disease control in the Army throughout the country today.

NOV 9 1942

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New Chemical Warfare Lieutenants

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AUG 14 1943

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

AMONG THOSE WHO were commissioned 2nd Lts. in the Chemical Warfare School at the graduation exercises of the Officer Candidate School, are the seven men pictured above: In front, reading left to right, are 2nd Lts. Jesse L. Johnson, [illegible] Dallas St., Houston, Texas; James T. Ellerbe, 511 Pine St., Hamlet, N. C.; Sirroucho Howard, 85 Benefit St., Providence, R. I. Standing in the rear, left to right are 2nd Lt. Harry M. Hodges, 808 Fondulac St., Muskogee, Okla.; William A. Williams, 2358 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, Ind., and Modesto Luzunaris, 31 Pomarrosa St., Santurce, Puerto Rico. The graduation exercises were held this morning at Eldgewood Arsenal, Md., the center of Chemical Warfare Service.